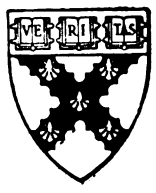
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION
BAKER LIBRARY



CANCELLED
FROM
BAKER LIBRARY

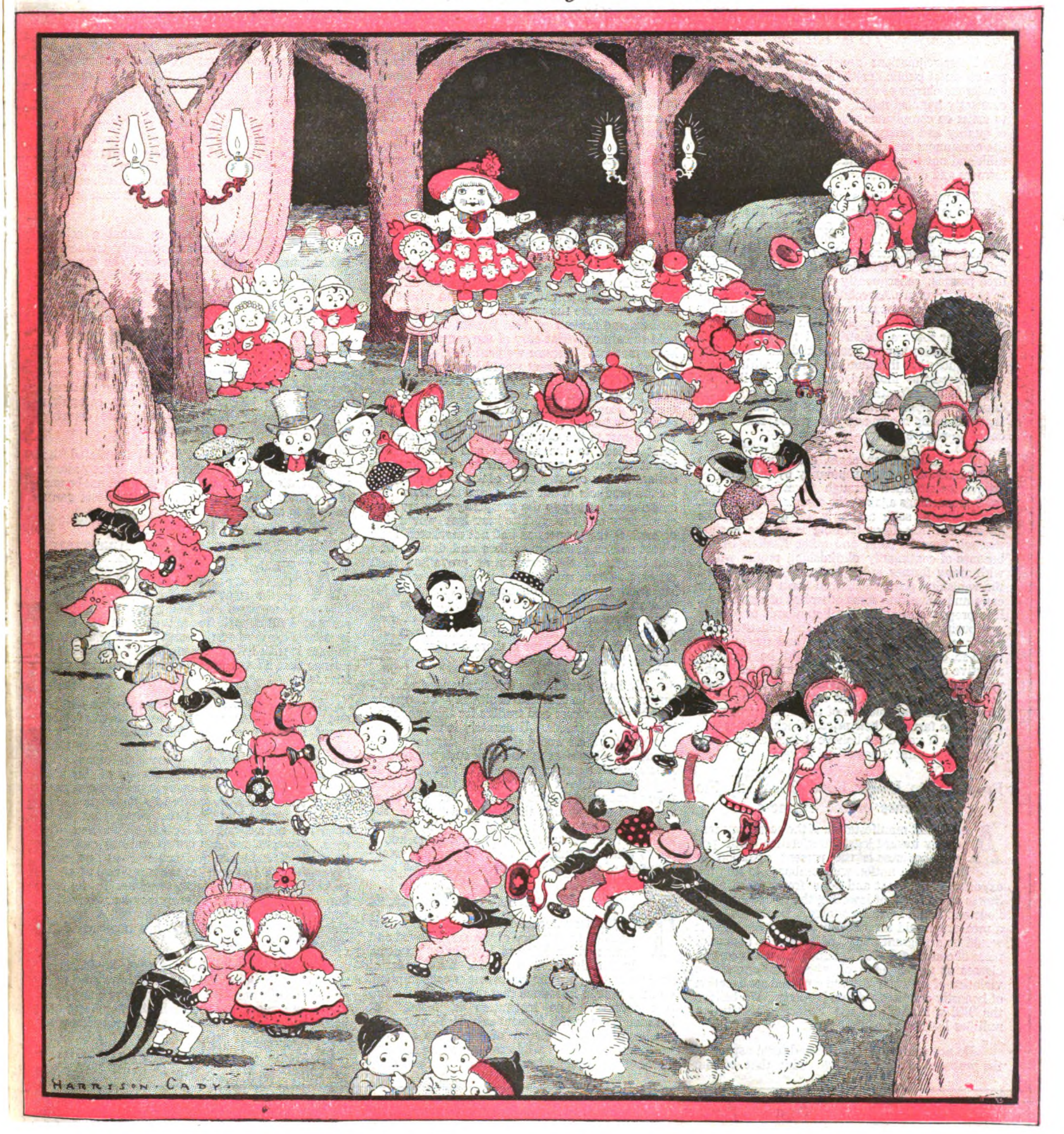
TRANSFERRED
TO
HARVARD COLLEGE
LIBRARY

29th Anniversary Number
NOVEMBER 1916

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

Vol. XXIX *Published at Augusta Maine* **No. 1**



"ALL THE DAPPERLINGS MARCHED AROUND IN THEIR UNDERGROUND HOUSE TO SEE THE DOLL."

Table of Contents on page 10.

Copyright 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated, Augusta, Maine.

See Story on Page 10.

CANCELLED FROM BAKER LIBRARY

LIBRARY

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

Farmers Must Have Better Prices for Milk or they Will Stop Producing it

MILK is subject to the prevailing conditions that have raised the cost of all products and is also affected by special factors of increased expense which do not apply to any other article on the market. Among the general causes may be mentioned the higher cost of feed, labor, land, fertilizers and taxes besides the price of cows having doubled in recent years. Added to these is the public demand for milk of better quality, cleaner and more sanitary enforced by State laws and municipal ordinances which are becoming more exacting in their requirements and add considerably to the cost of production.

These regulations are indispensable to the protection of public health, for there is no more dangerous carrier of disease than impure, dirty or carelessly handled milk. The public have a right to insist on compliance with advanced standards of quality and purity, but as it costs more money the consumers must pay the bill in higher priced milk and not expect to throw the burden on the farmers and dairymen.

The price of milk has risen but not in proportion to the cost of production; so say the dairymen who are now demanding another small advance in price. After a short contest Boston yielded to the farmers but New York City dealers refused to pay the additional 45 cents per hundred pounds; consequently the farmers belonging to the Dairymen's Association have stopped shipments and the great metropolis is suffering a milk famine. The small supply which reaches the city from other sources is distributed to the hospitals and to families having young children. The scarcity is such that five hundred women with babies in arms recently mobbed one of the public milk depots in their frantic efforts to secure a preference for their own offspring in the distribution that was being made, and the police had to be called to restore order.

As usual in such cases, the city and State authorities are seeking popularity by proposing to relieve the situation through investigations and legal proceedings against the associated dairymen. The futility of such action is apparent from the known fact that dairy farming is on the decline through New England and other Eastern States because of continually diminishing profits which with many former milk producers have reached the vanishing point and forced them to sell their cows and substitute some other line of agriculture. It is proper to establish legal standards of quality and purity, but we question the constitutional power to regulate prices by law, and an attempt to do so, even if permissible, would be absurdly abortive of practical results as to milk, for if the price did not yield the farmers a living profit they would beef their cows and stop producing milk. The only rational solution of the milk problem is to pay the farmers their price, which is not exorbitant. If you don't believe it, keep a cow yourself and see what it costs.

Proposals to Lower Food Prices at the Expense of the Farmers

ANOTHER manifestation of the pernicious tendency toward legal interference with private business is the present agitation in favor of a nation-wide embargo to stop the exportation of wheat and flour from the United States as a means of lowering the price of wheat, flour and bread in this country. Doubtless such a measure would accomplish the purpose, but it would be a flagrant abuse of power, a shameful piece of class legislation designed to benefit certain classes at the expense of others, an oppressive violation of natural right and a partial confiscation of honestly acquired private property. We believe the "Bill of Rights" in the Federal Constitution nullifies legislation of that sort.

Do not confuse the moral and legal aspect of the proposed wheat embargo with that of the antitrust legislation aimed at the prevention of control of the market by monopolistic combinations. The purpose of our antitrust laws is to insure free operation of the natural law of supply and demand as a determining factor in the making of prices and in the expansion and contraction of production, and in directing the flow of the currents of trade and commerce. Apply this logic to the wheat situation.

Flour is so high that the bakers have to get six cents for the loaf which, until within a few weeks, always sold for five cents. The millers had to put the price of flour up because of the large advance in the price of wheat, which latter was caused by a short crop and an abnormal demand for foreign shipment because of the war in Europe. This is the direct result of the free operation of the law of supply and demand. The supply is short and the demand is exceptionally large, especially in Europe. As we produce a surplus of wheat for export the European market determines the price of wheat and flour in America as it does the world over. Europe is bidding for our wheat and flour, and American consumers must meet the foreigner's bids or go without. It is free competition in an open world market unaffected by trust or combination.

When the price of bread went up the consumers in our cities began to clamor for an embargo against exportation of American wheat and flour. Of course the purpose was to deprive our farmers and millers of the foreign market and hold the entire wheat crop of the country for the home market. Because we produce a surplus for export the home market would become glutted at once with no outlet for the excess, and wheat and flour prices would go to smash. This might save the city people a cent a loaf on their bread and enable the bakers to realize a larger profit, but at what a cost to the country as a whole, and at what a loss to the farmers and millers! Our wheat exports bring hundreds of millions of dollars to this country most of which is spent here for the products of our mines and factories and contributes largely to the prosperity of every line of industry and trade. The first loss would fall on such of the farmers as had not marketed their wheat and on exporters, millers and dealers who had bought of the farmers at prevailing high prices, no doubt ruining many such purchasers. The farmer takes long chances when he plants his seed and cultivates his land; often his crops fail or an abundant crop may sell below cost of production; if the chance for profit is taken from him by law what inducement is there for him to work hard and take chances of loss?

Obviously such gross injustice and great injury must not be inflicted arbitrarily on certain classes of producers and traders for the *supposed* benefit of the masses. Ultimately it would benefit nobody, for all would share the depressing influence of a business upheaval of such magnitude. A law which deprives a man of a market for a legitimate article of commerce for the sole purpose of reducing the price of this product takes from him and gives to the public a part of the value of his property; it is confiscation, legalized robbery, tyranny, oppression. There is no knowing to what extreme folly and disaster the establishment of such a vicious precedent might lead.

The Trudeau Treatment of Tuberculosis

THE Trudeau School of Tuberculosis has been founded in memory of the late beloved and lamented Dr. Edward Livingston Trudeau, known the world over for his wonderful success in the open air treatment of consumption, and the first to introduce that method of cure into this country. The institution is located at Saranac Lake in the Adirondacks, N. Y., where Dr. Trudeau, himself a victim of the white scourge, went into the lone wilderness for the bracing health-giving mountain air, laden with the balmy odor of the stately pine, which gave promise of checking, for a while at least, the ravages of the disease that was consuming him. He studied the white plague as no man before had studied it. He not only succeeded in building up his own frail body, but in the settlement he founded for consumptives, restored thousands to vigorous health and greatly prolonged the lives of thousands more who, but for his skill and care, would have quickly perished.

When Dr. Trudeau began his great work for humanity, consumption was regarded as incurable, and those attacked by it gave themselves up to die. Today the consumptive has not only a fighting chance, but every prospect, if the disease has not gone too far and proper treatment is at once resorted to, of getting well.

Dr. Trudeau was known as the "Pioneer" because of his ceaseless efforts to wipe out tuberculosis. As a result of his efforts a systematic campaign against tuberculosis has for years, been waged in nearly every section of our land, and the death rate from the white scourge has been greatly reduced.

It was Dr. Trudeau's aim to found a school in which men should be scientifically trained to fight humanity's grimmest terror. The departed physician's dream has been realized. The Trudeau School has begun its work with but six instructors and twenty pupils. The institution will grow as funds accumulate and the knowledge of its work spreads, until every section of the globe in which tuberculosis is prevalent will have its Trudeau expert to instruct men how to fight their greatest physical enemy. The first twenty students are picked men, and when they graduate they will take charge of a universal campaign against a scourge which is costing this country not less than $330,000,000 annually.

Sleep in a room that is well ventilated the year round, leave all alcoholic drinks strictly alone, pay attention to your diet, and you will not be one of the 160,000 victims that the tuberculosis germ gathers in each year.

COMFORT'S Twenty-Ninth Anniversary

WITH the present issue COMFORT enters the twenty-ninth year of its life—yes life is the right word, for COMFORT is more than paper and cold type. Our subscribers are kind enough to tell us that its pages breathe a sympathetic interest in their affairs that imbues it with living personality and inspires confidence that its publisher and editors are their friends.

Through the wonderful progress of invention and applied science a new world has evolved about us hardly recognizable as the same in which COMFORT was born twenty-eight years ago. New conditions have wrought marvelous changes in the manner of living and in the trend of thought. But human nature remains ever the same, stirred by the same passions, spurred by the same ambitions and inspired by the same hopes that have been the mainspring of action throughout the ages. COMFORT, too, has grown and has extended its range of endeavor and achievement, pressing *"Onward and Upward"* in the vanguard of progress, but it has remained steadfast in its adherence to truth and the principles of justice which are eternal and unchangeable; a zealous champion of human rights it has preached duty with equal insistence.

We thank our readers for their cordial support and their many kind expressions of good will, and we pledge our best efforts to serve their interests in general and especially in promoting the betterment of their homes and the welfare of their families.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. ***We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.*** If you do not get your magazine by the 15th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we ***must*** have your ***former*** address, as well as your ***new*** address to make the change. Be sure to send ***both***. We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second class mail matter. **Copyright, 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.**

A Whale for Work

Willys KNIGHT

Sleeve-Valve Motor

When it comes to pulling long hard hills with twisting, turning country roads—

When it comes down to real work, day in and day out, month after month, year after year—

The Willys-Knight is the one type of motor that can stand up and deliver—never weakening but getting stronger all the time.

It's the sleeve-valve motor—the Willys-Knight motor—a whale for work—and always at it.

Carbon doesn't hurt it—valves can't get out of adjustment—so you say good-bye to the two chief causes of motor layups, when you get a Willys-Knight.

It will pile up thousands upon thousands of miles more running than you can get out of any other type of motor.

And the last miles will be better than the first.

The motor almost never needs go to the shop—

That's a vital advantage to the man who doesn't live on a paved street next door to the garage.

Besides all the tremendous advantages of the Willys-Knight motor for everyday work in any kind of weather on every kind of road, the Willys-Knight has everything else you could ask in a strictly up-to-date motor car.

Style—beauty—

Comfort—conveniences.

Is there any doubt in your mind about what car belongs on the farm? There's only one answer—

It's the Willys-Knight—the beautiful car with the work-motor.

See the Overland dealer—he'll show you the simple mechanical reasons for the greater power, durability and economy of the Willys-Knight motor.

Get right down to business with him—go to the bottom of this motor question—get a Willys-Knight and know the satisfaction no other motor car can give you.

Catalogue on request. Please address Department 825

The Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio

"Made in U. S. A."

The Thanklessness of Wyoming Sal,

by Joseph E. Novak



"What's makin' you look so happy"?



She cut green pine boughs

"How do you like me?" she asked



"Go back to the gal who's waitin' for you"

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"The melancholy days are come
The saddest of the year,
Of wailing winds and naked woods
And meadows brown and sear."
William Cullen Bryant:—Death of the Flowers.

"THEY'VE been tellin' it 'round, Sal, that ye ain't goin' to keep yer place open tomorrer. Is it true?"

"Bricktop" Pete, sprawling on the counter, yawned out the question, and finished with an unearthly screech of satisfaction as he had his gape out.

"Land sake, do git off'n the counter," said Sal, giving him a shove which scarcely budged his big, heavy figure. "Smash the glasses and you'll pay fer 'em. Yes, 'strue I am. I'm agoin' to have at least one holiday a year, an' Thanksgivin' Day is a good one to have off. It'll give me a chance to think o' my blessin's and all that kind o' thing, see? Thankful fer my good health, thankful fer havin' you men treat me decent and bein' good to me, an' thankful that I ain't never done nothin' to make my mother in her grave feel ashamed o' her daughter," and Sal went to emptying cigar boxes in which but few "ropes" were felt, and putting things generally to rights, as if she meant to close up there and then. There was, however, a kind of reverence in her manner, for her speech made her a bit sober, and it perceptibly affected the loungers in the little mountain tavern.

"Wyoming Sal's" little tavern stood in the midst of an immense pine wood in a corner of the state of Montana. It had been a little wayside station in years gone by, located on a stage-coach line where the stage stopped, allowing such of the passengers as chose, to get a drink. In more recent years, a lumber syndicate had purchased the property thereabout, had set up a mill, and gone into the lumbering business. Sal's father kept the little tavern, and Sal had grown up in the rough environment of the West, and when but ten years of age, her mother had died, she became her father's helpful assistant. And when he died, two years back, and left Sal to take care of herself, she decided to continue the business, which she did, carrying it on with that shrewdity that early struggles in the battle of life had taught her. Sal was, in the language of the men, "Joe's gal," and none of them would have hesitated a moment to brave any danger that beset her. Each felt her under his special protection, and that he was to help her as much as possible in her struggle for existence. And so they patronized her little tavern, letting their dollars go into her treasury rather than into Chinese Charlie's "dope shop" as they termed the celestial's little restaurant.

No one seemed to think of Sal as a young woman, though vaguely they were aware of the fact that she was an attractive girl with a figure of no mean lines.

To Sal, beauty meant loud attractiveness, and so she decked herself in riotous colors with true instinct for the bizarre. Her hair was naturally wavy, and so she fluffed it out in the manner of pictures she had seen in magazines such as would cater to men of little culture.

The little silence which had fallen upon the gathered loungers at the girl's words, was now broken by one of them. Spoke he:

"What kind o' new notion is this Thanksgivin' one o' closin,' anyhow? Can't ye be thankful 'ithout interferin' with business?"

"Tell ye what, Blacky," spoke up another, "seems like Sal's goin' to entertain her beau to Thanksgivin' dinner!"

"Her beau? Good night! Who's her beau?" ejaculated Bricktop.

"Why, that young sport what's timekeeper fer th' company," returned Bob Rush, who first suggested the "notion" of Sal's having a beau. "I see him doin' nothin' much else in his spare time 'cept bein' here in th' tavern an' playin' solitaire."

The half dozen or more men in the tavern had become interested and were now listening for what Sal had to say.

"Ain't none o'your business what I'm goin' to do," she retorted, blushing crimson, "I guess I'm old enough to do as I like."

"Aw, don't git red-headed, Sal," pacified a fourth. "We air all int'rested in ye, an' if ye love that sporty young timekeeper what th' company's sent out, why that's all right. No one wants ter poke into your affairs, but if there's agoin' to be a weddin', we all want a bid to it, an' we'll remember ye han'some."

"Heavens! You fellers can't let a young gal look at a nice young feller, without thinkin' right off that she's dead gone on 'im. Now shut up, an' forget it. There's the bell fer supper, so go on an' feed," and with a laugh, she shooed them into the dining-room.

As they disappeared and the half-doors shut them from view, Sal went behind the counter and stood for a moment in deep reflection. They had discovered that she loved the young timekeeper from down East. Well, what did she care? Didn't gals fall in love with men when they grew up? 'Course they did! Then why shouldn't she? No reason at all!

Her cheeks burned at the thought of the handsome timekeeper, and she stole an almost shy glance at herself in the mirror behind the bar. She was amazed at how really beautiful she looked. And could the young man fail to love her? It seemed impossible that he should not, especially when all the men thought her so agreeable and were so interested in her.

As she stood there, a step outside sounded, there was a heavy stamping of feet, and then the new arrival entered. The girl looked up expectantly, and seeing who it was, smiled almost shyly, and extended her hand to him. For with the knowledge of her love and the fact that the men knew it, she was almost timid.

"Hello, Eddie," she said simply. "Want anything to eat? The men are grubbing now," and she waved toward the dining-room.

The young man's face was glowing with some untold happiness. He shook the snow from his coat, threw off his hat, and stood forth in his whip-cord suit with its Norfolk coat. He was a handsome young fellow, somewhat swarthy in complexion, and had glossy black hair. His was a splendid physique.

"How are you tonight, Sallie?" he asked, as he kicked the snow from his high-laced shoes, and went to her side. "Been pretty busy?"

"Oh, yes. You know I'm goin' to close the place tomorrer, an' so I've been puttin' thin s to rights. What's makin' you look so happy?"

"I?" His face reflected the happiness that sounded in his voice. "Ah, it is something I mean to tell you. Something I know will make you rejoice with me. Something——" he stopped then, for Bricktop came from the little dining-room from which sounds of hilarity echoed.

"Hello, Smith," Bricktop greeted, "goin' to hang 'round this evening? If ye are, we'll have a game or two."

"No, I don't think I shall. There's quite a bit of work with the accounts and books, and I want to settle them up tonight, for I must have tomorrow free."

The girl felt Bricktop's look swerve from the young fellow's face to her own, but she said nothing, and presently the young fellow said in a low tone:

"I'll tell you about it tomorrow," and picking up his hat and coat, he put them on, and bidding Bricktop and the girl a cheerful good night, he went out into the snow-storm.

Bricktop was aware of the little by-play and Sal knew it, for no sooner had Eddie Smith departed, when Pete commenced:

"Say, Sal, I ain't meanin' to poke into yer affairs, but I want to tell ye somethin'. I can't ask ye to confide in me, an' tell ye I'm old enough to be yer father, fer I ain't, but then I'm ten years older'n ye be, an' I want to look out for yer welfare. I knew yer father fer a smart long time, an' I was a kid brother to a chap what was yer father's bosom friend. I remember when he opened up this here tavern an' how we used to call him 'Wyoming Joe' 'cause he came from Wyoming, an' that's how ye got to be called 'Wyoming Sal.' An' so, ye see, I'm int'rested in ye. I know ye expect to close up yer place tomorrer, an' so I want to know if yer goin' away with that young timekeeper?"

"D'ye mean to ask me if I'm goin' to elope?" Sal queried indignantly.

"Well, no, not exzactly," he answered.

"Well, I ain't, so ye needn't worry."

"Don't git sore, Sal," he continued patiently, "I like ye, an' I don't want no harm to come to ye. What have you an' that young feller got on fer tomorrer?"

His tone was not prying, he obviously was so unselfishly disinterested, that the girl could not feel angry with him. Besides, she had always liked Bricktop better than anyone else, and he had always been kind and patient when she tried him. He it was who held her tenderly in his arms as she took her last agonized look at her dead father, and he whose comfort she had most cherished.

And so, in reply to his question, she answered:

"It's all right, Bricktop. I'll tell ye. I asked Eddie Smith to come over tomorrer an' have dinner with me. I sent fer a turkey an' all them Thanksgivin' fixin's, an' we're goin' to have a reg'lar Thanksgivin' dinner like he always used to have back down East. He told me about the stuff an' I got it. He's goin' to pay fer it all, an' I'm goin' to cook it, see? Honest, there ain't nothin' wrong in that, is there?"

"No, o'course not," Bricktop admitted. "What's it that he wants to tell ye, though?"

"Did ye hear him say that?"

Bricktop nodded.

"Well, it ain't nothin' that I know of."

"Can't ye guess?"

She bowed her head to hide the fiery crimson that mantled her cheek.

"How could I?"

"Has he ever told ye he loved ye, Sal?"

"Not yet. Maybe that's what he wants to tell me tomorrer."

"D'ye really love him, Sal?"

She looked up proudly, almost defiantly.

"Yes, I do. Gals always fall in love when they grow up, an' I guess Eddie Smith's the feller fer me. I do love him; he's good lookin' and talks so swell, an' he ain't no sissy, neither. I know that. He knocked down Brad Keegan an' Dunk Carrol one time when they tried to get fresh with him, an' any man who kin fight like he does, is a man, even if he does come from down East."

"Say, do you know who that feller is?" Bricktop went on.

She stared at him. "Who he is? Well, who should he be but Eddie Smith?"

"I ain't sure o' myself, Sal," Bricktop went on, "an' I hate to say anything unless I'm perfectly sure, but jes' th' other day when I went in to see him about somethin', an' he wasn't there, ther was a paper layin' on th' floor, an' I picked it up—guess it blowed from his desk. I looked to see if it was any good, an' I saw written on it, 'My dear son,' an' it was signed 'Melville J. Griegg.' I didn't read th' letter, 'cause it's a devil o' a thing to read somebody else's letters, but if what I think is true, that young feller ain't no Eddie Smith, but he's really th' son o' Melville J. Griegg who is president o' the syndicate that's operatin' this lumber company, an' th' young feller ain't no poor clerk like he pretends to be, but he's a millionaire's boy."

The girl looked at him, almost indifferently.

"Well, what's that? S'posin' he is a millionaire? That's nothin' bad, is it?"

"Holy sufferin' tomcats!" Bricktop ejaculated, "don't ye see that ye oughtn't to fall in love with him? Them fellers don't marry gals like you. They marry some swell ladies who's got lots o' money, an' air in soci'ty, an' all that. They on'y like gals like you to amuse them an' fer them to talk to an' so on."

Sal felt her heart sinking. She remained silent.

"Has he ever kissed ye, Sal?" Bricktop questioned as the girl continued to say nothing.

He never had, but Sal hardly cared to admit it. With Bricktop's words, she was slowly beginning to realize that he had never kissed her, nor taken her into his arms. The most he had done was to squeeze her hand now and then in a mischievous little manner, and to call her a "dear little girl," and often he had slipped her the change which she brought him from the money with which he paid for his meals.

But the thought of his glowing face that evening, his happy voice, and mein, dashed to earth any doubts, and she dismissed them instanter.

"S'pose I said he did?" she plagued.

Bricktop's look was so distressed, that Sal laughed and said:

"I mustn't say that he did, because he ain't. He's always been a decent an' polite gent, an' ain't done nothin' to make me blush. He's all right, an' I love him, an' you'll see you'll be gittin' a bid to th' weddin' afore long. S'pose he is a millionaire's son what I don't believe. He's a gentleman an' all you men like him. There ain't one o' you that kin say a word agin him. A gal can't help love a feller like that. Seems like you was jealous o' him, Bricktop," she insinuated.

"Maybe I am, Sal, an' maybe ye think I'm purty fresh when I say I'd be th' better man fer you. But it's your doin', an' nobody else's," he said with a sigh, he was young at heart, and young in years, though his hard struggle with life had made him look older than his twenty-eight years. He loved Sal, loved her dearly, there was honest passion in his love, but until Sal would show some indication of returning his affection, he would cloak his own longings. He conscientiously opposed the match Sal contemplated, simply because of his own knowledge of life, he saw the unfitness of the union.

But he said nothing more, and stayed around the tavern until it was time to close up.

Sal locked up the place, and through the snow-storm went to her home which lay somewhat beyond the confines of the lumber company.

She reached the little cabin against the door of which a drift of snow had piled, pushed it open and went in. Lighting a lamp, she went to work, for she seldom visited this cabin which her father had built during the time his wife was sick, and where that good woman had spent the last days of her life. Sal always kept the place, visiting it only once a week or so, for it was much more convenient to remain almost entirely at the tavern.

At length she had everything cleaned, dusted and arranged to her satisfaction, and went to bed. But she did not sleep, for her thoughts ran on to the morrow and what it would bring. She planned the dinner, it must appeal to Eddie, he must know what a good cook she was. And she would be stylish too, and have it ready by two o'clock in the afternoon. That would give her plenty of time to get everything ready.

She was up with the graying of the morning, and set to work again, and by the time ten o'clock rolled around, she had her arrangements almost complete. She prepared her table, then throwing on a wrap, she went out into the snow-whitened world and cut green pine boughs from the trees. Shaking the snow from them, she gathered them up and went back into the little cottage where she decorated the walls with them, giving the little room a rather festal air.

This was the final touch. Sal surveyed her arrangements with keen satisfaction, after which, she went to her dresser and brought forth her finery.

She had a white silk dress which once had been her mother's, but which she had changed from time to time to conform to such style as came to her notice. She fluffed out her hair, and fastened in several artificial flowers. Happily, she knew nothing of facial paint and rouge and so did not disfigure her complexion with such things. She found an old veil which she draped about her shoulders and waist, and with another bunch of artificial flowers her costume was complete, except that we must add the gay-beaded moccasins, several ropes of shells strung by Indians, and an ugly brooch set with paste diamonds.

She made a picture, startling, bizarre, yet at the same time with a certain wierd beauty.

Dressed, she surveyed herself complacently. She was beautiful, and Eddie Smith could not help but notice it. Was he coming yet?

She hurried to the window, and looked out across the snows. They were, as yet, unbroken by a single track. The heavy fall of yesterday had ceased, but the day was cold, the sky overcast. There would be another fall before the afternoon had ended.

She went to the stove, and found everything there satisfactory. It would be but a few moments' work to transfer the dinner to the table.

Again she went to the window and sat down and waited patiently until she descried the figure of a man plowing through the drifts. She watched him intently, and soon saw that it was Smith. On he came, and when he was within hailing distance, she hurried to the door and opened it for him.

He came up, stamped the snow from his shoes, dusted the loose snow that had accumulated on his long overcoat, and then came in, casting aside his wraps.

"How's my little Sal today?" he queried, taking her hand in his. "My, we are dressed up!"

"How do you like me?" she asked, referring to her appearance, of course.

"Very much. You're quite dashing," he teased.

"Well, the dinner's all ready, Eddie," she said, "an' I'll put it on the table right off. Say, do you know any kind o' prayer to say? We ought to say one before we eat on Thanksgiving Day, oughtn't we?"

"Indeed, yes. But really, I think the nicest prayer that we could say is, 'Father, we thank you,' and think over all the blessings and happinesses that have been bestowed upon us. I think such a prayer would be quite sufficient, don't you?"

"Yes. And we should tell what we're thankful for?" she queried.

"Why, yes. I know I have something to tell you that makes me very thankful today."

"I wonder if it's the same thing I'm thankful for?"

"The same?" There was wonder in his query.

"Yes. I'm thankful for my good health," she began, "an' I'm thankful that the men in camp are kind to me, an' that they help me keep up my business, but most o' all, I'm thankful that you came to camp here, an' that I love you."

She spoke reverently, and dropped her eyes. But when she looked up and saw the face of the man before her, her heart sank and her head grew giddy. She staggered forward. Smith caught her, but she slipped to the floor, her arms caught him spasmodically about the waist and she looked imploringly into his face. Then slowly she loosened her clasp, rose and stood off from him, regarding him with a look of despair.

"Ain't you glad, Eddie?" she queried mournfully. "I thought ye loved me, an' I, well, when ye first came, I knew I loved you."

He went to her side, and put his arm about her waist.

"Poor little girl," he murmured, "I'm so sorry; I'm so sorry! It's my fault entirely. I see what I had intended only to be kindness has been misconstrued by you. I love you, little girl, but not the way you thought I loved you. I always thought of you as a little girl, not as a woman with a woman's heart and a woman's power for love. Listen: When I first came here, I came in an agony of spirit. I had quarreled with the dearest girl in the world. She loved me, and I loved her, loved her to distraction, almost. But we had a quarrel and misunderstanding. She was at fault, but she thought I was. I couldn't blame her at first, but I did when after I explained, she would not believe me. She has found out differently, now.

"In the agony of my heart, I wanted to get away, so I came out here. I am not 'Eddie Smith' as you know me, but I am really Edgar Griegg, son of the president of the syndicate.

"I came here to work and to try to forget. But I could not.

"Yesterday a letter came to me. It was from my Lorrayne. She told me that she found out that she was in the wrong, begged my forgiveness, if forgive I could, and to please come back to her if I could after her cruel treatment of me.

"Would I forgive her? Would I go back? I settled up everything at the plant and I was going away tonight on the five o'clock train, but the thought of going now, saddens me when I think of you. I might have known I was playing with fire, but I didn't think. I didn't think you would fall in love with me, and I thought the seven years' difference in our ages would make me and my actions toward you appeal to you as

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 28.)



This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossiblt to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful one schosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

ONCE more Aida is with us with suggestions for a winter window box and her ideas are very practical and worthy of trying. This offers an opportunity for indulging in a personal preference for any flower or combination of flowers and many pleasing ideas will suggest themselves to the flower lover, once an active interest is taken in this particular side of flower culture. Start now and have your own Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations on hand and enjoy them all other days as well.—Ed.

The Window Box for Winter

At this seasop of the year it is well to prepare a window box for the sunny window inside. It can be placed on a small table or stand and the vines that hang over the sides of the box will soon cover the stand and make a beautiful show. For the edge of the box, red, green, and green and white striped Wandering Jew are desirable both for their habit of quick growth and beauty.

For vines to grow up on a trellis, the Thunbergia, in several varieties, and the delicate lavender Maurandia, with its swinging bells, are both lovely, one at each end of the box is sufficient. A slender stick at each end will be sufficient for them to climb on, or if one desires the vines can be allowed to climb the windows, which is a very pretty method of training them. Of course the seeds of these vines must be sown in the box, but they are quick growers.

Slips of any good colors in petunias can be made in the box and start readily. Seed of Sweet Alyssum can be sown and the box will soon be a bower of beauty. In the late fall a few bulbs can be snugly planted, tulips especially, they make such a bright show, or the golden Narcissus that can be depended upon to bloom.

A window box like this is little or no trouble and will afford the entire family much pleasure the whole winter through. AIDA.

YOUNGSTOWN, 536 North Ave., OHIO.

MY DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I was so pleased to learn that the sisters are planning to give Uncle Charlie a home for his birthday present and enclose herein a money order for one dollar to buy one brick. Also enclosed is one dollar from my mother, Mrs. J. E. Cone and twenty-five cents from my little daughter, Alice.

It is much better I think to give flowers to those we love while they are still with us, for after they have passed away it is only the friends of the loved ones who can appreciate the monuments and memorials we erect to their memory. Uncle Charlie should know how we value his beautiful character, his big heart, his wonderful patience in all his long suffering, his great mind, his sweet charity to all the afflicted ones and what he has done for the boys and girls of America in teaching them preparedness and many other important matters which will develop their characters.

About eight years ago, my mother and I purchased some of his books of poems to give for Christmas presents and I received an autographed card from him which I have pasted in the front of the book of poems and it is one of my most valued possessions.

We should all feel very grateful to COMFORT for giving us such a grand man for an uncle and I hope that it won't be long until this little paper will be in every home in the United States.

I enjoy reading the letters from the sisters very much. I have brown eyes and hair, am a stenographer, and have a dear little girl of four years who is a constant source of pleasure.

With kind regards to yourself and sisters and trusting that the home for Uncle Charlie will soon be a reality, I am, Very sincerely,

MRS. RENO CONE JACOBS.

CUMBERLAND, WIS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

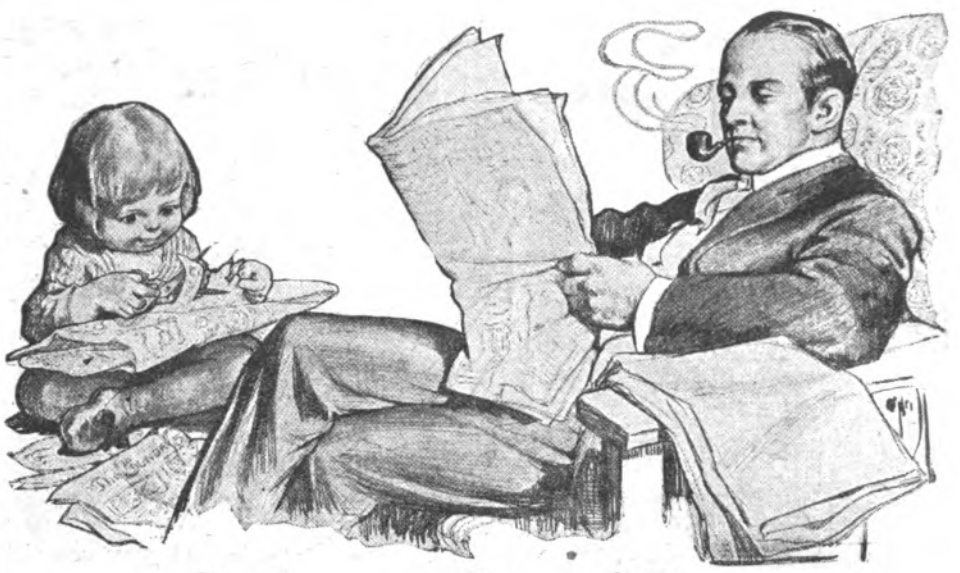
You can make a packing chest at very little cost by following these directions:

Get a good dry-goods box and molding enough to go around the corners, the bottom and the cover. Use brass hinges for the cover and a hasp and brass padlock so that the chest can be locked. Tack on the molding with small, headless nails and see that the cover fits snugly so as to make it moth proof, which can be helped by painting the inside with oil of cedar. For decorations it may be stained or painted and ornamented in any selected design with brass headed tacks or it may be nicely sandpapered and ornamented in pyrography. The design may be drawn with a pencil and burned in very neatly, even by an amateur.

May I say a few words through COMFORT about good night to our little ones? Make it a pleasant one, always. Do not send a child to bed with a sob. How it tortures our hearts to remember crying ourselves to sleep. It is one of the saddest things in life, to the adult as well as the child. It is not always possible to avoid a last sad wakeful hour. Bereavement comes to us one and all. The dear one is gone and our hearts ache so when we lie down to sleep. It is not mine to offer impossible consolation to those dear sorrowing hearts. God alone can comfort them. But the preventable annoyances which can so easily be avoided, particularly with our children, is what I have in mind when I say make your good night a pleasant one. If a child studies evenings, try to brush out the cobwebs from a tired brain before he goes to rest. A song, a few minutes of laughter or a story with a joke, a good-night caress and the child will sink to rest with a happy smile. There are corrections and chastisements often administered that are better left for reflection. "Wait till morning to whip me," a dear little lad once said. Leave such things, if you can, till morning and often you will see it in a more tender light.

I am not here to criticize or discuss punishments but, dear parents, try to do it in the morning. The settling of disputes between members of families is poor business for evening entertainment and you, "men," do you discuss economics, haggle over unpaid bills, or argue saving with your tired wife? Do you take this hour to cut off her last chance of rest? Foolish man, better get up an hour early some morn-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9.)



Sunday as a Day of Rest.

A magazine writer says that women, and especially women in small towns and on farms, do not get any rest on Sunday. Possibly she is right.

It is quite certain that the men rest on Sunday—and eat—and the women who cook the big Sunday dinners do not get much rest until they learn how to take the "short cuts" that save unnecessary work in hot kitchens. One of the most important of these "short cuts" is the new method of dessert-making. In place of the heavy puddings and pies which have always accompanied the heavy Sunday dinners, fruity

JELL-O

desserts are served—desserts that are sparkling and beautiful and delicious beyond comparison.

These Jell-O desserts, which just fit the Sunday appetite, are made by dissolving Jell-O in boiling water. It is done in a minute, and adds a good many minutes to woman's share of Sunday rest.

In every Jell-O package there is a little folder containing rules, suggestions and recipes for making up Jell-O in all possible forms.

Jell-O is made in seven different flavors: Strawberry, Raspberry, Lemon, Orange, Cherry, Peach, Chocolate. Each **10** cents at any grocer's or any general store.

The flavors are pure fruit flavors and the full strength of the flavors is preserved by the air-tight and moisture-proof waxed-paper Safety Bags enclosing the Jell-O inside the cartons.

The price has never changed. It is ten cents to-day just as it has been from the beginning.

The 1916 Jell-O Book is the most beautiful ever issued and it contains more useful information for housewives than any other. Send us your name and address and we will mail you one of the books.

THE GENESEE PURE FOOD COMPANY, Le Roy, N. Y., and Bridgeburg, Ont.

The name Jell-O is on every package in big red letters.
If it isn't there it isn't Jell-O.



This is the package

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

LAST Thanksgiving we had for a guest a young woman whose ingenuity and resourcefulness is well known among her friends and to her I turned over the problem of table decorations while I attended to the prosaic, though perhaps more important, task of looking after the turkey and fixin's. This is what she did:

After washing and hollowing out a medium-sized, golden pumpkin and cutting the top in an irregular manner she placed it on one of my best embroidered doilies in the center of the table and filled it with mixed nuts. Then from some source, best known to herself—the toyshop I think—she produced a little toy squirrel which she securely fastened in the middle of the heaping mound of nuts, as though he were contemplating with pleasure the feast before him. The overflow of nuts onto the dolly underneath took away any suggestion of bareness and further carried out the idea of plenty, which is the keynote of Thanksgiving.—Ed.

SOUR MILK GINGER CAKES.—One half cup of sugar, one half cup of molasses, scant tablespoon of ginger, one half teaspoon of soda and one third teaspoon of salt mixed thoroughly together. Beat in one tablespoon of warmed butter and one cup of thick sour



SOUR MILK GINGER CAKES.

milk, and lastly two and one quarter cups of pastry flour to which has been added one more half teaspoon of soda. Half cream and half sour milk make the cakes richer, when the butter is omitted. An attractive dessert is made by arranging cakes on a plate, heaping the top with whipped cream and in the center place a cube of red jelly or preserve.

GINGER SNAPS.—One pint each sorghum and lard, two cups of sugar, one cup cold water, six teaspoons baking-powder, two tablespoons ginger and flour enough to make a stiff dough. Roll out and bake. These are fine.

CHOCOLATE CAKE.—Two cups white sugar, one half cup butter and lard, two eggs, one half cup cocoa, one half cup sour milk, one teaspoon baking soda, two cups flour and last of all, one half cup boiling water. MRS. EDWIN H. KOCH, Wescoesville, Pa.

MADONIA CAKE.—To the well-beaten yolks of four eggs add two cups of sugar, one half cup of butter, three quarters of a cup of sweet milk, two teaspoons baking powder and four cups flour. Beat well and lastly add the whites of the eggs, well beaten, and one teaspoon of any desired flavoring. Bake in loaf or in layers. This is fine.

MRS. CRAYTON WILLIAMS, Westminster, S. C.

VELVET CAKE.—Two cups sugar, four cups flour, one cup butter, one cup cold water, four eggs, one half teaspoon soda, one teaspoon cream of tartar. Beat the butter and sugar to a cream; dissolve the soda in water; mix cream of tartar in flour; beat the eggs separately, then add other ingredients and flavor with one tablespoon lemon or almond. Bake one hour in a moderate oven. This quantity is sufficient for two loaves.

LIZZIE BETH KEENE, West Alton, Mo.

PARIS CAKE.—One and one half cups white sugar, three eggs, butter size of an egg, one cup of milk, two and one half cups flour, two teaspoons baking-powder and one teaspoon vanilla. Bake in layer or loaf.

HAZEL CHRISTINE MAURER, Clive, Alberta, Kans.

OATMEAL COOKIES.—Three cups of raw oatmeal, one cup of shortening (if lard is used, add a dash of salt), one and one half cups of sugar, one cup sour milk, one teaspoon soda, two eggs, one teaspoon cinnamon, three cups flour, two teaspoons baking powder, and one pint of raisins and nuts chopped and mixed together. Batter will be stiff. Place by the spoonful on buttered tin and bake.

MRS. A. R. SMITH, Afton, Okla.

FRUIT COOKIES.—One and one half cups brown sugar, one cup of butter, two eggs, two tablespoons sweet milk, one teaspoon soda, one teaspoon cinnamon, one quarter teaspoon cloves, one quarter teaspoon nutmeg and one cup chopped raisins, with flour enough to roll.

FRIED CAKES.—One cup sweet milk, one egg, one half cup sugar, one tablespoon of half lard and half butter. two teaspoons baking powder, a pinch of salt; mix soft, roll out, and fry in hot lard.

DEVIL'S FOOD CAKE.—Two cups brown sugar, one half cup of butter, one half cup grated chocolate, one half cup sour milk, one half cup hot water, two eggs, one teaspoon of soda and three cups of flour.

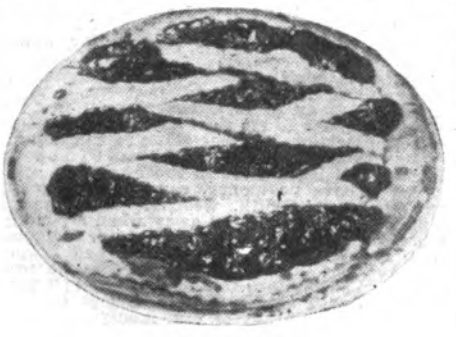
ICING.—One cup of sweet milk and one cup of sugar. Cook until thick enough to spread nicely without running. MRS. IZORA DUGUID, Decatur, Ill.

SOFT JUMBLES.—One egg, well-beaten, one and one half cups sugar, two thirds of a cup of butter, one cup sour milk, one teaspoon soda and three and one half cups flour. Flavor to taste. Bake in gem pans in a slow oven.

HOT WATER GINGERBREAD.—One egg, well-beaten, one cup molasses, one half cup sugar, one half cup lard, one teaspoon soda, pinch of salt and a little of all spices, two cups of flour and then stir in one cup of hot water. Bake in very hot oven.

MRS. BURTON BATCHELDOR, Clinton, Maine.

CRANBERRY PIE.—Put cranberries in agate stewing pan and cover with boiling water to within one inch of top. Stew till cranberries break open, stirring frequently as they will quickly catch on bottom. Put through coarse strainer to remove skins. A thick pulp should be left. Peel, core and slice a third as much apple and line fairly deep pie plates with pie crust, fill two thirds full of cranberry pulp and cover with one third sliced apple. Add one cup of sugar, butter size of a walnut, and a pinch of salt. Cover with crossed strips of pie crust two inches wide and bake



CRANBERRY PIE.

three quarters of an hour in a slow oven, except for the first ten minutes when the oven should be hot.

PIE CRUST.—To three cups of sifted flour, work in half a cup of equal parts of lard and butter and a teaspoon of salt. Rub together till of a granula consistency. Add ice-cold water, a very little at a time till the dough will just stick together. Handle as little as possible and roll thin.

TO CRYSTALLIZE FRUIT.—Pick out the finest of any kind of fruit, leave in the stones; beat the whites of three eggs to a stiff froth; lay the fruit in the beaten egg, with the stem upward; drain them and beat the part that drops off again; select them out, one by one, and dip them into a cup of finely-powdered sugar; cover a pan with a sheet of fine paper, place the fruit on it, and set it in a cool oven; when the icing on the fruit becomes firm, pile them on a dish, and set them in a cool place.

COTTAGE PUDDING.—Three cups of flour, or sufficient to make the batter; one tablespoon butter, one cup sugar, two eggs, one cup milk, half a teaspoon soda, one teaspoon each of cream of tartar and salt; mix the cream of tartar and salt with the flour; beat the whites of the eggs, put the butter, sugar, and yolks of the eggs together. Then work in the milk, soda, and salt, adding the flour and whites of the eggs; there should be flour enough to make a fairly stiff batter; butter a mold or dish, and bake; it may be turned out or served from the dish; to be eaten with any liquid sauce.

MEAT ROLLS WITH RICE CAKES.—Two cups of chopped cooked meat that has a little fat with it, one tablespoon of finely minced onion, teaspoon of salt, saltspoon of black pepper, one beaten egg, one half



MEAT ROLLS WITH RICE CAKES.

cup of milk and one even tablespoon of flour. Put two teaspoons of butter into a frying pan with the pepper, onion, salt, and when the butter is bubbling add the flour and stir till smooth. Add the milk and when it boils stir in the chopped meat and cook three minutes. When about half cool, stir in the beaten egg and shape into rolls. Roll in either meal or flour and fry in quite deep fat, or they may be baked in a very hot oven. An excellent way to use left overs.

CREAMED MEAT.—Melt a heaping tablespoon of butter in frying pan, add a heaping tablespoon of flour and stir until thick, then add one cup of meat gravy and one cup rich milk; stir until smooth and creamy. When creamy, add two cups cold meat, finely shredded, and seasoned with salt and pepper, and cook until hot. Serve on toast or with baked potatoes. This is delicious and uses up the leftovers.

MRS. HELEN JOHNSON, Humbird, Wis.

A GOOD STEAK.—Wash steak, flour well, season and fry in usual way. When brown, take three mangoes, one onion and one lemon, slice and put between cuts and on top. Fill skillet with water, let it boil down and if necessary fill a second time. Pour catsup over before serving. MRS. H. E. JOHNSON, St. Joseph, Mo.

MEAT PIE.—Chop cold meat, about a quart for two pies. To this add one onion, chopped fine, salt and pepper to taste, a little water and dot with butter. Bake in two crusts.

THELMA JUANITA ESTES, McArthur, Cal.

HAM TIMBALES.—Dissolve one tablespoon of granulated gelatine in one half cup of hot water and add two cups of cold boiled ham, chopped very fine. Season with one teaspoon of made mustard and a dash of red pepper; then add one half cup of cream, beaten until stiff. Turn into a mould or moulds and chill thoroughly. Remove from mould, garnish with parsley and serve with a sauce made as follows:

SAUCE.—Beat one half cup heavy cream until stiff and add three tablespoons mayonnaise dressing, one tablespoon of grated horseradish, one teaspoon of mustard, one half teaspoon of salt and a few grains of red pepper.

MRS. CHESTER I. SIMMERS, Hildebrand, Oregon.

A GOOD BREAKFAST DISH.—To a pint of cold mashed potato add a tablespoon of melted butter, one well-beaten egg, and one teaspoon minced parsley. Mould into cakes with the hands, dip them in beaten egg and then in cracker crumbs and fry to a deep brown in plenty of hot butter and drippings. Have ready as many poached eggs as potato cakes and lay one on the top of each cake. Garnish with parsley and serve while hot.

BAKED CABBAGE.—Boil a firm head of cabbage for fifteen minutes and then change the water, adding fresh boiling water. Let boil until tender, drain and set aside to cool. Mince some boiled ham, mix with bread crumbs, add two eggs, well beaten, one tablespoon of butter, three tablespoons of milk and season with salt and pepper. Chop the cabbage very fine, mix all together and bake till brown. Serve hot.

MRS. E. V. DAVIS, Duluth, Minn.

NUT AND CHEESE ROAST.—Cook two tablespoons of chopped onion in one tablespoon of butter (and a little water) until it is tender. Mix one cup of chopped English walnut meats, one cup of bread crumbs, one cup of cheese, melted, salt, pepper and the juice of half a lemon. Moisten with the water in which the onion has been cooked, pour into a baking dish and brown in in the oven.

HOT SLAW.—With a sharp knife cut up nicely a firm head of cabbage; sprinkle it with as much pepper and salt as you think necessary; beat up the yolk of one egg, add a lump of butter the size of a walnut, a gill of cream, the same quantity of vinegar, a tablespoon of sugar, an even teaspoon of mustard, and a pinch of bruised celery seed; mix together, in a tin cup; put the slaw in an oven, and pour the mixture over it boiling hot; stir it till well mixed, and the cabbage slightly coddled, then send to the table hot.

KOHL-RABI, OR TURNIP CABBAGE.—This vegetable is a variety of the cabbage but instead of the reserve nutritive matter of the plant being stored largely in the leaves or flowers, it is collected in the stem, which forms a turnip-like enlargement just above the ground. Kohl-rabi is fine-flavored and delicate, if cooked when very young and tender. It should be used when it has a diameter of not more than two or three inches. As it grows large it becomes tough and fibrous.

BOILED KOHL-RABI. (Requested.)—Wash and pare the vegetables, then cut in thin slices. Put into slightly salted boiling water and boil, with the cover partially off the stew-pan, until the vegetable is tender. This will take from thirty to fifty minutes. Pour off the water, and season with butter, salt and pepper. Kohl-rabi may be boiled with pork in the same way as cabbage. The cold boiled vegetable may be served as a salad.—(U. S. Dept. of Ag. Recipes.)

AUGUSTA W. JOOST, Edgewood, Md.

PARSNIP FRITTERS.—Four parsnips, boiled and mashed fine; add three well-beaten eggs, two tablespoons of sifted flour, butter the size of an egg, one cup of milk, and salt to taste. Serve quite hot.

WELSH RABBIT.—Melt one teaspoon of butter, add one teaspoon each of salt, mustard and paprika; add two cups of American cheese. When melted, add one half cup of cream. Stir vigorously until smooth; pour over hot buttered crackers or bread toasted on one side, the rabbit being poured over the untoasted side.

VENETIAN CHEESE.—Two small onions browned in butter, melt one half pound of cheese with the onions; when melted, add one small can of tomato soup. Let the mixture heat thoroughly and add two eggs. When the whites of the eggs have set, stir together and serve hot on crackers.

VEAL BALLS.—Two and one half cups of chopped raw veal, three quarters of a cup of raw salt pork, one cup of fine cracker crumbs, one half cup of water, one and one half even tablespoon of flour, one rounding teaspoon of salt, three teaspoons of vinegar, a pinch of white pepper and one beaten egg. Mix



VEAL BALLS.

all together and shape into balls. Roll in hot pork fat and bake one hour. Cut hearts of celery into quarters pressing a piece into the top of each, and the white tender leaves into the sides.



"The Masked Bridal"

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER I.

TWO UNEXPECTED VISITORS.

IT was a cold, raw night in December, and the streets of New York city, despite their myriads of electric lights and gayly illuminated shop windows, were dismal and forlorn beyond description.

The sky was leaden. A piercing wind was blowing up from the East River, and great flakes of snow were beginning to fall, when, out of the darkness of a side street, there came the slight, graceful figure of a young girl, who, crossing Broadway, glided into the glare of the great arclight that was stationed directly opposite a pawnbroker's shop.

She halted a moment just outside the door, one slender, shabbily gloved hand resting irresolutely upon its polished knob, while an expression of mingled pain and disgust swept over her pale but singularly beautiful face.

Presently, however, she straightened herself, and throwing up her head with an air of resolution, she turned the knob, pushed open the door, and entered the shop.

It was a large establishment of its kind, and upon every hand there were indications that that relentless master, Poverty, had been very busy about his work in the homes of the unfortunate, compelling his victims to sacrifice their dearest possessions to his avaricious grasp.

The young girl walked swiftly to the counter, behind which there stood a shrewd-faced Israelite, who was the only occupant of the place, and whose keen black eyes glittered with mingled admiration and cupidity as they fastened themselves upon the lovely face before him.

With an air of quiet dignity the girl lifted her glance to his, as she produced a ticket from the well-worn purse which she carried in her hand.

"I have come, sir, to redeem the watch upon which you loaned me three dollars last week," she remarked, as she laid the ticket upon the counter before him.

"Aha! an' so, miss, you vishes to redeem de vatch!" remarked the man, as he took up the ticket.

"Yes, sir."

"An' vat vill you redeem 'im mit?" he pursued.

"With the same amount that you advanced me, of course," gravely responded the girl.

"Ah! ve vill zee—ve vill zee! Vhere ish de money?" and the man extended a huge soiled hand to her.

"I have a five-dollar gold-piece here," she returned, as she took it from her purse and deposited it also upon the counter; for she shrank from coming in contact with that repulsive unwashed hand.

The pawnbroker seized the coin greedily, his eyes gleaming hungrily at the sight of the yellow gold, while he examined it carefully to assure himself that it was genuine.

"So! so! you vill vant de vatch," he at length observed, in a sullen tone, as if he did not relish the idea of requiring the valuable timespiece upon which he had advanced the paltry sum of three dollars. "Vell!" and irritably pulling out a drawer as he spoke, he dropped the coin into it. "Ah!" he cried, with a sudden start and an angry frown, as it dropped with a ringing sound upon the wood, "vat you mean? You vould sheat me!—you vould rob me! De money ish not goot—de coin ish counterfeit! I vill send for de officer—you shall pe arrested—you von little meek-faced robber! Ah!" he concluded, in a shrill tone of well-simulated anger, as he shook his fist menacingly before his companion.

"I do not understand you!—what do you mean, sir?"

"You play de innocence very vell!" he sneered; then added, gruffly: "You vill not get der vatch, for you haf prought me bad money."

"You are mistaken, sir; I have just received that gold-piece from a respectable lawyer, for whom I have been working during the week, and I know he would not take advantage of me by paying me with counterfeit money," the young girl explained.

"Ah! maybe not—maybe not, miss; not if he knew it," said the pawnbroker, now adopting a wheedling and pitiful tone as he drew forth the shining piece and pushed it toward her. "Somebody may haf sheeted him; but it haf not der true ring of gold, and you'll haf to bring me der t'ree dollars some oder time, miss."

The girl's delicate face flushed, and tears sprang to her eyes. She stood looking sadly down upon the money for a moment, then, with a weary sigh, replaced it in her purse, together with the ticket, and left the shop without a word; while the tricky pawnbroker looked after her, a smile of cunning triumph wreathing his coarse lips.

"Oh, mamma! poor mamma! what shall I do?" murmured the girl, with a heart-broken sob, as she stepped forth upon the street again. "I was so happy to think I had earned enough to redeem your precious watch, and also get something nice and nourishing for your Sunday dinner; but now—what can I do? Oh, it is dreadful to be so poor!"

Another sob choked her utterance, and the glistening tears rolled thick and fast over her cheeks; but she hurried on her way, and, after a brisk walk of ten or fifteen minutes, turned into a side street and presently entered a dilapidated looking house.

Mounting a flight of rickety stairs, she entered a room where a dim light revealed a pale and wasted woman lying upon a poor but spotlessly clean couch.

"Edith, dear, I am so glad you have come," said a faint but sweet voice from the bed.

"And, mamma, I never came home with a sadder heart," sighed the weary and almost discouraged girl, as she sank upon a low chair at her mother's side.

"How so, dear?" questioned the invalid; whereupon her daughter gave an account of her recent interview with the pawnbroker.

"I know Mr. Bryant would never have given me the gold-piece if he had not supposed it to be all right, for he has been so very kind and considerate to me all the week," she remarked, in conclusion, with a slight blush. "I am sure he would exchange it, even now; but he left the office at four, and I do not know where he lives; so I suppose I shall have to wait until Monday; but I am terribly disappointed about the watch, while we have neither food nor fuel to get over Sunday with."

The sick woman sighed gently.

"Perhaps the money is not counterfeit, after all," she remarked, after a moment of thoug t. Perhaps the pawnbroker did not want to give up the watch, and so took that way to get rid of you."

"That is so! how strange that I did not think of it myself!" exclaimed Edith, starting eagerly to her feet. "I will go around to the grocery at once, and perhaps they will take the coin. What a comforter you always prove to be in times of trouble, mamma!" she added, bending down to kiss the pale face upon the pillow. "Cheer up; we will soon have a fire and something to eat."

She again put on her jacket and hat, and drew on her gloves, preparatory to going forth to breast the storm and biting cold once more.

Half an hour later she returned with her arms full of packages, and followed by a man bearing a generous basketful of coal and kindlings.

Her face was glowing, her eyes sparkling, and she was a bewildering vision of beauty and happiness.

"The money wasn't bad, after all, mamma," she said, when the man had departed; "they didn't make the slightest objection to taking it at the grocery. I believe you were right, and that the pawnbroker did not want to give up the watch, so took that way to get rid of me. But I will have it next week, and I shall have a policeman to go with me to get it."

"Did you tell the grocer anything about the trouble you have had?" the invalid inquired.

"No, mamma; I simply offered the coin in payment for what I bought, and he took it without a word," Edith replied, but flushing slightly, for she felt a trifle guilty about passing the money after what had occurred.

"I almost wish you had," said her mother.

"I thought I would, at first, but—I knew we must have something to eat, and fuel to keep us warm between now and Monday, and so I allowed the grocer to take it upon his own responsibility," the young girl responded.

Edith, removing her things, bustled about, and soon had a cheerful fire and an appetizing meal prepared.

"Now come, mamma," Edith remarked, at length; "let me help you into your chair and wheel you up to the table, for supper is ready, and I am sure you will enjoy these delicious oysters, which I have cooked as you like them best."

Mother and daughter were chatting pleasantly, enjoying their meal, when the door of their room was thrown rudely open and two men strode into their presence.

Edith started to her feet in mingled indignation and alarm, then grew deadly pale when she observed that one of the intruders was an officer, and the other the grocer of whom she had made her recent purchases.

"What is the meaning of this intrusion?" she asked.

"There! Mr. Officer; that is the girl who passed the counterfeit money at my store," the grocer exclaimed, his face crimson with anger.

Edith uttered a smothered cry of anguish, then sank weakly back into her chair, as the man went forward to her side, laid his hand upon her shoulder, and remarked:

"You are my prisoner, miss."

CHAPTER II.

A STANCH FRIEND MAKES A VAIN APPEAL.

Beautiful Edith Allandale and her gentle, refined mother had been suddenly hurled from affluence down into the very depths of poverty.

Only two years previous to the opening of our story the world had been as bright to them as to any of the petted favorities of fortune who dwell in the luxurious palaces on Fifth Avenue.

Albert Allandale had been a wealthy broker in Wall street; for years fortune had showered her favors upon him, and everything he had touched seemed literally to turn to gold in his grasp.

His family consisted of his wife, his beautiful daughter, and two bright sons, ten and twelve years of age, upon whom the dearest hopes of his life had centered.

But like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky, an illness of less than a week had deprived him of both of his sons.

Diphtheria, that fell destroyer, laid its relentless hand upon them, and they had died upon the same day, within a few hours of each other.

The heart-broken father was a changed man from the moment, when, sitting in speechless agony beside these idolized boys, he watched their young lives go out, and felt that the future held nothing to tempt him to live on.

His mind appeared to be impaired by this crushing blow; he could neither eat nor sleep; his business was neglected, and, day by day, he failed, until in less than six months from the time that death had so robbed him, he had followed his boys, leaving his wife and lovely daughter to struggle as best they could with poverty; for their great wealth had melted like snow beneath the blazing sun when Mr. Allandale lost his interest in the affairs of the world.

Keenly sensitive, and no less proud—crushed by their many sorrows, the bereaved wife and daughter hid themselves and their grief from every one, in a remote corner of the great city. But misfortune followed misfortune—Mrs. Allandale having become a confirmed invalid—until they were reduced to the straits described at the opening of our story.

The week preceding they had spent their last dollar—obtained by pawning one after another of their old-time treasures—and Edith insisted upon seeking employment.

She had seen an advertisement for a copyist in one of the daily papers, and, upon answering it in person, succeeded in obtaining the situation with the young lawyer already mentioned.

Every day spent in her presence only served to make him admire her the more; and, before the week was out, he had altogether lost his heart to her.

When Saturday evening arrived, he paid her with the golden coin which was destined to bring fresh sorrow upon her, and she went out from his presence with a strange feeling of pride and independence over the knowledge that she had earned it with her own hands, and henceforth would be able to provide for her own and her mother's comfort.

But Royal Bryant had been conscience-smitten when he saw her beautiful face light up with mingled pride and pleasure as he laid that tiny piece of gold in her palm.

He would gladly have doubled the amount; but five dollars had been the sum agreed upon for that first week's work, and he feared that he would wound her pride by offering her a gratuity.

So he had told her that she would be worth more to him the next week, and that he would continue to increase her wages in proportion as she acquired speed and proficiency in her work.

Thus she had started forth, that dreary Saturday night with a comparatively light heart, to redeem her watch, before going home to tell her mother her good news.

But, alas! how disastrously the day had closed!

"Come, miss," impatiently remarked the officer, as she sat with bowed head, her face covered with her hands, "get on your things! I've no time to be fooling away, and must run you into camp before it gets any later."

"Oh, what do you mean?" cried Edith, starting wildly to her feet. "Where are you going to take me?"

"To the station-house, of course, where you'll stay until Monday, when you'll be taken to court for your examination," was the gruff reply.

"Oh, no! I can never spend two nights in such a place!" moaned the nearly frantic girl. "I have done no intentional wrong," she continued, lifting an appealing look to the man's face. "That money was given to me for some work that I have been doing this week, and if any one is answerable for it being counterfeit, it should be the person who paid it to me."

"Who paid you the money?" the officer demanded.

"A lawyer for whom I have been copying—Mr. Royal Bryant; his office is at No. —— Broadway."

"Then you'll have to appeal to him. But of course it's too late now to find him at his office. Where does he live?"

"I do not know," sighed Edith, dejectedly. "I have only been with him one week, and did not once hear him mention his residence."

"That's a pity, miss," returned the officer, in a gentler tone, for he began to be moved by her beauty and distress. The condition of the invalid, who had fallen back weak and faint in her chair when he entered, also appealed to him.

"Unless you can prove your story true, and make up the grocer's loss to him, I shall be obliged to lock you up to await your examination."

"Do you mean that if I could pay Mr. Pincher I need not be arrested?" she eagerly inquired.

"Yes; the man only wants his money."

"Then he shall have it," Edith joyfully exclaimed. "I will give him back the change he gave me, then I will go to Mr. Bryant the first thing Monday morning and tell him about the gold-piece, when I am sure he will make it all right, and I can pay Mr. Pincher for what I bought tonight."

"No, you don't, miss," here interposed the grocer himself. "I've had that game played on me too many times already. You'll just fork over five dollars to me this very night or off you go to the lock-up. I'm not going to run any risk of your skipping out of sight between now and Monday, and leaving me in the lurch."

"But I have no money, save the change you gave me," said Edith, wearily. "And do you think I would wish to run away when my mother is too sick to be moved?" she added, indignantly. "I could not take her with me, and I would not leave her. Oh, pray do not force me to go to that dreadful place this fearful night! I promise that I will stay quietly here and that you shall have every penny of your money on Monday morning."

"She certainly will keep her word, gentlemen," Mrs. Allendale here interposed, in a tremulous voice. "Do not force her to leave me, for I am very ill and need her."

"I'm going to have my five dollars now, or to jail she will go," was the gruff response of the obdurate grocer.

"Oh, I cannot go to jail!" wailed the persecuted girl.

Mrs. Allandale, almost unnerved by the sight of her grief, pleaded again with pallid face and quivering lips for her. But the man was relentless.

"Do your duty, Mr. Officer, and I'll be on hand Monday morning, in court, to tell 'em how I've been swindled."

With this he vanished, leaving the policeman no alternative but to enforce the law.

"Oh, mamma! mamma! how can I live and suffer such shame?" cried the despairing girl, as she sank upon her knees in front of the sick woman, and shuddered from head to foot in view of the fate before her.

Mrs. Allandale was so overcome that she could not utter one word of comfort. She was only able to lift one wasted hand and lay it upon the golden head with a touch of infinite tenderness: then, with a gasp, she fainted dead away.

"Oh, you have killed her!" Edith cried, in an agonized tone. "What shall I do? How can I leave her? I will not. Oh! will no one come to help me in this dreadful emergency?"

"Sure, Miss Allandale, ye know that Kate O'Brien is always willin' to lend ye a hand when you're in trouble—bless yer bonny heart!" here interposed a loud but kindly voice, and the next instant the good-natured face of a buxom Irishwoman was thrust inside the door, which the grocer had left ajar when he went out. "What is the matter here?" she concluded, glancing from the officer to the senseless woman in her chair, and over whom Edith was hanging, chafing her cold hands, while bitter tears rolled over her face.

A few words sufficed to explain the situation, and then the indignation of the warm-hearted daughter of Erin blazed forth more forcibly than elegantly, and she berated the absent grocer and present officer in no gentle terms.

Kate O'Brien would gladly have advanced the five dollars to the grocer, but, unfortunately, she herself was at that moment almost destitute of cash.

"Come, Miss Allandale," said the officer, somewhat impatiently, "I can't wait any longer."

"Oh, mamma! how can I leave you like this?" moaned the girl.

"She has only fainted, mavourneen," said Kate O'Brien, in a tender tone. "She'll soon come to herself, and ye may safely trust her wid me—I'll not lave her til ye come back again."

And with this assurance, Edith was forced to be content, for she saw, by the officer's resolute face, that she could hope for no reprieve.

So, with one last agonizing look, she pressed a kiss upon the pallid brow of her loved one; then, again donning her hat and shawl, she told the policeman that she was ready, and went forth once more into the darkness and the pitiless storm.

CHAPTER III.

THE YOUNG LAWYER EXPERIENCES TWO EXTRAORDINARY SURPRISES.

The next morning, in the matron's room of the Thirtieth street station-house, a visitor came to see Edith Allandale. The visitor was Kate O'Brien, who, after announcing the condition of the prisoner's mother, declared her willingness to aid Edith in any way in her power.

Edith intrusted a letter to her for Mr. Royal Bryant, and early Monday morning Kate was at the lawyer's office, and placed the missive in his hands.

The young man instantly recognized the handwriting of his fair copyist, and flushed to his brow at sight of it.

"Ah! she is ill and has sent me word that she cannot come to the office today!" he said to himself.

"Sit down, madam," he said to his visitor, and he eagerly tore open the letter and read the following:

"MR. BRYANT—Dear Sir: I am sorry to have to tell you that the five-dollar gold-piece which you gave me on Saturday evening was a counterfeit coin. I passed it at a grocery, near which I reside, in payment for necessaries which I purchased, and, half an hour later, was arrested for the crime of passing spurious money. I could not appeal to you at the time, for I did not know your address; but now I beg that you will come to my aid tomorrow morning, when I shall have to appear in court to answer the charge, for I do not know of any one else upon whom to call in my present extremity. Oh, pray come at once, for my mother is very ill and needs me.

"Respectfully yours, EDITH M. ALLANDALE."

Royal Bryant's face was ghastly white when he finished reading this brief epistle.

"Good heavens!" he muttered, "to think of that beautiful girl being arrested and imprisoned for such an offense! Where is Miss Allandale?" he added, aloud, turning to Mrs. O'Brien, who had been watching him with a jealous eye ever since entering the room.

"In the Thirtieth street station-house, sir," she briefly responded.

"Infamous!" exclaimed the young man, in great excitement. "And has she been in that vile place since Saturday evening?"

"She has, sir; but not with the common lot; the matron has been very good to her, sir, and gave her a bed in her own room," the woman explained.

"Blessed be the matron!" was Royal Bryant's inward comment. Then, turning again to his companion, he inquired:

"What is your name, if you please, madam?"

"Kate O'Brien, at yer service, sir."

"Thank you; and do you live near Miss Allandale?"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)

How to Buy Coffee

By the Greatest Coffee Merchants in the World

Three Mistakes Many Women Make

You know how hard it is to get a coffee which really satisfies you. You know how seldom you can find a coffee which has the same fine taste and strength every morning! It can be done.

You can do it if, when you buy coffee, you are careful *not* to make the mistakes so many women make. Read the experiences below—you yourself have undoubtedly had one or more of them.



Beware of loose coffee

Are you buying coffee which you get loose, coffee which hasn't been protected by a sealed package?

Are you afraid that it isn't clean? Has it lost its aroma? Are you often disappointed in its *strength?*

It isn't the grocer's fault. With loose coffee, he can't be sure that it is the same kind he got before. You always run the risk of getting different coffee every time you buy. And even if the coffee itself were the same, it can't be kept "loose" without losing its strength and flavor.

Protected in sealed packages bearing our name and guarantee

You can do away with everyone of these disappointments by ordering the coffee which over one million other families drink!

Arbuckles' Coffee is such good coffee that way back in the sixties, when all other coffees on the market were loose and unprotected, Arbuckle Brothers protected theirs in sealed packages. This sealed package keeps the coffee's strength, guards it from moisture and store odors. Most important of all, it makes it easy for you to be *sure* that you are getting the same good coffee every time you buy.

So strong, so fresh, so full of flavor, is Arbuckles' Coffee, package after package, that there is more of it sold today than of any other packaged coffee.



Don't think you can get as good value buying this way

Are you buying coffee from a peddler who comes to your house with a wagon?

You pay for this man and wagon coming to your door.

Often you pay as much as 10 cents a pound more than you would if you bought the same coffee in the ordinary way from your grocer. You pay as high as 30 cents for a 20 cent coffee.

It is right that your coffee should bring you useful, beautiful premiums, but you should get your full money's worth in the coffee itself first of all.

Arbuckles' Coffee is a "known coffee" —no doubt about you getting your money's worth in it. Arbuckle Brothers are the biggest coffee people in the world, and *can give you values no one else can afford to give.* Then because of the enormous sale of their coffee, Arbuckles' can afford to share their *profits* with you by giving you *premiums.*

Arbuckle premiums are famous. In one year, Arbuckle gave away over a million of one kind of premium!

Over a million families are saving for Arbuckle premiums now. Get one and see for yourself what remarkable values they are.



The same old coffee under new names

Are you continually being offered the same old coffees under *new names?* Under all sorts of new blends?

Did you ever stop to think of the hundreds of coffees which come and go on the market? And that all of these have tried to turn women away from Arbuckles' coffee?

Arbuckles' is the coffee which has gone right out, always under its own name, never disguised, and held its users simply on the wonderful value it gave. You know what good value a coffee must be to do this against the competition of all the other coffees in America!

Used in over a million homes today

Settle, for all time, your coffee problem by giving your family the only coffee which over a million families have proved to have the real coffee taste they want.

When you get Arbuckles' Coffee, you get an entirely different coffee. No other coffee goes through the same process—in no other coffee can you get the same good flavor. The result of the care Arbuckle Brothers take in selecting it, in roasting and in packaging it, gives you an entirely different coffee from any on the market.

Order it from your grocer today. He has it, in either the Whole Bean or the new Ground.

Try it—see why it is the most popular coffee in America!

Arbuckle Bros., 71-X2 Water St., New York







Love and Spite

By Adelaide Stirling

Copyright, 1899 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE FORLORN HOPE.

JOCELYN DE BURGH, while her unknown uncle was searching the country for her, awoke suddenly from a dream. So suddenly that for a moment there seemed to linger on her hand the touch of Willie Huntley's fingers, that had been so tender, in her dream.

But not for long. She stared about her, realizing that she was really in the tower chamber at Castle De Burgh; and then she shuddered. She was in Hugo's clutches, and she was cold, cold to the bone.

"I didn't mean to go to sleep," she thought, as she tried to warm her frozen fingers, her icy feet, "but I'm glad I did! It has passed the time."

She stared at the window that was in a deep embrasure, and not more than six inches wide where the glass was set.

"It's broad day, and it's sunny outside. I wish I knew what time it is."

She went close to the narrow window-pane and tried to see out, brushing away the dirt and cobwebs with her dress. But she could not see down at all, only by the run of the mountains opposite she could tell what side of the castle she was on. She was looking, she knew, toward Glen Farm; that meant she was somewhere above the garden where the side door was.

"I wonder if I broke the glass and screamed if anyone could hear me," she said to herself, knowing all the time that no one could.

She felt faint with hunger. Was Hugo never coming? Did he mean to let her die there?

"Nonsense!" she said bravely. "Someone will miss me; they must have missed me before this."

For the diabolical thoroughness with which Hugo had disposed of her never entered her mind; nor that he had himself thrown all her poor belongings into her one box and locked it with a key that happened to fit it, so that the household would think she had packed her trunk in readiness to follow her.

She turned sharply to the door. Was there a noise outside? Was it, could it be Moyra? She had almost sprung joyfully to the threshold as the bolt was drawn back outside; something stopped her just in time, for it was not Moyra who opened the door. Hugo, his eternal cigarette in his mouth, stood in the doorway, smiling.

"Good morning! Have you had enough of your retreat?" he asked, as coolly as if the cold of the stone room had not met him like a wall of ice as he entered.

Jocelyn clasped her hands hard behind her back so that he might not see how they shook.

"Quite enough," she answered boldly. "Why do you ask? You know it."

"I want to know a little more before you leave it!" He closed the door behind him without a sound that might echo down the stone stairways. "I want to know where your father is—and how you happened to find him?"

"How do you know I found him?"

"Don't be a fool," roughly. "I know well enough. I know you were in London when he was." He had wormed the fact of Jocelyn's absence out of the maid who waited on her. "Tell me where he is now, and I will give you a hundred pounds—not to speak of breakfast"—evilly—"and take you to your friend, Miss Barry."

"She is no friend of mine. She turned me out," the girl said wearily.

"For your good," Hugo remarked, with a glance of annoyance at her. "You have only your own self-will to blame for this, I may remind you."

She did not answer. Her eyes were on the door, measuring the distance. Could she pass him and run down those stairs?

Even as she thought, he shifted his position till he leaned against the shut door.

"How dare you keep me here?" she flashed out angrily. "Move, and let me go down. Do you think I have not been missed—long ago?"

Mr. De Burgh laughed.

"You are in London. You went last night!" he rejoined comfortably. "I shall send your box as soon as I get your address, which will be tomorrow night!"

"Are you mad?" she stared aghast. "Or are you only the cruel, unscrupulous man that Martha warned me of?"

"Martha!" For an instant he wondered, but he cast the thought aside contemptuously. The Martha, of whom he had thought instinctively, could have no connection with this girl. It was that cursed letter from young Meredith this morning that had set his thoughts on the old tragedy.

"I suppose you mean the old woman at Miss Barry's?" contemptuously. "Her mistress had, probably, told her I am a devil incarnate. But you shall find me fair enough, if you do as I tell you."

"What would you do if I told you where my father is?" the girl said slowly. "You would put him back into that asylum."

"I would give him a thousand pounds and start him and you to America."

But it was not well said, and she knew it for a lie.

"I don't believe you!" she turned away with a lump in her throat.

"Don't you? It doesn't matter. You shall listen to me, all the same." He was very pale, his eyes were merciless as she was startled into looking at him by something in his cold, arrogant voice. "Do you think," he went on, "that you, shut up here, can make terms with me? I will do what I please with your father and with you. But till you tell me where he is, here you stay. Without food or fire you will, perhaps, think better of your obstinacy. In any case, you can't save the man. He is a lunatic—a man under a sentence; you cannot turn aside the law. I will give you till tomorrow morning. I will come then. But I warn you it will be the last time. You can stay here until you die after that. My mother would say I was a fool to give you any alternative."

"Because your mother knows my existence is a continual menace to you," she broke in, with reckless bravery. "I tell you that I would rather die here than betray my father—or owe my release to you!" with a look and gesture of abhorrence.

The next moment she thought he would strike her, but his lifted hand fell to his side.

"As you like," he said, with a deadly, slow malice. "Choose to die here—and not a soul will ever hear you in your agony. I believe, after all, it would be as good a way to be rid of you as any other."

"Quite as good, if you could do it." She came slowly toward him, her steady, gleaming eyes on his. "But you will never do it. I tell you that death is nearer to you this minute than to me."

A silence fell, while he tried to find a sneering answer, and through it there came very faint and far off a simple cry as of a hunting beast. Something strange and savage in it turned the man's blood cold.

"There is death in it!" Jocelyn said quietly, driven by some impulse whose source she did not know. "And it will come nearer."

"Stop this cursed rot about death!" he said angrily. "You won't want to talk about it in a day or two, and you can hold your tongue now till the morning. After that you can say what you please; only the stone walls will hear you."

He was outside the door almost as he spoke, and she heard the bolt go home. He meant it, then! She had no thought he could dare to be in earnest.

For all her bravery, she felt sick and faint, she staggered somehow to the window, and put her forehead against the pane. But it was warm with the sun, and she started. If the sun were on this side of the house, or had been, for it was going fast, it must be late in the afternoon. No wonder she felt so faint for want of food! And it would not be long till the morning, when she must make her choice between her own liberty and her father's.

"Oh, if I can only hold out," she bit her lips not to say it aloud, for if Hugo were listening outside the door, he should never know he had wrung a cry from her. "But I must hold out; I must! For I don't believe he would let me go if I told him twenty times," the truth suddenly dashing on her. "Why, of course he wouldn't; he daren't! I am the only one with any right to Castle De Burgh, and he knows it. No wonder he wanted to get 'his finger on me.' If I could prove my mother's marriage I could turn him out tomorrow; and my father—Martha—could both tell me what I want to know."

A fresh strength had come to her with the quickening of her pulses; the look that had been on her face when she told Hugo de Burgh that there was death in that far-off cry came back intensified. She looked round searchingly, almost hopefully. Surely if she had only courage enough, there must be a way of escape!

The door she would not try. Hugo might still be there; he should not hear her vainly shaking at it like a caged animal. The walls were solid enough to have been made of a single stone. The girl sat down on the floor and took off the sensibly thick shoe that Miss Barry had provided for house wear. It had a solid leather heel and was strong enough for what she wanted. She walked to the window, never feeling the cold floor through the stocking on her shoeless foot, and bound up her eyes with her handkerchief.

With her left arm held high to shield her face from flying splinters, she beat the glass out, using her shoe as a hammer. It flew outside, most of it, but the window was too high from the ground to hear its fall. The sweet air rushed in like a benediction, like a promise of liberty; but Jocelyn hammered steadily on till there was a space free of splintered glass, and she dared press her face close to it. The window was too narrow to put her head out of—she knew that even while she tore off the handkerchief that had kept the flying glass from her eyes—but she could see far better than before.

She pressed her face feverishly to the aperture. She had been right—the window overlooked the garden, the very place where she had stood in the wind and rain with Huntley, and felt that kiss which no woman forgets till her dying day—the kiss of the only man she loves, or ever will love in this world.

"Huntley!" It was like an inspiration. Surely, if he loved her, he would save her. Yet how could she let him know to what a pass she had come?

"Things are so bad with me I can't make them any worse. I daren't trust Hugo, even if I were to tell him what I never shall," she thought swiftly. "Hugo never walks in that garden; Moyra does, so does Gilbert. Either of them would find Huntley. Thank Heaven, I know something that would bring him to me!" She stifled the other thought that rose, with its doubt that her message could ever reach him.

On the floor lay Jane Brown's envelope, that had held the warning letter Hugo had stolen. Jocelyn picked it up, and, with a little knife and pencil that she always kept in her pocket, she cut the envelope along the ends so that it opened like a sheet of paper, and on the blank inside thus disclosed she wrote something; wrote quickly, for the afternoon sun was low in the west; soon it would be too late for anyone to walk in that garden—to any purpose.

She pulled the hairpins from her hair, and with determined fingers sawed off a thick, strong lock with her little knife. That must do for a cord, for she had nothing else. "Lord Huntley of Holycross; very urgent," she wrote, making as thick, black marks as the toy pencil would let her.

Very quietly she undid the fine chain round her neck and slipped off his ring. "Forever" was cut on the seal, and, alone in the house of her enemies, Jocelyn de Burgh kissed it with steady lips, as one who bids good by to a friend. Then she folded the paper round it, with the lock of chestnut hair that went through the ring, making it fast to the paper.

"Send my ring, and I will know you want me," Huntley had said. Well, she wanted him now; if it did not reach him she would soon be past the need of him or any other!

When the little packet was done she went to the window and threw it out with a hand that never wavered. It might fall straight into Hugo's hands; it might never be found, or be found too late. But it was the last hope on earth of Jocelyn de Burgh.

The ring was heavy; it would take the paper to earth. And if it made things no better, it could make them no worse, no matter who found it. And it might be found too late for the girl who threw it, but in time to point out her murderer.

For with unerring eyes Jocelyn had read the look in Hugo's. And it was a death-warrant.

"I never meant to send that ring till I could stand clear of all he thinks about me," she mused, looking from that window that was surely never meant to see out of; "but I can't help it. To die here will not clear me; and if he doesn't believe me, at least I've told him the truth."

The thought made her flinch a little. Would he believe her? Would he believe anything so wild against Hugo de Burgh from a girl he had never trusted?

Well, perhaps he would never be given the chance! He might never get the strange little packet tied with the long lock of chestnut hair.

As she strained her eyes from the window her head felt dizzy; she caught at the window-frame for support, and cut her hand with the broken glass. At first the pain steadied her; then the blood that stained her handkerchief made her sick and faint. She slipped to the floor and lay down, her head on her arm; she had done all she could, there was nothing left now but to wait—to wait, perhaps, for days, till death had compassion on her.

It was getting dusk now, the wind through the broken pane was cold. She shivered as she lay, but her misery took away her fear of Hugo. Once she moaned quietly.

"Oh, Willie, my Willie!" she said, and then not a sound. The cold winter wind came on her icily, the darkness began to creep into the room that was never very light, but neither cold nor darkness roused her where she lay, very silent, with great, wide eyes that stared into the hopeless hours before her, where death every minute would stand nearer and more pale.

CHAPTER XXV.

HER CHRISTIAN NAME.

Lord Huntley stood at the great door of Castle De Burgh toward five o'clock, with a face that made the servant who had answered his ring look curiously at him. He turned to get into his trap, hesitated, and then spoke to the man again.

"Mr. De Burgh and Miss De Burgh are not at home, you said. Has Mr. Gilbert come in?"

"No, sir; not yet."

Then he could not have come back from Glen Farm. Huntley, with a curt word, sent his trap and servant home. He was more angry than he had ever been in his life, for the "Not at home" was a piece of cowardly impertinence. He knew quite well that Hugo was in and Moyra, too.

"He will not see me, and he won't let Moyra. There's something wrong, for he's afraid. I'll see Gilbert, and find out if he had heard anything, if I wait here all night, or walk to Glen Farm to get him!" he thought grimly, turning to the garden and the short cut to the Moores.

Hugo's room was on the other side of the house; he would be most unlikely to see that only the servant, and not Huntley, drove away down the great avenue.

"Though I don't care a d——d what he sees!" the latter reflected, striding through the garden. "He is behaving in a most idiotic way. I wonder why he won't see me! He doesn't know I take any interest in that poor girl."

His foot crushed a bit of broken glass as he crossed the lawn by the side door, but he did not notice it; though broken glass on a neat lawn is not usual. Too worried and troubled to smoke, he gained the gate into the highroad and stood there waiting. Surely Gilbert would come down the path in a minute or two!

"I hope he's done more than I have," Huntley thought gloomily. For he had spent the early part of his afternoon in a hunt through the village for Jocelyn? There was not a house left unvisited that could take a lodger, under the pretext that a friend of his wanted some rooms in Presteigne-de-Burgh. Not one of the women there had a lodger, he could swear to that; and, meantime, where could his little love have gone?

He wondered if she could be out on the mountains, or, worse still, trudging the lonely roads on her way to London. He would wait for Gilbert, and if he knew nothing—Lord Huntley, of Holycross, swore that in a day or two he would! But he felt pretty sure she had joined her father somewhere.

Hello! There was Gilbert now.

Huntley went to meet him.

"Well!" he cried. "Any news?"

"News! Yes, plenty." Gilbert's ruddy face was ghastly; he looked ten years older.

"It's bad, I know," the other man said sharply; "quick, tell me! Haven't they seen her?"

"Who? The girl? I'd forgotten all about her!"

"Forgotten all about her! By George! what did you go there for?"

"Something put her out of my head!"

Gilbert stopped short in the middle of the highroad.

"Hold hard, Huntley!" he said. "I've had a most awful shock! I don't know where I am, or what to think. I did hear news of the girl—or, rather, something about her. But none of them know where she is."

"What did you hear, then? Not that"—he could hardly bring out the words—"that Hugo was right in sending her off like that?"

"No, no! He—I don't know how to tell you."

He turned his face away as if he were in unbearable pain of mind. All his world seemed to be shattered. His brother, his mother—she had been a poor sort of mother to the son she despised. Perhaps she would have despised him now had she known how he suffered for her.

"Go on, man!" Huntley glanced at him with an impatience he could not hide. "What's wrong?"

"Everything," with a sort of groan. "I wouldn't tell even you; but it's bound to come out. Look here! you remember the trouble about my father?" hoarsely. "Well, Richard's out!"

"What of that? You can put him back again!"

"Never, while I have life in me," passionately. "I've seen him, talked to him. He's as sane as you or I—always has been. Good God! Huntley, he swears he never did it."

"Then who did?" wonderingly.

"I won't tell you. Some one else can tell my shame."

Gilbert's lips trembled, and Huntley, with a sudden understanding, thought of that strange letter from Meredith that was in his pocket.

Then it had been Alicia? For a moment he stood dumb.

"I feel—but it doesn't matter," Gilbert said miserably. "It will all come out, I'll have time enough then to think how I feel. And Richard has been shut up for nineteen years for what he never did. He's got a witness."

"What makes you believe him?" Huntley asked bluntly.

"Because I remember that the woman disappeared that very night. And, another thing, boy as I was, I never thought Dick did it."

"He must have," was all Huntley could find to say, but the damning evidence in his pocket went against the words. "Come home, old chap," he added tenderly; "come home, and think it over."

"I can't; I don't know what to think. Listen that girl—Miss Brown—well, she is Dick's daughter. Hugo must know all this, and only I have been in the dark while Dick suffered for another. I'd rather I'd done it myself."

"Dick's daughter! You're dreaming."

But a hundred things cropped up in his mind to confirm it. For one, she was the image of Gilbert himself.

"What's Hugo done with her?" he said between his teeth. "He'll pay for it, whatever it is."

"We'll all pay," said Gilbert. "Come home with me, Huntley. I'm about done with it all, and I've got to see Hugo."

"Does he know where Richard is?"

Gilbert shook his head.

"I had to promise not to tell him. You don't know what it is, Huntley. A frightful wrong on one side, and on the other——" he could not go on.

Huntley slipped his arm through Gilbert's, and the man leaned on him as though his very soul was weary.

"You've better brains than I, Billy," he said, as they crossed the garden that was cold, now the sun was down. "Think for me what I ought to do."

But Huntley's heart was hot within him for the girl he had known as Miss Brown.

"I don't know," he muttered, longing to wring Hugo's neck, and wondering if all the strange tales were true. "He wouldn't see me just now."

"He's got to see me," said the younger brother, with a black look. "Billy, I'd be happy if I thought my mother was dying now."

"My poor chap!" very pitifully. "Look out, there's something under your foot. A packet or a letter," he stooped mechanically and picked it up; as he looked at it an oath broke from him.

"It's a letter to me!" He tore off the soft hair that bound it, and there fell to the ground his own ring.

"What?" said Gilbert stupidly. "A letter for you?"

In the growing dusk Huntley read the few lines, and then, in a voice Gilbert had never heard, he called down the wrath of God on Hugo de Burgh.

"Read it," he cried, thrusting the torn paper into Gilbert's hand. "Read it, and you'll know what to think of Hugo!"

"I promised once to send you your ring if I wanted you. I want you now, but not only because I love you. They say I've gone away, but I am shut up in the tower above the side door. Oh, my Willie, if you love me come for me. Mr. De Burgh shut me up because I would not tell him about my father. Please come quickly, for I can't hold out. He says he will never let me out till I tell, and I'll never tell. If you get this too late, remember that I loved you till I died, and that I never loved another soul. Don't forget me. I will sign my name, as I promised you, perhaps I'll never sign it again.

"JOCELYN DE BURGH."

"My father never did it. Willie, Martha Hewitt knows. If you have loved me, help him, and help me, if you can. It will be too late tomorrow."

The bald, disjointed sentence brought a lump into Huntley's throat.

"Hush! don't speak!" he whispered, catching Gilbert by the arm. "I must get her out; you must help."

But Gilbert was staring at the letter, as one who was waked from a fool's paradise to find his home a den of thieves.

"It's no good going to Hugo," he said quite quietly. "He'd outwit us. But do you know what all this will mean to us?"

"If you won't help me, I'll go alone."

Gilbert turned to him, his teeth set.

"I'll help you if we're hung for it," he said, and in silence the two went into the house, and up to Gilbert's room, meeting no one. "Where is this tower? I mean, how do you get to it?" Huntley said, chafing at Gilbert's delay.

"The stair door is never used; it's opposite Hugo's rooms," dryly. "We've now got to see where he is first. It's a trifle, no doubt, but it's his house and his servants, and he'd call the men and stop our going if he knew."

Huntley laughed grimly. Once roused, not all the devils in hell could stop him; he cared not one jot for a villain like Hugo de Burgh.

"Here," Gilbert threw him a pair of thin shoes, "put these on. Your boots would bring Hugo out like a shot, and we can't run any risks for the girl's sake. That note was shaky—I don't believe she's had food."

His face was white, as a brave man who sees his death, for the knowledge of his mother's crime was more bitter than a thousand deaths. But he stood looking for something in a drawer, as if he were not in torture.

"Come on, I'll show you," he said quietly. "But I could wish it was any one but me."

Huntley did not notice what it was he slipped into his pocket.

Silently the two passed through the long, empty corridors, till they reached Hugo's door. It was ajar, but they dared not stop; his ears were like a hare's.

Through the half-open door there floated out a mist of cigarette smoke; inside they could hear, in the quiet, the quick scratching of a pen. Hugo, in security, was writing a letter to Meredith that was as false in its facts as it was real in its venom.

Scarcely breathing, Gilbert tried the unused door; it was locked. With a quick gesture he took a key from his pocket and slipped it in. It fitted, and noiseless as two ghosts the two men passed through, locking the door behind them. But careful as Gilbert was, the lock grated.

He caught Huntley by the arm. Hugo had heard!

Whether he had or not, they could not tell. But he came quickly out into the corridor and stood irresolute. Then, with one dextrous movement, he tried the door, but it was fast, as he had left it.

"Bah! I'm getting nervous," he muttered, each word distinct to the breathless listeners. The next minute they heard him go back to his room.

Gilbert, still grasping Huntley, moved on up the stairs. Not till they were on the first landing did he speak.

"Wait, I've a candle," he whispered. Huntley's heart beat thickly as he stared about him in its flickering light. "It was lucky about the key," Gilbert went on. "I have a turn for locks, and I hunted up all the old keys I could find once for fun. Mine is the right key. Hugo had to get another made, for I mislaid this. I only found it a few weeks ago. I had to keep you waiting while I found it."

He turned without hesitation into the passage Jocelyn had followed the night before, and up the stairs.

"Here's the door," he said sharply. "You open it. I can't. I never saw the girl, and all this will mean——" he swallowed thickly.

Huntley shot the bolt back and stood gazing into the cold darkness of the tower room. It was well thought of for a prison, no one ever went up those stairs, for a story as dark as Alicia's own clung to them.

The icy air of the winter night was cold on Huntley's face, but as he gazed he could see no one.

"Where are you?" he whispered. Then he saw. On the floor, by the window, lay the girl he loved, a senseless heap, one outflung hand bound with a bloody handkerchief, her long hair streaming on the stones. He set the candle anywhere, and was kneeling by her side.

"Sweetheart, it's I!" he said, raising her, sick at heart as he saw her head fall backward lifelessly. "Wake up, my little love, look at me."

But she never stirred.

With a quick motion he gathered her to his breast.

"Sweetheart, try!" he pleaded. "You're safe now. Do you think anyone could touch you here, in my arms?"

From very far away his voice reached her, but not the meaning of the words; the cold and hunger, the pain of her cut hand had dulled her senses. A cold sickness on her, she opened her eyes, but only to close them again with a sigh of relief.

"I thought you'd come," he caught, but just caught, the murmur, and as he rose to his feet with her close in his arms, he saw she had fainted again.

As if he could not feel the weight that was so dear, he carried her out to where Gilbert waited, and pointed in silence to the scarlet bandage round her hand.

Gilbert had no words as he looked at the girl. He stumbled as he went back for the candle, and fumbled a long time as he bolted the door. It would be as well that Hugo should find things as he left them.

For all he had taken his stand with Richard he could not feel glad as each fresh count against Hugo was proved.

He turned to Huntley as he shot the bolt home.

"We've got here, and we've found her!" he said. "But has it occurred to you how we are to get out? We might open that lower door straight on Hugo."

But Huntley was listening to something far away, not to Gilbert.

"Quick!" he cried, under his breath. "Pinch out that candle so that it can't smell. I hear someone now at that door."

They were in the dark before the words were out of his mouth. Gilbert caught him by the arm and dragged him down the winding stair toward the noise, but also toward the landing where the four passages branched off into unknown depths of darkness. Into the nearest one they rushed, and stood flat in its gloom against the wall, both thankful the girl had fainted.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26.)

Don't Miss the Tragic Ending

This story has reached a climax, the situation is desperate, the stage is set for a tragic finish which comes in a startling, astonishing form of fearful retribution, as told in the last three chapters of "Love and Spite" to appear in December COMFORT.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW, two years for 30 cents, and make sure of the conclusion of this story and the opening chapters of another thrilling romance, by Adelaide Stirling, to follow it.



Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THANKSGIVING DAY is such a joyous occasion that it is anticipated long beforehand by all the members of the family as well as by the housewife who has to plan the feast and festivities. It is a day of home-comings, of reunions, of merry making and holiday pleasures, with the glorious climax of the best dinner of the year. For no dinner ever tastes quite so good or is hailed with more enthusiasm than the bountiful repast of Thanksgiving Day. For weeks preceding the happy day itself, the housewife is extremely busy searching out new ideas for her family,—new concoctions for the dinner, new decorations for the table, new jokes and amusements to increase the fun. More than most holidays Thanksgiving is fortunately still a day of traditions. What dinner could be complete without the roasted turkey, the cranberry sauce, the plum pudding, or pies, and the fruit? On that day every one loves to see a veritable harvest of plenty on the table before him,—such a wealth of good things that each heart cannot help but be filled with a real feeling of appreciation and thanksgiving.

For the centerpiece for the Thanksgiving table, nothing is more attractive and harmonious than fruits, or vegetables. Many are the designs that the artistic hand can use in arranging a basket of red apples, bright-colored oranges, bananas, pears, and here and there over the top small bunches of grapes. Dates rolled in sugar, figs, raisins, and nuts all add to the picture of plenty. There are innumerable shapes, sizes and kinds of baskets and bowls that may be charmingly used to contain the fruit, and even "homely" provision baskets, if small enough, can be gracefully twined with leaves and fern, and piled high with the yield of the orchards. It often adds greatly to the beauty of the table to trim it with autumn leaves, collected when the trees are in their most gorgeous coloring, pressed with a hot waxed iron, and kept till some festive party.



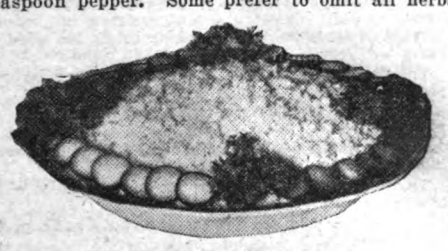
THE NATIONAL THANKSGIVING BIRD.

Ferns, too, gathered in the summer, can be beautifully preserved between the pages of a heavy book until they are wanted for decoration. Thus does the wise housewife begin her plans early in the season for the happiest holiday of the fall.

Besides baskets there are all sorts of centerpieces that can be made from vegetables. A big round yellow pumpkin, scrubbed till its sides shine, can be scooped out at the top, lined with paraffin paper and filled with fruits and nuts. Even cabbages have been made into lovely bowls for fruit. Sheaves of wheat and ears of red corn on the stalk, when they can be obtained, are wonderfully decorative and strings of the deep red cranberries can also be used to furnish effective splashes of color. The choice of ornaments for the table is truly as rich as the harvest itself and it is indeed well worth while to plan for decorations that shall fitly express the spirit of the day. Some New England families have been known to place at each plate a few kernels of parched corn as a reminder of the first Thanksgiving Day of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, held after the season of famine when a few grains of corn had been their only food.

The dinner itself is the center of interest of the day. Menus for other dinners may vary, but for this one nothing is more welcome than the sight of the steaming turkey with its luscious brown crust and its fat sides almost bursting with the good stuffing it contains. In some families goose or duck supplant the King of the Barnyard, but the turkey generally reigns supreme.

Although most housewives have their pet recipes for stuffing the fowl there may be some who would like a variation. A good recipe for stuffing is as follows: For one large turkey, break into small pieces two small loaves of stale bread, moisten with one cup of hot water, one third cup of melted butter, and one well-beaten egg. Add a small onion finely chopped, two teaspons sweet marjoram, one teaspoon sage, one teaspoon salt, one half teaspoon grated nutmeg, one quarter teaspoon clove, and one quarter teaspoon pepper. Some prefer to omit all herbs



MASHED POTATO WITH SLICED BEETS.

and spices except sage and pepper, in which case the portion of sage leaves should be largely increased.

With the turkey the indispensable cranberry sauce or jelly adds flavor and a pretty bit of color. A simple method of making cranberry sauce is to cook one quart of cranberries in three cups of water until they are thoroughly soft, then add three cups sugar, and boil until the desired consistency is reached. If a thin sauce is wanted, a few minutes cooking will suffice; if a jelly is preferred, the mixture should be cooked until very thick. Remove from the stove and mash through a strainer, and pour into moulds to jelly.

Potatoes are a necessary adjunct for this day. The kitchen is so crowded with dishes and preparations that it is wiser to select a fairly simple process when possible. An excellent way is to mash the potatoes, season with salt, pepper



STEAMED SQUASH.

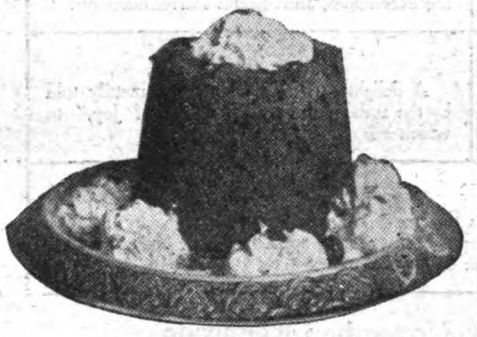
and butter. Pile the mixture lightly in a baking dish, brush on the top the white of an egg, diluted with a teaspoonful of cold water and brown in a hot oven. Pickled beets, or some other bright colored vegetable may be used as a garnish.

Onions have been associated with the typical Thanksgiving dinner for many years, and because of their decided flavor they are very acceptable with the mildly seasoned meat of the turkey. Boiled onions served in a cream sauce are delicious. To make the sauce, melt two tablespoons of butter, mix in thoroughly three tablespoons of flour, and add one and one half cups of milk, three quarters teaspoon of salt, and one eighth teaspoon of pepper. Stir carefully until the sauce thickens. After boiling the onions in several waters until they are tender, drain them, sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper and when ready to serve, pour the cream sauce over them.

Steamed squash can be prettily served in the shell or in a dish. Remove the top of a Hubbard squash and steam until tender. Scoop out the pulp, mash the soft portion through a coarse strainer and season with salt, pepper and butter. Fill the shell or dish with this mixture and wrap a paper napkin around it to make it more attractive.

Sometimes if you wish a more elaborate dinner you can serve a sherbet or frappe after the roast. Its coldness and its flavor are very refreshing after the hearty meat course. The following is a recipe for cranberry sherbet: To two cups of sweetened cranberry sauce, add a syrup made by boiling one and one half cups of sugar in three cups of water for ten minutes. Strain, cool, and freeze with one part salt to two parts ice.

The serving of a salad is a mere matter of choice. Since there is such an abundance of other "goodies," this can easily be dispensed with. If



PLUM PUDDING.

however, it is desired, it is well to choose a simple one. Plain lettuce with French dressing or a fruit salad of chopped apple, sliced oranges and nuts, with cream dressing fit well into the menu.

But what is salad compared to the dessert, and how, on top of all the good things that have been already eaten, is it going to be possible to do justice to the pies and puddings that look so tempting? Surely laughter and happy conversation must help to make food easily digested, for somehow the desserts always get the reception that they should. It is difficult indeed, almost impossible, to suggest new desserts for this special day. Nothing tastes better than the old-fashioned mince and pumpkin pie such as have graced the board for many years. It is possible, however, to find new ways of making the steamed plum pudding and the sauce to go with it. A good recipe for plum pudding is as follows: Chop and cream one cup of suet, add to it two cups bread crumbs which have been soaked in one cup of milk for thirty minutes. To the well-beaten yolks of three eggs, add one and one half cups of brown sugar, one half teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of cinnamon, one teaspoon of nutmeg, and one teaspoon of clove. Combine with the suet and bread crumbs, and mix thoroughly. Add the grated rind and juice of one lemon, one cup of currants, one cup of seeded and chopped raisins dredged with one quarter cup flour, and one third cup finely chopped citron. Fold in the stiffly beaten egg whites. Steam in a buttered tin for four hours. Serve with a hard sauce made by creaming one cup of powdered sugar with one third cup of butter, and flavored by one teaspoon of vanilla and a grating of nutmeg.

Fruit, nuts and coffee, may add to the gala repast, and in New England it is not complete without new cider. A pretty idea is to stuff figs with marshmallows. Put the figs into a strainer set on top of the kettle and steam from four to five minutes. Cut off the bottom end of each fig and insert the handle of a spoon to make an opening. Into this push a marshmallow, cover it completely with the skin of the fig and roll the fig in powdered sugar.

Ask Yourself This Question

It is important for reasons of health and practical economy for every housekeeper to ask herself this question:

"Do I prefer a pure baking powder like Royal Baking Powder, made of cream of tartar derived from grapes, or am I willing to use a baking powder made of alum or phosphate, both derived from mineral sources?"

The names of the ingredients printed on the label show whether the kind you are now using or any brand, new or old, that may be offered is a genuine cream of tartar powder, or merely a phosphate or alum compound.

Royal Baking Powder contains no alum nor phosphate and leaves no bitter taste in the food.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

ing or take a day off for such rough work. Part in love, the morning may never come to some of us. Bury your past troubles and call not forth the future. "Good night," with a beautiful thing to say! Dream if you like of days gone by and happy childhood scenes. Good night is a song of memory as I hear it now from my two children who are away from me.

A friend once had a dear little boy who said, as he kissed his father good night, "Good by till morning comes." And now that the child is with God that good by is ever fresh in his father's memory, till morning in a world that shall know no night.

I will close with a prayer:

"Lord, as I journey day by day,
Along life's rough and rugged way,
I ask not that my path should be
From pain and sorrow ever free.
Nor that within my home so dear
No grief shall come, no saddened tear,
But this I ask, on bended knee,
For strength and grace, dear Lord, from Thee,
To bear whatever Thou should'st send,
Brave and unfaltering to the end."

MRS. ROBERT R. GOLDEN.

PANA, ILL.

DEAR SISTERS:

It is with intense pleasure that I note an effort is at last being made by a few of the COMFORT family to show, in a substantial way, their appreciation of Uncle Charlie's years of devoted efforts to minister to the sick and to aid and uplift the well. What we are attempting to do now should have been done years ago, then Uncle Charlie could have had just that much care and worry lifted from his shoulders. I am sure it has simply been thoughtlessness on our part.

The sincere Christian spirit that breathes through all the letters in the Sisters' Corner shows that we must have tens of thousands of devoted followers of the Master among the COMFORT family. Now, unless that spirit is a real, viril, living thing, not merely the drooling of spiritual platitudes, so typical of so many superficial Christians who mistake piety for righteousness, words for deeds and faith for accomplishments, we shall never surround Uncle Charlie with that brick and mortar evidence of our love, sympathy and appreciation, which our hands could so readily and instantly rear if we would all apply ourselves with heart and soul to this inspiring task.

I have had a great deal of experience with charitable work and it has been my experience that out of one hundred people, ninety-nine will talk but only one will actually perform and do. If those who so constantly have the name of the Deity on their lips would repeat to themselves at least half-a-dozen times a day, "Faith without works is dead," it would work wonders and they would find that words as a substitute for deeds would find little acceptance in the sight of Him who said, "Feed my lambs!"

Now sisters, in this case let us cut out the talking and *all* get to work.

I have Uncle Charlie's picture book; his home is a very modest little place but modest homes in the city cost much and I figure that at least fifty thousand of us must get at least one subscription to COMFORT or fifteen thousand of us get four before this inspiring project can be put through. Uncle Charlie, I know, has millions of admirers, but there is a vast gulf between admirers and helpful friends. Now we've *all* got to quit this admiring business and get out and hustle. I have found such an immense amount of delight and satisfaction in Uncle Chalie's books and in COMFORT that I have introduced the magazine to all my friends and I have placed that wonderful book, Uncle Charlie's poems, the most delightful gift and the best collection of genuinely funny verse ever written, in a hundred homes. That means I have been busy and the work has been a delight to me as it would be to anyone else who has the inspiration to indulge in it. Let us get busy so that by Christmas Day we can have Uncle Charlie in his own COMFORT home. I'm willing to do the work of twenty of you, and more if time and strength permit but this should be a labor of love for us all; for a few hundred of us to put this project through would be a poor testimonial, a poor exhibition of our appreciation of his great and noble work, for we every one love him. Every one could do a little, but, better still, let's all do much! Let us do what Billy Sunday's admirers do for him—thirty to forty thousand dollars for a few weeks' healthy shouting. Can't we, six million of us, do as much as that for a sick and helpless brother who has labored in the Master's cause for twenty bedridden years? We *can* do it and we *will!* Once more, let us get busy for this is a work that brings its own reward.

I am sending in twelve subscriptions for a start.

"Give as you would if an angel
Awaited your gift at the door;
Give as you would if tomorrow
Found you where waiting was o'er;
Give as you would to the Master
If you met His searching look;
Give as you would of your substance,
If His hand your offering took."

We have taken COMFORT twenty years and love every bit of it.

With love to each one of the sisters,

I am, yours for Uncle Charlie's Home,
MARY E. NEELY.

Mary Neely. With Uncle Charlie's thanks in this issue I feel that anything I could say would be superfluous but your inspiring letter deserves mention and surely it should be the means of arousing the drones in COMFORT's hive to action. But by this I don't want those who have sent in smaller sums of money or fewer subscriptions to feel that their work is any the less appreciated on that account, for it is not, but lack of space prevents me from thanking all as they deserve—if indeed I were able to express my thanks in mere words. In the October editorial our Editor explained the whys and wherefores of the Home Fund idea and if any of the new readers are in doubt as to the purpose back of this generosity, I would advise them to acquaint themselves with the true facts before passing judgment.—Ed.

—, ALABAMA.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

My sympathy certainly went out to the unloved wife but there are thousands that are just as unwelcome and as unloved. If we are not able to work like slaves for our husbands the majority of them will "grouch" at us and tell us that's what they married us for.

I left my husband once because I got disgusted with his drinking and grouching but he turned over a new leaf, enough to quit the drinking so we are living together again. I took my two children and went to Missouri. But it's just as I say—few of them love a woman unless she is able to meet all their expectations. But married life isn't as hard as it used to be when I was soft and let him have all the say and do all the bossing. When he starts it now I just buck up and say: "See here, there is just as much room in this world for me as there is for you and if we can't live without bossing and fighting I better commence too and see how you like it," and I don't act as gentle or loving as I used to, no matter how much I would like to. It does them good to have a woman act a little distant.

You may print my name if you like.

Love to all, MRS. W. M. H.

Mrs. W. M. H. Even though you were sincere enough to offer to let me use your name, I hardly think I will for, sometime, it might cause unpleasantness. It has been interesting to note the change in letters this month from last. Then they were all from the loving, clinging-vine type of woman while this month they are just the opposite and from women who are prepared to defend their rights or else from those who started married life on an equal basis so that there would be no occasion for them to fight for what they considered theirs by right. I wonder which is the better plan? What do the rest say about it?—Ed.

—, OREGON.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I'm sorry that I did not subscribe for COMFORT sooner as I should like to read the sister's letter from Yorkshire, Ohio. I thought Mattie Fugitt's letter worth the price of the paper. It is right after my own heart. I think this race suicide is one of the worst evils of this age. I know several couples who are separated whom I believe would be living happily together if they had had children. This is a fast age and people don't want to take time to care for little children. They live idle, selfish lives and drift apart more easily than if their minds were upon their little treasures.

I am a proud and happy mother of three children and I think the comfort and pleasure we get out of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

CROCHET BOOK FREE



Contains 84 rare, and beautiful designs for Edgings and Insertions. To introduce TEXASILK, our new hard twisted, mercerized cordoney (best for tatting, edging and initials), we will mail this Crochet Book Free and Postpaid to any lady sending only 10c silver or stamps for 2 full size sample balls

TEXASILK

comes in size 70 only, in white, black, medium green, pink, rose, scarlet, light blue, delph, light yellow. Crochet Book is clearly illustrated so designs may be copied by anyone. Send at once and get this book FREE.

(23)

COLLINGBOURNE MILLS, Dept. 2356, ELGIN, ILLINOIS

DRESSMAKING

Learn at Home—New, Easy Method

Have a $20 dress for $6, a $5 waist or skirt for $1.50—be better dressed for one-third what your clothes now cost. By our wonderful, entirely new, easy method you can now learn at home in spare time to make all your own and your children's clothes or prepare to earn $25 to $40 weekly as a professional dressmaker. Hundreds have learned. Positively so simple that you begin right away to make pretty garments for yourself or others.



SPECIAL OFFER NOW

Write at once for our special low-price, easy-payment offer to those enrolling now. Also new book explaining the secret of this remarkable easy-to-learn, NEW METHOD. Please state whether interested in home or professional dressmaking. Mail a postal today.

WOMAN'S INSTITUTE
Dept. 9-L, 358 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1916, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTER.—The Dapperlings are kind-hearted, gay little elf-like beings who ride on rabbits and never let themselves be seen by human eyes because of their belief that, if seen, it would bring some terrible calamity upon them. But Nattie, the Smallest Dapperling of All, has watched five-year-old Simmie-Sammie and his sister Pittysing, nearly two years older, while at play and is not afraid of them. She would play with these children if the Dapperling rules permitted, and she does meddle with their playthings slyly and unseen, much to their bewilderment.

CHAPTER II.

THE LOST DOLL

See front cover illustration

THE children lived in a pretty white house with a nice lawn and flower-beds in front, just at the edge of the village. Back of the house there was a green field, all dotted with wild flowers. A path had been worn across the field and down a gentle slope at the farther side, to where, with its border of small trees and bushes, ran the little Mill Brook. It was a beautiful place to play.

There was nothing left of the old mill, which had given the brook its name, but a few rotting timbers further down, where the brook was wider.

In the pasture across the brook, a little farther up the stream, was the hillside where the Dapperlings lived, and now, as I promised before, I'll tell you about their houses.

It was because they must be hidden from real people that the Dapperlings lived on side hills. You see, it was this way. The houses were built right into the side of the hill, with doors and windows in front, and the Dapperlings went to call on each other and skipped around over the hill, very friendly and happy, WHEN THEY WERE BY THEMSELVES! But let any real people come anywhere near, and every Dapperling went inside, and whisk! quick as a wink those houses turned right around, INTO THE HILL, and there was the grass all growing without a break, and you never would have guessed anybody lived there at all. For, don't you see, the grass grew right on the backs of the houses, and the houses could turn either way.

Inside the hill were little tunnels going from one house to another.

And way back in the hill was a big room, or cave, large enough to hold the whole village full of Dapperlings, where they could play games and have parties. They called it by a very grand name—the assembly hall.

Mostly it was dark in there, but they lighted it with lamps when they wanted to, and they could let a little sunlight into it, too, in this way. It came very near the top of the ground in one place, and there they had a hole cut through, which they covered over with a little trap door.

Over this trap door, on the outside, they put a covering of moss, to hide it, and all around it were planted thistles—rough, sharp, prickly thistles.

"Enough to keep anybody away from the place, I should think!" That was what old Shandle-Spinx said when he planted them.

But I'm going to tell you how Pittysing, one day, DIDN'T keep away!

The Smallest Dapperling of All was out alone one morning, near the Mill Brook, hoping she'd see the children. By and by they came.

Pittysing had a new doll. A cunning little doll, with yellow curls and a red mouth that always smiled. She was just six inches tall, exactly the right size to make clothes for. It didn't need much cloth for a dress, and scraps of lace left from other things were fine for trimmings.

Pittysing sat down on a little wooden box she kept there for a seat, and spread out on the barrel-top table the things she had brought. Beside the doll, she had a needle with a long thread tied into it, a pair of very small, very bright embroidery scissors, and a piece of beautiful pink silk.

Simmie-Sammie stood watching her. There was a worried pucker just above Pittysing's nose, and her lips never once smiled. She was trying to plan how she could make a dress out of the silk. There was a little hole in it, and the hole didn't come in the right place to use it for the neck of the dress or an armhole either. So she turned it this way and that, holding it up to the doll, who kept on smiling.

Simmie-Sammie's face lighted up with a big idea.

"I know, Pittsy," he said. "I tell you just what you can do. Cut the hole out."

Pittysing looked at him sharply. No, he wasn't trying to be smart, or to tease her. He meant well, but, being only a boy, of course he knew nothing about making dresses. She smiled at him pityingly, then jumped up and dropped the things on the table.

"Oh, come on!" she said. "We'll go wading! I've worked long enough for one morning."

The Smallest Dapperling of All wanted to go into the water with them; wanted to play with them, wanted to laugh with them! But she couldn't.

She watched them for a while, then went back to the table and took the doll. She looked into its eyes and hugged it hard, then started for home with it. Dapperlings don't have dolls. She didn't mean to keep it, oh, no! But she thought she would try to get Lulie Wye Dapperling, who knew how to make beautiful dresses, to make one for the doll. Then she would carry it back, and how pleased and surprised Pittysing would be!

She heard the children's mother calling, "Pittysing! come quick! Papa's going to take you and Simmie-Sammie for a ride."

The children snatched up their shoes and stockings and ran home, never once thinking of the doll.

(You're wondering how Pittysing got into the Dapperlings' underground hall? Well, do be patient, and take the story as it comes.)

Lulie Wye made the doll a beautiful dress of fine, blue gauzy stuff, with yellow buttercup petals pasted on for trimming, like embroidery done with yellow silk. Then she stood the doll up in one corner of the assembly hall, and invited all the Dapperlings to march around in single file, to see it.

The doll smiled at them all, and kept on smiling, even when the lights were put out, and she was left standing there alone in the dark. Perhaps the doll didn't have much sense, but at least she wasn't afraid of the dark, which is more than can be said of some children. There wasn't anything to be afraid of.

The Smallest Dapperling of All was sent down to Lone Cedar Knoll that afternoon to get a basket of checkerberries for supper. It was a lovely spot, with the dark green leaves and bright red checkerberries covering the knoll like a carpet. The children sometimes went there, but never alone, for it was a rule that they musn't go farther south than the Big Cracked Rock, nor farther east than the pasture fence, nor farther north than the Pine Tree on the Hill, nor farther west than Grandma Brown's house, unless their mother said they might.

Nattie filled her basket and started for home, but stopped by the Mill Brook for a while to watch Pittysing, who had come back from her ride and was hunting for the doll. The needle and thread were there, and the pink silk, but the doll and the scissors were gone.

"Oh, how I wish I'd left mamma's embroidery scissors alone!" she said. "And oh, my poor, dear little doll! Why, I haven't even named her yet, and now I've lost her."

Simmie-Sammie was hunting, too.

Cattie Puss was with them, rubbing against the legs of the table, and getting in Pittysing's way.

"Oh, scat!" cried poor, worried Pittysing. "As if I didn't have enough to bear, without tumbling over yellow cats every time I step! SCAT, why don't you?" And she stamped her foot.

At that, Cattie Puss ran, almost knocking over the Smallest Dapperling of All. She did tip over the basket of checkerberries, and Nattie had to go way back to Lone Cedar Knoll to get more, for she didn't dare to pick up the spilled ones so near the children. Simmie-Sammie found the checkerberries soon after, and ate them, wondering how they came there.

"Quick as ever I can, I'll carry that doll back," said the Smallest Dapperling of All to a friendly little spotted toad who was watching her pick her berries. The toad didn't answer, but winked his bright little eyes as though he understood.

Chapter III, in December COMFORT, will tell of a strange mishap that befell Pittysing in connection with the recovery of her lost doll and the trouble it made for the Dapperlings. See that your subscription is renewed so not to miss it.

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
The Thanklessness of Wyoming Sal *Joseph E. Novak*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner	5
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	5
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	6
Love and Spite (continued) *Adelaide Stirling*	8
A Thanksgiving Dinner and How to Serve it *Louise Ufford Adams*	9
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	10
Crumbs of Comfort	10
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	11
Uncle Charlie's Birthday Fund	12
House Plants for Winter *Elizabeth Atwood*	13
Modern Farmer	14
The Turkey We Celebrate	15
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	16
Little Teeth and Little Toothbrushes *Mrs. Elizabeth Atwood*	17
Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	18
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps	19
In and Around the Home *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	20
The Brand of Shame (continued) *Maud Mary Brown*	21
Comfort (Poem) *By a Subscriber*	21
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	22
Palindromes	23
Home Lawyer	24
Marketing Your Furs	24
Charades for Thanksgiving *Geraldine Ames*	25
Veterinary Information	27
Unfortunate Mexico *C. L. Chapman*	27
Talks with Girls	29
Cultivation of the Sunflower *C. L. Chapman*	29
A Corner for Boys *Uncle John*	30
Information Bureau	31
Specializing	31
James Whitcomb Riley *C. L. Cheever*	32
Manners and Looks	33
Children's Happy Hour	37
Look at the Millions Rats Cost	37
Family Doctor	38
What Shall I Give Them for Christmas?	38
Four Wheel Chairs in October	38
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	39
Comfort's Comicalities	39

Crumbs of Comfort

Love is the energy of life.
They pray best who live best.
Money brightens as it takes its flight.
Gratitude is the memory of the heart.
Great joy is always near great sorrow.
Life is not a holiday, but an education.
Money buys pleasure, but not happiness.
Omission of good is a commission of evil.
Bad examples are like contagious diseases.

December Comfort

sunning over with Christmas cheer, will issue early and its timely suggestions will help our readers in planning and arranging their holiday festivities. Don't miss the tragic ending of "Love and Spite" in December COMFORT, to be followed by another thrilling serial story by Adelaide Stirling.

Special Features for December

"Common Sense in Christmas Giving"

An instructive article giving many helpful hints for solving the perplexing problem that confronts us all at this season when we are at our wits' end trying to select suitable Christmas presents, especially if there are many calls on our limited resources.

"Clubby's Regeneration"

A Rollicking Christmas story with a strong vein of human interest, by Joseph F. Novak, and illustrated by striking front cover design.

"A Christmas Party"

Tells how to entertain your friends in a novel and delightful manner for the occasion, including decorations, amusements and refreshments.

"When Baby Catches Cold"

Dr. Hughes tells how to safeguard children from colds, how to treat their colds, how to prevent and cure spasmodic croup.

"Saint Jonathan"

A delightful Christmas romance prettily told by the author of "June's House of Joy," to which it is a sequal.

"Apples—the Best Cooking Fruit"

The apple is the best all-around fruit as well as the most common. This article, by an experienced housekeeper, tells numerous ways of preparing and serving apples raw and cooked. Clip it from December COMFORT and paste it in your cook book.

Special, Low Rate for November Renewals

As an inducement to renew your subscription promptly this month we offer the special, low rate of 30 cents for a 2-year renewal. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album.

If the number over your name on the wrapper in which this paper comes is 338, or any less number, it means that your subscription should be renewed at once. Send in your renewal today, if you don't want to miss December COMFORT. Use the coupon below.

Have you entered our New Grand Prize Contest announced on page 36? If not, enter now and make an early start for the November cash prizes and get in line for the grand prizes too. Costs you nothing; premiums and commissions that you surely get pay well besides the big prizes you may win.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.
I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name*.....
Street
Postoffice ..... *and No.*.....
R. F. D. No......*Box No.*.....*State*.....
November, 1916.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, OF COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, FOR OCTOBER 1, 1916.

State of Maine, ... } ss.
County of Kennebec, ... }

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared William H. Gannett, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the COMFORT and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher, W. H. Gannett, Publisher (Incorporated), Post-office address, 20 Willow St., Augusta, Maine.
Editor, A. M. Goddard, Post-office address, Augusta, Maine.
Managing Editor, William H. Gannett, Post-office address, Augusta, Maine.
Business Managers, W. H. Gannett, Bus. Mgr., Guy P. Gannett, Assist. Bus. Mgr., Post-office address, Augusta, Maine.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.) Owner: W. H. Gannett, Publisher (Incorporated), 20 Willow St., Augusta, Maine.—Stockholders:—W. H. Gannett, Augusta, Maine; Sadie H. Gannett, Augusta, Maine; Guy P. Gannett, Augusta, Maine.

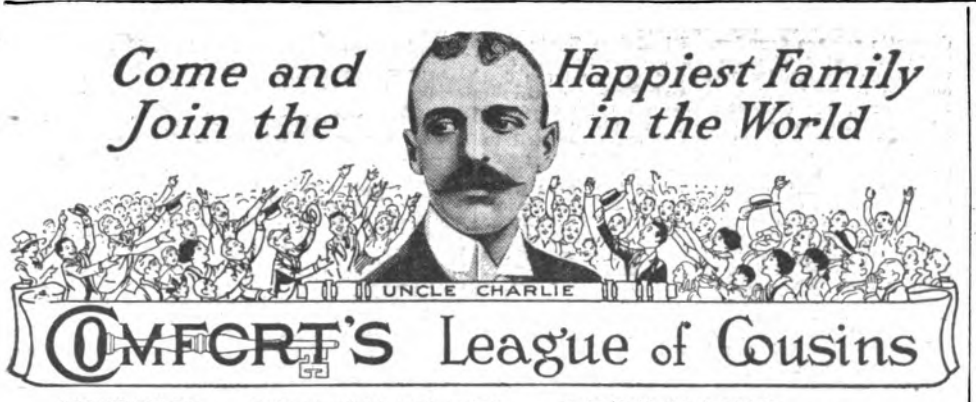
3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) No outstanding bonds, mortgages or other securities.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

WILLIAM H. GANNETT, Bus. Mgr.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd day of September, 1916.
(My commission expires February 25, 1922.)
(NOTARIAL SEAL) FRANK E. SMITH,
Notary Public

Marriage ends romance and begins reason.
Doubt is can't believe; unbelief is won't believe.
The narrower the mind, the broader the tongue.
He becometh poor who dealeth with a slack hand.
The first step in religion is for man to feel his helplessness.
What we are is greater than what we do, or what we have.
The Christian life is the only life that will ever be completed.
Many weep for the sin while they laugh over the pleasure.
Truth is the foundation of all knowledge and the cement of all societies.
Treat your stomach as your best friend and it will be as good to you.
Make money your god if you want to, but don't expect to find it immortal.
Rest means liking what we have; work means liking what we have not.
Think twice before you speak once and you will speak twice the better for it.
What renders the vanity of some people unbearable is the wound it inflicts on our own.
The path to the light may be dark where you are, but keep on, it is open and leads to the light.
It is better to own a freehold though but a cottage, than to live in a palace owned by somebody else.
Handsome women are loved from inclination, homely women from interest, and virtuous women from reason.



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

I HAVE something to say to you this month which should bring the blush of shame to every American cheek. Mothers and fathers especially I want you to give me your attention. Take the cotton wool out of your ears, every one of you for what I am going to tell you strikes at every home in the land.

How many of you know that our young women are being sold on the auction block in the white slave marts in our big cities, sometimes for as little as a dollar a pound; sold just as meat and groceries are sold. Don't think that this traffic is only going on in the cities, for its ramifications extend to every corner of the land, and the loneliest farm is not safe from the terror that walks by night, and the pestilence that stalks by noonday.

We have an infantile paralysis epidemic here in New York, and every terrified mother is hugging her babe to her breast and wondering when its turn wil come. The plague has struck terror to all hearts. But there is a worse plague than infantile paralysis, for that plague is merciful, inasmuch as there are five chances to one that the baby may survive,—anyway if it dies it can be given decent burial. But what of the white slave monster? Once its dripping jaws close on its victims they are never seen or heard of more. In a few months or five years at the outside they are dead. Over the beds of the victim of infantile paralysis, loving eyes watch and science extends its merciful hands of relief. Even if the body succumbs, the soul at least is not destroyed, but the monsters that control the white slave traffic have no mercy for their victims, they die like rats in a sewer, unwept and unhonored. No loving eyes watch them as the faltering breath ebbs slowly away; alone and neglected they meet death, and the potter's field claims their poor, wretched, diseased bodies. The officers of the law who should protect your daughters, the officers who know where every den of infamy is located and who could free these wretched victims of man's villainy, help to bar the doors of the hell holes that hold them, and take a part of the earnings of sin and shame from the fiendish monsters who own these stockades of vice and control this villainous traffic.

When officers of the law join hands with the white slaver to exploit and strike down the fairest flowers of our land and to despoil our homes, what protection have we got? None whatever! None but the good right arms of you fathers and brothers, and the insistent voices of your anguished mothers.

Every two or three years some monster falls into the clutches of a police officer here or there, who is not lost to all sense of decency and shame, a man who realizes that he owes the public some service for the money he receives for that protection he so seldom gives, and then the lid is lifted and we are permitted to look into hell.

Recently in New York, a fiend in human form, one of the chief members of a vice trust that exploits tens of thousands of white slaves the country o'er, was arrested and made a clean breast to the District Attorney, and revealed, not with any sense of shame or regret, every detail of the damnable traffic in which he was engaged. Yushe Botwin is the name of this wretch, a native of Austria, fifty-seven years old. For twenty-five years this reptile has trafficked in women, and he has delivered to dive keepers, no less than five thousand girls, most of them school girls not over sixteen. His income from this traffic has averaged from five hundred to a thousand dollars a week.

When this monster was arrested, he was receiving the wages of sin from scores of wretched girls, held in vice dens in the underworld of New York.

This fiend brags that in the last ten years he personally has ruined and later enslaved a thousand school girls. That is at the rate of a hundred girls a year, or two a week. He was always careful to see that the girls were the daughters of poor parents.

Presents of candy and flashy jewelry won the girl's interest, then she was taken to cheap movie theaters, where the most demoralizing kind of pictures were displayed, the proprietors, according to his statement, standing in with the slavers, and receiving a commission for their part of the devilish work. Next came visits to garish cabarets and restaurants where the girl was encouraged, or forced to drink; later came the inevitable automobile rides, at the end of which the victim found herself in a den of vice from which, even if she wanted to, she would be too broken in spirit, too crushed, degraded and diseased, to seek to escape.

Girls of about sixteen, fresh from the classroom, it appears, bring the highest price, dive keepers paying as much as five hundred dollars for girls of this type, while others less attractive often go at the rate of a dollar a pound. The slavers receive a commission of ten per cent on the earnings of these women; the slaves get nothing but food and a tawdry wrapper.

It is a strange thing, but when a girl disappears from a poverty-stricken home, a home where the parents know little of the laws and customs of this country, but have still enough sense to make every sacrifice for their children's education, nothing is said to the police about these sudden disappearances. Frequently the trapped victim is forced to write a letter to her parents, telling them that she has eloped and has a good husband. The letter is mailed from a distant western city, and the parents in the majority of cases make no fuss and cease to worry. Often when the family is large and the struggle for existence keen, the disappearance of a daughter brings relief instead of distress. This may seem terrible to those who live in happy, comfortable, well-regulated homes, but it will be easily understood by those who exist in the crowded tenements of New York's east side.

Women and well-groomed young men are used by the chiefs of the vice trust to entrap innocent young girls. It is reported that police detectives recently distributed tickets for a ball among store and factory girls, and then notified all the dive keepers, cadets, procurers and vampires of the underworld to be on hand to gather in the victims. What do you think of that?

Here is the story of a convent bred Irish immigrant who came to this country when but nineteen as told in a New York daily paper:

"With her jaw broken, her cheek bone fractured and half of her teeth knocked out because she dared to tell the grand jury and district attorney Smith the inside story of organized, police protected vice in New York, Miss Alice Henry is virtually a prisoner in her own room in terror of her life. She alleges that the white slave evil is as great as ever, and that one man controls the lives of fifteen hundred young women. Miss Henry declares her story involves a ring of police officers and politicians who share in this stupendous graft. Miss Henry has nothing but hatred for the country which flung her, a convent bred Irish immigrant, into the toils of white slavery. But listen to her story:

"When I came here I got a job as servant in Brooklyn and it was on my days out that I met Louis. He seemed like a nice, refined young fellow. I asked him about his folks and one day he invited me to go to supper at his 'aunt's' house. The woman he introduced as his aunt was pleasant spoken. Before supper was over Louis excused himself and when it got late and he hadn't got back I asked why, for I wanted to go home. Then the woman told me where I was. I tried to get away but she beat me and locked me in a room and took all my clothes away. The next day she gave me a silk wrapper and slippers and stockings to match, and had my hair dressed. There were thirty girls in this place. I refused to do the woman's bidding so she beat me and locked me up with very little to eat. I held out for days. For seven months I was not allowed out of the house, and for several years I was not allowed to go out alone. I could not write to anyone, I had no clothes to wear except a wrapper. Then when I did go out I found I was tied as much as before, because I could not get a job. I had no references ——— took all my money because Louis had sold me outright for one hundred and fifty dollars. He said he would save it for me but I never got a cent for the five years that I lived as a slave. All this t' e my sister didn't know where I was. She learned I had left my place suddenly, but though she hunted for me she could not find me, and after a time I didn't want her to."

It is more than a woman's life is worth, that is a woman of the underworld, to "squeal" as they call it in New York. This woman as you will see got her jaw broken, her cheek bone fractured and half of her teeth knocked out by detectives, because she gave evidence to the authorities of police participation in vice graft. But even then the police did not let up on her. It appears that a detective on the street tried to arrest her on the charge of accosting him, but luckily for her, men from the district attorney's office saw and heard what took place. Later however while she was sitting on the steps of the house in which she was living, a central office detective arrested her, refused to let her telephone and on the way to the station house called her a "stool pigeon" and other names. She says: "As we passed 34th Street, the policeman who refused to help me the night my jaw was broken, laughed and jeered. I spent the night in Jefferson Market jail but was released on five hundred dollar bail, and will be tried Tuesday night on the detective's charge."

Now you see what a woman, who tries to mind her own business and be decent is up against. If this poor soul had not spoken to a strange man on the street, she would probably have been spared all the shame and torture she has endured. Then again one must remember that a girl in domestic service, a stranger in a strange land, with little experience of city life, and of the fiends in human form who infest every community, seeks human companionship and as a rule the only place she can find it is on the street. No matter how guarded and careful a woman may be there are ways well known to the procurer of getting acquainted with a person he wishes to make his victim. In the city one does not know whom to trust and safety lies in trusting no one.

Before discussing what can be done to protect our homes and loved ones, I want you to read carefully a portion of a letter written by a highly educated college woman, a victim of the social evil, to the editor of a woman's department of a newspaper published in a big city of the middle west. We all know how *you* feel about this horror of white slavery, the traffic with which you are all familiar, which scarcely one of you has ever tried to prevent, but you don't know how the victims of the traffic think and feel. Listen if you would know, to this cry, a cry of warning, far more eloquent than anything I could ever pen, from a den in the underworld, from a stricken sister of yours to you self-satisfied, complacent mothers and indifferent fathers in your happy, comfortable homes:

"Will you let a woman of the underworld address you? Although there is never a word for the poor deluded creatures down here in the darkness, yet we like to read about you people up there in the light of day.

"For once I was fair as the purest snow,
But I fell, fell like the snowflakes—
From heaven to hell;
Cursing, pleading, afraid to die,
I sell my soul to whomever will buy.

"We, too, see the church spires in the disance, and on Sunday we hear the bells pealing. To me they only ring a knell to the Christian religion. For what are your churches doing? The preacher preaches about high ideals, clean politics, preaches right over your head. The old brother in the Amen corner, who has heard the sermon on clean politics, goes out and votes 'wet.' The girl who has heard the moral sermon, sits in the porch swing and lets the Sunday school boy hug and kiss her, while papa and mamma up-stairs dream of the golden future of their daughter. I have known men who sang in the church choir on Sundays and mingled with the ogres on Monday. The churches of today have lost sight of the lowly Nazarene, barefooted, healing the lepers and casting out devils. Greed I say has become the great force behind the pulpit, making the salvation of your souls a money-making scheme. How many of you Christian mothers teach your boys to respect your neighbor's daughters and protect their honor with their lives if need be? Why don't parents train their boys for purity of living? If they did their duty for their boys, you girls would be safe. I know a girl down here in sin who is a beautiful singer. She used to sing in a church choir in an Eastern city. The preacher led her to hell. Diseased, lost eternally she gropes about in the shadow of despair. What are your schools doing? Your teachers teach language and grammar and your boys come down here and curse and use the vilest language. Your boys grow up, vote for the saloon and the houses of vice which cater only to the lusts of men. They allow men to manufacture the deadly cigarette and by its manufacture they coin millions of dollars. Then you are taxed to keep up insane asylums for the boys and men whom the cigarette habit sends to the mad house. You allow some men to manufacture drugs, poison and liquors, so they can make a fortune and live in ease, while your sons pay the price. Visit some of the drunken brawls I have seen in my life of shame and tell me *who pays?* Although everything you write is for the betterment of humanity—yet how inconsistent. They (the papers) print things which make for impurity. For instance, movies? Nearly all deal with some phase of sin, the fallen women, drunkenness and murder, and mothers, foolish, blind women who call themselves by that sacred name—enter with little children. If you lived down here with me, you would see the result of your picture shows. Tell the blind mothers up there in your world to beware of the movies dealing with sin in any form. The moral lesson is lost sight of in the fascinating views of vice and crime. Beware of the first drink of beer or wine for your children. Beware of the motor cycle ride into the country with the nice boy friend. I don't care who he is—I say beware. Beware of the porch swing in the shadows while blind papa and mamma sleep up-stairs. I know. I have heard it all from young men who came here, and who will carry to your homes the burning curse. Beware of kissing parties. I went to perdition from a church entertainment—and I went with the preacher's son. It was the first kiss from a boy. Emboldened by that kiss, I allowed my beau to kiss me afterwards; now if a man kisses me he carries the venom to his grave.

"Do not try to reclaim us. We are diseased, blackened and bruised and only death can end our misery. All the joy, purity, love and light have fled from our souls and we are groping in the utter darkness. But for His sake you women who are really good, take your shovel out and fill up the pitfalls which Satan has dug for your children. Go now, while they are in youth's fair morning, before sin has blackened and tarnished their souls. Awake you who are sleeping, while out at the park your girl is turning her footsteps toward vice, and, listen! When that girl of yours has her name all tarnished and blackened by lust and vice, all the gold dust in the streets of heaven cannot remove the blackness therefrom, and it comes so easily—

'First a little mist then a cold, pitiless rain,
And life is never the same again.'"

I can hear all you good women saying: "Isn't this terrible, terrible, terrible." A number of good men will agree with the women that it is terrible and would like to stop it, though neither the good men nor the good women beyond denouncing the hideous thing have ever done anything to stop it or are ever likely to do anything to stop it. Of course they could stop it if they wished. We however, have put an end to black slavery. We waged one of the bloodiest wars in history to free black men and women from physical slavery, and right while that war was going on, with a hypocrisy and inconsistency peculiar to human nature, or inhuman nature, tens of thousands of white men were helping to enslave the daughters of other white men, and to perpetuate a form of slavery far more hideous and horrible than that which they were trying to abolish. It disheartens and disgusts me to see how some good people in some states (and in fact all states) can get excited about the saloon, and yet never say a single word about a more hideous institution, the vice den and the brothel. Unfortunately however, the women of this country have not been educated up to that point where they realize the menace of the brothel as they do the menace of the saloon. Drink and vice are twin brothers, but abolishing the saloon does not abolish white slavery, the black plague and vice, and these things must be abolished if the race is to endure. Some respectable citizens believe that vice should be segregated, that is officially recognized, and that a certain number of hopelessly diseased and degraded women should be kept apart from the rest of the community, and housed in a certain selected section of the town for the benefit of vicious and depraved men devoid of compassion and decency; that a certain number of women must be sacrificed every year to man's bestiality, in order that the good women of the community may be protected. Out on such a hellish doctrine, say I! It is true that men cannot be made good by act of Congress, nor sobered and made moral by legislation, but there are some things we can do right now and in a practical way to put an end to such brutes as the Botwin fiend, who prey on school girls and who keep the white slave traffic in full swing. Here is what we could do and won't do. Raid every vice den in the country on some Saturday night when business is booming and send all the respectable citizens found in these resorts to prison for ten years, and send the women found in them to the hospital and the reformatory. Send, too, the man who knowingly lets his property for purposes of vice, to the pen for ten years! Send the vampires who run these resorts and traffic in women to prison for life, or better still, send them to the electric chair. Do that as a starter, and you would have ninety per cent of the social evil knocked out of existence in a few weeks. You can handle the black plague end of it as they are doing in New Zealand. You can send the professional seducer to the surgeon's table and the barred cell, and the mothers in the home and the teachers in the schools (and there should be male teachers for boys) should teach a single standard of morals, and wipe out the wicked double standard that now prevails. Teach the boys not only to defend his sister's honor with his life, but the honor of other boys' sisters as well. Even if the white slave den provided a safety valve for the evil impulses of the human animal, nothing could be said to justify its existence, for those who frequent vicious resorts are the most tireless in their pursuit of virtue and chastity and it is they who, when weary of their viciousness marry the daughters of respectable parents, spreading disease unto the third and fourth generation and ruining lives as alcohol never did.

I cannot in this article thrash out this matter in its entirety, but in January I will take the matter up again and show you its "respectable" side. All the evil there is in this world or the worst part of the evil, exists because men and women are such moral cowards and such nasty nice criminal prudes that they seek to hide those things which are gnawing at the very vitals of the social fabric, tearing and rending its very heart, and threatening society with irretrievable and everlasting ruin. Only through publicity can reformation come. Let us face the truth, and if we face the truth in this case we shall rid the world in part at least of its frightful and most terrible menace, the evil which causes not only the death of the body but the death of the soul.

The Christmas season will soon be here and if you haven't a set of Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books your home is not complete and you are not equipped for the full enjoyment of life. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.)



Sweet as the Rose are clothes when washed with Fels-Naptha Soap

You will just love to duck your head into a basket of clothes that are washed with Fels-Naptha. The clothes smell clean because they *are* clean—not only on the surface, but clean through and through. And you don't have to boil them to get them that way. All you need to do is to follow the very simple and easy directions on the red and green wrapper.

Never mind how they did the washing and cleaning before Fels-Naptha was invented. When you once learn how reliably Fels-Naptha will do things *for* you, you'll be just as enthusiastic as every Fels-Naptha user is today.

FELS & CO., PHILADELPHIA

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

blues and the best Christmas gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

GARLAND, TEX.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I guess you are very busy answering so many letters. This is the first time I have ever written to you, but I have read your answers and some of the letters you have received.

I want to ask some important (to me) questions. Where has Mother Goose gone? What do you mean by the "get-rich-quick" scheme? Do you really think the laws would be any better if women were allowed to vote?

Uncle Charlie why don't you put Billy's picture in the COMFORT so we could be acquainted? Billy must be very wise to be able to answer questions that puzzle you. V. A. BRUCE.

Vincent you want to know where Mother Goose has gone to do you? She has gone to sleep under the *goose*berry bush. You ought to try and find her Vincent, as I understand she is laying for you. What do I mean by get-rich-quick schemes? I'm surprised you do not know. The gullible American public is swindled to the tune of three hundred million dollars yearly, by clever, foxy, unprincipled, get-rich-quick schemers. These gentlemen fix up an office with swell furniture, oriental rugs, etc., usually in New York, and then they get up a lurid circular telling about some oil well in California or Mexico (the farther from New York the better) that is spouting out a million dollars' worth of oil a day. Of course they could run the oil well themselves and get richer than Rockefeller in a week or so, but they could not think of being so utterly selfish as that. Their consciences simply would not permit them to keep this gold mine all to themselves. One of them had a dream in which an angel told him that the well would dry up unless they let the dear public in and gave them a chance to share in the profits. So the dear public is allowed to buy stocks in an oil well that never existed and in which every one who invests from a dollar to a thousand dollars expects to become a millionaire within a few weeks. Now that is what is called a get-rich-quick scheme. Anyone who has a few dollars naturally wants to double and treble that money if possible. This is a dollar mad world, and unless you have the price you needn't come around. The only place that the poor man is welcome is the poorhouse and the potter's field. Four per cent in the saving's bank to the average thrifty man looks too slow a way to acquire wealth. He wants ten per cent, fifty per cent, a hundred per cent if he can get it, so the poor idiotic boob takes the savings of years out of the bank, reads once more the seductive get-rich-quick circular about the oil well and the gold mine, or some other fake and sends the savings of a lifetime to the smart Alecs in New York or Chicago, who blow it in as fast as they can get it on chorus girl affinities, champagne suppers in the lobster palaces of Broadway, and luxurious limousines. Later on one of the crazy-get-rich dupes gets suspicious because the dividends forget to come in, and writes to Uncle Sam. Post-office inspectors get on the track of the rascally schemers and off they march them to the Federal prison at Atlanta, Georgia, for five or seven years. That's all there is to get-rich-quick scheming Vincent. You will wonder how these sharks get track of their victims, and know to whom to mail their circulars to. That's easy. In New York there are firms that supply the names of anybody and everybody that ever invested a dollar in any scheme present or future. These are called sucker lists, and they are rightly named. The man who ropes in one batch of easy marks sells their names and addresses to someone else who has a skin game to work and so it goes on. So you see it is all easy Vincent or Victor, whichever your name may be. Do I really think the laws would be better if women were permitted to vote? Unquestionably. If you want to know what women have done in suffrage states and countries to better conditions, the little blue Suffrage Bible will give you some startling information. Men are not anxious to make laws that will help women and children, for there is no more profitable field than the exploitation of women. You will readily understand that what I say is true when I tell you that the regular average wage for women the country o'er is six dollars a week, and even a brass monkey could not live decently on that with food at present high prices. The only thing a politician respects is power. If you have a vote that will put him in office, and another vote that will throw him out, he will break his neck to curry favor with you and get your vote. Politicians who run for office where women vote know they must make laws that protect the interests of women and children and the home or they won't get the women's support. In states where women have no vote, politicians can and generally do ignore questions affecting women entirely. When you've got something other people want and must have, you can decline to give up unless you receive something in return. The politician knows this and so he offers women good laws in exchange for their votes. When they have no votes he offers them—nothing. He simply ignores them and they can't punish him for doing it. In equal suffrage states they can throw that man out of office or see he never gets in. Prejudice, ignorance and self interest are the things that make men keep women away from the ballot box. All the forces of evil, the saloon, the liquor interests, the vice and white slave trusts, the political crooks, the big employers of female labor are all against votes for women and that very fact should alone convince the doubters of the absolute necessity of giving woman a weapon with which to protect herself. The men of England were afraid to let the women vote. They told them to stay home and mind their babies. Now with tears in their eyes they are prostrating themselves before these very women and begging them to come out of their homes and save the nation, and by the eternal it's women that are saving it. War often does in a few weeks what peace cannot accomplish in ages. It is an ill wind, even the blood-stained wind of war, that does not blow somebody good. You will find several lovely pictures of both Billy the Goat and Maria in Uncle Charlie's Picture Book. See notice on first page of this department.

NORTH HAMLET, OHIO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am fourteen years old and will be in the sophomore year of high school next year. We have a domestic science and manual training course in our school. Our township is centralized and in the township there are eleven modern wagons to haul the country children to town.

Papa owns the three hundred acre farm we live on. We have thirty cows, ninety sheep, twenty horses, and eighty pigs and hogs. We have a large nine-room house, a big barn, garage and other buildings and silos. We have a 1917 model car. I have a pony named Flip. He and I have very many good times together. I have three brothers and two sisters. All of them are married. I have one niece and one nephew. I do not want to get married until I have a career. I mean to be a domestic science teacher and have a private class in art. I paint china ware and water and oil-paintings. The first money I ever earned was from an oil-painting of a large elm tree in our yard. I got ten dollars for it. I am taking piano lessons. I can play the mandolin and banjo. I am going to learn to play the violin also. Uncle Charlie give me your opinion on "Woman Suffrage." I am going to fight for it. I would not be afraid to prepare a speech on it and speak to a thousand men. I want to be a suffragist leader some day. Ohio would be the best state in the Union if women were allowed to vote. I do not think I would ever want to hold a public office.

Well now my dear Uncle Charlie do not think I do no work because I am an artist and musician. Before we got milking machines I had to milk four cows, twice a day. Now I get three meals a day for father, mother, myself and three hired hands. I wash the dishes, the cream separator and milking machines and keep the kitchen in order. Mother has eight hundred chickens, sixty ducks, two hundred geese, forty guineas and two hundred turkeys. So you see why I have the work to do by myself. We have a hired girl in busy seasons. I get five dollars a week besides my clothes.

Our house, barn, garage, poultry house and corn crib are equipped with electric lights and everything is up-to-date.

I wish the girl cousins living in the cities would visit me every summer and get plenty of fresh air and new milk and eat their fill of fruit. I am so glad I live in the country.

I want to hear from other cousins.

Your niece, RUTH NATALIE ROBERTS.

Ruth, you are certainly one bright, ambitious girl. I wish there were more like you. How I would love to drop down on that farm of yours from an airship and help you shear the cows, milk the sheep, and watch you using the cream separator to separate the pigs from the hogs. Your mother is certainly some poultry expert. The Goat says she ought to send those forty "guineas" over to Italy to fight for their country. Every loyal Eyetalian ought to be on the firing line. You know I don't like the idea of milking cows by machinery, because every now and then I find a piece of machinery in my milk. I believe in the last six months I've swallowed more than three entire milking machines. There was always something so poetic about the dairy-maid, sitting on a one-legged stool, with her head affectionately embedded in Bossy's side, gracefully coaxing the lacteal fluid with her dainty fingers, while the cow patted her lovingly on the cheek every few seconds with a swish of her fly tormentor. Ah that was poetic and ideal and it imparted to the milk an exquisite flavor that it now lacks. I am tickled to bits to note Ruth, that your parents, level headed, sensible souls that they are, pay you five dollars a week for your services. If fathers would make their children business partners in their ventures, there would be more contentment in the home and fewer boys and girls chasing off to the cities to seek their fortunes or rather misfortunes, for it is more of the latter than the former that they find. I'm delighted to know, Ruth, that you have so many accomplishments. It is not every little girl who can be a successful housekeeper, dish pulverizer, cream separator, milking machine chauffeur, and feed six people including three voracious hired men, and make a refractory, revolutionary, disorderly kitchen behave itself without calling in the police, and still have time to be an artist, a musician, a suffrage leader and heaven knows what else. Now that's going some for fourteen. Ruth how you ever get time to spend that V the folks give you is more than I am able to understand. Incidentally too you manage to go to school! The Goat says he can't help you go to school, but if you are too busy to spend that V, he can render you a little assistance. I think you are very wise Ruth, not to want to get married until you have a career. I know a girl who married a career two or three weeks ago, one of those blonde careers about six feet tall. Now she has to take in laundry to support him, while he goes careering around from saloon to saloon. It is always well to size those two-legged careers up before you select one. Not one in six is able or willing to support a girl properly and bring home the bacon regularly every Saturday night without dropping half of it in the saloon en route. I should think as a domestic science teacher Ruth you would be a howling success and have all the necessary ingredients for a first-class career, and I am willing to give you a medal as a past master in the art without your troubling to train in any old domestic science foundry. I had two Goats who were graduates of domestic science schools and they each prepared a meal for me—and the dog enjoyed it very much. Both cases are still in the courts, but I don't suppose I shall ever get enough from either to buy a couple of new stomachs. Ruth I am very much interested in your artistic peculiarities. You say: "I paint china ware and water and oil paintings." Now I can understand the painting of the china ware and I've heard of people watering flowers, watering the stock, watering the lawn, but I never heard of anyone yet who watered paintings. It seems to me too much water would make the paint run, and destroy its artistic appearance. What's that Billy? Ruth means she paints with both water colors and oils. Bully for you Ruth. Take my advice my dear, and confine yourself to water colors for a few years before you tackle oil. Concentrate on one thing. Too many talents are sometimes worse than none. This is the day of concentration and specializing. Art is too vast a field to try to cover it all. Everything seems possible to youth, but not to age. The thing that has excited me most in your letter is where you tell about the first money you earned by your art. You say: "The first money I ever earned was for painting a large elm tree in our yard." Then you add: "I got ten dollars for it." Which dear, the painting or the tree? When I was a boy and painted a tree in our backyard I got a licking for it. I was told I was spoiling the tree and the landscape. You got ten dollars and I got a licking. Ah, me! some people seem to get all the luck in this world. You even have electric light in your chicken coop. Fine idea. The hens will now be able to see where to deposit their eggs without straining their eyes, and when Mr. Rooster comes home late nights he won't break his neck falling upstairs. What a number of instruments you play Ruth. Piano, mandolin, banjo, and now you are going in for the violin. All you need is to add the drum, and then you'll be a complete orchestra. Ruth as I have already given my opinion on woman suffrage many times in the columns of COMFORT, and again in answer to V. A. Bruce's letter in this issue, you'll have to excuse me if I skip the subject this once. Keep on Ruth with your work and your studies, but don't attempt too much. Concentrate on one or two things, and you may be our first woman president. The only time I held office was down in Texas. There was a cyclone that blew the town away, all except the post-office, and that would have gone too if I hadn't got my arms round it. I did not get any thanks however for that heroic act. While I was holding that old wooden post-office several men shouted: "Let 'er go you darned fool, then we can hit up Uncle Sam's pork barrel for a new six million dollar one." I tell you it doesn't pay to be a hero in a land of graft and the man who tries to do a good thing for his country doesn't get half as much appreciation as the man who robs it. It's a tough world. It needs a little more of the paint of righteousness, and if we can get a world full of bright girls like Ruth, of whose artistic ability you have already heard so much, the paint will go on and go on thick.

MELDER, LA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am nineteen years young, am six feet high, weigh one hundred and fifty pounds, have dark brown hair, gray eyes, and inclined to be of dark complexion.

Uncle Charlie, you and I certainly agree on preparing for war as the best means of keeping peace.

I am a farmer boy. I live on a farm of one hundred acres. We raise corn, cotton, peas and potatoes, and we also raise a few peanuts and cane enough to make our syrup. Uncle Charlie, what do you think of boys smoking cigarettes? I don't think it does them any good and I know that it will do them a lot of harm, for I have smoked about two years, but I have quit for it nearly made me blind. I got to where I could hardly see and I quit smoking and my eyes are about well again. But I smoke a pipe. I don't think a pipe will hurt a person as much as a cigarette, although it won't do a fellow any good.

Best wishes to COMFORT and its many readers,
GREENE HILTON.

Greene, I'm glad to know that you have sufficient will power to cut out the cigarettes. The cigarette habit today, not only in this country, but the world over is getting to be as big a curse as opium and rum. Forty years ago the person who smoked cigarettes would draw a crowd. Only one man in a town of three thousand people in which I once resided, smoked cigarettes, and that was a doctor who had been a surgeon in the Turkish army. The next person who introduced cigarettes into that community was myself, about eight or ten years later. People who smoked cigars and pipes those days regarded me with an air of mingled contempt and pity. Now pipes and cigars have almost entirely disappeared and nearly everyone from the baby in the cradle to grandma in the chimney corner has a smoke stick in his or her mouth. Some men and women are going around spending all their days and nights collecting money to purchase cigarettes for the soldiers in the trenches. I know a wireless operator who is on a ship that takes eleven hundred horses to France every month. He tells me that the life of a horse in the warring countries is now from eight to eleven days. It may interest you to know that the life of a soldier after he gets to the front averages twenty-three days. That being the case I can forgive a man who is going to death for smoking out the butt end of his life. If the smoke will soothe his shattered nerves or give him a second's pleasure, then he is welcome to his cigarette. But I can't forgive the scores of thousands of young men and any quantity of women as well, who are trying to smoke away what little they have of health and brain. Heaven knows humanity has enough to contend with, without undermining health, strength, will power and character with cigarette indulgence. Personally I have no objection to a man smoking a cigarette after dinner with his coffee. Two or three cigarettes a day smoked by a healthy person probably would not harm them or anyone else. I'm not one of those cranks who want to abolish everything because there are lots of weak simps who can't indulge in anything without making beasts of themselves. I don't however believe in throwing needless temptation into anyone's way, though a world that is devoid of all temptation is not liable to develop an over abundance of character. Humanity however is still in knee pants, it takes to vice and harmful indulgence as a duck takes to water, and it will shun clean and wholesome living with all the force and energy that a tramp will resist soap. If there were anything twice as fascinating and fifty times as deadly as a cigarette, mankind would go after that and leave the cigarette on the shelf. It is just wonderful how humanity loves to burrow in the mud when it gets a chance. Mankind has awakened to the fact that alcohol and drugs are deadly things, things that threaten to drag the whole race down to destruction. So the world over in all semi-civilized countries (there are no civilized countries as yet) an effort is being made to fight alcohol, opium and its derivatives. In another ten years I predict the ravages of the cigarette habit will have reached such a pitch that the paper smoke will have its place along with rum and dope as one of mankind's greatest enemies, an enemy that must be fought and conquered. It did not take me long to find that even moderate cigarette smoking had a peculiar effect on my heart, so I simply cut the habit out. Today nearly half the world is trying to cook its lungs, sizzle its brains, rot the mucous membrane of its nose and its bronchial tubes, blind its eyes, cancer its lip and tongue, and utterly ruin its nervous system with smoke sticks. You parents don't keep half as careful a watch on your children as you should. As soon as a boy starts to look over your shoulder instead of looking you in the eye, and begins to lie and develop nerves, becomes listless and sports a yellow patch on his fingers, and has a haunted look as though the devil were chasing him, you will know that boy is already a cigarette fiend, and if by this time you parents have not detected the odor of tobacco on his breath and clothes and got wise to the situation you ought to be ashamed of yourselves. Now is the time to use moral suasion, but the cigarette plays such havoc with the boy's nervous system and demoralizes him to such an extent that there is scarcely anything worth while in his make up to appeal to. Before the average parent gets busy, the cigarette has pushed the boy beyond the limits of redemption. In Hoboken, New Jersey, situated across the Hudson from New York, the recorder started a crusade against the cigarette habit. With the assistance of two physicians, four or five hundred boys have been taking the cigarette cure. A hundred and fifty were treated in the police court. The treatment consisted of swabbing the mouth with a solution of nitrate of silver, then a prescription containing gentian root was given by Doctors Joseph Landriggan and Michael Cranioli of the Hoboken Board of Education. While the boys were receiving treatment Mrs. Jennie Hobson Milligan, organizer and lecturer of the New York Anti Cigarette League, lectured the boys. Here are a few of the things she said: "Cigarettes so dim the brain that a boy who smokes them will go from the head of his class to the foot in about six months. Ninety-five boys out of every hundred, who go wrong do so from cigarette smoking and I know what I am talking about. Tobacco is the second deadliest poison we know of. One cigarette is more harmful than two ounces of crude whiskey. Lying and stealing, which go hand in hand, are among the first habits that the cigarette smoking boy tries. If you want to be honest and good citizens, don't smoke cigarettes. Statistics show that the average life of a cigarette smoker is thirty years. A boy who smoked cigarettes and who recently died from them was found to have one lung entirely black when an autopsy was performed on him." Now boys and a lot of you girls who are acquiring the cigarette habit take warning. Cigarettes will make healthy boys into physical and moral cripples. School teachers watch your pupils. You must be blind indeed if you cannot detect a cigarette fiend. Report these cases to the parents, and start an anti-cigarette league among your scholars. People little realize to what an appalling extent the cigarette habit is undermining the health and morals of the youth of our land. Our newspapers and magazines are smothered with huge, gaudy advertisements of various brands of cigarettes. These ads should receive the same treatment given to whiskey advertisements they should be prohibited. Now get busy and do your best to overcome and wipe out this habit and this menace, before it has wiped out some of those near and dear to you.

RAINBOW, CAL.

DEAR UNCLE:

I read COMFORT and think it a fine paper. I was very much interested in reading the account of your day's work. You are surely doing a great work for one and all. Now Uncle I want to know if it is so necessary to live under sanitary conditions, why so many people can and do live seemingly healthy and happy lives under quite different conditions. Here is one of those happy persons. He goes to the doctor to find the cause of the scaly appearance of his arms. The doctor said: "How long has it been since you have taken a bath?" "Well, I guess about fifteen years." I hear if Methuselah had been provided with a sleeping porch he would have been alive today. And here is a man who gives us a new treatment. He goes to bed in the fall and stays there until spring for his health. D. WICKERSHAM.

Now friend Wickersham, I don't know whether you are a lady or a gentleman or otherwise. Never leave your sex in doubt even if you have to grow whiskers to prove you are not a lady. Yes, Daniel or Dinah, as the case may be, it does seem strange that some people can live and apparently be perfectly healthy and happy, though the environment they exist in is laden with filth and the filth inhabited by billions of germs.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17.)

Uncle Charlie's Birthday Fund

COMFORT Readers Plan Substantial Recognition of Uncle Charlie's Great Service to Humanity

ON September 25 last, Uncle Charlie celebrated his fifty-third birthday and on February 3rd next, he will celebrate two more momentous events, his twentieth year of bedridden invalidism, and the fourteenth year of his connection with COMFORT. Numbers of our readers have resolved that these momentous epochs in the life of one who has so fearlessly battled for right and righteousness, and who has acted the part of the good Samaritan to so many afflicted souls, should now in his declining years—before his increasing infirmities have rendered further active service on his part impossible, and his able pen is laid aside forever—receive in a substantial way some lasting and tangible token of love and gratitude from the millions he has inspired by his patience, heroism and devotion to the cause of the lowly and oppressed.

Already this inspiring plan, which originated with our subscribers, has taken definite shape, and it only needs the combined efforts of his many friends and admirers among the COMFORT reading family to place Uncle Charlie forever beyond the relentless hand of want and worry. And it is none too soon to begin now, before Uncle Charlie's ailments have rendered him not only incapable of work but too prostrate and helpless to appreciate and enjoy those many things our myriad hands and hearts could so readily and with so little effort and sacrifice, place within his reach.

COMFORT has rightly decided that this whole matter of providing a home for Uncle Charlie, or better still, placing at his disposal a fund which could be used by him to lift the many burdens which necessarily press so heavily upon all who are sick and who must rely on others for the slightest service, should rest entirely with COMFORT'S readers. They started it, they are promoting it, and while it might be indelicate for COMFORT to boost the movement, the least it can do is to give it due publicity at the special request of its readers.

This project should be a spontaneous outpouring on the part of the whole COMFORT family and especially of the children and the young people who have profited so much by Uncle Charlie's splendid work. One of our subscribers writes: "The world has heaped its tens of thousands of dollars upon healthy, husky, Billy Sunday for preaching heaven beyond the grave. Shall Uncle Charlie lying prostrate on his little cot preaching a far more beautiful and helpful religion (heaven here as well as heaven beyond), receive no recognition, and pass into the shadows as nearly all the greatest of the world's heroes and teachers have, without recognition or reward?"

Just how far this project has been carried along the road to success will be seen by the following letter from Uncle Charlie, dated October 1st.

"Dear Friends: I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the big-hearted, generous souls who made my fifty-third birthday one of the very happiest events of my life. The sum received from two hundred contributors through subscriptions and donations amount to $230. A personal note of thanks has been sent to all who contributed. Together with the gifts came many heart-touching, beautiful letters that affected me deeply. It was very dear and sweet of so many of you to remember me and your kindness is the more appreciated from the fact, that owing to the terrific high cost of living and the tremendous increase in the price of paper and everything that goes into book making (an increase in some cases of over a hundred per cent), my income has been cut to a point where existence becomes an acute problem. In the mad rush for pleasure and excitement people are reading less and thinking less and magazines and books alas! are being discarded for joy rides and movies. But the swing of the pendulum will bring people back to their senses again. I love humanity and have every faith in it. Again I want to thank those dear souls who seem to think I should be rewarded for merely doing my duty. I deeply and profoundly appreciate the project they have set on foot to relieve me of a few of my crushing cares and responsibilities. Perhaps it would not be out of place to say that those who wish to send sunshine into my life, and who wish to be helpful instead of merely sympathetic, can best do so by placing one or more of the Uncle Charlie books in their homes and the homes of their friends. If fifty thousand of our readers would include these books in their Christmas giving (and COMFORT is utterly unselfish as it gives all a chance to either work for or purchase them), I should not only be the proud possessor of a COMFORT home, but there would be enough left over to relieve me of financial worry for years to come. Once more I send my thanks, gratitude and love to the entire COMFORT family and especially to those dear souls who have so generously sought to minister to my needs and are planning to make less thorny my pathway in the future. God bless you all.

Ever lovingly, UNCLE CHARLIE.

Only two hundred out of six millions! ! That does not look very promising, but Christmas is near and the spirit of the Christ will doubtless unlock the doors of a million hearts and there is no better or fitter way by which we can celebrate the birthday of the Christ Child than by making bright and glorious the Christmas of one who has for many years in these columns sent broadcast the divine message: "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men," to every corner of our great land. Here is how the project can be accomplished:

1. By cash donations.

2. By purchasing Uncle Charlie's books (see advertisement).

3. Those who cannot spare the money for a cash donation or for purchase of his books can contribute by getting subscriptions to COMFORT in aid of the "Uncle Charlie Benefit Fund" and instead of taking the club premium or cash commission themselves direct that it be credited to the fund. In such cases I will pay over to Uncle Charlie one half of the subscription price of all subscriptions sent for this purpose. The regular cash commission on COMFORT subscriptions is 40 per cent, but for Uncle Charlie's Benefit Fund I will allow 50 per cent. Another way to help him and benefit yourself is to get up a subscription club and take one of his books as your premium.

In one or other of these ways every COMFORT reader who wishes to do so can help swell the fund for Uncle Charlie which has my hearty approval and will have my assistance within the limits of propriety.

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

"Saint Jonathan," Sequel to "June's House of Joy."

Don't miss this unique and thrilling Christmas romance, all complete in December COMFORT. "June's House of Joy" appeared in our June issue, and this sequel, by the same author, is even more fascinating. Renew your subscription now, two years for 30 cents, and make sure of it.

House Plants for Winter

By Elizabeth Atwood

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

FLOWERS for shut-ins should have two virtues—beauty and adaptability for indoor growing.

Flowers that grow in the house only through constant care and effort, and that even then frequently droop and die or grow scaggly and refuse to bloom, should be avoided; first of all because many a shut-in seems to see her own life reflected in the flowers. I have known such unfortunates who actually became worse and believed they were going to die because some plant they cherished would not grow or bloom and finally withered and had to be removed.

First select such flowers as give brilliancy, not too heavy an odor and have attractive foliage as well as blossoms. Too many flowers are not advisable in one room. Too many flowers seem to detract one from the other and do not give the pleasure that comes from a few well-chosen varieties.

Geraniums are always delightful in the house. They are ideal for shut-ins because with proper care one can keep them nearly always in bloom and there is something bright, cheerful and at the same time soothing about the foliage as well as the blossom.

Others best suited for the house include the primrose, cyclamen, flowering maple and the lobster cactus (called "crab" cactus by some.)

Several primrose plants should be used, as they bloom about six months with good care and then rest six months. By using several plants, some started to bloom in the spring and others started to bloom in the fall, you will have primrose blossoms throughout nearly all of the year. They stand heat very well and should be given all the sunshine possible. No plants should be too close to a radiator or register. The



PRIMROSE.

flowers are borne in clusters on stems four or five inches high and are tinged with blue or rose. The foliage is heavy and attractive, making this plant a genuine delight. Some people find the hairs on the leaves irritating to the skin, but this trouble is not general and otherwise the primrose known as "primula obconica," is unsurpassed as a plant for the window. There are other primroses which are worth growing, although they do not bloom so freely. Kewensis, which is one of them, has small yellow flowers on the top of tall stems carrying several leaves.

Some of the begonias flower almost as freely as the primroses and the fibrous varieties are very easy to grow. The foliage is green in some varieties and variegated in others, but always having a curious waxy appearance, except the "beef-steak" sort. They are grown for their foliage, which is decidedly ornamental, being dark green on top and a rich red underneath. The leaves often measure eight inches across. They grow well in a north room where they get no sun, although they will bear flowers of higher color when exposed to the sun's stimulating rays. The varieties of begonia run into the thousands. Probably the class known as "semperflorens" is the best for the house. The variety listed as "gigantea rosea" is especially satisfactory, as it will bloom without ceasing for the greater part of the year. The flowers range from white through all shades of pink and scarlet.

The cyclamen is as fine as most of the orchids and the flowers are unsurpassed for cutting. It is no trouble to keep fresh cyclamen blooms for a week or ten days in a vase of water and few flowers are more acceptable to "shut-ins," partly because of their rare beauty and partly because they are so seldom seen. The cyclamen plants should be kept in a fairly cool room or else close to the window, where there is usually cool, fresh air. The plants are started from seed, but a little bulb is formed before the plant grows above ground. The top of the bulb should be even with the surface of the soil. It will gradually work higher as the plant develops. Do not throw away the plants when they have finished blooming. There is no reason why they should not be kept and made to flower again. When the blooming period is over, the plant should be set out of doors in a cool and shady spot where it can rest and recuperate. It must not be allowed to dry out and when growth starts afresh, it is best shifted to a pot one inch larger than the one in which it has been grown. For a few days it should be kept out of the sun, in order that it may become well started, after which it may be set in the window again. With such treatment a plant may be made to bloom several years, but it is well to buy at least one new specimen each season.

Geraniums need a cool situation and a moist atmosphere, yet often thrive under conditions which seem all but impossible. They will flourish especially well in a kitchen where there is plenty of steam. Dry heat is objectionable, but they cannot have too much sunlight.

Never discard a geranium just because it has passed its youth. If well cared for, it will flourish and flower for years. The main thing is to keep it cut back and well nourished. There is no reason for repotting them, except at long intervals. It is much better to remove an inch or more of the surface soil each fall and replace it with very rich earth or with compost from the garden or the florist's.



LOBSTER OR CRAB CACTUS.

The flowering maple is a small shrub with odd, bell-shaped flowers and is generous with its blossoms, remaining in flower many months if the plant is a strong one. The flowers differ in color according to the variety. *Boule de Neige*, "ball of snow," is pure white, "Thompsoni" has double flowers of orange striped with crimson, "Golden Fleece" is pure yellow. Plants cost but a few cents and are easily increased by cuttings. They must be kept cut back for they shoot up rapidly. While they are in blossom they require much water and the drainage must be perfect. After they cease flowering, they should be given just enough water to prevent their drying up.

The crab or lobster cactus is a splendid indoor decorative plant. A good young one will have a profusion of bright red blossoms much of the season. The stems resemble the claws of a crab and a pair of gorgeous red flowers grow at the edge of each tip. The plants may be grown in hanging pots for a brilliant display.

Flowering bulbs are splendid for shut-ins. Select tulips, hyacinths, narcissi, the common Chinese lily, and freesias. These are easy to grow and yield a bountiful supply of the exquisite blossoms. Freesias should be started in a cool room, that is well lighted. Chinese lilies are best grown in a bowl or shallow dish filled with water, pebbles being used to keep the bulbs in place. Keep the buds from being blighted by extreme heat or draughts of cold air.

The paper white narcissus may be grown in the same way as the Chinese lily bulb. Hyacinths are also grown in water, but usually in glasses made especially for the purpose and so arranged at the neck that the bulbs are held in position at the top of the glass. The water should just touch the bottom of the bulb and it is well to keep a little charcoal in the water to sweeten it. If the water evaporates, more must be added, although without disturbing the bulb. The glass with its bulb should be set in a cool, dark place until the bottom of the glass is filled with roots.

Wide, shallow pots are better for bulbs than any other kind and the tops of the bulbs should be set just under the soil or barely protruding. It is a mistake to fill the pots; half an inch should be left so that when water is applied it will not run off but will have time to soak in.

All these plants will thrive in soil from a well-fertilized garden. In most cases it will help to work in a little leaf mold and pulverized sheep manure, but as you are to grow only a limited number of plants, you can do no better than to buy a little potting soil at the store of some florist. It will cost only a few cents and you can be sure that it contains what your plants need for good, strong growth.



GERANIUM.

When plants grow rapidly and throw out hosts of blossoms, heavy drain is made on the plant food in the soil and it is well to replace some of it. There is no better fertilizer for house plants than liquid manure. It is easily made by placing a few cents' worth of pulverized sheep manure from the seed store in a bucket in an out-of-the-way place and allowing water to stand on it. When used, it must be diluted to the color of very weak tea. This feeding will help to give large flowers of good color. These fertilizers must not be used too freely, or the plants will be over-stimulated and will rebel. To a large extent the coloring of flowers depends upon the amount of sunlight they receive. Begonias for example carry much brighter, richer hues when they are grown in sunny windows than if kept in partial shade.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

children far surpasses the care they are when they are small. And how quickly they grow up, indeed, all too soon. One of the saddest sights I know of is an old couple with no children to love and care for them in their old age. So take my advice, dear ones, and don't injure your health so that you will not live out your days. I think there is no better sight this side of Heaven than a kind and loving old couple with a nice family of girls and boys who have been brought up to be a blessing and an honor to them and a comfort in their old age.

I do hope and pray for Mattie Fugitt's recovery, that she may be spared to her children.

I enjoyed Mrs. Reynold's letter, from among the chimney tops, very much and wish she could step in and enjoy the country life with me. I often wonder why people stay so crowded in the large cities when there is so much room and some to spare in the country and where one can raise nearly all they eat and enjoy God's great outdoors.

Can you give me Hebert Kaufman's address?

With all good wishes for our dear COMFORT and its readers.

HAPPY MOTHER.

Happy Mother. As much as I admire Herbert Kaufman's writings I am unable to give you his address. Perhaps some of the readers can tell us. —Ed.

PADUCAH, 1740 Clay St., KY.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Will you make room for a Kentucky sister? I have been benefited so much by the helpful recipes and letters that I want to add my mite. To any of the sisters sending self-addressed, stamped envelope I will send pattern and directions for making nursery quilt, "Sunbonnet Baby," which is all the rage here. Will send picture of block and you can use all kinds of scraps.

Well, sisters, on divorce, I think there are always two sides to a case, as the lawyers say. I, for one, don't think it right, but if a man abuses his wife—well, they started wrong in the beginning. She never should have allowed such a thing. I have been married twenty-seven years and know what I am talking about.

Cordially yours, MRS. H. S. THIXTON.

Mrs. Thixton. The "Sunbonnet Baby" quilts are very pretty, but I hope you are prepared to supply quite a demand. It is one thing to expect a few replies and to get fifty or a hundred, if not more, as has been the experience of more than one sister. Anyway, all send stamped envelopes and that will help some. Working on the theory that "men are but children of a larger growth" evidently you believe in early training, of husbands, but won't you tell some of the young wives how to begin. Do you believe in these married-fifty-years-and never quarrelled people, or are they too good, to be true? If there are any, won't they tell us how they did it—and we'll be satisfied with an account of even five or ten years.—Ed.

ARAPAHO, OKLA.

MY DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT READERS:

May I come in a little while? I will make my letter as brief as possible and tell what I came for.

My home is just outside the corporation of Arapaho the county seat of Custer county, overlooking the business part of the town, and four miles south of here is Clinton, a very hustling "little city" and the best town in this part of Oklahoma. I dearly love my little home, the only one I have known since I lost my mother some years ago, back in an Eastern state, but my husband is failing in health so we, with our twenty months old daughter, are obliged to seek another home in a different state. We want a country home in eastern Colorado, south of the river and not too far east of the mountains, outside the irrigation district where there is grazing for cows and a market for poultry and dairy products.

If any of the sisters know of property in that line I would like to correspond. We will sell or exchange our property here where we live and also some property in town.

There are so many subjects open for discussion that I hardly know which needs the most attention but will say a few words on marriage and home life. When I was but a young girl I determined never to get married until I could make up my mind to take upon myself the cares of motherhood. I was twenty-eight years old when I married. It is wrong to bring little ones into the world if we cannot care for them but if we do our part, God will give us the needed strength for what can the human family find to take the place of little ones, upon which to bestow our love and affection.

I am in favor of women voting.

Success to all, MRS. ELI YODER.

RAIRDEN, WYO.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I'm only a young wife, twenty-two years old, clamoring for a chance to become acquainted with you. I've never written before but I want to thank you and our kind editor for the cheery letters. I'm happily married to one of the best of husbands and we have a sweet baby boy, nine months old, who is such a blessing to us.

We've been in this part of the United States only a few months (came from southwest Oklahoma) and at times we get lonely, as we have but few neighbors and no relatives or close friends nearer than Iowa and Oklahoma, so we depend on each other, our baby and our books and papers for "company" and I assure you I derive a great deal of pleasure from the Sisters' Corner in COMFORT.

I'm very much interested in the discussion of the different topics and hardly know just which to choose as the most helpful. I like the descriptions of the different parts of our country. It's like a very interesting geography lesson. Then, too, such questions as Woman Suffrage, child rearing, the divorce question and all others, have their charm for me.

Who says women can't think on serious questions? Just let him read the Sisters' Corner and he will find a clear, concise, logical way of treating all topics worth while, and done as good as the men could do it, too.

I would like to say a few words in regard to our so-called "Mexican Problem." I believe it is nothing more or less than the attempt of capitalists of this and other countries who—with the help of Diaz, took Mexico from the people—to utterly crush the revolution and force those poor Mexican people back into peonage. We have facts to prove that ninety-one per cent of the mining enterprises in Mexico are controlled by the Americans, British, French, German and Dutch and the remaining nine per cent are divided with Spain and the South American countries, and in everything else they have been treated unfairly and denied every right. Is it any wonder they eye Uncle Sam with suspicion, or that the capitalists would like to force interventions by inciting bandit raids?

It surely seems that our country is fast becoming militaristic. Now, don't anyone tell me that Congress is in favor of National Defense and that their program has that end in view, only, because the Congressional Record for July plainly states that the Senate overwhelmingly declared the Navy was for offense and not defense. I believe in preparedness just so far that it is for defense and there I stop. I can't understand why, after all these years of peace, our shores aren't sufficiently protected, since sixty cents of every dollar Uncle Sam gets goes for war purposes—or is supposed to. Will some one enlighten me as to why conditions are such?

I'm enough interested in politics that I'd like to see everybody getting a square deal in this land of plenty and because women have to work for their living I believe they should have the vote. Only one national platform this year demands the adoption of the "Susan B. Anthony amendment" to the Federal constitution which would give all women the vote at once and if I could I'd vote for that party which recognizes women's rights—the Socialist party.

I also take a great interest in housekeeping, care of baby, crocheting and am learning how to care for and raise house plants. I love flowers but the only ones we can have here must be raised in pots. We live on the Big Horn Basin about 100 miles southeast of the Yellowstone Park, on an eighty-acre, irrigated farm. The principal crops are Alfalfa, beets, beans and potatoes.

Would be glad to hear from anyone and will answer if stamped envelope is enclosed.

Good luck to all, MRS. MARK C. JONES.

STRUM, WISCONSIN.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT for a number of years and have enjoyed its pages from first to last. I don't know which part I like best for I find a part for every mood.

I am a busy farmer's wife with poor health and a family of three girls and three boys so you see I can find use for much reading and on many subjects from housekeeping, church work and rearing a family on down to fancy work and mending for the dear ones. I am a young woman, only thirty-seven now, and when I first became "tied" (?) down to my little family it seemed very hard to do the homely tasks we all find to do around the home. But I always did them for the love of the babies and my husband in this way,—when the dishes needed to be washed and I "just hated" to do it I said to myself, "What if this were the last time I could wash the little plates?" and in an instant the task became a pleasure. Now I have two big girls, eighteen and nineteen years old, and more loving girls would be hard to find and they are always faithful to return the love that I have bestowed upon them. I have never lied to them in any way and am rewarded by having them perfectly truthful with me.

Will the sister who gave a remedy for head lice, four or five years ago, please repeat it in COMFORT or, better still, send it direct to me. It was a bitter bark, steeped and used as a tea. It was also a very good tonic for the scalp.

Hoping this letter will be a help to some tired mother, I remain, A friend to COMFORT's staff of workers and all the sisters.

MRS. G. M. HEADLEY.

Mrs. Headley. If more mothers could follow your example the homely, everyday tasks would become glorified and take on a greater meaning for as a labor of love they would be less tiresome than if thought of as mere drudgery. If we knew that our children were to be taken away from us because caring for them was such a task, straightway it would become a pleasure and we would be unable to do enough for their comfort. And the same holds true of all other members of the family as well.—Ed.

MARION, ALA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been a subscriber to COMFORT ever since I married and we all love it. I missed my July issue and would be glad if some sister would send me one. Will pay postage on same.

I have been married eleven years and have four boys and one little girl, six months old, who is the light of our home. Also have two baby boys gone on home. I like to read the letters regarding the training of children, for we certainly have many problems to face. I have one that I do not know how to manage. He is so contrary, at times he will do anything he thinks I do not want him to. He will stand in the hot sun because he knows I want him to stay in the shade. The only way, or rather the easiest way, I have found is not to pay any attention to him. He is only two years old yet and I hope he will outgrow it.

How many of the sisters have ever made little suspenders for their babies' napkins? I make them like men's suspenders except that I do not cross them in the back. Have two straps to go over the shoulders and sewed to a square or oblong piece of cloth, front and back, then sew a little strip to fasten to napkin, front and back. Put a strip of elastic, if desired, in strips over shoulders. This slips on over the head and is a great convenience.

I do not feed my babies till they are old enough to eat and I do not use "any old rag" to wash baby with. She has a clean washcloth and a separate basin from the grownups.

My baby is unusually healthy as are my older children.

We have had a hard struggle the last few years to make both ends meet. Our house and contents were burned four years ago and now the boll weevil gets all the cotton and the floods of July did a great deal of damage, but not so much here as along the rivers for people there lost their houses as well as their crops. The towns fed some of the destitute people. I feel that we have something to be thankful for.

I see some are writing about large families. Of course we all know that two children can have more advantages than several. I think that children of a large family have more self denial and are more independent than those from a small family.

I have a sister, Mrs. George Brewster, living at Millville, Florida. If anyone living near her sees this please show it to her, as she does not take COMFORT.

Your sister, MRS. FLOYD F. TUBB.

PARADIS, LA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I am an old reader of COMFORT and could not do without the dear old paper. It was the first paper I can remember reading when I was but a little tot.

I have been married less than two years to one of the best of husbands and we are very happy indeed. I think a great many cases of divorce could be avoided if every married couple would try and study each other's disposition and cultivate a habit of pleasing each other instead of trying to find something to quarrel about. I wish the sisters would give their views on t' matter. Let's discuss it and bring it before the readers of COMFORT. It might help many couples who are always finding fault with each other.

I live in God's country where we can grow something for the table all the year around. Our land produces fine vegetables on account of the richness of the soil. We can grow anything that will grow in a temperate zone and we don't have to build expensive barns or silos as our winters are mild and we can grow green feed during the winter. Our summers are long but not excessively hot as we always have a breeze, due to our close proximity to the Gulf.

Enquirers are reminded to send stamp for reply.

MRS. FRED PITTE.

———, CALIFORNIA.

DEAR "STEPPY" AND ALL COMFORT SISTERS:

After I read "Steppy's" letter in July COMFORT I sat down and wept for did I not have almost the same experience except with an adopted child instead of a stepchild. I love children but expect to be obeyed. I sacrificed, as did "Steppy" and my reward was disobedience and sullen looks. I gave all the love of my starving heart to the little girl. I was a widow of twenty-two when I adopted her. She slept every night in my arms but tore my heart by day. She had relatives, who appeared jealous and unsympathetic of my struggles with her naughtiness, who seemed to urge her to be naughty. I then married a dear boy and he was certainly wise. He saw how things were and talked seriously to me. He advised me to send her into the lion's mouth, in other words to her relatives, for a visit. I emphatically refused at first for I feared they would turn her against me. Finally I sent her, just before the Christmas holidays. I wrote her only three letters and she was there six months, though I could hardly endure it and as it turned out, neither could she. The uncle and aunt had children also. The first week was ideal, then where the little girl had been first she became last. Her wishes were disregarded and she was sneered at and ridiculed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.)

Larkin Co. CHICAGO BUFFALO PEORIA
Send me your new Catalog No. 76
Name .....
Address .....
G. P. 332 .....
Don't Delay. Mail Coupon Today



This comfortable Fireside Sofa fit for anyone's home given with purchases of Larkin Products

XMAS GIFTS WITHOUT EXPENSE

There's no need of making your Christmas a burden this year. This Rocker, or your choice of over 1600 other Premiums is

Given to You without cost by the

LARKIN FACTORY-TO-FAMILY PLAN

Beautiful home furnishings, all suitable Christmas gifts, become yours by buying your foods, soaps, toilet preparations and other household supplies direct from the Great Larkin Factories. Send for our new big book. It will explain everything.



Given with purchases of Larkin Products.

Mail Coupon Above Today.
Larkin Co.
Buffalo
Chicago
Peoria

FOR SAFETY—CONVENIENCE—ECONOMY—BUY
DAD'S TRADE MARK ELECTRIC LANTERNS
HAVE YOUR STORE GET THEM FOR YOU
DAD'S Electric Hand Lanterns
Electric Bicycle or Vehicle Lanterns
HYTEE'S FACTORIES, Indianapolis, Ind.

Every Home Can Save Money
by Using Gearhart's Family Knitter



Knits a pair of ribbed-top hosiery, with reinforced heel and toe, in 30 minutes. Equals old-fashioned, hand-knit hosiery that stores don't have. Over 100,000 in use. A big money-making proposition. Yarns furnished at cost. Catalog and samples of work FREE. Big money for agents.
GEARHART KNITTING MACHINE COMPANY
Box 452, Clearfield, Pa.

They mean foot comfort, safety and economy. No dirt-gathering holes. 50c attached—gray or tan—all Dealers

LOOK FOR THE RED PLUG-IT PREVENTS SLIPPING



Send 30c to Spring Step, 105 Federal St. Boston, and get 2 packs of Tally-ho Quality Playing Cards that would cost 50c elsewhere



OUR DIRECT FACTORY TO HOME
plan saves *you* money.
WE PAY THE FREIGHT
and ship to you any piano or player piano you select from our catalog.
25 YEARS GUARANTEE
on all our pianos and player pianos.
FREE MUSIC LESSONS
to all who accept our offer. Write for handsomely illustrated piano catalog and full details of our selling plan.
SCHMOLLER & MUELLER PIANO CO.
Established 1859. Capital and Surplus, $1,000,000
Dept. COM-116 Omaha, Nebraska
Send This Coupon Today
SCHMOLLER & MUELLER PIANO CO.
Dept. COM-116 Omaha, Nebraska.
Send me your Piano Offer and Free Catalog.
Name.....
Address

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!
$24 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Lightrunning, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in four larger sizes up to 5 1-2 shown here.
30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.
ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12)
2182 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO
No. 5½

EASIER MONEY
MORE OF IT—
MADE in a business all your own. Sell Lange's extracts, spices, toilet articles, teas, coffees, family and veterinary remedies direct frum automobile or wagon to home. Wagon supplied on easy terms or auto outfit sold cheap for cash. Long established, well-known, big line, large profits, steady income. Previous experience unnecessary - we give thorough salesmanship training. Our contract beats all others. Exclusive territory near your home. Big money chance. Write quick.
The Lange Co., Dept. W, De Pere, Wis.

9 CORDS IN 10 HOURS
RUNS EASY No Backache
weighs only 45 lbs.
EASILY CARRIED
SAWS DOWN TREES
BY ONE MAN. It's KING OF THE WOODS. Saves money and backache. Send for FREE catalog No. B 8 showing low price and latest improvements. First order gets agency.
Folding Sawing Machine Co., 161 West Harrison St., Chicago, Ill.

DELIVERED TO YOU FREE
Write Today for full details of my wonderful offer.
5-Pass., 28 H.P. Electric Starting
Get the agency for the Bush Car in your territory. Ride in a Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. Driving agents wanted in every community. Get Big 48-page Catalogue. No obligation. Write to J. H. BUSH.
Pres., Dept. 1104, Bush Motor Co., Bush Temple, Chicago

NEW SANITARY FEATHER BEDS $7.30 NOW ONLY
FULL WEIGHT 40 POUNDS; 1 pair 6lb. Pillows to match $1.15. Selected, New, Live, Clean, Sanitary Feathers. Best Featherproof Ticking. Sold on money back guarantee. DO NOT BUY from anyone at any price, until you get the BOOK OF TRUTH, our big new catalog mailed FREE. Write a postal card TODAY. Agents wanted.
American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk 208 Nashville, Tenn

LE PAGE'S GLUE 10c
HAS HUNDREDS OF USES

Ballard's Bran
IDEAL DRUGLESS LAXATIVE
At your Grocer's. If he does not have it, send us his name and address with 35c (West of Denver 40c) in stamps for trial package.
BALLARD & BALLARD CO.
Station C Louisville, Ky.

DEAFNESS IS MISERY
I know because I was Deaf and had Head Noises for over 30 years. My invisible Anti-septic Ear Drums restored my hearing and stopped Head Noises, and will do it for you. They are Tiny Megaphones. Cannot be seen when worn. Easy to put in, easy to take out. Are "Unseen Comforts." Inexpensive. Write for Booklet and my sworn statement of how I recovered my hearing. A. O. LEONARD
Suite 220, 150 5th Ave., N. Y. City

UNCLE CHARLIE'S
Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address
UNCLE CHARLIE,
care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Making Pork Without Corn

THE high price of meat means that meat is scarce. The supply is not increasing. Population is. Meat will therefore continue to be high. The cheapest form of meat to produce is pork. With present prices prevailing there is "money in pork."

One of the highest priced meat articles on the market is bacon. Bacon is preferred to other forms of pork because—it keeps well, is of good flavor and is not so fat as salt pork. That is, lean bacon is preferred.

Good bacon is produced from young pigs not too fat—but the best bacon comes from the bacon type of hog.

Bacon Hogs

To make the largest amount of bacon the hog must have a deep, broad side. This must be well muscled and must not be too fat. The Yorkshire and the Tamworth are the favorite bacon breeds. These breeds have a much higher proportion of fat to lean than the so-called "lard hog."

While *breed* is a factor in the production of bacon, *feed* is of even greater importance. Hogs are produced chiefly in the corn belt. Corn is, therefore, their principal feed. Corn makes fat pork not desirable for bacon. Since hogs and corn go together, it is assumed that hogs cannot be grown with profit without corn. This may have been true in the past but with present prices prevailing it is no longer true. Besides the best of bacon is produced without corn.

Feeding for Bacon

About this time of the year spring pigs that have been reared on milk and pasture weigh from 100 to 150 pounds. These, if finished on corn, make "lard" hogs. But if finished without corn will produce the choicest of bacon. Here are a few good rations:

In potato sections the cull potatoes may be cooked and mixed with milk, bran and shorts and fed abundantly, all the pigs will eat up clean. A little dry barley may be added to this ration. When peas are grown, field peas, fed dry in trough, will be found to supplement the slop feed. In general, to produce good bacon, feed a slop feed composed of milk and some good ground grain feed like shorts, oats and barley ground together, or ground peas, or boiled potatoes and shorts. To this add a dry grain like peas or barley, fed sparingly in the trough after the other feed is cleaned up. If the pigs' teeth get sore, feed all grain ground in the slop.

The above feeds make a lean pork and lean pork produces the best of bacon.

Good pork can be made without corn—in fact the best bacon cannot be made from corn.

Feeding Roots

There are a few important things which should be remembered relative to the feeding of roots. This form of feed is expensive, in that roots contain great quantities of water. One pound of dry matter in roots is practically equal to one pound of dry matter in grain, for feeding purposes, but roots contain eighty per cent or more of water. Experiments have shown that it requires 400 to 425 pounds of potatoes to equal 100 pounds of corn-meal in the fattening of pigs. Potatoes should be cooked for swine. In Ireland cooked potatoes and barley meal are popular for the final fattening of pigs, and in some parts of Great Britain such hogs are finished off on whole peas, to give the hams a fine flavor. In feeding cooked potatoes they are mashed and the meal sprinkled on them in that state. For the feeding of cows and sheep raw potatoes should be sliced, but we have never seen any great advantage in this root (really a tuber or under-ground stem) in the keeping or fattening of cattle or sheep. Fed in large quantities to cows raw potatoes tend to make the butter soft and salvy. They are apt to choke cows, unless sliced. Raw potatoes are of little value in the feeding of horses, but they are quite useful in ridding these animals of worms. For that purpose the potatoes should be fed in small quantities, watching the bowels, and increased gradually. Fed too liberally at first they produce scouring. They are particularly useful for young colts, infested with worms. Carrots are the best roots for horse feeding. They have a fine effect upon the skin and kidneys. If fed in quantity they produce scouring. They should be wiped clean at feeding time, but need not be washed, as they are produced in light friable soil, which usually does not tend to cling to the roots. Parsnips, not commonly used, are excellent feed for the horse, being more nutritious than the carrot and almost as palatable. Some horses will not eat carrots, and then should be offered parsnips. These roots are fed freely to dairy cows in the islands of Guernsey and Jersey. There is a special variety on the market for stock feeding. Rutabagas, called Swede turnips, or Aberdeen Purple Tops in Scotland are the staple feed of cattle and sheep in many parts of Great Britain. In Scotland the farmers allow five tons of these roots per cow, for winter feeding and young, growing "store" cattle are wintered on roots and oat straw. For fattening cattle the roots are simply cut in four parts, by pounding with an x shaped knife. For sheep, and often for cow feeding, the turnips (for they are turnips) are sliced into fingers, by a special machine, or another form of machine slices them for all stock. In cow feeding the roots often are pulped by machinery and spread on oat straw, layer by layer, or they are steamed along with cut straw, cut hay, grain and meals. It is best to feed raw turnips just after milking, else they will taint the milk. Cattle eat 50 pounds or more a day. In Scotland, where some 8,000,000 sheep are kept, Swede turnips are eaten off the ground until only shells are left; then the shells are lifted with a pick and eaten in due course. Oats, bran and oilcake, with oat straw and hay, are also fed. Rutabagas are relished by horses, but care must be taken to cut them up, to prevent choking. Two or three a day are sufficient. Sugar beets are sometimes fed, but the large proportion of sugar tends to cause scouring. Mangels are better, but contain more water and there is the further disadvantage in feeding these roofs that they tend to cause gravel and stone in the bladder, in sheep and also in cattle. This only occurs when fat animals are given mangels in large quantities daily for a long time. They are fed late in the season, the rutabagas being fed off first. Mangels are easier and less expensive than sugar beets to cultivate, as they grow higher out of the ground and their immense production lessens the disadvantage of their large content of water. Fed as a part ration to fattening hogs they regulate the bowels and improve the pork. Beets and mangels are fine for pregnant sow feeding. Combined with good alfalfa hay they will serve as a complete winter ration and sows so fed have strong pigs and little if any trouble at farrowing time. Roots should be grown, to a limited extent, on every farm where such crops can be produced to advantage, especially so in northern and wet districts, but root houses have to be provided for their keeping and that tends to make them unpopular with men of small means and the extra work necessary to keep the crops clean, also is a disadvantage. There is no finer beef anywhere than that raised in Great Britain where roots form a large part of the ration.

Woful Waste of Feed

The daily papers and certain ill-informed calamity howlers are spilling ink profusely advising people to save the calves, feed the calves, relieve the tension in regard to meat supply, make cheaper meat, help the poor city man to live more cheaply, make meat possible on every table. This is all very well in some respects and wrong in others. It is a shame when really good calves are butchered too young, ill-fed, unfinished for veal. It is wrong practise to slaughter dairy heifer calves, if they have come from deep producing cows and pure bred sires. It is right to slaughter thousands of calves that are not worth raising. The trouble is not actually in the slaughter of calves worth feeding for human consumption. The fault is in the production of runt calves of mongrel and scrub breeding that no man can afford to feed or raise. The country is full of such worthless stuff. On the big farms of the plains one can see hundred of such calves. They were sired by nondescript bulls and the owners have too little feed to make them into cheap beef. No wonder they flood the market with such calves. The same thing holds true of many men in the dairy business. All they want is to have fresh cows for milk production. They do not raise the calves. The calves born on their farms are not worth raising and so they go to the city by the carload and make sorry veal at that. Then there is the man who is in still worse plight. He is the fellow who uses a scrub or grade bull and feeds the progeny with the hope that the females will make good dairy cows and the steers good beef animals. Such hopes are absurd, such work futile. The only way of getting calves that are worth raising for dairying, or fattening for beef, is by the use of pure bred bulls of dairy and beef breeds. It also is well to know that the dams of the calves are fine milk producing cows. *One should breed for performance from known performers.* The same rule and logic obtain as regards beef cattle. It is sinful waste of good feed to put it into scrub stock. Let each reader ask himself if he is doing that kind of ruinous feeding.

Make the Gains Early

It should ever be borne in mind that the profit in the feeding of all animals is largest from the early put on gain or weight. If the foal, calf, pig or lamb milk flesh is lost it may never be perfectly regained and it always is an expensive matter to start growth in stunted young animals. The weight that is gained by steady growth is the least expensive to acquire and after the natural growth of the body has ceased the extra weight is put on at much expense and often does not prove profitable. It should be the aim of every feeder of animals for the market to keep his young animals growing just as fast as possible, without causing sickness from overfeeding. A draft colt acquires at least one half of his adult weight during the first year of his life, if he is properly fed, but if he is partially starved, so that he weighs too little at one year old he may never grow to his full stature, weight or strength, no matter how much feed is supplied. Grow the colt to his maximum weight and size during the first year. It pays to feed him to do this. So too with the feeding steer, pig and lamb. None of these animals is a one food beast; yet many a farmer forgets that and thinks that an ample supply of any one good feed is sufficient. Timothy hay is a good feed, so is bright oat straw, so is corn; but the growing animal needs a mixture of feeds and cannot perfectly thrive on a one food diet. Sell some of the feed that is superabundant and buy other feeds to balance the ration, or better still try to grow a variety of feeds for all of the animals upon the farm. As an illustration of the kind of feed mixture needed for a young pig we may state that the Wisconsin experiment station people give their young growing pigs a mixture of 32 pounds each of corn-meal, wheat middlings and ground oats and four pounds of oilmeal in the form of thick slop made up with hot water. The oilmeal makes a sticky mixture, the meals of which do not settle to the bottom of the trough at feeding time. Ear corn may be added as the pigs attain good weights and come to the fattening time of life. Other suitable rations are: 47 pounds each of corn-meal and wheat middlings, six pounds oilmeal; or 32 pounds each of ground barley, wheat middlings, ground oats and four pounds oilmeal; or 47 pounds each of wheat middlings and ground barley and six pounds of oilmeal.

Things Learned Last Season

On Riverholm farm we did not again seed land to winter rye and winter vetch. Last year these crops grew well, but the cows did not relish the combination at the time such feed was most needed. Green grass is most appreciated by dairy cows and when the pasture becomes bare, short and dry an adjunct feed to be appreciated must be succulent, like grass. By the time grass is drying rye and vetch are too ripe and coarse to be well relished. At first the cows will lick out the vetch, then they will eat some rye heads, but soon they do not care for the mixture. The same is true of winter wheat and vetch. These are relished when quite short and green but at that stage of growth grass is plentiful. Rye and vetch, however, make a capital growth and furnish a valuable green crop for turning under as manure; or the crop may be allowed to ripen and the vetch will then furnish ripe seed to put in again, as a mixture, with rye. We have some of this combination stacked and will use it in the scratching shed for the chickens this winter, instead of threshing. Where one has but a small acreage in various grains and oats is the chief grain it seldom pays to change the thresher parts to thresh each sort of grain in turn. It seems best to thresh the oats and use the lesser grain crops in the bundle.

A combination of peas and oats is far preferable to rye and vetch for soiling cows in summer. The rye and vetch of course have the advantage in that they are seeded in fall, cover the ground through the winter and come away quickly in spring, but the cows greatly prefer oats and peas and gain in milk flow when such feed can be generously supplied. One bushel each of oats and Canada or field pea are sown just as soon as the ground can be worked in spring and has become warm enough to seed. The seed may be drilled in or put in with a broadcasting seeder. The land should be very rich and in fine tilth. The crop will then be ready for use in the latter part of July and beginning of August, just when it is most required. After the oats and peas have been used the corn fodder comes in season and is relished, but it does not induce milk flow so well as the other combination.

Early sweet corn may be seeded first to give an early cut of green feed for the cows. Then flint corn comes in and then ordinary field corn. It is not well to plant the field corn very thickly for fodder purposes. The sweet corn and flint may be broadcasted or thickly drilled, but the late planted field corn for fall cutting should make lots of good ears and so should be drilled not closer than nine inches apart and some prefer ten to fourteen. Our silage corn this year was drilled in about a foot to fourteen inches apart in the row and made good ears. That for husking was drilled two feet apart in the row, with a special check-row wire and this was much easier to keep clean than the close drilled corn. Experience teaches that it is poor policy to drill corn on land that is foul with weeds, or on farms where little help is kept. Weeds will get the better of corn in wet weather and where help is lacking. Wide checked corn usually gets two or three cultivations before haying comes on and then will thrive fairly well, provided the weather is moist and hot. On the other hand the close drilled corn, with similar cultivation, tends to become choked by growth of weeds in the rows which never are perfectly buried by two or three ordinary cultivations and without the use of the hoe.

It may be remembered that we seeded four pounds of red clover per acre with the barley last spring. One and one half bushels of barley per acre gave a good crop and allowed a magnificent growth of clover. The stand was perfect and now the cows are pasturing that field and making more and more milk every day. They also have the run of an adjoining field from which a heavy crop of clover hay was taken in July. This field was seeded to red clover, alsike, Timothy and a little Alfalfa. The latter did well and gave the clover hay a beautiful green color. It was mowed away without a drop of rain and the plants are again making a nice growth and adding greatly to the value of the pasturing crop. As soon as the cattle have taken the best of these two fields they will be manured and fall plowed and next year will be in corn for the silo. We certainly are highly pleased with the investment in red clover seed with the barley crop and we also seeded it with the oats. Not such a good stand was had in the oat and wheat combination field. Still there is enough on the ground to furnish a good bite for the cows and to help as a manure for the next crop. We can strongly recommend seeding clover with every bushel of grain seeded on the farm.

Avoiding Scratches

By "scratches" is meant a condition of the skin of a horse's heels and fetlocks akin to that which we term "chapped hands" in man. It comes from wetting and lack of drying and will become worse if washed by the owner. To avoid such conditions do not wash a horse's legs from November to May; and any time they just have to be washed remember to rub them perfectly dry. The drying is best done by rubbing with sawdust or coarse corn-meal. The horse that has to stand in a cold draft in the stable while his legs are wet, is most liable to scratches. It is a mistake to clip off the long hair on a horse's legs, below the knees and hocks. The hair protects the skin and tends to prevent scratches. When a horse comes in with his hairy legs covered with mud allow them to dry; then rub off the mud. If such legs are washed the skin becomes wet and unless thoroughly dried will in time become affected with scratches. A good, simple ointment for scratches is made by mixing together one dram of spirits of camphor, two drams of sulphur and one ounce of lard. Apply it freely twice a day. Do not apply strong, drying (astringent) lotions or powders in cases of scratches. They do more harm than good. "Mud fever" is similar to scratches but affects the leg from foot to knee or hock. It is caused by mud, snow or wet and failure to dry the legs. Hot flaxseed poultices may be applied for two or three days. Then wash once, dry perfectly and afterward apply two or three times a day a lotion composed of two ounces of Goulard's extract and one ounce of glycerine with soft water to make one pint.

Grubbing Trees

On one farm the other day we saw some thirty or forty big white oak and black oak trees which had been grubbed instead of sawed through near the ground. The owner wished as quickly as possible to get the three-acre patch which had been pastured as timber land, reclaimed and plowed for cropping. And so the "boys" had grubbed the trees after a wet spell, when the ground was soft and they could not work on the land. "Some job," you say. "Yes; but after all it is a better plan than cutting down with the crosscut saw, or chopping with the axe, when the land has to be got into cropping condition quickly. It will require at least eight years for hard wood stumps to rot so that they may be pulled. If grubbed the logs can be sawed and the butts sledded out of the way, the holes filled and plowing started as soon as the frost is out in spring, or in fall, if the grubbing is done early. It usually is necessary to also grub hazel brush and sumac if they are strong growths. Why not use dynamite? some will enquire. Well, it can be done, and the stumps may be shattered in that way, but it is a somewhat dangerous job and the blast holes are often very large and hard to fill. The grubbing is a clean, quick job and we think it pays.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 25.)

Win A $635 Auto and Cash to Run It

Our New Grand Prize Contest presents you the splendid opportunity to win a $635 Overland touring car, delivered absolutely free of charge, and at the same time earn the cash to run the car a season.

Read the announcement on page 36, and enter now.



"THE turkey is not our national bird," said a patriotic looking party, "but it is the one that we give thanks over officially on one day in the year and that day in November. We call it Thanksgiving Day, but what the turkey calls it is not fit for publication. All of us know about Thanksgiving, but all of us don't know about the turkey. I didn't, till I read up a little. Like the potato, Indian corn and tobacco, the turkey originated in America and was unknown to the civilized world until the discovery of America by Columbus. It is generally believed to have been found in Mexico by the Spaniards and sent by them to Europe in 1518. The Spaniards first called the bird 'Pavo,' peafowl, because the Mexican variety has a more brilliant plumage than our Northern bird. The size of the fowl made it available for food supply on Spanish ships, the small vessels of those days not being able to accommodate many chicken coops, and in a very short time it was distributed to all parts of the known world. It was called 'turkey' because it was supposed by the great mass of people to have come from that country, though just why is not known. That Turkey, by the way, gets its name from Turk, son of Japheth, son of Noah, whose descendants people and named Turkestan whence come the present Turks. I don't swear to this, but that's what they say. In the Balkan states the turkey is known as the 'turke,' but in Turkey itself, it is known as the Hindu fowl. The Germans call it 'trut hahn,' or 'turkisher hahn;' the Italians and French, having received their first supply from India, call it 'gallo d'India' and 'poule d'Inde,' hence 'Dindon,' its pet name; it is 'gallo pavo' and 'gallo peru' to Spaniards and Portuguese, the latter supposing it to have come from Peru. In India it is known as 'peru,' or was when it went back to Europe in the sixteenth century. In Brazil it is 'pavo de Peru,' whence the Portuguese may have got the name as their ships went often to that country. There is no other country except ours that devotes a day to Thanksgiving and turkey, but the time may come when Thanksgiving and the turkey may become universal, the turkey at present being nearer that point than Thanksgiving is. In the mean time the turkeys of this country are viewing with alarm the day in this month of November when so many of them will be offered up on the altar of sacrifice and not one among them feels at all like giving thanks."

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

Her clothes were neglected and she was never loved or petted. Well, believe me, little daughter wanted her "mother" very badly. She had enough of it in a very little while but I, had will power enough to leave her there six months, then she came home. Such a change! She could not do enough for me. Just went on her knees and begged me never to send her from me again. She is all sweetness now. If a sulky look comes over her face, all I need say is "Do you want to go to Aunt —— again?" How quickly that frown vanishes and "Dear mother, I'll be good" is uttered with a kiss and fond embrace. This occurred years ago. She is twelve years old now and my little comfort indeed.

Could not "Steppy" do something like this? I would like to write to her personally.

Good luck and better times to "Steppy."

MOTHER.

Evidently "Steppy" has moved for I forwarded a number of letters to her and they were returned. If she sees this and will write me again I will be glad to remail them once more.—Ed.

LOXLEY, ALA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

May I come again from the sunny southland for a little chat?

I am quite well now, but just recovering from a bad fall I took last January. It might have been worse so "I'm glad" as Pollyanna says. I have many COMFORT friends whom I have formed acquaintance with through the Sisters' Corner, but haven't been able to answer many letters this summer.

We live on a sixty-acre farm two miles north of Loxley. Have fifty acres fenced with woven wire. Corn is our main crop with cow peas between the rows, some rice and Sudan grass for hay. Last spring we set out two acres of satsuma oranges and a few grafted pecan trees.

Two miles south of Loxley a company has set out over nine hundred acres to satsuma oranges, with kumquots for a border next to the fence. Most of the 1915 crop was shipped to Chicago where a ready sale was found.

Two years ago I set out several eucalyptus trees. They are over sixteen feet high now.

We keep chickens and cows. We have a cream separator and I make butter to sell. Have no trouble in making good, sweet, firm butter all the year round. To begin with, the cows must be kept clean. Our cows' udders are washed clean (not wiped off with a damp cloth) before each milking, then wiped dry with a clean cloth; then there is no dust and dirt to fall into the milk pail. We keep our cows in the barn nights during winter and always put them in to milk them. They are all pets.

Fig trees grow fast here and can be started from cuttings. They bear a few figs the second year and more as they grow older.

Don't you think, sisters, it is unjust that women should be forced to obey laws they have no power to make or unmake, yet under which they are taxed as men are? It would seem from experience that the more people know about equal suffrage the less afraid of it they would be. Then a voter does not vote all the time so the women would be allowed a number of days off to attend to their tatting and embroidery.

Now just a few words in the training of children. A mother should remember that her child is a free spirit that needs to be taught and not a servant to obey orders. Most parents teach their children to be untruthful; not intentionally, of course, but nevertheless they do. How often we hear this: "Now Jimmie, if you do that again I'll whip you." A few minutes later and Jimmie does it again but no whipping follows. Is it any wonder that Jimmie becomes a liar? The wonder is that he remains as truthful as he is. And sisters, please don't nag and always be faultfinding, but smile for we know a smile, like charity, covers a multitude of sins.

I received so much help from the Sisters' Corner that I must return my hearty thanks and try to help a little in my turn.

Kerosene applied to tarnished silver with a cloth and then washed off will leave a good luster.

Hot milk is valuable as a stimulant and very nourishing. Do not let it quite boil. Sip it slowly and feel your strength and courage coming back.

The big old world admires greatness but it lives by kindness and to the cheerful heart every day is fine and happiness is contagious.

On the State Fair Grounds at Salem, Oregon, they have a model dairy barn with different kinds of stalls for cows, to show how they can be kept clean. Some with trenches back of the stall and some without trenches. My husband took a pattern of a stall from this barn, called the Schumeric stall, which we have in our barn. I can't explain how it is made but the feeding rack is built up high enough so when the cow lies down she can lie with her head under the rack facing the feed way. A piece of timber is nailed back of the stall to keep her from lying back in the dirt. We don't like stanchions so tie the cows around the neck.

Last week my husband killed a hawk, one opossum and two skunks. The 'possum and skunks were after our corn and peanuts. We found out two years ago that they were very fond of chickens. The female 'possums have a pouch underneath in which they carry their young. They are like the kangaroo in that respect.

I wonder if any of the sisters ever get the wanderlust and want to travel? My husband and I both like to travel. It has been very beneficial to our health but bad for our pocketbook and bank account. We have crossed the Rocky Mountains six times and have lived in Washington, Oregon, Wisconsin and Alabama. In the summer of 1907 we took our team and hack and drove all over Oregon, up one side and down the other, slept in a tent for three months, wherever night overtook us; saw all the beautiful snow-capped mountain peaks and crater lake on top of a mountain. We would like to travel again next summer by team or auto but if we do we will have to sell or rent our farm. We are planning on going sometime but don't know how soon it will be. I hope to be able to take subscriptions to COMFORT if we ever go.

I like farm life much better than the city, but don't get time to read as much as I would like; maybe though the people who work in factories and mills don't get any more time to read than the farm people. The quiet life of the country encourages study. I read not long ago that at a meeting of successful business men in New York City that out of five hundred present, over ninety per cent had been reared in the country.

I wish to thank the sisters who sent me silk and velvet pieces for my state quilt, and will answer all who send stamps or stamped envelope.

Sincerely, MRS. P. S. HENDRY.

LORE CITY, Lock Box 22, OHIO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT for about fourteen years or ever since I could first read. I take several magazines, all of which are good, but COMFORT is in a class by itself. I have one little boy two years and a half old and my small sister is six years old. They enjoy the Cubby Bear stories more than any other story I can tell them. My mother has been dead two years and my little sister stays with me. I have been married four years and have one of the good Johns we read about, only he is a Jim. We try to be partners in everything and there is only one pocketbook in our family and we both know where it is kept.

I wonder if some middle aged woman on reading this would like a good place to stay? My Dad is trying to keep the two small boys together, with him, but a good capable woman is so hard to get that he is about discouraged. He would pay good wages and anyone would have full charge. Isn't there someone who can fill this place? Dad is French but mother was an American. I would like to help him if I can. Anyone interested in this place, please write to me. The boys are twelve and fourteen years of age and one young man besides father.

I am five feet seven inches tall, brown hair and eyes, plenty of freckles and am jolly and full of the joy of living. I am twenty-five years young. My husband is ten years my senior. I don't believe in early marriages.

My little boy stammers. I try not to notice and make him repeat the words slowly but he still stammers. Can someone suggest something else?

Yours very sincerely, MRS. LOTTIE GIFFEN.

——, MICHIGAN.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT for some time but until I saw Steppy's letter I never had the courage to write. Perhaps I can do some good, for I, too, am a stepmother.

My husband had two children when we were married and now we have two more. I have had my heart aches but now I have my reward. My family are grown up and they all think there is no one like mother. My stepchildren were like yours, at first and it seemed there was nothing too mean for them to do. Talk to them, ask them what their own mother would think of them if she knew how they were acting. I found that talking to them in this way would touch a tender spot in their hearts and bring better results quicker than anything else.

At dishwashing time, after the work is finished, let them have a good time by making candy, having a party and help them make doll clothes. Of course you cannot do this every time but it helps to win them. My husband had quite a temper and believed in whippings but I did not at such times and tried to save them from being punished and they soon learned to have confidence in me. Of course there were times when I had to be firm and let them know I was to be obeyed. Try and make home pleasant and they will not want to go away as many do on account of having a mean stepmother. It means a great deal but I think stepmothers will receive double reward for taking the place of two mothers. Kindness and patience will certainly win them. Keep up your courage and may be some day you can sign yourself what I am,

A loved and happy stepmother.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

TO MY DEAR SISTER WITH THE LITTLE GIRL THAT POUTS:

Bless your heart, you are lucky with only *one* little girl that pouts—what if you had *three* little pouting girls like I have. Until you drew my attention to it, I thought it pertained to nature. My grandmother read your letter and she said that seventy-five years ago she knew a little girl who pouted—none other than herself—she is eighty-five now so you see it has been handed down from generation to generation. I believe all children pout—sometimes grown people too.

I was a school teacher before I married and some days I had as many as thirty-five pouters. Your baby Alice is not eligible to join the Pouter's Club, but I feel safe in assuring you that as soon as her age will permit she will be a staunch member.

I have three girls, and not one alike in disposition. Louise, age seven is a very quiet, reserved little dear, she cannot take a joke or be teased in any way so we regard her feelings and we have no trouble in that line. Then she pouts and makes herself very miserable sometimes she pouts a whole day, but we do do not believe in corporal punishment so let her come out of it herself. We take no heed of her but read or sing and play with the other children. On the other hand, she is a dear little mother's helper and we love her dearly. Her father says that when she gets older and deals with the public it will bring her out of it, but her little hands and feet are ever willing to help mother, and she never complains.

Evelyn, aged five, not only pouts but has a temper that goes with it; gets cross and destroys her playthings and musses up her hair, but we can joke her. She never pouts or is angry very long.

Last, but not least, Cecelia, our baby of three years, jumps down from the table if she isn't satisfied with the way things are being served, but we just let her go and after a while she comes back looking very much ashamed of herself. She expects to be coaxed but we do not notice her. Then again she gets angry and pouts and we cannot get her in a good humor by petting or joking, it makes her worse, so I pay no attention to her and eventually she is playing and as happy as a bird. I think parents, as a rule, pay too much attention to their children's faults.

I love one just as dearly as the others, as all natural mothers do, but I often wonder if Louise loves mother best? Her one thought is of doing something for me or for her sisters.

Let's be patient, dear sisters, God only loaned them to us and He can call His own at any time. We mothers are also only loaned to them. If God should call me from my little ones I want them to always think, "Mother was always good to me," for I love their little bodies too well to do them any injury.

I hope you and your girlies will have many blessings bestowed upon you and that they will rise up and call you blessed.

A COMFORT SISTER.

NEBO, N. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Will you admit a sister from the "Old North State," the land of the long leaf pine?

Nebo is a little village almost surrounded by mountains. The scenery is very picturesque but I fear we who live here do not appreciate it as much as those from other places who come here. Strangers almost go wild with delight over our wonderful mountain scenery which we seldom think of admiring.

Betty, I will suggest "Sunny View" as a pretty and appropriate name for your home.

By the way, I noticed in a letter in the April COMFORT in which Mrs. Beneze discussed the art of right dressing. I agree with part of what you say Mrs. Beneze, but I certainly do not agree with you when you say that some women looked as though they were never introduced to corsets, meaning that they should wear corsets. The soiled kimono, the house slippers and the bushy head may be objected to but please do not object to women going corsetless for that is just the way they should always be. You may ask how women would look if they were to allow their forms to go unlaced? I answer, they would look as God intended they should. At present of course Fashion does not demand such an extremely slender waist but if Fashion demanded it women would, if possible, devise some plan to contract their waists to the fashionable standard. The evil effects, however, of the present corset wearing are almost beyond estimation. The bone structure of the human body is so constructed as to give just enough room for the free action of every internal organ and the least construction of this human framework throws some organ out of place or deprives it of the room required in order to properly perform its functions. As a general rule, young girls begin to wear corsets when about thirteen years of age and often before. At that age the bone structure is very tender and if incased in a corset it can never attain its full growth. Why is it that mothers cannot understand this? Has the All-wise architect of our bodies made a mistake in giving us our proportions? What a shame that we should thus reflect upon the Creator and change His plans to suit the desires of a wicked world and bring disease and physical weakness instead of health and vigor. No woman who wears a corset can properly breathe as she should. The entire nervous system is overheated, crushed and deformed by the use of the corset. What a great thing it would be if the women of America would turn a deaf ear to fashion and give more heed to the laws of hygiene and common sense. I wonder if there is anyone who will agree with me on this subject?

Before leaving you I wish to say that I have read COMFORT for several years and certainly could not do without it.

I am five feet three inches tall and weigh one hunded and nine pounds. Have dark hair, eyes and complexion. Was nineteen years old the fifth of July. Am too late for a birthday shower but would like cards just the same.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Wilkinson and all the COMFORT readers, MRS. J. C. MASON.

PENDLETON, S. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Please let me thank all that have written me such nice letters and cards since my letter appeared in April COMFORT. I have tried to reply to all letters from shut-ins, especially those that were so lonely. Some have written that they have sent letters and cards and received no answer. Friends, if you sent stamps and have time, don't get discouraged. If your "God Bless You" and "Best Wishes" have meant as much to others as they have to me perhaps they have been "the cup of cold water given in His name," and you will not lose your reward.

So many have wanted to know how they could help my afflicted one. To all those I would say, he can only enjoy music and good things to eat and being rolled in his wheel chair. My only girl, eleven years old, and I do all our work and care for him and she is in school a large portion of the time.

I have read about all of Harold Bell Wright's books and "The Calling of Dan Matthews" is my favorite. I do so much admire the trained nurse, the heroine of the book, then I quite agree with the author in regard to churches, etc.

Dickens' travels in America during 1840 interested me very much, as did the "Tale of Two Cities," "The Pickwick Papers" and "David Copperfield." Would that we had more of the kind of love that was in Sidney Carson's heart, in the "Tale of Two Cities." And I smile now when I think of Mr. Micawber in "David Copperfield," always looking for something to "turn up," and I'm hoping something will "turn up" some day with me and give me time to reply to all your nice letters.

Mrs. Wilkinson, I felt that I wanted to change the name of our little farm, "Oakgate" to one of those suggested in May COMFORT. We gave ours this name because two oak trees stand near enough to give the effect of one passing through a gate as they enter the yard. "Happy Hill" has a good ring to me. Perhaps I am not always as happy as I should be but believe in "playing that I am" and the name would be a good incentive.

I think I will pin a blue ribbon on my May COMFORT, for surely the letters on Woman Suffrage make it the finest ever. It seems that nothing more could be said for, or against, the cause and I'm sure we will all rise now and make the vote for it unanimous. COMFORT, it seems, is not what it once was to some because of the stand some have taken on preparedness, but there is one consolation—we all want peace, we just differ as to how best to keep peace. I, for one, can't see how not being prepared will keep peace any more than I can see that being prepared will assure peace. Germany seems to be prepared to fight nearly the whole of Europe and you know the killing that is being done in Germany is about the same as in other countries—but it's only a woman's point of view—if other nations ever attack our shores there will be plenty of men, and even women, who will go to their unfortunate friends and it will be nothing but right, and "Thrice armed is he whose cause is just."

It was a Northern soldier who, during the Civil War, told his sister who was praying for her Confederate lover to be spared and his side to win, that "A woman's heart knows no country and no flag, pray for the man you love."

Mrs. Wilkinson, please pardon me for not being more brief, I only intended thanking my friends and they, I feel now, are all the way from Honolulu to Canada and in almost every state in the Union and are from sixteen years of age to one hundred and three. Many of them are doing a grand work for the shut-ins and more have written that they are going to do more. One woman said she was going to give up so much ice cream and candy. Let us all find a way to do our best. One dear old lady in a large city says she feels like a cat in a strange garret when she attends a modern city church. Let us be careful friends.

COMFORT friends, we may never exchange friendly smiles,
But let's shake hands across the miles.

MRS. R. O. BROCK.

POLLOCK, MO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

After reading Mrs. Mattie Fugitt's letter in July number of COMFORT I thought I would stop being a silent reader, even at the risk of landing in the waste-basket.

In my opinion it is next to impossible to raise just one child without it being selfish and hard to please. Even when there are two this is likely to be the case. But why bring children into the world to suffer the pangs and temptations of bitter poverty? Why not fewer children and better ones? To have healthy children there must be a measure of sanitary conditions, well-cooked food, proper clothing, and so on, all of which takes time and work to say nothing of expense. Is it right that a mother should have no time for rest, no time to read and keep up with events enough to be a companion and wise friend to her children? No time to care for and promote her own health that she may be able to cope with the many problems and the work that falls to the lot of those in such circumstances that they are unable to hire help. Is there not a happy medium between too many and too few? Indeed it is wrong to shun motherhood in order that one or two children may be raised in luxury and granted every whim. Indeed it is fiendish to destroy the unborn as too many conscienceless creatures do. But why not a smaller number in order to bring them up in simple, wholesome comfort? A mother whose time is all taken up with cooking, cleaning, washing, ironing and sewing for a large family has little time to study each child and give it the individual attention it needs to bring out the best of its nature and discourage the worst, to say nothing of a little time for recreation for herself. A day of pleasure for the family means a double strain on her as every mother of a large family can testify and rare indeed is she who can keep sweet tempered and set a good example for her little ones when with failing health and straining nerves she must drudge on, day after day, with never a moment's time she can call her own. I think Satan smiles more at such conditions that God does. No, Providence did not intend or cause such suffering so do not lay the blame there. Have as many children as health will permit, as you can give proper care and attention, and they will be a blessing to you and everyone else and God, who is just, will say "Well done," when you have wisely kept yours strong physically and spiritually in order that you may send better children into the world. Yes, better than you are at your best. Teach them that they may avoid the mistakes you have made, stand between them and Satan and fail not to teach them to lean upon a mighty Friend above. If children are worth dying for they are worth living for. I am a mother and I would not change places with any single woman I know, but I do not intend to use the power God gave me to bring little ones with immortal souls, into the world to bring sorrow upon all concerned. And if I did so I would lay the blame where it belonged. Such a condition is unjust and therefore none of God's planning for He is just.

This is the conclusion at which I have arrived after looking at both sides of the question.

God bless you Mrs. Fugitt and all other mothers that suffer with matchless heroism that they may be the means of doing some good in this world. Such earnest intent to do good and right will surely be rewarded in the life to come.

Respectfully yours, MRS. E. M. SMITH.

CHIRICAHUA, Cochise County, ARIZONA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

The last time I took a peep into our valuable corner was November 1915, so maybe after all I am not too often.

While I long believed the waste-basket got its deserved morsel when my last letter helped fill it, yet how pleasantly surprised I was in April last to receive my old sombrero full of letters in one post in answer thereto, it having actually reached COMFORT Corner certainly having accidently evaded close criticism of each of the COMFORT staff. I made up my mind then and there to immediately stop housekeeping and drudgery and make a great writer of myself. I felt sure, by next post, writing was my calling, but by the next week I fully decided I was surely one of the sorriest, most uninteresting writers in the United States. I tried my best to make my letters in reply to my correspondents as interesting to them and their individual requirements as theirs were to me, but what a miserable failure I feel I am! However, I believe I have learned what my talent consists of now; that of envying others for their ability to write so interestingly.

I have to date received nearly five hundred pieces of mail from all parts of the United States and have replied to the best of my ability to each and all; if I have not filled requirements, sisters, please pardon and attribute any seeming failures and errors to mental capacity and not to my heart.

Not a few letters returned "unclaimed;" then I went over all letters and found I had made only two mistakes in addresses, wrote them later; some have again returned.

I want to thank each one for the good letters, lovely post-cards, valuable books, flowers and garden seeds, pressed flowers, etc., and other pretty and valuable tokens of love sent me and my little girl, Bonnie.

I am not an invalid exactly; it might ruffle my feelings terribly to be told that by some for I am fifty-five years young. I am a "shut-in" by living out a homestead via homestead requirements of the United States, I am a widow, and I want each one to know they have contributed very materially, to our otherwise would-be sordid existence, much cheer, comfort, pleasure and blessings. We also received several sub-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 19.)

Cornish Pianos, Organs and Phonographs Are Superior

In their remarkable combination of high quality and low price

WHEN you buy a CORNISH you know that you are getting more for your money than can be obtained anywhere else. CORNISH reputation bears out this statement. The CORNISH CO. has been established more than half a century, and its instruments are famous for their fine quality and wonderful durability. You can easily have a CORNISH in your home, on free trial at first, and then on terms to suit—why not do it now.



Try This Piano A Year.

Play it, listen to others play it; enjoy its rich tone qualities; note its perfect action; be proud of its superb workmanship; see how it adds to the attractiveness of the home. Absolutely convince yourself of the superiority of CORNISH instruments. There are many other styles to select from, and all are guaranteed against defect in material or workmanship for 25 years. At any time during the first Trial Year you can, if you wish, return the instrument at our expense and receive back all payments made on it.

The Cornish Phonograph

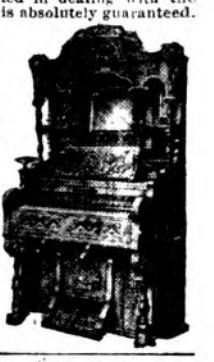


will play any kind of disc record made. Its marvelously accurate sound-reproducing device, and its noiseless mechanism appeal to you instantly. The illustration herewith shows one of the most popular styles of Cornish Cabinets. All are beautiful in design and handsomely fiuished. Write today for the CORNISH Phonograph Booklet, pick out the style you like, and we will send it to you ON TRIAL. You assume no risk whatever. If you should not care to keep it, you can return it to us at our expense. We will send with it 12 double disc records, 24 selections. Choose your own terms of payment. Write for this booklet today.

Direct From Factory To You

CORNISH surprisingly low prices are made possible because we sell direct from factory to the home. There are no dealer's profits or storage charges—these items YOU SAVE. Remember, you CAN'T be disappointed in dealing with the CORNISH CO. Entire satisfaction is absolutely guaranteed. Write us.

Beautiful Book Free



Write today for a copy of "The Cornish Book," pronounced by many the handsomest piano and organ catalog ever issued. Gives you our money-saving prices, and contains important information that everyone should have before buying. Write today, get it by return post.

Cornish Co.
Dept. C. X. T.
WASHINGTON
NEW JERSEY



Indoor Closet

More Comfortable, Healthful, Convenient

Eliminates the out-door privy, open vault and cesspool, which are breeding places for germs. Have a warm, sanitary, odorless toilet right in your house. No going out in cold weather. A boon to invalids. Endorsed by State Boards of Health.

ABSOLUTELY ODORLESS

Put It Anywhere In The House

The germs are killed by a chemical process in water in the container, which you empty once a month. **Absolutely no odor.** No more trouble to empty than ashes. Closet absolutely guaranteed. Write for full description and price.

ROWE SANITARY MFG CO. 1128A ROWE BLDG., DETROIT, MICH.

Ask about the Ro-San Washstand—Hot and Cold Running Water Without Plumbing

Learn Music At Home!

SPECIAL OFFER—EASY LESSONS FREE— Piano, Organ, Violin, Banjo, Mandolin, Guitar, Cornet, Harp, 'Cello, Clarinet, Piccolo, Trombone, Flute or to sing. You pay only for music and postage—which is small. No extras. Beginners or advanced pupils. Plain, simple, systematic. 16 years' success. Start at once. Send your name and get free booklet by return mail. Address U. S. School of Music, Box 12, 225 5th Ave., N. Y. City.



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Preparing Birds for the Showroom

OWNERS of thoroughbred fowls should enter one or more of them at their local or state fair, for a showroom endorsement increases profits considerably. It changes the value of thirteen eggs from the ordinary market price of twenty-five to forty cents to two dollars, and sometimes even to five dollars a setting, if your birds happen to be good enough to capture two or three first prizes at different shows during the same season. So everyone who keeps poultry should do some showing, if they keep thoroughbred birds. Every poultry keeper should thank the clubs and fanciers through whose work shows have been established in different parts of the country, or they arouse general interest in good stock, and bring the cream of profit to the breeder industrious enough to study the standard and develop point by point until their birds approach perfection.

First, of course, you must have some thoroughbred birds, of whatever breed you intend to devote your energies to. Many people think that "thoroughbred" and "full-blooded" means a breed sure to win prizes. But that is a great mistake. A bird which has been hatched from an egg laid by a champion may develop a wry tail, comb, wattles or earlobes that are off color or out of proportion, or some other small blemish which quite unfits him for competition in a showroom. Yet he would of course be a thoroughbred bird. This is why it is often possible to buy full-blooded birds at reasonable prices from established fanciers, and by good mating develop prize winners in your own yards. Having good, pure-blooded birds, you must study their faults, and breed to counterbalance them. To explain: If you have a hen with legs slightly too long, coarse comb, or some such slight defect, mate her to a rooster which has short legs, or a very fine comb. It is only by this means that improvement can be made in a flock.

You who have been breeding from well-selected birds will surely have a few good youngsters worthy of being sent to the showroom, and it is none too soon to start on their training and special care.

It is not possible to tell just how a bird will develop, so it is best to prepare several, even if you only contemplate entering two or three. Of course, there must be thoroughbred stock to start with, but feeding and general care have much to do with success. The best blood won't take a prize if the bird is out of condition either in health or plumage. The selected birds should be confined in a special house and yard, and accustomed to handling. A little patience will soon get them so tame that they will eat out of your hand. Once used to being picked up and stroked they will not be frightened when put up for public admiration, nor will they give the judge trouble when they have to be examined for points. But if the birds are taken from large yards and sent off in small coops to be handled by strangers, they invariably get sick, and show to such poor advantage that they fail to receive their due rating.

The Standard of Perfection instructs judges to deduct two points a pound for any deficit from standard, or one half point an ounce for any excess over the standard in bantams. In all varieties of turkeys, geese and ducks having weight clauses, three points per pound are deducted for any deficit from standard. This short summary will prove the importance of weight.

Feeding and Care

First, the frame of the bird must be the right size, so that firm, sound flesh will cause it to tip the scales at the right mark. Over-fattened birds lose shape and condition. Many birds of good shape, size and build fail to receive awards because of condition and plumage, more the result of feed and care than of breeding. I have seen a bird take first prize at one show, and at another later in the season, when out of condition, be passed over entirely.

From time of selecion, feed good, sound food three times a day—just the amount they will eat clean in ten minutes. Never throw down unlimited supplies, or they will get over-fat and lazy. A quarter of the whole grain each day should be hemp or sunflower seed, to make the feathers bright and glossy. A good mash feed for the last few weeks is rice or wheat boiled in milk. If your birds are white or light-colored, shade them from the full rays of the sun, for it has a tendency to tan white feathers and impoverish the quality of the buff plumage.

The day before shipping, light-colored fowls of any sort should be washed. Don't gasp—it's not by any means a difficult undertaking—but must be done thoroughly, or the result will be anything but pleasing to behold. An ordinary wash-boiler makes a good bath, because of the oblong shape. Put enough warm water into it to cover the bird. Make a lather of good white soap. Stand the fowl in the water and soak for a few minutes. With a moderately soft brush, scrub down and across the feathers, but never upward. Go at it with a will—don't be afraid—and work as quickly as you can. When every spot is removed, hold up the bird and have some one empty and refill the bath with clean water; rinse, repeating the scrubbing downward, to remove the soap. Repeat this process with the third and fourth water. On the rinsing depends the success of this washing. When every vestige of soap has disappeared, stand the bird in a tray and dry with a soft towel. Next, brush downward with a fairly stiff, dry brush; then place in a drying cage. This is easily made of wire netting, sides and top, with a wooden floor, and a perch across the center for the bird to roost on, high enough to prevent its tail touching the floor. Cover the floor with three inches of sawdust, so that all droppings will immediately be absorbed. The cage should be placed in a warm corner out of all draft, and in a surprisingly short time the feathers will begin to web and fluff out.

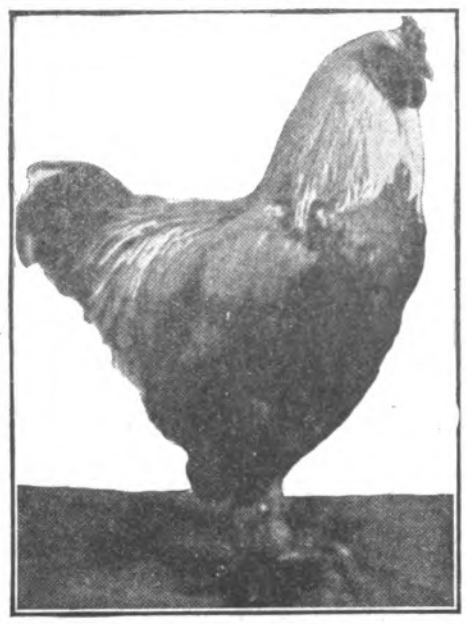
Let me warn you—if the water is too warm, the fowl may faint. Don't be alarmed. No permanent harm will result. It will revive immediately the head is doused in cold water. Get all the dirt off the legs and feet; next morning rub just a touch of vaseline over the extremities to soften and brighten them.

The shipping coops should be large enough for the birds to stand upright in. As most shows are held in cold weather, cover the open parts with strong, unbleached muslin. Personally, I I think the exhibitors should go with the birds, or send a trusty attendant to all shows. Such a course assures better care on the journey, and enables you to care for their health during the trying time of close confinement which competing for honors condemns the birds to. Your presence often procures better bench accommodations, insures coops which are free from dust, clean drinking cups, and all the small details which help a good appearance.

Correspondence

E. D. M.—Swollen head, fever and hard breathing, suggest a severe cold more than any other disease, so I don't think the sprouted oats can have caused the trouble, though sour, maggoty grain of any kind is very liable to cause indigestion and limberneck. There may be a knothole or crack in the side of the chicken-house which caused a draft which struck the hen either when on the roost or nest. Better look the house over carefully. Whenever a bird shows symptoms of cold, such as sneezing, coughing, or any swelling around the head or eyes, the safest plan is to doctor for roup. Dissolve one teaspoonful of permanganate of potassium in one quart of water. For use, dilute one tablespoonful of the lotion with three of water. Spray the bird's eyes, nostrils and throat three times a day for a week, or longer, if necessary. Roup is a very contagious disease, and any form of cold is likely to develop into malignant roup if neglected; for this reason, it is better to treat a bird at once without loss of time. The suspicious cases should be confined in a small quarantine coop placed in a sheltered sunny shed, or outdoors, far removed from the rest of the poultry. The only unmistakable symptom of roup which is not present in any other form of cold, is an offensive odor of the bird's breath, which is easily noticed if the beak is opened. Oats should not be started in water or dirt. The best method is to knock the bottom out of a shallow box, and replace with burlap. (A piece of an old feed bag will do.) Nail it tight across the bottom of the box with small tacks. Soak the oats in a pail of water for twelve hours. Drain, and spread two inches thick over the burlap. Set the box on blocks, or something to raise it a little, so that the air can circulate under it. Spread two or three thicknesses of newspaper over the oats, and keep in a warm place. Remove the paper every morning and stir the oats about until the sprouts are visible. Sprinkle every day with warm water, and remove the paper entirely when the sprouts are about half an inch high. Feed when sprouts are two inches high.

A. G.—I am afraid the turkey has what is called blackhead—a name which is very misleading, as the head turning black is only one of the symptoms which develop occasionally when turkeys are in an advanced stage of a disease which is especially characterized by sores in the cocum and liver, which are caused by a protozoan, which has been named *Amoeba meleagridis*, a minute protoplasmic animal, found to vary between six and ten millionths of an inch in diameter. While they are microscopic in size, they are at least three to four times larger than the red blood corpuscles, but they are, nevertheless, small enough to float in the blood capillaries of the portal system from the *cocum* to the liver, where they seem to be stopped from going further. This short description of the parasite contains all that is of general interest. It may be summed up as follows: the amoeba is a microscopic animal or parasite capable of living within the tissues of the turkey, its host. It can, therefore, eat, grow, and reproduce itself in large numbers, thereby causing irritations, destruction of the tissues, and nearly always death of the invalid turkeys. The majority of young poults die after a day or two of droopiness. Adults may droop longer and pass into chronic stages of the disease. Refusal to eat and standing apart constitute late symptoms. Starvation in chronic cases produces thinness. When the disease in the cocum is slight, it is doubtful if the affected animals have diarrhea, which is more or less present in other cases. In many of the older poults the droppings will be liquid, and stained orange yellow; this is the most characteristic symptom of all. Sometimes there are blackened blood clots in the droppings, indicating slight hemorrhages. Experiments show that more than four fifths of the young poults exposed to infected yards die before they are six weeks old. The disease has been popularly supposed to be one confined to older birds. It is notably a disease affecting young turkeys, but one from which the older turkeys do not escape. Of the one fifth which do escape or survive its ravages, at least ten to twenty per cent may die, throughout the year, at almost any age. Examination of the organs is the only sure means of telling the cause of death. The amoebae are transmitted from diseased turkeys to others through the droppings, which contaminate the food with which they come in contact. Evidence obtained here indicates that the amoe-



PRIDE OF THE FARMYARD.

bæ may also be carried by ordinary fowl, and may be transmitted to turkeys by them in the same manner. So you see once again the importance of exercising strict cleanliness is impressed upon us poultry people, for if droppings are removed regularly, there is little danger of infection. Plow up the old yards and ground where poultry usually congregate. Disinfect the coops and houses, and don't let the turkeys roost in the same house with the hens. An open shed is the best place for them, even in zero weather. After blackhead, I think the most serious trouble that assails turkeys is worms. In fact, some authorities declare that they are the fundamental cause of blackhead. Now, I am a strong believer in prevention rather than cure, and my advice is, to take time by the forelock, and dose the old birds for worms right now. Then there will be less fear of contamination in the spring, when young ones are around. You may not realize that the old birds have worms, for unless they are very badly affected, they cause the old birds no special inconvenience, nor materially affect the health of old birds; but young stock are not strong enough to stand any strain on their vitality, and what is more, all intestinal parasites seem to develop and mature more rapidly in young creatures than in mature stock. Young birds can be kept free if they are properly fed, unless they become contaminated by droppings from other birds. For this reason it is wisdom to purify the old birds, who are strong enough to stand medicine; besides, it is easier to dose a few old birds than a lot of youngsters. Put fifteen grains of asafetida into a quart of water. Empty the ordinary drinking vessels and put in the mixture. This dose should be given two nights in succession, once a month during the winter, and when the little ones commence to arrive, chop up the green tops of onions and mix with pot cheese or any other soft food you may be using, for at least one feed a day, and don't torture the poor little creatures with red pepper. On cold, wet days, add a little ginger and sugar to the drinking water, making it just about as strong as you would for a baby. The address of the people making the tablets has been sent you, by mail, but they would be useless now that the disease has developed.

G. O. R.—Turkeys can be raised in captivity if the enclosures are large enough. One acre would do for the old birds all through the winter. If in the spring you enclose half an acre for each hen, put her in her own yard as soon as she is bred. She will lay her eggs and rear her brood without any further trouble. Feed your old stock as you would any other poultry during the winter, but not quite so heavily, as they don't lay in cold weather. Yes, they must have grit at all times. Any clean sharp gravel will do. If you haven't any supply on hand, it can be bought at poultry supply houses. For advice regarding sick birds, please read answer to A. G.

C. A. P.—All poultry supply and seed stores have caponizing tools for sale. Price varies from a dollar to two and a half.

E. M.—Please read answer to A. G. If on free range, feed nothing until about three months old, then just a little wheat or cracked corn when they come up at night. "Shooting the red" has nothing to do with the development of blackhead.

P. M. N.—The chickens had cocoiddiosis, a disease caused by a minute form of animal life called coccidæ, which multiply very rapidly after they are once introduced into the bird's body, and are distributed by the droppings of affected birds. The germs are usually found in that part of the small intestine nearest the gizzard, where they cause inflammation and thickening of the lining. After a time the disease may extend to the liver and lungs. Wild birds often suffer from it, and their droppings are usually the cause of outbreaks in chicken yards. The best treatment is to put three grains of copperas in the drinking water, and use asafetida as recommended for turkeys in answer to A. G.

J. S.—Please read the first part of the department of this month. It deals with preparing birds for the show room.

L. A. L.—Reading the first part of your letter, I thought the birds had bronchitis. Then I noticed the postscript, in which you added the information that there was a discharge from the nostrils, and the cheesy substance in the intestines of the bird you opened, which entirely changed my diagnosis of the case, and I now think the birds are suffering from what is called blackhead, which, as a rule, only develops severely in turkeys, where it frequently originates in fowls which carry it in a chronic form, and spread the disease through their droppings. Please read answer to A. G. and E. D. M. and use combined treatment.

O. F. F.—Can't understand what caused the young ducks to die off so rapidly. I suppose you know that they must not get wet until they have got all their feathers, and that drinking water must be in a deep, partly covered dish, so that they can get their heads entirely under water. Otherwise the little holes at the base of the bill, through which they breathe, are liable to get stuffed up with mash or dirt, and the poor little creatures will smother to death. They must also have plenty of sand and green vegetables mixed with their food, and be kept on dry ground, with some protection from the noonday sun. Pekin ducks are the best all round bird.

V. M. K.—Please read answer to A. G. It explains the cause of troubles with young turkeys and suggests remedies.

L. G. M.—You will have better success with ducks if you keep them entirely away from swimming water until they are fully feathered. Read answer to O. F. F. The best way to rid the birds of worms is to give them a few doses of eggs and turpentine, mixed with a little grain, every second morning until they have had three doses. Beat an egg and one tablespoonful of turpentine together, and mix with enough grain to make a crumbly mass. Feed when the birds are fasting in the early morning, and see that each one gets a fair share.

E. W. S.—Do you keep the coop dry and clean? Ducks' droppings are very watery, and soon make the bedding they sleep on damp and unhealthy. The bedding should be at least six inches deep, and the soiled part should be removed every morning; the rest shaken up and allowed to dry, and a little fresh added each day. Read answer to O. F. F.

P. M.—You have given me so little information about the bird's condition and your method of feeding that I am quite unable to discover what the trouble may be. Read letter to L. G. M. I think it may help you.

L. H.—I fear the chickens and ducks have roup, or very severe indigestion. From your account I cannot be sure which it really is. Read answer to E. D. M.

M. M.—Guinea fowl are naturally extremely shy and suspicious of strangers, but readily succumb to patient coaxing, and their confidence once gained, they become friendly and devoted, guarding the place with the watchful care of a good dog; in fact, so far as the poultry is concerned, they are more useful, for they seem to possess intuition of the hawk's approach, and their shrill cry frightens the chicken thieves more effectually than a gun. They need no special house, all that is necessary for their comfort being a roost high up in a shed. If left to themselves, they take to the trees, and in all probability will get frozen if the winters should be very severe, so the safest plan with new birds is to cover the front of a shed with two-inch wire netting, just tacking it up lightly so that it can easily be removed at the end of two or three weeks, when they are accustomed to their new quarters. While they are prisoners, feed a trio two or three times a day, about half a pint of mixed wheat and cracked corn night and morning, and at noon about half the quantity of grain with a little chopped meat or ground bone alternating with the vegetables. All this food should be cut quite small, or the guineas will not eat it. Like other birds, they must have a constant supply of sharp grit and fresh water. As a market commodity they have been growing in favor during the last five years, to take the place of game during the closed season. Guinea fowls commence laying when the first warm days come in April. As it is their natural instinct to be very secretive about laying, some patience and diplomacy are necessary to locate their nests. The usual spot selected is a hollow in the ground, by the root of a tree, or a fence post well screened by brush. Don't attempt to approach it while they are in sight. Go away and return later armed with a long-handled spoon. The eggs are almost the color of the earth, and often covered with fallen leaves, so it needs a sharp eye to detect them. Be very careful not to touch the nest with your hand. Guineas seem to be able to scent the human hand about the nest; they can also count up to three. For that reason leave that number of eggs in the nest, removing the others with the spoon, to insure there being no telltale clues left to arouse Mrs. Guinea's suspicions.

F. H. R.—The symptoms you describe are those of limberneck, which is caused by impure food or water. As your neighbor's chickens are also affected, it is most likely that there is a stagnant pool, or the carcase of some dead animal in the meadow. A tablespoonful of Castor oil, followed two hours later by a teaspoonful of sweet oil, is a helpful remedy in such cases if administered at once.

J. T. W.—Undoubtedly the rooster died from enlargement of the liver. Too much corn and potatoes, or other fattening food, or stimulating powders and drugs, are likely to cause such troubles. The bird may have been abnormally greedy, and eaten more than a fair share of the daily rations. As a safeguard, you had better catch and examine some of the other birds. If they seem very fat and heavy, change your method of feeding, and if they are confined to yards, be sure that they have plenty of sharp grit before them all the time, and plenty of green vegetable food. Cabbages, beets or sprouted oats are best during the winter. Failing this, chopped clover or alfalfa hay, very fine, steamed for several hours, and mixed with their mash; and add one teaspoonful of powdered muriate of ammonia to every quart of drinking water from that day until they have had three doses.

A. E. D.—I have used board floors in the large houses for ten years and find them quite satisfactory, but we always cover them to a depth of six inches with corn-stalks or dried leaves and common hay, adding a top-dressing of leaves about two inches deep every two weeks, and cleaning out thoroughly once every six weeks during the winter. I have never tried using brine for lice and mites, but I should think it might be serviceable. We scrub out the house with a mixture of strong soapsuds, adding two ounces of carbolic acid and a small cup of kerosene to each pailful. The houses are thoroughly cleaned late in the fall, and as soon as the weather is at all warm in the spring. Dropping boards and roosts are cleaned every day, and nests once a week. Birds are powdered every other night for a week before they are put into their winter quarters, and a week later they are powdered three nights in succession, and again thoroughly dosed in the spring, before the breeding season. If the houses and birds are kept clean, you need not worry about vermin congregating in wooden floors.

W. L. R.—We don't publish any poultry book, nor have we White Wyandottes or other poultry for sale. You may find what you want in the advertising columns.

W. F. H.—Of course there is always some danger of eggs being frozen when shipped during extremely cold weather, but I have had them come hundreds of miles to me and have shipped safely. It depends greatly on the way they are packed. (2) Mash made of equal parts of ground corn, oats and wheat bran, chopped clover hay, and one half part of beef scraps or any of the commercial animal foods; scratch feed made of equal parts of wheat, oats, cracked corn and Kafir corn. Whole corn for supper. If you are keeping Leghorns or any of the light breeds, one rooster is enough to mate to fifteen hens. For Plymouth Rocks, Orpingtons, Wyandottes or Rhode Island Reds, better have two male birds.

L. C.—It was all right to mate the old drake to young ducks, if he was a good bird and not more than five years of age. Young ducks' eggs, especially Muscovys, rarely hatch well the first year. Five ducks are enough for each drake to take care of. The feet, shanks and bill usually show age. The bill gets dark at the base, and the shanks and feet coarse and hard looking. Better get a drake that is not related to your ducks to mate with the birds you raise next season.



Vapo Cresolene
ESTABLISHED 1879

for Whooping Cough, Spasmodic Croup, Asthma, Sore Throat, Coughs, Bronchitis, Colds, Catarrh.

Don't fail to use Cresolene for the distressing, and often fatal affections for which it is recommended.

It is a simple, safe, effective and drugless treatment.

Vaporized Cresolene stops the paroxysms of Whooping Cough and relieves Spasmodic Croup at once.

In Asthma it shortens the attack and insures comfortable repose.

The air carrying the antiseptic vapor inspired with every breath, makes breathing easy, soothes the sore throat, and stops the cough, assuring restful nights.

Cresolene relieves the bronchial complications of Scarlet Fever and Measles and is a valuable aid in the treatment of Diphtheria.

Cresolene's best recommendation is its 37 years of successful use. Send us postal for Descriptive Booklet.

For Sale by Druggists

Try Cresolene Antiseptic Throat Tablets for the irritated throat, composed of slippery elm bark, licorice, sugar and Cresolene. They can't harm you. Of your Druggist or from us 10c in stamps.

THE VAPO-CRESOLENE CO. 62 Cortlandt St., New York or Leeming-Miles Building, Montreal, Canada

A. M. P.—It would take more than the space allowed for our whole poultry department to answer your letter fully. Look up some of your back numbers of COMFORT, and read this department each month. You will find directions for feeding and the care necessary at different seasons of the year given in timely order, also suggestions for coops and houses. White Wyandottes, Orpingtons, Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds, are all good, general purpose fowls.

E. P.—The birds have chicken pox, which is contagious and quickly spreads from bird to bird, so quarantine all cases as soon as noticed. Give light nourishing food; ground oats, mixed with finely chopped Alfalfa or clover hay which has been steamed for several hours, is good. Give milk which has been scalded and allowed to cool, instead of water, to drink. Rub carbolic vaseline on the sores to soften them. Let it remain two hours, then bathe in warm, soapy water. Dry on a clean, soft rag, then bathe with a saturated solution of boric acid. If the eyes are inflamed, bathe frequently with the following solution. Dissolve three quarters of an ounce of boric acid and half an ounce of borate of soda in a pint of warm water. The disease rarely causes death unless the birds get chilled. Keep in a dry, sheltered coop.

W. H. S.—I cannot recommend breeders in this column. Look through the poultry advertisements in COMFORT; I think you will find what you require.

J. C. N.—You have been misinformed. A single service will not fertilize a hen's eggs for a whole season. The objectionable feature in the eggs wiwil soon disappear, if it has not already done so.



The Extra Eggs
will soon pay for one of these
Automatic
Self-Heating Poultry Fountains and Heaters

Keeps water at the right temperature day and night in the coldest weather and requires less than a quart of oil a week. Made of Galvanized Steel. A long felt want supplied. Every Hen-House needs one. Price of 1 Heater and 2 gallon Automatic Fountain complete $1.25. Write for Circular C and testimonials. Agents wanted.

C. A. S. FORGE WORKS, SARANAC, MICHIGAN

HOOSIER STOVES & RANGES FREE

To try in your own home 30 days free, no matter where you live. Show your friends. Send it back at our expense if you do not want to keep it. Hundreds of thousands in daily use. Perfect bakers, efficient heaters, made of high grade material, beautifully finished, smooth design, guaranteed for years by our Two Million Dollar Bond.



Ask your dealers to show you Hoosier Stoves. Write for our big free book showing photographs, describing large assortment of sizes and designs to select from, explaining our free trial. Send postal today. Write your name and address plainly. No obligations.

HOOSIER STOVE CO.
263 State St., Marion, Ind.

EARN BIG INCOME AT HOME



The hosiery trade is booming
Help to meet the huge demand
Industrious persons provided with profitable, all-year-round employment on Auto-Knitters. *Experience and distance immaterial.*
Write for particulars, rates of pay, etc. Send 2 cents in stamps.
Auto-Knitter Hosiery Co., Inc.
Dept. 147-M; 147 Franklin St., Buffalo, N.Y.

For neuralgia
Sloan's Liniment KILLS PAIN
Penetrates without rubbing

PIGEONS PAY



Better Than Chickens
Young pigeons (squabs) bring 40 to 60c each when 3 to 4 weeks old. Big demand in city markets. Each pair of pigeons easily clear $4 per year. Always penned up. Very little space and money needed to start. Free Book explains all. MAJESTIC SQUAB CO., Dept. 65, ADEL, IOWA.
FREE BOOK

POULTRY and SQUABS for PROFIT



Write for Foy's Big Book FREE—an encyclopedia of poultry information—written by a man who knows. Leading varieties of poultry and pigeons in natural colors. Low prices on fowls and eggs FRANK FOY, Box 5, Clinton, Iowa.

Learn to Stuff Birds and Animals. A delightful art, easily learned at home. Big Profits. Save your trophies. Decorate your home. We teach men, women, boys by mail. Write for Free Book today. N.W. School of Taxidermy, 3048 Elwood Bldg., Omaha, Neb.



Raincoat $3.98
A Guaranteed all weather garment. Hart Supply Co. 1431 Locust, St. Louis
Write for Samples

New Feather Beds Only $5.40
6-Pound Feather Pillows $1.00 per pair. Satisfaction guaranteed. Write for free catalog and our wonderful free offer. Agents wanted. Southern Feather & Pillow Co., Dept. 200, Greensboro, N. C.

ELECTRIC HOME, FARM, THEATRE, HOTEL, SCHOOL & STORE LIGHT PLANTS. Economical. Safe. Clean. Power Motors. Auto Storage Batteries. Dynamos. Engines. Belts. Railways. Motion Picture Machines. Xmas Lights. Catalog. 3 cts. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, Ohio.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

What however seems to you a mystery is not so much a mystery at all. It is not because God goes around protecting dirty people, putting muzzles on the bacilli and bacteria which are swarming about them that they escape disease and death. The odds are these people are particularly tough physical specimens with constitutions strong enough to withstand every known germ except perhaps that of bubonic plague, or some other knock-out germ of that description. Nature is a wise old guy and she took especial care to make a few people here and there immune from almost every form of germ life. If this had not been so the race long ago would have ceased to exist. When the white man came to this country he brought certain diseases which only had a mild effect on him but which were perfectly deadly when they were communicated to the Indians. Those diseases had been peculiar to Europe so many centuries, and had been passed on from generation to generation, that they gradually lost their virulence. You are probably aware that you can only have certain diseases once. These diseases leave behind a substance which unites with the poisonous bacteria and renders them harmless. In our blood we have dear, good blessed angelic little policemen called leucocytes or phagocytes, and whenever you get a scratch the leucocytes rush to the danger spot and keep the naughty bad bacteria from invading the body. If the bacteria however force their way in, the good little policeman or scavengers of the blood will put up a terrific fight with the invading bacteria and inflammation will result, and a white creamy mass known as pus will form and be discharged from the wound. This creamy mass is comprised of dead bacteria and good little leucocytes. If the leucocytes are victorious in the struggle they start forming new tissue and the wound heals. If the bacteria win, pus invades the blood and then you have what is called septicæmia or blood poisoning, a terribly dangerous condition. If it were not for those good little scavenger corpuscles in the blood, those dirty people who seem to defy disease would be quickly snuffed out. Now don't get it into your head that there is nothing in the germ theory of disease and that cleanliness and sanitation do not help to keep down the death rate. I've written on this subject before so it is not necessary to go over all the ground covered in previous articles. It is cleanliness and sanitation, keeping bodies, homes and streets clean that has lengthened human life enormously. In the place where I was born some forty years ago the death rate was about twenty-seven for every thousand inhabitants. That means that nearly thirty people per thousand died every twelve months. When sewerage systems were introduced into that town and wells abolished, and water carried through pipes, and the rains no longer transported germs from body waste down through the soil, and so on into the old oaken bucket that hung in the well, typhoid ceased its ravages and today only eleven people in a thousand die in that town where nearly thirty died forty years ago. There are still dirty people in that town who make coal bins of their bath tubs, but they can't give anyone typhoid fever and they can't get typhoid fever except through the milk they drink and the city authorities look after the milk. The city authorities also isolate all sufferers from contagious diseases. Epidemics are nipped in the bud and they are not allowed to spread. Food stuffs in all civilized communities are kept under glass cases and windows are screened from flies. That fact alone probably cut the death rate in every city from thirty in a thousand to twenty. In a big city in England years ago babies used to die like flies. The mayor of the city was greatly concerned about this infant mortality. He was a wealthy man and he offered a reward of from five to ten dollars to every mother who succeeded in keeping her baby alive for one year. That little act reduced the infant mortality in that town fifty per cent and produced hundreds of sturdy citizens who but for the thought of one man would have perished miserably in their infancy. If you take a family where there are eight children of normally healthy parentage and those children are given plenty of fresh air, good food, soap and water and scientific attention in case of sickness, the whole bunch of them in all probability will grow to maturity without the loss of a single life, while a family that is raised in dirt and squalor, where the mother is indifferent and hygiene and sanitation unknown, will lose half its members before their tenth birthday. In such a family however, there will be one or two probably that will develop extraordinary resisting powers to disease, for individuals and races vary in their susceptibilities to bacterial disease, owing probably to some inherited constituent in the blood. The blood of these persons will be found to contain plenty of healthy leucocytes, capable of overwhelming any diabolical disease bug that happens to get into the system. These people enjoy what we call natural or hereditary immunity. They are the lucky guys. Cleanliness is the twin brother of health and godliness, dirt the twin brother of disease and death. Don't take Methuselah's age too seriously. The old Biblical writers had a peculiar way of measuring time, and if a man in those days ever succeeded in living to be seventy years of age (and mighty few ever did) he generally called it seven hundred, for few people knew how to count, and those who could generally lost count. Remember there was no registration of births and deaths in those days, no vital statistics were kept, and Daniel or Dinah as the case may be, that sleeping porch would not have helped Methuselah much, for on inquiry I find that Methuselah had a sleeping porch, and Billy the Goat informs me that while he (Methuselah) was wandering around it one night in a dream (a very bad dream that had been superinduced by eating cucumbers, bologny and soft shell crabs) he fell off the porch and broke his neck. If you would live long and enjoy life, eat only those things that agree with you, and eat only that which is nourishing and of good quality; sleep not less than eight hours in a well-ventilated room; get as much outdoor exercise as possible; don't overwork or overloaf; worry as little as possible; see that water and milk are absolutely pure, and if uncertain on that score, boil them. Keep your feet dry, your head cool, be temperate in all things, keep your home and body clean and especially keep your teeth clean and have the dentist overhaul them once a year, for an abcess at the root of a tooth (and most people have one or more) is one of the most fruitful sources of disease. Have plenty of antiseptics and disinfectants about the home. Have your doctor overhaul you once a year whether you need it or not. You do that with your teeth if you are sensible, and as the mouth is but a small portion of a body that is filled with the most delicate machinery that is liable to get out of order, think how much more necessary it is to have the entire body overhauled. The day will come when the health of a nation will be its first care. Every physician will be a government official, and medical attendance will be free, except of course for the yearly sum we shall all pay for health insurance. In that day there will be no poor people dying for the want of proper medical treatment as thousands die today, and there will be no jollying sick people along with a view to getting something out of them. In that day all the forces of science will be directed towards the prevention rather than the cure of disease. We are headed in that direction right now, for we are getting sensible enough to know that disease prevention though less profitable to the doctors is more profitable for us.

NEWTON, COLO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am sixteen years old, blue eyes, brown hair, weight one hundred and twenty-two pounds, am five feet two inches tall and of German nationality.

I live on a large farm twelve miles west of Kansas. We have two farms twelve miles apart. We call them "Idalia" and "Newton." My oldest brother and my youngest sister and myself stay at the Newton ranch, most of the time, while my parents and the rest stay at the Idalia ranch. Our nearest railroad is twenty-five miles distant.

Colorado is said to be a dry country. This year we have had lots of rain. Our crops are fine. I can do most every kind of house work and also outside work. I am helping them out in the hay-field now days. I do not like to help very well, as I think girls should work in the house and learn to keep their homes clean.

I like to go to school. I think it is fine for people to have a good education. Cousins, do not lay aside your school books and get married. There is plenty of time to think of that when you are older. How many of you like music? I do but cannot play anything. I have Uncle Charlie's song book and also poem book, they surely are nice. I think the poems entitled "How Pop Played Santa Claus" and "When Father hangs a Picture on the Wall," will drive the blues away for anybody.

Girls do not think that you can win respect from men, by being "fast," for you cannot. It is very wrong to let the boys kiss you and call you pet names, till after you are engaged.

Cousins, let us do all we can for the poor shut-ins. I am writing to eleven of them.

Your cousin, GOLDA ARMKNECHT.

You are quite right Golda, a girl should keep the house clean. It came as an awful shock to me to find out that lots of girls don't know even how to sweep and dust a room properly, let alone cook. I know more than one girl who knows nothing of giving a house a thorough, drastic, weekly cleaning. In New York there is a terrific fight all the year round with roaches. They don't bother you in the winter but in the spring and summer they come out by the millions. Once we had an Irish Goat and Maria told her to keep her eye skinned for roaches, but the young lady paid no attention to them though they had begun to get as thick as flies around a molasses barrel. Then Maria swept down on her like an avalanche, and told her if she didn't keep the roaches under control she would have to get out: "Ah shure," said our Hibernian Goat, "I won't fuss with them now, but youse just wait until summer time comes and there is a million of them and then bedad I'll start in and kill the whole bunch of them off at once." You will probably think that's fiction but it isn't. Most girls know how to give a room a superficial cleaning, a little sweeping and dusting, but when it comes to going into corners, running a vacuum cleaner, pulling everything out of place so as to get behind and under, and swabbing every bit of woodwork and floor space with a kerosene mop, they don't know what it all means. A young married woman told me, apparently with great pleasure and pride that she did mighty little cleaning and fussing around her home, and said she with a laugh: "My husband writes on the dusty windows and mirrors 'Lazy,' 'Dirty' and 'Slob.'" She thought it was a great joke but I'll tell you how the joke ended. One day he packed his trunk and got out and disappeared. I congratulate him on his good sense. People who glory in being slobs have no right to expect anyone to be willing to share their dirt with them. Keep up your house cleaning Golda, and let the men look after the hay-field. Girls who are fast are not trying to win respect from men or anything else. When girls are fast they have lost their self respect and when you lose your self respect you lose everything. All that the swift girl is after is attention and what she calls a good time. She gets what she is looking for, and believe me she pays a frightful price for it, for the wages of sin is death and the average life of the girl who goes the pace is only five years, and most of that five years is spent in suffering and misery. Now Golda, let me question you about that very extraordinary sentence in your letter where you say: "It is very wrong to let the boys kiss you and call you pet names till after you are engaged." Great Scott child what do you mean by that? Do you really mean that it is all right to kiss a girl and call her pet names after she has become engaged? If that is the case I pity the poor fellow who becomes engaged to you. Believe me he'll have a sorry time of it. The Goat says you meant that a girl should not kiss a fellow or permit any familiarities until she is engaged to him. I hope that is what you really mean, Golda. Make men respect you girls. Most men are willing and ready to be respectful, but if a girl holds herself cheap of course the men will hold her cheap too. It is the girl that enforces respect that men seek in marriage. Men are always on the lookout for easy mark girls but never with any intention of putting wedding rings on their fingers. I am pleased to know Golda, that you are doing so much for the shut-ins, and I wish to heaven there were more like you.

ESKDALE, COLO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Would you allow a little American girl to join your merry circle. I am fourteen years old, five feet three inches tall, weigh ninety-eight pounds, have blue eyes, black hair and light complexion. I live on a farm of three hundred and twenty acres that is quite a large farm, we raise wheat, corn, oats and so forth. We live in one mile of a schoolhouse. They hold Sunday school in it every Sunday. I belong to the Methodist Episcopal church in Fort Morgan, Colo., and also the L. T. L. and Libety Bell Bird Club of Ft. Morgan. I have three sisters and four brothers. One of my brothers are married and has two little girls, named Edith and Fern. I go to school at Ft. Morgan and am in the sixth grade. I like to cook and play the organ and crochet. I would like to have the songs. "It's a Long, Long Ways to Tipperary" and "The Baggage Coach Ahead."

I have taken COMFORT for over a year and enjoy reading the letters from young people.

I would like to exchange scenery post-cards with COMFORT readers, as I love to look at sceneries.

With best wishes to Uncle Charlie and COMFORT readers. Your friend, RUTH CREECY.

I am tickled to bits Ruth, to have you join our magic circle. I'm glad you have such a nice, large farm, and put it to such good use. I'm more than interested in one of the things you raise. You tell us that you raise wheat, corn, oats and so forth. I've heard of wheat, corn and oats, and now I would like to get acquainted with the so forth crop, if you would tell us something about it. That crop is a new one on me. Is it a winter or a summer crop, Ruth, and do you harvest it with a reaper, a scythe or a pair of scissors? Is it used for feeding stock or do you convert it into breakfast food for millionaires? The Goat is quite excited about the so forth crop and says that you mean you raise wheat, corn, oats and other things along that line. I'm horribly disappointed. I was in hopes you had discovered some new edible that would be a welcome change, and add a little variety to the bran and whisk broom diet that Maria and the Goat chew up for breakfast nearly every morning of their lives. So you live in one mile of the schoolhouse. That must be a big schoolhouse if you live in one mile of it. Better say live within one mile of the schoolhouse, or one mile from the schoolhouse. What is the L. T. L. of which you are a member? The Goat says he thinks it is the Ladies' Temperance League. If you did not belong to it, I might think it was the Loafer's Tranquility League. The Goat thinks it is possible that L. T. L. might mean Lost Tramps Located, Loving Thoughts League, Lady's Tooth Laundry or something like that. Sorry you didn't enlighten us. I'm glad to see you have a bird club in Fort Morgan. The birds will soon become extinct unless somebody takes an interest in them and saves them from cats and pot hunters. One of my brothers *is* married, Ruth, not one of my brothers *are* married. Ruth informs us she likes to cook and play the organ. I suppose her idea in cooking the organ was to give us a feast of music. Thank you Ruth we will take our music uncooked, though maybe a fried organ would sound better than some of the uncooked ones I've heard. Let us know the next time you cook the organ Ruth, so we can all take a squint through the kitchen window when you have it on the stove. Young girls should not sing morguey songs of the "Baggage Coach Ahead," type. When you sing, sing something bright, cheerful and worth while. Directly I got

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 35.)

Little Teeth and Little Toothbrushes

By Mrs. Elizabeth Atwood



Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE moment you see a tiny white speck in baby's mouth protruding from a rather inflamed little gum, brush it!

It is a tooth, baby's first tooth, and from his very first tooth on through his first set and then the youngster's second or permanent teeth, keep every one of them thoroughly brushed.

Of course you do not brush baby's first tooth with a real tooth-brush—at least it is to be hoped you do not—not even the softest and finest camel's-hair brush will do for this. Baby's first teeth must be kept clean with a tiny bit of linen rag or a bit of medicated or antiseptic absorbent cotton, then the bit of rag or little dab of cotton is thrown away and a new piece used when next the little tooth is "brushed."

Never wait for baby to get a number of teeth before cleaning them, begin with the first one. Use only water that has been boiled and only a soft rag or cotton until baby has several teeth in a row. Now is the time to use a very small brush of the softest camel's hair, because there are now little spaces between the teeth which must be cleaned. But at this early age do not use any sort of tooth wash or polish, paste or anything of that sort. Stick to the water that has been boiled. To this add a little milk of magnesia, about a teaspoonful to a cup of water. Better still, make it up fresh from time to time by adding two or three drops to a tablespoonful of water. Dip the camel's-hair brush in this and clean the youngster's teeth. It will not do any harm if baby swallows a little.

Pretty soon the baby will begin to eat a few solids, or semi-solids. Now is the time to keep right after his teeth. Brush them the first thing in the morning before he has eaten anything, and again at night after he has had his supper. By doing this in the morning you clean out anything that may have accumulated during the night and this prevents it from being carried into the stomach with the food. At bedtime the cleaning leaves his mouth wholesome and antiseptic throughout the night. No matter how clean the little one's mouth may seem, remember that there are all sorts of spaces and wrinkles and crevices between, in and around the teeth in which food and various things may find lodgment. Remember, too, that a child is forever putting things in his mouth, so that many things harmful to the child may lodge in the mouth and teeth unless they are cleaned.

A little stiffer brush may be used when the child is three years old. When he is five, begin to teach him to care for his teeth himself. But please do not make the mistake so many mothers do which is fatal to their children's teeth, that of thinking that because the little one brushes them they are quite clean. Look after them yourself and make sure they are clean.

Now a cute little brush hung on a little hook where the child can reach it, is necessary. By teaching the youngster that it is fun to brush his teeth he will not grow up to think it a disagreeable duty to be shirked whenever mother isn't looking. Make him think it is fun. Brush your own teeth with him at the beginning. Have a tooth-brushing race with him. Some very mild tooth powder or paste may now be used. If the child is trained to think it fun to brush his teeth he will get in the habit of doing it always, and then he will have a cleanly-mouth insurance all his days, as the habit will stick.

Examine the child's mouth at least once a week. Do it carefully, look in behind the teeth. Tiny decayed spots may start away back out of sight. No matter if they are the first teeth and other ones will soon come, keep the first teeth just as clean, just as free from decayed spots as though they were permanent. Sometimes a second tooth pushing its way out through the place where a first tooth was, which was decayed, will result in decaying the second tooth because some of the little germs or animal and vegetable parasitic growths will adhere to the second tooth and make trouble.

So many mothers boast with great pride that baby has a tooth. That is nothing much to boast about. Of course baby will have a first tooth. Nature attends to that, then nature stops and mother must step in and keep the little teeth as spotless and clean and healthy as they were when good Mother Nature gave them to baby. If your baby's teeth are just as clean and whole when he loses his first ones as they were when he cut them, then mother may boast, and with every right.

Remember that by keeping your children's teeth clean you are preserving their health, you are greatly lessening the dangers of impaired eyesight, for this frequently results from bad teeth, as years of carefully kept school medical examinations have proven.

When baby has become a big healthy romping child with a goodly supply of second or permanent teeth, keep a more strict watch over them than ever, if that is possible. It doesn't take half as much of mother's time as it sounds. Ten minutes once a week will do for examination. Then if there is a speck, off to the dentist. At that time the work will be slight, there will be no pain, the little decayed spot will be cleaned out and a white composition filling put in and that danger will be stopped. But with careful watching, careful cleaning and the ability to make the children keep their teeth brushed twice a day, there will be little danger of decayed teeth.

Never allow the child to go to bed without brushing his teeth, and if he has eaten candy before retiring, see to it that the cleaning is doubly thorough. By this time a fairly stiff brush may be used without danger.

It is really advisable to have the child clean his teeth after every meal, just a light brushing will do if the morning and night cleaning is thorough. Brush the upper teeth from the gums downward and the lower teeth from the gums upward. Naturally this takes the foreign matter away from the junction of the gums and teeth. When it gets in there and decays, the dangerous Riggs' disease may set in, the gums shrink and the teeth become loose. Brush the crowns with a rotary motion.

Teach the youngsters how to use dental floss and teach them to always use it if they get something in their teeth that the brush will not remove, such as berry seeds and the like.

Sometimes illness will cause teeth to decay even with care, but the dentist can remedy this if the first sign of decay is watched and the damage repaired. On the other hand, unclean teeth will cause illness, prevent the children from becoming robust and do far more damage than most mothers realize.

Dip the tooth-brush in boiling water once a week. Do not use the same tooth-brush after it becomes ragged and the bristles loose or soft. Better get the less expensive sort and then buy new ones more frequently. A tooth-brush that will drain well when rinsed is best, this has rather wide spaces between the rows of bristles. Rinse out the mouth every time after brushing the teeth.

The importance of all this can never be exaggerated. The dangers from neglecting the teeth are many and great. Not only should every mother know this, but she should make her children know and understand it. Tell the girls they will never be beautiful unless they keep their teeth clean. Tell the boys they will never grow up strong and manly unless they do this. It will all help you to give them the priceless habit of keeping their teeth clean all through life.



One to Four Years' Time

Easy monthly payments without interest or rent.

"From baby to oldest, everyone plays" Mrs. Spence of Ohio describes in these words the all around ministry of the Symphonic to her family. Here is a family possession. Whether it serves to develop the unsuspected talent of the youngest member or as a companion for the skilled player of the home circle, the Symphonic always meets impartially the needs of each one.

Symphonic Pianos and Player Pianos

made by piano builders of long experience present unusual quality and price advantages. Learn about our Factory-to-Family prices. Easy payments. A home test. Savings made possible by direct dealing in which we have forty-one years' experience. Investigate these subjects. Ask for details.

Symphonola Concerts

At trifling expense, the greatest vocalists and instrumentalists will furnish, with the Symphonola's help, a variety of entertainment. Hold delightful home concerts and musicales. Choose from the world's best music since the Symphonola plays all Victor and Columbia records. To hear this same music at the public concert or opera is expensive. Symphonolas are only sold the saving Factory-to-Family way.



Plays All Victor and Columbia Records

30 Days' Home Trial

Catalog Sent FREE

On the Coupon, check instrument interested in and get our complete, beautifully illustrated DeLuxe Catalog. Shows Symphonics and Symphonolas in actual colors. It's Free—get it now.

Send COUPON Today

Larkin Co. Dept. Cl. 1116. Buffalo, New York

Send me all information about instrument checked with complete Catalog.

Piano ☐ Player ☐ Symphonola ☐

Name .....

P. O. .....

State .....

St. or R. D. .....

Address .....

An Excellent Tonic for Ladies' and Gentlemen's Hair



BALDPATE

Registered in U. S. and Canada

HAIR TONIC

NEVER FAILS

Nourishes and strengthens the follicles and thus promotes the growth of the hair. Relieves the scalp of unhealthy accumulations and secretions. Gives a rich gloss, is highly perfumed and free from oil.

Makes the hair light and fluffy.

If your dealer cannot supply you, send $1.00

Send 10c for Trial Size

Applications obtained at the better Barber Shops

BALDPATE CO., NEW YORK

467 West 34th Street, Dept. X.

SOLD EVERYWHERE

STYLE CATALOG FREE

SHOWS OUR GREAT FALL AND WINTER MILLINERY DISPLAY AND OVER 1,000 STYLES OF RICH, BEAUTIFUL GARMENTS FOR LADIES, MISSES AND CHILDREN



$1.98

$1.95

IT'S FREE TO YOU

Write today for our great free Millinery and Ladies' Wearing Apparel Catalog, the world's greatest delineator of choicest Fall and Winter styles. It shows over 1,000 fine half tone pictures (many in colors) of bewitchingly chic and lovely hats and garments for ladies, misses and children, designed by famous dressmakers and milliners. Possess distinct city style and fetching, dainty effect that you will be proud to wear. EVERYTHING ON APPROVAL—if it suits keep it, if not return at our expense.

INEXPENSIVE PRICES

for everything. Look—Women's trimmed hats, $1.79 up; untrimmed, 98c up; Women's and misses' suits $5.95 up; coats $4.25 up; dresses $1.00 up; waists 29c up; petticoats 39c up; skirts $1.98 up; raincoats $1.95 up and equally low prices for plumes, flowers, trimmings, shapes, ready-to-wear hats, sport and auto hats and skating caps, bonnets, and wearing apparel of all kinds for ladies, misses and children. Catalog also shows the largest assortment in the world of dainty MUSLIN and KNITTED UNDERWEAR and Lingerie at pleasing prices.

We also are headquarters for Ladies', Misses' and Children's **FURS OF ALL KINDS** at below wholesale prices. To illustrate: Ladies' fine fur sets, $4.7[illegible] up; Children's dainty fur sets $1.40 up. Full fur line in our special Style Catalog. Write for special Style Catalog today and see our lovely goods and low prices. They will amaze and please you

JOHN M. SMYTH MDSE CO. 703-717 West Lake Street, Chicago



Hair Growth and Other Beauty Secrets

By Miss Valeska Suratt

The Famous Self-Made Beauty of the American Stage

THE VERY same problem I solved for myself, I have solved for thousands of my hair-afflicted sisters—the problem of actually forcing hair to grow. It is accomplished; and as a result, I am known as the only woman on the American Stage who wears no switches, puffs, wool rolls or other hair make-shifts. I have never known anything but the formula given below to produce satisfactory results.

This formula requires but a few moments to mix at home, and it makes over a pint or over two dollars' worth of the best hair-grower you can ever obtain. You also see the great economy in using this formula. Mix together one-half pint of alcohol, a half pint of water (or a full pint of bay rum instead of the water and alcohol, if you prefer) and one ounce of beta-quinol. Then your hair-grower is ready to use. Any druggist will supply you with the beta-quinol for fifty cents.

This will stop your hair from falling and force your hair to grow vigorously, as it invigorates the hair roots and brings the hair back to its youthful health. Use this formula and nothing else.

Wrinkle Question Answered

It will be one of the happiest periods of your life when your mirror begins to tell you the story of vanishing wrinkles. It is remarkable indeed what a tremendous difference may be produced in your appearance of age by the use of this simple formula, to be mixed at home in a few moments. It is so inexpensive, too, that a woman who refuses to try it, cannot complain that she has not had the opportunity to get rid of lines of age, crow's feet, sagging of flesh and wrinkles. Mix two ounces of eptol with half a pint of water and one tablespoonful of glycerine. This makes an adorable, satiny cream. Use it liberally. You can obtain the eptol from your druggist for fifty cents. This cream will give your face a girlish freshness nothing else can give.

An Adorable Complexion

I can assure you that the simplicity and ease of the proper method of beautifying the skin are really astonishing. An illustration of what can be done to the skin is shown by the result of my following formula: Simply mix two tablespoonfuls of glycerine in a full pint of water and add one ounce of zintone, which any drug store can furnish you for fifty cents. This cream should be used on the hands, arms, face and shoulders, liberally, every day. This quickly turns a skin, previously muddy, sallow or spotty, into one of exquisite loveliness, pure in its tint, spotless as a lily, soft as velvet. Use it generously and every day faithfully, and you will be grateful you followed my suggestions.

Hair and Scalp Cleanser

Keeping the hair and scalp clean is absolutely essential to hair health. Here is the most remarkable cleanser I have ever known for the purpose: a mixture of a teaspoonful of eggol in half a cup of hot water. As it contains no alkali whatever, it actually dissolves all fatty accumulations, and dandruff completely disappears. It cannot be surpassed as a cleanser. It is also economical, since you can obtain enough eggol for twenty-five cents at any drug store to supply you for a dozen or more shampoos.

To Remove Superfluous Hair

Visible superfluous hair on a woman's face or body is hideous, and it is inexcusable, because so easily and thoroughly removed, at least it becomes so by using the following, which never fails: You moisten the hairs to be removed with sulfo solution. You see the hair dissolve away in quite a remarkable manner, and you then wash it off. The skin is left clear, soft and unmarked. Another splendid feature is that it can be used on the tenderest skin, or any part of the body, with perfect safety. It can be obtained at any drug store for one dollar. Ordinary depilatories burn off the hair and leave a red or irritated spot where applied. But instead of burning off the hair and injuring the skin, no matter how tough, sulfo solution dissolves the hair and is a positive benefit to the skin. With the fashions as they are at present, a perfect hair-remover is a positive necessity to the woman who is particular about her appearance.

Splendid for Blackheads

You can get rid of blackheads in a few minutes by sprinkling some neroxin on a sponge made wet with hot water and rubbing the face with it. It is the only real blackhead remover I ever used. Neroxin will cost you fifty cents at the drug store.

Extraordinarily Fine Face Powder

There is much complaint about face powders being much too chalky. That is why I had a powder made after my own formula, called "Valeska Suratt Face Powder." It is the utmost in powder loveliness, exquisite in fineness and smoothness, delicate in scent, free from chalkiness, and practically invisible. It is now obtainable in drug and department stores for 50c. in white, flesh and brunette tints.

For Perspiration in Armpits

You can at once relieve that excessive and unnatural armpit perspiration by the simple use of hydrolized talc. You can obtain this at any drug store for 50c. It will at once remove all odor of perspiraton and other body odors and prevent the soppy condition under the arms. It will save you from embarrassment and save your garments as well.

Miss Suratt has instructed her secretary to obtain for you any article mentioned above, and necessary for making up any of her beauty formulas, if for any reason you have any difficulty or delay in getting them from any drug or department store. In such case simply send your name and address with the price to "Secretary to Valeska Suratt," Suite 416 Thompson Bldg., Chicago, mentioning the articles you want.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

How About Repairs

HAVE you a neat little row of useful bottles and jars on your toilet table?

And are you ever so careful about a daily bath and a nightly complexion scrub, and the diligent use of your tooth-brush?

I hope you can say yes to all these queries, for while I do not want you to be all wrapped up in thoughts of your personal appearance—oh, no, indeed—I do want you to take the very best possible care of yourself that you may always look every bit as pretty as you were meant to be before you neglected your skin and let a discouraging crop of blackheads settle down there, or got to treating your hair in a most careless fashion unil it grew thin in protest, and fell out in handfuls, and became dry and faded. Oh, you see, I know some of you have done these things, for your letters tell me so!

But, besides the regular care which complexion, and hair, and eyes, and teeth, and finger nails must all receive if they are to look their best, there is another way of keeping yourself young and fresh, which you must not neglect.



PROPER POSITION FOR DEEP BREATHING EXERCISES.

Our sewing-machines, our automobiles, our furniture, our houses, all have almost regular periods of needing repairs. Your body and minds need to go to the repair shop even more regularly! They tire out, break down, wear out.

Then wrinkles come, and worry lines, and faded skin and hair, and dull, lack-luster eyes. But you can keep all these ills at bay by giving a few minutes to "repairs" every day, with a longer period at more extended intervals, if work or worry have been heavier than usual.

And it's such an easy matter—no long program of this to do and that to do, but just a shutting of your bedroom door on the rest of the world, the lowering of a shade to keep out the brightness of the day, the opening of a window to let in a current of fresh cold air, and then—fifteen minutes or half an hour on your pillow, with a blanket about you if the day is cool.

Of course you will take off shoes, corsets, and any garment which can bind you in the slightest. Indeed you will be sensible if you slip out of all your day things and into a pair of loose pajamas.

Close your eyes gently, curve up the corners of your mouth (your temples will relax involuntarily), and, breathing deeply and regularly, lie perfectly relaxed and still.

"But you can't sleep in the daytime?" Oh, I don't care. Sleep if you can; but, if you can't, rest! Only don't let your mind stray to one single worry or responsibility. Think of happy things only, and if happy things aren't happening, then think of the ones you would like to have happen. Thus will the lines disappear from your face; and eyes and mouth grow sweet and soft, and good to look upon.

When you've had a hard week or two, for one reason or another, do as a little friend of mine does, and stay in bed for two days (only, she makes it a week!) living on nothing but milk—a glass and a half every hour, carefully "chewed" before swallowing. You will be refreshed and beautified by these brief repair times.

And when there is a party to come off at which you want to look your best, take a half hour of "repairs" in the afternoon, and as soon as you jump up from your nap stand by the open window and practise deep breathing for two or three minutes.

To open up the lungs and make it easy to take very deep breaths, indeed, raise the arms on a level with the shoulders, then curve them so that the finger-tips almost meet in front, still on a level with the shoulders. Keep the arms stiff in this position, and breathe in slowly through your nose (not your mouth), then exhale the breath very slowly indeed.

Going into the repair shop this very day? I'm glad!

Answers to Questions

Jacksonville, Ill.—Just ask at your drug-store for peroxide of hydrogen and for toilet ammonia. To destroy superfluous hair, dampen growth one day with peroxide, letting dry on, the next day with ammonia. Keep this up until the hairs dry up and fall out. It is a slow process, but varies with different people. I am sorry the rules of this department prevent my replying by mail, as requested, but hope this answer will do as well.

Daisy.—In taking the milk diet, the milk should be sweet, and unskimmed. The fresher and richer, the better. In skimmed milk, the fattening qualities have been largely removed. When you have finished taking the milk diet, go back, at first, to but one meal a day—dinner at night, taking milk until three or four o'clock, as before. Then take milk in the morning, for a week, a glass and a half an hour till about eleven o'clock, with lunch at one o'clock, dinner at night, drinking two or three glasses of water during the afternoon. The next week drop your milk altogether, if you want to, eating three well-selected meals a day, avoiding fried foods, always, cutting out too many sweets, having your meats roasted, broiled or boiled, your potatoes baked, boiled or mashed, and eating plenty of vegetables and fruits. Drink, then, eight to ten glasses of water a day, but not at meals.

Pet.—Perspiraton of the face can be lessened by careful eating, and cool clothing. If one eats quite heartily, and is rather fleshy, the face is apt to perspire. Take a daily bath, and finish with a cool spray or shower, except on the days when you are not feeling well, when, of course, avoid cold water but do not omit the bath, seeing that water and room are warm, and that you are not exposed to the slightest chill. Powder after the bath, shaking on talcum generously and using pads of absorbent cotton to go over the surface of the skin gently. Keep on light diet in hot weather, and at all times eat plenty of fruits and see that bowels are kept open daily. As to the large bust, dieting is your best friend, as well as in connection with the excessive perspiration. Exercise will help to reduce the bust—there is nothing which "rubbed on" will materially decrease size, and you should puchase a brassiere and wear over your corset to hold the bust firm. All department stores and mail-order houses carry them. A brassiere, as you know, is a boned or strapped corset cover which fits tightly over the bust, and is of heavy enough material to keep the bust perfectly firm. One way to reduce the bust is to purchase rubber sheeting wide enough to extend above and below bust, and long enough to wrap around the body. Then fasten this strip tight around body and over bust, fastening overlapping ends together with adhesive tape. This induces perspiration of the bust, and perspiration always breaks down fat and reduces it. Here is an exercise for you, but the main thing you need is a cutting down of the amount of food taken and the leaving off of all sweets, fats, cereals, butter, milk, cream, potatoes, rice and other fat-producing foods.

Exercise to Reduce Bust

Standing with heels together, chin up, chest out, raise the arms to a level with the shoulders, and extend them straight out in front of the body, palms facing each other, elbows perfectly stiff. Now throw the arms quickly and vigorously back as if trying to make them touch in the middle of the back. Be sure not to let them fall below the shoulder line, and do not bend elbow. Throw them forward, back, forward, back. Do this rapidly, breathing in as they are close together, and exhaling as you throw them apart each time.

Laura.—That was a very nice letter, and indeed it did not tire me—it interested me. There is no reason in the world why you should not weigh as much as you want to. The directions given in COMFORT for the milk diet apply perfectly to your case, and I hope you will follow them conscientiously. Indeed you do not need to go to bed—you may go about your usual work without any change, except that you must cut out solid food and take the milk as directed. You should gain from one to three pounds a week, and improve in every way. You may stop your exercises while on the diet. As a matter of fact, you ought to gain even on an ordinary diet, for you sound like quite a healthy young woman. The matter, no doubt, is that you are eating the wrong kinds of foods or those that are difficult of digestion—fried potatoes, vegetables cooked in grease instead of being boiled in quantities of water, thoroughly drained and seasoned—and probabaly fried meats, as well as a good deal of ham and pork, etc. Then, how about hot biscuits, and cake and pie? All bad for you, my dear! Not that a small amount of cake will hurt the ordinary person, but rich preserves and cake, or pie, every day, will do deadly deeds to even the best-intentioned stomach. Eat plenty of fruits, apples raw or baked or in apple-sauce form; baked pears, grape fruit, oranges, stewed prunes or figs, pineapple (excellent for you), and if you have lots of home-canned fruits, they will be all right for you provided they are not preserves or made very sweet. Fresh fruits are always better, however. Eat onions, spinach, beets, string beans, and every other vegetable you can secure. For breakfast omit meat and potatoes—probably you do—and eat fruit, cereal with cream, crisp toast, and soft boiled, soft poached, or scrambled eggs. Drink quantities of water through the day, and see that the bowels are kept thoroughly open, even if you have to resort to special exercises or to more walking in the open air. Drink the juice of a lemon in a glass of cool water—without sugar—every morning a half hour before breakfast. All this advice is for the time when you are not on the milk diet—but I hope that you will go on milk right away and keep it up until you have gained eighteen or twenty pounds. You can! How does that sound?

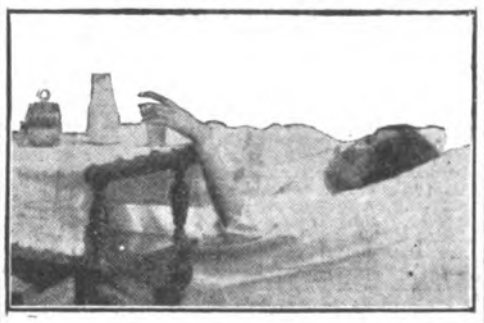
Bright Eyes.—Lemon juice in water is only a "good reducer" in so far as it acts on the liver and makes it do its work better, so that the food is more completely assimilated. Probably you need to cut down your diet and alter it somewhat. See answer to "Pet" for exercise to reduce bust. Here is one for the abdomen:

To Reduce Abdomen

Lying on the back, in nightgown or other loose clothing, raise the right leg, without bending the knee in the slightest, until it is at right angles with the body. Then lower it very slowly indeed, as if it were being held back. Repeat ten or fifteen times; then go through the exercise with the left leg; then with both together. You will find it difficult, if not impossible to raise the leg, at first, until it is perpendicular, but this will come with faithful and daily practise, and every ten minutes will be doing its work on your abdomen. This is also an excellent exercise for constipation.

E. L. B.—See answer to "Daisy." You should be able to buy almond milk at your druggist's.

M. E.—I cannot tell from your description just what is the matter with your hair, but judge the little oil cells are clogged. You should give your hair a thorough shampoo as soon as you read this, and thereafter shampoo it once in two weeks, being very careful to rinse many, many, many times until every particle of soap is out of the hair. Of course you will not rub soap on the hair, but use a homemade soap jelly such as I have given many times in these columns. Then brush your hair every night, one hundred strokes—fifty to each half—and massage the scalp for a few minutes with the fingers. Leave the hair down for the night, either loose or very loosely braided. To massage, place the finger-tips against the scalp, and without lifting them move the skin back and forth on the skull. Do not let fingers rub back and forth, but hold them firmly against scalp. I should not pull out the little hairs. The reason the "pimples" on the scalp get well when you pull them out is because an outlet for the matter which clogs the pimples is thus made.



A COUPLE OF DAYS IN BED ON THE MILK DIET WILL DO WONDERS FOR A TIRED FACE AND BODY.

Gray Eyes.—For five feet, five inches, the correct weight for one of small bones is one hundred and forty pounds, but this is too much for the girl of larger bone. If you are only sixteen, one hundred and twenty pounds would probably be a very good weight for you. You should have a slim bust—thirty-four is all right—and your waist should be not more than ten inches smaller than your hips. The dark circles under your eyes, left by your long illness, will disappear as you gradually grow stronger. Be very careful to eat nourishing food, to drink plenty of water, to see that the bowels move daily, and not to let yourself get chilled at any time. Keep your ankles always warm and well-covered, and wear warm underwear coming to the ankles, in the winter. More illness and other troubles come from getting the feet chilled than most people imagine. Read what I have to say this month about "repairs." Just after an illness you should get at least an hour's rest a day on the bed—and even more if you can—a rest in the morning, and one in the afternoon, and go to bed early at night. Here's a wish for early roses for your cheeks!

Violet.—For a too red complexion, look to your diet. You cannot bleach a red face—only one which is sallow or browned. Your digestion is probably not what it should be, and that would suggest that you have been eating too many sweets, fried foods and other food difficult of digestion. Read my answers to "Daisy," "Laura" and "Bright Eyes," and see if some of the advice does not fit you. To develop the bust, practise deep breathing exercises for at least fifteen minutes a day, and be careful always to stand or sit or walk with chest thrown out, and shoulders dropped. This will increase the apparent size of the bust. The exercise given "Pet" to reduce her fat bust will also develop a thin bust, for in the one case it burns up the fat, and in the other develops the muscle. Practise daily: This is also good for the arms. Using slightly heavy dumbbells would develop the arms, as the labor of lifting them so that the arm was perpendicular with the shoulder, then thowing them out on a straight line with the shoulder in front, then the same to the side, will develop the muscles.

Eveline.—Yes, you are over weight, for five feet ten inches—one hundred and fifty-four would be the correct weight, so you have twenty-six pounds to lose. Your bust should be about forty inches, and your hips the same. Your waist is smaller than it should be, so under no circumstances attempt to reduce it. Why, my dear, you would be all out of proportion. A twenty-eight inch waist, in these days, is considered a very good waist size, for nobody now thinks of squeezing up her waist as used to be done some years ago. So if you want to look up-to-date in figure, and not hopelessly "small-towny" as one of my girls says—though why one should object to looking like anything so nice and homey as a small town, I don't know—let your waist alone. It is too small, now! Your hip measure is about correct. Red rubber bands around the waist? Take them off at once! To make the eyebrows grow, rub in vaseline or olive oil nightly. You say this makes the hair fall out—it can't, my dear, but it may be that you rub so vigorously that you dislodge the hairs. Apply gently with a clean mucilage or paste brush. In the morning wash with hot soapy water. Yes, in using cold cream before powder go over the face with a cloth or pad of cotton and rub in the cold cream, at the same time wiping off the surplus or all that the skin will not absorb. With medium brown hair, dark blue eyes and fair complexion, you can wear most colors—blue, either dark or light, yellow or orange or brown, mahogany, olive green, wine color, dark gray (if your color is good), a reddish purple, dark pinkish tan, etc. To bleach the arms, beat the yolk of an egg until fluffy, then add a teaspoonful of olive oil, half an ounce each of glycerine and rosewater, twenty drops of tinctue of benzoin, and enough flour to make a paste. Spread this on the arms, then wrap with bands of surgical gauze, so that the paste will be kept on and the bedding saved from being soiled. Wear all night, and in the morning wash off with warm soapy water, rinse in warm water, then in cold. Repeat nightly for seven days. Nobody could tell you the ingredients of a powder by looking at it—it would have to be analyzed in a laboratory, so I cannot advise you as to the character of the powder you inclosed me. I am sorry.

Blockhead.—For large, blunt finger-tips, see that the nails are cut in a graceful oval, and kept in perfect condition. This will give the fingers an appearance of tapering. When washing the hands always compress and pull the finger-tips, and do the same when wiping them and any other time in the day that the hands are idle. This will help to alter their shape. To develop your arms and make them "large and plump," as you desire, perhaps you need to add a little more weight to the entire body. How about it? See answer to "Violet" for suggestions about developing the arms.

Miss C. H.—You weigh eight pounds more than the correct weight for your height if of small bones—one hundred and thirty. However, it may be that one hundred and twenty-five would be enough for you. Cut down, temporarily, on all sweet desserts—such as cake, candy, preserves—and on potatoes, rice and cereals. Eat, however, plenty of vegetables and fresh fruit—no fat meat, very little butter, milk or cream. See answer to "Pet" about reducing bust. It would not be possible for you to learn to marcel hair, without long training. It is difficult, and many good hairdressers do not attempt it.

Hilday B.—I am sorry I cannot offer to sell your depilatory to the other subscriber you mention. This would not be fair to those who pay money to advertise such articles in the columns of COMFORT, where all our readers may benefit by them. No magazine can help to sell articles to its subscribers except through its advertising colmuns. Do you see? Good luck to you!

Smiles.—You do not tell me your weight, so I cannot tell you whether you weigh too much. For your height, five feet, six inches, the weight should be one hundred and forty-three pounds, bust should be thirty-nine and hips the same, waist about ten inches smaller than the hips. I expect you eat too much at one meal. I notice you do not eat breakfast or supper, and I am afraid that at the other meal you eat too much, or supplement it with food between meals. I suggest you take a glass of water in which the juice of a lemon has been squeezed, an hour before breakfast—or even a half hour. For breakfast, eat an orange, some crisp toast (without butter) and a soft-boiled egg. Drink nothing with your meals, at any time. In the morning drink two glasses of water. For lunch eat some stewed tomatoes, some boiled onions, some corn, graham or whole wheat bread, some lean meat, and no dessert. Substitute any other vegetables except potatoes, rice, macaroni. For your supper, some crisp toast again, or bran muffins, a baked apple without cream, or some stewed prunes or figs. I am not suggesting much for supper, since you say you are in the habit of going without it. Drink three glasses of water in the afternoon, and two between supper and going to bed, but not within an hour after the meal. Do not eat more than one helping of any article of food at any meal, and not too generous a helping at that. On this regime you should decrease in weight and improve in health and strength. Freckles are sometimes obstinate and difficult to get rid of. Try this: but keep it out of the reach of children, as it is poison, if taken internally. And be careful not to get any in or near the eyes.

To Remove Freckles

One half ounce solution of ammonia, weak, one half ounce rose-water, one half ounce powdered borax, one quarter ounce glycerine, one half ounce bay rum. Distilled water, five ounces. Mix these ingredients—or have your druggist put up this formula for you. Use it carefully, for it is quite strong. If it irritates the skin, stop using it. Try it on the leg first to test its strength for your skin. To use, dampen freckled skin and allow to dry on at night.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

SURGICAL FEATS WITH MAGNETS.—It is said that a French army surgeon has, with the aid of an extraordinarily strong electro-magnet, recently performed several successful operations without the use of an anesthetic. A casing of ferro-nickel surrounds the German bullet and the electro-magnet simply draws it out of the wounded man's body, as well as splinters of shells.

300 Homes Pictured and Described in the COMFORT HOME ALBUM

We still have a few copies of this beautiful, interesting and instructive book. Contains numberless valuable ideas for the home-maker. It is not for sale, but while they last, the COMFORT Home Album may be had free as a premium for one 25-cent yearly subscription (not your own), or with your own 30-cent two-year renewal and 10 cents extra (40 cents in all for the renewal and the Album).

$1000 Cash Prizes

Write today for our free samples and $1,000.00 Christmas offer. HUMP Hair Pins keep your hair beautifully dressed. They don't fall out.

Send your dealer's name and 10c postage for complete package, all sizes, and seven new ways to do your hair designed by leading New York hairdressers.

HUMP Hair Pin Mfg. Co.
Sol. H. Goldberg, Pres.
CHICAGO



HUMP Hair Pins
5c
10c
All Dealers

Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

Three Types of Power Plants

SINCE the advent of the automobile three types of engines or motor have been developed to a stage considered by many to be almost perfection. These are the gasoline, steam and electric motors. Many advantages are claimed for each type and the object of this article is to place the facts before the readers as viewed by the writer.

The Steam Engine

Almost everyone is acquainted with the make-up of the steam engine. In brief it necessitates a boiler, a fire for generating the steam and a cylinder for delivering the power. The cylinder contains a piston so arranged as to work from one end of the cylinder to the other. The opening of certain valves allows the steam under pressure to contact with one face of the piston thus forcing the piston to move across the cylinder. Steam under pressure then contacts with the opposite face of the piston and thus forces it back. The advantage of the steam engine is that the full pressure of steam generated in the boiler can be directed on the piston and thus start a heavy load easily from standstill. Because of the admission of steam from both ends of the cylinder, this engine is very flexible, can be run at slow speeds with much power, is noiseless, does not require a transmission and can be operated at very fast speeds.

The Electric Motor

Viewing the electric motor from a mechanical standpoint it forms an ideal powerplant for the automobile. The electric motor has but one moving part that being what is termed the armature and its shaft may be used to turn the machinery. The armature has a rotary motion and therefore may be run at high speeds without causing vibration. This motor will start itself by simply turning on the current, will start a vehicle from a standstill with considerable power and is easily controlled. The chief drawback of the electric motor for automobile use is that the current for turning over the motor must be taken from a battery carried in the vehicle. It does not require a great deal of running before

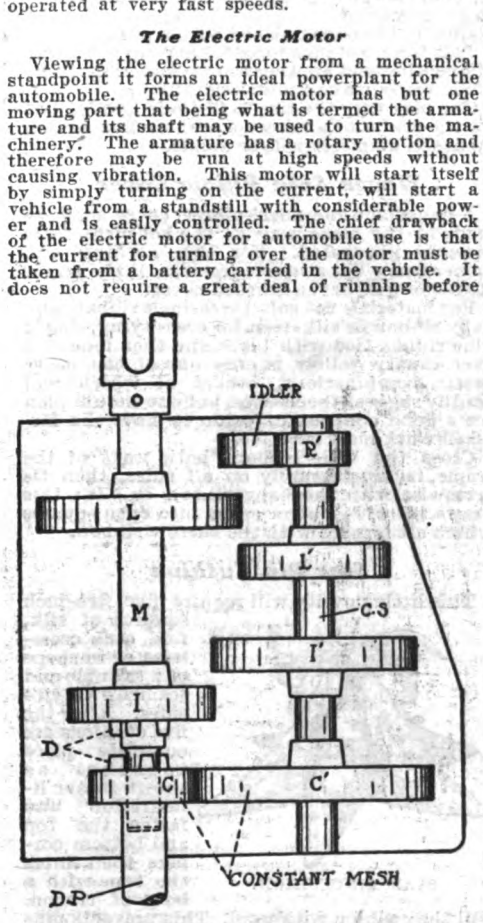


DIAGRAM OF THREE SPEED SELECTIVE TYPE, SLIDING GEAR TRANSMISSION.

This device consists of two parallel shafts—a main shaft, M, and a countershaft, C. S. The gears C'—I'—L'—R' are keyed to the countershaft and cannot be moved on the shaft. The mainshaft, M, is usually a square shaft and the gears, I and L can be slid along it. It will be noticed that the end of the main transmission shaft rotates freely in the end of the driving pinion. As the gears C and C' are permanently meshed, the power is first delivered to the countershaft and then to the mainshaft and thus to the wheels. The only time the road wheels are in direct connection with the engine is when the gear, I, is meshed with the one marked C.

all current is taken from the battery and it is therefore necessary to recharge the same frequently. Charging stations are few and far between, a long time, experience and great care are required to recharge without injuring the battery, and the power is running down continually while in use.

Gasoline Engine

The chief fault of the electric motor is the necessity of using a storage battery while the chief objection to the steam engine is the use of the boiler. The objectionable features of these parts are space required, weight, and constant need of attention. Although not free of faults the gas engine is not restrained as the two types of power plants mentioned above. It requires no boiler or need the power be stored in reserve. The explosive mixture is made for each cylinder as needed and consequently the slower the engine is run the less fuel is used. The chief objectionable feature of the gas engine is that when running at high speeds some of the power is lost because of the rapidity in which the explosive charges are taken in. In other words the cylinder does not have time to draw in a full breath. Another point to be considered is that each explosive mixture can only develop a certain amount of power. At slow engine speeds a less number of explosive charges are taken in and consequently there is a loss of power.

The intention of the writer is to make clear that the gas engine is not an ideal power plant being the most powerful when operated at medium speed. At slow speeds and at high speeds its full power is not delivered. As stated above the gas engine has no reserve power and when additional power is needed it has to be obtained through the use of gears. Neither can the gas engine used in the automobile be run in a reverse direction and therefore, when it is desired to run the car in a reverse direction or deliver more power to the driving wheels it must be done by manipulating gears. This part of the automobile is referred to as the transmission. The only time when the driving wheels are directly coupled with the engine is when the gear shifting lever is placed in the position usually referred to as "high." When the car is operated in "intermediate, low or reverse" the road wheels are not directly coupled with the engine, but the power is being delivered to the wheels through gears in the transmission.

Now that you have heard of the objectionable features of the gas engine let us consider the advantages which it has over all others as a power plant for the automobile. To start the steam engine in the morning it is first necessary to light a fire under the boiler and wait until a certain pressure of steam has been generated. The electric motor does not have this objectionable feature but the battery is a constant care. The gas engine if turned over once or twice will start and only requires fuel to keep it running. Gasoline and oil can be purchased even in the country districts. When the ignited current is shut off everything becomes dead, so to speak, but instantly becomes alive by switching on the current and turning the motor over. This engine has been developed to a point far in advance of the other types and is in comparison much less in weight. Its many advantages for practical use have given it a long lead over the other two types.

Trouble with Low Grade Gasoline Worse in Cold Weather

More than one motorist has been surprised as the days have been growing colder to note that his car did not consume the usual amount of lubricating oil. This condition is not confined to any one make of car in particular but to all c · generally. If the motorist will but drain the oil from the crankcase of his motor he is apt to find that gasoline is mixed with the lubricant. This new difficulty is principally due to the present low grade of gasoline in use. The gasoline air mixture leaks past the pistons and rings during the compression strokes and when striking the cold crankcase condenses back to the liquid form. The question is apt to arise in one's mind, why was this condition not evident during the summer months since the present grade of fuel has been in use for some time? The answer is this. More complete vaporization of the gasoline took place in the summer due to the high surrounding temperature. The crankcase was also of a higher temperature as the fan was not continuously directing a volume of cold air on it. The same amount of gasoline and air mixture worked by the piston rings in warm weather as does at present but due to the warmth of crankcase and surrounding atmosphere the mixture was not allowed to condense back to the liquid state and was passed out of the crankcase breather in the form of vapor. At this time of year the lighter portion of the heavy fuel is burned and the unconsumed part is partly carried out with the exhaust gases while some of it works past the pistons and rings into the crankcase. Liquid gasoline in the crankcase thins the lubricating oil and also washes the oil off the cylinder walls, pistons and rings thus causing the motor to turn over hard and in some instances scores or cuts the cylinders. Naturally if an engine turns over hard and an electric starter is used considerable current is taken away from the storage battery.

Regardless of the condition of cylinders or piston rings, it is impossible to prevent some of the mixture from leaking past the piston rings into the crankcase. It is plain then that it does not require a great while before a large amount of gasoline has collected in the crankcase. A motor which has been very economical in lubricating oil will be apt to show the effects of this condition sooner than any other. This condition is one over which the most experienced motorist or repairman has no control. The reason for bringing this matter to the attention of the motoring world is to instruct owners in the handling and care of their cars in cold weather and thus prevent damage being done.

The careful operator will always cover the radiator when leaving the car as it has been determined that there is a difference of about 200 degrees in temperature of a motor in the summer and winter. Closely watch the oil indicator and note whether or not the motor appears to be using the usual amount of oil or whether the crank case seems to be filling up. When either of these conditions are noticed drain off the oil and refill to about three quarters capacity with fresh oil.

Another matter which will bear watching is the running of the car with the carburetor dash control turned to the position which prevents the carburetor receiving all the air possible. Running the car with the choker shut or commonly referred to as the starting position will greatly assist in the filling of the crankcase with gasoline. The operator should be careful to adjust the carburetor according to the manufacturer's instructions. It may be well to have this work done by a carburetor expert if one is available. On a cold morning do not expect to start from a cold garage with the motor running smoothly without allowing the engine to warm up for a few minutes. Even then it may require a quarter of a mile of running, depending of course on the surrounding atmosphere, to get the motor warm enough to run smoothly. It cannot be expected that the throttle can be opened wide at once without the carburetor spitting and popping. If it is found necessary to place the carburetor control in the starting position do so, but bear in mind that you are assisting the gasoline to accumulate in the crankcase and so place it back to the open position as soon as possible.

Particular attention should be paid to the storage battery especially in cold weather. If the ignition current is taken from the storage battery and the battery is allowed to become weak, starting will be difficult due to the poor ignition spark and also because the battery does not produce sufficient current to rapidly turn over the engine. If the electric starter is used and the engine refuses to start after being turned over about 10 times, do not continue the cranking. Bear in mind that the cylinders are burning no gas and that a large amount of gasoline will be washed down into the crankcase. Get out and pour a little gasoline into the cylinders as a primer and then start the motor with the handcrank.

The majority of instruction books furnished with cars recommend the draining of oil from the crankcase once in every 2,000 miles. An authority on motors has recently determined that while the present grade of motor fuel exists far better results can be obtained by draining the old oil off and refilling with new once every 500 miles. The results obtained will well warrant the little care required to follow out the above suggestions.

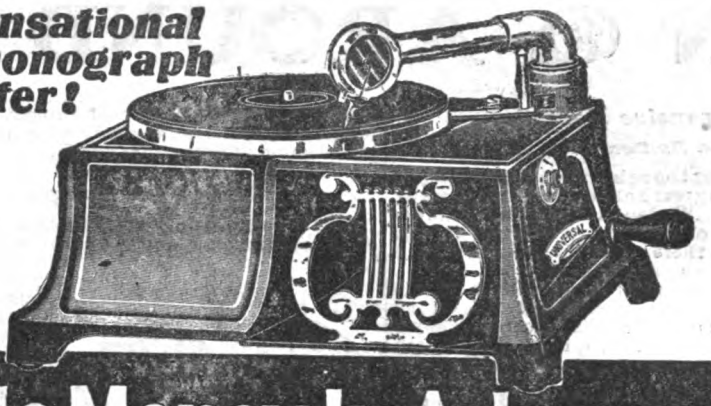
Clear Vision

Mist and rain if allowed to settle on the windshield cause deceiving illusions which frequently result in serious accidents. There are many devices on the market which may be obtained at a trifling cost for the maintaining of a clear vision during stormy weather but in the absence of any of these a simple and inexpensive remedy is as follows: Mix equal parts of kerosene and glycerine and apply a fine film to the windshield glass with a brush. A glass so treated will shed water like a duck's back.

There's a Reason

Automobile designers have a good reason for placing each part in a certain position on the machine. Owners who study their machines are apt to wonder why the water pipe leading from the top of the engine to the top of the radiator is generally given an upward inclination. The reason is that water when sufficiently heated generates steam. If the pipe was level there would be danger of the steam gathering at the highest portions and materially interfere with the flow of water. On the other hand, when the pipe is given a slight upward inclination the steam will travel up the pipe to the radiator where it is cooled and condensed into water or passes into the atmosphere through the overflow pipe of the radiator.

Sensational Phonograph Offer!



No Money In Advance

We offer you the most sensational, the most astoundingly liberal offer ever made in the history of the phonograph business. We will send to you without one penny in advance, without one bit of obligation on your part whatsoever, this remarkable Universal Phonograph—this startling new invention—this marvelous all metal machine which is revolutionizing the talking machine world. Just 10,000 of these wonderful Phonographs have been set aside to be sent out on this amazing advertising offer which is made in order to get a machine in each locality of the United States immediately.

Never before—and without doubt never again—will an offer so liberal be made. Not one cent in advance—no reference asked—no delay—no red tape—not even your promise to keep the machine. The coupon below is all that is necessary. And with this remarkable machine will be sent four splendid selections—the regular 65c double disc Columbia records. Play this grand Universal in your home with the superb selections sent along with it—give the Universal a thorough

10 Days Free Trial

When the Universal Phonograph and records arrive, simply pay us 90c and pay the balance in small monthly payments of only $2.00 each until you have paid us our Special Introductory Bargain Price of only $16.90. If for any reason, you do not want to keep the Phonograph and records, simply return to us within ten days after receipt at our expense and you owe us nothing. Think what a remarkable Phonograph this must be in order to stand such a critical test as this. Songs, Dances, Speeches, Instrumental Music, Band and Orchestra Selections, each voice male or female, each instrument brought out in actual reproduction exactly as the original, not one sound or syllable blurred or indistinct—no screeching or buzzing. Gorgeous Harp frontispiece and all trimming beautiful silver effect, not one particle of tin or wood in its entire construction; base 15 inches wide by 6 inches high, 11¼ inches deep; weight 17 lbs. has exclusive automatic start and stop. Plays ALL makes and sizes of disc records.

Four beautiful selections—the regular 65 cent double disc Columbia records—will be sent to you on this offer. A complete list of hundreds of the most famous selections will be sent along with the machine and records. You have the privilege of exchanging any or all of the four selections sent to you for those of your own choice.

No Reference Asked

Remember, no reference asked. No money with your order. On receipt of the coupon we simply send the phonograph and records right out to you. Do not delay in thi smatter. Send coupon today. This offer is limited—immediate action is necessary—mail the coupon today.



Wonderful Bargain Book FREE

Send Post Card today for your Free Copy of our Special Bargain Book showing remarkable Money Saving Bargains in House-furnishing Goods of all kinds—Furniture, Carpets, Rugs, Stoves, Davenports, Dishes, Sewing Machines, Curtains, etc., sold on small easy payment terms. Everything Guaranteed by this Company with resources of more than $5,000,000.00. Write Post Card Today for your Copy. But be sure to send Coupon—NOW—for Phonograph.

UNIVERSAL MAIL ORDER CO.
Phonograph Dept. 304,
133-37 W. 39th Street, Chicago, Ill.

Send No Money

UNIVERSAL MAIL ORDER CO.,
Phonograph Dept. 304,
133-37 W. 39th Street, Chicago, Ill.

Send at once your wonderful new Universal Phonograph and four selections of the regular 65c Double Disc Columbia Records. If satisfactory after examination, and I decide to keep them, I will pay you 90c after arrival. I then agree to pay the balance of $16.00 in monthly payments of $2 each until paid. Otherwise I will return Phonograph and Records to you at your expense.

Name .....

Address .....

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15.)

scriptions to various splendid papers which we enjoy reading and appreciate sincerely even though we do not know who subscribed for them.

I have some lovely pen friends whom I hope to keep; some are dear old people; I have their names and addresses filed away to have a permanent record of their birthdays and I shall remember them that date with a letter or card as long as they or I live; bless the dear old folks! I love the young folks too, but venerate the old.

I feel sure some have believed me to be a long time in sending the few helps I promised, but if they could only know how very many have asked me for so many different helps I know their patience would be unending.

I am including herewith a few to our paper hoping to be of some service to so many others who have been of such splendid aid to me.

All who have asked for the Mexican beans (Frijoles—pronounced free-ho-leys—meaning beans) and may not have received them, I wish to state that I sent them; every one whose letter reached me asking for same I surely mailed promptly so they could plant for this season. They are a bush bean, good "Samps" or as green beans; have written several individually the Mexican way of seasoning and serving them and many have written me they cannot find one kind of the flavor I named so have sent them the label off of bottles or containers.

I am delighted with the many good letters, etc., but would be so pleased to have at least sender's names or initials and post-office address on post-cards and letters, etc., then I could let them know that same were received by me. Thanks to each who sent stamps and stamped envelopes.

Many inquiries have come asking about climate, crops, rain, etc., etc., and some of my letters not reaching addressee or theirs not reaching me, I feel there is no surer way than through the medium of this corner to answer every one.

Our rains—this year—began the 7th of July, sometimes little earlier, other years later. So we are now farmers for the next two to four months. Such lovely rains have come so far that we now have a green valley—the native wild grass being knee-deep to range stock all over and they are rolling fat. I often wonder if our valley does not look like "The Low Green Valley on the Old Kentucky Shore." We planted more than two acres of all sorts of vegetable seeds and so invite COMFORT staff and readers passing to call in this winter and I will serve them a pot of frijoles seasoned a la Mexican as also other Spanish dishes.

The climate is temperate; that is, short, mild winters,—December, January and February; spring (beautiful), is lovely and cool, March, April and May, though dry; summer rushes in with that beautiful auspicious month of wedding-bells and honeymoons, June, very pleasant until it warms up to a few days of almost torrid weather in July, cooling down with rains in August, then deliciously cool and enlivening enters autumn with September, October and November. Most years have had sufficient snow-fall in winter to put a good season in ground to start spring gardening and crops for the rainy season. As to homestead laws friends, please let me refer you to the United States for rules and regulations governing requirements, addressing the Department of The Interior, Phoenix, Arizona about any lands of this state and said laws; they are free for the asking and you should plainly state just what you wish to know.

We are not so scared over war as we were a month ago before so many U. S. soldiers arrived in our midst; we try to be content with our lot in life come what may: "It is better to whistle than whine."

Now, that our spring and summer are here we must cheer up and do our part in making the sunshine glad we enjoy the rains; without either our land would not be so beautifully carpeted with living green and all nature seems so glad. If we are not glad Nature's efforts must be in vain and E. W. W. says: "The wiser man shapes into God's plan, as the water does in the vessel." I like natural scenery; the sisters seem to have sensed this from the many lovely scenes they sent on post-cards, etc. I also like scenes of man's handywork, such as great buildings and in cities and on ocean shores one can see and note well directed energy, work and wisdom; it proves to me we are living in a busy world of large and grand undertakings, and rapid progress with Father Time; on every side is to be seen advancement and expansion; I like all this, but I like best of all the quietude of a country home and life.

Just an hour of city life brings me to the full realization of "Home Sweet Home" in the country.

Wishing Uncle Charlie and all our COMFORT staff and each sister an abundant shower of blessings and joys for the future, I am your COMFORT sister,

LILLIE D. ELDREDGE.

The Fallen Hero

REQUESTED

"He went to war in the morning—
The roll of the drums could be heard.
But he paused at the gate with his mother
For a kiss and a comforting word.
He was full of the dreams and ambitions
That youth is so ready to weave,
And proud of the clank of his sabre
And the chevrons of gold on his sleeve.

"He came back from the war in the evening—
The meadows were sprinkled with snow,
The drums and the bugles were silent,
And the steps of the soldier were slow.
He was wrapped in the flag of his country
When they laid him away in the mould,
With the glittering stars of a captain
Replacing the chevrons of gold.

"With the heroes who slept on the hillside,
He lies with a flag at his head,
But, blind with the years of her weeping,
His mother yet mourns for her dead.
The soldiers who fall in the battle
May feel but a moment of pain,
But the women who wait in the homesteads
Must dwell with the ghosts of the slain.

Sent in by Mrs. Fred Baker, S. Wallingford, Vt.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 28.)



The Ideal Xmas Present for Baby

is a "Rock-a-Bye" Baby Swing.

Babies don't cry when in a Rock-a-Bye. Every move of their little bodies sways the swing and keeps them interested. They get exercise. They're kept off the cold floor and out of dirt. They can't get into mischief, pick up things from the floor which might prove dangerous, or fall out and hurt themselves.

The Rock-a-Bye Baby Swing is made of heavy washable duck on strong, steel frames. It has reinforced strap hangers and screw hook. Can be hung in any doorway, from porch ceiling or tree branch.

Get a Rock-a-Bye for your baby this Christmas.

Send $1.00 now and if you don't think it's the greatest baby entertainer ever we will return your money without question or quibble.

Send also for free catalog of other useful articles for women and children.

PERFECTION MFG. CO.
2801 Montgomery St.
St. Louis, Mo.

Wonderful New Sunshine Lamp FREE

No Wick, No Chimney—300 Candle Power



Turns night into day. Gives better light than gas, electricity or 18 ordinary lamps at one-tenth the cost. For Homes, Stores, Halls, Churches. A child can carry it. Makes its light from common gasoline.

ABSOLUTELY SAFE

You can have this wonderful lamp for doing a few minutes work. No canvassing. We want one person in each locality to whom we can refer new customers. Write today.

SUNSHINE SAFETY LAMP CO.
263 Factory Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.



10 Cents a Day

Pays for This Cornet

An astounding offer! Only 10c a day buys this superb Triple Silver Plated Lyric Cornet. Free Trial before you decide to buy. Write for big offer.

WURLITZER
Carrying Case Free with this superb triple silverplated Lyric Cornet.

Free Band Catalog Write for big 250-page Band Catalog. Rock-bottom, direct-from-manufacturer's prices on all kinds of instruments. Pay at rate of a few cents a day. Generous allowance for old instruments. Free trial. We supply the U. S. Gov't. Write today.

The Rudolph Wurlitzer Co., Dept 3048
4th St., Cincinnati, O. S. Wabash Av., Chicago

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Inexpensive Novelties

What Can Be Done with Ribbon

HOW our thoughts fly to absent friends as the great holiday, Christmas, draws near. We long to send forth expressions of our loving thoughts, but as usual there arises the old question I wonder what I can make for——?

Many a woman who is beginning to puzzle over a long list should be able to decide on the making of some suitable gifts by copying some of the doilies, yokes, pillows, bags, etc., which have been given in this department in the past few months.

Any number of these things would make exceedingly pretty presents but the woman who can neither crochet, embroider, nor paint is often at a total loss to know just what to do especially when a slim purse must be made to do considerable. So for her especially have these hints for using ribbons and silk been prepared.

As is usual the dainty trifles which are really new, are always high in price as it is the idea rather than the material used, which is charged for. However if one takes the time and plans ahead many of these especially attractive little articles may be readily concocted at home of silk or ribbon on hand, or remnants at bargain prices can be purchased as one has the opportunity.

Ribbon Bedroom Slippers

These are the easiest things in the world to copy and are so pretty. Secure a pair of fleece or quilted satin soles of the proper size. A yard of three and one half inch soft ribbon and nine inches of elastic will be required for each slipper. Make a half inch casing along one edge of the ribbon for the elastic. Shur the opposite edge, arrange the fullness evenly all around and sew with fine close stitches to the sole. Finish the fronts with white narrow ribbon daisies or tiny rosebud.



RIBBON BEDROOM SLIPPERS.

The daisies can very easily be made by tying knots every two inches in baby ribbon. Then loop back and forth, tying tightly in the center, which should be finished with a little yellow embroidery silk, frayed out. The knots in the ribbon should be arranged to come in the center of each loop. Rose buds may be made by folding an inch ribbon or a piece of bias silk, coil or wind round and round, sewing securely. Sew a group of three together and back with loops of half inch green ribbon.

Another style ribbon slipper which can be easily made is just sort of a sandal. For this, one will need besides the soles, three yards of inch and a quarter ribbon. Cut off two seven-inch pieces, sew one end of each to either side of one sole at the instep, cross and sew the opposite ends of the ribbons to the sole near the toe, thus crossing these ribbons over the arch or front of the foot.

Sew a third ribbon to the center of the toe, this runs straight up the foot, finishing in a loop.

To the back of the heel attach a ribbon which



SANDAL SLIPPERS.

ties about the ankle after passing through the loop on the end of the toe piece. Finish and hold the ribbons in place, by tying a bow over the crossing of the ribbons in front.

These suggestions for little personal remembrances combine daintiness simplicity and rapidity of execution.

Nothing more than the ability to sew neatly is needful, and the best part of it all is that each one of these articles is as useful as it is ornamental.

A New Bandeau

The fad of tying the hair down across the forehead is still as popular as ever with young girls. For everyday wear ribbons are used but these give place to dressier affairs for parties or dances. These bands are so becoming to most youthful faces, any young girl who enjoys good times would surely be pleased with a gift of this sort.

To copy the one shown two and one quarter yards of flat white ribbon wire will be necessary for the foundation. Cut this into three pieces, then cover each by winding with half inch satin ribbon fasten the ends together and cover with ribbon so the wire will not catch in the hair.

Now braid the three strands and finish the



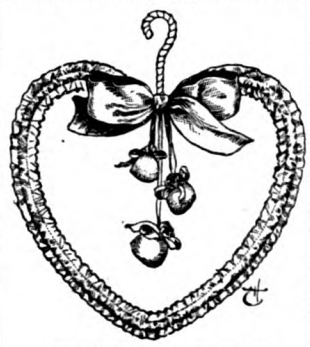
A NEW BANDEAU.

opposite end with a full rosette. If the ribbon for this is knotted every three inches and then folded back and forth so the knots will come in the center of each loop, it will be much prettier.

Any girl would surely be delighted with a pair of silk slippers or a bandeau of ribbon. Any young mother could hardly help liking a little heart-shaped baby-coat hanger, or a bib holder, while almost anybody welcomes a new pin-cushion, at least once a year.

Baby-Coat Hanger

This is a very dainty little affair made up of either blue or pink, and is a bit of work which can be done by any one who can do plain sewing.



HEART-SHAPED COAT HANGER.

For the frame one will need about 30 inches of wire, either the ordinary sort which can be purchased for a few cents at any hardware store, or large hat wire will do. This is covered before bending into shape, for which one will need five yards of inch wide satin ribbon. Fold in the center, satin sides out and run two rows of machine stitching the entire length to make a casing through which the wire is run. Fasten ribbon to one end of the wire and about four inches from the other end this piece being necessary for the hook. The ribbon being fulled on the wire creates little frills on either edge.

If wider frills are desired two and one half yards of four-inch ribbon can be used, folded lengthwise. Wind the hook with narrow ribbon and finish with a bow and long sachets.

Hanger No. 2 is made by simply covering one



COVERED BABY HANGER.

of the small wire hangers with twisted ribbon and sewing a full rosette at the base of the hook.

Any ordinary coat hanger if covered attractively makes a specially nice present. This year those which are intended solely for outside or heavy garments are covered with tapestry instead of the usual ribbons which soil and wear out quickly from constant use. This new idea is much more practical and a hanger, well padded covered with a rich deep-toned tapestry, comes near to being a joy forever, as such a covering will wear indefinitely. Among the best odors for sachets or to sprinkle on the padding of these hangers are pine, clover, lavender, cedar and lavender.

Reminder Tablet

Now that telephones are the rule rather than the exception a unique gift which can be very inexpensively and quickly made is a tablet of heavy water color paper. Seven sheets of paper measuring eight by ten inches will be needed.

Use white ink and write on the first—at the top—Sunday the day that is Blest.

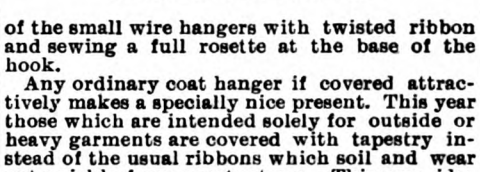
Next comes—
Monday for Health.
Then—
Tuesday for Wealth.
Followed by
Wednesday, the Best Day of all.
Thursday for Losses
And—
Friday for Crosses.
While Lastly is
Saturday, No Luck at all.

While the ink is wet sprinkle with powdered gilt and shake off all which does not adhere.

Tie all the sheets together with a bright ribbon, after ruling a two-inch space down the left side of each sheet for telephone numbers.

Bib Holder

This is a very good suggestion especially of use and value to a mother when away from home as by its use, a napkin can be readily made to do duty as a bib for a young child and will be quite as secure.



BIB HOLDER.

Ten inches of fine white tape, a piece of silk braid or a bit of ribbon and two garter fasteners are all that is necessary. An embroidered design of small French knot flowerets adds to the appearance of this useful little trifle.

Ribbon Handkerchief Case

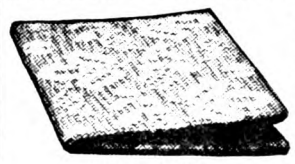
This handsome case requires two thirds of a yard of five-inch ribbon, and three and one half yards of one half inch ribbon. Weave the two shades of ribbon together for the outside. Sew the ends over two pieces of cardboard measuring five by five and one half inches, then line with the wide ribbon, basting in place. Hem the ends of the other piece of wide ribbon, place on the inside of the case to form pockets and overcast all edges together. Attach a ribbon for tying to the center of the back.



HANDKERCHIEF CASE.

Card Case

To send in place of a Christmas card to one who has need of it, what would prove more acceptable than a little card case.



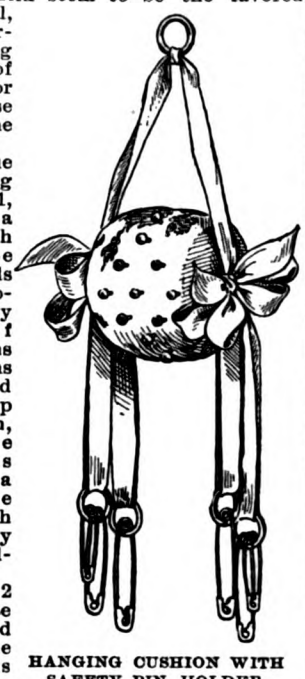
CARD CASE.

This can be made very quickly, covered with any pretty bit of silk, satin or brocade, or lacking this a case similar to that illustrated can be made of a solid color covered on the outside with a piece of lace.

Pin Cushions

New odd cushions always make their appearance at this time of the year as they are always in demand.

Ribbons and silk seem to be the favored materials as usual, but for this purpose everything used should be of a good quality, or with actual use they soon become very shabby.



HANGING CUSHION WITH SAFETY PIN HOLDER. FIG. 1.

For the unique little hanging cushion Fig. 1, only a third of a yard of five-inch ribbon will be needed, two yards of half inch ribbon, one ivory ring, one half dozen safety pins and a few pins with colored heads. Seam up the wide ribbon, gather up the selvedge edges and fit over a cushion of the right size. Finish as is clearly shown in the illustration.

Hanger Fig. 2 is very delicate made of a third yard of light blue ribbon, two yards baby ribbon, twelve inches of half inch ribbon for hanging, four ivory rings, and some safety pins.

The ribbon for the foundation should be about four inches wide, fringe one end of this, sew the other end over a collar or bit of feather bone to keep it flat. Run the narrow ribbon through rings, fasten to the center of this, add ribbon for hanging and decorate with loops of the baby ribbon and tiny roses made of any bits of pink silk or chiffon which one happens to have handy.

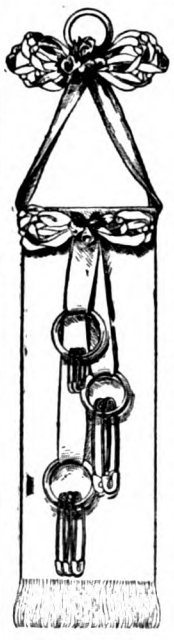


FIG. 2.

Sewing Conveniences

Today many of the most useful little sewing contrivances are quite gay and attractive, they are also disguised in the most surprising manner.

The new emeries especially will do credit to the best and prettiest of work baskets, for they come in all sorts of artistic shades some representing luscious strawberries, while others look like big raspberries which would melt in your mouth.

Radishes and carrots are also seen but perhaps the most realistic of all are the shiny brown chestnuts made of brown satin. The sides are of this, cut the size and shape of a nut and joined together with a piece of brown velvet. Finish the wove point side with a few long and short stitches with tan floss and the effect will be very much like the real thing.

Some of the most convenient sewing cases shown this year are really very clever combinations of two or three articles.

An illustration of this is a novelty particularly designed for the woman who is away from home.

It is really a combination sewing-bag, spool holder and needlecase.

The bag of silk is six by nine inches when complete and fitted on the inside with little pockets for buttons, hooks and eyes, thimble, etc.

To the bottom of the bag is attached a needle case with soft covers of cream canvas bound with satin ribbon. Six spools threaded on ribbons (three on each side of the back at the bottom) complete this article, which is rolled up over the spools when not in use and tied securely with the drawstrings.

Crocheted Necktie

By Request

Use fine steel hook, 3 spools ordinary crochet silk.

Ch. 22, turn 21 singles, then make 21 s. c. working through both loops each st.

3d row.—Ch. 3, 3 d. c. in 1st st., * skip 2 sts., 1 s. c. in next. Ch. 3, 3 d. c. in same st. Repeat from * making 7 shells in this row.

4th row.—Ch. 3, 2 d. c. in first s. c., 1 s. c. under ch., 2 d. c. in next s. c. and repeat.

Now repeat from beginning of 1st row until work is 15 inches long.

Narrow for neck band by decreasing 1 shell each end of a shell row, make 7 rows without decrease and again drop 2 shells, leaving work 3 shells wide and ready for band. For this crochet in pattern or all singles, make 10-inch strip, fasten off.

Begin 2nd end same as 1st, make 10 inches, decrease, then make six narrow rows, fasten off and join.

Knitted Motor Scarf

1 pr. No. 12 knitting needles, 2 spools silk.

Cast on 60 sts. Knit 20 rows plain. Now on each row 10 sts. on each end plain. 40 sts in center in dice pattern as follows:

P.4, k.4, next 3 rows purl the purled sts. Knit the knitted sts. Then 2 rows k. plain.

7th row.—P. 4, k. 4, then 3 rows purling and knitting same sts. 2 rows plain. This completes 2 series of blocks. Repeat from first block pattern, making scarf 30 inches long, then 20 rows plain knitting, bind off.

Work single crochet along all edges and tie 6-inch fringe in every 4th st. along each end.

Round Cushion

Although there is nothing new about this cushion in shape, it deserves mention as circular cushions are always popular and this is finished in a little out of the ordinary way. Instead of being rounded in all directions, the bottom is made flat, by using a piece of pasteboard. The top of the cushion is dome shaped the center of of this being covered plain and the edge finished with a puff.



ROUND TOP CUSHION.

This is a good idea for working up odd bits of one kind and another as two materials combined really make a prettier cushion.

One may vary the size to fit their goods, but for the center of a bureau a cushion five or six inches in diameter will be ample.

Woven Sofa Pillow Cover

A handsome and novel pillow cover may be made in the same way as the hot plate mats recently illustrated. For this nothing will be necessary but a square frame, a little larger than one wishes the finished cover.

For materials use soft three-inch ribbon and baby ribbon or silkateen for cross tying. Light blue ribbon tied with black and then mounted over canary yellow is only one of the many pretty combinations, others of which will readily suggest themselves, but one should plan for a good contrast of color to have the finished work most effective.

Cross the wide ribbons both ways of the frame, tacking securely on all sides, then tie crosswise with the baby ribbon or silk; this draws the wide ribbon apart into open squares which are crossed with the narrow ribbon.

Star Pin Cushion

This little novelty will require five five-inch squares of silk, fold each crosswise, or in shape of a triangle and seam up to two sides. After the five cushions are complete place together as shown in our illustration and fasten the top and bottom corners then finish the top with a bow of ribbon. Fill the cushion with wool. This prevents pins from rusting.



STAR PINCUSHION.

A Dainty Apron

This rather frivolous little affair is of Dresden silk and lace, but a pretty flowered lawn could be substituted without detracting much from its attractiveness.

In size the apron measures 18 inches in length



APRON OF SILK AND LACE.

by 14 inches in width without the lace edge. Two yards each of insertion and edging will be needed a yard and a half of ribbon for strings and three yards of baby ribbon for rosettes on either side at the top of the apron.

Crocheted Edging for Pillow Ends

Use course ecru cotton or carpet warp. Make ch. of ample length, turn, 1 tr. c. in third st., 1 tr. c. each every other st., ch. 3.

2nd row.—1 tr. c. in first tr. c., ch. 6, sk. 6 tr. c., 1 tr. c. in next, ch. 6, sk. 6, 1 tr. c., repeat, ch. 3.

3rd row.—1 tr. in each st. of ch. 6, ch. 3, sk. tr. in last row, 6 tr. on ch. 6, repeat.

4th row.—Ch. 3, 3 tr. c. under ch. 3, ch. 3, 3 tr. c. under same ch., ch. 3, 1 s. c. under next ch. 3. Repeat.

5th row.—4 s. c., ch. 3, 1 sl. st. to form picot, * 3 s. c., on 3 tr. c., 1 p., 2 s. c. under ch. 3, 1 p., 2 s. c. under same ch.

THE BRAND OF SHAME

By Maud Mary Brown

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

The Crisis in Two Lives

He caught her roughly, his anger past control. "My money bought you, didn't it? If one of my horses played the devil with me as you have done, I'd kill him. But I am not going to kill you. I am going to master you. My cattle bear my brand to warn thieves away, and before God, so shall you."

She sobbed and struggled but he was inexorable. "You may flaunt your white shoulders before men but they shall see that you have an owner—that YOU BELONG TO DRAKE, of the Big Four Ranch."

He held her, half-fainting, till he had accomplished his task, then, releasing her, he strode to the door and went down the street, while Julia, a sorry figure in her barbaric splendor, her shoulders marred by the brand that would mark her for life, lay in a huddled heap on the floor.

The dramatic incident above described is the crisis of this strong story which faithfully portrays a phase of modern life that is undermining social morals and needs a drastic remedy.

HAD Drake been able to blot out the vision of the man looking with too-admiring eyes into his wife's face, the living picture of Julia arranging nasturtiums in a huge brass bowl would have delighted him.

Warned by some telepathic message, the other man glanced at his host whose huge bulk half filled the doorway; he straightened instantly from his lounging position against the table.

"Morning, Drake," he greeted, and strolled nonchalantly out of the room.

"Well, Julia, aren't you up pretty early for you?" Drake advanced to his wife and waited for her to lift her face for his salute.

But Julia Drake kept her dark, rather sullen, eyes lowered. Except for the vivid scarlet of her lips there was no trace of color in her delicately-chiselled face.

"I couldn't bear to miss one moment of the last day they are to be here," she replied.

Drake frowned slightly. "You'll miss them, naturally. I shall miss that sister of yours, myself."

"And I shall miss Page," she said sharply. "And Kingsley Pierce as well. Jeff, just why are you not keeping King here at the ranch? You've often told me that you needed an assistant."

"My dear girl, Pierce has been down here for five months and he has no more command of the business than he had the day he came. Perhaps it isn't strange; you know very well the life he has led; this must seem pretty slow to him. When he came down with the idea of pulling up, I was glad enough to give him a trial; well, he hasn't made good. And I have no use for him. He hates it, to begin with——"

"You can't blame him for that," Julia interposed swiftly. She looked about the room, aversion in her eyes. Yet it was, as living-rooms in Texas go, a luxurious and very dignified apartment. It was, however, essentially a man's room; as yet, in spite of her having lived in it for a year, it reflected none of Julia Drake's personality. One would have said that it lacked the subtle touch that proclaimed its mistress a happy woman.

"Julia!" Drake's voice was sharp.

"Oh, I spoke hastily, Jefferson. But can't you see that being so very much alone nearly drives me mad? At times I become so *ennuied* that I could scream."

Drake's heavy brows met. "I can't understand it, dear," he said, "you can ride."

She laughed mirthlessly. "One can't ride all day, silly; and besides, this fierce sun hurts my eyes and ruins my skin. What it will be when summer really sets in, I dread to contemplate."

"There is the car, and you have books and magazines. You know you can order anything you want, honey."

She dismissed his generosity with a petulant gesture.

"Well, just what do you want, Julia?" he asked gravely.

"I want life!" Her dark eyes fired and her face quickened.

"And—Pierce means—life?"

"Jeff, stop! Kingsley Pierce is nothing to me except in so far as he represents the life that I gave up by marrying you. We both love New York and gayety but that is all." Her heavy lids curtained her eyes once more.

"Here they are!" Julia's younger sister had entered the room and was calling over her shoulder to Page Beardsley and Pierce. "They're at their mututinal philandering."

She glanced sharply at her sister and Drake, and wheeling suddenly, she surprised the frown on Pierce's brow.

"Will you see who's here!" young Beardsley sang out with his habitual grin. "Sister Julia! I don't seem to remember that she cared for worms!"

"Texas has reformed her, you audacious infant!" Edith Bentley returned. "She can get up with the best of us now. Isn't breakfast ready, sister? I am immoderately hungry."

Drake opened the door to the dining-room. He liked this frank, boyish sister of Julia's and he had hoped that her brief visit might help to restore his wife's contentment.

But, strangely enough, Julia had seemed almost indifferent to Edith and to Page Beardsley who had followed her South on the slender chance that a fresh environment might lead her to consider an engagement. Page was an amusing cub, too rich to make work a necessity, too indolent to desire it for the stimulant of accomplishment.

Edith Bentley and her exotic sister were dissimilar types, the younger being less inflammable, infinitely more wholesome. Without Julia's rare beauty, she nevertheless had her share; her color was fresher; her lips were fashioned on less petulant lines, and her eyes, while not so provocative, would, one felt certain, meet the world with a steadier gaze.

In spite of Page's nonsense, breakfast was not a cheerful feast. Pierce gloomed openly and Julia, her smoldering eyes downcast, was silent. Drake was serene enough, though he was unaccustomedly pale underneath his tan.

"What time do we light out in the morning?" queried Page Beardsley as they rose.

"By seven; I will drive you in myself. You will go, of course, Julia?"

"Oh, I suppose so. This triple exodus is cruel, if you're consulting me. Couldn't you manage to leave in sections?"

"Not I," returned Edith. "My chaperon has been cooling her heels in town long enough. She admits it. Page might stay."

Beardsley looked reproachfully into her tantalizing eyes. "Pierce," he said, turning to the older man, "I thought you came down here to learn ranching. Sick of it?"

"We will let it go at that," was Pierce's reply.

As they strolled out to the court between the two wings of the rambling bungalow, Drake adjusted his sombrero with care.

"The wagon will start with your baggage at daybreak," he said. "I must run along now. I rather expect we shall hit oil over on the eastern division today. And an engineer is coming—he'll be here for luncheon, Julia—to go with me into the hills to advise about that irrigation scheme. It's my busy day. Any one coming with me?"

The men were silent. Page Beardsley was too idle for such a morning and Pierce, now that his obligation had so nearly ceased, made no attempt to conceal his contempt for Drake.

"I'm going, Jeff, if I may," Edith declared.

"Good!" He looked at her with affection and she gave him back a smile.

"Silly!" jeered Julia. "They'll take you for a half-breed when you get back to New York. At least put on a broad hat."

After watching the two ride away, Page went to his room and Pierce turned eagerly to Mrs. Drake.

"This is probably our last hour alone, dear," he said; "can't we go where we shall be undisturbed?"

"The library is the most comfortable room in the morning," Julia returned coolly.

"Now then, what are we going to do about it?" he demanded when they had entered the room.

She chose not to understand.

"Don't try the tricks of the eternal woman at a time like this," he urged. "You know very well what I mean. Are you going North with us tomorrow?"

She considered a moment. "No," she replied.

"Just what ties you here? Surely not that self-centered husband of yours. You are not so much to him as a growthy steer. It maddens me to see you shunted aside for ditches and oil and live stock. I am not asking you to go away with me, dear. I am only urging you to go home to your father; then, when things adjust themselves, we can think about our own happiness. You've helped me to pull up, Julia; it can't be that you intend to desert me now. What are you going to do with me?"

She did not reply.

"Are you going to send me to the devil without a sign that you care?" He drew her to him.

"We mustn't, King."

"You do care?"

She pushed him away. "I don't know. I don't whether it is you or the life that you represent that I love. If I were sure——"

He reached for her again but she eluded his arms.

"I don't know what I am going to do after you leave." She covered her face with her white hands.

"Julia! I can't leave you here! It is too much to ask. Your youth and beauty will be devoured, crushed out. It is sacrilege. Dear, come with us tomorrow."

She caught her lips between her white teeth. "I shall never go back to my father's house without my husband," she said.

They heard Beardsley's footsteps approaching and Pierce, without another word, turned and strode out of the room.

Two people at dinner at the Big Four Ranch that night had no suspicion of the strain in the atmosphere. They were Drake and the young engineer whom he had persuaded to stay the night. Drake was unwontedly talkative. His drills had found oil and he anticipated a big yield.

Too, his irrigation scheme might be expected to work out satisfactorily. The two men discussed the matter, frequently interrupted by Edith who demanded explanation of their terms of speech.

The engineer obviously felt her charm and Beardsley, observing it, was disheartened. He tried to rouse himself, felt his technical inferiority, felt that the exertion was too great, and relapsed into sulky silence.

All save Drake and the engineer were in evening dress. Drake rarely got into his dinner clothes, Julia always.

She glanced at the two men so unembarrassed in their khaki, and her seductive lips curled.

She was radiant in a yellow frock with somewhere a daring touch of scarlet to add to its allurement. More than once the stranger glanced speculatively at her, wondering where Drake found his orchid and if it would survive transplanting.

After dinner the two men continued to dominate the conversation and Julia and her sister went early to their rooms, the latter to pack.

Getting into a peignoir, Julia drifted into Edith's room and perched on the bed to watch proceedings.

"Fancy having no maid! A civilized one won't stay a week."

"There are compensations, my dear."

"*Are* there! I wish you would lend me your glasses."

Edith sat back on the floor, encircling her knees with her bared arms. "Julia," she said, "if you aren't wary you're coming to a fearful cropper."

Mrs. Drake looked at her sister defiantly.

"You know quite well what I mean. You don't appreciate your husband. He is doing a tremendous work here. Doesn't the thought of it all—the cattle, the land, the oil, the ditches—thrill you? Can't you see the romance in it all?"

"Romance in steers! Look at me, Edith! Do you think I was fashioned for this sort of thing?"

"Foolish! You knew what you were doing. Jeff didn't drag you here an unwilling bride."

"No, but he dominated me during those few weeks in New York. He can do that. He took advantage of my youth and my ignorance of conditions here. Sometimes I think I shall go mad."

"You are a foolish and very self-centered woman, my dear. You could if you would, find tranquility here—find the eternal significance of things, which is life. You are too busy with your sandpile to appreciate the mountain."

Julia understood and reddened.

"I pity Jeff. A man has a right to expect his wife to be a woman, not a spoiled child; to play the game staunchly and without cheating." She resumed her packing in silence.

The next morning Julia, with hard, tearless eyes watched the train bearing away the reminders of her happier days.

"Come, dear," Drake urged after the train had rounded a curve, "it is time I was getting back to the ranch. There will be a couple of men in for luncheon."

"Always it is the ranch," sighed Julia.

"That's my job, girl."

She was silent during the rapid drive home but her thoughts were not idle. Julia was not stupid and she felt that her situation was desperate enough to legitimatize any measure for its alleviation.

During the first few months of her marriage Drake had satisfied her wholly. In his admiration for her there had been something very close to reverence; but the expression of his adoration had gradually ceased. It was not that he loved her less and she knew it; it was the final readjustment of marriage—the putting her out of his arms that they might be free for his work.

Before her dissatisfaction at this state of affairs had had time to crystallize, Kingsley Pierce, a distant kinsman and a New York man about town, had come to the Big Four. He fed her vanity unweariedly. It was the only thing which he did really well while at the ranch.

And now that he was gone, life stretched ahead, as monotonous as a vast plain. She wondered what she should do—how live. By tears and mutiny she knew that she could accomplish nothing with her husband. But there were other methods of achieving one's will with a man. And so she was thoughtful.

At luncheon she was charming to the strangers whom Drake brought home. Half expecting a sulky silence, he was delighted. At dinner her mood had not altered.

"Gad!" Drake ejaculated. "It is good to be alone with you again."

"But you have been following stimulating pursuits all day," she reminded him, smiling.

"And you have been lonely? There isn't much for you to do, is there? I always did say that supplanting the distaff and the wheel was bad business for the women."

"What primordial sentiments! Can you give me the evening?"

For a fraction of a moment Drake hesitated. "I have a bunch of letters to get off, but I'll see Jenkins for a few minutes and let him manage them. That man's a whale for work, honey."

During the days which followed Julia was with her husband as much has his pursuits permitted and she lost no opportunity to play upon the weakest spot in man's armor—love of power.

"Is it quite fair to bury your business talents down here?" she asked one day.

"Honey, I don't believe I get you."

"There is bigger, finer work for you up North. Oh, I understood your conversation with those men the other day. There is oil stock to be floated and there is that mining business to be put through."

In spite of her proximity and her soft appeal Drake saw clearly.

"Just my love isn't enough for you, is it, Julia?"

"Oh, my dear, yes! But let us not risk murdering it in a *tete-a-tete* on a Texas ranch."

"I abominate the city, dear; this is my life. Why, looking from any window in this house, so far as I can see, the land is mine! In the city I should be a cipher. It would be a poor exchange."

She laughed musically. "It is because I see how easily you could dominate them that I wish to see you there. Ah! I should be proud of you! And pride in her husband is a wife's sweetest vanity. A little man can do the work here—a machine, like Jenkins. Your place is on the fighting-line. Have you the courage to get to the front, dearest?"

He turned away from the soft, fleeting pressure of her hands.

That night she won his surrender. She called him to her where she lay on a *chaise longue* in her room. The moon wrapped her in a sweet and gentle radiance. She was intoxicatingly lovely.

She made room for him to sit beside her. "Dear," she began; "all day I have been thinking about you in New York. I know many of the big men up there and not one can surpass you. This life has been a training-school for bigger things. You can easily be one of the few big men in the country. Are you strong enough to break the fetters? Dear, are you?"

She raised her bared arms and drew him within reach of her scarlet lips and Drake gave his promise.

After a little he went out into the night. His senses had steadied; face in hands, he sat for hours, thinking. He felt humiliated. He had yielded against his better judgment—had yielded to the eternal Delilah. But he *had* yielded and he would go.

Toward morning he went to his room. His impulse was not to see Julia again that night, but, ready for bed, he stole softly into her room and left a kiss on her up-turned cheek.

When he had gone Julia's eyes flew wide. She had been very uneasy while he was out there under the stars. More than once she had crept to the window to watch him. But the crisis was passed; his kiss proved that. Stretching her pampered body luxuriously, she composed herself for sleep.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

It was December and unseasonably warm in New York. Young Beardsley and Edith Bentley had been strolling through the park and they dropped idly on a bench to rest.

"Are you going to marry me, Edith?" Beardsley asked abruptly.

"I don't believe so, Page."

"Just why?" he demanded sullenly.

"Chiefly because your life is so like that of the squirrels yonder. It is measured by food and frolics. I couldn't marry a man like that."

"But good Lord, Edith! Why should I do any silly work? There's more money now than the two of us can ever spend."

"Oh, money!" She gave him one of her direct looks. "Does it never occur to you that it would be splendid to do something big—to force something true out of life?"

Page kicked petulantly at a pebble. "I don't begin to understand you," he growled. "But I know what is the matter with you; you're dippy about that big brother-in-law of yours. I wish he had stayed in Texas."

"So do I," was Edith's prompt retort.

"Your jolly sister, doesn't, you'd better believe."

"Julia is a little fool! She is throwing away her bread and butter to nibble at an eclair. Page, I couldn't speak of this to any one else, not even to father, but I'm worried about Julia."

"Nonsense, girl! Julia's doing what all the pretty matrons do—nothing more."

"It is quite enough. The only thing that conceivably can interest her in Kingsley Pierce is the fact that he is not her husband."

"That doesn't sound pretty."

"It isn't pretty. I wish Jeff would take her by one of her white shoulders and march her back to Texas. I think I shall tell him so."

"But this isn't getting me anywhere. Are you going to marry me?"

"I am going to marry a man, Page, or remain a spinster."

There was a pregnant silence between them. Then, "If I became a man, dear?"

They both rose and she stretched out her hands impulsively. "It would make me the happiest girl in New York," she said.

In silence they went out of the park and to her door. "I am not coming in, dear. I shall see you at the Lawrences' ball of course. Good by till then." And Edith watched him as he hurried down the street.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

Jefferson Drake and his wife had come to New York early in October. It had been an unusually lovely autumn and after the heat of the South, the tonic air and the hills decked like an Italian peasant on a *fete* day, delighted Drake.

Julia, frenziedly happy, spent long hours in the shops, buying everything that her starved impulses demanded.

A stock company was formed to conduct the oil operations and engineers were despatched to investigate the mineral deposits in the region west of the Pecos. Drake was the leader in these movements. He made many and advantageous acquaintances and before many weeks had passed he was pledged to two exclusive clubs.

In all these things Julia took an interest merely because they served to keep her husband occupied and contented. Of the appearance he would make when the social season really opened, she considered ruefully. Some of Drake's personality was lost when he donned evening clothes.

Not for long, however, did she worry over his potential social incompetence. Kingsley Pierce would see her through. He assured her of that frequently.

At first the Drakes had been with Mr. Bentley and Edith, but before the visit had lasted many days the situation became strained through Mr. Bentley's disapproval of Pierce's constant attendance upon Julia.

"He is a bad lot, my dear. He has damned more than one married woman right here under our eyes."

"Father! What a cordial way to speak of a kinsman."

"The relationship, thank heaven, is not close enough to worry over. See that you do not let him trade upon it. And you must see less of him while you are a guest of my house; otherwise, I shall advise Jefferson to take you back to Texas."

Julia was furious and she immediately persuaded Drake to lease an apartment on the Drive.

The first brilliant social event of the season was a fancy dress ball and being given for the war sufferers, it would be particularly sumptuous. Julia, at Pierce's suggestion, was to go as Cleopatra. She told Drake about it prettily and begged his pecuniary indulgence.

Happy at having been given a free rein, she observed him gravely. "You are too big for Napoleon, Jeff. But wasn't there some strapping destiny-maker whom you could impersonate?"

He smiled indulgently. "I don't expect to be able to go," he replied. "Jenkins plans to be here that night and we have many things to go over. I am afraid you will have to go with Edith, honey."

"Oh, I shall manage," Julia replied.

On the night of the ball, Drake could not get up home for dinner for Jenkins was taking a late-evening train South and every moment was valuable.

At nine o'clock, however, Drake called a taxicab and ran up home for the pleasure of seeing Julia in her splendor. He let himself in quietly and hearing voices in the drawing-room, went directly there.

Kingsley Pierce was the first upon whom his eyes fell. Drake nodded perfunctorily and turned to his wife. She stood motionless, her breath uneven, as he looked her up and down, and defiance smoldered in her eyes and perched on her scarlet lips.

"Gorgeous, isn't she?" Pierce shattered the silence to ask.

Drake half turned to him. "If you will excuse us, Pierce, I have something that I wish to say to my wife."

"You can have nothing to say that Kingsley may not hear," Julia fired.

Drake turned back to her. "You know you're not going out like that," he said gravely.

"Oh, am I not?" Julia was very angry. "Don't be more provincial than you can help, Jeff. This is nothing to some of the costumes."

He looked at her once more, from her jewel-decked head down to her bared, white bosom, unrelieved by any ornament. He glanced at her bare arms aflame with jewels, her rich, barbaric costume, her bared feet with their anklets and tiny sandals. His silent scrutiny strained her nerves. She rather regretted now having allowed her imagination to run riot after hearing that her husband would neither go to the fete nor be home to dinner. She had not planned this for his eyes.

At last he withdrew his eyes and coolly lit a cigarette. "My wife is not going into public like that," he said. Then his customary control broke bounds. "Good God! Have you no delicacy? Would you let men gaze at you as you are now? Get into that room!" He pointed to the door of Julia's chamber with a steady hand though his anger was rising like a strong wind. "And stay there!" he added. "You are not going out tonight."

He waited, alert, while Julia drew up her lissome body in a brave attempt at defiance; but under his steady gaze her will broke and she went slowly into her room.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 30.)

COMFORT

BY A SUBSCRIBER

What is it monthly comes to greet
With something good all it may meet,
And always makes the home Complete?

COMFORT.

What is it never does annoy,
But man and woman, girl and boy,
In every visit, finds new joy?

COMFORT.

What is it cheers the lonely one
Who, at the setting of the sun,
Sits down to rest, the day's work done?

COMFORT.

What is it has a word of cheer
For every one who cares to hear,
And takes its message far and near?

COMFORT.

What is it in each neighborhood
Is doing all that any could
And never tires of doing good?

COMFORT.

What is it helps the weak and strong
To do their best to get along
And stand for right against the wrong?

COMFORT.

What is it sees in all this land
The need of help to understand
The Golden Rule, God's good command,
And seeing, lends a helping hand?

COMFORT.

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Early Winter Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



NOVELTY wool mixtures and pile fabrics will be popular for children's coats as well as for those for grown ups.

Brown Zibeline with a shavelvet cillar, cuffs and pocket velvet collar, cuff and pocket trimming is very smart. The raglan sleeve is comfortable, and popular, and both loose and belted styles will be worn.

Pockets have been found such a convenience and so ornamental that one may look for them again this season in many new and novel forms.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.

1848—Girls' Coat, with raglan sleeve. This style is fine for cheviot, serge, velvet, corduroy, velour and taffeta. The fronts of the coat are trimmed with smart pockets.

Cut in seven sizes; two, four, six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires two and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a six-year size.

1460—Patterns for Animal Set. This group of designs comprises a dog, a pig and a sheep. All are attractive toys for little tots, and may readily be developed by the home dressmaker. Bath toweling, canton flannel, elderdown, plush or fur-faced cloths are suitable. The sheep will require one half yard of material. The dog three quarters yard, and the pig three eighths yard. The pattern is cut in one size.

1832—A Dainty Frill Shirt-waist. This style is ideal for lawn, batiste, dimity, voile, crepe and crepe de chine. The fronts are turned back to form ripple revers, that meet a rolled collar.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1506—Set of Short Clothes. Comprising drawers, underskirt, and a dress that may be finished in bishop or French style. This set of patterns will develop charmingly and please the little doll mother.

Cut in six sizes; 14, 16, 18, 20, 22 and 24 inches in height. It will require five eighths yard for the drawers, seven eighths yard for the petticoat, and one yard for the dress of 36-inch material for a 24-inch size. This pattern also comes in child's sizes; one, two, three and four years.

1841—A Popular, comfortable style. Boys' blouse with yoke in square or pointed outline, and with two styles of collar. Madras, cambric, linen, linene, silk, soisette, flannel and pique are good for this model.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires three and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a 12-year size.

1459—Patterns for set of monkey, elephant and rabbit. These toys are always acceptable for small children, they are soft and indestructible and easy to make. Canton flannel, elderdown, felt, silk or satin, plush or fur-faced cloth are suitable for these models. The pattern includes all designs illustrated.

It is cut in one size. It requires one yard of canton flannel for the monkey, with one half yard of flannel for his jacket, trousers and cap. For the rabbit it will require one half yard of canton flannel or elderdown. The elephant will require one yard of canton flannel.

1830—A Smart Frock for mother's girl. This model in striped gingham or chambrey, linene, corduroy or pique would be very attractive, especially if vest, collar and cuffs were of contrasting material. The sleeve may be in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

1821—Ladies' Kimono. Figured crepe, silk, lawn, percale and batiste are nice for this style. The draped effect is new and becoming.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires seven and five eighths yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1547—Ladies' Home or Morning Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style is nice for linen, seersucker, gingham and chambrey, for serge, cashmere and flannelette. If made of serge with trimming of matched satin, it would do nicely for business or street wear.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1847—Boys' Coat. This model is finished wih a raglan sleeve, and has double breasted fronts. The design is good for velvet, corduroy, serge, cheviot, tweed, broadcloth and mixed suiting.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for a 10-year size.

1604—A Practical, Serviceable Ladies' Apron, with or without belt. Gingham, seersucker, percle, lawn, sateen, drill or alpaca may be used for this model.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires four and seven eighths yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1823—A Dainty Frock for mother's girl. Sleeve in either of two lengths, and with round or square neck outline. Batiste, lawn, pique, linene, gingham, percale, cashmere, crepe and nun's veiling are nice for this model.

Cut in four sizes; one, two, four and five years. It requires two and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a four-year size.

1839—Ladies' Apron. This style is sometimes known as the "Fudge" apron. It may be made of embroidered toweling, of lawn, crepe, batiste, dimity, dotted Swiss and linen, and trimmed with lace or embroidery.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It will require two and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1838—Ladies' Combination Corset Cover and Underskirt. This style is good for batiste, nainsook, lawn, crepe and silk. The skirt has three gores, lengthened by a gathered flounce.

Cut in seven sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three and seven eighths yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1597—A Unique and Easily Adjusted Apron. Percale, gingham, seersucker, sateen, drill, muslin or lawn may be used for this style.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires for a medium size five and five eighths yards of 36-inch material.

1859—Attractive Cap Styles. Corduroy, velvet, velveteen, poplin, faille, taffeta, repp, flannel, felt and zibeline are all nice for these caps.

Cut in three sizes; three to eight years (children's), 10 to 14 years (girls) and 16 to 20 years (ladies'). Girls' sizes require seven eighths yard of 27-inch material for cap No. 1 and three quarters yard of material for No. 2, with five eighths yard of canvas and one eighth yard of buckram for interlining.

1833—Ladies' Dress. Gabardine in a new shade of green with pipings of matched satin, would be nice for this. The skirt has back and front panel sections, and full flaring side gores.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six and seven eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1822—Ladies' House or Porch Dress. Linen, drill, linene, corduroy, gabardine, serge, taffeta, percale, seersucker and brilliantine are nice for this model. The skirt is a three-piece model. The sleeve may be in wrist or in elbow length.

Cut in seven sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1862—A Comfortable Style. Linen, lawn, madras, batise, crepe or silk could be used for this waist, while serge, gabardine, repp, corduroy, poplin, broadcloth and voile are nice for the skirt.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires three and one eighth yards of 36-inch material fo rthe waist, and two and seven eighths yards for the skirt, for a 16-year size.

1491—A Simple Shirt-waist in attractive tailored style. This comfortable and up-to-date model is good for linen, lawn, madras, Georgette crepe, serge, flannel, taffeta, poplin or repp.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1844—Bag and Apron. 1807—Waist. A smart combination. The bag is ideal for darning or embroidery, and may be finished with various pockets for practical and convenient purposes. The apron is attractive and has a smart pocket over the center section.

The pattern for this model is cut in one size; medium. It requires two and five eighths yards of 27-inch material for the apron, with seven eighths yard for the bag.

The waist pattern is cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three and one quarter yards of 27-inch material for a medium size. *Two* separate patterns, 10c *for each* pattern.

1842—Girls' Dress. This model is nice for gabardine, velour, poplin, mixed suiting, checks and plaids and also for all wash fabrics.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for an eight-year size.

1825—A Simple, Practical Skirt Model. Wool, poplin, faille, taffeta, gabardine, serge, mixed suiting, tweed, velour, velvet and corduroy are nice for this design.

Cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires three and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

1845—A Splendid Utility Coat. Ladies' coat, with or without pockets. Cheviot, serge, velour, corduroy and other coat suitings are very appropriate for this style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six yards of 54-inch material for a medium size.

1561—Dress for Juniors with sleeve in either of two lengths. The waist is made with a separate peplum which may be omitted. A deep round collar finishes the neck edge. The skirt is a three-piece model cut wih graceful flare.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires four and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 14-year size.

1824—A Stylish Dress. Taffeta, serge, gabardine, nun's veiling, satin, velvet and broadcloth are well adapted for this design. The waist may be finished without the cape collar. The skirt is fitted with deep pockets.

Cut in six sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. It requires seven and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1575—Ladies' Yoke Skirt with panel portions. In raised or normal waistline. This design is most pleasing and becoming to any figure.

The pattern is cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires four and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.



USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents each unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash,

(or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me

Patterns No. _____ Size _____ (or Age) No. _____ Size _____ (or Age) No. _____ Size _____ (or Age)

Name _____ State _____

Post Office _____ R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

Get Wholesale Prices Mail Postal For Stove Book—FREE!

See new styles—unbeatable quality at manufacturers' **money-saving prices.** Cash or **easy payments. We pay freight** and ship within 24 hours. **30 days' trial**—360 days' approval test, $100,000 Bank Bond Guarantee. **Write today. Ask for Catalog No. 501**

KALAMAZOO STOVE CO.
Manufacturers KALAMAZOO, MICH.

A Kalamazoo Direct to You



AGENTS: $40 A WEEK

Wonderful New Hosiery Proposition



Guaranteed ONE YEAR Must wear 12 months or replaced free. Agents having wonderful success. H. W. Price sold 60 boxes in 12 hours. Mrs. Fields 109 pairs on one street. G. W. Noble made $35 in one day. Sworn proof. Sold only through agents. Not for sale in stores. A hosiery proposition that beats them all. Your territory still open. Write quick for terms and free samples.

THOMAS HOSIERY COMPANY
4730 Elk St. Dayton, Ohio

START A FRIENDSHIP BRACELET --- LINK ONLY 12c
Sterling Silver or Rolled Gold
Beaded or Plain designs. 3 Initials Engraved FREE to introduce our Bracelet Links. Start with Link and Ribbon we give FREE with first 12c order or more. State design wanted
FRIENDSHIP JEWELRY CO., 83 Chambers St., Dept. 680 New York

65 Beautiful Assorted Christmas Post Cards, Gift Cards, Tags, Stamps, and Seals. Embossed in gold and colors. No trash. Postpaid 10c. W. F. Davis Co., 15 DAVIS BLDG., Malden, Mass.

Wonderful New STEREOSCOPE

Premium No. 646



With 100 Views

For A Club Of Two!

Lions, Tigers, Bears and all kinds of Wild Animals, Home Scenes, Domestic Pets and Happy Childhood Days. Here is something **as good as a circus** for the children **the year round**—an indestructible, new style **Stereoscope** made of **all metal** with powerful, magnifying **lens,** and with it we give you **free** a big collection of **100 Views of home scenes, domestic pets, farm scenes,** all kinds of **trained and wild animals, hunting scenes,** views from the **Arctic** and **tropical** countries, and **happy childhood scenes**—the biggest and finest assortment of the most **delightful and entertaining** stereoscopic views for children ever gotten out. Boys and girls need not be obliged to hunt for something to occupy their active minds indoors with one of these Scopes at hand because it will give them a never-ending, joyful **entertainment** keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. Aside from the pleasure they will derive from the **fifty** beautiful **scenes of home life, the fifty** exciting **animal views** will furnish them with a **regular circus, the lions, tigers, bears, buffalo,** and all kinds of **wild and savage animals** as well as **horses, dogs, cats** and other domestic animals standing out **real and life-like** when looked at through this Scope. Any boy or girl would be delighted to have one of these wonderful Stereoscopes together with the big collection of 100 entertaining and exciting Views that come with it and knowing this we have purchased a large quantity of them direct from the factory and because we bought so many we got them at a price **low enough** to enable us to **give them away** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Stereoscope with 100 Views free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 646.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

"Jist forninst her, sir—on the same floor, across the hall."

"She writes that her mother is very ill."

"Whisht, sir; the poor lady's dyin', sir," said Kate.

"Dying!" exclaimed Royal Bryant, aghast.

"Yes, sir; she has consumption; and just afther the officer—bad luck to 'im!—took the young lady away, she had a bad coughin' spell, and burst a blood-vessel, and she has been failin' ever since," the woman explained.

"Who is with Mrs. Allandale now?" questioned Mr. Bryant, with a look of deep anxiety.

"The docthor, sir; he promised to stay wid her till I come back."

"Well, then, Mrs. O'Brien, if you will be good enough to hurry back and care for Mrs. Allandale, I will go at once to her daughter; and I am very sure that I can secure her release within a short time. Tell her mother so, and that I will send her home immediately upon her release."

"Bless yer kind heart!" cried the woman, heartily, and she hurried away to take the blessed news to Edith's fast-failing mother.

The moment the door closed after her, Royal Bryant seized his overcoat and began to put it on again, his face aflame with mingled indignation and mortification.

He was just fastening the last button of his coat when there came a knock upon his door.

"Come in," he said, but frowning with impatience at the unwelcome interruption and the probable detention which it portended.

An instant later a rather common-looking man, of perhaps forty years, entered the room.

"Ah, Mr. Knowles! good-morning, good-morning," said young Bryant, with his habitual cordiality. "What can I do for you today?"

"I—I have called to pay an installment upon what I owe you, Mr. Bryant," the man responded.

"Ah, yes; I had forgotten that this was the date for the payment. I hope, however, that you are not inconveniencing yourself in making it today."

"There is nothing that inconveniences me more than debt," the man evasively replied, but quickly repressing a sigh, as he drew forth a well-worn purse, while his companion saw that his lips trembled slightly as he said it.

Opening the purse, Mr. Knowles produced a small coin and extended it to the lawyer.

It was a five-dollar gold-piece.

Almost unconsciously, Mr. Bryant turned the money over, his glance still riveted upon it.

As he did so he gave a violent start which caused his companion to regard him curiously.

"Great Scott!" he exclaimed, in vehement excitement, as he bent to examine the coin more closely, "this is the strangest thing that ever happened to me in all my experience!"

CHAPTER IV.

A MYSTERY EXPLAINED.

"Is there anything wrong about the money?" Mr. Knowles inquired, a gleam of anxiety in his eyes.

"Pardon me," said Royal Bryant, flushing, as he was thus recalled to himself; "you are justified in asking the question, and I trust you will not regard me as impertinently inquisitive if I inquire if you can remember from whom you received this piece of money."

"Certainly I remember," Mr. Knowles replied.

"Will you kindly tell me the name of the person from whom you took it?"

Mr. Knowles appeared embarrassed and hesitated about replying.

"I have a special and personal reason for asking you," Mr. Bryant continued. "See!" he added, holding the gold-piece before him where the light struck full upon it, "you perceive this coin is marked," and he pointed out some vertical scratches which had been made just inside the margin. "I made those marks myself."

"Can that be possible!" exclaimed his companion.

"Yes. This very piece of money was in my possession as late as five o'clock last Saturday afternoon."

"I cannot understand," said Mr. Knowles.

"Let me explain," returned Mr. Bryant. "I owed my copyist exactly five dollars, and, having nothing smaller in bills than tens, I was obliged to pay her with this coin. While she was getting ready to leave the office, I sat toying with it and scratched it, as you see, with the point of my penknife; then I gave it to Miss Allandale, and thought no more about the matter. But just before you came in this morning, I received a note from her saying she had been arrested for passing the coin with which I had paid her, it having been declared counterfeit, and she begged me to come at once to her assistance and try to prove her innocence. I was just on the point of doing so when you called."

"What a very singular circumstance," Mr. Knowles remarked, reflectively. "It appears all the more so to me from the fact that I also received this piece of money no later than seven o'clock on last Saturday evening."

"You amaze me!" exclaimed Mr. Bryant. "Pray explain to me how you came by it—it may help to solve this very perplexing mystery, for I am confident that the coin is genuine, in spite of the trouble it has brought upon Miss Allandale."

"Yes, I will be frank with you," his companion returned, but flushing again, "and tell you that, in order to make this payment to you, I was obliged to borrow the money and gave, as security, a valuable mantel clock, which was one of my wife's wedding gifts. In other words, I pawned it. It goes against my pride to confess it; but the idea of debt is horrible to me; and, having been in very straitened circumstances of late, from sickness in my family and other causes, I had no other means of meeting my obligations to you, while I hoped to be able to redeem the clock before the time allotted should expire."

"Mr. Knowles, I thank you heartily for telling me this, while, at the same time, I am deeply pained," gravely returned Royal Bryant. "I would not have had you so pressed for a great deal; my claim against you can wait indefinitely, and you need feel no anxiety regarding it. Take your own time about it, for I am sure that I can safely trust a man to whom the idea of debt is so repulsive."

"You are very good," said Mr. Knowles, in a grateful tone.

"I shall return you this amount," the young lawyer resumed, "but in bills, for I wish to retain this gold-piece; and I beg that you will go at once and redeem your wife's clock. I am also going to throw a little business in your way, for I would like to retain you as a witness for Miss Allandale, and you shall be well paid for your services. Now please give me the name of the pawnbroker from whom you took the money."

"Solon Retz, No. —— Third avenue."

"Ah, yes; I know him for a scheming and not over-scrupulous person. I fought a tough battle with him a year or so ago."

But Royal Bryant still looked greatly perplexed.

He could not understand how the pawnbroker could have had that particular gold-piece to loan upon Mr. Knowles' clock, before seven o'clock on Saturday evening, when Edith Allandale had been arrested, that same night, for trying to pass it off upon the grocer of whom she had spoken in her note.

To him it seemed an inexplicable mystery.

However, he knew—he could take his oath—that the coin which he now held in his hand was the identical piece of money which he had paid to his beautiful but unfortunate copyist for her last week's work, and he was also reasonably sure that it was not a counterfeit.

"I suppose you will have no objection to testifying as to how and from whom you received the money?" he inquired of Mr. Knowles, after a few moments' reflection.

"Certainly not, if such testimony will be of any benefit to the young lady's cause," he readily replied. "And," he added, "I can easily prove the truth of my assertions, as I have here the ticket which I received from the pawnbroker."

"Ah! that is well thought of, and will undoubtedly score a strong point for Miss Allandale," Mr. Bryant exclaimed, with animation. "And now allow me to advance you the fee for your services as a witness," he added, as he pressed a ten-dollar note into his companion's hand. "This will be sufficient to redeem your clock and remunerate you for the time you may lose in appearing as a witness. Hereafter, Mr. Knowles, if you find yourself short of cash, pray do not be troubled about what is owing me—do not try to pay it until it is perfectly convenient for you to do so."

"You are very considerate, Mr. Bryant," the man returned, with evident emotion. "I cannot tell you how your generosity touches me, for the world has gone very badly with me of late."

"Well, we will hope for better times in the future for you, sir," was the cheery response of the noble-hearted young lawyer. "Now I must be off," he added, "and I would like you to meet me at the Thirtieth street station-house in an hour from now. I shall know by that time what I shall be able to do for my young friend."

He bade the man good-morning and bowed him out of his office, and, five minutes later, was on his way to the assistance of beautiful Edith Allandale.

Before boarding a car, he stepped into a bank near-by and had the gold coin tested.

It proved to be just as he had thought—it was perfectly good, and if Edith had been arrested for passing it, some one would have to stand damages for having subjected her to such an injustice.

Upon his arrival at the station-house, and requesting an interview with Miss Allandale as her attorney, the police sergeant conducted him directly to the room occupied by Edith, who looked so pale and wan from anxiety and confinement that the young man's conscience smote him keenly, although his heart bounded with sudden joy when he saw how her sad face lighted at the sight of him.

"This is the most outrageous thing I ever heard of, Miss Allandale," he exclaimed, as he clasped her cold hand.

"I was sure you would come," she murmured, with a sigh of relief, but flushing for an instant beneath his ardent gaze, while her lips quivered with suppressed emotion, for his tone of sympathy had almost unnerved her.

"Of course I would come—I would go to the ends of the earth to serve you," he began, eagerly. "I am filled with remorse when I think what you must have suffered and that I am responsible for your trouble, though unintentionally and unconsciously."

"Yes, I am sure you could not have known that the money was counterfeit," said Edith, wearily.

"And it was not," he quickly returned. "It is a genuine coin and negotiable anywhere."

"But I was told by two different persons that it was spurious," Edith replied, in a tone of surprise.

"Then you were misinformed in both cases, for I have had it tested at a bank, and it has been pronounced good."

"You have had it tested? How can that be possible, when the grocer who caused me to be arrested has the money in his possession this moment?" the young girl exclaimed, in amazement.

Royal Bryant smiled as he drew forth the half-eagle which he had received from Mr. Knowles, and laid it in her palm.

"That is the five-dollar gold-piece that I gave you on Saturday evening," he remarked, in a quiet tone.

"Have you seen the grocer? Did you get it from him?" Edith gasped.

"No; an old client of mine brought it to me, about half an hour ago, in part payment of a debt which he owes me."

"I do not understand—it cannot be the same," said Edith, with a look of perplexity.

"But it is," was the smiling reply. "Look at it closely, and you will find some fresh scratches upon one side of it—do you see?"

"Yes," the young girl admitted.

"Very well; I made them with my penknife during a fit of absent-mindedness, while you were putting on your hat and shawl on Saturday evening," Royal Bryant explained. "It was all the money I had, excepting some large bills, and I was obliged to give it to you, even though I knew it was not a convenient form—one is so liable to lose such a small piece. I am sure I do not know what possessed me to deface it in the way I did," he continued, after a slight pause; "but there the marks are, fortunately, and I could swear to the coin among a hundred others of the same denomination."

"Yes, I remember, now," Edith remarked, reflectively; "I noticed the gold-piece in your hands and that you were using your knife upon it; but how could it have come into the possession of your client? Surely the grocer would not have parted with it voluntarily, for it was all the proof he had against me."

"No; my client, Mr. Knowles, obtained it from a pawnbroker at No. ——Third avenue," Mr. Bryant replied.

Instantly the red blood mounted to the girl's fair brow, and, like a flash, Royal Bryant comprehended how all her trouble had come about.

"Yes," she sighed, after a moment, as if in reply to some question from him, "the week before I went into your office I was obliged to borrow some money upon a beautiful watch of mamma's. It was a very valuable one, but the man would only advance me three dollars upon it. Of course I felt that I must redeem it with the very first money I earned, and I went immediately to the pawnbroker's to get it on leaving your office. He seemed averse to the early redemption of the watch, and threw my money impatiently into the drawer. The next instant he gave it back to me, angrily telling me that it was counterfeit, and charging me with trying to cheat him. But, even now, I cannot understand ——"

"So the pawnbroker threw your money into his drawer, did he?" interposed Mr. Bryant, eagerly grasping at this important point.

"Yes; but, as I said, he returned it immediately to me, and I was obliged to go home without my watch. I was in great distress because, Mr. Bryant, it was all the money I had, and there were things that mamma and I must have in order to be comfortable over Sunday," Edith confessed, with crimson cheeks and downcast eyes, the sight of which made her companion's heart ache for her. "Mamma suggested that the money might not be bad, after all," she continued, determined that he should know the whole truth about the matter; "that, possibly, the pawnbroker had taken that way to retain the watch, with the hope of ultimately securing it; so I started out to make my purchases. The grocer made no objection to the money and gave me my change without a word. But half an hour later he appeared with an officer and had me arrested. He would not have pressed the matter if I could have returned his money; but, as I could not, and he claimed he had suffered from so many similar cases of swindling, he was obdurate, and I was obliged to come here."

"It was shameful!" said the young lawyer, indignantly. "It was a heartless thing to do. But, my little friend, I think we have a very clear case, and you will soon be fully vindicated."

"Oh! do you? I shall be very grateful——" Edith began, then stopped, choking back a sob that had almost burst from her trembling lips.

"I see you do not quite comprehend how that can be," continued her friend, ignoring her emotion. "But the piece of money which the pawnbroker pretended to return to you was not the same that you had received from me—it was a spurious one which he had at hand for the express purpose evidently of tricking the unwary, and Mr. Solon Retz, will ere long, be compelled to exchange places with you, if I can possibly bring him to justice."

TO BE CONTINUED.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Has your Rubber Footwear a Pedigree?

These are famous trade-marks in the rubber footwear industry. Each one of these marks stands for the product of a great factory—great in reputation as well as size. If your rubber footwear bears one of these brands, it is the descendant of a long line of quality products; it has a worthy "pedigree."



It would require an expert to determine, from appearance alone, the difference in *quality* between good and poor rubber footwear. The principal guide would be the better shaping—snappier style. And style in rubber footwear—off the foot—might baffle even keen eyes.

Only well-made, high-grade rubber footwear will *look* well, *fit* well and *wear* well. Only by securing a standardized, trade-marked, pedigreed quality product such as these brands represent can you distinguish the best from the rest and be sure of wear, fit, style and quality.

Seventy-four years of successful manufacturing and the experience of forty-seven great factories are back of every pair of rubber shoes, overshoes, arctics, boots, etc., produced by the United States Rubber Company, the largest rubber manufacturer in the world.

Rubbers that fit wear twice as long as rubbers that do not fit.

United States Rubber Company

PALINDROMES

THE palindrome, which is defined as being a word, verse, or sentence which is the same when read either backward or forward, while common in Latin is unusual in the English language. A notable example represents our first parent politely introducing himself to Eve in the Garden of Eden in these words:

"Madam, I'm Adam."

Another worthy example is found in the reply made by Napoleon in exile, upon being asked if he thought he would have been able to invade the British Isles:

"Able was I ere I saw Elba."

An adaption of the French general's famous response is:

"Live was I ere I saw evil."

An imperfect example, owning to the misspelling of one word and the employment of the "&", is here given:

"Lewd did I live & evil I did dwel."

A few of the common palindromic words are civic, tenet, noon, madam, and Hannah.

WORLD'S CROPS.—The latest report of the International Institute of Agriculture indicates that the world's crops this year will be less abundant than last, but that harvest prospects are better than the average in the five-year period, 1909-1913. The estimate of the total wheat crop this year for the seven most important countries is 396,510,000 quintals (a quintal equals 220.46 pounds), or 76,734,000 quintals less than last year. For the United States the wheat total is estimated at 207,000,000 quintals or 25 per cent less than last year. Barley prospects are everywhere poorer than last year, the institute estimates, as are also those for oats and rye. The estimate of the Brazilian coffee crop is slightly under last year.

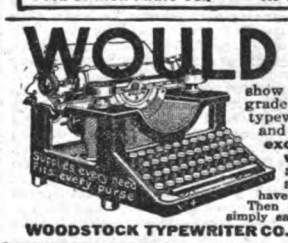
Piano Sale $95

Used piano bargains, $55 to $185. All standard makes, Steinway, Knabe, Emerson, Kimball, etc. Used player-pianos, $195 to $345. No money down. **30 days' free trial.** Small payments. **50 Music Lessons Free.** Bargains in new pianos.

Big Piano Book Free Illustrated, containing valuable piano information and complete descriptions of celebrated Starck Pianos and Player-Pianos. Write today for book and latest bargain list.

P. A. STARCK PIANO CO., 469 Starck Building, Chicago

WOULD YOU



show this standard high grade 42 key fully visible typewriter to your friends and let them see wherein it excels any $100 typewriter, if by doing this and other small assistance, you could easily have one to keep as your own? Then by post card or letter simply say, "Mail Particulars."

WOODSTOCK TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. N631, CHICAGO, ILL.

AGENTS WANTED (SPARE TIME)

Blades so high quality as to cut nails or hairs



Knives and Razors made of Car-Van (Old Damascus) steel Scientifically Tempered. Photographic Handles. Entirely new. Sell on sight. Write for Special Agency Proposition. Enclose 5c stamps for Easy Money Booklet—$1.00 for Sample Knife, your name, address and any emblem in handle.

The Canton Cutlery Co.
Dept. I Canton, Ohio

TAYLOR PAYS MORE FOR FURS

Trapping pays big if you sell where you get the most money. St. Louis is world's greatest fur market and F.C. TAYLOR FUR CO. is oldest and largest house here. It will pay you to join the happy family of Taylor shippers.

TRAPPERS WRITE FOR THIS FREE BOOK

Our catalog-Booklet entitled *"Opportunities for pleasure and profit in trapping"* is different: you will say so when you get your copy. It's FREE if you mail a postal to-day. Our trappers supply department will help you get started. Write Today.

SHIP YOUR FURS TO
F.C. TAYLOR FUR CO.
685 FUR EXCHANGE BLDG. ST. LOUIS, MO.

TRAPPERS

We will have some Big Specials to offer Fur Shippers throughout the coming Fur Season. It will pay you to get your name on our mailing list at once.

Your success depends on the Fur House you ship to. Start Right. Ship your first lot to us. Our returns will convince you.

Write today for our free book, "Fur Facts," Price List, Tags and prices on Traps, Baits, Supplies.

The Trappers Fur House

ABRAHAM FUR CO.
36 Abraham Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

FURS



BIG ADVANCE IN PRICES Muskrat away up. Skunk higher than a year ago. Fancy prices for all other furs. Biggs pays most. Get Our RAW FUR PRICE LIST *FIRST.*

FREE Send for "Trappers' Exchange," our free monthly Trappers' Magazine. Full of pictures and stories of actual trapping and hunting adventure. Subscription free. TRAPPERS' SUPPLIES--Guns, Ammunition, Traps, Baits at ACTUAL FACTORY COST. CATALOG FREE.

MORE CASH FOR YOUR FURS

E. W. BIGGS & CO.
502 Biggs Bldg.
Kansas City, - Mo.

HIGHEST CASH PRICES PAID FOR
RAW FURS

We are the fastest growing RAW FUR house in New York —NOW the world's greatest Fur Market. We charge no commission and grade liberally. Write for our price list.
DAVID BLUSTEIN & BRO., 166 W. 27th St., N. Y.

TRAPPERS
FUR BUYERS

Write us first. Get our price list and shipping tags—find out for yourself that we pay highest prices for furs. We buy any quantity—every kind—give your furs a liberal grading and remit cash in full the same day your shipment is received. Write at once.
McCULLOUGH & TUMBACH
Established 1893
139 N. Main Street, St. Louis, Mo.

TRAPPERS WE BUY FOR CASH



And pay highest prices for **Coon, Mink, Skunk, Possum, Muskrat,** and all other **Furs, Hides** and **Ginseng.** Best facilities in America. Send for Free Price List and Shipping Tags. No commission charged.
ROGERS FUR COMPANY,
Dept. 266 St. Louis, Mo.

Pocket Flashlight

Premium No. 708



Given For A Club Of Three

THERE are so many occasions when a flashlight is a necessity it would be impossible to name them all but there is one thing sure—**it is the handiest and safest means of illuminating ever devised.** We offer here one of the best pocket flashlights made. It is known as the "Eveready," which is certainly an appropriate name as it **is** always ready when you want to use it. But the greatest feature of this flashlight is its **safety** around inflammable material. In the house it lights up the darkest rooms or clothes closets, dark corners in the basement, in the garret; it may be used around **gasoline, or powder,** in the stable, in the barn, even in the hay mow, and **there is not the slightest danger of fire.** It throws a shaft of steady brilliance right in the teeth of wind or rain. The mere pressure of your finger starts and stops the light at your will and it is so small and compact that you can carry it around **in your vest pocket** where it does not take up any more room than a cigarette box. The "Eveready" is beautifully finished in **polished nickel** with a hinged bottom which opens to replace the battery and is equipped with a push button as well as a sliding switch for a flash or continuous light. It is equipped with a Tungsten battery and bulb and gives a surprisingly powerful bright light and the battery with average use will last **from two to four months.** When one battery becomes exhausted you can easily buy another one anywhere as they are on sale in every city and town in the United States. Or, if you prefer, we will furnish you with additional batteries **free of cost** in return for a few subscriptions to COMFORT. We will send you this flashlight **with battery and bulb complete,** ready for business as soon as you receive it, upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one "Eveready" flashlight as described above free by Parcel Post prepaid. (**Premium No. 708.**) We can also supply you with extra batteries for the "Eveready" at the rate of one battery free for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each. (**Premium No. 709.**)

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort's Home Lawyer



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

V. P., California.—We are of the opinion, that upon the proper commitment order, procured in the proper manner, an insane person can be committed to a state institution for the insane from any part of your state; we think your state makes provisions for free treatment of insane persons without property or relatives able to provide for them.

Mrs. M. G., California.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a woman arrives at her majority at eighteen years, but if she marries before she arrives at that age, the authority of a guardian of her person ceases, but not that of the guardian of her estate.

R. A. O., Michigan.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the purchaser, named in a contract of sale of property, can legally dispose of his right under such contract without the consent of the other party to the contract, unless there is some limitation in the contract providing otherwise.

Mrs. E. C. S., Oklahoma.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that the signature of both the husband and wife are necessary to the conveyance of homestead property belonging to either; we think the father can be compelled to support his children of tender years.

Mrs. L. W., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that a married woman cannot by will bar her husband from dower of a one third interest for life in her real estate, and an absolute right to one third of her personal property in case he survives her. We do not think there is any other limitation of her right to dispose of her property by will.

Mrs. W. G. F., Virginia.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that where the deed to property runs to the husband and wife as tenants by the entirety, upon the death of one, the whole property goes to the survivor. We think you should proceed in court against the administration of the estate in Philadelphia who you state has not accounted for the property of the estate in which you have an interest in seven years.

R. M. L., Texas.—Under the laws of your state we do not think the wife has any interest in her husband's separate property unless she survives him, nor do we think the children have any interest in their father's separate property during his lifetime; but we think that upon the death of either the father or mother one half of the community or common property would go to the survivor and the other one half in equal shares to the children.

A. L. L., North Carolina.—We think that the marriage of an uncle and niece is within the prohibited degrees in all parts of the United States.

Mrs. L. J. P., North Dakota.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will and leaving no child or descendant, his estate would all go to his widow, if one survives him, and provided the estate does not exceed in value five thousand dollars. The excess over five thousand dollars, if any, would go one half to the widow, and one half to the father, mother, brothers and sisters in the orders named, except that brothers and sisters have no priority over each other, and except that the descendants of a deceased brother or sister would take their parent's share.

Mrs. F. L. S., Michigan.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will and leaving a surviving widow and children his widow would receive one third of the estate absolutely, the balance going in equal shares to the children; of course, this would apply to only such property as the decedent owned in his own right absolutely.

Mrs. G. M., California.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that all property acquired after marriage, by either husband or wife, except such as may be acquired by gift, bequest, devise or descent shall be common property and that upon the death of the husband, the wife succeeds to one half of such community property, after the payment of debts and expenses of administration, and the other half is subject to the husband's testamentary disposition and in the absence of that and of descendants, is distributed one half to the surviving wife and the other half to the parents, brothers and sisters or their descendants depending upon who is left.

Mrs. E. A. R., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the signature of the husband is necessary to the conveyance of good title to real estate belonging to the wife.

Mrs. L. O'B., Wyoming.—Under the laws of the United States, we are of the opinion that the children of persons who have been duly naturalized being under the age of twenty-one years at the time of the naturalization of their parents shall, if dwelling in the United States, be considered as citizens thereof. We think you should apply to the Commissioner of Public Lands at Washington, D. C., or your nearest United States land office as to your application for homestead land.

C. G., Colorado.—We do not think that there is any complete list of the estates of descendants published in any country of the world.

E. L. M., Illinois.—We think you have little or no chance to recover any part of the property you mention if your claim has been allowed to lay dormant since 1874.

Mrs. C. G. J., Pennsylvania.—Of course as you must understand we can form no opinion from the few statments you make to us as to just what your chances are to enforce the agreement with your uncle, we think that in case you are unable to settle your dispute and it becomes necessary to take the matter in the courts the determination will depend upon which side produces the most conclusive evidence as to just what your agreement was.

Mrs. E. N. H., Texas.—We do not think the laws of the United States provides pensions for former confederate soldiers. We think you should be able to obtain the documents you mention through your nearest bookseller.

Mrs. M. McC., Washington.—We can give you no advice as to how to conceal your property in order to avoid the payment money ordered paid by some court judgment or decree; we think such payments should be made and not avoided.

Mrs. F. T. D., Michigan.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a widow and children, his real estate would go one third to the widow and the balance in equal shares to his children, the issue of any deceased child taking the parent's share; we think the children of the surviving widow would receive the same share as children by a former wife, and we do not think the children of the former wife would receive any share in the property held by their mother and father as tenants by the entirety until both parents are dead as we think that upon the death of the mother the whole property went to the father, if he survived her. We think his present wife has no interest in his property during his lifetime except that she is entitled to support from him. We think that upon his death, without a will, his wife and children would receive the same share in his personal property as in the real estate except for some small extra provisions for the widow and small children.

Marketing Your Furs

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

FURS are very valuable. The trapper who realizes this and understands that their proper care means more dollars in his pocket, will do his best to skin, dry and handle his pelts so they show up well. Then, when the buyer gets them, the battle is half won.

The skins of animals that have been trapped, of course, bring a greater price than those that have been shot.

The first thing the trapper wants to remember is to try and get the pelt off as soon as he can, after the animal is dead. The quicker it is skinned, the easier it comes off.

To take off the pelt in proper manner, skinning should be commenced at the tail and the hide worked down over the body. Starting from the tail, make a cut down the inside of the hind leg to the feet. Keep pulling on the skin and with a real sharp skinning knife, help it along, wherever it hangs tight. Use great care when you reach the forward legs and about the eyes and ears, so as not to cut the skin and thereby damage it. Flesh the bone out of the tail as far as you can by slitting the skin in the center of the tail, and pulling out the bone.

There are some skins that may split down the belly and not decrease their value. These are the wild-cat, raccoon, southwestern prairie wolf, sometimes called coyote, beaver, bear and badger. After splitting the belly, remove the pelt by working carefully around the legs, eyes and ears and above all, do not cut the skin. Start at the head and work towards the tail.

While already manufactured stretchers can be bought, they are expensive and most trappers make their own. Get some boxes from any store, soft pine is the best to use and they are already planed and smooth. As mink are graded large, medium and small, boards for the large size should be about 30 inches long and three and one quarter inches wide; medium, 24 inches long and two and one half inches wide; small, 18 inches long and two and one half inches wide. These boards should have a slight taper to the head and at this end they should be rounded to about a half circle so as to fit the head of the mink. The mink boards will also do for marten and civet cat.

Muskrats and skunks require different size boards, longer and wider but tapered in a similar way. In fact, all boards should follow this outline and the size of the pelt will govern the exact size of the stretcher. Those pelts which have been split down the belly should be tacked to a shed or barn and allowed to dry.

When drawing the pelt on to the stretching board, be sure it is on smoothly and evenly. Stretch it tightly and fasten by tacking in the head and tail and in the feet. Always place the flesh side out and never rub any salt or alum on the pelt.

The drying is very important and to do it right means much in selling. After your skins have been placed on the boards, scrape off all the meat and fat you can, using a knife or draw shave or anything that will do the work without cutting the skin. Place the skins in a dry, shady spot to dry. In warm climates, they should be in a cool spot and out of the way of flies. Never dry a skin near the fire or in the sun. Do not wash the skins. Let them stay on the stretchers until well dried.

Now comes the packing of the furs. This is almost as important as the skinning and curing, for the finest furs can be spoiled as far as looks go, by improper packing. And always remember it is the looks that sell fur.

After the skins have been well dried, they should be packed in a bundle flat, one on top of the other or side by side sufficient to make a good bundle. Never roll or fold the skins.

The popular way to ship furs heretofore was by express. Since the parcel post was established, the trapper is enabled to forward furs to any place very cheaply. All he has to do is to wrap the fur securely, and hand it to the rural mail carrier who stops at his door. It is best to insure valuable furs, as sometimes packages are lost in the mails.

Any dry fur may be shipped by express or parcel post, in burlap, sack or bundle. Some express agents try to force a shipper to box dry furs but that is wrong and they should be reported to headquarters.

The skunk skin, when dry, need not be boxed. If fresh and emitting its usual odor, the express agent has a right to require the trapper to box the skunk skins. The postmaster will not accept any package containing green skunk skins that smell but if your skunk skin is dry and odorless, it can be mailed.

Be sure your bundles are tight. Do not tie the neck of a sack loosely and then when some of your skins are gone, blame the house buying them. Do not use any sack with holes in it.

The fur houses who solicit your business in COMFORT will send you quotations, invoice blanks and plenty of tags.

About Fowl

A few days prior to Thanksgiving, two aged Irishmen, who had not seen each other for a long time, chanced to meet in a butcher shop. They were both intent on buying fowl for the feast day, and one said to the other:

"Say, Mike, how do you tell the age of a chicken?"

"Sure that's aisy; by the teeth."

"By the teeth?"

"Yes."

"Go 'long with you, sure a chicken has no teeth."

"No, but I have."

Get the Top Fur Prices From Funsten

Ship your furs—ship to Funsten! Men and boys make big money trapping. You can, too. It is easy to trap raccoon, muskrat, fox, etc. We teach how. John Haugstead of Waukon, Iowa, caught sixteen fine skunk in one hole with a Funsten Perfect Smoker. Price $1.50. Parcel Post $0.30 extra. Emil Thels of Boerne, Texas, caught in one setting fourteen animals in eighteen traps with Funsten Animal Bait. Price $1.00. Three books in one FREE. Trapper's Guide, Supply Catalog, Game Laws. Tells how to make money on fur and when and where to trap; preparing skins for shipment. Write today.



Funsten Bros. & Co.
1256 Funsten Bldg. St. Louis, Mo.

Funsten

BE WISE TRAPPERS



Remember this—we pay higher prices for your furs than any other house—and **We Charge No Commission**

Send us a trial shipment today—let us PROVE our claims to you. Our higher prices, liberal grading and fair dealings have made us the Fastest Growing Fur House in America. Send for FUR price list, Trappers' Guide, State Game Laws. Catalogue of Trappers' Supplies—ALL SENT FREE—with particulars of our great FREE GIFT to trappers.

HILL BROS. FUR CO. 306 N. MAIN ST. ST. LOUIS, MO.

LURIT



It Will Attract All Animals to Your Traps

Send 25c in stamps for a large trial bottle. Guaranteed to increase your catch or money refunded. We will also send you **FREE** a large Skunk hunting picture in 6 colors, "The Unwelcome Surprise" and our latest price lists. You get full value for Furs when you ship us. *No charges for Selling as We are Direct Buyers.*

UNITED STATES FUR COMPANY,
Dept. J, 209 N. First St., St. Louis, Mo.

TRAPPERS!

Get More Money For Your Furs



Don't ship anyone furs till you get *Our Free Bulletin* quoting cash prices we actually pay for *Coon, Mink, Skunk, Opossum* and other furs. We charge no commissions. Write today for Free Bulletin, it will pay you big.

NATIONAL FUR AND WOOL CO.,
Dept. 183 St. Louis, Mo.

Ship Your RAW FURS To Us And Get Top Prices. No shipment too large or too small. Our big list of satisfied shippers testifies to our liberal assortments and prompt returns. Send now for price list and tags.
L. RABINOWITZ, 119 W. 29th St., N. Y. City.

SKUNK We pay top prices for Skunk, Mink, Muskrat, and all raw Furs. Price list free. M. J. JEWETT & SONS, REDWOOD, N. Y. DEPT. 5.

FREE



BIG LEVER ACTION AIR RIFLE free for selling 20 Art and Religious Pictures or 20 packages Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. GEO. GATES CO., Dept. 925, CHICAGO

Engraved Gold Bracelet

FOR ONE SUBSCRIPTION



Prem. No. 450.

THIS Round Bracelet with artistic engraving and unique **Spring Fastening** is the most attractive pattern we have seen this season. Not too large but large enough and as it is perfectly round, it **fits** well and becomes all ages. There is a demand for bracelets of enormous size, but this style is medium large and nearly **three inches in diameter;** we consider it a beautiful pattern. This bracelet is the very latest style so you will want one while fashionable, and as we guarantee fit and wear, you need not hesitate to order.

Offer No. 450 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this handsome Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid.

Offer No. 450 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 450.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Advantage of Shipping Your RAW FURS To New York was never so apparent as right now, when **this market** is outbidding the whole world for your product. After ten years of publicity we have convinced the fur trade that New York is the logical, as well as the most profitable market for the shipper.

Send for price list and ship to **M. F. PFAELZER & CO., 115 W. 29th St., Desk 53, New York.**

Make This Your Big FUR Year—Ship your pelts to the **HOUSE** of **QUICK RETURNS**—the **HOUSE** of **LIBERAL ASSORTMENTS.** Send for Free price list and Ship to **STRUCK & BOSSAK Inc., 144 W. 28TH ST.,** New York.

SHIP YOUR RAW FURS Trappers' Guide Free on Request

Direct to New York The International Fur Market

WHY? Because shipments to New York eliminate unnecessary transportation and handling charges involved in reshipment from the interior. Your pelts will reach New York eventually. **Why not first?** Here in New York you will find: The Largest Raw Fur Market; the greatest number of Raw Fur Dealers; the largest number of Fur manufacturers; 90 per cent of America's Fur Dressers and Dyers; the biggest outlet for manufactured Furs and the most wonderful retail Fur establishments on earth. RAW FUR MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION, 46 West 24th Street, New York



SKUNK

TRAPPERS:- "Get More Money,, for Skunk, Muskrat, Raccoon, Opossum, Mink, Foxes, Civet Cat, Coyotes, Beaver and other Fur bearers collected in your section.

SHIP YOUR FURS DIRECT to "SHUBERT" the largest house in the World dealing exclusively in NORTH AMERICAN RAW FURS a reliable—responsible—safe Fur House with an unblemished reputation existing for "more than a third of a century," a long successful record of sending Fur Shippers prompt, SATISFACTORY AND PROFITABLE returns. Write for "The Shubert Shipper," the only reliable, accurate market report and price list published.

Write for it—NOW—it's FREE

A. B. SHUBERT, Inc. 25-27 WEST AUSTIN AVE. Dept 49 CHICAGO, U.S.A.

Charades for Thanksgiving

By Geraldine Ames

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT is not necessary to select for all of your charades words that need three or four different scenes. They become tiresome, and short words, or words that need only one or two "scenes" or "acts" make the entertainment much better, as it brings on quicker changes and seems to make the whole entertainment livelier.

For an innovation, bring on several words at one time. The master or mistress of ceremonies may explain that each person or group represents a word. This keeps the spectators guessing in a lively manner. For example, take the simple words, "Uproar," "Understand," "Overcoat," "Intent," "Down-trod" and "By-laws." The entire six words may be put on at once. They add to the merry confusion and make it more difficult to guess. For convenience in guessing, each one of the six may be numbered from one to six, that the spectators may designate by saying "Number one is 'Uproar,'" etc.

Uproar

A child climbs up on a step-ladder and roars.



Understand

A child sits under a small table.

Intent

Child in a small tent.

Overcoat

Place a coat beneath a chair and have child sit on chair.

Downtrod

Child picks some "down" from bit of swansdown fur, then treads on it and stops, making it past tense, or downtrod.

By-laws

A stack of calf-bound law books on a stand and a child stands close beside them.

It is true these seem very simple. And if one at a time were performed they would be much easier to guess, but start the entire six at once and what between glancing from one to the other and laughing, the youngsters will have a rather difficult time of it.

Primrose

A clever little girl who can act very primly, with many mincing mannerisms, may enter carrying a rose. She sits middle of a couch and a boy enters and sits beside her. She moves over to other end. She acts very "prim" indeed.

Book-mark

Not so easy as it seems if you can get a very small child to enter, pick a book from the table (previously placed there for the child—a catalog or something without value) and sits on the floor. Child very busily engaged in marking up the pages, scrawling over them, with a pencil. A big blue crayon pencil would be best.

Blacksmith

Someone calls off stage (next room will do for this) "Is Mr. Smith out there?" And a voice replies, "Yas'm I'se here," then a boy blacked up and wearing a man's hat and long trousers, appears. That's all there is to it. But it is surprising to find how few can readily guess that this is "black" smith.

Maine

Child may sit on hobby horse and continually stroke his mane.

New Jersey

Child wears a bright jersey and tells another child it is new, not using the word "jersey" but merely saying, "This is new. Yes, this is brand new," etc.

Indiana



An immense letter D cut from cardboard or made of sticks. A little girl comes out with name "Anna" pinned on her, and stands inside the "D."

These three, like the group of six above, will prove more amusing if produced at the same time.

There are many words that one simple act will describe. They are not as easy when acted as they seem to be just by reading about them.

Three states may be used at once, first explaining that the next scene represents three different states.

Ice Cream

This is amusing. A child may start to drink some water from a glass, make up a face, leave room and come back with a large piece of ice which he drops in it.

The next part a girl comes on with a kitten, a saucer and cream jar, pours some cream and makes kitty drink it.

Tennis Raquet

A couple of children may stretch a little net and play tennis, gently of course, while two more children with a horn and tin pan may make a fearful racket. Everyone will guess "tennis" but be surprised when told that is not right, as the whole charade is "tennis raquet."

Music

Behind a screen have a child holding a cat. Child to "meaou" like a cat, a dozen times, then release cat and push him out from behind scene. The next part is a child on a couch with bandage about head. The whole, of course, is "mew" "sick."

Moving Pictures in Three Reels

Youngster may move three wall pictures, hung low purposely, or three framed pictures from mantel to piano. Child to reel about dizzily while moving each one.

Innocence

Child brings on a large card lettered like this: *"Meet me Tuesday noon by moonlight between Thursday and the Fourth of July."* The more they study it, the more will they become puzzled. "I don't see any sense to it!" some will exclaim. Tell them that's right and that they have nearly guessed it. The answer is, of course, that it is *in no sense.*

Cramophone

A tiny set of scales, like jewelers' scales, if possible, is used. Some one picks up a pin from the floor and says: "How much does a pin weigh?" Another weighs it and announces that it weighs one "grame." In the next scene a bill collector calls and demands payment, saying: "You owe this, why not pay it now," the child—a girl, may answer: "Wait and I will see if I can pay it?" then she pretends to telephone to the bank and ask if she has overdrawn her account, finds she has not, writes check and collector departs. "The grame," "owe" and "phone" makes the word. If they cannot guess it, start up a gramophone in an adjoining room as the "whole."

Airship

This should be puzzling if properly produced. First a child sits at piano and plays a simple tune, or sings a little song. That's the "air." Then the players nail up a wooden box, put on a label and the "expressman" in cap and overalls, comes and asks what's wanted. He is told that they want to "ship" that box to 'Frisco. If they fail to guess, the children may run to window, look up to sky, point and shout "O-o-o! See it! There it goes!" This should be sufficient for a hint that the whole is an airship.

Magic

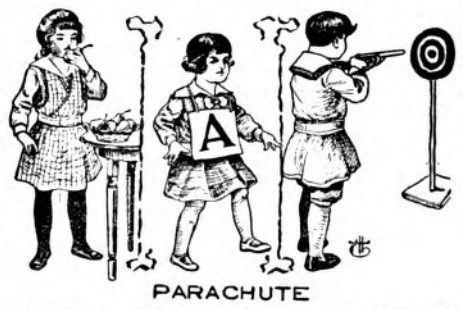
Somewhat of a pun, but some of the best charades depend on the phonetic system. Someone calls "Madge! Oh, Madge! Are you there? Come here, dear," and a little girl runs on. "Oh, there you are, Madge." Next a bright youngster pretends to be afflicted with hiccoughs. He goes about trying to stop it, and continues to "hiccough" taking care to say only "ich! ich! ich!" For the whole, if it is not guessed, some child may perform a simple little trick in magic.

Santa Claus

This needs first a child playing the lady. She says: "Oh, where's my Japanese servant?" then she calls, "San, oh, San, come here San," and claps her hands. Little girl dressed as Japanese girl enters and bows. "Some tea," says the "lady of the house," and the maid, called "San" all the time, serves some tea. For the remainder, two children may play on a bearskin rug and one of them cries out. "What's the matter?" asks the first child. "Oh, I got stratched with his toothpicks!" "Those are not toothpicks, silly," laughs the other, "they are his claws." If this is too difficult, they may rush to window and exclaim, "There he goes, down the chimney!"

Parachute

This is a good charade word but rather difficult for little children. Older children will doubtless catch it and when there are smaller folks it is well to have a "whole" at the end of the charade if they cannot guess it by the scenes. This word should be managed as follows: A child picks a



PARACHUTE

pear from a dish and eats it. Another child marches across the stage wearing a letter "A" and a third comes in with a toy gun and shoots at a target. Then if they cannot guess it, a little child may stand in a chair with an opened umbrella and jump from the chair with it, as one would do with a parachute.

Idolize

A simple thing is to take an old idol or to make an imitation, which has no eyes. It may be made with putty for the occasion. It has no eyes. After it has been shown alone on a little stand, someone must come in, look at it, go out and come back with a pair of artificial eyes. Black-headed hat pins, cut off close to the head, will serve. Jab these in the putty where the eyes should be, then walk off.

Checker-board

Two are playing checkers, when a third comes in, removes one checker from the board, puts it on chair or floor and with a gimlet or bit and bitstock, proceeds to bore a hole in it. (Hole may be previously made in it). This is held up. "Why, you have bored a hole right through it!" exclaimed one.

"Why did you do it?" queries the other. If they fail to guess he may say: "I wanted another checker-board (bored)."

Administer

An advertising poster may be hung up. A boy dressed as minister may come out and silently read it. Another may ask: "What are you doing?" Reply: "I am reading this 'ad'."

Melancholy

This very simple charade is not always easy to guess if properly produced. To make it all the more lively a boy may black up and dress in old clothes, come in and steal a watermelon. If watermelons are not in season a pumpkin may easily be painted to resemble one. The paint will readily wash off. After this some one comes through leading a collie dog. (Melon collie). For the "whole" if they fail to guess it, one may sit at a table, head on hand, very melancholy. Someone may ask, "What's the matter?" "I am down-hearted, I feel like the *whole* of this charade."



Marble

It may be difficult for young people to understand that to damage anything is to mar it, however, the word may be used to aid. A boy has a small bell. He rings it. It doesn't suit, so he takes a hammer or hatchet and proceeds to pound it and mar it. If no one guesses it, he may be asked: "Why do you mar that?" Reply: "It isn' a good bell."

Springtime

A big old-fashioned bed or upholstery spring is best. Someone brings it in. Places it on stand. Springs it up and down with hand to show that it is a spring, then leaves it. Another comes in with a small clock and places it on top of the spring and goes away.

None of these charades are "deep." They are not intended for mature minds. But as a means of entertaining a party of young folks throughout an afternoon or evening, they will serve admirably. In fact experience has taught that young folks do not care for charades that they cannot guess. A few simple ones that are easy, mixed with others, add more pleasure to the evening.

Mr. Edison's Wonderful New Phonograph



Real, life-like music at last, thanks to Thos. A. Edison. Read our offer.

Only $1.00 and after trial!

YES, the New Edison—Mr. Edison's great new phonograph with the Diamond Stylus reproducer and your choice of all the brand new Diamond Amberol Records on **free trial without a penny down.** Now, on this offer, you can have the **finest,** the **best** that money can buy at a price very much less than that at which imitations of the genuine Edison are offered. Seize this opportunity. Send the coupon now.

Rock-Bottom Offer Direct Let us send the New Edison to your home on free trial. Entertain your family and friends with your favorite records—everything from Grand Opera to the latest city song hits, Comic Vaudeville and roaring Minstrel Shows—then if you choose send the outfit back to us at our expense. But if you wish to keep Mr. Edison's superb new instrument, send us only $1.00 after the free trial. Pay the balance on the easiest kind of monthly payments. Don't miss this wonderfully liberal offer.

Catalog FREE

Get our New Edison catalog. Your name and address on a post card or letter (or just this coupon) is enough. No obligations in asking for the catalog. Find out about this offer—**while this offer lasts.**

F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3048 Edison Block Chicago, Illinois
Canadian Office: 355 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

To F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3048 Edison Block .·. Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:—Please send me your New Edison Catalog and full particulars of your free trial offer on the new model Edison Phonograph.

Name.....

Address.....

The Modern Farmer

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.)

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and We urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

FLEA BEETLE.—Can you tell me what will exterminate flea bugs? They are not much larger than a flea and resemble a flea. They cut holes in the leaves of young tobacco plants and they are also on the corn. They almost ruined the late tobacco last year. MRS. M. P., Hazel, Ky.

A.—The flea beetle is a chewing insect and can be exterminated by poisoning its food—the leaves of which it eats. Paris Green or arsenate of lead sprayed or sprinkled on the plants in exactly the same way that these poisons are used for the control of potato bugs will control these pests.

EVOPORATED FRUIT.—Please give me the method generally used by California peach growers in evaporating peaches for the market. Do you think their methods could be used successfully in Michigan to utilize the surplus crop? J. I. K., Dowagiac, Mich.

A.—There are many types of fruit evaporation but all based on the principle of forcing a current of warm dry air over the fruit, which takes up the moisture. The evaporating of peaches usually requires about eight hours. The peaches are cut in halves, pitted and placed pit side up on the racks. Formerly much of the fruit in all peach growing sections was evaporated but the low price of dried fruit forced many out of the business. There is no reason why Michigan growers may not adopt this method if it is profitable for them to do so. Much of the California fruit is sun dried. Their climate is especially favorable for this process.

GINSENG.—Please tell me if ginseng can be grown successfully in Florida. If so, where can I obtain information as to planting, cultivation, etc.?
W. S. A., Marianna, Fla.

A.—Ginseng is not native to the South hence we cannot advise its culture in your state. It is rather difficult to grow even in the North where soil and climatic conditions are favorable. Send to the U. S. Department of Agriculture for Farmers' Bulletin No. 551 on Ginseng Culture.

NEW GRAVITY WASHER



GUARANTEED to wash collars and wrist bands perfectly clean without the use of the wash-board and works so easy a child can operate it.
Special offer to AGENTS. You may have one FREE. Write today
WOLVERINE WASHER CO.
64 MAPLE ST. PORTLAND, MICH.

KEROSENE ENGINES
OTTAWA LATEST DESIGN



Durable, Powerful, Reliable, Massive. Built to last; to do hard, heavy work. Uses Cheapest Fuel. Pull ¼ to ⅓ horse-power more than rated. *3 Months Trial. Easy Terms.* Sizes 1½ to 22 H-P. Easy to start. No Cranking. No batteries. **10 Year Guarantee.** Most practical engine ever built. Engine book free. A Postal brings it.
THE OTTAWA MANUFACTURING CO.,
1271 King Street, OTTAWA, KANSAS.

VETERINARY COURSE AT HOME



Taught in simplest English during spare time. Diploma granted. Cost within reach of all. Satisfaction guaranteed. Have been teaching by correspondence twenty years. Graduates assisted in many ways. Every person interested in stock should take it. Write for catalogue and full particulars - - **FREE**
London Vet. Correspondence School
Dept. 8, London, Ontario, Can.

Combination Embroidery And Stamping Outfit



All New Popular Designs! Prem. No. 7312 Given For a Club of Two!

HAND embroidery is in greater demand than ever this season owing to the simplicity of the dresses and waists. Even the plainest costume may be made very stylish and attractive by adding some handsome design in hand embroidery. We have been careful to include in this stamping outfit only the prettiest and most practical designs a few of which are shown in the above illustration. Also we have included some very attractive and popular designs already stamped on good material. There are **three large sheets of perforated patterns** containing designs for **linen suits, corset covers, collar and cuffs, baby's dresses, baby's kimonos, handkerchiefs, centerpieces, calendars, picture frames, one complete alphabet** and many other popular and stylish designs, also a cake of superior stamping preparation, distributor and full directions. In addition to the perforated patterns we also give you one large **tray cloth,** 8 x 17 inches, and **six 5 1-2 inch doilies to match** all stamped on real white **Irish linen,** one oblong **pillow top** 17 x 21 inches, hand tinted on ecru art cloth, one bone **stiletto** for punching holes for eyelet embroidery, one package of **10 embroidery needles** and ten skeins of white embroidery mercerized cotton **floss.** We will be glad to send any woman or girl this complete outfit exactly as described free upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this new Combination Embroidery and Stamping Outfit free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7312.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**





CLUB FEET

Made Straight In 4 Months

Annabell Williams was born with Club Feet. After other treatment had failed her mother brought her to the McLain Sanitarium at 11 years of age. Four months later they returned home—happy. Read the mother's letter:

"I took Annabell home, on May 19th, 1916, with two straight and useful feet. Today she runs and plays and takes as big a part in the fun as any child. We can't say enough for the McLain Sanitarium and their wonderful work. I will gladly answer all letters of inquiry."
MRS. MORGAN WILLIAMS,
Higbee, Mo.

In Correction of this deformity no plaster paris or General Anaesthesia was used.

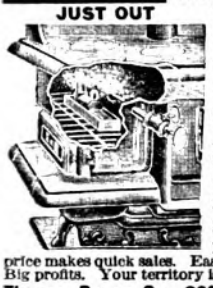
FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

The McLain Sanitarium is a private institution entirely devoted to the treatment of children and young adults afflicted with Club Feet, Infantile Paralysis, Spinal Diseases and Curvature, Hip Disease, Bow Legs, Knock Knees, Wry Neck, etc. On request we will send, free, our valuable book "Deformities and Paralysis," together with Book of References.

The McLain Orthopedic Sanitarium
990 Aubert Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

AGENTS—Only One in the World KEROSENE (Coal Oil) BURNER

JUST OUT



Fits in any cook-stove. Makes its own gas from Kerosene (coal oil). Gives every home a gas stove. Absolutely safe. Cheapest fuel known.

Cooks a meal for 1 cent

Agents just coining money. Women wild about it. No more overheated kitchens. No more danger from gasoline.

Safe, Clean, Odorless, Cheap

Every home a prospect. Low price makes quick sales. Easy to carry and demonstrate. Big profits. Your territory is open. Write today.

Thomas Burner Co., 2330 Gay St., Dayton, Ohio

FRIENDSHIP BRACELET LINK ONLY $.63 12¢

We give you one Link Free for your Bracelet. Friends give or exchange others. Start now! Links only 12c, each; 3 initials engraved Free. With your first order for one or more Links we send FREE a beautiful Velvet Ribbon. State whether Rolled Gold, Sterling Silver, scroll or plain design.



STERLING SILVER ROLLED GOLD

Monogram Jewelry Co, 119 Nassau St. Dept. 63, New York

MEN EARN $25 to $50 a week in the auto business. We teach you how—at home—by mail—and then assist you to the job. Our graduates always in demand. Big Auto Book FREE. Write today.
Practical Auto School, 70 F Beaver Street, New York.

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers."
RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREE  Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 8 years, for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice.
GATES MFG. CO. Dept. 425 Chicago

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN

Prem. No. 7342



Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Two

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome lustrated herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch **rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the **rolled-gold plate** pendant is also made of and set with **your own birthstone** and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond,** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald,** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are solitaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or for one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7342.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Love and Spite

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

The noise they made must have been heard, and they waited breathless for a shout from Hugo. But they heard nothing but his steady, slow step coming nearer each instant; had they known it, fate had been on their side. As they made their flying descent Hugo had stumbled on the winding stair below, and his bruised shins had made him oblivious of anything else, for just long enough to cover their retreat! A beam of light came round the corner—to Gilbert it seemed impossible that they were not clearly visible. For one minute he was sure Hugo saw them, and was laughing in his sleeve, for he paused and looked about him.

The next Huntley drew breath, Hugo and his light had passed on.

"Now," he whispered fiercely, "get your key and we'll get through the door and into your room before he finds out she's gone. Thank Heaven, you bolted the door after us!"

Without a sound they slipped down the stairs and out into the corridor. Hugo little knew that as he tugged at the bolt that had secured his prisoner Gilbert was locking the lower door behind him, and Huntley running like mad through the empty corridors with the girl herself in his arms.

CHAPTER XXVI.

"SOMETHING WRONG!"

Gilbert, a minute behind Huntley, flew into his room, just as Jocelyn, wide-eyed and ghastly, was struggling out of Huntley's arms.

"Quick!" he cried. "Hugo will be here in a second; he is sure to suspect me or Moyra. What are we to do?"

"Give him a good licking," Lord Huntley returned savagely. "What else?"

But Jocelyn gave a little moan of terror.

"I can't face him." She staggered, and caught at Huntley's hand.

"It would be no good. Wait till the girl rests," Gilbert cried, with a despairing glance at her.

"She's right, she couldn't face him."

"L the door, then," practically.

"Never do. He knows it. Here!" he threw open the door of a big cupboard. "Miss Brown, can you get in here?" But without waiting for an answer, he took her by the arm and ran her into it.

"That's brutal—and cowardly." Huntley was savage.

But without even looking at him, Gilbert had locked the door on her and given the key to Huntley.

"Sit down. Be doing something," he ordered, flinging himself into a chair and taking out his pipe.

"She's done up. She'll faint again in there!"

"Best thing she could do. I tell you, man, you don't know Hugo! I mean to stop his game once for all."

His blood was up now. Since he must fight against his brother, he would fight well. Huntley, very pale, and only half-satisfied, stood staring at him.

"I don't see any reason——" he began, but he never finished the sentence.

Without warning the door burst open, and Hugo de Burgh stood in the room, but a Hugo that neither man had ever seen. His face was pale and distorted with passion till it no longer bore the look of a human countenance. Like a raging animal he stood glaring from one man to the other.

"What devil's work is this?" he said. "By Heaven, Gilbert, I'll teach you to play the fool in my house!" He raised the heavy silver candlestick he held and rushed at his brother.

"Hold hard, Hugo! What's the matter with you?" Huntley had caught his arm with a twist that made him drop his improvised weapon, that was heavy enough to have stretched Gilbert insensible.

"You're in it, too, are you?" Hugo could scarcely speak. "When I won't have you admitted by my servants you sneak in behind my back, do you? What business have you here?"

Shut up, Hugo, and tell me what you're talking about." Gilbert faced his brother sternly. "What do you mean by coming into my room and insulting Huntley? I brought him here, if you want to know."

At the unexpected bearing of the brother he had always bullied, Hugo, changed his tone.

"You know perfectly well what I mean," he said more quietly, but with the evil flicker still moving his upper lip. "What devil's trick have you been playing with that girl?"

"What girl?"

"You know, damn you! Miss Brown!"

"Miss Brown?" coolly. "Why—you sent her away last night."

Hugo gave a short laugh. It was well acted, but it had not the expected effect on his hearers.

"That was a tale for Moyra," he observed, with a smile that made Huntley start with anger. "Miss Brown suggested—at least, well, there's no need to explain! But the lady merely retired from public life till I could take her to London. She has been in the house all right. But I couldn't have her on intimate terms with Moyra."

"That's an absolute lie!" Gilbert said scornfully. "You never saw the girl till the other night."

"I saw her months ago," with perfect truth. "How else do you suppose she came here?"

The insinuation cost him dear.

Huntley took him by the shoulder and whirled him round to face the light.

"That's enough. I won't have it," he remarked grimly. "If you say any more I'll kick you down-stairs, if it were your own house ten times over. The thing's rotten on the face of it. If the girl is up-stairs, what are you making this row about?"

"How do you know she was up-stairs?" coolly. "I never said so. But she's gone, and I know you and Gilbert are in it. I was a fool ever to take a fancy to a girl like that. All men are the same to them."

"One more word like that, and I'll make you sicker than you ever were in your life," Huntley said, with ominous quiet. "You and I've been friends, but that's done tonight. If you ever had that girl up-stairs you know best for what reason," significantly. "I advise you to keep a quiet tongue about it for your own sake."

Hugo was quiet on the instant, suddenly seeing what mad disclosures he had made in his rage.

"You probably do know," he said, with his old, slow sneer, "not being a saint like Gilbert. "Well, the girl's gone, and I'm well rid of her. I suppose you're taking Gilbert home to dine with you?" with insolent politeness, to the man who had been used to come and go at Castle De Burgh as at his own house.

"I'm not going to dine here, if you mean that," Huntley returned icily. By George! would Hugo never go?

Mr. De Burgh was lighting a cigarette, not a trace of passion on his languid face, not a sign of his late expedition on his immaculate evening clothes.

He was listening like a hare for a sound from somewhere in the rooms, for he knew that he was being hoodwinked.

"Come here, Gilbert," he said suddenly. "I want a word with you."

Gilbert followed him into his bedroom.

"Curse you and Huntley, too!" he said, in a tone of polite conversation. "Did you let that little devil out?"

"No," ignoring the mention of Huntley.

"Then where is she?"

"Look till you find her, that's my advice," and Gilbert returned to Huntley without ceremony.

Hugo took him at his word. He ransacked the bedroom in vain.

In the sitting-room the other two stood smoking when he returned.

"If you've got her in that cupboard," he said slowly, pointing to Jocelyn's retreat, "let me tell you you're a fool for your pains." He marched to it and tried the door.

"Look here, Hugo," Gilbert was angrier than Hugo had been, "that's enough; I haven't got the key of that cupboard"—with truth—"and if I had, I'm hanged if I'd give it to you. Get out of my rooms, or behave like a rational being!"

Hugo glanced at him, then at Huntley. It would be impossible to struggle with the two, and he had already gone too far.

"I'll make you pay for this," he remarked politely, with a glance that showed his mother's son was worthy of her, and, without a word to Huntley, he went out.

"What can he do?" Huntley said contemptuously.

"It doesn't matter." Gilbert's face was weary. "I'm done with Castle De Burgh, anyhow." He went to the door Hugo had left open, and locked it.

"Get her out," he said to Huntley. He turned his back while he got some wine and biscuits from a side table. Gilbert's meals were not always the meals of Castle De Burgh; he had long been in the habit of keeping supplies in his room.

Huntley opened the cupboard, to find Jocelyn standing among Gilbert's coats, very pale, but herself.

"Is he gone?" she whispered.

Huntley nodded, leading her to a chair.

"Drink this, and eat," Gilbert said authoritatively, "then you can talk." He wished to put off the evil hour, for he knew when she told her story he would rather be dead and buried than have to believe it. With unwilling admiration he saw her quiet bearing in this strange place. Saw how like she was to dead and gone De Burghs—and to himself.

The light came into her eyes as she ate, the rose to her lips. She looked at Huntley suddenly over her glass of wine.

"I didn't mean to write," she cried softly, mindful of Gilbert across the room. "But I had to. I was afraid."

Huntley looked at her, his eyes dark with something that made her look away.

"Thank Heaven, I was here to get the letter," he said huskily. "Oh, Jocelyn."

She put down her glass.

"Mind, the note meant nothing but that I was in trouble," she said, with a curious composure.

"You are bound to nothing till you know all about me. Tell Mr. De Burgh to come nearer. I'm afraid to speak loud."

"I know all about you—and I don't care if I didn't." Huntley's voice was dogged, but he signed to Gilbert to come.

Jocelyn put up her bandaged hand to sweep back her hair, and winced with pain.

"Did Hugo do that?" Gilbert asked, his voice hard with suffering.

"No, no! He never touched me," loyally; "I did that myself. I think I fainted by the window after I broke it."

His face cleared a little. He sat down beside her and listened in silence to her quick recital of how she came to Castle De Burgh, and of all she had heard there.

Her voice never rose above a low whisper, so mindful was she of the devilish contrivance in Alicia's sitting-room, even though the cripple was now not there.

Gilbert never flinched till he heard how his mother had played eavesdropper to him. Martha's story had turned him faint that afternoon; he heard it quite quietly now.

"I knew it, nearly all," he said, as she stopped. "Richard told me this afternoon at Glen Farm." His voice was louder than he knew. Jocelyn seized his arm.

"Hush! hush! You don't know who may be listening," she breathed.

Huntley sat looking at her, wondering how she had ever done the things that had led him to think so cruelly of her. How she must have suffered, and how brave a heart she must have.

"You know everything now." She turned to him quickly. "Can you ever trust me again? You were right that night! I had been a spy."

"Trust you forever, my Jocelyn," he said, so low that Gilbert never caught the words. But Jocelyn de Burgh's cheek crimsoned with pride.

"I must go," she said abruptly. "Can you get me out?"

"Go where?" Gilbert asked.

"To my father," quietly. "I can't stay here."

"In a minute." Huntley had remembered the letter from Meredith. He spread it out on the table, and the other two bent over it. As they read, the girl's face flushed with unbelieving joy; the man's—in pity Huntley turned his eyes from Gilbert de Burgh.

"I must go now more than ever," Jocelyn said quickly. "But how can I do it?"

Gilbert glanced at her.

"Do up your hair," he said harshly, "and take my long coat and cap. You're tall enough, Hugo may not see you; if he does he'll take you for me. Huntley can go with you. I'll go and get Hugo out of the way."

He waited till she had put on his things; with the cap down over her eyes and the coat-collar, the long garment covering her short skirts, she could very well pass for him in the dimly lit house if she were only seen from the distance.

"Now, wait till I come back." He was gone at the word, and in perfect silence the two stood, scarcely thinking of each other in their pain for him.

But minute after minute passed, and he did not come.

"There's something wrong," Huntley said uneasily. He opened the door into the hall to listen. There was not a sound.

"Something wrong." Jocelyn's heart beat quickly. "What could be wrong? Unless——"

She tore off Gilbert's coat and cap. What was she thinking of, to play the coward like this?

As Huntley turned to her in surprise she held up her hand for silence.

"What was that?" she whispered.

A hoarse scream of terror, so wild and anguished that it chilled his blood, came from somewhere, the desperate outcry of deadly fear. Sick with apprehension, the girl flung down the disguise from her hand and ran down the opening into Mrs. De Burgh's bedroom.

"Come!" she whispered, standing in the open

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33.)

A Good Scout Eats Without Fear

Fancy Dishes and Rich Food Have No Terrors if You Use Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets.

Prove It With a Free Trial Package



Half or more of the good things to eat are either under suspicion or banished altogether to those who haven't learned of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. Instead of berating breakfast sausage, sardine sandwiches and roast duck with dressing, wise people eat a Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablet after each meal and one just before you go to bed, then there is no harm in the rich, fancy dishes.

Your stomach lacks the proper digestive juices to make your meals easily digested. Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets give the stomach and other organs of the digestive apparatus the wherewithal to digest food.

Get a 50c box today from any drug store and try them. Send your name and address to F. A. Stuart Co., 233 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich., for a free trial package.

FREE $20 OLD MASTERS VIOLIN — $20 Solo Guitar **FREE**



We have a wonderful new system of teaching note music by mail, and to first pupils in new localities will give a $20.00 superb Violin, Mandolin, Guitar, or Cornet, absolutely free, very small charge for lessons the only expense. We guarantee to make you a Player or no charge. Complete outfit free. Special offer to first pupil in each locality. Write at once, no obligation.

SLINGERLAND'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC, DEPT. 4, CHICAGO, ILL.

Stocking Full of Christmas Presents

Free For A Club Of Two!

BIG Christmas Stockings brimful of presents for the little folks and older children as well. COMFORT is going to play **Santa Claus** this year and distribute hundreds of these Christmas stockings among its readers who have little ones for whom Christmas Trees and Santa Claus Gifts must be provided at all cost. The contents of the stockings vary a little but the general assortment remains practically the same and you may be sure of receiving as many presents as are herewith illustrated. Each stocking contains just the gifts that delight the hearts of boys and girls—**rattles, horns, dolls, whistles, musical fifes, harmonicas, imitation watches, toy dishes, marbles, tops, bugles, cut-out paper dolls and dolls' dresses, beads** and other pleasing **holiday novelties.** The stockings are large size, being nearly **a foot and a half long** and all the presents are regular size, much larger than they appear to be in the accompanying illustration. **Sweet tinkling Christmas bells and ribbon bows** decorate each Stocking and there is also attached a **handsome embossed Christmas Card** upon which is printed "Merry Christmas from Santa Claus" or some similar inscription. If you have no children of your own to make happy this Christmas you probably know of **somebody's** little boy or girl who would be **delighted** with one or more of these Big Christmas Stockings, so you should not fail to take advantage of this offer at once, as Christmas is almost here and besides our supply of the stockings is limited and they may be all gone before your order reaches us **unless you send it in at once.**

Our Christmas Offer. **For a club of TWO one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you one of these Big Christmas Stockings full of Santa Claus Gifts free by Parcel Post prepaid. Remember our supply is limited, so you should send us your order early to avoid disappointment and delay. Premium No. 658.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Save Half Your Shoe Money



Sizes 1 to 13 Heights 6 to 17 in.

Wear Overland Aluminum Shoes

They last twice as long as all-leather, rubber or wood-soled boots and shoes.

Water-Proof, Rust-Proof, Rot-Proof

Best leather uppers. Thick felt insoles. No metal touches you. Warm, comfortable, easy to walk in. Keep feet in good condition and prevent sickness. Best by test for all work in any weather.

MONEY BACK if shoes do not meet with your approval. Write for FREE catalog which shows styles, gives prices and tells how to order. A postal brings it.

OVERLAND SHOE CO., Dept. 8A, Racine, Wis.

AGENTS $6 a Day

Should be easily made selling our Concentrated Non-Alcoholic Food Flavors, Soaps, Perfumes and Toilet Preparations. Over 100 kinds, put up in collapsible tubes. Ten times the strength of bottle extracts. Every home in city or country is a possible customer. Entirely new. Quick sellers. Good repeaters. Not sold in stores. No competition. 100 per cent. profit to agents. Little or no capital required. Elegant sample case for workers. Start now while it's new. Write today—a post card will do—for full particulars **FREE**



AMERICAN PRODUCTS CO., 8115 Third St., Cincinnati, O.

THIS LATEST MODEL FORD AUTO FREE

Risk just ONE PENNY today—Send me your name on a postcard and it may bring you this brand new, 5-passenger Ford Touring Car, (very latest model) absolutely free of charge, frt. prepaid.

JUST SEND IN YOUR NAME TODAY!

Get in on the ground floor of a **new plan** by which scores of people I never saw have received many of my automobiles **absolutely free.**



Rhoads Auto Club, 716 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kan.



FREE 106-PIECE X-MAS PACKAGE

Everyone remembers friends and relatives at Christmas-time; and surely everyone likes to do up the gift real "Christmassy" with cards, seals, stamps, etc.—it means as much as the gift, and nothing more clearly expresses the Christmas cheer.

We offer a wonderful Xmas combination of Cards, Seals, Tags, Stickers, etc., making in all 106 pieces. Each piece is beautifully embossed with handsome Christmas designs, and printed in many colors. We send all this, free and postpaid, just to make you acquainted with Hearth and Home.

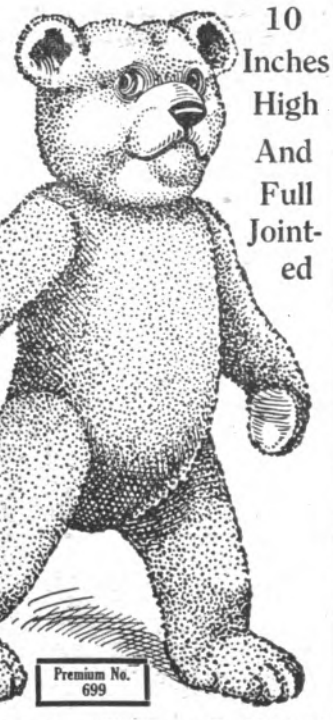
Hearth and Home is the favorite story- and household-paper that has pleased and delighted its thousands of readers since the first issue 32 years ago. There are thrilling serials by the best authors, exciting short stories by popular writers, fancy work, receipts, fashions, household hints, etc.

SEND US your name and address with ten cents in stamps or silver for a 3-months' trial subscription and we will send you, **free and postpaid,** this **106-piece Xmas Package.**

HEARTH AND HOME, 704 Chapel St., Augusta, Maine.

Large Shaggy Teddy Bear

The Best Playmate A Boy or Girl Ever Had



10 Inches High And Full Jointed

FREE FOR A CLUB OF TWO!

EVERY little boy and girl wants a **Teddy Bear** and here is an opportunity for every father or mother who reads COMFORT to get one without expense. "Teddy" looks exactly as you see him in the picture above. He is a big shaggy fellow, over 10 inches **tall,** made of rich, handsome brown plush, paws lined with felt, carefully stitched and finished and his head, arms and legs are jointed in such a manner that you can place him in almost any position. He will stand up, sit up, stand on his head, go on all four feet, in fact, you can make him assume all kinds of positions that are so **comical and lifelike** that it makes the children scream with delight just to look at him. He also has a voice and **squeals right out good and loud** every time you squeeze his "tummy". "Teddy" is so well made that no matter how roughly he is handled he cannot become broken and with ordinary care should last for years. We will send you "Teddy" free if you will accept the following special

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this big shaggy Teddy Bear free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 699.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

VETERINARY INFORMATION



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

No attention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

RUPTURE.—I have a horse four years old that was ruptured at the navel when it was a suckling colt, and has never had anything done to it. The rupture is about the size of a man's fist. A local veterinarian wants to operate on him and says he can cure him. What is your advice? A. L. B.

A.—The operation will prove safe and effective if the veterinarian is a trained surgeon.

INFECTED WOUND.—I have a mare twelve years old that had a swelling just behind her fore legs. It burst in two or three places, and then the swelling came on her breast and has broken. The mare is hearty and has lots of life. G. W.

A.—A wound became infected and pus spread in the connective tissue. Paint swelling with tincture of iodine once daily before and after they open and give one dram of iodide of potash once daily in the drinking water for five consecutive days a week for two weeks.

SCAR.—I have a mare and last winter there was a swelling on the point of the shoulder. I blistered it three or four times; the hair came off leaving a bare place. What can I do to make the hair come back? P. B.

A.—The hair cannot be made to grow again as the hair roots have been killed. The only successful treatment would be to have the scar dissected out by a trained surgeon.

LAMENESS.—I have an eight-year-old horse that is lame in his left front foot. There is a swelling on the back part of it from the fetlock almost as far up as the cannon. Doctors say the cord is enlarged. I have applied a blister a number of times which did quite a little good then. All at once it became worse again. After standing a while he will not walk straight. He seems to be stiff in both of his hind feet, the right one being the lamer. H. F.

A.—You should have the back tendons line-fired and blistered by a competent veterinarian, as blistering alone has failed. Spavin may be the cause of lameness of the hind leg and that also should be fired and the operations followed by six weeks of rest.

LEAKING OF MILK.—I have a cow that loses her milk if not milked at noon. She gives two and one half gallons per day. Is there anything I can do to stop her losing her milk? MRS. J. C. W.

A.—Milk three times a day. If that does not stop the leaking paint the tips of the teats with flexible collodion after each milking. Stop if teats tend to become sore.

AILING COW.—I have a cow seven years old. She has a calf three months old. About four weeks ago she began to fail in her milk. She stands with her head low and her neck stretched out and belches a good deal. She jerks when she breathes. MRS. M. M.

A.—Do not use the milk as the cow may have tuberculosis which is contagious and makes the milk dangerous. Physic her with one pound of epsom salts, one cupful of salt, one cupful of molasses and three pints of warm water given very slowly and carefully from a long necked bottle. If that does no good better kill her and make an examination.

ABORTION.—I have a sow that has lost two litters of pigs. Is there any way to keep her from it? A. L. J.

A.—No there is no sure remedy and such a sow may contaminate other sows. Fit her for the butcher.

TAILBRUSH MISSING.—My three-year-old cow has a short tail. The hair on the end of it doesn't grow out. What can I do to make it grow long? MRS. L. K.

A.—The end of the tail may have been bitten off by pigs when the calf was small. If not and you think a diseased condition of the skin is present keep the part well smeared with sweet oil thickened with flowers of sulphur.

DISEASED TEETH.—I have a mare twelve years old. When she chews her feed she spits it out, slobbering while eating. In drinking she turns her head to one side. (2) There seems to be something wrong with my dog's head. He shakes his head and ears and seems weak in hind legs. His ears are filled with wax and he cannot chew. T. L. A.

A.—It is plain that the teeth are in such bad condition that the mare cannot perfectly masticate feed and this will continue unless you can have a really competent veterinarian give the teeth proper attention. Meanwhile feed night and morning one quart of black strap molasses stirred up with three quarts of hot water, cut hay, corn-meal and wheat bran. Feed whole oats at noon and some long hay at night. You may have to starve her to take the molasses feed, but she will soon take to it with a relish. (2) Treat the dog for worms as often advised here. Canker of the ears is present. Treat by twice daily cleansing the ears with peroxide of hydrogen or wood alcohol on swabs of cotton. Then lay the dog on its side, pour some of the following lotion into the ear and hold the dog down until the sediment settles into the ear. Treat the other ear in the same way, if both are affected. Ear lotion: One dram each of powdered alum and sugar of lead, two drops of carbolic acid and thirty drops of glycerine in two ounces of soft water. Shake bottle well before use.

CALLOUS.—I have a young mare that stuck something in her leg just below the knee. There was a small hole about one inch deep. She was lame a few days and the place healed over. Then the lameness was worse. Now the soreness is gone, but a small knot remains on her leg. MRS. L. H.

A.—Several times daily rub firmly downward on the lump with a tooth-brush handle and each night swab the part with a mixture of one part each of tincture of iodine and turpentine and two parts of alcohol. Do not clip off the hair or rub in this medicine. Persist in the treatment as response may be slow.

SPLINT.—I have a two-year-old colt that has a small hard lump on the inside of the front right leg on the cannon bone between the knee and the ankle. It has been there nearly a year. She has never been lame from it. I would like to know what it is and what to do for it. C. A.

A.—A splint is present and should be treated as advised for "callous" in this issue.

ECZEMA.—I have a poodle dog that has sores over her body. Before they get well they have a yellow scab and after they are well they leave a red mark. She scratches the hair off. There is a strong odor from her body. MRS. F. L.

A.—Make the dog live out of doors, take active exercise for hours every day and have but one small meal each evening. Feed no sweets or potatoes. Give a small dose of epsom salts once a week and on a different day weekly tub in a warm 1-100 solution of coal tar dip made according to directions given on the container. Once daily apply sulphur ointment to the sores.

SICK HOGS.—Will you tell me what is the matter with my hogs and what to do for them. First, they begin to cough and then in a few days have hard chills. Their eyes become sore and close and they refuse to eat. I have one pig that has hard fits when it eats and then has a chill. I have lost three nice ones. I feed them wheat bran slops and milk. MRS. J. P.

A.—It is quite likely that cholera is killing the pigs, but we cannot be sure without making an examination. Have a veterinarian examine the hogs and vaccine the well ones if he finds cholera present. In cholera red spots will be found upon the lining membrane of the bladder, the surface of the kidneys under the outer capsule, the lining of the intestines and upon other internal organs. Apart from cholera it may be stated that wheat bran should be very sparingly fed to hogs. It is too irritating and may cause indigestion and fits and possibly is the sole cause of your trouble. Change the feed.

STAGGERS.—I have a fine Shetland pony three years old. About eight months ago the pony had impacted stomach. He would stand with his hind legs stretched so far back that he would fall down. Frequently he would spin until he fell down. DR. J. D. J.

A.—Allow the pony a roomy box stall when in the stable, but never let him stand for a single day without work or exercise. Cut down rations to one pound of oats and bran per hundred pounds of body weight as a day's ration. Slightly increase the grain when the pony works. Feed one-ninth part of bran with the oats by weight. Use shavings or sawdust if the pony eats his bedding.

Unfortunate Mexico

By C. L. Chapman

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

MEXICO, the land of contrasts, of great riches and extreme poverty, a few of its people amassing millions while myriads are starving; a place where the most modern machinery may be found in operation at the very side of the most primitive method of accomplishing the same end, where beautiful architecture is in contrast with adobe huts and where shining automobiles of the latest design whirl past sleepy ox teams hauling carts with solid wooden slabs for wheels identical with the design which was used at the time of the Spanish conquest; these are the mixtures one finds in Mexico.

Passing down a prominent street in almost any of the large Mexican cities there may be seen fashionably dressed men who look much as though they were just as much at home in Piccadilly, the Champs d'Elysees or Fifth Avenue. Following or preceding them, however, will be a sandaled peon clad in cotton trousers and a blouse with his "serape" thrown over his shoulder his head protected by a wide-brimmed sombrero and his entire worldly possessions upon his back.

In the next block one may meet an Indian woman, barefoot and with uncovered head, a child slung in the "robosa" over her shoulders. About her there is a suggestion of garlic, onions and "pulque," while passing along the same street, comfortably ensconced in her victoria, dressed in the latest Parisian creation, rolls milady.

A gorgeously appointed funeral car, bearing the remains of one whose family can afford this expense, may arrive at the burial place simultaneously with three or four peons, packing on their shoulders the body of a comrade in a plainly painted coffin, the use of which is rented for the occasion and will be returned after the body is given interment.

Throughout the history of Mexico grotesque mixtures of races and conflicting superstitions and religious beliefs seem to have been the main cause of the constantly perturbed state of that civilization.

From the beginning of its known history Mexico has been the scene of successive racial conquests, each race making a permanent impression upon both its physical and moral characteristics.

Out of all the extraordinary mixture of races, social customs, superstitions and religions has risen the Mexico of today and its many uniquely difficult problems.

Here are a few instructive facts about old Mexico:

The area is about 767,290 miles.

Its seacoast on the Pacific and the Gulf of California is 4,574 miles.

It has 15,251 miles of railway and 46,112 miles of telegraph lines.

It is 1900 miles long from northwest to southeast; its width varies from 140 to 750 miles.

Upon the Gulf of Mexico it has a coast line of 1,[illegible] miles, and 327 miles of coast on the Caribbean Sea.

There are no large rivers in Mexico, and its lakes are small and few. Sandbars obstruct the small rivers emptying into the Gulf, making the ports upon them difficult to enter.

Vera Cruz affords only an open anchorage inside of a series of reefs. Vessels there have little or no protection from northerly gales. Tampico harbor has been made safer by jetties and the deepening of the channel.

According to the most recent estimate, the population of Mexico is a few thousand more than 15,000,000, an average of less than twenty inhabitants to the square mile.

Thirty-eight per cent of the population is Indian; forty-three per cent is of mixed bloods, or "Mestizos." Less than nineteen per cent is classed as white.

The National Library, dedicated in 1692, contains more than 225,000 volumes.

Construction of railroads leading to the United States did not begin until 1878, when Porfirio Diaz was President.

The Mexican Central and Mexican National railways were merged in 1908, with an aggregate capital of $460,000,000 Mexican money. The government holds a controlling interest in these lines, which run north from Mexico City to the American frontier.

Mexico City, the capital, is 264 miles northwest of Vera Cruz and 7,415 feet above the sea level. Its death rate has been notoriously high. Many thousands of Indians and halfbreeds live in crowded quarters, and until recent years there was a lack of drainage works and underground sewers.

There are many more than 150 manufacturing establishments, including iron working shops in Mexico City.

The finest Avenue is the Paseo de la Reforma, a broad boulevard nearly three miles long.

There is almost an unbroken regularity in the laying out of the city streets, but according to an old Spanish custom the name of the same street frequently changes from block to block.

In shape Mexico is like an enormous cornucopia, with its opening toward the United States.

Historical records prove the astonishing fact that in ninety-four years Mexico has had fifty-seven rulers.

In the year 1821 the country was still ruled by the King of Spain. The Mexicans then started to throw off the Spanish yoke and won a partial success in that year. Since then the country has had two emperors and thirty-five Presidents and dictators.

Curiously enough, seventy years ago in March, 1846, American soldiers invaded Mexican soil. The Mexican war, in spite of all the motives of aggression that dominated the United States in that struggle, would not have been fought if Santa Anna, the Pancho Villa of his day, had not butchered the heroic defenders of the Alamo in cold blood.

Just as today the brutal slaughter of Americans, at Columbus, New Mexico, is the fighting cry of America in its punitive expedition after Villa, so threescore and ten years ago was the battle cry, "Remember the Alamo."

$2.00 A Month — $12 to $25



Elgin New Thin Octagon — Sent on Approval

A Stunning Model

This Elgin is Appealing to Thousands

Right now, during our Holiday Special Sale, is the time for you to buy your watch. We **now** make it possible for you to own one of these beautiful Elgins at our astoundingly low price on **such easy terms that you'll never miss the money.** This thin model, Elgin Octagon, is the very latest thing in watch construction. Strong, accurate, unique—it has made good from the very start.

New Catalog Our New 1917 Catalog shows every Elgin made. It shows all the different style cases. It gives you the **lowest rock-bottom prices** on all Railroad watches—prices lower than any retailer can afford to make. And our **Special Holiday Offer** is to send you this New Octagon Elgin, or any watch you may select from our New Catalog, subject to your own inspection and approval **No Money Down.**

We do this to prove to you that the great volume of our business in all parts of the country enables us to do better by you than any other watch or diamond house in the the world—that our prices are lower and our terms more liberal.

Send No Money Not a penny. Wait until you have first received and inspected the watch for yourself—merely give us your name and address (postal will do) that we may send you our **NEW FREE CATALOG.** It gives you the simplest, Easy Payment Plan in the world. It contains hundreds of illustrations of Watches, Diamonds, Jewelry, Men's Clothing, etc. This is the most interesting Catalog in America. It was built by more than 200,000 satisfied customers. It shows why **You Assume No Risk Whatever**—Everything is sent for your approval. No interest, no security, no red tape, just common honesty among men. **Write for Catalog Today.** You'll find we are just the House you have been looking for.

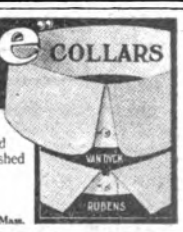


HARRIS-GOAR CO.

Dept. 2091. Kansas City, Mo.

The House That Sells More Elgin Watches Than Any Other Firm in the World.

REVERSIBLE "Linene" COLLARS



Send 2 Cents in U. S. Stamps to pay postage and we will send you FREE a starch-finished SAMPLE COLLAR *State size and which style wanted.*

REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. E Boston, Mass.

TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 48 Packages Soap Powder FREE



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only 4 doz. pkgs. of our famous washing powder **FREE** among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. **NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO**

ALL THESE FREE



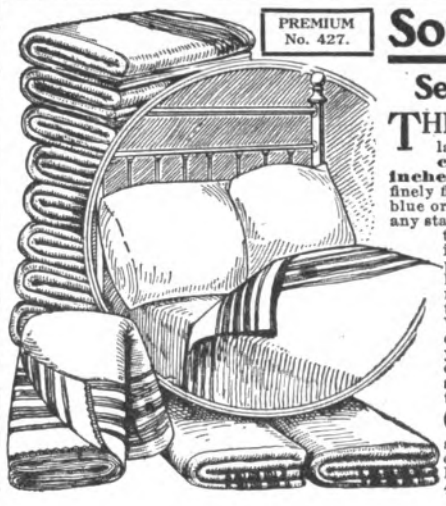
Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone and 22-inch Chain, one **SIGNET NETHERSOLE BRACELET** to fit any arm and these four **GOLD PLATED RINGS,** all given **FREE** for selling only 12 pieces of our Jewelry at 10 cents each. Write for them.



EAGLE WATCH Co., Dept. 65, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

Soft Warm Bed Blankets

Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Six



THIS IS an offer which no good housewife can afford to overlook. It is your opportunity to secure as many large comfortable bed blankets as you may need **without a cent of expense.** These fine double blankets are **72 inches long and 55 inches wide,** extremely well made and finely finished. They are pure white in color and come with either blue or pink borders. Please notice that they are large enough for any standard size bed being of sufficient length to come up well on the pillow and wide enough so that they may be snugly tucked in at the sides. This is in reality one of the best bargains in a premium we have ever offered on account of the fact that we have bought a large quantity of these blankets direct from the mill at a special low price and therefore are enabled to offer them to our readers for a very small club of subscriptions. When you think of this big warm blanket on your bed or lying on a closet shelf ready for use when wanted, we believe that you will want to start a club at once for the sake of securing one or more of them free of all cost to you. We will gladly send you one or more of these splendid blankets upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these large, double bed blankets free by Parcel Post prepaid. You may have your choice of either blue or pink border. **Prem. No. 427.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Just Six Minutes to Wash a Tubful!

This is the grandest Washer the world has ever known. So easy to run that it's almost fun to work it. Makes clothes spotlessly clean in double-quick time. Six minutes finishes a tubful.



Any Woman Can Have a 1900 Gravity Washer on 30 Days' Free Trial

Don't send money. If you are responsible, you can try it first. Let us pay the freight. See the wonders it performs. Thousands being used. Every user delighted. They write us bushels of letters telling how it saves work and worry. Sold on little payments. Write for fascinating Free Book today. All correspondence should be addressed to **1900 Washer Co., 1799 Court St., Binghamton, N. Y.** If you live in Canada, address Canadian 1900 Washer Co., 355 Yonge St., Toronto, Canada.

39 SELECTED NOVELS FREE

We want to give you this big collection of thirty-nine Novels, Novelettes and Stories, some of the most interesting works of the most popular writers. Each is a complete story in itself. All are well printed on good paper and firmly bound in paper covers. We will give you this whole collection of best reading just to make you acquainted with our paper, **Good Stories.**

The Desmond Blood	*Etta W. Pierce*
A Doctor's Story	*Mary Kyle Dallas*
Secret of the Holly Tree	*Charlotte M. Braeme*
Unmasked	*S. Annie Frost*
The Coral Cross	*Mrs. C. F. Gerry*
The Countess Clarice	*M. T. Caldor*
Lady Maud's Picture	*Jane G. Austin*
Mistress of Thornton Park	*Mary J. Holmes*
In a Violin	*Etta W. Pierce*
The Witching Hour	*The Duchess*

And 29 others.

GOOD STORIES is a monthly paper filled with the best and most delightful serial and short stories we can buy. In addition there are household departments with "tried and true" receipts, helpful editorials, up-to-date fashions. Good Stories has something for every member of the family.

WRITE NOW Send us your name and address with ten cents in stamps or silver for a 3-months' trial subscription to Good Stories, and we will send you, **Free and Postpaid,** this grand collection of 39 Novels.

Publishers Good Stories, 101 Chapel St., **Augusta, Maine**

98 cents



5 YEAR GUARANTEE

Railroad Style

To advertise our business, we will send this elegant R. R. style watch by mail for **ONLY 98 CENTS.** Gentlemen's size, full nickel silver plated case, locomotive cap, dial, lever escapement, stem wind and stem set, a perfect timekeeper and fully guaranteed for 5 years. Send this advertisement to us with **98 CENTS** and watch will be sent by mail post paid. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Send 98 cents today. Address **R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 538 So. Dearborn St., CHICAGO.**

BIRCH Car FREE To You!



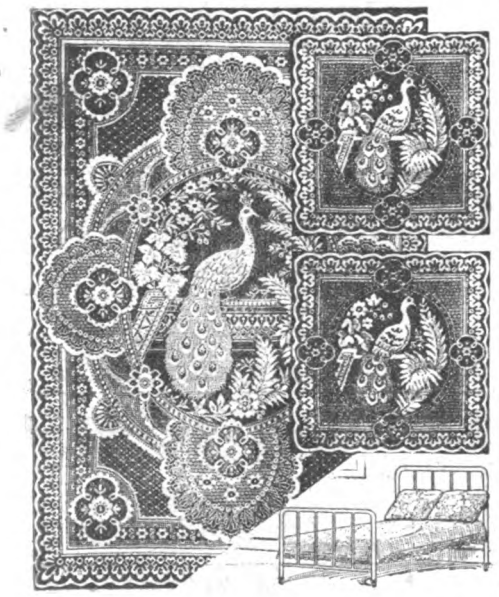
Yes, it's a fact. You can get this superb **28 h. p. 5-passenger BIRCH Motor Car** with electric lights and starter, absolutely Free, and the agency for your territory, *if your name reaches me soon enough.* **Make $3,000 to $10,000 a year** in the automobile business. I will show you how. Get full information at once. *Write quick*—before too late. Ralph Birchard, Pres., **BIRCH MOTOR COLLEGE Inc., Dept. 7120, 81 E. Madison St., Chicago.**



This pretty band **GIVEN** for five **WEDDING RING** names of your neighbors and ten cents to pay postage &c. **Gem City Supply Co., QUINCY, ILL.**

Three-Piece Lace Bed Set

Premium No. 503



Yours Prepaid For A Club Of Six!

NEW PATTERNS in bed sets are constantly coming out but none has ever equalled in popularity this beautiful **peacock design** which is always desirable, extremely fashionable and something every good housewife is anxious to possess. The peacock on the spread is **very large and stately** with a graceful, natural spread of tail feathers and the same design, only smaller, appears in both shams, so that the complete set **matches perfectly** and presents a picture that is both beautiful and satisfying to look at. The spread is **full size,** measuring 85 inches long and 60 inches wide; the shams are each 28 x 32 inches, and the material is fine quality, pure white Nottingham lace which washes well and wears well. Any woman could easily pay $5.00 for a set that would please her no better than this one **which will cost you nothing** if you are willing to do us a slight favor. We will make you a present of this beautiful three-piece lace bed set in the new popular peacock design if you will accept the following **Club Offer.** For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each we will send you this complete bed set free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 503.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19.)

Seven Times One

BY JEAN INGELOW.

There's no dew left on the daisies and clover,
There's no rain left in Heaven,
I've said my "seven times" over and over—
Seven times one are seven.

I am old—so old I can write a letter;
My birthday lessons are done.
The lambs play always—they know no better;
They are only one times one.

Oh, moon! In the night I have seen you sailing
And shining so round and low.
You are bright—ah, bright—but your light is failing;
You are nothing now but a bow.

You moon! Hove you done something wrong in Heaven,
That God has hidden your face?
I hope, if you have, you will soon be forgiven,
And shine again in your place.

Oh, velvet bee! You're a dusty fellow—
You've powdeed your legs with gold,
Oh, brave marsh Mary-buds, rich and yellow,
Give me your money to hold!

Oh, Columbine! Open your folded wrapper,
Where two twin turtle-doves dwell!
Oh, Cuckoopint! Toll me the purple clapper
That hangs in your clear green bell!

And show me your nest, with the young ones in it—
I will not steal them away:
I am old! You may trust me, linnet, linnet!
I am seven times one today.

I Shall Not Pass Again This Way

For several years before his death, Mr. Daniel S. Ford, the proprietor, editor and builder of the "Youth's Companion," because of delicate health, did his work and managed his mammoth business from a little room in his home in one of the beautiful parks of Boston. When loving hands cleared the plain but convenient desk there was found, in a conspicuous place, much worn with frequent handling, the following poem. If the poet had intended to describe Mr. Ford's daily words and actions he could not have done so in more appropriate language:

"The bread that bringeth strength I want to give,
The water pure that bids the thirsty live;
I want to help the fainting day by day;
I'm sure I shall not pass again this way.

"I want to give the oil of joy for tears
The faith to conquer crowding doubts and fears.
Beauty for ashes may I give alway;
I'm sure I shall not pass again this way.

"I want to give good measure running o'er,
And into angry hearts I want to pour
The answer soft that turneth wrath away!
I'm sure I shall not pass again this way.

"I want to give to others hope and faith,
I want to do all that the Master saith:
I want to live aright from day to day:
I am sure I shall not pass again this way."

If You Have a Friend Worth Loving

The following poem was discovered by Mr. George Morgan, of the banking firm of Morgan, Drexel & Co., in a country newspaper. He carried it in his pocket for many years, occasionally reading it to his friends.

"If you have a friend worth loving,
Love him. Yes, and let him know
That you love him, ere life's evening
Tinge his bow with sunset glow.
Why should good words ne'er be said
Of a friend—till he is dead?

If you hear a song that thrills you,
Sung by any child of song,
Praise it. Do not let the singer
Wait deserved praises long.
Why should one who thrills your heart
Lack the joy you may impart?

"If you hear a prayer that moves you
By its humble, pleading tone,
Join it. Do not let the seeker
Bow before its God alone.
Why should not your brother share
The strength of 'two or three' in prayer?

"If you see the hot tears falling
From a brother's weeping eyes
Share them. And by kindly sharing
Own our kinship in the skies.
Why should anyone be glad
When a brother's heart is sad?

"If a silvery laugh goes rippling
Through the sunshine on his face,
Share it. 'Tis the wise man's saying—
For both grief and joy a place.
There's health and goodness in the mirth
In which an honest laugh has birth.

"If your work is made more easy
By a friendly, helping hand,
Say so. Speak out brave and truly
Ere the darkness veil the land.
Should a brother workman dear
Flatter for a word of cheer?

"Scatter thus your deeds of kindness
All enriching as you go—
Leave them. Trust the Harvest-Giver;
He will make each seed to grow.
So, until the happy end,
Your life shall never lack a friend."

Best Ways of Doing Things Around the Home

To clean mirrors and cut glass, rub with a cloth dampened in alcohol and then polish with a dry cloth. MRS. C. W. FRANK, Tawas City, Mich.

A few pieces of charcoal will keep silverware from rusting, if placed in the box where it is packed. It absorbs the moisture.

If any of the sisters make their own vinegar and have trouble in getting it clear looking, try putting in half a pint of milk to each gallon of vinegar. It will soon curdle and settle to the bottom, taking all the dregs with it. Then pour the vinegar off carefully and it will be clear.

To clean coffee stained linen, soak in cold water to which has been added a little borax.

BERTHA MAYFIELD, Cunningham, Tenn.

Try putting a little hot water in the last rinsing water. I do this and am not troubled with colds. MRS. TOM HESTER, Granite Falls, N. C.

Add a little salt to apples when cooking. It improves the flavor and requires less sugar.

To cut a cake that is iced, hold the knife in boiling water for a minute and the cake can then be cut without breaking the icing.

When hanging out clothes in cold weather, heat the clothespins in a pan in the oven and the fingers will keep warm. MRS. ELSIE M. WILLS, Arnett, W. Va.

Remedies

TONSILITIS.—Five cents' worth each of tannic acid, and chlorate of potash; powder potash, and to one teaspoon of each, add four tablespoons warm water. Gargle deep in the throat every hour.

CHILBLAINS.—First bathe the feet in as hot water as can be borne, dry thoroughly and apply a salve made of pure lard and powdered lump chalk (not crayon chalk). About one tablespoon of lard to two of chalk.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Two heaping teaspoons of flaxseed boiled in a pint of water until slimy; strain and add five cents' worth of rock candy, one teaspoon of glycerine and one half lemon; boil a few minutes longer.

CROUP.—Take two tablespoons of strong apple vinegar, a piece of alum twice the size of a pea, a full teaspoon of butter and mix together and sweeten with honey. Give as warm as the child can take it; give just a little now and then and it will soon cut the phlegm loose.

FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

Requests

Mrs. Wm. Edwards, Eatontown, N. J., would like poem, "How Salvatore Won."

Virginia Norman, Kellyville, R. R. 1, Oklahoma, would like old magazines, or reading matter of any kind.

Mrs. T. C. Hess, Cottage Grove, Oregon, would like to hear from some one possessing Dr. Price's Cook Book. These were issued about twenty years ago.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Information of my nephew, Charles Lester Hudson, age fifty years, last heard of in Topeka, Kans. or St. Mary's Mission, Mrs. M. C. Hudson, Rich Hill, Mo.

Information of George Nash and brother, who left Baltimore and went West about a hundred years ago. Mrs. J. F. Black, Manhattan, R. R. 5, Kans.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Ora E. Harvey, Villa Grove, Box 717, Ill. Miss Ollie May Underwood, Milledgeville, R. R. 3, Ga. Gertrude Blondell, Youngstown, 553 New Court, Ohio.

The Thanklessness of Wyoming Sal

(CONTINUED FRC 4 PAGE 4.)

a big brother. And this was what I wanted to tell you today, to thank you for the many comforts you provided for me, and to give you a little present to remember me by."

He drew a daintily wrapped little package from his pocket, and half extended it to her.

She spurned it, but not unkindly, then for several moments stood as if stunned by what she had heard. Then she caught the hand that was about her waist in the wild clutch of a despairing woman, nursed it at her breast, then threw it from her.

"Go on," she cried, and there was in her voice and her poor English that made her despair the more pitiful and terrible, "go on back to th' gal who's waitin' fer you back East! Go to her, an' I'll try an' ferget you. I'm sorry that I lost my heart to ye, but I ain't blamin' you. You've always been straight an' decent, but oh, it hurts! It hurts!"

He took one step toward her, and attempted to soothe her. But she stood him off.

"No! No! Don't touch me! It 'ud make me fergit everything!"

She threw open the door. The first flakes of the coming storm wafted into the little room.

"Go on! Go on! I can't have ye here any more. Please go!"

He stood for a moment, his face seamed with sorrow at the result of his innocent mistake.

"Good by," he said, and he started over the snow.

Sal scarcely heard him. With the look of a crazed woman she watched with glazed eyes as he made his way through the drifts and the steadily falling snow which seemed like wanton spirits embracing the man she had lost, while the shadowy pines sighed and echoed the desolation of her heart.

When he could no longer be seen, the girl threw shut the door, and sank into a chair at the undisturbed table, a mute reminder of the ruin of her air-castle.

"Thanksgivin'," she muttered hoarsely, "thanksgivin'! Oh, heavens, ain't it a joke?"

NEARLY 1000 ACRES OF SUNFLOWERS.—Lee C. Phillips has 800 acres of sunflowers and is known as the "Sunflower King." He sells the seed to breakfast food makers. It costs him something like eight dollars per acre to grow sunflowers and he markets the seed at from three to five cents a pound. The yield per acre, Phillips says, is from $35 to $50.

If I Send You this Suit



made to your measure, in the latest style, loose box back, would you be willing to keep and wear it, show it to your friends and let them see our beautiful samples and dashing new styles?

Could you use $5.00 a day for a little spare time? Perhaps I can offer you a steady job. If you will write me a letter or a postal at once and say: *"Send me your special offer,"* I will send you samples and styles to pick from and my **surprising liberal offer. Address,**

L. E. ASHER, President

Banner Tailoring Co.

Dept. 449, Chicago, Ill.

YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FACE

But Your Nose?



Before After

IN THIS DAY AND AGE attention to your appearance is an absolute necessity if you expect to make the most out of life. Not only should you wish to appear as attractive as possible, for your own self-satisfaction, which is alone well worth your efforts, but you will find the world in general judging you greatly, if not wholly, by your *"looks,"* therefore it pays to "look your best" at all times.

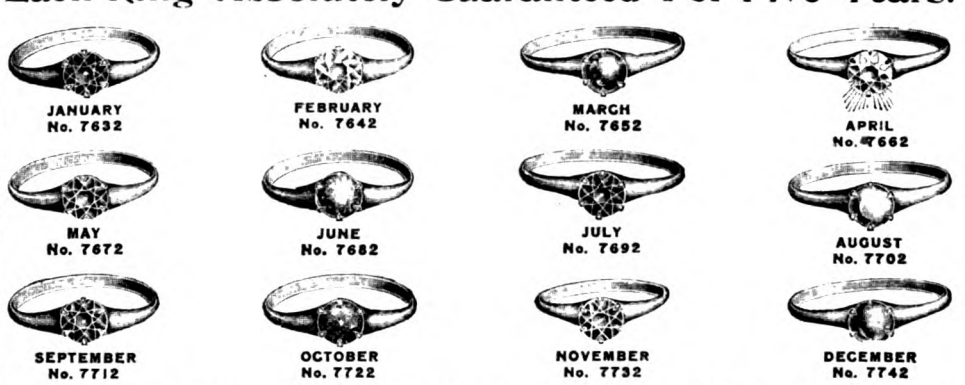
Permit no one to see you looking otherwise; it will injure your welfare! Upon the impression you constantly make rests the failure or success of your life. **Which is to be your ultimate destiny?** My new *Nose-Shaper,* **"Trados" (Model 22) corrects now ill-shaped noses without operation, quickly, safely and permanently. Is pleasant and does not interfere with one's daily occupation, being worn at night.**

Write today for free booklet, which tells you how to correct ill-shaped noses without cost if not satisfactory.

M. TRILETY, Face Specialist **760 Ackerman Bldg., Binghamton, N. Y.**

Genuine Gold-Filled Birthstone Rings

Each Ring Absolutely Guaranteed For Five Years!



JANUARY No. 7632 — FEBRUARY No. 7642 — MARCH No. 7652 — APRIL No. 7662

MAY No. 7672 — JUNE No. 7682 — JULY No. 7692 — AUGUST No. 7702

SEPTEMBER No. 7712 — OCTOBER No. 7722 — NOVEMBER No. 7732 — DECEMBER No. 7742

You May Have Your Choice For A Club Of Two!

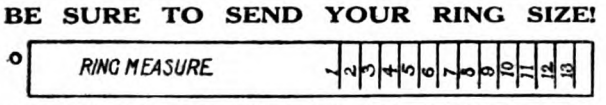
The most popular lady's rings worn today are these beautiful birthstone rings. Not only is it considered lucky to wear one of them but they are now and always will be exceedingly stylish. There is a different stone for each month of the year and of course you should wear the stone that is symbolical of the month you were born. The following is a list of the twelve rings, names of the stones, the month to which each one applies and its symbol.

January, The Garnet, Symbol of Power.
February, The Ameythyst, Symbol of Pure Love.
March, The Bloodstone, Symbol of Courage.
April, The Diamond, Symbol of Purity.
May, The Emerald, Symbol of Immortality.
June, The Agate, Symbol of Health and Long Life.
July, The Ruby, Symbol of Charity.
August, The Sardonyx, Symbol of Happiness.
September, The Sapphire, Symbol of Constancy.
October, The Opal, Symbol of Hope.
November, The Topaz, Symbol of Friendship.
December, The Turquoise, Symbol of Prosperity.

Each ring is guaranteed genuine 12-Karat gold filled which looks exactly like solid gold and will wear for years. **In fact we absolutely guarantee each ring for at least five years.** The rings themselves are perfectly plain, the stones are solitaires and perfect imitations of the real gems. The setting of each ring is the ever popular "Tiffany". As a Christmas, Birthday or all-the-year-round gift for wife, mother, sweetheart or sister nothing could be more appropriate and acceptable than one of these beautiful guaranteed rings set with the birthstone of the person to whom it is given. And not only the women and girls but men and boys as well are now wearing them.

Please do not class these rings with the cheap "electro-plated" rings that turn brassy after they have been worn a month or two. Remember that every one of them is guaranteed to be **12-Karat gold-filled** and positively warranted for **five years. If you want a handsome birthstone** ring for yourself or some dear friend or relative you will make no mistake in taking advantage of this offer at once. **When ordering be sure to specify the size and number of ring wanted.** You can easily tell just what size ring you wear by following the directions below.

BE SURE TO SEND YOUR RING SIZE!



By using the above diagram you can tell exactly what size ring you wear if you will follow these directions: Put a stiff piece of paper around the second joint on your ring finger. Cut the paper off so that when drawn tight around your finger the ends exactly meet. Then lay the paper flat on the diagram, one end at the line O and the other end will indicate correct size. By following these instructions your ring will be a perfect fit.

Club Offer!

FOR two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50c. we will send you one of these beautiful gold-filled birthstone rings by parcel post prepaid. **Please be sure to give size and number of ring wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

YOUR NEXT SUIT FREE



Send postal today for full information how to get your new suit, made to measure, without a penny's cost. $30 to $40 would not buy a better one. Simply wear it, tell your friends where you got it—take their orders—and make

$10 to $15 a Day

in your spare time. It is dead easy—you never saw a nobbier suit or a more stunning pattern, cut in very latest style. Your choice of 60 fabrics and 32 styles. Drop us a postal card for heavy pattern book, inside information about styles, self-measuring blanks, etc. DON'T WAIT. We prepay Delivery Charges. Mail Postal NOW!

American Woolen Mills Co.
Dept. 1107, Chicago

30 DAYS FREE TRIAL



Total cost only $7.50 by Our 7 MONTHS TIME Purchase Plan

to prove to you that this magnificent Royal has the Sweetest, Purest, Loudest and Clearest tone—to prove to you that it is as large and handsome as the trust machines that sell at $25.00—to prove to you that it has the strongest motor, the best reproducer and tone arm and the most ingenious devices to start, stop and control the music. Shipped with a supply of 10-inch double disc records of your selection, so you can enjoy the finest entertainments for one whole month. Return the outfit **AT OUR EXPENSE** if for any reason you do not wish to keep it. Drop a postal for our big list of unsolicited testimonials, record book and other literature. They are free.

S. H. DAVIS, 62-E 6101 May St., CHICAGO

LITTLE WONDER LIGHTS



Lamps for the Parlor, Library and Dining Room

Lights for stores, schools, churches, tents, showmen, etc. Park and street lights, and Little Wonder Hand Lanterns. Little Wonder patented gasoline lights are **BRIGHTER THAN ELECTRICITY, CHEAPER THAN OIL.** Thousands in use everywhere. **Wonderful-dependable-safe-steady-pure white-lights** for every purpose. We want selling distributors where we are not represented. *Write for Little Wonder Catalogue and Prices.*

LITTLE WONDER MFG. CO, 158 S. 5th St., Terre Haute, Ind.

$40 A WEEK, SURE

AGENT'S SAMPLE FREE



300 candle power outdoor Lamp and Safety Lantern. Storm and Weather Proof. For house, barn, camp, anywhere. No smoke. No odor. Absolutely safe. Burns Kerosene. Guaranteed. Burns 95% air, only 5% fuel. Price low. Sells fast. 100% profit. Year round sales plan. Save your territory now. Write quick for free sample offer.

Foote Mfg. Co., Box 1512 DAYTON, OHIO.

AUTO FREE



You may feel that you can't afford to buy a car, but if you live in the country or town under 10,000 you can get a new 1917 OVERLAND, without cost, as a reward for a few weeks' spare time work in your own community. 40 autos already given away. Write today for my new easy plan.

C. F. ALDRICH, Mgr. St. Paul, Minn.

LAW

Our simple method of home law instruction fits you to earn $2,500 to $10,000 yearly as a lawyer or legally-trained business man. LAW TRAINED MEN ARE IN DEMAND IN ALL LINES OF BUSINESS. 109 books—a complete law library—furnished every student. BAR EXAMINATION GUARANTEE. You pay as you progress—in small installments. Tuition refunded if dissatisfied. SEND FOR 80-PAGE FREE BOOK.

AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CORRESPONDENCE
Dept. L3048 Drexel Avenue and 58th Street, Chicago, U. S. A.



GENUINE—EVERBRIGHT SILVER—FRIENDSHIP BRACELET—FREE

To get acquainted with you, we will send this genuine Friendship bracelet, to fit your arm, any initial engraved. Just send 10c to help pay advertising.

Auction Co., Dept. 1133, Attleboro, Mass.

Hudson Silk Underskirt

"Fit-Top" Model — Prem. No. 7246



Your Choice Of Green, Blue Or Black — Given For A Club Of Six

THE stylish petticoat pictured above is one of the new exclusive "fit-top" models having a patent adjustable top that will fit **without alteration** the various waist sizes resulting in a **snug and perfect fit over the hips.** It is the latest "flaring" style, extremely well made of a splendid good wearing quality of "Hudson" silk having a beautiful **soft lustrous finish.** The deep flounce is trimmed with four pinch tucks and two narrow ruffles which give just the desired finish to this smartly styled petticoat. All seams are double stitched. It comes in sizes **34 to 44 inclusive** and three of the season's most popular colors—**green, blue and black. When ordering be sure to mention size and color wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each or three three-year subscriptions at 50c each we will send you one of these fashionable "fit-top" Hudson silk petticoats free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention size and color wanted. Premium No. 7246.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

NOW, Cousins, hear the turkeys, how they gobble at the thought of those Thanksgiving dinners for which they will be sought, and, when you think of them, you will have it to be thankful for that you are not turkeys, even if you have nothing else to be thankful for, though there are a great many other blessings in this world besides turkeys. However, if it weren't for Thanksgiving November would be even more dreary than it is. So there is something else to be thankful for. That's two things you've got and here is the third, which is the charm—I shall stop talking this minute and go to work answering your questions, which is, however, very pleasant work.

The first letter I take up is from Worried Jane of Uvalde, Texas and she is worried because she has a sweetheart who is too timid to tell her whether he cares more for her than he does for another girl he goes with, at least, she thinks he is too timid to tell her. Besides he tells her if she will let him kiss her it will strengthen his love. That doesn't sound very timid, does it? Really, the only cure I know for a young man like that is for a girl to square up with him by having another young man for whom she cares just as much as she does for the first one. Maybe she doesn't, but she should make the first one believe so and he will very soon find out which girl he likes best and will say so. But Jane says she is "foolish" about this young man, and of course, when a girl gets that way she needs a cure more than the timid swain does. Hoity, toity, the course of true love never did run smooth and I don't know how to smooth it.

No Name, Goodes Ferry, Va.—A young man of thirty has no right to talk to a girl of twenty about the future. He should talk about the present and talk it seriously, thirty is not a boy's age. It is just the proper age for the girl of twenty and when he says to you again that you two should marry, or quit, you brace up and tell him you will quit unless he says something to prevent it and not wait for the future to say it, either. If he wants to dilly-dally, let him dilly-dally with some other girl. He's old enough to know better and you should teach him. If you marry him you will have to tell him more than once to go along and bring in the firewood. He's that kind.

Jolly B., Ledgewood, N. J.—Sometimes Jews and Chistians marry and usually when they do the marriage is quite satisfactory, but such a marriage should not be undertaken unless both parties understand thoroughly all the conditions. An orthodox Jew cannot marry a Christian and remain orthodox. There are many Jews who are not orthodox who marry Christians but remain Jews, while some renounce Judaism and become Christians. My advice to you would be to find your future husband in your own faith. Wait until you are twenty-five and study it out yourself.

Wild Rose, Adrian, N. Y.—First, my dear, you should not spell it "keaping," and you shouldn't write it "have went." Did you learn those things in the Adrian schools? Don't bother about the young man until you are at least twenty. And don't let him kiss you in public, or in private. Don't you know better? You are too young for an engagement ring and if he had good sound sense he would not have given it to you. Your mother shows very poor judgment in permitting you to have love affairs until you are done with school.

Reader, Farmdale, Mass.—You may hold to old-fashioned views of promiscuous kissing, but they are entirely correct and it is a pity and often a shame that every girl doesn't think and act as you do. No matter how modern the world becomes, hold fast to your old-fashioned ideas and do not let your kisses go to any man but the chosen one for all time. I have never in all my life known a girl who lost the respect of men because she would not permit herself to be kissed by them. You had much better be an unkissed old maid than an over-kissed married woman. You are wise, too, in preferring no company to the company of men who are no credit to you, nor to society. Hold to that and you will never regret it. Many a girl has been lost because she disregarded this plain wisdom.

Blonde and Brunette, Dickinson, N. Y.—Don't go as far as half way, even, because he is bashful. If he has to be coaxed, you don't want him. And don't write to find out why your correspondent hasn't written, unless you want him to think you are over-anxious. He'll write when he wants to and your writing to him again won't make him want to.

Troubled, Le Sueur, Minn.—You should insist upon his apologizing for the slights he gave you, at your home and at his, and if he has nothing to say satisfactorily explaining his conduct, you should break the engagement. You may patch it up this time, but if it occurs again, you will be making a serious mistake if you don't break it and keep it broken.

Peggy, Hattiesburg, Miss.—The question as to whether you should wear the ring given to you by a young man, since married, because he asked you to wear it, whatever happened between you, or not to wear it because your present sweetheart asks you not to, is just a little perplexing now, but if you become engaged to this one, I think you should not wear the other man's ring, even if you do consider it as much your property as if you had bought it. It may be that, but as you do not care at all for the married man, and do, or should, care for the man you are to marry, then you should please him first. This is merely a molehill and you should not make a mountain of it.

Ruby, Geneva, Ind.—If your "gentleman friend" has no other fault than playing cards, if he isn't a gambler, your parents should let you have him as a very rare and valuable specimen of young man.

Mikery, Bano, Ark.—The young man had a right to resent your asking him if he didn't want to take another girl to church when he asked you, because you had no right to ask such a question. If you knew he wanted to go with someone else you should have merely declined his invitation. When you said you would go if the others did, he had a right to ignore the others and go to church without you. Both of you are acting silly and you must settle it to suit yourselves.

Sixteen, Burkesville, Ky.—The young man, who falls out with you on account of your belief when you join the Methodist church, is unworthy of your regard. Select a Methodist sweetheart.

Friend, Chilesburg, Ky.—If you love your books so much better than you do the boys, why don't you study your books more than you do the boys and learn to spell a little better?

Puzzled, St. Paul, Minn.—As he asked you when you were friends, to write to him if anything ever did happen to come between you so that you both might understand if possible, I think you might write to him now to know what the trouble is. Still, if he cared very much for your friendship, he would write to you for explanations, or to explain. You may do as you please, but I don't think I would write to him.

Rosebud, Decherd, Tenn.—Jealous people always think the person they like don't care for them unless they get all the attention. This makes it embarrassing where other people are around to whom some attention must be paid. Therefore if you wish to avoid this unpleasantness don't become too friendly with people of jealous disposition. If your young man is mad, let him scratch his mad place, as my old Mammy used to say.

Brown Eyes, Oshkosh, Wis.—I don't know anything about the other qualifications of the two young men who are attentive to you, but if you have any choice in the matter, don't choose the one who is "bossy." A "bossy" husband, or wife, is about the most difficult person in the world to live with, unless the other half is born to be bossed and likes it.

Bright Eyes, Perrysville, Ind.—You take a very sensible view of marriage and as the young man seems to think very much as you do, I think you will find it happier than you think it will be. It is much better to have your doubts beforehand and dispel them afterwards, than to have no doubts at all beforehand and gather lots of them afterwards. It is very much as you say, marriage is largely what people make it. Mistakes are made sometimes that no human power can remedy, but thank heaven, they are the exception. You have my best wishes and my blessing.

Twenty, Mineral Wells, Texas.—A very great many good people are not church members, and I think a girl who loves a man of that kind should risk marrying him. If she can do no more, she can show him by her own life that he is mistaken when he thinks church people are silly. You are much safer in marrying a man of this type, than you are in marrying a church member whose religious belief does not prevent his being about the most undesirable husband a woman could have. My chief objection to so-called liberal thinkers is that they think so poorly, and speak so unjustly, of church people.

Mineral, Houston, Texas.—If it will break your parents' hearts for you not to marry the rich young drunkard and gambler, then marry him and let them break their hearts over your subsequent suffering.

M. B. J., Hunt, Ill.—If you will lose your girl friend if you don't give up your sweetheart, and you will lose him if you don't give her up, you can't do anything except to strike a balance between them and choose the one you'd rather not lose.

Blondy, Schroom Lake, N. Y.—Don't marry him if you don't care enough for him to take him, whatever my advice might be. Don't marry anybody on anybody's advice, though it is wise sometimes not to marry on the advice of others. You see, not being married you are on the safe side.

M. R. D. Danville, Ky.—It is quite proper, if you have no place at home to receive callers, to receive them at your uncle's, or at any friend's house. As for the poor orphan boy whom your parents object to, you have plenty of time to think about him for several years yet and the safest plan is just to think about him and be good sensible friends. A few years hence, perhaps neither of you will be much interested in the other. Girls of your age are always in too much of a hurry to respond to their heart throbs. What you need much more is common sense throbs. You know what I always say about kissing. Why ask me if you ought to?

Anxious, Flippin, Ark.—If the young man is the proper kind of gentleman he will return your letters and presents first, trusting that you will return his. Of course, if he does not send yours, write again for them.

There, my dears, your questions have been answered quite as they should be and I hope you have another reason to be thankful. Now, run along your happy way, thankful again that you are young and life has so much for you if you seek it as you should and while you are eating your Thanksgiving dinners, think of me,

By, by, COUSIN MARION.

Cultivation of the Sunflower

By C. L. Chapman

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE new claimant for the honor of being the real Sunflower state is Arkansas. Kansas has always been the Sunflower state and will be still so so far as the title is concerned but as to the culture of the flower Arkansas has entered enthusiastically upon growing the plant not for æsthetic reasons but for economic ones.

In many states sunflowers have been long grown in gardens for their beauty and their height but now they have been given the distinction of being planted in fields. From being merely a garden pet or a back yard beauty the sunflower has been advanced to the proud position of a crop.

Sunflower growing a comparatively new industry in Arkansas, has been started in Mississippi county in that state and is now conducted on a large scale. The announcement has gone forth to the world that Arkansas will grow this year, for the first time in her history, something like a thousand acres of sunflowers. Some farmers will plant as many as one hundred acres and many fields of ten and twenty acres will be set out in sunflowers.

Missouri is something of a sunflower state, but this is not generally known; but the sunflower has been one of the field crops for over fifteen years. The reason for the extension of sunflower cultivation is because the use of the seed of the flower is extensive and because there has been a marked decline in the receipt of sunflower seed from Russia, which country at the breaking out of the war furnished about eighty per cent of the seed consumed in the United States.

Sunflower seed is used extensively for poultry food and is considered very nutritious. Different kinds of oils are extracted from the seed, and last year was used largely as a substitute for cottonseed products. The poultry business is growing throughout the United States, and the extension of that industry accounts in a great measure for the increasing demand for sunflower seed.

The yield of seed runs from about eight hundred to fifteen hundred pounds an acre, and though the average price of the seed in the thrashing field is four or five cents a pound, the price has recently been up to fifteen cents a pound. It is reported that a sunflower crop is an easy one to cultivate. An expert has said that the labor required to grow ten acres of cotton or corn will be ample for forty acres of sunflowers. One or two cultivations is all that is required, and the thrashing is a small part of the crop labor. The rows are planted north and south, and when the heads mature a wagon is driven along the rows and the heads cut off with a corn knife, falling into the wagon, where a man or a boy strikes them against the wagon bed, shelling the seed out. The seed is then put in a dry place, and finally fanned, sacked and marketed.

Then too the sunflower, it seems, is used for numberless purposes by different nations. In this country it is considered valuable in the construction of battleships, the stalks being pithy and when compressed in blocks the pith absorbs a tremendous quantity of water.

These blocks are made to line the battleships' sides and placed between two walls of steel.

When it comes to the manufacture of cigars there is not a part of the plant without commercial value.

In Russia, where the seed is raised by the millions of pounds each year it is made into quite an eatable oil, while the residue is turned into seedcake for the cattle. The blossoms furnish honey and after that an excellent yellow dye.

The Chinese are successful in getting from the stalks a silky fiber.



Any Watch YOU WANT on CREDIT

One Customer Writes: "I have had my watch just a year today and our watch inspector says its the best time keeper on the road. Please find enclosed my last monthly payment of $1.00." We have thousands of such letters on file from satisfied customers, who have bought from us on

30 Days Trial Express Paid No Money Down

You take no chances with me. I am "Square Deal" Miller and I trust the people. That is why I am doing the greatest credit Watch, Diamond and Jewelry business in the world.

Watches Guaranteed for 25 Years

I Smash the Terms

NO REFERENCES DEMANDED

My terms will surely suit you. You get unlimited credit.

A Charge Account the same kind of credit you get from your grocer. No matter where you live or what your income might be, you can now own the finest of watches, a beautiful diamond or any rare jewelry and never miss the money.

Catalog FREE Send me your name and address so I can mail you Free and postpaid the most beautiful catalog of its kind ever printed. I want you to have this book. It's a gem. Write TODAY

Square Deal MILLER, Pres.
Miller-Hoefer Co. 776 Miller Bldg., Detroit, Mich.



66c for this **Magnificent**

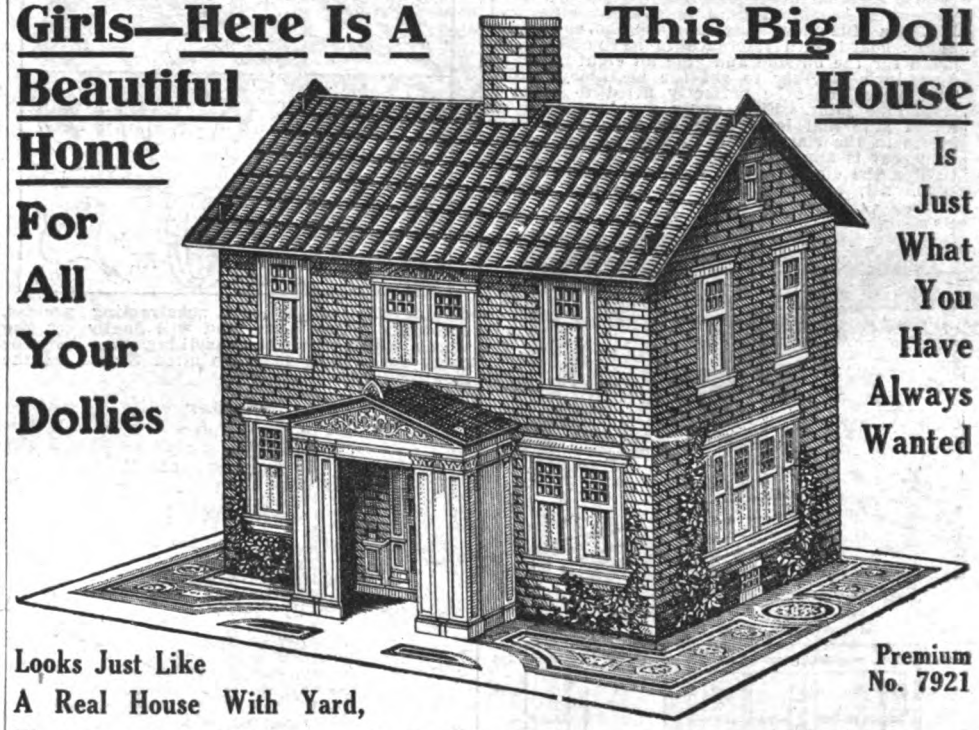
Lady's Cluster Ring. Retailers ask $1.50. Heavy GOLD plate. Gorgeous, synthetic RUBY or AMETHYST surrounded by 14 brilliant, sparkling genuine Acolyte Gems. Postage Paid. Others from 15c to $15. Money-back guarantee. Order NOW. Give size. Thousands of other sensational offers *at about half of retail prices* in our wonderful, new

Bargain Book of XMAS Gifts

and Household Supplies—just out. 5 per cent. Profit-Sharing Coupons with purchases. Write quickly for free copy.

THE JOHN NEWTON PORTER CO., 353 Broadway, New York.

Girls—Here Is A Beautiful Home For All Your Dollies



This Big Doll House Is Just What You Have Always Wanted

Looks Just Like A Real House With Yard, Flowers And Windows And Doors That Actually Open And Shut

Premium No. 7921

COMFORT loves little children and never loses an opportunity to please them, so when we had this large magnificent doll house offered us at a **special reduced price** you may be sure that we took up all that we could buy of them. You never saw a finer doll house than this one. It is not one of the small toy-like affairs that are not large enough to be of any account when you want to **really** and truly "play house." You will be surprised and delighted to see how much like a **real** house it looks and with the **large size** of it—over one foot high, a foot long, nearly ten inches wide, and of course the **door-yard** that extends clear around the house makes it still larger, and it looks like a real yard, too, with beautiful **flower beds** laid out, **walks** and handsome green **climbing vines** that come way up over the windows. It is built of very heavy folding cardboard in true **colonial** style just like the houses that rich people live in, with a **large porch,** plenty of windows that **open outward,** and doors that actually **open and shut.** The sides of the house and the chimney are painted a handsome **bright red,** the roof is light green while all the windows and doors are finished in white.

No little girlie ever had a larger or prettier doll house than this one and **all your dollies will certainly feel very proud of such a beautiful home to live in.** We are certainly pleased that we are able to make so many little ones happy with a present of one of these fine houses, and we are sure that every mother who sends for one will be as well pleased as the children. We will **give** you this doll house which comes all folded and ready to easily set up **all ready for housekeeping,** upon the terms of either of the following special offers.

Offer No. 7921A For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c, we will send you this large beautiful doll house free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7921B For your own subscription, or renewal, or extension of your present subscription, for one year at 25c and 10c additional, (35c in all) we will send you this doll house free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7921.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Corner for Boys

By Uncle John

WELL boys, another year has rolled around and Thanksgiving Day with its beautiful significance and bounteous feasts hovers near. Unless we are lost in selfishness and worldly ambition we can find plenty of reason to be thankful, no matter who or what we are. The very air we breathe and the earth we tread are gifts of Nature and every animate and inanimate thing contributes in some way to our welfare. If there is any fault, it is with ourselves. Perhaps we have abused our bodies and are sick. Perhaps we are thinking of what others have to be thankful for and are overlooking our own advantages or rashly conclude that we have not been squarely dealt with because we have some impediment or defect. This is nonsense and base ingratitude. You are endowed with great qualities but they will avail nothing if you sit down and whine and let them rust. "Nothing happens to a man which he is not fitted by nature to bear." Live your own life bravely. Think of the manifold good things you are enjoying. Look at the doughnut not the hole.

Skating Sail

This sail is held with outstretched arms to catch the wind and is tilted and moved by the skater to govern his speed and direction. It is made of canvas or any heavy fabric. Begin by cutting out the pattern shown in Fig. 2, allowing for a two-inch hem at each end. This hemming had better be left to your mother or sister. The oblong patch in the center reinforces that part that is slit to let the hands through. A light cane pole is run through the hem at each end. At the center, on the reverse side, part of the hem is cut away so that the hand may grasp the pole. This is shown in Fig. 3. In the same view, "s" is the slit; "u" is the exposed part of the pole; "t" is the hem; "r" is the seam and "p" is an extra patch, sewed around its edge, to form a pocket for the end of the cane pole which

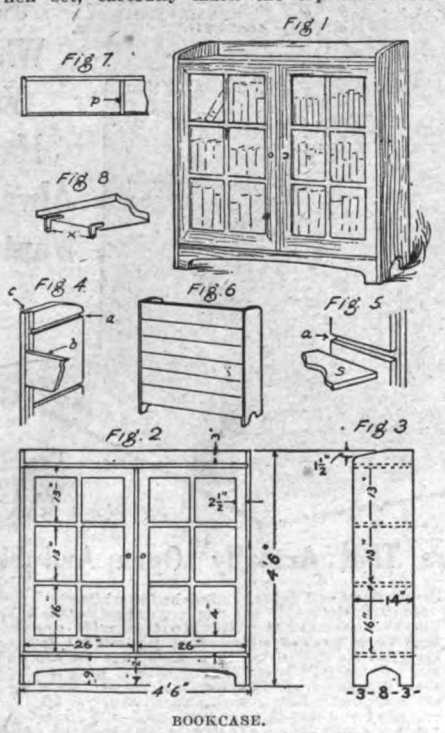


SKATING SAIL.

runs across the sail. See "b" to get this idea clear. This sail has novel features not found in any others. It can be quickly taken apart and rolled up like a curtain. In extremely cold weather it serves well as a windshield and when the wind and ice are right, it will take you along at a good rate of speed.

Bookcase

It is really difficult to put good lucks into a bookcase but in this design, I think we have fairly well succeeded. Select hard wood; such as oak or walnut is, of course, the best material, but yellow pine is pretty and can be finished in a variety of ways. Fig. 2 is a front view and Fig. 3 a side view. Let us make the ends first. Select board with reference to having a pretty grain for the outside and glue an eight-inch and a six-inch together to get the necessary width. The pieces must be perfectly fitted to make a good glue joint. First apply a thin coating of liquid glue and let it dry in, then have your pieces in the clamps and as soon as the second thin coat is applied to the edges that will touch tighten the clamps and weight the boards down. When set, carefully mark the top and bottom



BOOKCASE.

lines. Saw a little outside your marking and trim to it by rubbing with sandpaper. The rear edge is rabbeted to receive to back board. This work is done with a wood chisel or may be ordered done at the mill. The rabbet is marked "c" in Fig. 4 and the back board "b." The groove "a" is for the end of the shelf. It is one quarter inch deep and is quite easy to cut with saw and chisel. If you prefer you can dispense with shelf grooves and fasten your shelves with iron brackets as shown by Fig. 8. The back of the bookcase may be cheaper material such as No. 2 pine, one half-inch thick. The top piece is of yellow pine. In Fig. 6 our first assembling is complete. Next put the shelves in place. The top and bottom shelf are 14 inches wide and must be put in as in Fig. 5. The others are seven eighths inches less in width. In buying material for the door frames have it rabbeted to receive glass. Make two doors that will just fill the space or frame made by the top, bottom and two sides. You may have one large piece of glass in each door if you do not like the small panes. A door, to close properly, should have a slight bevel, that is, the edge is slanting, being smaller on the inside. Use four brass hinges on each door. They should be nickel plated and measure one and one half inch by two inches. They are screwed to the edges of the door and sunk their own depth into the wood. Only the ball of the hinge is visible when the door is closed.

In finishing yellow pine, simply apply three or four coats of varnish, the first and second thinned one half and one quarter with pure turpentine and the third and fourth full strength. If there are any rough spots, sandpaper very lightly between coats. If you like oak stain put it on (two coats) after the first coat of varnish. Wax makes a more satiny and less glary finish than varnish.

Rescuing a Playmate

The most overworked word of our day is "preparedness," but it describes a most desirable condition. What would you do if one of your companions broke through the ice and began to



RESCUE ON THIN ICE.

helplessly flounder and sink? The picture shows how a brave and resourceful boy rescued his chum from a watery grave. His first act was to drag up a plank that was close by, then he crawled out to the edge of the hole, quickly doffed his overcoat and tossed one end of it to the struggling lad and, with the assistance of a few friends, dragged him out to safety. I think this is a good method of going about a rescue under like cicumstances. By forming the human chain, there is little danger to any of the rescuers, provided the last boys have solid footing. The plank ic a great help and adds safety to the stunt but it is not an absolute necessity. Practise it frequently and be prepared for the emergency that may arise. It is shock that robs one of his strength and when you know just what to do, little shock is experienced.

Riddles

What is that which goes from one town to another without moving?
The road.

Why is a red light on a railroad track like a tired dog's tail?
One stops a train; the other stops a-waggin (a wagon).

Why is a man who says he cannot stand up or sit down very peculiar?
Because if he tells the truth he lies.

What is the difference between a farmer and the sun?
One raises produce; the other produces rays.

Who is the first man mentioned in every book?
Chap I.

Plus and Minus Puzzle

This might be called a plus and minus puzzle. To solve it, you write out the name of the first object pictured and subtract the following one, or rather the letters that spell it. This will give you one or more permanent letters and by con-



tinuing the adding and substracting process, according to the signs, you will finally get two words which describe something that happens every four years in the United States, in the month of November.

Answer

Pink-ink—P
Razor-azor—R
Elephant-lephant—E
Swan-wan—S
Ivy-vy—I
Deer-er—DE
E
Nest-est—N
Twig-wig—T
Infant-n-fan-t—I
Arm-rm—A
Lily-ily—L
Ear-ar—E
Leaf-af—LE
E
Comb-omb—C
Tire-re—TI
I
Onion-ion—ON
N

Presidential Election.

Some of the articles described this month might be used for gifts. Nothing is more precious to a dear friend than a piece of our own handiwork. Omitting all consideration of intrinsic value, which, in hand-made articles, is generally a point of superiority, and thinking only of the ethical and sentimental worth of such gifts, we can truthfully say that no other kind is so deeply appreciated by the recipient. Just as we would value a letter from a dear friend more than we would the privilege of reading a piece he clipped from the public press so do we more highly esteem the long, long thoughts of love his handiwork expresses more than the formal of fleeting inspiration that might have caused him to buy us something. But above all, if you do make anything to give away, let it be your very best effort.

UNCLE JOHN.

The Brand of Shame

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21.)

Drake turned to Pierce. "You here yet?" he asked roughly, and Pierce, shrugging his shoulders contemptuously, left the apartment.

His anger spent, Drake sat down weakly. He knew now that he had treated his wife unforgivably. He should have been more moderate. He should have waited till they were alone before creating such a scene.

He went to her door and called her name, once, twice. There was no response. He glanced uneasily at his watch. He could imagine Jenkins cursing him for his delay. Promising himself a speedy return and a petition for forgiveness, he went out of the house.

Upon the departure of Drake's taxi-cab, Pierce reentered the apartment. He, too, called softly at Julia's door once, twice. At last it swung open and, her eyes downcast, Julia emerged.

Pierce took an eager step toward her. "Adorable!" He would have drawn her to himself but Julia repulsed him.

"Hurry into your motor boots, dear! Let me help. Here is your wrap. Edith will be wondering what has become of us."

She hesitated. It was obvious that Pierce's matter-of-fact manner was calming her.

"Drake sounded brutal, but you must make allowance for him. He is unaccustomed to things up h[illegible] for one thing, and he is working like a fiend."

She fluttered toward her wrap.

"We will just look in and have one whirl. You can be in bed long before Drake's return. Unless you wish, he need never know that you went; I should tell him, though. He will laugh at his outburst tomorrow."

What had taken place in the time that intervened between Drake's leaving his office and his return to it, Jenkins could not fathom. Each was relieved when, the business finished, the time came to drive Jenkins to the station. Drake did not wait for the departure of the train but drove home without delay.

The place was very silent as he let himself in, the servants, long since, having gone to their quarters.

"Let me in, dear," he pleaded vainly at Julia's door. Not for worlds would he have entered unbidden. Finally he went back to the waning fire and sat down to think.

How long he remained there waiting for some sign from the inner room, he did not know, but presently he was aroused by the closing of a door. He glanced up, surprised, as the draperies moved apart to admit Julia, the voluptuous queen incarnate, and Pierce, who was following.

For once Drake's mind functioned slowly but when he had grasped the situation he rose with the force of a released spring. Julia gave a startled cry and Pierce fell back a step.

"What does this mean?" Drake demanded. He was very quiet but the two could not discount his earnestness.

"It means," Julia returned, summoning her

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33.)

Great Athletic Book 10c
Learn **wrestling**, self-defense, jiu jitsu. Let **Farmer Burns**, Mgr. **Frank Gotch, World's Champion**, teach you. Makes you strong, healthy and skillful. Fine book showing great holds and tricks by Burns and Gotch. **Send 10c** Write today—immediately—giving your age. Farmer Burns School of Wrestling 3048 Lamge Blvd., Omaha

FREE WATCH AND RING
Lady or Gent Thin Model
10 YEAR GUARANTEE
Many other valuable prizes for selling only 25 beautiful Art and Religious PICTURES at 10c each. Order pictures at once. We give moving picture machines. GAIR MFG. CO. Dept. 301 CHICAGO, ILL.

FREE POWERFUL AIR GUN
Big lever action rifle free for selling 20 Art and Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 825 CHICAGO

CARDS Send 2c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Beau Catcher and list of 2000 Songs given Free. OHIO CARD CO., B14 Cadiz, Ohio.

PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D.C. Advice and books free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best services.

$3.75 SUIT
NO EXTRA CHARGES
Made to measure in latest style. Not $3.75, not even $1, not even one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. No extra charge for fancy, swell styles, no extra charge for extra big, extreme peg-tops, pearl buttons, tunnel or fancy belt loops, no extra charge for anything, all free. Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. Agents of other tailoring houses please write, we have a new deal that will open your eyes. We ask every man to answer this, every boy in long pants, every man, every where. No matter where you live, or what you do, write us a letter or postal and say "*Send Me Your Offer*" the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges. Write today, this minute. Address
KNICKERBOCKER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 538 Chicago, Ill.

FINE OLD VIOLINS
On Easy Payments
30 Days Free Trial
allowed, no matter where you live. If not more than pleased with our values return violin AT OUR EXPENSE—and no harm done. Ability to play the violin brings social and financial success. Get a violin with a rich, mellow tone and it will create in you a desire to master it.
Free! Magnificent Album-Catalog
containing portraits of the world's greatest violinists since Paganini's time, a half-tone of "Stradivarius in His Workshop," and the romantic story of The King of Musical Instruments. A postal brings all to you FREE—no obligations.
CREMONA VIOLIN SHOP
Dept. F-562, Chicago

FRIENDSHIP LINK RING --- ONLY 18c
Sterling Silver or Rolled Gold Beaded or Plain Designs, 3 Initials ENGRAVED FREE, to introduce our Bracelet Links. Send 18c. and size today. FRIENDSHIP JEWELRY CO. 53 Chambers St., Dept. 612 New York

COMB AND BRUSH SET
FOR LADY OR GENT
Premium No. 262

THERE has been no Premium offer in years that has been so pleasing to our friends as this new **Comb and Brush Set.** The great beauty of this latest style dark green or Malachite finish on the back of brush with the SILVERINE shield for engraving initial or monogram has made this set one of the best as a present for birthday, wedding or any special occasion. The brush is **nine inches** long over **2 1-2 inches** wide with splendid firm white bristles well fastened and should last for years. **The Comb** is **black, seven inches** long and **one & one half inches** wide with **coarse and fine teeth. When ordering be sure to state that you want Set No. 262.**

Club Offer: For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send this Set Free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 262.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Dainty Cut-Out Christmas Folder-Cards

The Latest And Most Popular Christmas Novelties, Handsomely Embossed in Gold And Many Bright Colors. Five Of Them Given To You For One Subscription

PREMIUM NO. 7941



THESE **latest, new style** Christmas folder-cards delight the boys and girls and please the grown folks as well. There is something irresistibly **charming** about them—the way the **cute childish figures,** the jolly old **Santa Claus** with his **Reindeer** and the other designs **pop up** and stand out in **bold relief** and as **lifelike** as you please when one half of the card is tipped backward by a gentle pressure of the figure. They make ideal Christmas tree **ornaments** or **decorations** or they may be used as **Christmas presents** themselves as each card carries a **loving remembrance** in the form of a pleasing verse or an appropriate Christmas greeting.

These dainty novelty folder-cards are something new this season and the department and stationery stores of the large cities are selling thousands of them, so we knew that COMFORT readers would welcome this offer, especially as they are not to be had in the small town stores. No **home or Sunday School Christmas tree** can be considered complete without an assortment of these cards—in fact they will add much to the enjoyment of all **Christmas festivities** whether at home or away, so if you intend to observe the joyous Christmas holidays in the good old-fashioned way don't fail to send for an assortment at once. **Our supply is not large so you should mail your order early to avoid possible disappointment.**



We will make you a present of **five** of these new Christmas folder-cards, no two alike, as shown in our illustration if you will accept either one of the following special offers:



Offer No. 7941 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you these five beautiful Christmas Novelty Cut-out Folder-Cards free by mail postpaid.

Premium No. 7941.

Special 5-Day Offer. If you will send in the subscription and remittance **within 5 days** we will send you, in addition to the five Folder-Cards, a package of Beautiful Christmas Novelties, Cards, Seals, Stamps, etc., free and postpaid.

Offer No. 7941 B. For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you these five Christmas folder-cards free by mail postpaid.
Address COMFORT Augusta, Maine.

25 ASSORTED HY-GRADE SOUVENIR POST CARDS, POSTPAID. **10c**
The S. & D. Co., Dept. COM., Brunswick, Maine.

BE A DETECTIVE
Earn from $150.00 to $300.00 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. LUDWIG, 121 Westover Building, Kansas City, Mo.



Rose Bud Ring Free Gold Filled, Guaranteed for 3 years. Set with beautiful Rose Bud. To introduce our big bargains we will send this ring any size for 12c to help pay advertising. Rex Jewelry Co. Dept. 24 Battle Creek, Mich.



FREE Fine Camera and complete outfit for selling 20 Large Colored Art & Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Beautiful Post Cards at 10cents each. Satisfaction Guaranteed or money returned. Order your choice today. GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 325, CHICAGO



THIS GENUINE FRIENDSHIP RING FREE
Sterling Silver finish. To introduce our Jewelry catalogue, we will send this ring your size, your initials, hand engraved for 12 cts. EAGLE JEWELRY CO., Dept. 38, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

Become a DOCTOR OF CHIROPRACTIC



Quick wealth and prestige for you. Learn at home. We train you by mail. No advanced education necessary. Our method makes everything easy for you. Chiropractors in demand. Many making high as **$25 a Day** You can do likewise. You can make big money, have your own office, your own hours and enjoy life. Write for our free book which shows you everything.

These Lessons Teach You How To Make Spinal Adjustment for the Speedy Relief of—

Catarrh	Headache
Epilepsy	Neuralgia
Fevers	Constipation
Paralysis	Indigestion
Pleurisy	Neuritis
Asthma	Dyspepsia
Lumbago	Rheumatism
Jaundice	Gout, etc.

FREE LESSONS AND CHARTS
Send a postal today—NOW! For a short time we offer five complete Lessons and two sets of charts (total value charts $31.50) absolutely FREE! Act quick—offer limited. Write today!
American University, 162 N. Dearborn St., Dept. 611 Chicago

Six Elegant Lace Curtains FREE TO LADIES
Send no money. Simply name and address. We will send you, postpaid, 12 boxes of our famous **White Cloverine** also 12 beautiful Art Pictures, 16 x 20 in. Sell the **Cloverine** at 25c. each and give one beautiful picture free with each box. Return us $3 collected and we will immediately send you six (three pair) beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains nearly three yards long. You will be proud of them. Everyone buys after you show pictures—stores usually charge $1 each for them.
Write to-day—be first in your town. Address
The Wilson Chemical Co.
Curtain Dept. No. 705
TYRONE - - PA.

Winifred Worth's Crochet And Tatting Book

For One Subscription **Premium No. 7321**



Containing Sixty-three Beautiful Half Tone Illustrations of New Fashionable Designs In Crochet And Tatting With Complete Instructions for Making.

EVERY woman who is interested in crocheting and tatting should have a copy of this new book written by Winifred Worth and containing many designs used by the nuns in convents **now published for the first time.** The book is of good size measuring 8 inches by 10½ inches, printed on fine quality coated book paper and consists of 28 pages on which are shown **sixty-three,** large, clear half-tone **illustrations** with full and explicit **directions** for crocheting the prettiest edgings, beadings, insertions, towel ends, doilies, etc., besides a splendid variety of new, dainty designs in tatting with the necessary instructions. The art of combining Venetian crochet and tatting is fully explained.

This book also gives sizes of hooks best adapted for the different sizes of crochet threads, the abbreviations of all of the principal crochet stitches and terms used in tatting and tells how the different stitches are made such as the **chain stitch, double crochet, half treble, double treble, treble crochet, cluster** and **open mesh** stitches. Among the many crochet edgings, beadings, and insertions illustrated and described are the **clover leaf, Irish, picot, cross-bar, half-shell, half-wheel, K-stitch** and **filet** edgings; **festoon, Irish, fence-row, picot** and **shell** beadings; **mile-a-minute, half-shell, clover leaf, filet** and **monkey-face insertions; butterfly wings, Van Dyke Point, nuns' pattern** and many others. The tatting motifs are varied and beautiful, consisting of beadings, edgings and insertions for **table mats, bedspreads, curtains, guest towels, coin-purses, night-gown yokes, bath towels, sash curtains, ribbon holders, plate doilies,** etc., etc.

We will send you free and postpaid this book of the loveliest fashions in beautiful lace work with simple and complete directions which you can easily follow upon the terms of the following special offer.

Offer No. 7321A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this book of crocheting and tatting designs with directions free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7321B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this crocheting and tatting book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7321. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

R. M. R., Paris, Tenn.—For information about public lands write to Commissioner of the Land Office, Washington, D. C. Inquire also of him about state and railroad lands. All things considered, if you are a good farmer, you will do better to buy improved land than to take the unimproved, and improved land can be had in many parts of the country at very reasonable rates. But don't take any land until you have seen it and know something about the section in which you think you would like to live. A farm not so good in a healthy, well-populated region is worth more for a home than the richest farm in an unhealthy, thinly populated region. It isn't the money you can make on a farm, but the good, healthy living that you and your family can get out of it that counts.

Mrs. B. C., Raymond, Minn.—To you and to all COMFORT readers having copies of that moss-grown fake The Ulster County Gazette, date 1800, containing Washington's address and other matters, we want to say again as we have often said before that it is a copy of the original made to sell to the gullible and it has no value whatever. All of you will learn more in five minutes by reading COMFORT than you will learn in five hundred years reading The Ulster County Gazette, allowing that everybody has already read Mr. Washington's well-known farewell address.

M. V T., Honolulu, Oahu.—There is no "best" remedy for a man who drinks heavily. There are some men who drink heavily, who can and do overcome it, and there are others whom the drink conquers and destroys. A great deal, if not all, depends upon the drinker. This is admitted by all specialists who treat alcoholism, and they say that while they can usually stop the man from drinking, they cannot keep him stopped. That part is for him to do, and if he slips after he has once had his system thoroughly dealcoholized they say he is sure to be destroyed, and that in a short time. The drink habit, once fixed on man or woman, is a fearful curse, and we are sometimes inclined to think that nothing short of divine interposition can effect a cure.

E. R. C., Tippecanoe, Ohio.—Specimens of animate or inanimate nature, supposed to be rare, have no commercial value, ordinarily though their scientific value may be considerable, and about the only thing you can do with the strange worm you have found, but which may not be strange to the scientists, is to send it to the nearest college and donate it to the college museum of natural history. Now and then a collector will pay a good price for some particular specimen he wants, but such collectors are as difficult to find as the rare specimens are.

F. A. C., Cavendish, Idaho.—For legal information, as well as other kinds, which you want to be authoritative, about government land, write to Commissioner of the Land Office, Washington, D. C.

R. A. F., Georgetown, Conn.—A Five and Ten Cent Store is not a bad idea at all in a small town and many of them are quite popular and profitable, but the person who makes a success of such a store must know how to do business and cannot hope to make one go, merely by having enough money to buy stock enough to start with and being told by somebody how to run it. It is like doing anything else successfully—the person doing it must know how. You don't know how, or you would not be asking us the questions you do, and we advise that you keep out of it until you have given the subject thorough study.

Miss M. E. G., York, S. C.—We do not know of a poorer market in which to make money, than that of trying to sell poetry. If you can find editors who will publish it merely as a compliment to you, you will do better than a great many beginning poets are doing, or have ever done. A few great poets and some poets who have a vogue in the popular periodicals can sell their poetry—a very few indeed, say that they can make some money out of their work, but not one in a thousand can do that. If you want to test the truth of our words, send two or three of your shorter poems to editors of such magazines as you know use the same kind of verse as you write and see what they do with it, always enclosing a stamped envelope for return if not available. It may possibly be that you have the real poetic genius and your poetry is of the highest type, but if it is, the editors will know and they will let you know very quickly. One thing you must remember is that one rejection, or two, or two dozen, must not discourage you. Keep sending as long as you have the money to pay postage. Let us know what success you have after three or four months of effort.

M. L. E., Sisseton, S. Dak.—If you are not sufficiently well informed in literary matters to know the names of prominent publishers and periodicals buying stories and to know whether they are reliable or not, our advice to you is not to waste your time, stationery, labor and postage in sending your stories to them. They buy only from skilled writers and as there are now 20,000 writers who are skilled, those who are not have no chance whatever.

E. H., Oakdale, Ill.—Write to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C. for the necessary blanks and information to make out an application for a patent. If you need an attorney, as you may before you have got the patent, there is a list of registered patent attorneys who are reliable though the Patent Office will not recommend any one of them more than another.

Mrs. C. N., Newkirk, Mont.—The resilvering of a mirror is to be properly done only by an experienced person. It will be cheaper and very much better, unless you know just how to do it and have the proper materials for resilvering.

M. H., Danbury, Wis.—Typewriting to do at home will be very hard to get, seeing that there are so many typists willing to go after it. We should say that if you could get it at all, your best way would be to carry an advertisement in your local newspapers. That would bring you to public notice and to the notice of those who might need your services. (2) Don't try writing articles or stories for magazines until you know the magazines well enough, from having read them, to know what their needs are and whether you could meet them or not.

G. D. A., Bradshaw, Nebr.—Your state has a Widow-Mothers' Pension law and any of your town or county officials should be able to tell you how to apply for it. Procedure varies in different states and you must get local information. An attorney might get it for you, if it could be had, and he would probably not charge you for his services.

Mrs. L. H., Mize, Ky.—The most difficult part of your wagon journey from Kentucky to Florida will be from Morgan county to Cumberland Gap as the worst roads and least traveled by automobiles are in eastern Kentucky. In that section your best roads we should say will be from county-seat to county-seat, going by way of Breathitt, Leslie and Bell. You can get road maps from Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago, and after leaving the Gap, in every town where there is a garage you can learn what the best road is to the next town on your way. If you are good at talking, as most women are, you won't need any map except a good ordinary one of the states between Kentucky and Florida. With that before you and the questions you can ask along the road you ought to be able to pull through safely and in fair time, say two months. It will cost less to go by rail, but will not be so interesting.

Mrs. L. S., Bayou Chene, La.—We know of no Soldiers' Home where the wives of soldiers are also admitted. If your husband has a clear record he should be able to get into a Home without difficulty. Write to Secretary of War, Washington, D. C. for information in detail. Ask about the wives.

Mrs. A. H., Creston, Mont.—Starting an employment bureau is like starting any other business, or doing any other kind of work—if you don't know how, the chances are that it will fail. Did you ever try to do anything that you didn't know how to do and do it right? You've got to learn. Go around your town and see if an employment bureau is needed. If it is, take a room, put up your sign and advertise your business in the local newspapers. Maine is too far from Montana for us to know, if you need a local license, or not. Ask one of your town officials.

Mrs. H. S. S., Waterloo, Iowa.—We cannot instruct you in the making of wall paper portieres. They belong as far as we know, to that large class of home-made articles of use and ornament which every woman makes to suit herself after she has seen how some other woman makes them. Make inquiries and observations around the homes of Waterloo and then construct your own as you please.

Mrs. R. G. T., Silt, Colo.—Once upon a time in the days of superstition and other phoney notions, a baby born with a veil was supposed to possess supernatural powers, but in these days of twentieth century progress and development all that sort of thing has passed away. The baby born with a veil is no luckier, or unluckier, than any other kind of baby.

W. M. K., Montezuma, Kans.—The better way to learn Spanish is to take lessons in a class where all the conversation is in the language you are studying. The education of the ear is as important as the education of the tongue. It is easy to learn to read a language, but difficult to learn to speak, so you need all the conversation you can get. While you are learning to speak, you should read a Spanish newspaper and also read good Spanish novels in order to increase your vocabulary and your knowledge of construction and idioms. Correspondence schools also give good courses in Spanish even to teaching the pronunciation by means of phonograph records.

L. V. C., Crabtree, Ark.—In coloring whitewash, your own taste is the rule to go by. Put in as much lampblack as will bring the white to the shade of gray you want. Try it out on a board, or shingle. Spanish brown, yellow ochre and indigo give good colors, but do not use green as the lime destroys the color.

G. O. P., Medina, N. Y.—It is not easy to keep cider sweet indefinitely. There are many methods adopted by cider drinkers. One is to put a handful of common clay into the barrel; another is to put in two or three pounds of powdered charcoal; a third calls for a gill of mustard seed to the barrel. You may take your choice, but we give no guarantee. Another plan is to let the cider work until it is of the right taste and then add a tumbler and a half of grated horse-radish to each barrel. Let it remain for a couple or three weeks and rack off and bung up closely in kegs or barrels. Right here we want to say that modern experts in intemperance say that cider drunkards are the most hopeless of all kinds and that an excess of cider stupefies and dulls the drinker to a condition for which there is no relief but death.

To a number of inquirers who want to know about coins we wish to say that we are not coin experts, but there are firms advertising in COMFORT who are and who are reliable and if they will submit their inquiries to them they will get the information they seek.

Mrs. B. G., Mobile, Ala.—The decision in the case of the blowing up of the Maine was that the explosion was from the outside, but no decision was reached as to who was guilty.

Mrs. H. M. J., Bogota, Ill.—Mr. Charles E. Hughes is a member of the Baptist church in good and regular standing.

Specializing

The need of specializing or giving one's whole energy and ability to a particular kind of work is more apparent every day, because as time goes on, the requirements of a civilized people become more varied and complex. In the old days, agriculture was the principal pursuit of mankind and every farmer was a jack-of-all-trades but, in every community, certain men excelled in certain lines of work and their neighbors employed them to work in the branch in which they were expert. Thus trades were developed. In the course of time good tradesmen got so much business that they had to have assistants, and with the constant increase of population, the cross roads shop grew into a factory. In the factories it again became evident that a helper could do one thing well and perhaps could never learn to do another part of the same work, so the boss, to profit himself, kept him at the task that he did well. This kind of evolution has been going on for centuries until now, no man is expected to do more than one thing, but he is expected to do that, perfectly. As early as possible you should make up your mind what line of work you will follow and then bend all your energy to perfecting yourself in that line. As an example of modern specialization, I call your attention to two artists of my home town. One paints dogs exclusively and the other draws absolutely nothing but bank buildings. Each of them has far more work than he can attend to. Can you guess the reason? Is it because they do one thing only? No. It is because they do one thing well.

Genuine Imported All Wool Serge Made-to-Order $14.50



GLENN URQUART Plaids—Tartan Plaids, Shepherd Plaids, Fancy and Pencil Stripes, Two-tone stripes. Your choice of any cloth, plain or fancy weaves, rough mill finish or smooth finish—tailored to *your own measure* at prices that will astound you.

Guaranteed All Wool!
There is not a cotton thread in any of our fabrics. We guarantee it. Nothing but pure wool and pure silk goes into the fabrics from which Babson suits are made.

Write for our fall style book. The Imported All Wool Serge is but one of the bargains we offer.

On Credit!
Don't decide to buy until you have seen the suit for yourself. Note the perfect fit—note how carefully it is made in the latest style—compare it with any suit you ever bought—then, if you are not satisfied send it back.

And, while you buy at the *direct* bargain prices, we also give you time on your payments. (Just as your local dealers in your town give their customers.)

Fall Style Book
and Samples of the Latest Fabrics—FREE
The Fall Style Book is ready. Write today and we'll send it to you free. It is handsomely printed in full colors and shows the newest New York styles. With the book comes large generous samples of the all-wool fabrics from which you have to choose. It's just like having a tailor call at your home to get our Fall Style Book. Write for it today—now. You'll not be obligated.
Babson Bros. Dept 3048—19th St. and California Avenue **Chicago**

ALL OF THESE FREE



This lovely Gold plated stone-set **Pendant** and 18-in. **Neck Chain** and this handsomely designed stone-set **Bracelet** which opens to fit wrist and these **3** valuable Gold plated **Rings,** also this fine pair of sparkling **Pierceless Ear Drops**
ALL GIVEN FREE
for selling only 12 pieces of Jewelry at 10 cents each. We trust you and take back all not sold.
A. D. DALE MFG. CO.
Providence, R. I.





A BOUNTIFUL CHRISTMAS TO YOU

WIN A PRIZE

9 — 23-1-14-20 — 1-14

1-21-20-15-13-15-2-9-12-5

CHRISTMAS OUTFIT FREE

THE first figure of the above two lines is a word; the next four figures spell a word; the next two figures spell a word; the last ten spell another word. These four words form a sentence which will interest you. This most interesting puzzle can be solved with a little study as follows. There are twenty-six letters in the alphabet and we have used figures in spelling the four words instead of letters. Letter A is number 1, B number 2, C number 3, etc., throughout the alphabet. **IF YOU CAN SPELL OUT THESE FOUR WORDS WE WILL SEND YOU A SURPRISE OUTFIT CONTAINING A BEAUTIFUL ASSORTMENT OF 39 CHRISTMAS SEALS, TAGS, STICKERS, POST CARDS, ETC., ALL EMBOSSED IN COLORS AND BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLES OF THE LATEST CHRISTMAS DESIGNS,** also a copy of a New York Magazine. All you have to do is to enclose with your answer 2 two-cent stamps to cover cost of packing, mailing, etc. Try and make out the four words. **ACT QUICKLY.** Write the four words on a slip of paper, mail it immediately with your name and address and 4 cents in stamps. And you will promptly receive as your reward this **SURPRISE PACKET,** which is a handsome assortment of 39 **SEALS, TAGS, STICKERS, POST CARDS,** etc., enough for all your Christmas packages. Answer at once. Address

M. E. Crofton, Mgr., 615 W. 43d St., Dept. 40, New York

26-Piece Daisy SILVER SET

Premium No. 680

Sent To You Prepaid For A Club Of Six



WE have in the past made many offers of table ware, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer a **complete set of 26 Pieces** in return for such a small club of subscriptions. And please don't think that because we are giving away this set on such liberal terms that it is plated on a brass base and consequently will change color and have that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. **This Set which we offer you here is plated on a white metal base** therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will not show signs of wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—**6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife.** Each piece is **full regulation size** for family use, the handles are handsomely **embossed and decorated** with the beautiful **Daisy design** which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and the bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and **bright polished.**

WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to offer it as a premium for so few subscriptions. It is by far **the greatest value** we have ever offered, in fact we are **so sure** that it will please and satisfy all who accept this offer **we are going to guarantee every Set sent out for a period of five years.** We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Daisy Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this 26-Piece Daisy Table Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 680.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

James Whitcomb Riley

By C. L. Cheever

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

TRUE poet of the provinces was James Whitcomb Riley, who died in Indianapolis Saturday night, the 22nd of July. Born of the Middle West, he sang the joys, sorrows, fancies and humors of its folk, largely in its own dialect, and the world was touched by his inspiration and the realism of his homely symbols that he was one of the few that, devoting their lives to poetry, has gained a fortune.

Mr. Riley was peculiarly sensitive to the advance of age, and evaded inquiries as to the date of his birth; but the most accurate information available indicated that he was born in 1848. "Should you ask him his age," one of his friends said, "he would answer 'that he was this side of forty,' and leave you to guess which side."

The poet was the son of Reuben A. Riley, a lawyer and political speaker of Greenfield, Ind. The younger Riley could not be brought to the dull routine of school days, but he was wise in the lore of streams and fields. His mother, who was Elizabeth Marine before her marriage, was a writer of verse. Instead of preparing for the practise of law, as his father wished, the son apparently prepared for nothing, and when he left home he turned itinerant sign painter to make his living. What he carried from the little schoolhouse was some sympathetic knowledge of literature, imported by his teacher, Lee O. Harris, himself a poet.

For ten years Riley roved the Ohio valley, painting commercial signs on fences and farm buildings. He had the trick of brush and pencil, and cleverly drew sketches illustrative of the virtues of merchandise advertised in the signs he and his fellow-artisans made to bloom on the roadsides. He was naturally musical, and shone as a fiddler in the villages at which his party stopped at night. He played for dances and at concerts in the country hotels, and he wrote rhymes which sometimes found their way into the country newspapers.

He led this cheerful, free and easy life until late in the '70s, when he took employment as a writer for a newspaper at Anderson, Ind. He had now begun to write verse steadily, but with little encouragement from publishers. In 1877, for the purpose, as he said, of proving that he could write poetry of value, he perpetrated "the Poe hoax," which for years was a literary sensation, which he often regretted, and of which, as he often told his friends, he knew he would never hear the last.

By an arrangement with Oscar Henderson, Mr. Riley wrote and Mr. Henderson printed, a poem in the style of Edgar Allen Poe, to which he gave the characteristic title of "Leonanie," and it was offered to the public as a hitherto unpublished product of the genius of Poe.

This poem, it was stated, had been found written on the flyleaf of a copy of Ainsworth's dictionary. A traveler had discovered the treasure in the sitting-room of an old inn near Richmond, Va., and had taken it away with him. The publication of the poem and the accompanying story excited interest throughout the country, and Mr. Henderson was called upon to produce the book in which it was written. Mr. Riley obtained a copy of Ainsworth's Dictionary, and upon a flyleaf Samuel Richards, a painter, wrote in it, the poem in imitation of the chirography of Poe. One of the stanzas is:

"Leonanie—angels named her,
And they took the light
Of the laughing stars and framed her
In a smile of white.
And they made her hair of gloomy
Midnight and her eyes of bloomy
Moonshine, and they brought her to me
In the solemn night."

In some quarters the poem was accepted as genuine; in others it was denounced as a fraud, and its alleged discoverers as impostors. After the controversy had waged for months Riley confessed. William Cullen Bryant, then editor of the New York Evening Post, was particularly severe in denunciation of the hoax. Riley shouldered the burden and returned to sign painting. For a time he traveled as a sort of minstrel with a patent medicine vendor and played the violin to attract crowds to be solicited to buy nostrums.

In the early '80s Mr. Riley settled in Indianapolis, and began writing verses in "Hoosier dialect" for the Indianapolis Journel for a small salary. He sent some of his poems to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and they received his praise. A volume was published and the "Hoosier Poet" began to win a public. He was a graphic reader of his own verses and for the following fifteen years, or until 1898, he made tours of the country, appearing in public entertainments with great success both alone and in association with the humorist, Bill Nye, who was his intimate friend.

Publication of books of poems year after year brought Mr. Riley wealth and wide recognition of his literary genius, and not only of the genre form. Many of his poems are imaginative or gently philosophic.

In 1902 he received the degree of Master of Arts from Yale University and in 1904 the University of Pennsylvania conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Letters. Indiana University conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. on him in 1907.

In July, 1911, the poet presented to the city of Indianapolis property valued at $75,000 for a site for a public library and school administration building.

Mr. Riley never married, but he was a lover of children, whose spirit he divined so intimately, and of family life. Many of the last years of his life he spent in the home of friends in a secluded neighborhood of Indianapolis—Lockerbie street—which, he immortalized in verse:

"Such a dear little street, it is, nestled away
From the noise of the city and the heat of the day,
In cool shady coverts of whispering trees,
With their leaves lifted up to shake hands with the breeze,
Which, in all its wide wanderings, never may meet
With a resting place fairer than Lockerbie street."

NEWSPAPER USES SIMPLIFIED SPELLING.—Simplified spelling of 12 words recommended by the National Educational Association was adopted by The Philadelphia North American. The words are: tho, altho, thru, thruout, thoro, thoroly, thorofare, program, prolog, catalog, pedagog, and decalog. Use of these spellings, the newspaper says, has been advocated by the simplified spelling board as the lead to a greater reform.

42 PIECES Rose Design Dinner Set—FREE

INITIAL OR EMBLEM

If you are a member of any of the Fraternal Orders named below and prefer the emblem of your order to an initial we will gladly furnish it. Be sure to specify otherwise the initial will be used. Woodmen of the World, Odd Fellows, Eagles, Elks, Moose, Macabees



YOU RECEIVE

Six large dinner plates, six dessert plates, six large cups, six saucers, six butters, six oatmeal dishes, one sugar bowl, one large oval vegetable dish, one round dish, one large meat platter, one fancy bread or cake plate. 42 pieces in all, a complete set for meal service.

OUR GIGANTIC OFFER—NO MONEY REQUIRED—Every piece of the above dinner set is full size and profusely decorated with Martha Washington roses in natural colors and trimmed with gold band on each piece. Your initial or lodge emblem is stamped in pure coin gold. **WE WILL SEND YOU**—Post paid 24 beautiful art pictures (Sold *for* **$1.00** *each in many stores*) which you are to give away **FREE** with 24 boxes of our famous **White Cloverine** you sell for 25 cents each. Millions are using it. **Send** us the **$6.00** collected and the above Dinner Set is yours. We have given away over 200,000 beautiful Dinner Sets. **You can earn this set in a few hours.** Our plan is the easiest and absolutely square, we've been in business for over 20 Years. So you can trust us **SEND NAME AND ADDRESS TODAY**—Pictures and Cloverine will be sent promptly. **POSTAGE PAID BY US.**

WILSON CHEMICAL CO., DEPT. 1012, TYRONE, PA.

THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD EGG.—Strictly fresh eggs cost sometimes over 60 cents a dozen. Usually the price is a matter of age, the older the cheaper; but not always. Mrs. Robert Gilfort of Orange, N. J., had an egg thousands of years old. Recently, Mrs. Gilfort sold it to the Denver Museum for $1,000. It was an egg of the æpyornis, an extinct ostrich-like bird, and the most perfect specimen in existence.

TONS OF BIBLES.—The first consignment of 200,000 Bibles printed in German, Hungarian, Polish, and Bohemian has left England for prisoners of war in Russia, the Swedish Red Cross Committee having obtained permission from the Swedish Government to transmit them free over the State Railways. The consignment, which had been prepared by the British and Foreign Bible Society, weighed 11 tons, and its value was over $5,000.

Barking Dog

Premium No. 7422



For A Club Of Two!

YOU simply press down gently on top of "doggie's" head and he **opens his mouth and barks right out loud.** And not only does he bark like a real dog but he **looks** like one. With his **alert sparkling eyes, "bat" ears, and snubby upturned nose** he is the perfect likeness of a cute little bull terrier pup. He is pure white with brown spots, and sitting on his haunches as you see him in the picture he measures over six inches high. His body, head and legs are made of practically **indestructible** material covered with soft thick felt; the marvelous mechanism in the throat that produces the bark is so constructed that it will not easily get out of order.

These wonderful barking dogs come from **Japan** where they make some of the finest mechanical toys in the world. In spite of the war we managed to import a limited quantity of them and while they last we are going to send them **free** to COMFORT homes where there are little boys and girls. Doggie looks so lifelike and his sharp yelping bark sounds so natural we know he will surely delight the children more than anything else you could possibly get for them. We will send you this fine barking dog exactly as illustrated and described free upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer: For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this cute novelty, Barking Dog free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7422.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Big Package Beautiful Christmas Novelties!



52 All Different Lovely Gold And Color Embossed Christmas Enclosure Cards, Folders, Cut-Outs, Seals, Stickers, Tags, Etc.,



Premium No. 7931

All Sent Postpaid To You For Only One Subscription

Also An Exquisite Christmas Calendar For 1917!

All the **latest new style** Christmas novelties, beautifully printed and **embossed** on superfine paper in **gold, purple, crimson, holly-green** and all the colors of the rainbow. The use of these dainty, appropriate emblems of **holiday cheer** is now almost universal—everyone realizes how much these refined little cards, tags, seals, stickers, etc. **add** to the value of the Christmas gift. Even though it may be only a little remembrance these bright colored tokens of **Joy and Happiness** show that **loving thought** has gone into it and **care** and **pains** have been taken with it and this knowledge changes the plainest, most inexpensive present into a gift well nigh priceless.

The ordinary small town stores do not carry these strictly high-grade Christmas novelty packages—they are to be secured only in the large cities and at a high price. So for the benefit of COMFORT readers we had this special assortment made up **expressly for us** by one of the largest and best known Christmas novelty manufacturers in America. And in order to give the **greatest value possible** we had them add to the assortment a **most beautiful 1917 Christmas Calendar** 4½ inches wide by 6½ inches long, lithographed in no less than **five colors on heavy white coated specially prepared paper.** This Calendar alone is worth all that we ask you to send us for the whole collection—and you will say so too when you see it.

Now let us tell you what this big assortment contains:

One Extra Large Colored and Holly Embossed "Christmas Stocking" Enclosure Card.

Five Large Elegantly Embossed and Colored Christmas Enclosure Cards.

Ten Medium Embossed and Colored Christmas Enclosure Cards.

Two Large Handsomely Colored and Decorated Christmas Tags.

Four Medium colored and Decorated Christmas Tags.

One Extra Large Colored and Holly Embossed Christmas Book Mark.

One Beautiful Extra Large Colored and Embossed Christmas Novelty Cut-out Card.

Two Dainty Colored and Embossed Novelty Cut-out Christmas Folders.

Ten Beautifully Colored and Embossed Santa Claus, Evergreen, Poinsettia, and Christmas Bells Gummed Seals.

One Special Large Oval Illustrated Gold Embossed and Colored Christmas Gummed Seal with the words "Do Not Open Until Chistmas."

Five Novelty Santa Claus Cut-out Christmas Gummed Seals, Embossed in colors.

Ten Cute Novelty Children Cut-out Christmas Gummed Seals.

One Artistic, Beautifully Embossed and Finished Christmas Calendar for 1917.

All the Enclosure Cards, Tags, and Folders carry a **Cheery Christmas Greeting** such as "Merry Christmas," "With Best Christmas Wishes," "Christmas Greetings," "Merry Yuletide," "Christmas Joys" and others equally as pleasing and appropriate. These are to be tied to or enclosed inside your Christmas packages to bear a loving message with the gift. And all the gaily colored gummed Stamps and Seals you will use to **seal and decorate** the outside of your Christmas letters and packages as well. You will be surprised and delighted to see how much they add to the attractiveness of your gifts to say nothing of the fun in "doing them up."

And don't forget that in addition to all of these lovely cards, seals, tags, stickers, etc., we are also going to send an exquisitely **embossed and multi-colored Christmas Calendar for 1917,** a large **handsome Holly decorated Book Mark** and two large **Christmas Novelty Cut-out Folders** which are as unique as they are pleasing. When you first look at one of them it is to all appearances a handsome Christmas Post Card and the other a very attractive four page Booklet, when Presto—a flip of the finger, and a startling transformation takes place, causing the figures and designs to stand out in **bold relief,** and in a life-like manner that is truly wonderful. These cute novelties are something entirely new this season and they make very attractive center-table or mantlepiece ornaments as they are large and stand without support.

This splendid collection will furnish your whole family with all the Holiday Gift Decorations needed for this Christmas and they will surely add to the pleasure of your giving and the gifts themselves will be all the more appreciated by the recipients. We purchased a large quantity of these Novelty Packages but even at that we fear we have not enough to go around **so take no chances of being disappointed but send in your order at once.** Also Christmas will be here almost before you are aware of it, and you want to make **sure** of receiving your package **in time** so that you can get your Christmas packages all ready before Christmas Day.

We will send you this package of beautiful Christmas Novelties including the large Handsome **Christmas Calendar for 1917** upon the terms of either one of the following very liberal offers:

Offer No. 7931A. For one one-year's subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this big package of beautiful Christmas Novelties free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7931B. For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription, for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this beautiful Christmas Novelty Package free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7931. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



TYPEWRITERS
SOLD or RENTED anywhere at ¼ to ½ Manufacturers' Prices, allowing Rental to Apply on Price. FREE TRIAL. Installment payments if desired. Write for circular 229
TYPEWRITER EMPORIUM, 34-38 W. Lake St., Chicago

Large List, Dialogs, Entertainments, Recitations, Drills, **PLAYS** Catalogue Free. T. S. DENISON & CO., Dept. 6 Chicago, Ill.

36 PRETTY POST CARDS—BIG ASSORTMENT GLOBE CO., J-2469 LINCOLN AVE. CHICAGO **10¢**

MONEY Made quickly by smart men. T. ARTOL CO., 115 Nassau St., N.Y.

LAUGH! Book latest jokes, "Ford" ones—everything —10c coin. Mono Pkg. Co., So. Norwalk, Conn.

MONEY $ PROPOSITION FOR LIVE MEN H. R. SMITH, BOX 165 INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties. Catalog Free. D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.

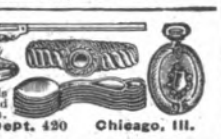
Money $ $ FOR LIVE MEN $ $ KEY FREE. J. Warren Smith, Ottawa, Ill.



FREE WATCH & RING
This handsome stem wind & stem set Watch, fully Guaranteed, also Ring & Chain for selling only 20 Jewelry articles at 10c each. Write for them.
EAGLE WATCH CO., Dept. 200, East Boston, Mass.

FREE You should send at once for our beautifully illustrated catalogue of all the best and cheapest jewelry, cutlery and novelties for Christmas and birthday gifts. Just send your name and address and we will send it free to anyone in U. S. only.
LYNN & CO., 48 Bond St., New York.

FREE



Write today for 20 pkgs. Art Post Cards to sell at 10c per pkg. When sold send $2.00 and get your choice of presents.
PEERLESS WATCH CO., Dept. 420 Chicago, Ill.

EVERBRIGHT FRIENDSHIP RING FREE
To advertise, we will send this ring, your size, your initials hand engraved, for 12c. Every ring warranted five years. THE AUCTION CO., Dept. 1125 Attleboro, Mass.



FREE
Gold Finish Bracelet, Neck-Chain and Locket, Fountain Pen, Pair Im. Diamond Ear Rings, Brooch Pin, Bead Necklace, and two Rings. All Eight Premiums given free for selling only Eight Gold Decorated Boxes Beautifying Skin and Complexion Cream at 25 Cents a box. Girls, write us at once for the Cream; we trust you with our goods and send postpaid. Address
CHEMICAL WORKS
Prem. Dept. 11. Bridgewater, Conn.

Round White Table-Cloth

Premium No. 7265



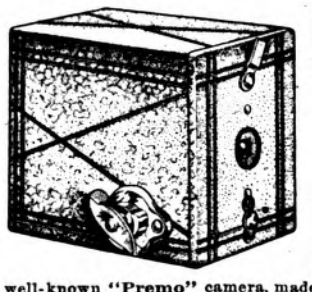
Yours Prepaid For Five Subscriptions

HERE is a genuine **BARGAIN** when you consider the present high price of all kinds of cloth. If you had this beautiful pure white table-cloth offered to you for $1.50 you would buy it in a minute. Here is your chance, however, to get one without paying a cent. By a fortunate purchase we secured a few hundred of these cloths **WAY BELOW COST** and as usual we are going to give our women readers the benefit of the trade. They are **pure white mercerized damask** and measure 54 inches in diameter which is a good size for the average round table. The pattern is **REFINED AND ELEGANT**—dainty three-leaf **clovers** which are quite small in the middle of the cloth and larger near the edge. The edge is scalloped and embroidered. You could not ask for a handsomer, more durable table-cloth than this one. It is made for service and will wear for years. We **guarantee** that every one of them sent out will give **absolute satisfaction.**

You can obtain one of these fine table-cloths by accepting the following offer **AT ONCE.** If you want one of them **DON'T WAIT** as our supply is limited.

Club Offer. For five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this handsome pure white clover design damask Table-Cloth free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7265.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7314

For a Club of Four!

We will also include free of charge **one Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known **"Premo"** camera, made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.,** therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in **broad daylight,** so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book,** all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free by Parcel Post, prepaid,** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. **Premium No. 7314.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Manners and Looks

"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Miss K., Meridian, Miss.—Outside of the South, married women when called by their first names have neither Miss nor Mrs. prefixed, but growing out of an old slave custom Southern married women are to this day spoken of as Miss Mary, or Miss whatever the first name is. This prevails not only among their colored, but their white acquaintances as well. If it is heard at all in the North, it is among Southern people.

Inquisitive, Animas, N. M.—The lady establishes the gait at which she walks with a gentleman. Sometimes it is fast, sometimes slow, depending upon what she thinks of the gentleman. (2) If a gentleman has no better judgment than to lead a lady past an ice-cream parlor, she need not have any better manners than to give hm a strong hint to take her in. (3) Custom makes it proper for a gentleman, who has brought a lady home, to stand at the front gate and talk as long as she will let him. The custom has prevailed ever since there were front gates.

Girl of the West, Playas, N. M.—It will be quite proper for you to dance with the soldiers who attend the ball. Our soldiers on the border are very nice soldiers, but it is contrary to military regulations for them to flirt with the girls, so beware. You are quite right when you say: "I think a gentleman is a gentleman, no matter if he is in the army."

Texas Girl, Alvin, Texas.—For a gentleman to attempt to put his arm around a lady while driving with her is so much buggy-riding etiquette, that we think you should accept his apology for the attempt on this occasion which so disastrously failed. But if he tries it again cut his acquaintance.

Perplexed, Lincoln, Texas.—As you are twenty and she sixteen and you have four years' work before you can marry, why do you want to clutter yourselves up with an engagement which is likely to be broken long before the four years are up? Sixteen-year-old girls don't know anything about what their hearts will be when they are four years older, and twenty-year-old boys know still less. If you can't be "just friends" for four years, you haven't got the stuff in you to last through a lifetime of sunshine and shadow, with plenty of shadow. Why do you want to walk with your arm around her, and why kiss her? It means nothing, and what availeth it?

Broken-hearted, Kingston, Tenn.—Etiquette does not prescribe what a gentleman should say when a lady told him to go to the devil, but we can suggest that he might say "Good Night," or that he was near enough already. There is more persiflage, not to say, repartee, in this latter reply. You may take your choice. As to whether she still cares for you because she sends her brother to know where you are and if you are alone, we should say it looked as though she meant for her brother to do you some bodily harm. We solemnly advise you to shunt that lady onto the siding and change to a different style.

A. B. C., Frankfort, Ky.—A lady should thank a gentleman for any courtesy whatever that he extends and she should not ask anybody what words to use in her thanks. The occasion should prompt the most appropriate words. If she intends to be grateful, or polite, by book rules, she had better be neither. (2) The lady may do as she pleases about asking a gentleman to call again, but hospitality which is better than etiquette, suggests that she ask him to call again. This is not always necessary, however, after the first call.

Mrs. C. O. H., Greenleaf, Ida.—Etiquette does not specify any rules controlling a stork party—we never heard of one before—but we should say the recipient of the presents appropriate for such an occasion should extend her thanks as she would for any other shower party. If she can thank them all in person at the party, no letters of thanks will be necessary.

Miss B. K., Jennings, Md.—Sitting at a table the gentleman may be either to the right or left of a lady. Usually he sits between two and rights and lefts don't count. At a table for two only, the gentleman and lady face each other.

M. K., Walla Walla, Wash.—You are a minor and will be for a year yet, or until you are twenty-one—if twenty-one is legal age in your state—and as long as you are a minor your parents control. After that you are free to do as you please. As you are making your own living, entirely independent of your parents, we would suggest that you remain at home until the law sets you free. Then you may go and you may marry if you want to. About that we would advise you not to be in too great a hurry. You are independent of any man's support and unless you are very much in love with a very excellent man fully capable of giving you a good home, marriage may not be all that you think it is. Some homes and husbands are worth a girl's independence and some are not. Being wise today is preferable to being sorry tomorrow.

Uncertain, Plainsville, Ill.—Don't bother your mind about the gentleman who was all attention to you until another man appeared on the scene, and then went off and sulked like a sore schoolboy and would not talk to you or see you again. He lacks both good sense and good manners and the fewer such men you know the happier you will be. Jealousy of that sort is worse than drunkenness, because the drunken man is not always drunk, but the jealous man is always jealous.

G. B., Gibbon, Nebr.—Be friendly with the gentleman, but nothing more, as it will be of no advantage to have his ill will. He is not bad, only stupid and you will find if you are more than formally friendly, that as soon as the other girl has gone away to her school, he will be coming back to you as second choice. If he were not stupid he would know better than to imagine you were as stupid as he is. He may be, as you say, a very nice man in his way, but he has got into a very reprehensible way.

Two Girls, Helper, Utah.—When we had read into your letter until we came to "He don't care nothing neither one of them," we stopped right there and put the letter into a grammar to soak. We will take it out some day and if it has absorbed any of the grammar we may answer it. But girls, why do you write like that? Are there no schools in Helper where respectable English is taught?

Miss B. S., Hellertown, Pa.—There are so many ways of entertaining a friend that when you ask us only how to entertain a friend, we cannot answer. Is it a lady or a gentleman? Do you want to give a dinner, or a tea, or a reception? Do you want to drive, or ride, or have a pedestrian party? You will have to be more explicit before we can know where to begin.

Blue Eyes, Heath, Nebr.—As you seem to be quite a cheerful lass, we suggest that if the red-headed girl insists upon trying to get your beau from you that you put her on one of your white farm horses and turn him loose on the prairie. (2) If you don't like the divorced man and he annoys you by his attentions, ask your father to take a hand in getting rid of him. (3) Etiqette makes no limit of time when a young man should ask a girl to marry him. It often happens that a day or two acquaintance is long enough and then if the girl hasn't any more sense than the man has she accepts him and they marry. One time in ten thousand they live happily ever after. Two people should know each other at least a year before they marry.

Little Bill, Canton, N. C.—You very properly accepted the invitation of the young man who asked to take you home. If the other one wanted to, he should have asked you first. The joke is on him and you have no apologies to offer. Other girls should be as independent as you are with young men who seem to think the girls are simply standing around waiting for them. If he asks you why you treated him that way, show him this.

Perplexed, Raleigh, N. C.—No wonder you are perplexed. It is enough to perplex any lady for a gentleman to ask her "to marry him three times." Marrying a man once is usually considered ample, but still, if you want to marry this one three times, there is no rule in the etiquette book against it. You may do as you please, and you have our blessing and we wish you much joy.

Anxious, Point Roberts, Wash.—The custom among young and silly folks prevails of exchanging rings, or of one loaning another his or her ring. Of course, it means nothing serious and maybe it has some sentimental reasons for existence, but trouble, greater or less, comes of it so many times that we advise all our young people to keep their rings to themselves, until it is time to offer an engagement ring. Even that is not entirely free from trouble of one kind or another, and wedding rings, the most sacred of all, do not guarantee continued joy.

Edna, Allentown, Pa.—You are wise in wanting to know who this stranger is who is so attentive to you. His education, appearance, manners and business indicate that he is all right, but you should not take other than a friendly interest in him, until you know as much as you can about his history, his people and his habits. But it is not your place to make the inquiries first. It is for him, if he is interested in you, to prove to you that he is worthy. After he has done that, you may inquire further into the evidence he presents and you should, if you think seriously of him. Carelessness in this regard has brought sorrow and shame to many a foolish girl, and you should not follow in their footsteps when you can so easily avoid it. All COMFORT girls and parents of girls make a note of this and trust no plausible stranger's words.

Down-hearted, Crookston, Minn.—As the lady does not care for any other and as she likes you, it may be she is one of those girls who have to be shown. Don't annoy her by persistent love-making, but continue your attentions nicely and faithfully until another man appears whom she likes better than she does you and then as her best friend, give way to the one she wants. That man may never appear and you may get her yet, but don't be over-hopeful and don't be foolish about what cannot be helped. It takes two to make a bargain and the unhappiest attempts to make bargains otherwise are found among married people. Be wise in time.

Blue Eyes, Bainbridge, Ga.—Correspondence between persons who have never met is permissible when they have mutual friends who have arranged the preliminaries, but not otherwise, as a rule. There is too much danger of deceit on the part of one or the other and the innocent, as usual, will be the sufferer.

Physical Development

Proper physical development is of the utmost importance to every boy but it is impossible to prescribe a method that would be suitable for all my readers. The boy with big muscles is not always the healthiest and champions, as a rule, pay dearly for their laurels. Never adopt any regular system of exercising without first being examined by a competent physician. He has spent the biggest part of his life in studying the human body and he knows what's inside of you as certainly as you know what is in your own pocket. Do what he tells you and give ear also to the advice of your parents and teachers. As a general precaution against the danger of strain or overdoing yourself, I would say that no boy of ordinarily active habits, should spend more than twenty minutes each day in special exercises. These might be aimed at overcoming some natural or acquired defect such as round shoulders, knock-knees, ungainly carriage, constipation, flat chest and the like. I assure you that it is possible to remedy any of those undersirable conditions but I am equally emphatic in exhorting you not to undertake it without expert advice.

The Brand of Shame

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30.)

courag , "that I do not propose to be treated like a child."

Drake, ignoring her, gave his attention to the other man.

"I ought to kill you, you coward! You lived under my roof. You rode my horses. You ate my bread. And you stole my wife! Well, take her! No, I'll keep her myself. But you get out of here, do you get that? And if you ever cross my path, or hers, again, so help me Jehovah, I'll crush you for the reptile you are! Move!"

He lifted one of his huge hands and smote Pierce in the face and laughed when the man did not retaliate. Instead a livid and very inglorious "Beau Brummel," he left Julia to her marital reckoning.

Drake turned to her with a sneer on his white lips. "And now I will settle with you," he said.

She neither lifted her head nor answered.

"What you need is a master." His roving eyes fell on a branding iron which he had meant to take to Jenkins earlier in the evening. Seizing it, he thrust it into the coals.

He caught her roughly, his anger past control. "My money bought you, didn't it? If one of my horses played the devil with me as you have done, I'd kill him. But I am not going to kill you. I am going to master you. My cattle bear my brand to warn thieves away, and before God, so shall you!"

She sobbed and struggled but he was inexorable. "You may flaunt your white shoulders before men but they shall see that you have an owner—that you belong to Drake, of the Big Four Ranch."

He held her, half-fainting, till he had accomplished his task, then, releasing her, he strode to the door and went down to the street, while Julia, a sorry figure in her barbaric splendor, her shoulder marred by the brand that would mark her for life, lay in a huddled heap on the floor.

TO BE CONCLUDED IN DECEMBER.

Take no chance of missing the conclusion of this story in December COMFORT. You will miss it if the number over your name on the wrapper in which this paper comes is 338, or any less number, unless you renew your subscription at once.

Love and Spite

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26.)

doorway; but she did not move out of Huntley's way. As though her feet were rooted to the floor she stood peering through the rose-colored hangings.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Read The Whole Story Now!

WE feel sure that by this time you are intensely interested in this new thrilling serial by Adelaide Stirling and can hardly wait for your next issue of COMFORT in order to follow the further adventures of Jocelyn or "Jane", the friendless, nameless girl who is battling with powerful enemies and spiteful rivals in her attempt to find some trace of her kindred and solve the mystery of her birth, lineage and her name. All through this story is also woven the thread of a beautiful romance in which true love and devotion are in desperate conflict with spite and malice. This great serial will run in COMFORT through the coming year but if you prefer to read the whole story now, we have arranged to make you a present of the book complete, nicely printed, paper bound and with title page handsomely illustrated in colors. Send us only one, one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 5c additional (30c in all) and we will send you the complete story of "Love and Spite" in book form, free and postpaid.



Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

$2.25 a Month Buys a Genuine KIMBALL ORGAN At Factory Prices.



FREE Music Instruction by our New Diagram System if you write at once.

We will send them to reliable people anywhere, on our extremely easy payment plan.

Operating the largest piano and organ factory in the world—the Kimball system positively saves you $25 to $50 on strictly first-class organs.

Send for Money-Saving Plan and Free Catalog

Under no circumstances can you afford to buy or consider any other organ until you have our money-saving proposition. Our half-century's manufacturing experience, our financially strong guarantee mean much to you.

W. W. KIMBALL CO., 3058 Kimball Hall, Chicago.

Please send me FREE your 1916 Organ Catalog, factory distributing prices and the Nation's Home Songs with words and music FREE.

Name_____
City_____ State_____
St. or R. F. D._____

FINDS A MOUND TEMPLE.—The most striking prehistoric ruin yet unearthed by archeologists in America has been found by Dr. J. Walter Fewkes of the Smithsonian Institute, who made his report to the Interior Department. The mound, the largest of any thus far located, was in Mesa Verde National Park in New Mexico. It has been named Sun Temple. There are 25 rooms, and the walls, which total more than 1000 feet in length average four feet thick. The mound was apparently built about 1300 A. D.



48 Cents Lady's Tiffany Style Synthetic **Imperial Diamond Solitaire**

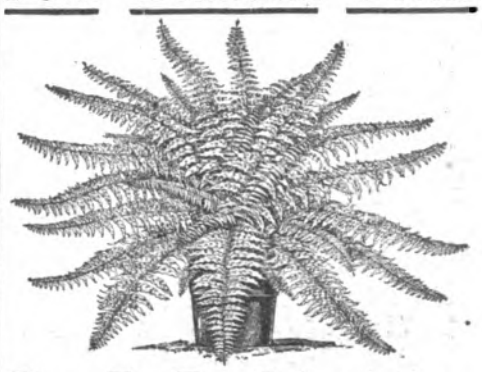
¾ karat GOLD FILLED Ring in handsome box. $1.50 retail value. Superb Xmas Gift. Send 48c now. Money back guarantee. Give size. Write for Free Illustrated Book of

10,000 Bargains

like this. Sensational cut prices on jewelry, watches, and Women's, Men's and Children's new, stylish clothing.

IMPERIAL SYNDICATE, Dept. 13, New York, N. Y.

Four Beautiful Ferns



Given For Two Subscriptions

PREMIUM NO. 611

BEAUTIFUL charming **ferns** make the home **bright and cheerful.** They need but little care and live indefinately, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the handsomest, most popular varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt,** the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 611.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Whose Little Girl Wants ME? I Am The Cutest, Sweetest Baby Doll in Toyland and You Can Have Me FREE!

Look At Me!

I Go to Sleep Like a Real Baby

My Legs Are Jointed

YES, this beautiful, curly-haired doll is **free** to any little girl and on such **liberal terms** that we expect to give away **thousands** of them during the next few months. Don't think she is anywhere near as small as she **looks** to be in the picture for she stands over **a foot tall.** She has a real **kid body** and her beautiful head is almost indestructible because it is made of **bisque.** You can make her **stand up** or **sit down** in a chair, or **bend over** or assume all sorts of **natural positions.** When you lay her down she **closes her eyes** and goes to sleep and when you pick her up she is **wide awake** again. Her beautiful hair hangs in **luxuriant curls,** her eyes are **blue as the sky,** and taken altogether she is certainly the **cutest** and **sweetest** baby doll in all toyland. With exception of her handsome black openwork **lace stockings** and cunning little **slippers with bow** and **buckle** she comes to you **undressed** so that you can make **your own dresses** for her and dress and undress her to your heart's content. **Fathers and Mothers**—just look at this beautiful doll in the picture as she stands **smiling** with arms outstretched waiting for someone to pick her up, **hug** her, **kiss** her and put on her gay little dress! Don't you think your own little girl would love to have her for her own? We will send her to you **free** packed in a strong box so she cannot possibly get broken if you will accept the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this handsome Doll exactly as described by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 466.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Make The Children Happy With A Set Of These New Dressing Dolls



Bobby in his Boy Scout Suit | Beatrice in her Holiday Dress | Betty in her Party Dress | Bobby in his Sunday Best | Beatrice in her Winter Dress | Betty in her Play Dress | Betty in her Visiting Dress | Beatrice in her School Dress | Bobby in his Sailor Suit

The Little Folks Love To Play With These Large, Handsome Life-Like Dolls Which May Be Dressed In So Many Different Beautiful Costumes. Over A Foot Tall, Printed In Gorgeous Colors, Ready To Be Dressed When You Receive Them.

Three Dolls With Nine Dresses And Nine Hats Given To You!

YES—this is the most delightful family of dolls that any little girl or boy ever had to play with. The children enjoy them because they are something entirely **new and different** from all other dolls. Even the most **expensive** imported dressed dolls do not begin to furnish the little ones with the **amusement and joy** to be derived from these dear little boy and girl dressing dolls with their **bright happy faces** and so many different changes of **suits, dresses and hats.** In the large cities where all the newest ideas are first put on the sale these large handsomely attired life-like dolls are going into all the rich homes where there are little ones and they are fast taking the place of the more costly and elaborate dolls and other toys, because the children never tire of them. These dolls are of course not the small so-called "cut out" paper dolls but are actually **14 inches** in height, printed in the most **beautiful life-like colors** on thick heavy cardboard and so made that they will stand upright in almost any position you wish to place them. But the best part of all is that you can **dress and undress them** as often as you wish. We not only give you the dolls but all the extra **different, beautiful suits, dresses and hats** that go with them. Each doll has three different suits or dresses and three different hats and there are **three dolls and nine different** dresses and hats in all.

Brother Bobby the little boy doll has a handsome Kakhi **"Boy Scout" suit** with shoes, leggings, coat, hat, haversack and staff complete; a real sure-enough white **sailor suit** including boatswain's whistle, and a real swell **Sunday-go-to-meeting suit,** consisting of a black and white check top coat, nobby hat, tan gloves, stockings and white top shoes.

Sister Beatrice is a handsome little girl with golden curls and has a most **sumptuous wardrobe** consisting of a pretty checked **holiday dress,** a saucy little hat with feather, white socks and slippers, a **school dress** with striped Tam-o'shanta, school bag and lunch box and a very expensive winter costume including a handsome **set of furs, muff, fur-trimmed hat,** leggings and gloves.

Cousin Betty is exactly as pretty as Beatrice only she is a handsome brunette whereas Beatrice is a blonde. Betty is not to be outdone in the matter of clothes either. She is always ready for a **romp** with a sensible **play dress** cut in the latest style with hat to match and carrying a large dressed doll in her arms. Then she has a **visiting dress** with hat, etc., as shown in illustration and a perfect dream of a **party dress.** And of course when undressed each of these little girl dolls has her own **dainty lace and ribbon trimmed underwear** while Bobby is every inch a boy in his cool "B. V. D's"

These Dolls Will Cost You No Money!

We will send you all three dolls with nine dresses and nine hats or if you prefer one doll with three dresses and three hats free and prepaid in return for a small favor. Send us only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents and we will send you all three dolls with their nine dresses and nine hats by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7842.**

Or, for your own renewal for two years at thirty cents and twenty cents extra (50 cents in all), we will send you all three dolls with nine dresses and nine hats by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7842.**

Or, we will send you one doll with three dresses and three hats for one one-year subscription (not your own) at 25 cents, or for your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all). **Premium No. 7911.** It will not be necessary for you to write a letter—just fill out the coupon printed at the right and return it to us with the subscriptions and money. **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

No Matter How Many Dolls There Are In The House Now You Cannot Have Too Many And You Want This Complete Doll Family Sure

No Need Of Writing A Letter—Send The Coupon With Your Subscription And Remittance!

DRESSING DOLLS' COUPON

IF YOU SEND TWO ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIBERS WRITE THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES HERE

Publisher COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.—I enclose 50 cents and two one-year subscriptions for which send me all three Dressing Dolls with 9 Dresses and 9 Hats, free and prepaid.

Subscribers' Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D.No ..... Box No ..... State .....

Subscribers' Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

IF YOU SEND ONE 3-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION WRITE THE NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

I enclose 50 cents and one 3-year subscription for which send me three Dolls with 9 Dresses and 9 Hats.

Subscribers' Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

IF YOU SEND YOUR OWN 2-YEAR RENEWAL WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

I enclose 50 cents for my own 2-year renewal for which send me three Dolls with 9 Dresses and 9 Hats.

My Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

IF YOU SEND ONE 1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION WRITE THE NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

I enclose 25 cents and 1 one-year subscription for which send me one Doll with 3 Dresses and 3 Hats.

Subscribers' Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

IF YOU SEND YOUR OWN ONE-YEAR RENEWAL WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

I enclose 35 cents for my own one-year renewal for which send me one Doll with 3 Dresses and 3 Hats.

My Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

NO MATTER WHICH OFFER YOU ACCEPT BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR OWN NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

My Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....



Agents--Big Hit--The Wonder of the Age.
"Gravity" Mouse Trap. Gets more than mice. Gets big money for agents. Send ten cents for sample and full particulars about this and several other good sellers. EVANS MFG. CO., 612 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

AUTOMATIC LIGHT FIBRE

Do Nature's Work. Easy Pay after Trial.
State Stump Length, Above or Below Knee. Free Fibre Sample & Booklet. WORMAN CO., 507 Andrus Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.


J. J. HILL
HOW DID HE GET HIS?
You can get YOURS in the same way. Ask
THE ZENITH PUB., CO., DEPT. A
St. Paul, Minn.


GENUINE ROLL FILM **PREMO CAMERA FREE**
Or choice of Watch or Silverware or Electric Flashlight, or choice from our large list of premiums given for selling 20 pkgs. Post Cards or 20 Religious and Art Pictures at 10c each, your choice. Order today.
HERMAN & CO., 2310 Lincoln Ave., Dept. 400 CHICAGO

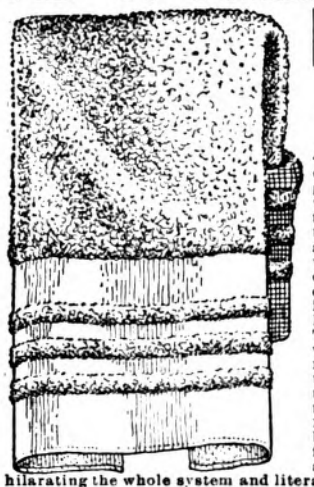

2 LACE CURTAINS PILLOW SHAMS FREE
Sell 6 boxes Rosebud at 25c per box return to us $1.50 and we will promptly send you postpaid 1 pair beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains, nearly 3 yds. long, and a handsome pair of Lace Pillow Shams FREE. Rosebud is a rapid seller. Write for it to-day; we trust you
ROSEBUD PERFUME CO., Dept. 161, Woodsboro, Md.

FREE TALKING MACHINE AND RECORDS

Reproduces both vocal & instrumental music Clear-toned. Plays *Columbia* or *Victor* Records. Machine with records *Free* for selling 20 pkgs. Xmas Post Cards at 10c.
When sold return $2.00 and machine and records are yours.
KEYSTONE POST CARD CO., Box 111, Greenville, Pa.


Voice Thrower 10 cts
Learn to throw your voice into a TRUNK under the bed, out in the hall or anywhere. Lots of FUN fooling the Teacher, Janitor, Policeman, Parents, Neighbors, or Friends
The Ventrilo
is a little instrument that fits into the mouth out of sight BOYS or Girls can use it. NEVER FAILS! A 32 page book on **Ventriloquism** sent with the **VENTRILO** for **TEN Cents**
Royal Novelty Co. Dept. 98, SO. NORWALK, CONN

Pair Of Turkish Towels



Premium No. 7302

For Two Subscriptions

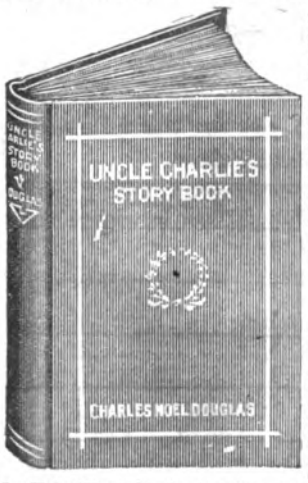
AFTER bathing there is nothing quite as fine as a **good rub down with a Turkish towel,** in fact it is the **best** towel for all purposes, whether for the bath- or guestroom or for everyday family use in the lavatory, kitchen or pantry. They absorb the water much more readily than other towels and the **thick, heavy fleece-like surface** imparts to the body a delightful feeling of warmth and well-being, exhilarating the whole system and literally making one fee like "jumping over a high board fence" These towels are also great for **baby's toilet** as they will not hurt the tender skin. The towels we offer here are **genuine Turkish** towels—not the imitation kind—and are **17 inches wide and 36 inches long** which is a good convenient size for all-round family use. They are of good weight, well made and finished and are **in every respect** equal to towels that you would willingly pay **$1.00 a pair** for in any store. We will make you a present of **one pair** of these fine Turkish towels upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you one pair (2) of these towels free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7302.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, halftone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the **end of the League of Cousins' Department.**

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

to this part of your letter, Billy the Goat began to hum:

"Oh the baggage coach ahead,
It is time that it was dead,
For the whiskers long ago round it collected,
In the grave it should be placed,
From memory be effaced,
And never, never more be resurrected."

We look at scenery my dear, and we admire beautiful scenes, but there is no such word in the English language as "sceneries."

1412 Morgantown Ave., FAIRMONT, W. VA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

May I sit by you and gab for a few minutes. I am an Irish dowdy and don't know very much, but am going to try to say a few things about Fairmont. Fairmont is a most wonderful city. John Barleycorn lives hard, but he lives all the same.

Our law makers got the wrong stanza of the law, and the result is instead of ridding the state of whiskey we are getting more in the state. Fairmont is the capital of Marion Co., W. Va., and is on the head waters of navigation of the Monongahela river. Has two railroads, several banks, a number of different churches, stores by the score, schools and high schools, and the state normal school is situated at Fairmont. Several factories, street car lines, and general prosperity abound. The country around Fairmont is very hilly; some good land and some not so good. Farmers generally are prosperous.

I am somewhere between twenty and fifty, five feet nine inches in height, weigh one hundred and sixty-five pounds, dark hair, brown eyes and if the goat don't get this, I would like to hear from some of the cousins.

S. T. WILSON.

Sam, there is just one thing in your letter that has caught me, and that is your reference to general prosperity. I've constantly heard of the general, but I never have had the pleasure of meeting him. I have been on his trail for years but I have never caught up with the old gent yet. When it comes to general prosperity I am from Missouri and have to be shown. If I were to hit the high spots for Fairmont, W. Va., and try to get a glimpse of general prosperity, I know what would happen, I should be informed that the general had just departed for fresh fields and pastures new; then I should have to hike home sad and disconsolate as usual. I often wonder when general prosperity does make his appearance, as some day he will, as the gentleman has the rank of a general, whether the peace-at-any-price cranks will call him a militarist and a jingo. I've got so excited about general prosperity that I've just got to burst into rhyme. Here is the burst.

Oh, General Prosperity, I've often heard of you,
But for umpty million years or more, I've never got a view
Of your bland and smiling countenance with good nature brimming o'er,
Dropping bags of jingling gold from out your plenteous store.
Oh, General Prosperity though long of you I've heard,
And though my anxious bosom too, for years and years you've stirred
With fond anticipation that on me you'd call some day,
Why is it dear old General that you never come my way?

Oh, General Prosperity I've waited for you long,
Waited in the flower of youth, when faith and hope were strong,
Hoping that you'd come and lift, life's heavy load of care,
And lighten just a trifle all the burdens we must bear.
Oft I heard you were approaching and forth I went to greet,
The angel of my golden dreams, but ah, you hoary cheat.
You stood me up in youth time and now I'm old and gray,
You laugh at me derisively and hike the other way.

Oh, General Prosperity, my heart and feet are sore,
For I've tracked you and I've trailed you this whirling globe all o'er.
But I never yet have found you, and it seems to me old pal,
By the way you dodge the common folks, I guess I never shall.
And my search has all been fruitless, and now I know just why
Rockefeller nabbed you as he saw you passing by;
And he swiped your golden chariot leaving not a single spoke,
Now he's a bloated billionaire, while the rest of us are broke.

Oh, General Prosperity if you ever should escape,
From the tyrant hands that hold you, I hope you'll be in shape,
To visit every humble home from Florida to Maine,
And wreathe around this whole wide earth gold links from Plenty's chain.
From poverty and hard times forever set us free,
And mind and keep a two-spot down in your jeans for me.
P. S. If you should drop that two-spot from out your golden cup,
Don't let Rockefeller know it or he's sure to mop it up.

FARMINGTON, GA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I wish to write you a letter of thanks for the nice picture book which you sent me some time ago. I certainly do appreciate it. I am a great admirer of Uncle Charlie. I read your talks every month in COMFORT. I enjoy your witty answers to the cousins' letters. Uncle, you will have to excuse this writing for my father is a poor man and I have never had any schooling much. But I have learned to read, write and spell well. I am sixteen years old. My grandfather reads often of you and he thinks you and Mr. Thomas Watson are great men. Do you read after Mr. Watson? I read his books and papers a great deal and next to Uncle Charlie I think he is the greatest of men. I have read your book of poems and song and later on I want to get your story book. Well, Uncle, I know your are tired of this so I will close. Give my love to Billy and Maria.

Your little friend, NORA SAXON.

Thank you Nora, for your sweet little note. I'm glad you enjoyed the picture book. Very few of our heroes will stand inspection. We dream about them, picture them in our minds, and idealize them. Of course they are always beautiful, charming and delightful, and then when we see a picture of them, we have to touch the push button for the steward to bring us a basin, and that's where we lose a good dinner, supper or breakfast as the case may be. Do you know I never saw anybody who looked just as I had pictured them, just as I hoped they would be, with the exception of Charles Dickens. Oh yes, Tennyson looked all a genius should look and Edwin Markham the poet, has the most spiritual and beautiful face I think I ever saw on a human being. Most of our women writers alas, look like the old scratch. I don't know what a modern photographer could have done for George Eliot or the Bronte sisters, but I know what the old daguerreotype fiends did to them. They made their faces look like rat traps. There was one lady whose work I used to read with delight. She impressed me so that I built in my imagination, a little island in the Pacific, where the fronded palms wave their cocoa-nuts in the tropic breezes and here she and I dreamed our lives away in the ecstatic bliss of a perfect love. One day my dream maiden miraculously drifted to my side. She sent up her card. She was ushered into the waiting room by the Goat while I tore seven million white hairs out of my mustache, scraped my face an inch deep with a safety razor which made my countenance resemble a hamburg steak and left me sitting in a pool of blood three feet deep. I kept frantically inquiring of Maria and Billy how the lady looked, but not a word could I get out of them. Finally when I thought I looked too captivatingly beautiful for anything, and with my heart palpitating like the business end of a Ford Tin Lizzie, I asked them to usher her in. They were a long time ushering her in as she would insist on falling to pieces by the way. With the assistance of a little glue and a few tacks, the Goat and Maria finally deposited her in an armchair by my bedside. As she came in the door I went out of the window. Of course I didn't walk, I just naturally drifted. You see it was leap year and that was my cue to leap. Now when I think of a beautiful authoress, poetess or paintress, I picture her as a mummy with the mumps, and usually I'm not far wrong, for genius and beauty seldom go hand in hand, except of course in the case of your Uncle Charlie, and his pulchritudinous and beautiful family. Nora it grieves me to know that your education has been neglected. If I could get hold of the law-makers of your state and put them across my knees, believe me, they would have no teeth when I got through. It is a crime and a shame that a wealthy state like Georgia cannot keep its children in school until they are fourteen at least. If I had my way it would be sixteen or twenty-one. If Georgia was as anxious to hold the educational record as it is the lynching record it would be more to its credit. Let some poor child in Georgia be killed and somebody will be lynched before morning. Put ten thousand little children in the mills and grind their little bodies to dust between the upper and nether millstones of profit and exploitation and you won't hear a word. Oh, yes, you will hear a word, you will hear the Legislature saying that it must not make laws forbidding children to work in factories, or capital, dear lovely capital, will be driven to other states. Well, after all, these people would not be making laws, if the voters did not elect them, so getting down to brass tacks it is the people who need spanking as well as the lawmakers. Fortunately they have got a law through Congress that will put the kibosh on most of this child exploitation. I'll tell you more about that some other time. Now I'll get a ton of letters telling me I am an old Yankee criticizing Southern institutions, and that life in a Southern mill has heavenly bliss walloped a million times over. Save your breath my dear friends, to cool your porridge. I am not a Yankee, so your arrows will go wide of the mark. I know conditions in New England mills are often as bad and at times worse than they are in Southern mills. But two wrongs do not make a right, and if my friend Tom Watson would let up on Jews, socialists and others for a while and turn his guns on child exploitation, and help me to look after some of the hundreds of invalids in the Southeastern States, who constantly appeal to me for help—whole families destitude even for clothing—he would go up a whole heap in my estimation. Nora, you say you have learned to read, write and spell well. I'm tickled to bits to hear it my dear, as I know lots of people who spell it w-e-l and w-e-l-l-e. I hope however you have learned to spell more than well, and from the look of your letter I imagine you have. Give my love to your grandfather. Anyone who is interested in literature is a brother of mine. I can talk and reason with a man who reads, that is if he reads widely and understandingly, and not lopsidedly and narrowly. People who read one paper and absorb the ideas of one man and take all his dope for Gospel truth give me a pain. This remark is intended not only for those who get all their progressive ideas from Kansas, but to those who sit down with the Bible and misinterpret nearly every verse they read, thanks to a too literal interpretation of various passages of Scripture. Nora you ask me if I read after Mr. Watson, I think I do, because he like most sensible, healthy people I imagine, quits reading at eleven o'clock and goes to bed, while I often am reading long after midnight, so I guess I can safely say I read after Mr. Watson. I am interested a great deal more in national than in state matters. I would like to abolish ninety per cent of all the countries and fifty per cent of all the states. State government is so rotten and graft is so rampant and the expense of county and state management is so great that for the next twenty-five years at least I would like to see a strong centralized government, one that would wipe out murderers grafters, drunks and the lawless generally. Liberty here has degenerated into license. What we need is the strong, iron hand of a central authority to bring criminals to justice and spies and traitors to the detention camp, and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 36.)

BOTTLE FLOATED 16 YEARS.—After floating about in the Pacific Ocean for years, a bottle containing a note probably written and thrown overboard by one of the officers of the schooner Transit, has been found on the beach by an Indian, Bob Wayne, near Moclips, Hoquiam, Wash. The note was dated Aug. 10, 1899, and was perfectly legible, though the writing and the paper were considerably faded. The message contained a report of doings on board the ship.

FLIES 2,200 MILES.—"Ben Bolt," a carrier pigeon, has established a new long distance flight of 2,200 miles from Norwalk, Ohio, to Los Angeles, Cal. It made the trip in five days, nine hours and 31 minutes. The best previous flight was made in 1912 by a bird which covered 1,000 miles.


This Suit FREE
Here we go again breaking all records for new, nobby, ahead of the time styles. Be the first in your town to wear a suit that is ahead of the time. You can do it free. Earn it while you wear it. We make suit to measure and prepay all delivery charges. There is
$50 to $100 a Week
in it for you. Drop us a postal for our advance book, select the style you want and the cloth. Let us prove our wonderful offer. Don't wait. Don't delay. Write right away. A postal will do. We send everything the day your request is received. We pay postage on everything. Get busy. Simply send us a postal with your name and address on it.
PARAGON TAILORING CO.
DEPT. 1107, CHICAGO


Stem Wind & Set
WATCH, RING AND CHAIN GIVEN
We positively give a genuine American Stem Wind and Set Watch, beautifully designed case, warranted time-keeper, 5-year guarantee; Sparkling Set or Plain Ring all for selling 20 of our easy to sell Jewelry articles at 10c each. When sold return $2 & we'll send Watch & Ring. Ladies' or Gents' style chain. Home Supply Co., Dept. 102, Chicago, Ill.


ONLY COMPLETE POULTRY MACHINE
Hatcher & Hover Combined
Saves cost of brooder. Hatches all fertile eggs into healthy, sturdy chicks. It's guaranteed. Write for FREE booklet today.
THE PERFECT HATCHER CO. Dep't. 1. Leesville, Ohio. $6.90

Beautiful Watch AND SIX CHARMING PIECES JEWELRY FREE

EARN THESE QUICK. Beautiful Watch, also one Gold pl. Bracelet, one charming Pendant, set with imi. diamonds and Four Beautiful Rings. BIG VALUE. Sell 12 boxes white Cloverine salve at 25 cents per box, give beautiful 16x20 in. picture FREE. Return us $3.00. Be first in your town. Write today for 12 boxes.
The Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. 43 Tyrone, Pa.

Comfort's Bedtime Stories For Little Folks!

A Library of Cute Little Books

12 WONDERFUL TALES IN STORY AND VERSE **12**



Premium No. 7951

Entire Library Sent For One Subscription!

The stories of our childhood—how well we remember them. After all it seems but a short time since we listened with rapt attention to the adventures of **Robinson Crusoe** cast away on his lonely island—of beautiful **Cinderella,** the fairy and the prince—the tragic fate of poor little **Red Riding Hood**—these were only a few of the marvelous tales that thrilled our childish imagination and helped us spend many blissful hours.

The children of today are the same as they were fifty years ago. And these **good old-time stories** are just as popular with the young folks now as they were then. So we have decided to give our little boy and girl friends this fine big collection of stories which includes some of **the old-time favorites** as well as a number of newer and later books equally as interesting. There are **twelve** of them in all as follows:

Robinson Crusoe, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Mother Goose, Animal Pets, Purring Pussies, Playmates, Our Pets, The Three Bears, The Sleeping Beauty, Playful Pets, The Teddy Bears.

As these stories are intended for the younger children some of them have been "boiled down" to the fewest and simplest words so that they are not as complete as the original editions, but **all** of them are printed on fine paper in large clear type that is **easy** to see and read and have no less than **five beautiful full page illustrations in colors.**

The first four titles named above of course need no introduction. The other eight titles are just the sort of stories that delight every child—stories of **animal pets, horses, donkeys, dogs, bunnies, pussy cats, chickens, lambs, etc.,** wonderful romances in which there are old **Stone Castles, Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses, Good Fairies, and Wicked Fairies,** stories of the **Bear Family**—Pa Bear, old Ma Bear and little "Teddy" Bear, stories of little **Playmates,** the true tale of the **Teddy Bears**—in fact the finest collection of juvenile short stories ever published. Each book is nicely bound with a handsomely illustrated cover **in colors** and is 4 inches by 5¼ inches in size.

There is nothing you could get for the children that would make them any happier than this fine story collection and best of all it will **cost you Nothing** as we are giving it away as a premium. We will send you free the entire collection of **twelve stories,** each story in a book by itself—**twelve different books in all**—if you will accept either one of the following special offers:

Offer No. 7951 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this entire library of twelve books by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7951 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you all twelve books by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7951.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35.)

the whole country to a realizing sense of the duty it owes to civilization and the world at large. We have too many rascally officials, thousands of crooked politicians who constantly need watching. The whole bunch should be set to gun and road making and ditch digging, then we'd have fewer thieves to watch and better government. Billy and Maria send you their best love and so does Uncle Charlie.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a 15-month subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for November

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Elmer Dahlgren, 5019 Wadena St., Duluth, Minn. Both legs amputated. Aged mother his only support. Lovely character, sad case. Give him a boost. John T. Hoyle, King's Mountain, N. C. Invalid for nineteen years. Has locomotor ataxia and spinal trouble. Depends on charity for support. Send him some substantial aid. Rosa E. Joyce. Spencer, R. R. 1, Box 51, Va. Invalid. Needy and worthy. Send her some help. William V. Kinter, County Home, Indiana, Pa. Invalid for many years. Is very lonely and would appreciate some Thanksgiving cheer. James F. Essex, Nelsonville, Box 41, Ky. Helpless invalid for many years, aged mother his only support. Very sad and very worthy case. Send him a greenback shower. Mrs. Martha Harper, Trevilians, R R. 1, Box 17, Va. Blind old lady, 104 years of age. Invalid daughter her only support. They are very poor. Sad and worthy case. Send her something to brighten her few remaining days on earth. Mrs. Geo. T. Rousseau, Fairfield, Mo. Aged, sick and poor. Worthy case. Send her some cheer. Emma Jenkins, Walling, R. R. 1, Tenn. Helpless cripple, forty-two years of age. Remember her. Isaac Price, Lenoir, N. C. Crippled for forty-two years. Very needy and worthy. Sad case. Send him a greenback shower. Mrs. Mary A. Thompson, 36 Clark St., Brockport, N. Y. Invalid for many years. Send her some cheer. Dortha Grigg, Glen Allen, R. R. 1, Box 30, Ala. Shut-in. Needy and worthy. Send her a dime shower. Burke Pauly, Alkoe, Box 6, W. Va. Helpless cripple, twenty-one years of age. Would appreciate second-hand clothing, wears seventeen-year-old size. Ruth Woods, Paoli, R. R. 4, Ind. Invalid, fifteen years of age. Would appreciate a postal shower.

Won't you pass on just a little bit of Thanksgiving cheer to the poor, afflicted souls listed above? God has been kind to a great many of you during the past year. Here's a chance for you to show your appreciation of His great love and goodness. Open your hearts and pocketbooks and be worthy of your creator for once.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

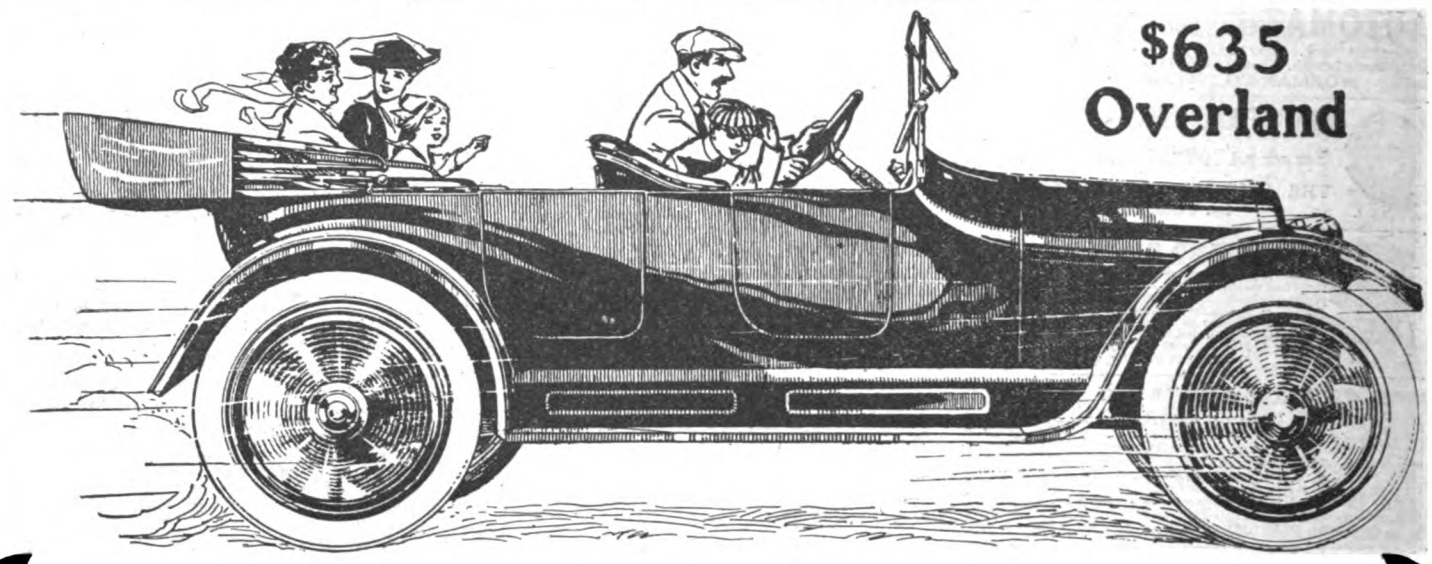
The Best Christmas Present for Young or Old Is Uncle Charlie's Poem!

Christmas will be here before you know it. Santa Claus is already preparing for his annual trip. Don't waste money on expensive presents. Uncle Charlie's gorgeous book of poems fills every need. It is an exquisitely beautiful 160-page volume of screamingly funny verse, bound in lilac silk cloth and autumn leaf lining. It contains the funniest recitations ever written. Read "When Father Carved the Turk," "How Pop Played Santa Claus," "Just Behind the Battle Mother," and you will have the time of your life. Make yourself and the children happy. This elegant book also contains splendid pictures of Uncle Charlie and his family and a touching account of his life. Four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each secure this wonderful book, a gift fit for a king. Yours free for an hour's easy work. Start your subbing now and avoid the rush. Begin today.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book Makes a Dandy Christmas Gift

You must have music in the home at Christmas time. Uncle Charlie's Song Book contains twenty-eight of the dandiest songs ever written, songs for all occasions; among them the prettiest Christmas carol (this is just the thing for church or parlor) ever written. This is not a mere pamphlet but a beautiful song folio with superb cover on which appears splendid half tone pictures of Uncle Charlie. Cheap at five dollars, with complete music for voice and piano; a superb present for a musical or non-musical friend; this wonderful work free for a club of only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. Both books free for a club of six. Greatest premium bargains ever offered. Work for them today.

Would You Accept This Car As A Gift?



We Are Going To Make A Present Of It To Sombody And Give Away

Thousands Of Dollars In Cash Prizes Besides!

CASH PRIZES every month, more and larger **Cash Prizes** at the close of the Contest, and on top of all, this beautiful, powerful, **1917 Five-Passenger Overland Touring Car**—aren't these splendid rewards just for going out once in a while—when you find the time—and getting a few subscriptions for COMFORT?

And to think that you won't have to make any more effort to win them than if you were getting up clubs for some of the premiums in our Premium List or in the regular issues of COMFORT. You simply send in your clubs the same as usual for any of COMFORT'S premiums, at the same time telling us that you want to enter the Contest, and we place **these very same clubs** to your credit on the Automobile and Cash Prizes. That's all there is to it. It costs you nothing to try and you are just as likely to come out the winner of the Auto or some other prize as the next person.

Stop and think of the **satisfaction and pleasure** you could get out of this big, splendid Touring Car—what it would mean to your family and your friends. Think of the comforts of life you could **buy** with some of this **prize money. Then get started at once!** Remember—the contest has just opened so everybody who enters **now** is sure to gain a big lead over those who come in later. Read this announcement carefully—all of it—then get busy with the subscription blank below. It will hold the names of six subscribers and a club of six will help you to win one of the Monthly Cash Prizes in addition to your premiums and at the same time give you a **big start** toward winning the $635 Auto or one of the Grand Cash Prizes.

How The Auto And Other Prizes Will Be Awarded!

This contest is open to all except our own employes, news agents or dealers and professional subscription solicitors. The 108 Monthly Cash Prizes, will be awarded every month as explained further on. The 62 Grand Prizes, a list of which is given below, will be given in their order to the sixty-two contestants who send in the most subscriptions up to and including April 30, 1917. The $635 Overland Car will go to the one who sends in the **largest** number of subscriptions. The $200 in Cash will go to the one who sends in the **second** largest number. The $150 in cash will go to the one who sends in the **third largest number, and so on.** Following is a list of the Grand Prizes.

First Grand Prize $635 Five-Passenger Overland Touring Car
Second Grand Prize $200 Cash
Third Grand Prize $150 Cash
Fourth Grand Prize $100 Cash
Fifth Grand Prize $75 Cash
Sixth Grand Prize $50 Cash
Seventh Grand Prize $25 Cash
Next Ten Grand Prizes, each $15 Cash
Next Fifteen Grand Prizes, each $10 Cash
Next Thirty Grand Prizes, each $5 Cash

The Monthly Cash Prizes ranging from $180 to $200 a list **of which follows,** will be awarded **and paid** each and every month—from November 1916 to April 1917 inclusive. They will be given to the contestants who send in the most subscriptions **during each month.** So you see this gives you the opportunity to **win six** separate and distinct Monthly Cash Prizes, besides **one** Grand Prize—either the Auto or a Grand Cash Prize. Also notice that beginning with December the Monthly Prizes **double** and with January they **thribble,** thus giving you the opportunity to win **twice** and **three times** the amount of the original prize. In other words if you win a Monthly Cash Prize one month we pay you at once. If you win any Monthly Cash Prize the **next** month we will pay you **double** the amount of your second month's prize, and we will continue to pay double each **successive** month that you continue to win any Monthly Cash Prize. **Doubling begins with December.**

If you win the **same** Monthly Cash Prize **three months in succession** we will pay you **double** the amount of the prize the second month and **thribble** the amount the third month, and we will continue to pay you thribble the amount each **successive** month that you continue to win the same Monthly Cash Prize. If, however, you should win the **First** Monthly Cash Prize **each** month for the **whole six months** then we will pay you **four** times the amount of that prize the **fourth** month, **five** times the amount the **fifth** month, and **six** times the amount the **sixth** month. **Thribbling begins with January.** Following is a list of the Monthly Cash Prizes.

NOVEMBER			
First Prize	$30	Next 3 Prizes	$5 each
Second Prize	20	Next 4 Prizes	3 each
Third Prize	10	Next 8 Prizes	2 each
DECEMBER			
First Prize	$30 or $60	Next 3 Prizes	$5 or $10 each
Second Prize	20 or 40	Next 4 Prizes	3 or 6 each
Third Prize	10 or 20	Next 8 Prizes	2 or 4 each
JANUARY			
First Prize	$30 to $90	Next 3 Prizes	$5 to $15 each
Second Prize	20 to 60	Next 4 Prizes	3 to 9 each
Third Prize	10 to 30	Next 8 Prizes	2 to 6 each

The Cash Prizes for February, March and April are the same as those for January with the exception that the First Prize is $30 to $120 for February, $30 to $150 for March and $30 to $180 for April.

You Get Your Premiums Anyway!

Nobody loses in this contest. **We are going to reward every** contestant for **every** single subscription secured—either with premiums or a cash commission. Every club you send in will entitle you to a fine premium which you may select from our regular Premium List or any issue of COMFORT. And that very same club will be placed to your credit on the monthly Cash Prizes and the Auto and other Grand Prizes. Your premiums will be sent to you promptly upon receipt of your clubs, or, if you prefer the cash commission, deduct and retain 40 per cent. of the subscription money collected and remit us the balance. In this way we liberally reward you for all of your subscriptions as fast as you secure them. The premiums or commission alone more than pay you for your trouble and you still have the opportunity to become the owner of the splendid $635 Overland Touring Car or one of the other Grand Prizes to be awarded, at the close of the contest, April 30, 1917.

Contest Just Started—Enter Now!

NOW is the time to act! You are sure of a fine premium anyway, and you may start a Monthly Cash Prize your way also by mailing us the subscription blank printed below along with two or more subscriptions to COMFORT. We will send your premiums as fast as you send in your clubs. Or in place of premiums you may deduct your cash commission. Remember that in entering this contest you place yourself under no obligations whatever and you forfeit nothing if you stop at any time. In other words the subscriptions sent in by you will still remain to your credit on the Monthly Cash Prizes and Grand Prizes. **So you see you have everything to gain and nothing to lose.** You cannot possibly lose because you get your premiums or cash commission anyway. **Start a club today.** Get all of your friends and acquaintances to subscribe or renew their subscriptions to COMFORT. They will be glad to help you out. Then mail us your first club as soon as possible, and have your name entered in this grand contest for the $635 Overland Touring Car and other Prizes.

Contest Subscription Blank

COMFORT, Prize Contest Dept., Augusta, Maine. **Date.....1916**

Dear Sir: Please enter my name in the Contest. I enclose $.....to pay for the following subscriptions to be placed to my credit on the Monthly Cash Prizes, Auto and other Grand Prizes.

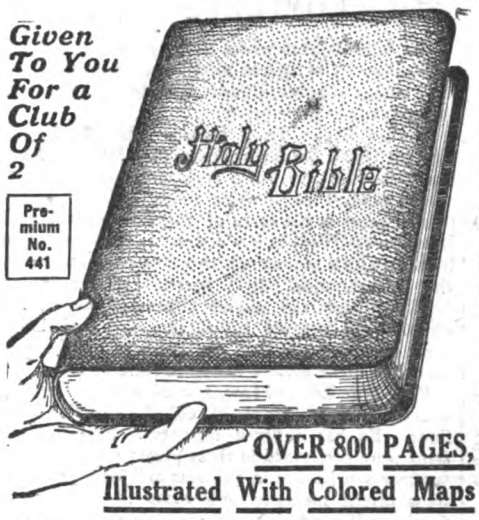
Subscriber's Name	Street and Number or R. F. D. Number	Box Number	Post Office	State	Write Below Length of Time Subscribed For

Send Me Premium No.....My Name is.....State.....

Post Office.....Street and No.....R. F. D. No.....Box No.....

COMFORT'S Subscription Price is 25 Cents a Year, 50 Cents for 3 Years, $1.00 for 6 Years. Two Years' Renewal (for old subscribers only) 30 Cents. Foreign Subscriptions Are Barred From This Contest.

This Handsome Bible



Given To You For a Club Of 2

Premium No. 441

OVER 800 PAGES, Illustrated With Colored Maps

ALTHOUGH this elegant little Bible is small enough so that it can be carried conveniently in the hand or in the pocket or hand-bag, yet it is **complete and unabridged** containing full books of both the **Old and New Testaments** in the King James Version, and in addition there are several **colored maps** illustrating different interesting portions of **Palestine** and surrounding country. It is 5½ inches long, 3¾ inches wide and one inch thick, beautifully bound in flexible pebbled black leatherette and contains over **eight hundred pages,** with round corners and finished with red edges. The name "Holy Bible" is stamped **in gold** on the front cover. **This is an unequalled opportunity** for Sunday School workers, teachers, in fact **all Bible students** at home or in church to secure a small **yet complete** Bible without cost and we feel that among COMFORT'S readers there must be thousands who have been waiting for us to make just such an offer as this. Remember that you are not going to receive a small, cheap paper bound or cloth bound book, but a splendidly made Bible, finely printed, handsomely and durably bound, and absolutely refined and perfect in every detail. We will send to any address this fine Bible exactly as illustrated and described upon the terms of the followiug special

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this Bible free by mail postpaid. **Premium 441. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



Premium No. 260

Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Five!

Latest Pattern Silverine Shields for Monogram. Beveled Mirror and Fitted Case. There does not live a girl whose heart would not fairly jump with joy at the sight of this swell **dull black finish set.** A man's heart is pleased, realizing well the beauty of work in the brush with its fine white bristles, the excellent fitted beveled mirror and finely made comb. A woman is still a girl, only grown up, and to think of really owning this set seems in many cases the realization of some fairy's dream.

The Brush is nine inches long, 2½ inches wide, firmly set with white bristles, with shield of Silverine. **Mirror** is eight and one-half inches long, 4½ inches wide on back, with a four-inch clear, finely **beveled** glass set with rich Ebonyoid frame. **Comb** is seven inches long, 1½ inches wide, with fine and coarse teeth. We will guarantee that there is not one person in one hundred who can tell this set from real $12.00 Ebony, so closely has the rich, black, dull finish been represented. **When ordering be sure to state that you want set No. 260.**

Club Offer. For only five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send this Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 260. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



Gent's Watch and Chain

Premium No. 399

For A Club Of Five!

A WATCH that any man or boy may feel **proud** to carry, a dependable timekeeper that will keep as near perfect time as any watch you ever saw **no matter what the price.** It is not an expensive watch because it is not in a **gold or silver case** but for practical every-day use it is just as good as a watch that costs $25.00. In fact, we have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we send with every one **A guarantee which is just as binding as that given with any watch no matter what make.** It has a handsome polished **nickel case** a thick **crystal** which will stand all sorts of rough handling without becoming broken; the movement is the **best American made, stem wind and stem set,** the **dial** is pure white with **large plain easily read figures.** We have already given away thousands of these watches without receiving a complaint and this we think is sufficient evidence that it never fails to please and satisfy. Now is the time for you to secure one of these handsome, guaranteed watches before the price of them goes up as it is pretty sure to do in the near future. We will send you this watch exactly as described, **together with a handsome chain,** if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For a club of only five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this guaranteed watch, also a handsome chain free by Parcel Post, prepaid. **Premium No. 399. Address COMFORT. Augusta, Maine.**

Children's Happy Hour

Violet's Magic Curls

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

ONCE Violet's brown hair was as curly as the tendrils of a climbing vine, but sickness came and laid her low for many days, and, when she finally got better, her pretty ringlets were faded and dead and had to be cut off. Folks told her they would grow out nicer than ever in a short time, but—what do you think? When her hair did come back, it was as straight as grass and just wouldn't stay curled more than one day. This made her sad and she sought everywhere for a charm that would restore her much prized curls. For a long time her efforts were in vain but one day, while romping in the field, she saw a pony weeping and gently asked him what the trouble was.

"I'm crying because my mane and tail have grown so curly that they catch all the thistles along the path," he answered.

Violet was deeply interested.

"Were they always that way?" she inquired.

"Oh, no, only since last night," was the surprising reply.

"And do you know what caused it?"

"Of course I do; it was bathing in the magic spring. The day was warm and I had run a long distance, so when I came to the pool formed by the bubbling water, I waded in and rolled myself on the sandy bottom and right away my straight hair became fluffy and kinky like you see it now."

"It must have been the sand that worked the charm?" she said.

"It was," he whinnied, "for I bathed there many times before but never, until yesterday, did I roll on the bottom."

"Please tell me where it is?" she cried eagerly.

"It is two miles along this lane but you must turn whenever you meet a wild cherry tree."

"Will you take me there?"

"Tell me first what your purpose is?"

"I wish to get some of the magic sand to make my hair curly."

This was too much for the pony. He could not understand why she should want her hair put into a shape that would catch burrs and thistles, so with a loud snort, he galloped off and was soon lost to sight. Violet was so vexed that tears came to her eyes, but she started off, determined to find the spring if it took all day.

"I will turn when I come to a wild cherry tree," she mused, but now, she remembered that the pony had not told her in what direction to turn. On and on she walked, keeping a sharp lookout on all sides and presently she came to the tree she sought and saw, sitting under it, a gray fox.

"Please, Mr. Fox," she called, "tell me the way to the magic spring?"

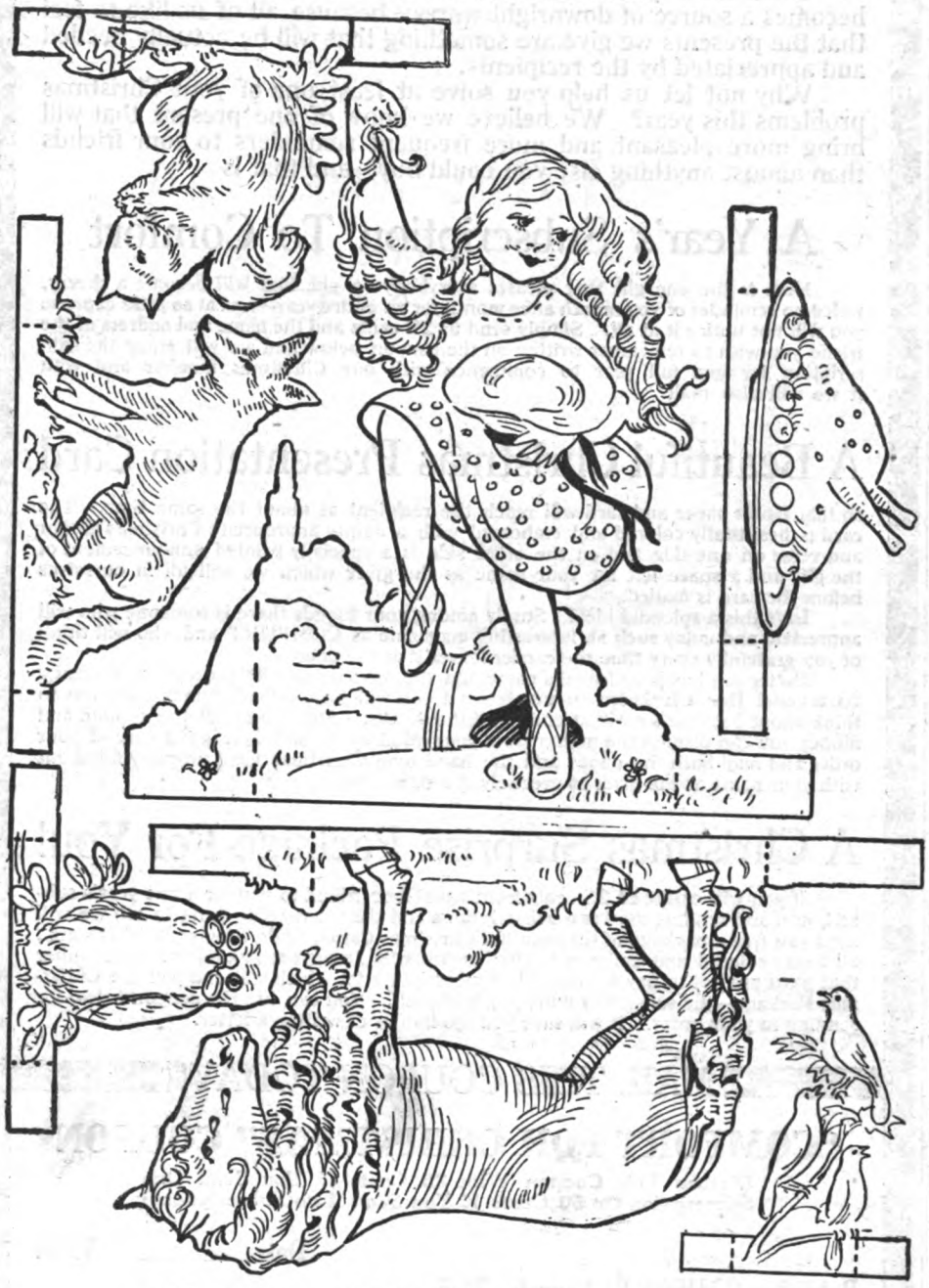
"Go to he left," he said, "until you meet another wild cherry tree, then turn to the right and keep straight ahead until you meet another and so on, first to the right and then to the left."

She thanked him and trudged on and after a hard journey through brambles and bushes finally was rewarded by seeing the water bubbling up in the center of a round pool. A squirrel was sitting on the bank eating a nut but she rushed right past him and plunged both hands into the stream, picking up the white sand from the bottom and rubbing it on her hair. Instantly it grew wavy and beautiful. She could see herself on the surface of the water and she sat there a long time, too happy to note that it was growing dark. All of a sudden the sun seemed to go down behind a hill and an owl gave a lonesome hoot.

"Oh, how will I ever get home in the dark?" she cried.

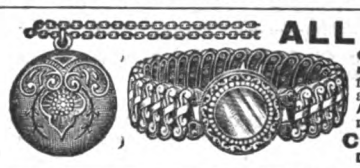
"I will lead you," offered the owl, "for I can see at night. He was a queer companion indeed, but he hopped gallantly in front of her all the way and soon she was safe in her own bed.

The next day was Thanksgiving. She slept late and was wakened by some birds tapping at her window. It did not take her long to dress but at first her folks did not know her and she had to tell them the story of the magic sand and show them a handful she had brought with her. Then they knew it was their own dear Violet. When they sat down to eat turkey and all the good things that made up their Thanksgiving dinner, she felt that she had a great deal to be thankful for.



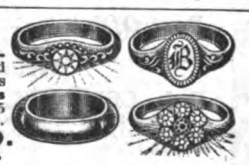
Cut-Out Doll Directions

Paste the entire picture on a piece of cardboard (using boiled flour paste) and smooth, with the hands, from the center towards the edges. Put it in a large book to dry and let it remain there at least three hours. Cut out each dress and hat with scissors and color them with crayons, chalk or water colors. The different objects illustrate the story and may be arranged in various ways. Each of them can be made to stand alone in an upright position by bending back the base strips at the dotted lines to form angles or corners. Keep the set in an envelope and when your mamma reads the story you can arrange the dolly girl and the other figures to suit yourself.



ALL THESE FREE

Gold plated Locket set with im. Diamond and 22-inch Neckchain, one Gold finished Signet Extension Bracelet, fits any arm, and these 4 beautiful Rings ALL GIVEN FREE for selling only 15 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. Write today.



COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO.
DEPT. 39, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

Look at the Millions Rats Cost

By C. L. Chapman

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT has recently been estimated by a French statistician that $1,000,000 worth of food a day is wasted on rats in Great Britain alone.

In other countries the expense runs equally high, and even higher. Every rat in France costs two cents a day for his keep.

In England a rat costs from one half a cent to five cents a day to the person upon whose property it preys, and there are 40,000,000 rats in the British Isles.

In our country there are more rats than men, women and children, and doubtless their appetite is just as expensive here.

In India however, a country least able to bear the burden of supporting these pests, they are four times as numerous as the population, and each rat consumes on an average three cents' worth of food a day.

Some time ago there was an international union organized in France to rid the world of these unwelcome creatures.

The rat commits another sin besides impoverishing the country. He carries disease, and it is probable, because he is dangerous to health rather than because he is a thief, that he will be finally exterminated.

There is a race war going on between rats themselves which will help solve the problem. The black rat is being driven out by the gray rat. The black rat is a much greater nuisance than the gray rat. All along the Atlantic coast he has been driven out, and only the gray rat now is found.

Perhaps if they keep up their war long enough they may exterminate each other.

35 Christmas, Motto, Comic, Flower, Love Postals, Silk Flag Free. Magnus A. Hess Co., 837 Ashland Bou'l, Chicago. **10c.**

Kremola Cream. **Wonderful bleach.** Removes brown spots, etc. By mail $1. Booklet free. Dr. C. H. Berry Co., 2975 Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. **Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.**


GOLD shell **Spectacles $1 a Pair** Send for catalog. Agents wanted. Coulter Optical Co., Dept. B, Chicago, Ill.


FREE Stem wind and set watch, **guaranteed 5 years,** for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice. GEO. GATES CO. Dept. 225 Chicago.


BIRTH STONE RINGS FREE 14K Gold filled, guaranteed to give satisfaction, with stone for any month, to introduce our catalogue. Send 12c to cover cost of advertising and mailing. Send size. Eagle Jewelry Co., Dept. 51, East Boston, Mass.

"LET ME" read your character from your handwriting. Mind you get a good reading that will help you in love, health, business and domestic affairs. Price 10c. Money back if dissatisfied. O. A. Beauchamp, 2583 8th Ave., New York.


LOVERS' BUDGET FREE To get acquainted with you, we will send our great LOVERS' BUDGET, consisting of—12 Love Letters, 14 Flirtation Signals, 7 Fortune Telling Secrets, 10 Funny Readings, 1 New Gypsy Fortune Teller, 12 Flirtation Cards, 11 Parlor Pastimes, 250 Jokes & Riddles, 78 Toasts, 40 Amusing Experiments in Magic, 6 Comic Poetry, also bargain sheets of solid gold filled rings, for only 10c to help pay advertising. THE AUCTION CO., DEPT. 1196 ATTLEBORO, MASS.


CRYING DOLL FREE Latest novelty in dolls. She is a wonder, can cry and make as much noise as a baby. She has a beautiful smiling face, big blue eyes, and is all dressed up in a nice colored coat with fancy bonnet to match. She can stand upon her own legs and every girl can have lots of fun playing with her. We send her FREE, all charges prepaid, for selling only 12 of our latest Jewelry Novelties at 10c each. Write for them. **EAGLE WATCH CO., Dept. 79, East Boston, Mass.**

FREE TALKING MACHINE PLAYS COLUMBIA OR VICTOR RECORDS


Truly wonderful; reproduces clearly any style music. Distribute 8 boxes Mentho-Nova at 25c a box. Send us $2.00 and machine is yours. Write today—Extra Record Free. **U. S. Supply Co., Dept. 303, Greenville, Pa.**


FAT CAN BE REDUCED by wearing a simple, invisible device, weighing scarcely an ounce. No Starving, Drugging, Sweating or Acrobatics. You can try this wonderful invention **40 DAYS FREE** Without Deposit When your girth begins to shrink you will wish to own it. **TRY IT 40 DAYS AT MY EXPENCE FREE OF ALL CHARGES.** S. L. BURNS, 14 West 37th St., New York

A BEAU tiful neck, face and arms Don't pay 50c. but send 10c. for sealed package which transforms instantly. Look your best in spite of moles, sallowness, blotches, freckles, wrinkles, blackheads, etc. If you want to be charming and attractive order at once. Warranted absolutely harmless. TOILET COMPOUND CO. Dept. A, Box 1927, Boston, Mass.



Free To Every Little Girl!

Golden Locks And Her Lovely Twin Babies!

All Three Dollies Given To You Without Cost!



Premium No. 463.

Mothers, Don't Fail To Read This Offer!

COMFORT wants to give **free** to **your** little girl and **every** little girl this handsome **doll Family** stamped in **beautiful colors** on strong cloth with **full directions** so that you can cut them out, stuff and sew them up **in less than ten minutes.** "Golden Locks" is almost as big as **a real baby,** for she stands **one and one half feet high** and her cute little twin babies which you see in the picture stand **over half a foot high. These dolls cannot be broken** no matter how much they are thrown around or dropped on the floor and you can make them **bend their arms and legs, stand up and sit down in a chair and assume all sorts of natural positions.** They have beautiful **golden hair** which hangs in the **dearest curls** you ever saw and fastened with a **bright red ribbon bow** that cannot get lost or become untied, **handsome red cheeks, rosy lips and lovely blue eyes** which smile at you in such a **lifelike way** that you would almost think **they were ready to speak and say "Mama."** As shown in above illustration they are dressed in **dainty lace-trimmed underwear with bright red stockings and black buttoned boots.** The three dolls together—"Golden Locks" and the two sweet Baby Dolls—make the **cutest and prettiest** Doll Family any little girl ever had to play with. They are lots better for the little folks than the more expensive bisque and china dolls **because they will not break or snarl their pretty hair or lose their eyes.** There is no little girl who will not instantly **fall in love** with this beautiful Doll Family and spend many happy hours with it, so we hope that every mother who reads this offer will take advantage of it at once. We will send you **all three dolls free by Parcel Post prepaid** on the terms of the following special offers.

Offer 463 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **all three dolls** free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 463 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you **all three dolls** free by Parcel Post prepaid. **(Premium No. 463). Address COMFORT. Augusta, Maine.**



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. J. W. H., Hamilton, Oregon.—There is no remedy for the excessive rocking of your mother in her rocking-chair when she becomes nervous, that we can prescribe from this distance, except to put her in a chair which has no rockers on it. We hardly think the rocking will affect her brain. Why not let her rock as much as she likes; probably it relieves the nervous strain, and if you stop her it may do harm.

Worried, Macksburg, Iowa.—Most of the pains of the body manifesting themselves as yours do are rheumatic, or neuralgic, and are not internal, but some of them are, and when any trouble of that kind will not yield to external applications nothing can be done except to have a physician make an examination and determine what the cause is. After that, treatment is plain and sometimes it may be successful and sometimes not. Don't guess any longer at what the matter is, but see a physician and be examined properly.

Brown Eyes, Poole, Nebr.—There is more danger in the water itself than in the iron pipes through which it is received. Iron pipes are used almost entirely for conveying water and there is no harm unless the water is impure. Examine the water, not the pipes. (2) We cannot understand why you did not have a physician when your child was born, but now that the harm has been done, we advise you to have one and perhaps he can cure now what he could have prevented then.

Mrs. M. E., Burnleys, Va.—Consumption cannot be cured by merely using eggs, though eggs are excellent as part of a consumptive's diet. No medicine has been discovered that will cure consumption, but taken in time, nourishing diet with fresh air, night and day, and a dry climate may effect a cure, and in any case may prolong life.

Mrs. B. P., Newtonia, Mo.—We think the difficulty with your husband is catarrhal, affecting his throat and ears. As his ears are affected with what seems to be boils, there is nothing to be done, except after examination by a physician. Of course, the specialist whom you consulted did not know as much as you did about it, though he had spent years of study and practise, and you would not listen to his advice, or take his treatment. Still, it would have been better than your guessing at it, or asking us to guess. Go to a physician.

Mrs. F. H., Princess Anne, Md.—In old persons cramps and cold feet and limbs are not unusual because the circulation is on the ebb and youth cannot be put into the blood again by the best doctors. Nothing is better to improve the circulation in the limbs than thorough massaging, night and morning, and at intervals through the day. Rub with the hands, down a while, then up, beginning at the knees or elbows, legs or arms, or higher if necessary. That is purely mechanical action which will force the blood along to the extremities. Bathing the feet in hot water, hot as can be borne, and finishing with cold, then rubbing with a hard towel will also produce warmth. Most patients will not follow this treatment because it requires too much effort and is too much trouble and they prefer to take medicine of some kind, not because it will do any good, but because it is so much less trouble. Medicine is of no value. Massage and a proper diet with as much exercise as maybe, will produce results if anything will. Proper diet will keep the blood in good condition, and the other will keep it moving on its natural course.

Mrs. L. P., Newfolden, Minn.—If the most eminent physician and surgeon in your state told you that the swelling was goiter and for you to wait until it grew large enough to be operated upon, we should say he was giving you better advice than you could get out of a "doctor book," or even from COMFORT. Men of his class, if he is what you claim for him, do not deceive patients, or give bad advice in order to get fees out of them later. We would advise that you take his advice. (2) There are many remedies, some fine, some cases actually remedial, for constipation and many of them fail as often as they do not. We have found that one of the best remedies is prepared bran to be had at any grocery store and to be taken at meals with other food, or taken three times a day in glass of hot water, say from two to four tablespoonfuls. It is harmless and if taken regularly will begin to act within a week or ten days and will regulate the bowels as none of the usual medical laxatives and purgatives will. There are various brands of it and one is about as effective as another. It is even better cooked in the form of bran rolls which are appetizing. A dose of any laxative salts taken once a week in the morning may be of some assistance to the bran if it does not give sufficient relief. As for diet, eat plenty of fruit, cooked or raw, and more vegetables than meat and take brown bread in preference to white. Old-fashioned black molasses with your brown bread will be found efficacious and it is not bad eating, either.

L. L. T., Long Beach, Cal.—Very many people, especially women, in this country suffer from diseases that they do not have, never had and never will have. It is the result of hysteria, or nerves, or heaven knows what, but it is real enough to make more trouble than if it actually existed, because if it existed, it might be cured, but how can that be cured which does not exist? The physician, who examined you for that blood taste you think you have, was quite right in laughing at you when he found you were normal. Now stop looking at yourself from your own viewpoint and look at yourself from the doctor's and before you know it you will be as normal in mind as you are in body.

J. W., Canon City, Colo.—One part of the human body is as sacred and as necessary as another and when you think the proper care of any part is humiliating and degrading, it is time you were going to the doctor who gave you the advice and begging him to teach you the proper idea of the human body, its organs and their functions. God made man in His image and the proper care of any part of that image is not humiliating and degrading.

Mrs. B. K., Wyoming, Del.—As the tongue may be coated from any one of numerous causes, you will first have to tell us what causes yours before we can suggest what should be done for it. Suppose you go to a doctor and find out what the cause is and while you are at his office, just ask him what to do for it.

Mrs. W. S., Cambridge, Ida.—At a guess we should say your daughter's headaches were what is known as migraine, or megrim, sometimes called megrims. This usually first manifests itself by disordered vision, seeing only half of objects, or by dimness of sight, followed by a peculiar flashing and wavy glimmer. This passes off after an interval of a few minutes, or it may continue for an hour or longer, with little or no pain, but a disagreeable sensation of dullness sometimes extending to the body and limbs, and frequently with nausea. After this comes the headache, often called "sick headache," which may continue for a short or long time according to the severity of the attack. The trouble is quite common, though most people think it is merely one form of headache. Megrim, however, is more than that and is the result of several causes, heredity, being one, anemic condition and lack of tone in the system, nervous disturbance and others. Treatment must be prescribed by a physician who can study the case. It is frequently found among young people who will outgrow it, though it will never leave some. The attacks vary in time of appearance, with some every week, and with others not for months or even years. The intervals between the attacks is the best time for treatment and this treatment must be by a physician thoroughly conversant with the case and realizing that megrim is a disease requiring his careful attention. We say as much as we do about this ailment because so few persons suffering with it know anything at all about it and so many suffer with it and will continue to do so unless they have proper treatment. (2) Goiter can only be treated by a physician who can examine it. The exact cause of goiter is not known, but it may come from strain, or drinking certain kinds of water, not necessarily polluted water, but containing some mineral substance which will produce goiter.

Mrs. E. O., Arlington, Colo.—If your little girl has nothing the matter with her but excessive perspiration about the head at night, thank the good Lord that she is so healthy. There are dozens of worse ailments she might have.

E. H., Norfield, Miss.—Better see a doctor and have him remove the tapeworm, which is easily done. Tapeworms are very undesirable tenants of the human body and will do serious injury if permitted to remain on the premises.

Mrs. T. L., Mt. Auburn, Iowa.—Pains in the heart are often caused from pressure of the gases in the stomach resulting from indigestion, but when they are as severe as yours are and extend to the arm and side, there is something more than indigestion back of them. We cannot guess at what they mean, or are, but you should get the best advice possible from physicians who can examine your condition. To be perfectly frank with you, we think they are dangerous. Still, you should not worry about them, because people who have had dangerous heart trouble have lived longer than others who didn't have any at all.

A. L., Stephen, Minn.—Epilepsy may result from various causes, but oftenest the tendency is inherited. Very little success has attended its treatment, other than temporary relief, and it is held to be incurable. Liver spots, white warts and such are due to defective condition of the blood and they will remain until the blood condition is improved. Ordinary external applications are of no value.

N. P. A., Christopher, Ill.—A change of climate is about the only real relief for catarrh and even that will not always relieve, though it will usually if taken in time. We think that any young person having catarrh, or a catarrhal tendency, is to blame for any future suffering, who will remain in a climate where catarrh prevails. All the treatment you take will be of little benefit so long as you stay where the cause of the trouble is. Go to Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, North Carolina mountains, or anywhere that the air is dry. You ask us what you should do and we tell you to get out of that climate before it is too late.

Street Paved with Gold

In South American cities there is very little paving, but Paramaribo, the capital of Dutch Guiana, boasts of a stretch of roadway, paved with gold bearing quartz. This material was obtainable nearby at a low cost so the engineers decided to use it. It had to be crushed by pounding with hammers and women and children, as well as men, did part of this work. The wages paid to each was small but they were allowed to keep all the gold they found in the rock they were breaking up. This made the onerous labor rather interesting and some of the natives are said to have received a daily stipend that would compare favorably with the amount paid to some of our highest grade American workers. It is the only instance I ever heard of, in which, a prospector had the mine brought to his door instead of being put to the trouble of going out in the desert to seek one.

What Shall I Give Them For Christmas?

HOW MANY TIMES do you ask yourself this question as the holidays draw near and you are making up your list of those whom you wish to remember with some appropriate yet inexpensive Xmas gift?

Oftentimes you find it almost impossible to decide—it even becomes a source of downright worry—because all of us like to feel that the presents we give are something that will be actually needed and appreciated by the recipients.

Why not let us help you solve at least one of your Christmas problems this year? We believe we know of one present that will bring more pleasant and more frequent reminders to your friends than almost anything else you could buy—and that is

A Year's Subscription To Comfort

Here is the one gift that pleases everybody—a gift that will become a cheery, welcome reminder of you month after month for an entire year—and at so little expense you will not notice it at all. Simply send us 25 cents and the name and address of the friend you wish to remember written on the coupon below and we will enter the subscription for one full year to commence with our Christmas number and with it we will also mail

A Beautiful Christmas Presentation Card

so that **both** paper and card will reach the recipient at about the same time. The card is beautifully colored and embossed with a dainty appropriate Christmas design and verse on one side and on the other side is a specially printed announcement of the gift and a space left for your name as the giver which we will fill in ourselves before the card is mailed.

Isn't this a splendid idea? Surely among your friends there is someone who will appreciate and enjoy such an interesting magazine as COMFORT and who will think of you gratefully every time the carrier leaves it at the door.

Better send us your friend's name and the money now—**it's none too early to avoid the Christmas rush**—and you will have at least one present less to think about because we will attend to all the details. After you mail the coupon and money you can dismiss the matter from your mind as we will take good care of your order and mail both the paper and the handsome Christmas Card properly filled out with your name as the giver at precisely the right time.

A Christmas Surprise Package For You!

If you will **collect** 25 cents from **another** friend to pay for a one year's subscription and send us the **two** subscriptions and the money (50 cents in all) we will send you free a package of 60 beautiful Christmas Cards, Seals, Stamps, Stickers, etc., all finely colored and embossed, **the season's latest novelties.** Remember that **you** are not to pay for this other subscription for which we send you the Christmas Package—the subscriber must pay it himself. You can use the coupon below for sending in your order. It will save you the bother of writing a letter.

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY!

"COMFORT FOR CHRISTMAS" COUPON

(Return This Coupon With 25 Cents If You Send One Subscription Or 50 Cents If You Send Two Subscriptions)

Date_____1916.

Publisher COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Dear Sir: As a Christmas present from me please send COMFORT for one year to the following address, also the Christmas Card properly filled out with my name. I enclose 25 cents to pay for the same.

My Friend's Name.....

Street & No. or R. F. D. No...... *Box No.*.....

Post Office..... *State*.....

(If You Send The Extra Subscription For The Christmas Surprise Package Write The Subscriber's Name And Address Here)

Pub. COMFORT,

Dear Sir: I enclose an additional 25 cents to pay for the following one-year subscription. In return for this subscription [which the subscriber paid me for] please send me the Surprise Package of 60 Beautiful Christmas Cards, Seals, Stamps, Stickers, etc., free by mail post paid.

Subscriber's Name.....

Street & No. or R. F. D. No...... *Box No.*.....

Post Office..... *State*.....

(Be Sure To Write Your Own Name And Address Here)

My Name is.....

Street & No. or R. F. D. No...... *Box No.*.....

Post Office..... *State*.....

☞ Enclose 25 cents if you send one subscription. Enclose 50 cents if you send two subscriptions.

4 Wheel Chairs in October

369 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

The four October wheel chairs go to the following applicants. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Edward Bryan Law, Sailors Rest, Tenn., 103; Emmett Odell, Saratoga, Texas, 100; Mabel I. Foster, Bentonia, Miss., 99; Alice Scafe, Stillwater, Okla., 85.

It is difficult to imagine more pitiable affliction than appears in the cases of these poor, worthy sufferers as described in the letters I have from their friends, which are enough to wring compassion from the coldest, most selfish heart. Let me tell you briefly of their sad plight, oppressed by poverty, crippled and tortured by disease, and suffering for want of care and lack of the common comforts necessary to make invalid existence endurable.

Poor little Edward Law, age nine years, has never walked and can get about only by crawling on the floor. He has suffered intensely. Surgical operations were performed in three places on each leg last summer and he was in a plaster cast for seven weeks. He is bright mentally and bears his suffering patiently. His good mother obtained all the subscriptions for his chair.

Emmett Odell, aged eleven, has no use of his lower limbs resulting from spinal trouble which began six years ago. He is dependent on his mother and two sisters for support and care. His mother writes that he is getting too heavy for her to handle without a wheel chair.

Mabel I. Foster, age nineteen, is entirely helpless and suffers such pain from rheumatism that she has to be kept under the influence of morphine much of the time. Her parents are poor, having spent all they had and all they could earn for her medical treatment. Her legs are drawn up and stiffened in a sitting position. The mother expects the wheel chair will prove a great help in caring for her. She has been in this condition about eight years.

Alice Scafe, age ten years, is a helpless, hopeless invalid and can neither walk nor talk. Her father is poor and her mother, with five other children to care for, is too busy to attend to Alice whose entire care falls on her thirteen-year-old sister who has to stay from school and tend her like a baby all day long, which she does faithfully and uncomplainingly.

There are many other equally distressing cases among the applicants who are trying for, and are in most urgent need of wheel chairs. My good friends, will you not do something this month to help provide them with wheel chairs to relieve their sufferings and make their lives more endurable? At this Thanksgiving season manifest your gratitude in this way for the many blessings you enjoy.

Twenty subscriptions sent in by E. M. Dykes in aid of Mamie Howell's wheel chair were duly allowed to her, but in the June "Roll of Honor" they were printed as having come from Miss Alice Mullen, therefore I make this correction now.

The month's Roll of Honor and the few letters of thanks for which there is room appear below.

Sincerely yours,

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Subscription price is 25 cents, but if sent in clubs of five or more for the Wheel-Chair Club, I accept them at 20 cents each.

Little Brother Pushes Him About in His COMFORT Wheel Chair

URBANA, ILL.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

My son Harold received his wheel chair some time ago and is very much pleased with it, so much so that I can hardly keep him at home. His little four-year-old brother pushes him anywhere he wants to go. The truant officer told me she would try to arrange for him to attend school in his wheel chair as it is only a block away. May God bless you and all who have assisted me in getting this chair, and may you live long to carry forward this good work.

Yours respectfully, MRS. OLIVE GROB.

Had a Fine Time Visiting Friends in Her COMFORT Wheel Chair

LAPWAI, IDAHO.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I received the wheel chair for Margaret and am so pleased with it. We took her to Lewiston for a visit and she had a fine time visiting her friends in her chair. I will send you one of her pictures as soon as I get them. With many thanks I am,

Very respectfully, MRS. BENTON DENNY.

Hopes to Enjoy Long Rides in His Wheel Chair

TURTLE, MO.

MR. W. H. GANNETT:

DEAR SIR.—The lovely wheel chair has come and I hope to enjoy long rides in it soon. Many, many thanks for it, and may you live long to send out wheel chairs to lots of other cripples. With a thankful heart I remain,

Yours respectfully, GLEN SPARKS.

Well Pleased With Her COMFORT Wheel Chair

LOVELAND, OKLA.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

Mamie has received her wheel chair and she is well pleased with it, for which we thank you very much.

Her papa, D. M. HOWELL.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

Nellie Odell, Texas, for Emmett Odell, 100; Mrs. J. Mack Law, Tenn., for Edw. Bryan Law, 53; John W. Hankins, Ill., for John W. Hankins, 47; Miss Nellie Ferguson, Texas, for Mollie Fay Belle Ferguson, 47; Mrs. R. W. Bryan, N. C., for Jessie D. Bryan, 46; Mrs. C. M. Mansfield, Miss., for Mabel Foster, 42; Mrs. J. W. Sifford, Mo., for Willie Sifford, 37; Eddie White, Ark., for Dillard White, 36; Ben T. Hocker, Texas, for Ben Glover, 26; Lena McKinnon, Okla., for Alice Scafe, 20; Mrs. M. C. Cotton, Okla., for Alice Scafe, 20; Mrs. Della Rainwater, Ark., for Ona Catts, 15; Mrs. T. A. Hancock, Va., for Thomas Hancock, 12; Locia Knowles, Ala., for W. H. Foster, 11; Mrs. W. A. Sparks, Mo., for Glen Sparks, 10; Leithor D. Darter, Texas, for own wheel chair, 10; Mrs. Thos. M. Blount, Mo., for Mrs. Malinda Gillem, 10; Mrs. Josie Pazz, Vt., for General, 9; Mrs. May Townsend, Mo., for Mrs. Malinda Gillem, 8; Mrs. Annie Leach, Ala., for Wm. H. Foster, 7; Mrs. L. G. Covin, Idaho, for Mrs. Arabella A. Sherrod, 7; Mrs. Jim Covin, Idaho, for Mrs. Arabella A. Sherrod, 7; Mrs. Naomi Mond, Okla., for Mrs. Naomi Moad, 6; Mrs. W. E. Garnes, Ohio, for General, 6; Mrs. T. B. Christian, N. Mex., for own wheel chair, 5; Mrs. C. H. Clifton, Mont., for General, 5; Miss Lona Norris, Ala., for General, 5; Mrs. Frances E. Schoonover, Idaho, for General, 5; J. O. Tunnell, Idaho, for General, 5.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents—Snappiest Household Line on earth. Red hot sellers, steady repeaters—100% profit. 250 light weight, fast selling, popular priced necessities. Agents outfit free. Get busy—quick.—Write today; postal will do. American Products Co., 9415 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 96c. H. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 586 Broadway, New York City.

Agents—Pair Silk Hose Free. State size & color. Beautiful line direct from mill. Good profits. Agents wanted. Write today. Triple-wear Mills, Dept. G, 720 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free. William Ragsdale, East Orange, N. J.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 231 N. 2nd, St. Louis, Mo.

Earn $50 to $100 monthly distributing Parker Hosiery to regular repeat customers in your home town at mill prices. All or spare time. Protected territory. Credit given. G. Parker Mills, 2733 No. 12th St., Phila., Pa.

Men and Women: $1500 to $3000 Yearly taking orders for over 90 Household Articles. Outfit Free. Big Chance. Full Particulars. Duo Factories, Dept. B40, North Java, N. Y.

Agents! Highly profitable returns selling our Dress Goods, Hosiery, Underwear and General Dry Goods. Biggest Proposition. Write at once. National Importing & Mfg. Co., Dept. CB, 425 Broadway, New York.

1916's Sensation—11-piece toilet article set, selling like blazes at $1, with $1 carving set free; enormous profits; tremendous hit; Eagle made $51 first week; write quick. Pierce Co., 505 Pierce Bldg., Chicago.

Every Home on Farm, In Small Town or suburb needs and will buy the wonderful Aladdin kerosene (coal-oil) Mantle Lamp. Five times as bright as electric. Tested and recommended by Government and 34 leading Universities. Awarded Gold Medal. One farmer cleared over $500 in 6 weeks. Hundreds with rigs or autos earning $100 to $300 per month. We Furnish Goods On Time to reliable men. Write quick for sample lamp for free trial, distributor's proposition and secure appointment in exclusive territory. Mantle Lamp Co., 610 Aladdin Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

Big Textile Mills want ambitious men and women everywhere to show latest dress fabrics, neckwear, hosiery, underwear, and sweaters. 400 styles. Easy sales. Values beat stores. Many making over $30 weekly. All or spare time. Complete sample outfit starts you. Steadfast Mills, 34 Remsen St., Cohoes, N. Y.

Agents—Steady Income. Large manufacturer of Handkerchiefs and Dress Goods, etc., wishes representative in each locality. Factory to consumer. Big profits, honest goods. Credit given. Send for particulars. Freeport Mfg. Co., 60 Main St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Bishop tells Women How to Make Money, Free Plan—No Money Needed—Something New. Write Bishop, 116 N. 2nd, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents; Cooper made $314 last month, $91 last week selling "Kantleak" Raincoats. New proposition. We deliver and collect. Sample coat Free. Comer Mfg. Co., 12 Opal St., Dayton, Ohio.

Guaranteed Hosiery Selling From Mill earns $5 a day for our representatives. No Capital or experience needed. All or Spare Time. Weber Mills, Nicetown Station, Phila., Pa.

Agents: Two big selling, household necessities. Sell at 10 cts. Write G. A. Landwehr, Desk 18, Majestic Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Photo Pillow Tops, Portraits, Frames, Sheet Pictures, Photo Plates, Pennants, Paper Mache Frames. Rejects credited. Prompt shipments; samples & cat. free to agents. 30 days credit. Jas. C. Bailey Co., Desk M5, Chicago, Ill.

Agents $60 a week to travel by Automobile and introduce our 300 candle power coal-oil lantern. Write for particulars of our free auto offer. Thomas Co., 319 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agents—Make $5000 This Year. Be your own boss—independent—abundant money—your time your own. All or spare time, at home or traveling. Write E. M. Feltman, Sales Mgr., 9015 3rd St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Agents can make big money selling hosiery of exceptional quality at prices that cannot be secured elsewhere. Big repeater. Write. Fisher Hosiery Co., 723 Sterling Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Agents—Make a dollar an hour. Sell Mendets, a patent patch for instantly mending leaks in all utensils. Sample package and catalogue of household specialties free. Collette Mfg. Co., Dept. 452 A, Amsterdam, N. Y.

A Demonstration sells our newly patented combination vacuum sweeper. $5.00 profit on every sale. Hissong sold seven in one day. The United Sales Co. Box 800C Warren, Pa.

Stop Here—just out—Eisen Regulator for Ford Headlights. Selling like wildfire everywhere. Gives splendid driving light at low speed—keeps bulbs from burning out—works entirely automatically. Needed on every Ford. Big profits quick—Listen: Hopkins, Tenn., cleared $16.20 first day. White, Michigan, $134.00 one week. No experience or capital needed. We show you how, Sales Guaranteed. Hurry, don't delay, write now for special information. Address Eisen Instrument Co., 336 Valentine Bldg., Toledo, Ohio.

Insyde Tyres, inner armor for Automobile tires, double mileage and prevent punctures and blowouts. Quickly applied. Cost little. Demand tremendous. Profits unlimited. Details free. American Automobile Accessories Co., Dept. 110, Cincinnati, O.

Agents Sell Duzwin Washing Paste. Wonderful compound. Washes and whitens clothes without boiling, rubbing or bluing. Guaranteed absolutely harmless. 100% profit. Splendid repeater. Send for free sample and agents proposition. Duzwin Products Co., Crow St., Utica, N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED

Lady Or Gentleman To Travel for old-established firm. No canvassing. Staple line. $18 weekly, pursuant to contract. Expenses advanced. G. O. Nichols, Philadelphia, Pa., Pepper Bldg.

Agent's—200% profit. Wonderful little article. Sells like wildfire. Can be carried in pocket. Write at once for free sample. H. Matthews, 419 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

One Thousand Dollars Reward if this is not the greatest money-making house-to-house proposition. N. R. G. Little Wizard Labor Saver washes clothes in 10 minutes, without rubbing. Contains no Lime, Lye, Paraffin, Wax or other injurious chemical and cannot possibly injure the clothes or hands. Positively the wonder of the age—sells for 15c enough for 5 family washings. We supply one free sample with every package you buy and guarantee the sale of same. Just leave the free sample with the housewife and when you call again, she is eagerly awaiting to become your steady customer. A 1c. postal brings sample and full particulars. Farquhar-Moon Mfg. Co., Desk B210, 140 W. Van Buren St., Chicago.

Earn your Christmas money taking orders for Personal Christmas Cards. Outfit free. Strathmore Press, Cambridge, Mass.

$61.50 Weekly. Introducing and selling a new gas light burner for kerosene lamps. No chimney. No mantle. Samples free. Luther Manufacturing Co., Dept. 228, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Big Handsome Xmas Package, consisting post-cards, booklets, tags, seals. Sells itself. Sample 10c. particulars free. Write quickly. Ufert, 236 West 41st St., New York.

Agents sell our waterproof aprons, soaps and toilet articles. Big profits. Pelham Manufacturing Co., North Pelham, N. Y.

A few reliable men or women to handle my 1916 "Business Guide." Sells everywhere. Beginners clear $7 per day. 60% commission. Outfit free. Prof. Nichols, Box 19, Naperville, Ill.

AGENTS WANTED

$100.00 Weekly easily made selling to dealers on commission "18-92" highest quality Aluminum Cooking Utensils, guaranteed for 20 years. Exclusive or side line. Write immediately for proposition. Ipaloo, Lemont, Ill.

Agents sell a new rug; women grab for it; No experience required; big money. Write Mount Vernon Rug Co., Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Agents—A one-cent post card will put you in touch with an $80 a week proposition selling Aluminum Utensils and Specialties direct to the consumer. Don't let one cent stand between you and prosperity. Div. B.B.P., American Aluminum Mfg. Co., Lemont, Ill.

Reliable People Wanted to place Eggine in stores and appoint agents. Takes the place of Eggs in baking and cooking at less than 9c doz. Package and particulars 10c postpaid. Morrissey Co., 4424 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Turn Spare Time Into Dollars. Something new. No canvassing or investment. Daydark Co., Desk 54, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents to handle our line of advertising calendars, fans and novelties. Large commissions. Write for particulars. Best Mfg. Co., New Haven, Conn.

PHOTO FINISHING

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Learn Nursing At Home. Rates low. Easy terms. Catalog free. Philadelphia School for Nurses, 2227 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

MUSIC FOR SALE

"Trey O'Hearts" latest rag two-step for piano. To introduce 10c postpaid. A. E. Holch, Cripple Creek, Colo.

POULTRY

Poultry Paper, 44-124 page periodical, up to date, tells all you want to know about care and management of poultry, for pleasure or profit; four months for 10 cents. Poultry Advocate, Dept. 112, Syracuse, N. Y.

"Rainbow" Partridge Rocks bred for winter layers and beauty of plumage. The Rockwood Farm, Box 1131, Norwalk, Ohio.

S. C. White Leghorns—Pullets, Breeders—Heavy Layers. Order now for Chicks and Eggs for 1917. Send for Literature. Sunny Crest Co., East Aurora, N. Y.

SCHOOLS

Telegraphy—Wire & Wireless & Station Agency Taught. Largest School. Catalog Free. Dodge's Institute, L St., Valparaiso, Ind.

CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

Shorthand in 30 Lessons. (Copyrighted) Home study in spare time insures paying positions. Write for booklet C. American School of Phonography, Cleveland, Ohio.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

Will Pay $100.00 for Trade Dollar 1885; $7.00 for 1853 Quarter without arrows; $750.00 for certain $5.00 gold without motto. Cash premiums for rare coins to 1912. Get posted. Send 4c. Get our Large Coin Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

$4.25 Each Paid for U. S. Eagle Cents dated 1856. Keep all money dated before 1895, and send 10c at once for New Illust'd Coin Value Book, 4x7. It may mean a fortune. Clarke & Co., Coin Dealers, Box 20, LeRoy, N. Y.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

REAL ESTATE

Small Missouri Farm $10 Cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes; Highly productive land; close to three big markets. Write for photographs and full information. Munger, D-104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Best Opportunities today are in the South for farm and other homeseekers. Low priced lands, largest profits per acre in grain, alfalfa and other crops, healthful home regions; openings for live stock, dairy, poultry, fruit and truck farmers. Write for literature. M. V. Richards, Ind. & Agr. Commr., Room 19 Southern Railway, Washington, D. C.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

Virginia, N. C., W. Va., & Ohio Farms at $15.00 per acre & up offer big value for the price. Best climate, markets, schools & transportation. Good land and neighbors. Write F. H. LaBaume, Agri. Agt., N. & W. Ry., 269 Arcade, Roanoke, Va.

FARM LANDS

Productive Lands. Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 197 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

California Land $1.00 Per Acre Cash. Balance purchase 90c month per acre. Immediate possession given. No taxes. No interest. Level San Joaquin Valley. Only four hours from San Francisco. 5 acres up. Clear; ready to plow. Open ditch irrigation, $1.00 acre per annum. Particulars, maps, photographs, free. Stevinson Colony, Desk B., 785 Market St., San Francisco.

Florida—Attractive bungalow—10-acre fruit, poultry, truck farm adjoining city; price $1000; easy terms; Geo. Colburn, Lake City, Fla.

Uncle Sam is watering a farm for you in Salt River Valley, Arizona, where you will live longer and better, and make more money with less work. Read our Roosevelt Dam folder free on request. C. L. Seagraves, Industrial Com'r AT&SF Ry., 1946 Ry. Exchange, Chicago.

FARMS FOR SALE

Money-Making Farms, 15 states, $10 to $50 an acre; stock, tools and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue. E. A. Strout Farm Agency, Dept 3027, 150 Nassau St, New York.

OIL LAND INVESTMENTS

Oil and Independence, Oklahoma Oil Field Land may make your fortune. Your chance of making enormous profits from a small investment—Lots sold on payments of $1.00 cash and $2.00 monthly. Write for particulars. Address, Frank P. Cleveland, 1114 Adams Express Building, Chicago.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis, Mo.

HELP WANTED

$25 Week. Become Auto Chauffeurs. Learn while earning. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. P. 812 Rochester, N. Y.

Men—Women Wanted. Gov't Jobs. $75.00 month. List positions free. Franklin Institute, Dep't P. 12, Rochester, N. Y.

MALE HELP WANTED

Be A Detective—Earn $100 to $300 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Government Needs Men and Women over 18, for stationary and traveling positions. Big salaries. Write, Ozment, 8R, St. Louis.

Government Farmers Wanted. $75 to $125 monthly. Free living quarters. Write, Ozment, 8F, St. Louis.

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 826 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

Be A Detective—Earn $100 to $300 per month; easy work; we show you; Write Wagner, 1243 Lexington Ave., New York. Dept. 368.

Men Become Locomotive Firemen, Brakemen, Electric Motormen and Conductors and earn Big Money. Hundreds placed to work $75 and $100 month. No experience necessary. Write at once, Inter Railway Dept. C, Majestic Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind.

Wanted. Men and women to qualify for Government positions. Several thousand appointments to be made next few months. Full information about openings, how to prepare, etc., free. Write immediately for booklet CG1450. Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Men—Wanted. Gov't Jobs. $75.00 month. Write for list positions. Franklin Institute, Dept. P. 9, Rochester, N. Y.

Earn $75 to $150 a month. Easy work, short hours, Lifetime position. Examinations coming. American Citizens only. Write for Free book J-15, of Government jobs. Patterson Civil Service School, Rochester, N. Y.

500 Men Wanted At Once 20-40 For Electric Railway Motormen and Conductors. All parts U. S. $60-$100 monthly. Experience unnecessary. Send Stamp for application blank. National Railway, Dept. 124, Kansas City, Mo.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

Will Pay reliable woman $25.00 to distribute Free (not to sell) 200 pkgs. Borax Soap Powder among friends. No money required. A. Ward Company, 732 N. Franklin St., Chicago.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in large lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Government Matrons Wanted, age 21 to 45, $60 monthly. Free Living quarters. Write Ozment, 8M, St. Louis.

Reliable Women to distribute toilet goods to friends and neighbors. $1 a dozen for your trouble. Sample free. Daley Mfg., Co., St., Louis, Mo.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

Not Satisfied

One evening a little boy entered a grocery store and handed the clerk a note which read: "I am a poor woman and have no money. My children and I are starving. Won't you give us something to eat?"



The kind-hearted clerk filled a large basket with food and gave it to the boy, who quickly departed.

In a few minutes he again entered the store.

"What's the trouble now?" said the clerk.

"Mamma sent me back to get the trading stamps," the lad replied.—Louisville Evening Post.

Kindness of Heart

His face was pinched and drawn. With faltering footsteps he wended his way among the bustling crowd.

"Kind sir," he suddenly exclaimed, "will you not give me a loaf of bread for my wife and little ones?"

The stranger regarded him not unkindly. "Far be it from me," he rejoined, to take advantage of your destitution. Keep your wife and little ones; I do not want them."—Tid Bits.

Its Vocabulary

"That parrot of theirs! Why, it rattles off all the gossip of the neighborhood!"

"Yes. When it was learning to talk they forgot to take it out of the room the day the sewing society met."—Browning's Magazine.

The Jury Reports

It was the first case ever tried in Stony Gulch, and the jury had sat for hours arguing and disputing. At last they straggled back, and the foreman, a tall mountaineer, expressed the general opinion.



"We don't think he did it," he said slowly, "for we allow he wan't there; but we think he would of ef he'd had the chanst."—Youth's Companion.

"Safety First"

"Doesn't seem to be anybody at home. Where's the family?" asked the Billville visitor.

"Well," was the reply, "the children are off at school, an' last week the old lady left to take military 'trainin' in the preparedness camp."

"But—where's the old man?"

"Last seen of him, he was crawlin' into a storm-pit an' shuttin' the lid after him."—Atlanta Constitution.

Sorely Disappointed

"Why do ye look so sorrowful, Dennis?"

"I just hear-r-d wan man call another a liar, and the man that was called a liar



said the other man would have to apologize, or there would be a fight."

"And why should that make you look so sad?"

"The other man apologized!"—Pall Mall Gazette.

Perfectly Simple

During a school tea a kindly English lady sat regarding one of the young guests with evident alarm. Undismayed by the lady's glances, the young hopeful demolished plate after plate of bread and butter and cake. At last the lady could stand it no longer. Going up to the urchin, she said:

"My boy, have you never read any book which would tell you what to eat, what to drink, and what to avoid?"

"Why, bless yer, ma'am," replied the young gentleman, with his mouth full of cake, "I don't want no book. It's very simple. I eat all I can, I drink all I can, an' I avoids bustin'."—Louisville Herald.

A Gloomy View



The five-year-old daughter of an army officer at Fort Hamilton was returning from Sunday School a short time ago when she met a friend of the family who asked her where she had been.

"Jus' to Sunday School," she said.

"And what did you do there?" questioned the friend.

"Oh, we jus' sang sad songs about heaven," answered the child.

Not Reckless

Jake Penticoff came to seek aid from the city fathers.

"I gotta haff a sack of flour," said Jake. "I'm all out, and my family iss starfin'."

"All right, Jake," said the official. "If you need flour and have no money, we'll get you a sack. But see here, Jake, there's a circus coming, and if we get your flour are you sure that you will not sell it and take your family to the circus?"

"Oh, no," said Jake; "I already got dat safed up. Yas, I got money to go to te circus."—Youth's Companion.

Yes, William



As William bent over her fair face he whispered, "Darling, if I should ask you in French if I might kiss you, what would you say?"

Nancy, calling up her scanty knowledge of the French language exclaimed, "Billet doux." Pronounced Billy do.—Louisville Evening Post.

The Ideal Sort

"Jones is the finest after-dinner speaker I have ever heard."

"So?"

"Yes, he always says, 'Waiter, give that check to me.'"—Panther.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Three books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg., Wash. D. C.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn big pay while you learn at home during spare time. Only eight weeks required. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of students we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 per month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Salesmen Wanted—Reliable Men That can furnish team and wagon to travel in the country and sell old established line of medicines, flavorings, spices, soaps, toilets, condition powder, etc. Permament work. Pay Big. Write today for free copy of "Opportunity." It tells how. Seminole Medicine Co., Boone, Ia., Box 228.

Tobacco Factory wants salesman; good pay, steady work, promotion; experience unnecessary, we give complete instructions. Piedmont Tobacco Co., Box A-19, Danville, Va.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Invent Something; Your Ideas May bring wealth; our free book tells what to invent and how to obtain a patent, through our new credit system; write today. Waters & Co., 4206 Warder Bldg., Washington, D. C.

$888 In Pigeons! Start raising squabs for market or breeding purposes. Make big profits with our Jumbo Pigeons. We teach you. Large, free, illustrated, instructive circulars. Providence Squab Co., Providence, R. I.

Earn good money at home, silvering mirrors; no capital. Free instructive booklet. D. Malin, 284 Pacific St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Free—The Western Miner, 3 months to get acquainted. Devoted to Investment and News. 2539 W. 37 Ave., Denver, Colo.

LAME PEOPLE

The Perfection Extension Shoe for any person with one short limb. No more unsightly cork soles, irons, etc., needed. Worn with ready-made shoes. Shipped on trial. Write for booklet. Henry J. Lotz, 313 Third Ave., New York.

MISCELLANEOUS

Free—To any person, Boy or Girl who will send me five names of people suffering from Dandruff or Falling Hair. I will send free of charge a handsome Coin Purse. Address, Chas. A. Maikels, Montgomery, Ill.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

We've got lockets, knives, rifles, etc., to give away. Write us for free particulars. Keeney Seed Co., Monongahela City, Penna.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Write Photoplays, Short Stories, Poems: $100 each. No correspondence course. Details free. Atlas Pub. Co., 326, Cincinnati, O.

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

Write Photoplays! $75 each. Send for free booklet "How to Write Moving Picture Plays." Universal Pub. Co., 314 Fergus Falls, Minn.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$35.00 Profit Nightly. Small Capital Starts You. No experience needed. We teach you the business, Catalog free. Atlas Moving Picture Co., 407 South Dearborn, Chicago.

$50.00—Nightly—In The Moving Picture Business, easy payment plan. No Experience Needed. Catalog Free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct Free—sell on Commission. Big Rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31, Auburn, N. Y.

See Here! We want your ideas for photoplays and stories! Accepted in any form, and criticised Free. Sold on commission. Write Now! Ms. Sales Co., Dept. E., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, 64, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles, poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1000 Washington, D. C.

No Money In Advance

The readers of **Comfort** have here presented a most wonderful opportunity to save money on Fur Sets, Mackinaws, Men's Shirts and Made-to-Order Clothing. Each of these offerings is a grand bargain and merits the instant consideration of every reader of this publication. These bargains are sent to you for thorough examination without one cent in advance—did anyone else ever have such confidence in their bargains?

These are Special Get Acquainted Bargains, the equal of which you will agree, have never before been offered. Just look at the descriptions, then the Prices and Terms—and we wish to state positively that you will not see them equaled anywhere, no matter where you go. These are Extra Specials for Comfort Readers—for the purpose of quickly getting 10,000 more customers to realize by actual demonstration that the famous House of Stanley-Rogers offers its customers dependable Merchandise for less money than same could be purchased for elsewhere.

Every item is guaranteed and if goods do not come up to your expectations, you simply return them at our expense. In ordering, **do not send any money**—because goods are

Shipped Direct From the Famous Stanley-Rogers Co.

Without Deposit—Without Security—Without References

Mail any of the coupons which are placed conveniently in each bargain section below and your Special Bargain will be sent direct without your sending One Cent of Money in Advance. Stanley-Rogers Company takes all the risk, all the responsibility of pleasing you.

After a careful, critical examination, if you believe the article a wonderful bargain—just pay the small first payment as described and the balance in small monthly payments. (No discount allowed for cash in full.) Or, if not entirely pleased, return goods—at our expense—and you won't be out one cent.

This is the most liberal offer ever made and when you consider the big saving, it will pay you to take advantage of it right away. Do so at once. The Stanley-Rogers Company **Guarantee** is behind every sale. Select your bargain from Specials listed below and send coupon today.

Sensational Bargain Offers

Amazing French Lynx Fur Set Offer



Here is the most wonderful opportunity you ever had. The most startling, amazing bargain in French Lynx Fur Sets ever offered. A fur set that you would consider a splendid bargain at $15.00. We send it to you without one cent in advance, without security or reference. Without even your promise to keep it. Just the coupon brings you the set—the French Lynx Scarf and Muff. When it comes, note the beautiful style—the long silky, lustrous fur and the wonderful dark, deep black color, so exquisitely rich and attractive. If you positively fall in love with the set, you may keep it on our Special Advertising Offer.

Only $2.95 After Examination

The balance of our special advertising price of $8.95 you may pay in 4 monthly installments of $1.50 each—a sum so small, you'll never miss the money. Or you can return set, at our expense, if for any reason you decide not to keep it.

The Scarf Boa style, having fur on both sides. Head has adjustable spring jaw so that scarf can be clasped anywhere. 33 inches long without counting tail. 6 inches wide. Scarf alone is good value anywhere for $6.00.

The Muff Is the new melon shape. Lined with yarn dyed satin. 12 inches across. Muff alone is worth our price for complete set.

Only 1,000 On This Offer

Take advantage of this wonderful reduced price offer. Make up your mind to have a nice set of furs—a set of furs that any woman would be proud to own. Just send this coupon and when once you see and put on this snug, warm, stylish French Lynx Fur Set, you will realize its great value. You have only to fill out the coupon and mail it to us today. The French Lynx Fur is luxurious, offers a splendid setting for the face and figure and will be found becoming to anyone.

Send coupon today for your set. Don't delay. Only 1,000 sets will be sent out on our special advertising offer and these will be sent out quickly. So send coupon today.

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY,
1015 Jackson Blvd. Dept. 18, Chicago, Ill.

Send French Lynx Fur Set (Muff and Scarf) pictured and described in this ad. I agree to examine the set and if satisfied with my bargain will pay $2.95 as first payment and balance of Special Advertising Price of only $8.95 in four monthly payments of $1.50 each. If I decide not to keep the set, I will return it to you, at your expense.

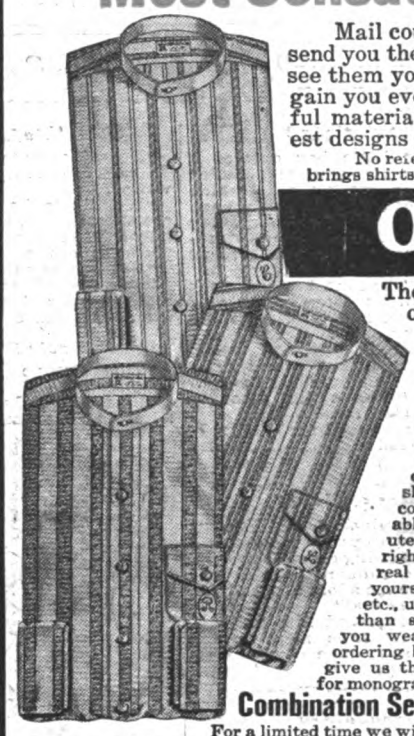
Name.....

Address.....

City.....State.....

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY,
1015 Jackson Blvd. Dept. 18, Chicago, Ill.

Most Sensational Shirt Offer



Mail coupon—send no money and we will immediately send you these three magnificent men's shirts. When you see them you will agree that here is the biggest shirt bargain you ever saw. Made of firm texture, strikingly beautiful material that has a rich lustrous sheen—the handsomest designs you ever saw. Wash and wear wonderfully.

No references—no red tape—not even your promise to buy—coupon brings shirts free. If they are the greatest value you ever saw, pay

Only $1.00 After Examination

Then pay us $1.00 monthly for four months until our special low price of $5.00 for the three shirts has been paid. If you do not care to keep the shirts, return them at our expense and you will not be out a single penny. Everything is at our risk—you take no chances whatever. But we know that when you see the rich beauty of the patterns; the neat coat style cut; the individual initial monogram, which can be placed on the sleeve or on the pocket; the striking color combinations; and particularly, the durable material; you will not hesitate a minute to keep all 3 shirts. Send coupon right now and let us prove to you what a real shirt bargain this is. All three are yours for only $5. Sizes 13, 13½, 14, 14½, etc., up to 18. Order shirts ½ size smaller than size collar you wear. When ordering be sure to give us the initial for monogram.



Combination Set Free

For a limited time we will send along as a free gift, this gentlemen's combination set consisting of scarf pin, cuff links, and scarf retainer. Made of pure rolled gold plate, guaranteed 20 years, and each exactly as illustrated. Rich striking design. Comes in handsome plush lined box. A valuable acquisition to any man's wardrobe. Sent absolutely free with the shirts. Mail coupon and get your set now—send no money.

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY,
1015 Jackson Blvd., Dept. 18, Chicago, Ill.

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY,
1015 Jackson Blvd., Dept. 18, Chicago, Ill.

Send me the three shirts. I agree to examine them, and, if I decide to keep them, will pay $1.00 as first payment and then pay balance in four monthly payments of $1.00 each. Send along the combination set as a free gift. If I decide not to keep the shirts, I will return the entire outfit at your expense.

Size..... Monogram initial.....

Name.....

Address.....

City.....State.....

Special Bargain In Mackinaws



Here's your chance to get a genuine Stanley-Rogers Mackinaw shipped direct to you without sending a cent in advance. But you must ACT **quick.** This offer is limited. And only those who answer at once from each community will be able to get in on this proposition. Here is our plan: As a special introductory offer to quickly introduce our wonderful Mackinaws in your territory, we make this liberal offer:

Send only the coupon. Send no money. We will immediately send you a genuine Stanley-Rogers Mackinaw. When the Mackinaw arrives, try it on—note the perfect fit. Examine it—feel the soft texture of the fabric. Ask your friends what they think of it. If you believe it to be the best Mackinaw you ever saw and want it—just keep it and

Only $2.75 After Examination

Then pay the balance of our Special Low Bargain Price of only $8.75 in small monthly payments of $1.20 each. On this plan you run no risk whatever. You actually see and try on the Mackinaw before you decide whether or not you wish to keep it. Then you have the wear and use of the Mackinaw while paying. But if you decide that you don't want the Mackinaw, return it at our expense and you will not be out a cent.

ONLY 5,000 ON THIS OFFER!

If you want to be one of the lucky ones from your district, sent in coupon NOW—today. Don't delay. Measure your chest over your vest, just as you would take your coat measure. Our Mackinaws come in all sizes from 34 in. up. Are made of finest quality fabrics. Give greatest warmth, wear and comfort. Wonderful in appearance and wear like "sixty." Rain, sleet and snow have no effect on these Mackinaws.

You Choice of 3 Patterns

You have three patterns to choose from—described under illustrations. Take your choice. Mention number of pattern and size in coupon. **50c extra will be charged for 40 and up chest measure.** Add on last payment. This offer will be withdrawn shortly, so send coupon today.

STANLEY-ROGERS CO.
1015 Jackson Blvd., Dept. 18, Chicago, Ill.

No. 478. Pictured here—beautiful dark gray background interwoven with black stripes. Coat is double breasted with large, roomy patch pockets with flaps. Belt, pleats and flaps are double seamed. Size 34 in. up



No. 479. Soft brown background interwoven with black stripes. Same style as model illustrated. Sizes 34 inches and up.



No. 477. Rich dark gray background interwoven with blue stripes. Same style shown in picture. Sizes 34 in. and up.

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY,
1015 Jackson Blvd., Dept. 18, Chicago, Ill.

Send me Mackinaw Pattern No..... Size.....in. breast measure (over vest). I agree to examine it carefully and if I find it to be the finest value I ever saw, will keep it and pay you $2.75 and pay the balance, $1.20 per month until the total price of $8.75 has been paid. Otherwise, I will return Mackinaw at your expense.

Name.....

Address.....

City.....State.....

Send For FREE Style



This Model and Many Others Are Shown In Our DeLuxe Book of New Styles

Send For Your FREE Copy Today

6 MONTHS TO PAY— Tailor-Made-To-Order

We want to make you a new Suit or Overcoat. WE TRUST YOU absolutely. Doesn't matter who you are or where you live. We'll make you the best and most stylish, made-to-order suit for less than half usual prices—and on the most liberal credit terms ever allowed. You get the suit first and pay for it afterwards. We don't bother you for references, or with collectors. Your honest word is the only security we ask. Take advantage of this offer. Let us make your new suit.

We Save You $15 to $25

or about half what you would have to pay for ordinary ready-made garments. And you pay us on terms so easy that you'll never miss the money.

Only $2.50 Per Month

Send coupon for DeLuxe Book of Styles and full particulars of this sensational offer. When the style book comes, make your style selection from the late **Metropolitan Fashion Plates.** You have your choice of the swellest fabrics—many of them exclusive—shown nowhere else. Take your own measure, according to simple directions. Send it to us. In a few days, we'll ship you the swellest, hand-tailored, **made-to-your-measure** suit you ever laid eyes upon.



Every Suit Perfect—Made in 7 Days

We build your suit separately. Study your figure from your measurements. Whether you are tall or short, thin or stout, we guarantee to fit you perfectly. And the suit will be all ready for you to wear in 7 days.

Highest Grade Fabrics

In dealing with us, you also get the best of everything. Highest grade fabrics—interlinings, body linings, sleeve linings, buttons, etc.

Send for Free Style Book and cloth samples. Book gives details of our sensational offer and simple directions for taking your measure. Perfect fit guaranteed. Write today. Our prices save you half; our credit gives you 6 months to pay. Mail coupon NOW!

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY,
1015 Jackson Blvd., Dept. 18, Chicago, Ill.

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY,
1015 Jackson Blvd., Dept. 18, Chicago, Ill.

Please send me, FREE, your new DeLuxe Style Book, Samples of Cloth, and full particulars of your great Six-Months-to-Pay Bargain Offer.

Name.....

Address.....

City.....State.....

CHRISTMAS NUMBER

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

VOL. XXIX NO. 2

"A beggar through the world am I,
From place to place I wander by,
Fill up my pilgrim's scrip for me
For Christ's sweet sake and charity."

Stealing the Sandwich

Discovered in his place of refuge . . .

December 1916

"Clubby's Regeneration"

See Story on page 3

Published at AUGUSTA MAINE

Copyright 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 10.

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

"America First" Campaign to Americanize Millions of Immigrants Who Do Not Speak Our Language

A RECENT series of bulletins headed "America First Campaign," issued by the U. S. Bureau of Education for the purpose of urging all non-English-speaking immigrants to attend the free night schools and learn to speak and read our language, and appealing to all patriotic citizens to assist in inducing these immigrants to attend night school, shows that the government has at last opened its eyes to the necessity of doing something to Americanize the large and rapidly increasing element of our population which is foreign by birth and prefers to remain foreign in language, interest and affiliation.

Startling developments at home and abroad in connection with the great war have revealed the menace to our national welfare of having in this country millions of immigrants who, though with us, are not of us because they do not understand our language or our institutions and, worse yet, do not care to learn. Segregating themselves into separate communities consisting of people from their respective native lands they constitute foreign colonies in all our large cities, industrial centers and even in many rural districts. Although they have come here to escape oppression or for a better field of opportunity, yet with unreasoning inconsistency they refuse to identify themselves with the interests of this country but rather continue to venerate those old world social and political notions which in practise in the land of their birth have produced the undesirable conditions they have fled from. Unfortunately this characteristic is not monopolized by any one class of immigrants though those of some nationalities are more clannish than others.

It has been noted by eminent authority, and it is unquestionably true, that the amazing strength of Germany is largely due to the fact that her people are practically homogeneous, being of the same racial origin, speaking one language and having the same national ideals and ambitions, while the comparative weakness of her Austrian ally results from the multiplicity of races and peoples composing the Austro-Hungarian Empire, consisting of the kingdoms of Austria and Hungary and the former kingdom of Bohemia, each peopled by a different race with a language of its own and traditional jealousy of the other members of the empire, and added to this triple discord is the unrest of the Roumanian, Servian and Italian speaking provinces under Austrian dominion. The moral of this object lesson in Europe is further enforced by the trouble which hyphenated citizenship in the United States has caused our people and our government in consequence of many of our foreign-born citizens treating the interests of the respective countries whence they emigrated as paramount to those of America.

Previous to the outbreak of the present war immigration to the United States had reached the enormous figures of nearly a million and a half annually. A large part of this, especially that from the degraded nations of Asia and Africa should have been excluded as unfit for American citizenship, and even as to those coming from Europe care should have been taken to admit only such as manifested the capacity and sincere desire to become American citizens in the full sense, renouncing all foreign allegiance and unreservedly identifying their future interests with the welfare of this country whose hospitality they sought for the betterment of their condition.

For a large portion of our people to remain foreign in their ideas, their prejudices, their interests and their allegiance endangers our domestic tranquility and jeopardizes our peaceful relations with foreign powers. It cannot and must not be tolerated. Not being able to speak and read the language of our country is about the surest preventive against becoming Americanized.

By all means encourage every immigrant to attend school, day school if of school age, night school if grown up, and learn to speak and read our language for his or her own benefit as well as for the good of the community. Employers of foreign-born labor have joined heartily in the efforts of the government to induce immigrants to attend the night schools and many of them have scheduled an advance of wages to those who learn our language. One of the government bulletins says that the foreign language press is to advocate the proposition, but apparently the existence of these foreign language papers and magazines has prevented many immigrants from taking the trouble to learn to read English by furnishing them with reading matter in their own language. They could help the cause immensely if they would duplicate in English in parallel columns the most interesting parts of their publications, and it would not be unreasonable for our government to require this as conditional to their use of the mails.

Surprising Decrease in Infant Mortality In Germany During the War

PUBLISHED statistics show that the annual death rate in Germany, which for all ages and classes was 14 per thousand of population in 1913, the last year of peace, rose to nearly 20 per thousand in the second year of the war and is still rising. Such a result was to have been expected and, considering that the soldiers are included in the tabulations and that the stress of war with scarcity of food and curtailment of other necessaries is not conducive to health and longevity, the increased ratio of deaths seems moderate.

But the remarkable feature of the report is the statement, with figures to prove it, that the infant mortality rate has diminished considerably during the war. Infant mortality means the death rate among children under the age of one year, and it is stated in terms of the ratio of deaths to births.

In Germany in 1913, the year before the war, the infant death rate was 14.1 per hundred births, a very creditable showing. The war began the first of August, 1914, and that year infant mortality rose to 15.6 per hundred births, an increase rationably attributable to war conditions which prevailed during the last five months of the year, although they had not become acute in their effect on living conditions at that time. Since then, as scarcity of food and especially of milk, with deprivation of other comforts and necessaries has become more and more pinching, the natural expectation would be for the infant death rate to rise with the prolongation of the war. But the astonishing fact is that from this point, instead of rising it has steadily declined. From 15.6 infant deaths per hundred births in 1914 it dropped to 14.5 in 1915 and is now down to 12.9, which is so much below the best figures (14.1) in time of peace as to clearly indicate the working of some war-induced factor that is favorable and powerful enough in its influence to more than counterbalance the ill effects of all the war conditions that are unfavorable to life and health of babies.

Searching the field over we can find only one possible explanation, but that one appears adequate and conclusive in the light of positive scientific knowledge of infant hygiene. Strange as it may seem, the milk famine, the dearth of cow's milk, stands out as the probable cause of saving the lives of so many German babies during the last two years. Our sympathies have been aroused by the publication of pathetic but ineffectual appeals to Great Britain to permit the proposed shipment of cargoes of American condensed milk to save the German babies from starvation. No doubt older children, adults and especially the sick and feeble in Germany have suffered from deprivation of milk as, indeed, they have from shortage of eggs, meat, butter and flour, but not so with the young babes to whom, in fact, the milk famine has been and is a positive blessing in that it compels their mothers to give them the food which Nature designed for them but is denied their offspring by too many present-day women.

In the article on "Prevention of Whooping Cough Among Babies," in last March COMFORT, Dr. Beveridge says: "The great modern menace is the bottle-fed baby." He explains that the bottle-fed not only are less healthy than the breast-fed in infancy but that the weakening effect of the poor start which the former get as babies lingers and makes their frail bodies more susceptible to the ravages of disease through childhood, and to illustrate he points to the fact that "eight out of every ten babies who come down with whooping cough are babies that have had their start on the bottle and that the mortality is very great with these while with the breast-fed it is very slight."

The U. S. government, through the bulletins issued by its Children's Department, urges all mothers to make every effort to nurse their infants. Experts who have made a special study of the matter produce figures which show that out of every hundred bottle-fed babies an average of thirty die in their first year while of the breast-fed babies only about seven out of every hundred die in their first year. We trust the mothers of America will take the lesson to heart without the exigency of a milk famine or a war blockade.

Don't Gamble by Relying on One Crop

IT may be sound policy for the farmer to specialize somewhat but not to the extent of limiting his efforts to the raising of any one crop. To stake an entire season's investment of time, labor and money on the outcome of one kind of crop is too much of a gamble on weather, destructive pests and market conditions. The farmer can and should minimize the risk by diversified farming so that, if one crop fails or proves unprofitable because of overproduction and a glutted market, he still has several chances of making good on his other crops. This is forcibly illustrated by the experiences of the cotton planters who have suffered so much damage from the boll-weevil and then, when they succeeded in raising a large crop the year the present war broke out, it was hard to find a market for it even at prices below the cost of production. The apple men were equally troubled in disposing of their large crop that same fall, and two years ago the enormous grapefruit crop hardly paid for picking and shipping.

Another reason in favor of diversified farming is that rotation of crops improves the fertility of the soil and subdues the insect pests and plant diseases with which the land becomes infested by raising the same crop year after year. We read in Southern agricultural bulletins that the cotton boll-weevil is a blessing in disguise because it is forcing the cotton planters to practise diversified farming and crop rotation instead of depending entirely on the ups and downs of cotton.

Every farmer should also raise a variety of live stock including always cows, hogs and poultry besides the necessary work animals, and some sheep where conditions are favorable. In this way, instead of impoverishing his land by selling all his crops he will feed out a large part on the farm, thereby adding to the fertility of the soil, and will market a part of his products in the form of beef, veal, lamb, poultry, eggs and dairy products, for all which there is a continually increasing demand and an upward trend of prices Pellagra, the dread disease that is caused by insufficient nourishment, has become alarmingly prevalent among farm people in the South because their diet is deficient in milk, eggs, meat, peas and beans, all which they might raise in abundance.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. *We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.* If you do not get your magazine by the 15th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we *must* have your *former* address, as well as your *new* address to make the change. Be sure to send *both*. We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second class mail matter. **Copyright, 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.**

Clubby's Regeneration

By Joseph F. Novak

See front cover illustration.

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

HAD "Clubby" known his correct name, undoubtedly he would have scorned it. For that name was no other than the extravagantly sounding, "Leander St. John." Clubby was the offspring of a near-aristocrat whose heritage had been more money than brains, and a foolish virgin who had married the near-aristocrat in haste lest the monetary reward such a union would bring would escape her. She paid for her folly later, by being deserted by her near-aristocratic husband, and when Clubby was born, she passed away to her reward, her only happiness being the fact that she had been a lawfully wedded wife.

Clubby was then left to the mercies of the boarding-house keeper within whose establishment his mother had died. The leathery-hearted female kept Clubby until she had given him what she considered was two hundred dollars' worth of care, that being the amount of money she took from under the pillow of Clubby's mother, when she felt quite sure that the dead woman would not stretch out her wan hand in protest.

By the time Clubby was five years old, he was an old hand at trotting about the city streets selling papers. He generally sold them quickly, for the kind-hearted public felt a pang of pity for the little waif, and often gave him more than the penny he asked for his newspaper. Their generosity was promptly gobbled up by the harridan of the boarding-house, who, not content with seizing his inheritance, took his small earnings for his "keep." It was she, who once, in drunken humor, kicked him across the room, injuring his ankle so that when he became better, it was only to find himself burdened with a clubfoot, whence came his name, "Clubby."

When Clubby became seven years of age, a crisis in his life came. Up to this time, his earning capacity in the newspaper business had been steadily on the decline. He was getting to be just as any other little ragged newsy of the street, and he had been gradually losing the pitiful attraction that brought him to the attention of the public. Now he was simply a "bow-legged kid," or "a pigeon-toed brat."

If he didn't sell enough papers, he dared not go home, and so stayed out all night. For this, however, he did not care. He almost preferred the streets to his squalid hole in the boarding house. And so, if he did not go there, he'd trot to some convenient dark doorway or hall, and there curl up and snuggle down as a little dog might, and sleep the sleep of the street urchin. He didn't need much space, only a little corner sufficed.

Clubby was a child of the streets; sometimes he was an object of pity. He didn't know it, however, because he knew nothing of pity, kindness and generosity. If he thought at all about the great unfeeling world in which he existed, it was very likely those thoughts concerned keeping out of everybody's way.

After Clubby was seven, he ceased almost entirely to go to the boarding-house which had been the only home he had ever known. For he found he could knock around town better and at the same time be at the scene of his business all the time. Keeping the irregular hours that he did, it was rather difficult to say when Clubby's day commenced and when it ended. Time was rolled into one mass with him. He was on the streets all the day trying to sell papers. Between editions, he slept, so this made him wide-awake enough to attend the after-theater crowds with the latest sensation. By the time the cafes emptied out, it was pretty late, so Clubby snatched another few hours of sleep, and was up for the early morning editions. He slept when he had nothing else to do, ate whenever he had enough pennies to buy himself a frugal meal, and when times were dull, and sleep would not come, he joined in any of the mischief that his colleagues suggested. Clubby, however, was generally cautious in this respect, for his clubfoot was not a help in flight.

Thus time's cycle went on for him. He didn't know much, and he didn't care. Nobody took any interest in him, and he took no interest in anything in turn. But wait, there was one thing that Clubby was becoming interested in this year. That was Christmas.

Christmas was a time when the big store windows showed a most wonderful assortment of things; when men stood on the street corners and wound up distractingly interesting mechanical toys that ran and danced and jumped and buzzed. Then there were the men who made the little woolly dolls dance—Clubby wondered how they did it! Then there were the green wreaths with the red berries which looked so nice that one almost felt like eating them, though they weren't good to eat as Clubby knew, for he had tried it. Then there were the tall green Christmas trees on which hung all sorts of beautiful glittery things.

Yes, Christmas was something beautiful and grand and it must be coming soon now since all these signs of its coming were beginning to appear. He had heard too, that there was going to be given to all the newsies, a dinner, at which turkey and potatoes would be served, besides all sorts of other good things including candy. Clubby liked candy.

If he could only go to that big dinner! But Pete, who had sometimes been kind to him, had become angry with him for taking away a customer, and told him that if he asked anyone else about that dinner, or if he'd be there, he (Pete) would punch Clubby's head. So Clubby didn't ask anyone else. He was afraid of Pete.

The days passed, and Christmas was approaching. It must be very near to the day, Clubby reasoned, since the streets were getting so crowded and people carried such big bundles. What would Christmas bring him?

That was his thought as he walked, or rather, pulled his way through the big crowds on the street that evening.

As he went along, in a big store he saw a blazing sign: "Only One Day to Christmas!" Only one day! Then this very night must be the night of the big dinner! Pete was still angry with him, and unless Pete relented that big dinner would pass up Clubby. But where could he find Pete?

Clubby had sold very few papers that day. He hadn't but three cents, and those he must keep to pay for his papers the next morning. Ah, it was a hard world to be sure.

Clubby was hungry and tired, and the night was dark and slushy. The big, heavy white snowflakes fell, whitening the street, and forming on the sidewalks in a sticking, wet, slippery mass.

Clubby's hope was slowly dying out. There was nothing left for him to do unless perhaps, it would be to go to his old boarding-house. The boarding-house keeper might give him a bit to eat and a place to sleep. Yes, he'd go, and if she wasn't cross, he'd ask her for something to eat, but if she was, he'd gently sneak in and be quiet. At least he would be sheltered from the storm.

With this plan in mind, Clubby started off. He went the length of the business district, then passed into the more quiet streets. He walked a good many blocks down a boulevard on which stood many beautiful residences. Many had been sold by their owners since the street was becoming a business thoroughfare, but many of them were still used for residential purposes.

Clubby kept on until he sighted a policeman. Clubby feared policemen. They were awful people. So he turned off the boulevard and went down a sloppy snow-and-slush street that ran parallel with the boulevard.

As he walked down this street, he came to a wagon lunch-counter. It was a little affair with a glass front. Within the proprietor stood among his stores of food, looking well-fed and contented in the flaring lights. On the open counter was an array of sandwiches wrapped in waxed paper, within easy reach of the transient customer. There were also doughnuts, and cuts of pies. Under a glass case were raw steaks and chops, while in a pan, presided over by the proprietor, sizzed a regiment of "red-hots." They sent up a delicious aroma that tempted Clubby's cold little nose and quaking stomach.

He paused before this lunch counter for several minutes. Then all of a sudden, he really didn't know how he did it, his hand snatched one of the sandwiches in the waxed paper and he cut down the street.

The yell the proprietor sent up seemed like the curses of seven devils. In dismay at the fact that he had really "swiped" something, Clubby ran on, and turned into a dark alley. He hid behind a garbage can, and quaked there until all was quiet.

Fear for the moment had taken away his hunger, but now it renewed its attacks on his stomach. "If they git me, they'll put me in," he philosophized, "so I'm goin' to eat, it anyway," and forthwith he did.

The sandwich disposed of, and his foot feeling rested after the exertion he had put it to, Clubby got up and looked cautiously about. It would not do to go out into the street again, perhaps a policeman was watching the alley. So he started down it, until he came to a large gate which had not been pulled to, entirely. Through the small aperture he wriggled, and found himself in a yard of large proportions surrounded by a high, iron fence. A big building rose indistinctly in the falling snow in front of him; it faced the boulevard, he knew.

At his side was another smaller building; that was the garage. Funny that the door of that was open a bit, too. The people must be very careless, Clubby thought, but anyhow it was shelter, so he ducked in. In the gloom he described the vague outlines of a big automobile.

"It's late, an' I guess th' geezer what owns this's gone to bed. Ooh, how I'd like to sit in it!"

Clubby climbed on the clear running board of the big machine, and hoisted himself to the front seat. He threw out his thin little chest—how fine he was, just like the swell guys who rode in automobiles! He saw the electric button and his fingers itched to touch it and have it send forth a growl in the manner which those did which stood at the curb when he and his mischievous companions pressed them when there was no one around. But Clubby conquered the desire. Then as his fingers touched the electric switch, the car illumined. He quickly turned out the lights lest he be discovered, but in doing so, he found out that he could allow the small inner light to burn. This was pleasant for the little light felt very nice to the cold skin of his hand.

As he examined the different levers and brakes, he suddenly noticed a wonderful thing lying on the floor of the machine. It was a big golden locket with a great sparkling stone in it. The big stone threw off all colors of the rainbow when the light struck it. There was a little twisted loop at the top of the golden thing—it must have broken and the gentleman who owned the car must have lost it.

Clubby picked up the beautiful thing. Gee, it must cost nearly a dollar and ninety-eight cents, anyhow, for it looked like one that he saw in the window of a store and marked that much. Maybe if he handed it to the gentleman who lost it, he might give him a few pennies for keeping it safe for him.

He put it into his pocket. Yes, that's what he'd do, as soon as the light came. Even if the gentleman didn't give him anything, perhaps he wouldn't mind or be mad if he had slept in the car for the night.

Over the robe-rail hung a big woolly blanket, so big and heavy that Clubby could hardly lift it. Clubby dragged it over the back of the seat to the front seat. How warm it felt, how nice! Clubby pulled it about his little shoulders, and sat in calm delight on the floor. Jiminy, wasn't it great?

He sat with his back resting against the door of the car, the light sparkling in his eyes. But he must turn out the light now, for he was getting sleepy. Yes, he must turn—out—the—the—light—because if someone saw him—and knew he—had the golden—thing in his pocket——

But the light burned on, and Clubby's soul was winged away to slumberland.

CHAPTER II.

Palmer Northcross sat before the library grate, smiling to himself and smoking a cigar. He was happy, happy though he was all alone that Christmas Eve. His parents were abroad, so was sweet Robina West, but with a letter such as he had received from her that morning, what chap would not be happy?

Northcross was rich—or rather, he was a rich man's son. Robina had promised to marry him when he had ten thousand dollars in cash, earned through his own efforts. Robina was a girl of ideals. And so, instead of going abroad with his parents and with Robina (who was in his mother's party and chaperoned by her), he stayed at home to earn the ten thousand dollars, for Robina, though she said she would be happier if he were along, still was set in her determination not to wed him until he had fulfilled her condition.

So he had remained at home, and worked hard, and was now on his tenth thousand, which he hoped, would soon be earned. His money, too, had been made legitimately, from hard work and judicious saving.

In the letter which he held, Robina had invited him to join her, as soon as the condition was complied with. "And let us hope it will be quick, Palmer dear," she wrote.

Instead of going out that Christmas Eve, he decided to stay at home. "We'll spend Christmas together in spirit, my Robina," he smiled happily, as he let his thoughts wander to the rose-covered meadows of the future when he would call Robina West his own. What better pastime could he find than reading her letter as often as he chose, and wandering with her in the land of fancy on Christmas Eve? And so he dozed, and smoked and smiled, and read the letter in the big room which breathed the spirit of Christmas, for there was a gayly decked Christmas tree which his servants had trimmed up at his laughing order; a great sheaf of holly glowed in a big vase upon the table whereon reposed a great pile of presents that had come from numerous friends, and from abroad. Well, he might just as well open them up.

He took out his watch, then suddenly noted that his charm was gone. A thrill of horror passed over him. Where had he lost it? Would he, could he, ever recover it? It had been given to him by his mother, and he prized it highly. He tried to recall when last he had it; he knew he had it before he left the office. Perhaps he may have dropped it in the car.

He jumped up and seized his hat, and plunged through the deep snow on the drive to the garage. He noted a faint light—had he left the lights burning?

He pushed open the door, and stepped in and for a moment forgot his quest as he gazed upon the picture that came to his eye.

In the light of the little electric, the fine lines of the big automobile loomed up; bundled before the front seats in the big woolly blanket with head back and mouth slightly opened, a little waif lay, fast asleep.

The garage was chilly; the waif breathed heavily. Northcross stood with fingers at his lip for a moment, then opened the foredoor and gently gathered up the woolly bundle, boy and all, into his arms.

Recalling his quest, he glanced quickly around. He saw nothing of the lost watch-charm, so giving it up as lost for the present, he carried the blanketed waif into the house and laid him into a big, soft Morris chair.

"There!" he breathed with amusement. "We'll see what *it* has to say when it wakes up!"

He straightened out the crouched little figure so that the lad rested more comfortably, an exclamation of pity escaping him as he noted the clubfoot.

"Poor little waif; poor 'Clubs'," he said, unconsciously designating the lad by almost the same name by which he was known.

Northcross sat down and studied the lines of the wan face.

"Poor kid! I guess I ought to make a Christmas for him," he mused. "I haven't any toys, and it's pretty nearly too late to get him some. Wonder if there's anything in those packages to attract a child," he went on, talking to himself. "Mayhap the folks sent some souvenirs of a kiddish character."

He opened the bundles but found little, then suddenly recalling that he had brought home a bunch of "cotillion junk" from an affair a few nights before, he went up-stairs for it. There was plenty of it to amuse a child, odd caps, tissue paper novelties, and other truck. He often brought these favors home for a little youngster who lived in the neighborhood, whose mother was a washerwoman and whose father was a drunkard. And as for candies, nuts, fruits and sweets, well, Northcross had always been ashamed of his sweet-tooth.

He collected the stuff and went back to the library, stopping short in the doorway to observe the lad who had awakened and was sitting in rapt wonder at the Christmas tree. Then suddenly the lad turned from his cynosure and caught Northcross's eye. The gentleman, thereupon, deposited the truck underneath the tree, and switched on the lights, and the tree burst into a blaze of color.

This done, he went and stood before his tiny guest.

"Hello, kid!" he began.

"Hello," returned the waif, a little shyly.

"What's your name?"

"Clubby."

"Clubby what?"

"Not Clubby *What*, jus' Clubby," returned the little fellow.

"Um huh," grunted Northcross companionably, and then he said nothing more but watched his quasi-protege and waited for him to speak.

"I say, Sport," Clubby began finally, "you don't care if I call you 'Sport' do you?" (He threw in the query a bit diffidently). "You look like a swell one."

Northcross took the appellation in its complimentary sense and nodded negatively.

"Well, say, Sport, ain't I dreamin'?"

"Well, Clubby, do you think you are?"

"Yes, I guess so," Clubby responded.

"Would you like to dream like this all the time?" Northcross questioned.

"Yes, 'cause this don't seem like no dream. Everything seems like real, on'y I know it can't be."

"That so? Well, suppose you pretend it is real?" Northcross suggested. "Get up and move around."

"Kin I?"

"Sure, kid, sure!"

Clubby threw aside the big blanket, and stood up. "I know it's a dream 'cause I fell asleep in the *ga-raz* and this ain't no *ga-raz*. But this ain't one o' them no clubfoot dreams."

"No club-foot dreams?"

"Yes. Lots o' times when I dream, I ain't got no clubfoot."

"I see." (The light must have bothered Northcross's eyes, for he closed them for a moment. To rest them, undoubtedly).

"Well, suppose you enjoy your dream while it lasts."

"Oh, I'm afraid soon's I do, I'll wake up."

"No, you won't. Don't be afraid. Just go ahead and enjoy your dream."

What a time the two boys had! They played with the electric switch, turning the lights on and off as often as they pleased; anything that

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24.)

A Christmas Party

By Nancy Gunter



Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

HAVE you ever planned a quiet Christmas, just with mother and the folks, and then suddenly found that the dearest girl friend you have would be with you for two days during the holidays?

That is what happened to me, and, more than that, my dear friend Polly was an orphan, and had never had many parties, so I was determined that she should have a Christmas party, although we were isolated in the country by a heavy snow. Of course the "grownups" said it was impossible to entertain under such conditions, but I knew Polly would enjoy helping, so I persuaded mother to send out invitations for the next evening while Polly and I planned the party.

The decorations were the problem that came first, and we solved it easily, because the woods were full of evergreens. I took three old straw hats, cut off the brims and covered the crowns thickly with evergreens until I had formed three jolly Christmas bells. One was hung in the center of the sitting-room, one over the dining-room table, and in the third one I fastened a small dining-bell. Then father fixed it over the front door, with a long red ribbon attached so that our guests could ring it, and it gave a delightfully festive appearance to the front porch. Strings of evergreens and Christmas wreaths completed the decorations of the rooms.

In the dining-room we arranged a table from which to serve refreshments and it was particularly attractive. The bell hung from the ceiling and beneath it stood the table covered with snowy damask and with ropes of greenery going from the bell to each corner of the table. Flat on the table we placed a Christmas wreath of holly and in the middle of the wreath put a lamp with a red paper shade which cast a soft, bright light over the table. With dishes of popcorn balls and nuts, apples and raisins placed about, our table was decidedly tempting.

Everything looked pretty when we had finished, but now arose the vexing question of "what to do with our guests when they had arrived?" Polly and I put our heads together, thought ever so hard, and finally planned a Santa Claus sale, which proved a great success. This was the way we managed it and if you have never had one you don't know what fun really is. Mother and I had made up dozens of stockings from some old red calico, and while we were doing this Polly concocted some splendid candy, fudge, pully taffy, and peanut brittle. Then we had stuffed the stockings out with wads of paper, adding a switch or so and a few boxes of ashes and sawdust, until they all looked like the bulgiest and best of Christmas stockings. Into a few of them, however, we put Polly's candy, also nuts and apples. Jimmie—who is only fourteen but has lots of sense—was transformed into the queerest Santa Claus you ever saw by tying on a white cotton batting beard and wig, and putting on a red sweater adorned with cotton ermine, high boots and a red flannel cap.

When the guests arrived, we gave each twenty hickory nuts, and brother Jimmy—dressed as Santa Claus—auctioned off the stockings for the nuts, amidst roars of laughter. Of course it was luck, pure and simple, when a guest won a stocking filled with goodies, and Santa was well enough acquainted with the crowd to venture jesting remarks about the proverbial "bad little boy" to those who got only sawdust and paper in their stockings.

Our next game was a contest that Polly and I had devised after earnest consultation with the dictionary. For this we passed around little Christmas bells cut from red and green cardboard and tied with Christmas ribbon. All girls like to have favors to remember a party by, and Polly and I made up booklets so attractive that our guests could keep them for souvenirs. On an inner sheet was written the contest verses, and how it did set that crowd to thinking! The blanks were all to be filled in with words beginning with "Ex;" each word in these verses beginning with "X" was left blank.

An Xmas Xtravaganza

That X-mas night so cold and clear
Filled Santa with Xceeding cheer
As Xpeditely in he crept.

But now's Xposed a sorry sight
Young Harry's moans his tears Xcite
Xcusable he wept.

"Xtremely small, this diamond ring
I can't Xtend so mean a thing,"
Xclaims the mournful Harry.

"To Xquisite Lucy Grey, whose gold,
Is most Xcessive, I am told,
Yet she, Eclusively, I'd marry."

Old Santa's wise, I must Xplain
To Xorcise young Harry's pain,
Xpertly he did advise.

"Xert a little sense," quoth he
"Send your gift Xpeditiously,
Love will Xalt its size."

Xultant, Lucy seized the treasure,
Xpressed her joy without measure
Xclaimed that she would wed.

Said Santa, "I'm Xecrably stupid
Xploiting myself in role of Cupid,"
So, self-Xiled, he fled.

We let the guests puzzle over this for twenty minutes, and try to fill in the blanks properly, then each signed his booklet, and we collected them. All who had make a correct list were entitled to cut for the prize, which in our case was a miniature fruit cake, decorated with a sprig of holly. Mother had made the cake when "trying out" her batter, but a copy of Van Dyke's "Otherwise Man," or of Dickens' "Christmas Carol," would be perhaps as suitable. For a booby prize Polly and I had blown out an egg-shell and colored it green with dye from a bit of cloth. We pasted this upright on a red cardboard base and wrote around the base, "Let us Xggs-hort you to study the dictionary."

During the evening we had served lemonade from the dining-room table, and after the contest we brought out our refreshments. These were simple but they looked pretty, for we had chosen to typify the Christmas star in our edibles. Red gelatine in a star-shaped mold, was palatable and attractive, and mother had covered star-shaped cookies with icing colored with beet juice.

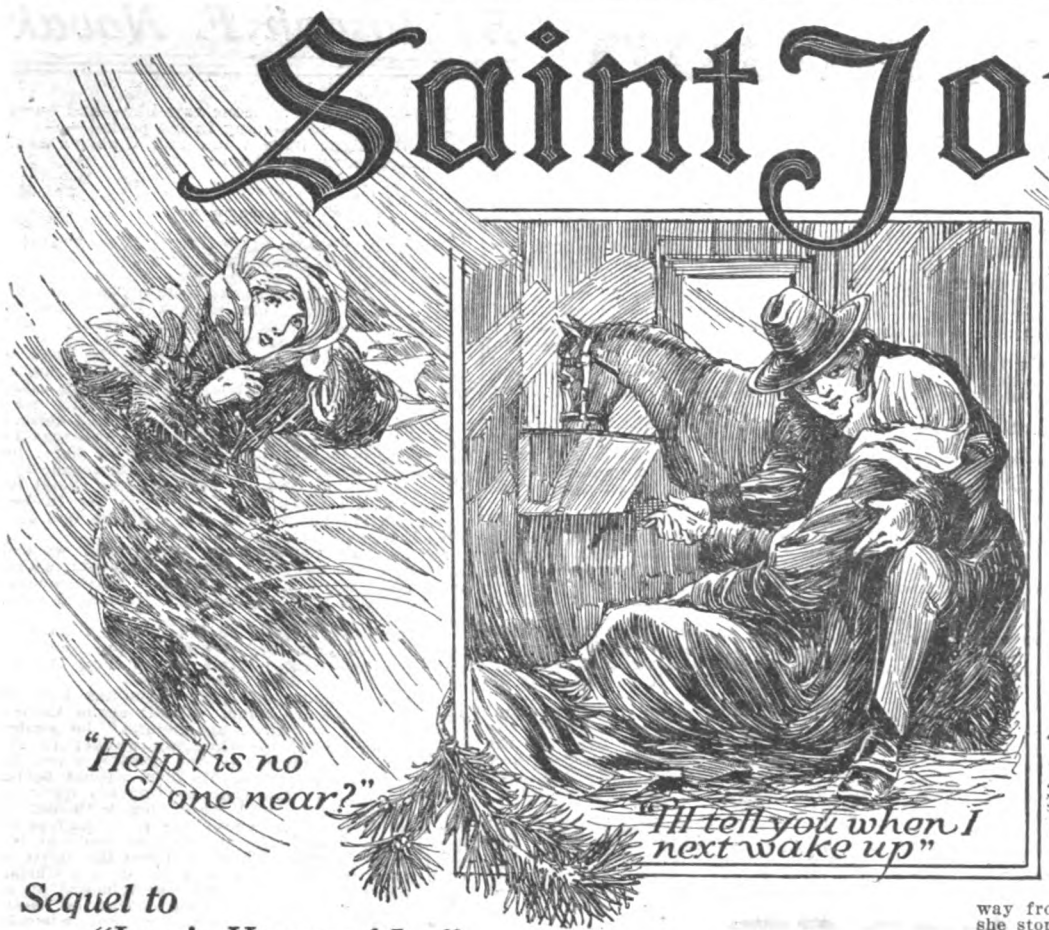
With our gelatine and cakes we gathered about the fire and popped corn, and roasted apples and chestnuts while we told of other Christmases. This day, however, meant more to us than a mere feast of gaiety, so when it grew late, we went to the piano and closed our evening with the old carols and hymns, handed down from our English forebears.

"Oh, little town of Bethlehem,
How still I see thee lie,
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by."

While we sang I placed a lantern made from a box on the piano. It had a large star-shaped opening through which the light filtered softly through white tissue paper. We then slipped about the room, turning out the other lights until the Christmas star shone out alone, closing our merry evening most impressively.

Saint Jonathan

By Violet Knapp





Sequel to "June's House of Joy"

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE snow was falling so rapidly and thickly that the snow-plows on the Wyoming and Western Railroad were kept constantly busy clearing the slender rails, for these were the only link between the little town of Faraway and the outer world. The telegraph wires had been down for some hours and no one could tell when the Chicago Limited would go through.

June Valera and her stalwart husband had been waiting four hours in the little wooden station for the arrival of the train which was to bring them their first guest from the East,—the first since their marriage on the May day of the spring previous. As June looked at her watch and saw the time her face grew serious. "I feel I must go home, Sweetheart," she said to her husband. "I dare not stay longer. We have to ride twenty miles through this snow and in two hours it will be dark. But I cannot let Maude arrive with no one here to meet her. What can we do?"

Juan Valera looked adoringly into the trusting blue eyes raised to his. Maude or no Maude, his sweet wife must be gotten back to Casa Alegre without delay. How had he ever dared let her leave its warm shelter for this wild ride, and in her delicate health, too! Saying not a word he suddenly picked her up in his strong young arms and bore her swiftly out to the waiting sleigh, tucked her in carefully and calling to his servant to await the guest at the station with the extra horses and see her safely home, he started off with a flourish for Casa Alegre, their ranch home, twenty miles away. June knew it was useless to protest,—in fact she didn't want to protest, she only wanted her own fireside, a hot drink, her own soft bed, and her maid Pepita.

Now the servant, Felipe, had no mind to spend the night at the lonely railway station. He could hear no train coming, a blizzard was certainly upon them and this was no place for a good Christian on a stormy winter's night—at *Christmas* time too. So when the depot clock had ticked off another hour, and the glistening rails were again blanketed with snow, and no rumble of any train could be heard, Felipe saddled one of the horses and told the depot master that he was off.

"Bad luck to you," yelled that worthy, "to leave me here alone."

"Come with me then, you fool," cried Felipe. "Leave the door unlocked and the fire banked and come on to the hotel. It'll be black night in another hour. I've left the bay mare in the shed for the gal that's comin'."

The depot master shook his head, but as Felipe disappeared into the whiteness of the falling snow his suggestion sank into the mind of the man left behind and he soon began to argue that the train was probably stalled,—a washout or a blockade or a bridge down. "It won't be along before daybreak any way," he muttered. *If* he should go to the tavern—now was the time before darkness had fully come. And again it came true that he who hesitates is lost, for after he fixed the fire in the little stove, hung out another lantern and pocketed the money in the drawer, he slammed the door of the station and trudged off into the snow.

Thus it was that when the Chicago Limited rolled and creaked and groaned in its efforts to stop somewhere near the station at one o'clock in the morning, there was no one to meet the slender dark-haired girl who alighted from a sleeper. "I don't like to leave you here this way," said the kindly conductor, who helped her off.

"Oh, I must get off here," replied Maude Bently with a queer little laugh, "but thank you for your interest."

"I feel better about it, because I have another passenger for Faraway too. A man. He was in another car. Your friends are probably asleep in the station yonder."

"I d n't see any station," said Maude, half trembling.

"It ought to be right off there, but this snow has covered up its lights I guess. Well, so long. All ab-o-a-r-d," and the brightly lighted train moved slowly but surely on, leaving the girl standing on a snow-bank in total darkness. She stood still thinking rapidly. Not a light to be seen, nor did a sound of any kind break the awful stillness after the rumble of the train had died away. "God in heaven," she breathed. "Show me what to do,—which way to go." Then she remembered the other passenger, the man. What was he like? Where was he? Dare she call out to him? Was he a cow-boy or a parson or a train robber? She decided to walk on—somewhere—and wait developments. So she stumbled through the snow until her hand, outstretched before her, felt a baggage truck and she knew she was going in the right direction. But no station lights were visible, and after a few minutes she called out in desperation, "help! Is there no one near?" Silence, save for the slight howl of the wind and the whirr of the falling snow. She crept carefully a few feet from the truck in hopes of finding the building. Then she called aloud: "Oh, June Mortimer Valera! Why did I leave my happy home for you?" She ended with a hysterical sob. And then she heard a noise. Footsteps were certainly coming, padding their way over the snow.

"Did I hear a voice? Did some one call?" came through the darkness.

"Oh, yes. Right this way. Are you the other passenger from the express?"

"Right-o!" answered the hearty masculine voice. The conductor told me to keep an eye on his other passenger for Faraway, but my eye couldn't find you."

Floundering more than knee deep in the snow, chilled to the bone, Maude Hastings turned in the direction of his voice, and soon felt herself clasped in strong arms, but whether they were the arms of a respectable rancher or a desperado she did not know. They were human arms, and they were strong and warm. For the moment, in her intense relief, that was enough.

"L t's back out the way I came. I dare not turn around for fear I'll lose all sense of direction," he said. "I've found a building. Whether it is the station or a shed I don't know. As near as I can remember Faraway depot I should say what I have found must be the shed for horses."

"Oh, then you are a stranger here like me," she said breathlessly as she faced the wind.

"Hardly. I've had a job here for four years,—that is to say in this vicinity. This your first visit?"

"My very first, and my last."

He laughed boyishly.

"Perhaps not. You are seeing us at our worst just now. We aren't like this all the time. Now here we are by the building," then as a whinny of welcome sounded very near them he cried, "It is the shed and there's a horse inside."

"That means we can leave at once, doesn't it? My friends will be so worried."

"Looks like they were worried," he muttered sarcastically as he unfastened the door and dragge' her in. The air here was warmer, owing to the presence of the horse, and Maude exclaimed:

"How good this feels. Must we leave it at once?"

"No, indeed! I dare not stir from here till dawn. I might lose my way even when hunting for the station. It is quite a ways from the shed. You must be made as comfortable as possible right here. When old Sol appears we will explore. As far as setting out on the horse is concerned in this blizzard, why—it is out of the question. Here put your arms around the horse's neck,—I guess he is gentlemanly enough not to kick,—and get what warmth you can. And I will rub your arms." Maude obeyed obediently and soon slipped off her dripping traveling cloak and declared she felt much better.

"Oh, if you hadn't been here!" she cried suddenly, seizing his arm in terror at the thought.

"But I am, thank God."

"I like to hear you say that," she said shyly. "I know you aren't a—a desperado." His laugh rang out.

"Well, we are both of us desperadoes in one sense. We are in a rather desperate plight. No knowing how long we shall have to stay here—or in the station. These early winter blizzards in Wyoming are no child's play. Can't we fix it so you can get some sleep? There is some hay in the corner I think, and I'll make a pillow for you, if you will lie down."

"How f r are we from the House of Joy?" she asked irrelevantly.

"I beg pardon, from what?"

"From the House of Joy?"

"She is a little light headed," he thought in dismay. "What ever can I do?"

"Yes, how far it is to June's House of Joy, the Casa Alegre?"

"Oh," exclaimed her companion, much relieved as a great light dawned on him. "Casa Alegre, The Valera Ranch? Are you going there? It is all of twenty miles. But why——"

"Do you know them, the Valeras? Have you ever robbed their house or stolen their cattle?" she asked with a laugh of delight.

"I've robbed them of many a good meal—but right at their dinner table. Charming people, the Valeras. Yes, I know them well. They are happy too." And a heavy sigh escaped him involuntarily.

"Yes, June writes me she is a perfectly happy woman, and that is rare nowadays. But who are you? Would you mind telling me?"

"A thousand pardons. I am their friend, Jonathan Black."

"Not the Mr. Black? The minister who married them on May day last?"

"I am that very same," he assented joyfully. "The Reverend Jonathan Black, Home Missioner, if you please. And now young woman, please hand me your visiting card."

His companion laughed and fumbling in her hand bag to find one, she was astonished when he struck a match. The flame flared up brightly for a minute and she started as she saw his face. "Oh," she cried, "you are the very one."

"The very one what?" and he smiled quizzically back into her eyes.

"The one I kept seeing in the diner all the way from Chicago and I thought I——" Then she stopped in utter confusion.

"Go on," he urged quietly. The match had gone out and he grasped her arms masterfully. "Tell me what it was you thought of the man in the diner." But she would not. "Must I wait for that?" he said gently.

"Yes. You must wait."

At length he burst out: "You haven't told me who you are. Is it possible,—are you by any means 'Maude?'"

"Oh, yes. I am Maude. Have you heard of her from June?"

"Continually. Maude is the girl of her heart, her mate she called you."

"Yes, I was her mate, But now,——" and a tear rolled down and splashed on his hand. He tightened his hold on her arm. "Now she has her true mate,—and—I am not needed."

"Not in the way you were, of course. But have you no mate of your own back in the East?" he asked softly.

"No. None at all. I have no one. Not a relative on earth nearer than a third cousin, sixty years old, and he has six children and sells calico and molasses at a corner grocery."

"Oh, Maude, Maude," he exclaimed. "You are delicious. A mate of the calico-molasses variety is an impossibility, I clearly see."

"Do you? I'm so glad you understand. So few people do. But I am wofully tired. Where is that hay?"

"Right over here. No, it must be here," as he fumbled around. "I don't want to waste my few matches. There doesn't seem to be any hay. The horse has eaten it I guess. Well, we must make the best of it. I'll sit down here in the corner and you lean against me so. Is that good? Is it comfortable? Don't be afraid of me? I just want you to be warm and easy. Try to go to sleep if you can," he said as her head sank into the hollow of his shoulder and he drew her wrap over her feet. "I'll keep awake."

"You go to sleep too," she murmured drowsily.

"I couldn't sleep a wink. I——"

"Y what?"

"I don't want to waste the time."

"What do you mean?"

"You must wait for my answer till you tell me what you thought of the man in the diner." And he drew her closer to him and rubbed his chin against her hair. She half started up and said laughingly, "I'll tell you when I next wake up, Mr. Black."

"Must I be Mr. Black? You are just Maude to me. We are not in a Chicago drawing-room standing on ceremony."

"I should say not,—Jonathan," she laughed happily as she settled back against his shoulder and prepared herself for sleep. But sleep wouldn't come. In fact she was wide awake. She was far too happy to sleep. In all her life she had never been so happy. She had never been at all happy before, she concluded. To think that the paragon in the diner should be the passenger for Faraway, should be June's staunch friend, the minister, that she should be sitting here in a horse-shed leaning against his arms,—it was no wonder that all desire to sleep had fled. She could sleep when she got to her bed in Casa Alegre, but now,—and she stirred uneasily.

"Awake, little one?" he whispered as he bent down to her.

"I believe I am," she whispered back lifting her face towards his. And then,—they neither could tell afterwards how it happened, but it did, and Maude found her lips against the minister's and their two souls seemed to melt and fuse into one.

"I have found my mate," he at last said brokenly. "The mate I have looked for and longed for always. And you?" and he kissed her again before she could answer. But the pressure of her lips told him everything. The horse whinnied as if in sympathy and at length Maude said as she caressed her lover's face:

"This is our House of Joy, isn't it Jonathan? Our Casa Alegre."

"Our House of Joy, sure enough. Anywhere with you is my house of joy. We are to be married soon, are we not, my mate? I want my mate, darling. Oh, the lonely hours I've spent riding over these mountains and valleys, with no one at the day's end to welcome me but my Indian housekeeper. I've prayed God again and again to lead me to my mate, to the one whom I could love and cherish, and the one who——"

"The one who would love you back, and would work for you and pray for you and take you for her very own," Maude interrupted half tearfully in the exuberance of her joy. "And Jonathan, we found each other, and we——"

"We didn't waste precious time in formalities either, sweet mate of mine. And we are not going to. Tomorrow is none too soon for us to wed. My little cabin, two miles from Casa Alegre, is ready and garnished for my bride, and we'll journey to the justice of the peace and get the knot tied."

"I want a Christian marriage, Jonathan. Why not a clergyman?"

"Because, sweetheart, I am the only one within a radius of two hundred miles, and this blizzard may continue for days or weeks, and we couldn't travel. Are you going to keep me waiting all that time, mate of mine? Don't you want to be with me before spring?"

"Spring? Oh, that's an age away," replied Maude as she clasped him tighter. "Now that we've found each other, now that God has put my hand in yours."

"And my lips on yours, like this—and this—and *this*, Sweetheart, I will not wait till spring. I have it," springing up. "Stand up, Maude. I am a clergyman, and I can perform our ceremony right now, and in the morning we will stop at the justice's and have everything fixed up legally. Now Maude say after me, 'I, Maude Hastings, do take thee, Jonathan Black, to be my lawfully wedded husband, and true mate,'" and slowly, solemnly Maude repeated the sacred words which bound her to this strangely found bridegroom forever. Then her lover repeated the same vows and their lips met in the nuptial kiss.

"Oh, mate of mine," breathed her husband. "God grant I may be as good to you as you deserve. Mme. Valera, June, has told me of your self-sacrificing life, nursing among the poor a destitute, working bravely on, sometimes for a mere pittance. You were a hero in my eyes months ago. And now to have you in my arms as my wife, my mate. God in heaven!" he exclaimed reverently, "Help me to be worthy of her."

"And June's letters have been full of your heroism and devotion to the scattered whites and Indians of this section, until in my prayers I have added every night, 'God bless St. Jonathan.'"

"Dearest, I think our courtship, betrothal and marriage the most sacred thing of my life. It is a direct answer to prayer. I needed you, Maude, and my heavenly Father filled my need. And may you ever be able to say the same. Come now, get some sleep and it will soon be dawn, when I'm sure your friends will send for you. What a surprise we will have in store for them."

It came about as he predicted. By nine o'clock the snow had ceased, then the sun came out, and soon a stout sleigh with a frightened driver came dashing up to the Faraway railroad station, Juan Valera's face was white and drawn. "My wife has been nearly frantic for fear something had happened to you, Miss Hastings."

"Something has happened, Mr. Juan," she said happily. "Your good friend here, Mr. Black, took care of me," and she smiled mischievously. "But let's bundle in, for I am in a hurry to see June. And we have an errand on the way."

Five miles from the station lived the justice of the peace, and Mr. Black told Juan to stop a few minutes as he had an important errand. "You get out, and come in, too, Miss Hastings," he said with a merry twinkle. "You can get warmed at the fire." In twenty minutes they came out again, and the minister was putting a paper in his innermost pocket.

"Nice day after the storm," remarked Juan Valera as he chirruped to his horses.

"The most heavenly day I ever knew," responded the minister gravely.

"I can't say that," smiled Juan. "May day last was my most heavenly day, but another one is coming soon. I mean when June lays our child in my arms. You two don't know what a heavenly day is, for you haven't married June."

"What a cavalier speech," cried Maude gally, as she looked warningly at her husband. "I don't wonder you soon turned June's head. Is that the Western way?"

"The true Wyoming way," said Mr. Black significantly.

Maude was soon clasped in the arms of her friend, the happy mistress of Casa Alegre, and in a minute had sobbed out the fact she and Jonathan were married. "We met in the diner," she explained breathlessly and were married this morning."

"You certainly have us beaten to a frazzle," said Juan. "June kept me waiting from October till May. But it was worth it."

After the midday dinner June and her guest had a long visit and then came the hour of parting, for Jonathan insisted that they repair at once to his cabin. "You will take things as they are, sweetheart, won't you for old Maria doesn't know what I'm bringing home."

"I would rather have it so, dear. I walked right into your life and I want to walk right into your home the same way."

The adieux were said, the "God-speed yous" pronounced upon the happy pair, and June turned in to her home saying with a sigh. "If they weren't two such perfect jewels I'd be terribly frightened at the risk they run in this hasty marriage, but as it is—I just can't be. But, oh, I've lost my long expected guest," and she buried her head on her husband's shoulder.

"There, there, June, don't shed a tear. You've gained a steady neighbor, and think what is coming to live with us soon, soon."

The two travelers on horseback soon came in sight of the cabin, silhouetted against the brilliant evening sky. "It will be no longer my lonely cabin," Jonathan said, as he reined in his horse beside hers, "but my Cabin of Content."

"And you will find someone within to welcome you when your horse comes trudging home, St. Jonathan," she answered bravely.

"Thank God. With you there this little humble cabin will be,—*is* paradise. A paradise on earth. Come in sweet mate of mine." Then they kissed and he drew her to his heart in a passionate embrace. "A saint can love an earth maiden, can't he?" she murmured.

"I'll show you," was his reply.

Who Wins the Auto Gets the Cash to Run It Too

An extraordinary and attractive feature of our New Grand Prize Offer is that whoever wins the $635 Overland touring car will also receive a large sum in cash besides having the fully equipped auto delivered absolutely free of charge. The combination of seven sets of prizes together with cash commissions or premiums(as you choose) is such that, if you win the auto, you can't help winning at least one (in all probability several) of the large monthly cash prizes, too, which with your cash commissions will surely total a large sum. Besides the car we paid $360 in monthly cash prizes to the winner of the auto in last winter's contest.

Read Prize Offer on page 33 and enter contest now for Automobile and December Cash Prizes.

CIVIL WAR BIBLE REACHES OWNER.—A well-worn Bible issued to troops in the Civil War and lost on the battlefield of Peachtree Creek, Georgia, on July [illegible] 1864, has been returned to its owner, Fred[illegible]ck C. Will of Oconomowoc, then first sergeant of Company B, by the finder, Geo. C. Stacey of the Sixty-fifth Ohio Regiment.



This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossiblt to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful one schosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

WHETHER I believe in telling children there is a Santa Claus or whether I do not, still remains a deep, dark mystery (I don't know as I've really decided anyway), but I do believe in a Christmas tree as do the majority of the readers. You say, "for the children," but, candidly, down deep, don't you enjoy it for yourself, too? But since it is for the children, let them help decorate it. The joy of helping will more than make up for any lack of surprise at seeing the completed tree. It's more fun to watch it grow, they will tell you.

Of course father or big brother will have to superintend the setting up of the tree as will mother, or some older person, have to direct the decorations and possibly help in the very hardest of it.

The practise of saving Christmas decorations from one year to another is a wise one, but the strings of pop corn and cranberries, as well as the bags of net, can be made by the little fingers. Then the stores offer so much in the way of decorations at such a small cost that a few can be added each year at a very trifling cost. Coarse salt melted and poured over the tree will give a good imitation of snow.

Sometimes tiny Chinese lanterns are considered safer for use on the tree than unprotected candles and it is well to prepare for a possible fire by having a tub of water handy and also a big rug or blanket, ready for instant use. However, don't alarm the children unnecessarily with these precautions, but only enough to insure moderate caution.

I like the old custom of placing Christmas candles in our windows. It is beautiful in its meaning that not only shall we make our own home bright but we shall shed light across the paths of others, for only thus do we get the real meaning of Christmas.—Ed.

TROY, S. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I wonder if you have room for a little, gray-eyed, brown-haired woman, only five feet tall and weighing one hundred and fifteen pounds, but with a heart full of love for all the readers of COMFORT and especially Uncle Charlie, Mr. Gannett and you, Mrs. Wilkinson.

I will tell you about this part of South Carolina, as I see very few letters from here. Our principal money crop is cotton, which is at a paying price now, though we raise corn, wheat and oats and, in fact, anything grows here except strictly tropical plants and fruits. The timber is mostly pine and oak. The climate is healthful, on the whole, in this part of the state and to my mind the people are all one could ask for as neighbors. I might safely say every fifth family owns a car, their own home, and have a piano and telephone, and rural mail routes go by nearly all the homes, too. My own home, to which I came as a bride twenty years ago, has large oaks on either side of the road, a flower yard in front, with a six-room cottage, having a porch around the front and sides which looks cool and inviting with its vines and box flowers. I am a lover of flowers and have some very pretty ones and there is hardly a time in the year when I do not have some in bloom. We all love music and my husband, until a year or two before he died, played the violin. His violin is nearly a hundred years old and has a very sweet tone.

I hope you all won't think me too personal, but I always like to read the letters that make me feel in touch with the writers and somehow a glimpse of their homes and what they like and do makes me feel that way.

I see some are against large families and I am too. I think it wrong to bring helpless children into the world, without their consent or knowledge, and then not fit them properly for the conflicts of life, which is quite impossible in many cases where this world's goods are none too plentiful. I have children and am doing my best by them. I have a little savings account in the bank for each, for their very own, to add to every year. It is an incentive for them to save their money. If your boy or girl has only one dollar, put it in the bank for them in their name, and when the little new baby comes put in one dollar or five dollars, or whatever you can spare, for it and add to it as you can. Some day both you and they will be thankful.

Thanking each for the pleasure and help derived from their letters, I am, your South Carolina sister.

MRS. ADELE LOVELACE.

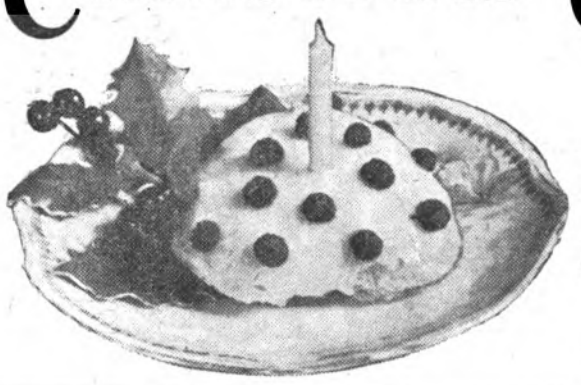
Mrs. Lovelace. Your idea of starting a bank account for each of your children is to be commended, and it brings to my mind a method I was reading about only a short time ago—that of depositing as many dollars in the bank on the child's birthday as it is years old. One dollar for first year, two dollars when two years old and so on till the child is of age. If one can, the amounts might be reversed and twenty-one dollars deposited on the child's first birthday, twenty dollars the second year, making a deposit of but one dollar on his twenty-first birthday. This isn't always so convenient but the interest counts up quicker. I'm not expert enough in mathematics to give you the total sum offhand, but it is worth trying for and will give your son or daughter a good start in life. Of course the money may be invested from time to time and thus earn even more.—Ed.

WASHINGTON.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Having been a subscriber to COMFORT for many years I would like to air my views, though probably they'll land in the waste-basket. Have read many heated arguments on both sides of the Suffrage question and also heard able speakers on both sides, and the fact still remains that we are living and must live so let us make conditions as tolerable as we can while we are here.

CHRISTMAS CAKES AND HOLIDAY GOODIES



By Ella Gordon

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

GOOD things to eat holds a large place in our Christmas festivities and what to fill the home-made basket with that we send to friends and neighbors on that great day is always an open question. Perhaps one of the simplest and at the same time most attractive baskets is made from a quart strawberry box. First cover the outside with bright red crepe or plain tissue paper, letting the edges lap well onto the inside. Edge the top about an inch high with upright twigs of evergreen, carrying twine around to hold it in place. To cover twine and ends of evergreen, make a fold of the red paper, carry it around the basket and sew ends together and finish with a small red ribbon bow or a bunch of the evergreen. Line inside with white paper napkins, arranging neatly.

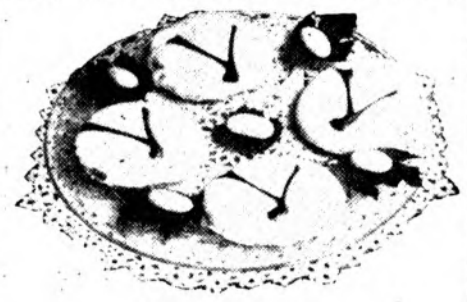
To fill, place in the center one apple filled with cider jelly and surround it with Christmas cakes and fill in the nitches with stuffed dates, brown sugar fudge and across the top a few raisins on the stem. And then that the box may carry some message of *good will*, neatly copy a verse from some Christmas carol, fold and tuck it in among the goodies.

Christmas Cakes

This cake mixture offers a foundation for almost an endless variety of cakes and if directions are carefully followed success will surely be yours.

Warm the mixing bowl with hot water and wipe dry. Put in one cup of butter and work with a spoon till creamy and light. Add one and one half cups of sugar and beat well into butter and then the beaten yolks of three eggs and the flavoring. Into three cups of twice sifted flour put one teaspoonful of cream of tartar and one half of soda and measure out one half cup of milk. Add to the butter, eggs and sugar a little milk and stir, then a little flour and continue until the milk and flour are used, then add the whites of three well-beaten eggs and beat all together till smooth. Bake in a moderate oven fifty minutes.

Where the above cake mixture is to be made into Christmas cakes, put a part of the dough into a shallow pan about half an inch thick and bake. When cold, with a sharp knife cut into diamond shapes two inches square. Have prepared a bowl of frosting and dip in each piece of cake so it will be frosted all over. An easy arrangement for drying the cakes is to rest a flat colander or old-fashioned wire sieve on a shallow baking pan and through the holes stand toothpicks and rest the cakes on these till the frosting is firm. Put cakes on a three-tined fork when dipping into frosting. If further decoration is desired, while frosting is still soft, press into the center of each cake a cube of firm jelly,



WISH-BONE CAKES.

a raisin or a nut. Another decoration is to color a spoonful of the white frosting with beet juice and drop a little on the center of each cake.

Very attractive for Christmas is to bake the cake in a long loaf and frost white. Make an ornamental frosting by beating the white of one egg very stiff, add two scant teaspoons of orange or lemon juice and a tablespoon of powdered sugar. Color with beet juice. Beat five minutes, add a little more sugar and beat again, and so on till frosting is firm enough to spread. Put frosting into a paper tunnel with a very small opening and trace the word *Christmas* across cake; or if the whole word is too great an undertaking, use *Xmas*.

If a richer cake is desired, add to the above dough mixture half a cup of dates cut fine and floured, and a saltspoonful each of mace, cinnamon and allspice.

Recipes

BOILDED FROSTING.—Boil one cup of granulated sugar with one third cup of boiling water till it threads. Have ready the beaten white of one egg and in a fine stream pour over it the boiling syrup beating steadily, and while beating add one eighth of a teaspoon of cream of tartar, teaspoon of vanilla and a teaspoon of orange or lemon juice. Beat till firm but not too long as it hardens quickly.

WISH-BONE CAKES.—Cream together one half cup of butter with one cup of sugar and beat in two squares of grated chocolate or five teaspoons of cocoa, two well-beaten eggs, one tablespoon of milk and one cup and a half of flour mixed with two teaspoons of baking powder. Add flour enough to roll and cut into round cakes. Bake in quick oven about ten minutes. Frost white with boiled frosting and represent a wishbone on each cake with chocolate frosting.

CHOCOLATE FROSTING.—Beat yolks of one egg and stir in one and three quarters cup of pow red sugar and tree squares of melted chocolate and enough cream so it will spread. Flavor with vanilla.

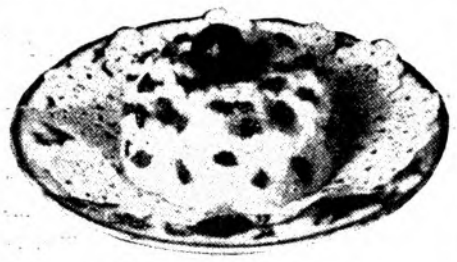
CHRISTMAS PLUM PUDDING.—Three cups of soft grated bread, two cups of chopped suet, one cup of cleaned currants, two cups of seeded raisins and two thirds of a cup of citron shaved thin, one cup of sugar mixed with three even tablespoons of flour, half a teaspoon of salt and half a teaspoon of grated nutmeg and a little cinnamon. Mix together and add six well-beaten eggs and half a cup of either milk or brandy. Put into buttered mould, cover and steam four hours then remove from mould and bake half an hour in a moderately hot oven. Serve warm with hard sauce.

HARD SAUCE.—Cream one quarter of a cup of butter till very light and gradually work in two thirds of a cup of powdered sugar and a little nutmeg and grated orange rind.

CHRISTMAS COOKIES.—Cream together one half cup of butter with one cup of sugar; add one well-beaten egg, quarter of a cup of milk and two even teaspoons of baking powder, sifted with a cup of flour, and then enough more flour to handle. If the dough is put where it will chill for two hours, it can be handled with less flour stirred in and the cookies will be much nicer. Frost with marshmallow frosting.

FROSTING.—Put one half pound of marshmallows to melt in a double boiler. Boil one cup of sugar with one third cup of boiling water till it threads when tested with a spoon. Pour in a fine stream onto the beaten white of one egg and add to this the marshmallows and a teaspoon of vanilla. Beat till it will spread on cookies. Decorate with narrow strips of citron and red cubes of jelly. Arrange on plate with twigs of evergreen between cookies.

CHRISTMAS GRAHAM PUDDING.—Beat together one cup of molasses, one half cup of milk, two well-beaten eggs and half a teaspoon of soda. Add teaspoon of cinnamon and a pinch each of



CHRISTMAS GRAHAM PUDDING.

nutmeg and ginger and one and one half cups of sifted graham flour, two tablespoons of melted butter and one cup of seeded raisins. Steam three hours and bake one hour in a closely covered pail or can, anly filling two thirds full. Butter and flour can thoroughly.

CREAM SAUCE.—Beat the yolk of one egg and work in one cup of powdered sugar and one teaspoon of vanilla and then the beaten white of egg. When ready to serve, beat in one pint of partly whipped cream.

CIDER JELLY IN APPLES.—Soak a box of gelatine in one cup of cold water ten minutes and then dissolve in a double cooker. Into one and one half quarts of cider put one large cup of sugar and if the cider is quite new add the juice of two lemons. When the gelatine is hot and melted, add the cider and set away to harden. Cut the top from large red apples, scoop out the pulp till the walls are about half an inch thick and fill with the jelly and replace the top of apple. Serve very cold.

STUFFED DATES.—Select choice dates and pour boiling water over them and let stand one minute. Wipe and cut a slit in the side large enough to slip out the stone, and in its place press one quarter of a walnut or chopped peanuts. Press together and roll in powdered sugar.

BROWN SUGAR FUDGE.—Boil two cups of brown sugar, one cup of white sugar and one half cup of sour cream till it will form a ball in cold water, then add butter size of a walnut and one teaspoon of water and beat till it thickens a little. Pour into a buttered tin and when partly cold cut into squares. Chopped nuts may be added.

Rules for Cake Making

Have fire ready before beginning to make cake.

Have each ingredient measured, earthen mixing bowl, egg beaters, spoons and tins ready before beginning to mix cake.

Be careful not to break yolk when separating from white as a very little of the yolk in the white will prevent the white from beating dry. A satisfactory way is to gently break the shell on the edge of a cup, then separate enough for the white to drain out, leaving the yolk in a half shell. Only fresh eggs will make good cake.

Coarse granulated sugar makes heavy cake.

In making butter cake, alternate the milk and flour, stirring between each addition, then beat all together till smooth.

Cream of tartar, soda and baking powder should be added to flour and sifted again.

Spoon dry ingredients (such as flour, meal and sugar) into measure, as dipping with measure forces in more than a measure full.

Use pastry flour for cake making.

In making sponge cake, after the eggs, sugar and liquid have been put together, beat with an



CHRISTMAS COOKIES.

egg beater three minutes and the texture of cake will be greatly improved. Always add flour and then the beaten whites of eggs last to sponge cake.

Thin cakes require a hotter oven than when baked in loaves.

Butter cakes require a moderate oven and during the first half of baking should only rise and begin to brown. When nearly done the cake will begin to shrink from the pan and settle.

Never move cake before it begins to brown or is two thirds done, and then very gently, being careful that cold air does not strike it.

Molasses cake burns on the bottom very quickly, and to prevent this, use paper and a sprinkling of flour in bottom of tin.

Sudden changes in heat of oven will make cake heavy, so be sure the fire is under control and will last during the baking.



One Thing Worth Knowing

Pie is all right and heavy puddings are all right when the rest of the meal is not so heavy as to tax digestion. But at certain times—once a week at least in every home—a lighter dessert of

JELL-O

ought to be served.

On Sundays especially, when the housewife must get up the big dinners which the men folks want, it is becoming customary to make the dessert of Jell-O. It is so much easier and saves so much time—and is so good.

In every Jell-O package there is a little folder containing rules, suggestions and recipes for making up Jell-O in all possible forms.

There are seven flavors of Jell-O: Strawberry, Raspberry, Lemon, Orange, Cherry, Chocolate, Peach. Each **10** cents at any grocer's or any general store.

The flavors are pure fruit flavors, and the full strength of the flavors is preserved by the air-tight and moisture proof waxed paper Safety Bags enclosing the Jell-O inside the cartons.

The price has never changed. It is ten cents to-day just as it has been from the beginning.



THE GENESEE PURE FOOD COMPANY, Le Roy, N. Y., and Bridgeburg, Ont.

Washington has Suffrage and the women do not quarrel or argue on the streets but go quietly to the polls and vote, many in company of their husbands. Now you Antis, do you always stay at home? Don't you ever attend lodge, teas, clubs? Do you always tat when you have nothing else on hand? If so, I advise you, one and all, to send to the U. S. Bureau of Labor, Washington, D. C. and get statistics on the condition of working women and children. I think it will open your eyes and give you food for thought. Also you will realize that we suffragettes are not so wrong after all. Don't be selfish, but think of the women who are bread earners. Then if you do not wish to vote, why well and good. As far as the indecent element is concerned, you rub elbows with them nearly every day of your life, you can't help it for you go down town shopping as well as they and as for standing in line with them at the polls, I am willing to stand all day, and so will all other good women, in order to vote for the right, for there are more good women who will vote than bad ones. Did you ever think of that? I think that Uncle Sam did a very wise thing when he separated politics and religion so why try to mix them? Our religion is sacred and it has nothing to do with politics, and the Suffrage cause will suffer only by people becoming angry, for we can vote and yet be Christians.

There seems to be much disagreement about the war. We, husband and I, never quarrel about it though one is of English and the other of German descent, for we are Americans and loyal to the Stars and Stripes. Let Europe settle her own difficulties, but one must think with sorrow of the heart-breaking cruelty on all sides, and with compassion for the widows and orphans and of the useless and needless slaughter of human beings.

And now sisters, I had an able woman, well versed in law, tell me that Woman Suffrage and political equality were one and the same thing. I hold that under the existing law we cannot have political

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.)

The Masked Bridal

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



Then the paper slipped from her nerveless fingers



Edith sprang forward and caught her by the hand.



His glance sent a strange chill running through her veins—

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith. Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Edith Allandale, the only support of an invalid mother pawns a valuable watch. To redeem it she offers a five-dollar gold piece, paid to her by Royal Bryant, to the broker, who, dropping it into the drawer declares it a counterfeit and returns it. Going home her mother suggests it may be genuine and again Edith goes out to buy food and coal. While eating supper an officer enters, followed by the grocer who insists upon Edith's arrest for passing counterfeit money. Mrs. Allendale unnerved, faints away, and Edith protesting her innocence, is hurried to the station house, leaving her mother in the care of Kate O'Brien. Edith writes to Royal Bryant explaining the situation.

CHAPTER V.

A MOTHER'S LAST REQUEST.

TWO hours later, Royal Bryant was at the pawnbroker's shop, and had redeemed Edith's watch, much against the wish of the money-lender, who desired to retain it. And as the lawyer placed the watch in his pocket, he made a sign to an officer on the street, who had accompanied him to the spot.

Solon Retz was astounded when he found himself a prisoner, on the charge of passing counterfeit money. He was hurried to court, and the judge investigated the case at once. Mr. Bryant and Mr. Knowles gave their testimony, and it was conclusively demonstrated that the spurious coin must have come from the pawnbroker's drawer.

At Royal Bryant's suggestion the pawnbroker was ordered to be searched, when no less than three more bogus pieces were found concealed upon his person.

This was deemed sufficient proof of his guilt, without further testimony, and he was sentenced to four years' imprisonment, without Edith having been called to the witness stand to testify against him.

As the crest-fallen pawnbroker was led away, Royal Bryant went eagerly to Edith's side.

"You are free, Miss Allandale," he exclaimed, with a radiant face, "and I think we are to be congratulated upon having made such quick work of the case."

"It is all owing to your cleverness," Edith returned, lifting a pair of grateful eyes to his face. "How can I thank you?"

"You do not need to do that, for I feel that I alone have been to blame for all your trouble," he said, in a self-reproachful tone; then he added, with a roguish gleam in his fine eyes: "I shall never be guilty of paying my copyist in gold again. Now come, I have a carriage waiting for you and will send you directly home to your mother," the young man concluded, as he lifted her shawl from the chair where she had been sitting and wrapped it about her shoulders.

Edith followed him to the street, where a hack stood ready to take her home.

Mr. Bryant assisted her to enter it, when he laid a small package in her lap.

"It is your watch," he said, in a low tone. Then, extending his hand to her, he added: "I shall not ask you to return to the office for two or three days—you need rest after your recent anxiety and excitement, while I am to be away until Wednesday noon. Come to me on Thursday morning, if you feel able, when I shall have plenty of work for you."

He pressed the hand he was holding with an unconscious fondness which brought a rich color into the young girl's face, then, closing the carriage door, he gave the order to the coachman, smiled another adieu, as he lifted his hat to her, and the next moment Edith was driven away.

There was a glad light in her eyes, a tender smile on her red lips, and, in spite of her poverty and many cares, she was, for the moment, thrilled to her very soul by the consciousness that Royal Bryant loved her.

She sat thus, in happy reverie, until the carriage turned into the street where she lived; then, suddenly coming to herself, her attention was again attracted to the package in her lap.

"There is something besides mamma's watch here!" she murmured, as she noticed the thickness of it.

Untying the string and removing the wrapper, she found a pretty purse with a silver clasp lying upon the case containing the watch.

With burning cheeks she opened it, and found within a crisp ten-dollar note and Royal Bryant's card bearing these words upon the back:

"I shall deem it a favor if you will accept the inclosed amount, as a loan, until you find yourself in more comfortable circumstances financially. Yours, R. B."

Edith caught the purse to her lips with a thrill of joy.

"How kind! how delicate!" she murmured. "He knew that I was nearly penniless—that I had almost nothing with which to tide over the next few days, during his absence. He is a prince—he is a king among men, and I——"

A vivid flush dyed her cheeks as she suddenly checked the confession that had almost escaped her lips.

The carriage stopped at last before the door of her home—if the miserable tenement-house could be designated by such a name—and she sprang eagerly to the ground as the coachman opened the door for her to alight.

"The fare is all paid, miss," he said, respectfully, as she hesitated a moment; then she went bounding up the stairs to be met on the threshold of her room by Kate O'Brien—who had seen the carriage stop—with her finger on her lips and a look in her kind, honest eyes that made the girl's heart sink with a sudden shock.

"My mother!" she breathed, with paling lips.

"Whisht, mavourneen!" said the woman, pitifully; then added, in a lower tone: "She has been mortal ill, miss."

"And now?" panted Edith.

"Sh! She is asleep."

Edith waited to hear no more. She pushed by the woman, entered the room, and gliding swiftly but noiselessly to the bed, looked down upon the scarcely breathing figure lying there.

It was with difficulty that she repressed a shriek of agony at what she saw, for the shadow of death was unmistakably settling over the beloved face.

The invalid stirred slightly upon her pillow as Edith came to her side and bent over her.

"My darling," she murmured weakly, as her white lids fluttered open, and she bent a look full of love upon the fair face above her, "I—am going——"

"No, no, mamma!" whispered the heart-broken girl.

"Bring me the—Japanese box—quick!" the dying woman commanded, in a scarcely audible tone.

Without a word Edith darted to a closet, opened a trunk, and from its depths drew forth a beautiful casket inlaid with mother-of-pearl and otherwise exquisitely decorated.

"The—key," gasped the sick one, fumbling feebly among the folds of her night-robe.

Edith bent over her and unfastened a key from a golden chain which encircled her mother's neck.

"Open!" she whispered, glancing toward the casket.

The girl, wondering, but awed and silent, unlocked the box and threw back the cover, thus revealing several packages of letters and other papers neatly arranged within it.

Mrs. Allandale reached forth a weak and bloodless hand, as if to take something out of the box, when she suddenly choked, and in another instant the red life-current was flowing from her lips.

"Letters—burn——" she gasped, with a last expiring effort, and then became suddenly insensible.

In an agony of terror, Edith dashed the box upon the nearest chair and began to chafe the cold hand that hung over the side of the bed, while Mrs. O'Brien came forward, a look of awe on her face.

The frail chest of the invalid heaved two or three times, there was a spasmodic twitching of the slender fingers lying on the young girl's hand, then all was still, and Edith Allandale was motherless.

CHAPTER VI.

A HERITAGE OF SHAME.

We will not linger over the sad details of the ceremonies attending Mrs. Allandale's burial. Suffice it to say that on Tuesday afternoon her remains were borne away to Greenwood, and laid to rest, in the family lot, beside those gone before, after which Edith returned to her desolate abode more wretched than it is possible to describe.

She had made up her mind, however, that she could not remain there any longer—that she must find a place for herself in a different locality and among a different class of people. This she knew she could do, since she had the promise of permanent work and now had only herself to care for.

The change, too, must be made upon the following day, as Mr. Bryant would expect her at his office on Thursday morning.

There was much to be done, many things to be packed for removal, while what she did not care to retain must be disposed off; and, eager to forget her grief and loneliness—for she knew she would be ill if she sat tamely down and allowed herself to think—she began at once, upon her return from the cemetery to get ready to leave the cheerless home where she had suffered so much.

She decided, first of all, to pack all wearing apparel; and, on going to her closet to begin her work, the first thing her eyes fell upon was the casket of letters, which her mother had requested her to bring to her just before she died.

The sight of this unnerved her again, and, with a moan of pain, she sank upon her knees and bowed her head upon it.

But the fountain of her tears had been so exhausted that she could not weep; and, finally becoming somewhat composed, she took the beautiful box out into the room and sat down near a light to examine its contents.

"Mamma evidently wanted these letters destroyed," she murmured, as she threw back the cover. "I will do as she wished, but I will first look them over, to be sure there is nothing of value among them."

She set about her task at once and found that they were mostly missives from intimate friends, with quite a number written by herself to her mother, while she was away at boarding school.

All these she burned after glancing casually at them. Nothing then remained in the box but a small package of six or eight time-yellowed epistles bound together with a blue ribbon.

"What peculiar writing!" Edith observed, as she separated one from the others and examined the superscription upon the envelop. "Why, it is postmarked Rome, Italy, away back in 18—, and addressed to mamma in London! That must have been when she was on her wedding tour!"

Her curiosity was aroused, and, drawing the closely written sheet from its inclosure, she began to read it.

It was also dated from Rome, and the girl was soon deeply immersed in a story of intense and romantic interest.

She readily understood that the letter had been written by a dear friend of Mrs. Allandale's youth—one who had been both school and roommate, and who unreservedly confided all her secrets and experiences to her bosom companion. And yet, it was strange, Edith thought, that she had never heard her mother speak of this friend.

It seemed that there had been quite an interval in their correspondence, for the writer spoke of the surprise which her friend would experience upon receiving a letter from her from that locality, when she had probably believed her to be in her own home, living the quiet life of a dutiful daughter.

Then it spoke of an "ideal love" that "had come to beautify her life;" of a noble and wealthy artist who had won her heart, but who, for some unaccountable reason, had not been acceptable to her parents, and they had sternly rejected his proposal for her hand.

Next came the *denouement*, which told that the girl had eloped with her lover and flown with him to Italy.

"I suppose it was not the right thing to do, darling," the missive ran; "but papa, you know, is a very austere, relentless man, and when he has once made up his mind, there is no hope of ever turning him; so I have taken my fate into my own hands—or, rather, I have given it into the keeping of my dear one, and we are so happy, Edith darling, and lead an ideal life in this quaint old city of the seven hills, at whose feet runs, like a thread of gold, the yellow Tiber. My husband is everything to me—so noble, so kind, so generous; it is so very strange that papa could not like him—that is the only drop of bitterness in my overflowing cup of happiness."

There was much more of the same tenor, from which it is not necessary to quote; and, after reading the letter through, Edith took up another, interested to know how the pretty love-story of her mother's friend would terminate. The second one, written a month later, was more subdued, but not less tender, although the young girl thought she detected a vein of sadness running through it.

The next two or three mentioned the fact that the writer was left much alone, her "dear one" being obliged to be away a great deal of the time, upon sketching expeditions, etc.

After an interval of three months another letter spoke in the fondest manner of the "dear little stranger," that had come to bless and cheer her loneliness—"lonely, dear Edith, because my husband's art monopolizes his time, while he is often absent from home a week at a time in connection with it, and I do not know what I should do, in this strange country away from all my friends, if it were not for my precious baby girl whom I have named for you, as I promised, in memory of those happy days which we spent together at Vassar."

"Then mamma's friend had a daughter, who was also named Edith," mused our fair heroine, breaking in upon her perusal of the letter. "I wonder if she is living, and where? Those letters tell me nothing, give no last name by which to identify either the writer or her husband."

She turned back to the epistle, and read on:

"She is such a comfort to me," it ran, "and gives me an object in life—something besides myself and my trou"—these last three words were crossed out—"to think about. When will you come to Rome, dear Edith? Your last letter was dated from St. Petersburg. I am very anxious that you should see your little namesake, and make me that long-promised visit."

There was only one more letter in the package, and Edith's face was very grave and sympathetic as she drew it from its envelope.

"I am sure that her husband proved to be negligent of and unkind to her," she murmured, "and that she repented her rashness in leaving her home and friends. Oh, I wonder why girls will be so foolish as to go directly contrary to the advice of those who love them best, and run away with men of whom they know comparatively nothing!"

With a sigh of regret for the unfortunate wife, of whom she had been reading, she unfolded the letter in her hands and began to read, little dreaming what strange things she was to learn from it.

"Oh, Edith darling," it began, "how can I tell you?—how can I write of the terrible calamity that has overtaken me? My heart is broken—my life is ruined, and all because I would not heed those who loved me, and who, I now realize, were my best and kindest counselors. I could bear it for myself, perhaps—I could feel that it was but a just judgment upon me for my obstinacy and unfilial conduct, and so drag out my weary existence in submission to the inevitable; but when I think of my innocent babe—my lovely Edith—your namesake! oh! I would never have had her christened thus, I could not have insulted you so, had I known! I feel almost inclined to doubt the justice and love of God—if, indeed, there is a God."

The letter here looked as if the writer must have been overcome with her wretchedness, and wept tears of bitter despair, for it was badly blurred and defaced.

But Edith, her face now absolutely colorless, read eagerly on.

"I cannot bear it and live," the writer resumed, "and so—I am going to—die. Edith, my husband—no, my betrayer, I ought rather to say—has deserted me! He has gone to Florence with a beautiful Italian countess, who is also very rich, and is living with her there in her elegant palace, just outside the city. He has long been attentive to her, but I never dreamed how far matters had gone until yesterday, when I came upon them, unawares, in Everard's studio, and heard him tell her how he loved her—that 'I was not his wife, only his——' I cannot write the vile word that makes my flesh creep with horror. Then I learned of his base conduct to me, whom, as he expressed it, he 'had cleverly deceived, and coaxed to run away with him to while away his solitude during his sojourn in a strange country.' It is a wonder that I did not drop dead where I stood—slain by the dreadful truth; but the wicked lovers did not dream of being overheard, and so I listened to the whole of their vile plot and then stole away to try and decide upon a course of action. When Everard came home, I charged him with his perfidy. Then—pity me, Edith—he boldly told me that he was weary of me; that he would pay me a handsome sum of money and I might take my child and go back to my parents! Oh! I cannot go into details, or tell you what I have suffered—no one will ever know that but God! Why, oh, why does He permit such evil to exist? He does not—there is no God! there is no God!"

There was a huge blot here, as if the pen had fallen from the fingers that had dared to deny the existence of Deity; then the missive was resumed in a different tone, as if a long interval of thought had intervened.

"Edith, I am calmer now, and I am going to ask a great favor of you. You are happily married, you have a noble husband and abundant means, and you know we once pledged ourselves to befriend each other, if either should ever find herself in trouble. Presuming upon that pledge, I am going to ask if you will take my darling, my poor innocent little waif, bring her up as your own, and never let her know anything about the stain that rests upon her birth? She is pure; she is not to blame for the sins of her parents, and I cannot bear the thought of her growing up to learn of her heritage of shame, as she would be sure to do if I should live and rear her as my child. Your last letter tells me that you will be in Rome in less than a fortnight. I cannot meet you—I can never again meet any one whom I have known; and so, Edith—I am going to die. I give my child to you—I believe you will not refuse my last request—and you will find her, with the woman who nursed me when she was born, at No. 2 Via del Vecchia. The woman has my instructions—she believes that I am only going away on a little trip with my husband; but you will show her this letter, and prove to her that you have authority to take the child away. When you go home, you will take her with you, as your own, and no one need ever know that she is not your own. Do not ever reveal the truth to her: let her grow up happy and care-free, like other girls who are of honorable birth; and if the dead can watch over and shield the living, you and yours shall be so shielded and watched over by your lost but still loving,

BELLE."

"She was my mother! I am that child of shame,' came hoarsely from Edith's bloodless lips as she finished reading that dreadful letter.

Then the paper slipped from her nerveless fingers, her head dropped unconsciously upon the table before her, and she knew nothing more until long afterward, when she awoke from her swoon to find her lamp gone out and the room growing cold, while her heart felt as if it had been paralyzed in her bosom.

CHAPTER VII.

TWO NEW ACQUAINTANCES.

Edith, when consciousness returned, had not a doubt that the letters, which she had been reading, had been penned by the hand of her own mother; that she was that little baby who had been born in Rome—that child of shame whose father had so heartlessly deserted it; whose mother, her brain turned by her suffering and wrongs, had planned to take her own life, rather than live to taint her little one's future with the shadow of her own disgrace.

The knowledge of this seemed to blight, as with a lightning flash, every hope of her life.

She groped her way to the bed, for she was becoming benumbed with the cold, and threw herself upon it, utterly wretched, utterly hopeless. For hours she lay there in a sort of stupor, conscious only of one terrible fact—her shame—her ruined life!

"Oh, I had begun to hope that——" she began, then abruptly ceased, a burning flush suffusing her face as her thoughts thus went out toward Royal Bryant, whose eyes had only the day before told her, as plainly as eyes could speak, that he loved her, while her heart had thrilled with secret joy over the revelation, and the knowledge that her own affection had been irrevocably given to him, even though they had known each other so short a time.

Even in the midst of her sorrow over her dead, the thought that she loved and was beloved had been like the strains of soothing music to her, and she had looked forward to her return to the young lawyer's office as to a place of refuge, where she would meet with kindness and sympathy that would comfort her immeasurably.

But these beautiful dreams had been ruthlessly shattered; she could never be anything to Royal Bryant—he could never be anything to her, after learning what she had learned that night.

Edith determined to leave New York at once. With this object in view, she disposed of most of her furniture to a broker, who gave her sixty dollars for it. She reserved articles she presented to her stanch friend, Kate O'Brien. These matters attended to, she wrote a letter to Mr. Bryant, mailed it, and a few hours later was on the train, en route to Boston.

On Thursday morning Mr. Bryant, returning to town from a business trip, cheerfully entered his office, expecting to behold there the radiant face of Edith. To his great disappointment, she

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

Always Popular



NBC

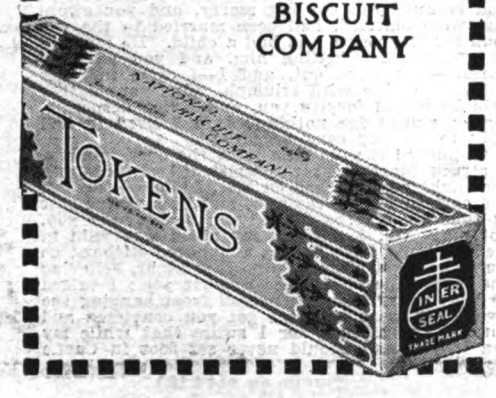
The unvarying goodness of National Biscuit Company products proves their superiority, and is one reason for their nation-wide use on all occasions.



NBC

Packages bearing the famous In-er-seal Trade Mark bring them to your table, oven-fresh.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY



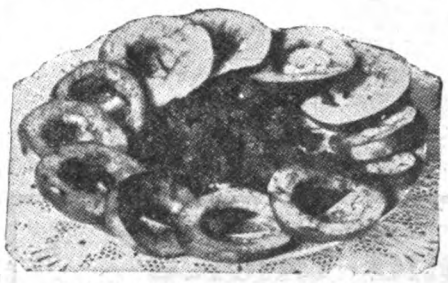


The BEST COOKING FRUIT

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT is no new idea that fruit eating is a promoter of good health, and that the apple should be considered in the light of a valued friend. Our family physicians have advocated it ever since we can remember.

As each case is individual, everyone should make a study of their own stomach in regard to fruit eating that the best results may be obtained. Fruit taken before other food in the morning often acts as a corrective of headaches, biliousness and constipation, the headaches often being but a symptom of indigestion which causes many ailments. An entire breakfast of fruit, either cooked or uncooked, has relieved many a sufferer. People with acid stomachs would do well to take fruit at the end of a meal, as the food dilutes the acid which is liable to cause a stomach ache if taken first into an acid



BAKED SAUSAGE WITH APPLE RINGS.

stomach. One teaspoonful of finely scraped slightly tart apple is excellent for babies after six months of age, if taken between meals, at least one hour after being fed with milk. Apples make the best kind of a school lunch for children, helping to overcome the ill effects of too much starch and sugar which children so delight in. Substituting apples for desserts a part of the time, while apples are so delicious will be found very beneficial to the system.

Dried apples may be made into delicious pies, turnovers and sauces if properly prepared. It is well to remember that only the water has been dried out of the apple; that the solids remain. To cook, very quickly wash in cold water, drain and add enough more water to hardly cover, and let soak not more than two hours, occasionally turning the apple over in the water. Now bring slowly to a boil and simmer till done and the water cooked down. If for pies, have the apple about two thirds done and finish cooking in the crust. The best kind of dried apple pie is made with an undercrust and the top with strips of crust instead of covering the whole pie. Apple pies should be cooked one hour whether made of fresh or dried apple. The oven should be hot when pies are first put in, and the heat decreased after ten minutes, and then cook very slowly. The crust will be tender and the apple a rich red and of a jellied consistency to say nothing of being more digestible.

Sweet apples are best when put whole into a deep earthen bowl, a very little sugar added and a cup of water, covered tightly and baked very slowly till soft and slightly shrunken. Always cook apples in earthen or agate ware as the action of the acid on tin or iron is unwholesome. Roast po k is more digestible if served with apple sauce.

APPLE TAPIOCA.—Prepare tapioca according to the kind used. If the whole is used, to three quarters of a cup, add one quart of boiling water and cook till transparent in a double boiler. Core and pare six tart apples, put in a deep earthen baking dish, fill the cavities with sugar and pour the hot tapioca over them. Bake till apples are soft. Serve with sugar and cream.

APPLE TEA CAKE.—Rub together two cups of flour, one half teaspoon of soda, one teaspoon of cream of tartar, half a teaspoon of salt and three tablespoons of butter. Beat light one egg, add little less than one cup of milk and stir into flour. Spread less than an inch thick on a shallow pan. Pare and core and cut tart apples into eighths and lay close together in rows on top of dough, pressing slightly into cake. Sprinkle with sugar and a little cinnamon may be added. Bake in hot oven till apple is thoroughly cooked and brown. Serve with butter. This cake makes a nice pudding when served with hot maple syrup or sauce flavored with fruit juice.

APPLES IN JELLY.—Core tart apples, fill cavities with sugar, put a little water in pan and bake in a hot oven till very soft and dish onto a deep plate. Cover cores with cold water and boil while apples are baking. Strain and sweeten and add to baked apple juice and when boiling add a little gelatine that has been soaked in cold water. Pour over baked apples and set away to stiffen.

APPLE FLUFF.—Wash but do not peel or core four tart apples. Cut into small pieces and stew in a little water till the apple can be put through a fine wire strainer. Beat stiff the whites of four eggs and add gradually one cup of powdered sugar. Add the apple and beat till light. Serve at once with boiled custard.

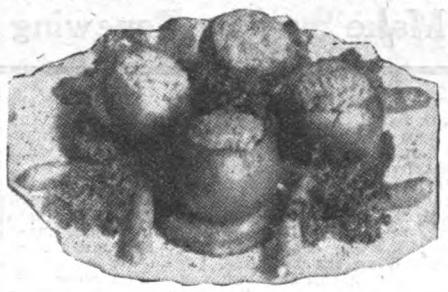
CUSTARD.—Bring two cups of milk to boil in a double cooker. Beat the yolks of three eggs and gradually add three tablespoons of sugar. Pour over the boiling milk, beat together and return to cooker and stir till custard thickens. Three or four minutes is sufficient if the milk has not cooled too much, as the custard thickens as it cools, and if cooked too long will curdle. Soft custard is best when made the day before using. Flavor just before serving.

PAN DOWDY.—In an earthern baking dish put tart apples that have been peeled, cored and quartered. Cover with sugar, a little molasses, a piece of butter, a pinch each of cinnamon and salt and a little lemon extract. Cover with pie crust quarter of an inch thick and put in a hot oven, reducing the heat and baking slowly one hour and a half.

APPLE RINGS.—Fry or bake sausage meat, break slightly with a fork and pile in center of platter. Select large tart apples and core, but do not peel. Slice half an inch thick and fry in sausage fat. While frying sprinkle with a little sugar and cinnamon. Lap one ring onto another around edge of platter. Serve hot with baked potatoes.

HOME MADE SAUSAGE WITH BAKED APPLE.—Sausages should be made at home to insure a wholesome dish as well as a much more palatable one. Of sweet fresh pork use one third fat and two thirds lean, and put through your meat grinder or chop fine. For seasoning use one teaspoonful of sifted sage a very scant half teaspoon of white pepper, and one even tablespoon of salt to each pound of sausage meat. The best method for shaping sausages is to stuff cotton bags, made fifteen inches long and four inches wide. Before filling dip bags in strong salt and water and dry. Press sausage meat into bags with a wooden pestle. To use, turn back the end of bag, cut into slices three quarters of an inch thick and fry or bake to a rich brown.

An attractive dish can be made by baking good-sized tart apples whole, and when done



BAKED APPLES STUFFED WITH HOME-MADE SAUSAGE.

scoop out about half the inside and fill with hot cooked sausage meat. Serve on round slices of toasted brown bread, garnish with sausages and parsley.

COMPOTE OF APPLES.—Make a syrup of two cups of water and one and one half cup of sugar. Simmer fifteen minutes and drop in ten tart apples that have been pared and cored. Cook slowly till soft way through and turn often in the syrup. (A richer syrup will be obtained by putting the apple peels and cores into a dish by themselves, cover with water and cook till apples are done and then strain and add liquid to syrup.) When done place apples on a plate and bake ten minutes in a hot oven. Arrange apples on platter and fill centers with preserve, or prunes and raisins cooked together to the consistency of marmalade. Boil down the syrup till it jellies and pour over the apples. Just before serving heap the top of apples with whipped cream.

APPLE-CUSTARD PIE.—Scrape two slightly tart apples, add scant cup of sugar, a pinch of cinnamon, two beaten eggs and one cup of fresh sweet milk. Bake in under crust.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

equality. Suffragettes, how about it? And do you think it just to the women voters not to have political equality?

MOSSBACK.

INDIANA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I know some of you will be surprised at a bride of just one month having time for letters and will want to know how it happens. Frank—not John—and I are each twenty-five years old, not a bit handsome and each knows that the other hasn't any angel wings sprouting, but we think we'll pull though all right. I have always been a "Martha" and Frank has always been hardworking and economical. We had to be for in our homes there were many children and very little time and money for anything but the work of providing for all. I'm not sorry, that I've known Martha's cares for it makes my work easier now. Besides, the world couldn't do without its Marthas—surely Mrs. McKnight admits this, even while contrasting her a wee bit scornfully with Mary. But when we married we decided that our new life must have time for something better than sordid cares so we arranged for it by *keeping out of debt*. We haven't one new piece of store furniture in our four-room house? Some is second-hand, varnished, and my kitchen cabinet, sideboard, corner cupboard, dining table and dresser were all made of dry-goods boxes, etc., by Frank himself and I painted, varnished and otherwise spruced them up. Cheap, but neat and really good to look at—and we don't have to think of a furniture bill unpaid. Meanwhile, our farm is free from debt and we'll get the store furniture later, a piece at a time, when we can easily afford it. Besides that, I made every rug in the house, braided and crocheted them, little and big. And during the summer I put up and dried plums, peaches, apples, corn, beans, etc. People sometimes let their produce waste or neglect buying it while plenty and cheap and then in winter pay high prices for the same stuff shipped in from California.

Thanks to our Martha training, we now have time and some means for interests outside of our home. Last evening we made a list of papers and magazines we want and COMFORT headed the list. It is practical and helpful in so many ways and we both love Uncle Charlie and will now have time to get better acquainted with him. We enclose some other subscriptions with ours for the Home Fund and will try to send more later. We sympathize with the sisters in rallying to the defense of Saint Paul, but we wonder, would they, if Paul were now alive and an invalid, let him live in a rent, without thereon to lay his head and with no home of his own? For my part, I am in for rallying to our love-labor of buying a home for that afflicted, living "Good Man," our own dear Uncle Charlie!

Mrs. Wilkinson, I wish you could see my home-made dining-room this minute! It is a sunny room, there are flowers on the table, and a glass prism (Frank's work) in the window breaks the common light of day into the loveliest pieces of rainbow on walls and floor.

With best wishes to all, Your COMFORT SISTER.

Welcome "COMFORT Sister" and if my years would permit and I possessed the proper sylphlike figure for the task, I'd make a humble obeisance to you, little bride, with the wisdom of ages in your pretty head. How do I know you are pretty? Maybe "Frank" told me but whether he did or not I want to congratulate both you young people on having each other. There is no need for you to seek for the pot of gold at the foot of the rainbow, for you seem to have found it.—Ed.

——, Mo.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

This good paper has been in my home for quite a number of years and needless to say it shall be for

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)

Always Good



NBC

Always made of choicest materials. Always baked with master skill. National Biscuit Company products are always the best that can be produced.



NBC

Our efficient Coast-to-Coast delivery service supplies National Biscuit Company products to grocery stores everywhere.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY



Love and Spite

By Adelaide Stirling

Copyright, 1899 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XXVII.

THE HOUR OF VENGEANCE.

MRS. De Burgh lay alone in her gorgeous bedroom, her glittering black eyes full of complacency. With Richard's daughter safely imprisoned up-stairs it would go hard if he were not entrapped, and once Hugo's hand was on him, it would not lie lightly.

The cripple smiled as she thought how the true owner of Castle De Burgh had been so long unsuspected in their very house; yet her smile was not quite easy.

"She's better stuff than Moyra"—her forehead wrinkling—"but, bah! she's all the more dangerous!"

And her uncanny smile came back as she thought how a very few days more in the tower room would make Richard's daughter give in to any terms.

Voices came low and muffled from Gilbert's room; but the invalid heard them without curiosity. She did not even wish to be near her "ventilator." Hugo had scoffed at it that very afternoon as a useless toy.

"That's only because I never told you of it," she had retorted. "Toy or no toy, I know through it what went on in the house when you were away amusing yourself!"

"Hugo!" she said quickly. Strangely enough, as her thoughts ran on her "ventilator," it seemed to her that she heard some one open it. "Hugo!" Her voice returned to her from the empty rooms.

A bell-rope lay on the bed, and with a chill of superstitious fear the invalid moved her clawlike hand to press it.

This silence, this loneliness, were somehow terrifying. Matthews must come at once!

As she fumbled for the cord, something made her raise her eyes.

In very terror of death, she dropped the bell-rope that might have saved her; panic-stricken, helpless, she screamed, her voice hoarse and wild, as a woman's in torture.

For the hour of vengeance was on her!

Undreaded, unsuspected, it had come. And Alicia de Burgh must face it alone, with no one to stand beween her and the hand of Heaven.

Was it a ghost or a living man who stood looking at her from the doorway into the sitting-room? Pale, stern, aged by far more than the score of years that had passed since she looked upon his face, Richard de Burgh confronted her! The figure that had been so straight and tall was bowed a little; the eyes—Alicia shuddering, saw the same look of scorn that had been in those eyes the day that she, Alicia Loyd, had fallen at this man's feet and told him she loved him beyond all the world. They had been pitiless then, as he raised her and put her away from him. They were more pitiless now, since she had revenged herself on him by ruining his life.

Was it in vain that she had married his father, ousted Richard, tricked him into a living grave? It must be, since he had escaped from it in spite of her; for this was no ghost, but the man himself.

Cold drops of terror stood on her forehead; her lips tried vainly to form an articulate word. Richard de Burgh dropped the curtain he had been holding aside.

"It is I, Alicia!" The voice she had not heard for years, except in her dreams, was merciless.

With incredible quickness he was beside her and had put the bell-rope far from her enfeebled grasp.

"Hugo!" Her voice broke as she tried to call.

"He has gone out! It is useless to call him." He drew a chair close to her. "Listen!" he said, "I came to this house tonight, partly to see you, partly for another reason! I met no one; I came straight to your sitting-room, but it was empty. As I stood, looking round it, I heard someone coming, and I went into the conservatory quickly—as you did the night my father died."

Fascinated, she lay staring at him, and in dull silence let him go on.

"I watched from the dark conservatory—as you did! I saw Hugo come in and open a door in the wall. It showed nothing but another wall, yet I heard plainly, as if I were in the next room, my own name, in Gilbert's voice—'Richard told me, this afternoon at Glen Farm,' he said."

"You saw Gilbert!" her scorn and hatred of her younger son leaped out even now. "He knew where you were? Oh! the senseless traitor!"

"Stop and hear me out!" sternly. "It is not for you to call any one traitor. What were you, when you fastened your crime on my head; when you killed the old man whose only sin was that his love wearied you?" His voice rose a little, and she shuddered.

Behind the hangings Jocelyn gripped Huntley's arm.

"You hear?" she whispered. He nodded, stupefied. He waited for a denial from Mrs. De Burgh, but she only gasped for breath, her head rolling from side to side on her satin pillow.

"'Richard told me at Glen Farm,'" the man repeated. "That was what Hugo heard as well as I, for he turned away from that shallow recess and hurried out. You must have heard him, for you called his name. He was gone, though; no one heard you but I. And now you may call him as much as you like; but this time he is half way to Glen Farm, looking for me."

"How dare you come here?" she broke out fiercely. "Hugo may be gone, but do you think the servants will not come if I call? What will you do then, a lunatic, a condemned criminal, found threatening a helpless cripple?"

"I have not yet threatened you, Alicia," his hard voice quieted her with a new terror. "But I do not mean to let you call. And do you think I have forgotten your ways? Your maid dare not come till you ring for her—and I don't think you will ring," with a glance at the bell-rope that was out of her reach. "No one else, I think, will disturb you, since Hugo is out."

"He will be back," she retorted, but she stopped with sudden cunning. At any price she must keep Richard till Hugo did come back. He would be ruined then.

"He will be back—but not in time!" He rose, bent over her, and she could not even recoil in the fright that sickened her. Like a helpless log she lay in her gorgeous bed, among the possessions she had sinned that her sons might own. She closed her eyes that she might not see the face she had loved and then hated, till she sold her soul to pay for the scorn she had seen there.

"Are you going to kill me?" she whispered.

"It was not I who murdered an old man," he returned slowly. "Yet tonight I could almost find it in my heart, for I owe you another debt than my own, Alicia. What have you done with my daughter?"

The sudden question relaxed the tension of her fright a little; she opened her eyes and met his with her old arrogance.

"What do I know of your daughter? I did not even know you owned to her!" with the insolent sneer Jocelyn had dreaded; but it died in deadly terror. Then she gave the shriek that Jocelyn heard shrieked, but like lightning an iron hand was over her mouth.

"Be quiet, and answer me!" he ordered. "Scream, and you will answer me still; if I kill you, I will have the truth out of you. My daughter Jocelyn came here by accident to be your companion; she found me out, and I here, before you dreamed of danger. Today Gilbert told me you and Hugo had turned her out, without money, at night. Told me, too, that she had never been seen since. What have you done with her?"

Merciless, even as Alicia had been in her day, he leaned over her.

"How do I know where she went?" Icy cold beads started on her forehead. "She was a spy——"

"What were you for years but a spy on me?" he retorted. "If you lie to me now, you will make me forget you are a woman and a cripple. The girl is in the house, and I will have her."

"Have her, then! Go look for her!" the cripple screamed, knowing well that the key was with Hugo, the doors too heavy to force. "But you had better go to London and look there. The girl is like her mother, she will never starve."

But she had gone too far.

"You told that lie often enough; you shall never tell it again," the veins standing out on his forehead. "When I came here I meant to have mercy on you—now—where is the girl?" His voice rose till it seemed to thunder in her ears. She closed her eyes, not to see his that were filled with somber fire, cold, significant. Was he going to kill her? She felt his hand on her shoulder.

Neither saw the hangings parted, nor saw that of the two figures behind them only one entered. Jocelyn, sick lest he had indeed forgotten that his enemy was helpless, caught Richard de Burgh by the arm.

"Father!" a strange figure in her dusty gown, with her face wan with excitement and weariness, her blood-stained handkerchief still bound round her cut hand, she stood clutching him. "Oh, father, never mind her! She hasn't hurt me. I'm here."

Huntley, standing behind the curtain, turned away. He was looking on what was no business of his. No one had any right to stare at father and daughter now, as they stood clinging to one another, the man's face radiant, unbelieving, as he caught her to him.

"Where have you been? What have they done to you?" De Burgh cried, catching sight of her bandaged hand.

"Nothing! They didn't hurt me. I did that myself." She spoke quietly, but he could feel how wearily she leaned on him. "But you were right. I was here all the time."

"My little girl!" he said very pitifully. "My little girl!"

But she had turned a little away from him; she leaned on him still, but her great eyes were fixed on Alicia, where she watched them waiting her chance to shriek till she made the castle ring.

"You knew!" with her blood-stained hand she pointed straight at the malignant cripple. "You lay here that night and pretended to be frightened; you sent me to follow your son to what might have been my grave."

"I knew nothing about you!" coolly, for the terror of death had gone from her. Richard would not kill her before the girl. She was brave, and she calculated now how long must pass till Hugo could be back. She must keep them talking till he came.

"I know nothing about you. You were dismissed, you chose to disappear at once. Now you come back and say you are the daughter of this man! It is all of a piece—Miss Brown," with stinging afterthought.

"You talk nonsense, Alicia. The girl is my daughter, and you know it," her stepson said sternly.

"As for that, I will prove it to you—with other things—in a minute. Tell me what you mean, Jocelyn, about your following Hugo?"

His face hardened as he heard. Though he said nothing, that sickening terror that was worse than death came back to Alicia's heart.

"Bah!" she thought, struggling against it, "he can't prove his marriage. If there were proofs I should have found them."

"Well," she said aloud raspingly, "your proofs—where are they?"

Richard de Burgh moved quietly to the sitting-room door. As he disappeared a sudden impulse of desperate pity for the woman in the gorgeous bed came over Jocelyn.

"Oh, tell!" she implored, with streaming eyes. "Confess you did it. Clear him, and we will say nothing to the outside world——"

Alicia laughed.

"You little fool!" she said contemptuously, "do you think I fear you and your crazy father?"

Jocelyn covered her face with her hands. Oh! if only she could run from this room where the lights shone on the glitering trinkets, the wizened, dreadful figure in the brocade-hung bed.

In weakness and despair, she stood with covered face, and did not see that her father led in a woman, whose old bonnet and purple shawl were strangely incongruous in the luxurious room.

"My proofs are here!"

Richard de Burgh stepped back, and the newcomer stood looking at Alicia for the first time in nineteen years.

"Martha!" she gasped. "Martha Hewitt!"

Jocelyn's hands dropped from her face; she ran to the old woman and would have kissed her, but Martha, with a strange, rough dignity, put her by.

"Not now, Miss Jocelyn! There's no time for you and me. 'Tis Mrs. De Burgh I've come to speak with."

Alicia's eyes were shut, her fingers clawed the coverlet. If Martha Hewitt dared to come and witness on Richard's side, the noose was round her own neck; the property lost to her sons and her blood forever.

"Eh! but you're changed." At Martha's voice Alicia ground her teeth. Oh! where was Hugo?—even Gilbert? Would neither come to save her? She kept her eyes closed that she might not see the woman whom once she had terrorized.

"Changed! but I'd have known you anywhere, though you're not the fine, upstanding lady you were when you deceived me into letting Mr. Richard be taken. If I'd known that night what I know now, 'tis not he that would have spent these years in prison."

A faint cry of agony came from Alicia's white lips; sickened, Jocelyn turned away. But there was no pity in Martha Hewitt.

"Aye! m'm, you cry out, now that your sin's coming home to you. But what about the black sin of holding my tongue that you put on me for these nineteen years? What about the mother that died in poverty and sorrow? The child you'd have left to starve, that would have starved but for me, a poor servant, and Miss Barry that took us both in for pity of the poor young thing she saw die? 'Twas the shock, the belief that he"—pointing to Richard—"the husband she loved was a cruel murderer that killed her. Her death is on your head, Mrs. De Burgh! Heaven forgive me, on mine! For I had not sense to know the truth, and comfort her. There was small comfort for any of us but you in those days. You lay warm in your bed, while Mr. Richard was condemned by your lies; while his wife, his child, and me came near to starving."

"I never knew he had a wife," the strange, hollow voice was altered indeed from Alicia's.

"You knew well enough," Martha retorted. "The old man told you—told you that night in your sitting-room that Richard had a wife and child, and he would never leave the property away from them. That was what maddened you to—what you did! I heard all he said, in here, filling the hot-water cans. But I thought then he was still talking to Mr. Richard."

"So he was."

"He was talking to you!" Martha's face was full of the dignity of truth. "Mr. Richard had gone. Oh, Mrs. De Burgh, I know it all now! If I'd not been a simple fool of a servant woman, never used to thinking for herself, grown just to a machine for obeying your orders, I'd have known it then."

She came nearer to the bed, wrinkled, earnest, terrible, she towered over the woman whose sins had brought her low.

"I ran in that night, I caught the old man by the wrist," the even, low voice thrilled its hearers with tragedy, the humble, old woman was grand as she spoke out for the righting of the wronged. "I know now who struck me on the wrist till I dropped him; I know how you slipped out through the curtain as Mr. Richard got to my side. And you, standing in the middle of the room, struck the light that showed him to me. And I mean to go and tell it, if need be, before the highest in the land. I'll hold my tongue no more and see the innocent punished for the guilty."

CHAPTER XXVIII.

THE WOLF'S MOUTH.

As Martha's hard voice ceased, the room seemed full of a silence like death. Immovable as a corpse Alicia lay, her black eyes indomitable yet. No one moved, yet no one knew for what they waited.

In the hush of the brilliant room there came the dull echo of a sudden distant commotion. Alicia's dull gaze turned fiery. She was saved; Richard was ruined! Hugo had returned.

With all her strength she lifted the hands that were the only part of her body that obeyed her will; she cried out aloud in triumph.

"You've stayed too long—threatened too much! Hugo is here, and while there is breath in his body I will never give in to a servant and a madman. I pray," with slow, vicious emphasis, "that you may live years, Richard de Burgh, in the asylum—where tomorrow you will go—that you may lie helpless and agonized there, for your child's future, as I have lain here for mine!"

A curious, inexplicable shiver shook Jocelyn from head to foot as she heard; she felt as though death stood beside her in the room.

"Jocelyn!" Huntley's voice rang loud as he called from Gilbert's room.

"Who is that?" her father said, startled.

"Hush, it's all right!" she said quickly. "But there's something the matter. Wait till I find out what it is."

But she knew, as she ran to Huntley, Hugo had come home; her father was lost!

"What shall I do?" she cried, wild with anxiety listening distractedly to heavy footsteps coming up the stair. "It's Hugo back. He will take my father."

"I don't think he will!" very slowly. "You have done with fighting your own battles. I will fight them now!"

Lord Huntley, of Holycross, very white and set about the mouth, opened the door and strode out into the hall.

"Is that you, Hugo?" he said. "Come here, and speak to me."

But there was no answer; only the heavy tread of men coming up the stairs, carrying something—something that was heavy, as the dead are.

As Huntley waited, staring, Gilbert ran up to him by a small staircase.

His face was white and drawn, and he reeled as he ran.

"Don't call—he'll never answer you," he said sharply.

"What?" Huntley caught him as he staggered.

"He's dead!" simply. "I saw it all, but I wasn't near enough; no one was," he broke off with a thick, short sob that was bad to hear. Sick and unstrung, he leaned on Huntley.

"Dead? How?—tell me what you mean!"

Gilbert pointed dumbly. Round the turn of the great staircase came four men, treading carefully carrying a hurdle whereon lay Hugo de Burgh, coming home for the last time to the house of his fathers. His face was covered with a clean white handkerchief, the lower edge of which was scarlet.

Huntley moved to follow the men as they carried their quiet burden to Hugo's own rooms, but Gilbert caught his arm.

"Wait, don't go!" he said thickly. "Help me go and tell my mother."

"Richard is with her."

For the first time Huntley pitied the woman who had defied fate—till tonight!

"I know. Moore told me."

He passed in front of Huntley, by Jocelyn without even seeing her, and straight into his mother's room.

"Hugo!" she cried as he entered. "Where is Hugo? Send him to me." With a shaking finger she pointed at Richard. "Let the servants," she panted, "seize that man!"

Gilbert did not seem to hear her. He went to the bedside and fell on his knees, taking her thin hands in his.

"Mother," he said, with a sob in his throat, "don't call Hugo! He can't come. There is no one to come to you now but me."

"You?" she stared at him. "What's the matter? Why do you hold my hands like this? I want Hugo—not you. Get up, I tell you. That is your stepbrother, the lunatic. He has been threatening me—frightening me; send for the servants and have him locked up."

"There's no need," wearily. "Mother, can't you try to understand? Hugo is—gone!"

Alicia de Burgh's scream rang through the house.

"Dead? My Hugo!" With her final strength she tore her hands from Gilbert's. "And you dare to come and tell me? You live, while he is dead! A miserable coward that could not even save him!"

"I couldn't save him; no one could." His voice was very gentle, his heart sick unto death. "Oh, mother; listen! He heard me say tonight that Richard was at Glen Farm, he went straight there to look for him; I spoke to him at the door as he was going, but he was too angry to answer me. He took two of the men from the stables, and then I saw he would go I followed him. I was afraid—I did not know Richard was here," stammering.

"Go on—tell me quickly!" she cried, not a tear in her miserable eyes.

"I caught up with him at Glen Farm; he was quarreling with Moore, who told him Richard was here. He had sent the two men out of ear-shot, but we were all in the cottage, we three, the men and I, standing outside the kitchen door, Hugo and Moore inside. Hugo knocked Moore down; the next instant Moore's dog sprang on him from behind Moore. Hugo had a revolver, and I heard him fire it—once. But the dog had him by the throat. When we got him off they were both dying. The men and I saw it all, but it was too quick. Moore told Hugo twice that the dog would fly at him if he saw his master struck, and Hugo laughed."

As he knelt on a level with her hands, she struck him in the face.

"How do you dare to come and tell me it was his fault?" she cried. "You, who let a dog kill him, that was so strong and full of life. Oh, my son, my son! And I have no other."

"Mother!" But there was no pity in Alicia's heart for the cry of despair.

"I have a miserable, cringing object that is secretly on the side of my enemies," she went on fiercely, "a man who stood by and let his brother be killed because he had no courage to fight for him. I tell you that it is not you that shall profit by his death, not you! I will have"—she pointed her yellow, clawing forefinger at Richard de Burgh. "I will let that man go free. I will tell all rather than let you be master of Castle De Burgh—who say you are my son, and dare to face me with your cowardly crying."

Gilbert rose, slowly and heavily, like a man grown old.

"There is no need to tell me—I know!" He was almost too sick to speak. "I know more than you do, more than Richard does. You may speak or not, Heaven knows I would gladly have died if I could have saved you this—but knowing what I do, I will never call one stone or stick in Castle De Burgh mine. They are, and always have been, Richard's!"

He held out his hand dumbly to Huntley.

"Give her the letter," he said very low. "But, mother, listen! Even if all this is true, I'll never turn from you. I'll save you to the last drop of my blood. We can go away, you and I. I'll work for you, take care of you—don't, for Heaven's sake, talk of hanging——"

"I want none of your pity, none of your care," she cut him short, with her old, sneering insolence. "All I want of you is to be gone out of my sight. What I did, I did for Hugo and you. Hugo is dead, and a coward is no son of mine. Give me the letter!"

But though her voice was full of its old arrogance, she was blind with sorrow when Huntley gave it to her.

"Read it aloud," she muttered harshly. "But, no! I don't care what is in it. What does it matter? Hugo is dead." She beckoned to Jocelyn. "Come here, girl! You have stuff in you. I like you. I'll tell you all. Neither Gilbert nor Moyra shall profit because Hugo is dead. I hate them—I've always hated them."

She broke off, panting, clutching Jocelyn's unwilling hand.

Moyra! No one had thought of her.

"Go to her," the girl whispered to Gilbert. "Comfort her." He would be better out of the way, and Huntley, who was a magistrate, must stay to take down what Alicia said.

"Don't tell us; we know," the girl said pitifully, for the strange courage of the woman was dreadful to her. "Only say is Martha's story true?"

"True," Alicia said slowly. "Listen, girl! I loved your father; he would have none of me, and I married his father to pay him out, for one thing; to be near Richard, in the house with him, able to see him all day long, for another. But I tell you it was hell on earth to me, hell! He never spoke to me if he could help it; he used to go away for weeks, leaving me here with the old man; dull, miserable, with a hot aching where my heart should have been; despairing, for I saw he cared nothing for what I had done or could do.

"Then my boys were born, and I grew to hate him, for everything would be his—nothing theirs. And yet when he was in the house I loved the very sound of his voice. Oh, you were cold and hard to me, Richard de Burgh," turning her miserable face to him; "you brought your fate on yourself. I used to sit and plan how I could get you disinherited; for years I walked the floor at night when the old fool I had married slept, and could think of no way. I was young, I was pretty; in ten years I grew old and worn with hatred and misery. Was that nothing? Did I not owe you something for those interminable years of pain? Then there were ten years more, when I only hated you, only wished I dared to murder you some night when you slept. At last I found out something—that you had been in love for years with a woman in London whose husband was alive. That maddened me. I don't know why; you never loved me, but the very thought that you were wrapped up in another woman was poison to my soul. But one dark evening I saw my way, suddenly like lightning it was clear to me. I told your father you loved a disreputable woman. He was angry, and sent for you. He thought I went away, but I only went into the conservatory. I heard him rail at you because you did not marry, and you swore you were married, had been married to the woman for two years, and had a child. He stormed at you for not telling him, and you gave no reason—you went out, and I—I came in," her voice rose high with triumph. "But your father said he would forgive you, and I was desperate. Had I sinned for nothing? Had I lived in hell only to see my sons beggars?

"I pushed the old man from the open window. I struck Martha on the wrist till she dropped the slight hold she had on him. I slipped through the curtain as you came in, and lit a match just in time for Martha to find you beside her; you, not me! Oh, I tell you my blood was wild in me! I could have fought a hundred Richard de Burghs. I got Martha to go that night, believing she must hide or witness against you; I talked to Miss Barry till to save you from hanging she swore you were crazy; I got you convicted and shut in the asylum, for I swore that while my son lived yours should never set foot in Castle De Burgh.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26.)

"Nerine's Second Choice"

This thrilling romance, by Adelaide Stirling, will run as a serial in COMFORT, beginning with our January number.

It is a beautiful story quite as strong as "Love and Spite" though with a very different and less tragic plot. It has a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compel the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine.

To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

We are sure this delightful story will please our readers many of whom have asked us to run another serial by the talented author of "Love and Spite."

Don't miss the interesting first part in January COMFORT. Two-year renewal or extension this month for 30 cents.

Make Sure by Renewing Your Subscription Today

A Visit to Three Hundred Homes

in all parts of the United States and an introduction to the families that occupy them. That is what the COMFORT HOME ALBUM gives you in pictures and letters from their owners. Free as a premium for one 25-cent yearly subscription (not your own) on with your own 30-cent two-year renewal and 10 cents extra (40 cents in all for the renewal and the Album).



Stewart Phonograph

A Wonderful Christmas Present

The Stewart Phonograph will bring music, fun and good cheer into tens of thousands of homes this Christmas.

Everybody wants this wonderful instrument. It is the musical marvel of the age—the supreme entertainer. It is the finest, most appropriate present you could buy.

And the cost is only $6.50—easily within reach of everyone.

So moderate a price is astounding. Only our great factory facilities and a production of thousands of Stewart Phonographs a day make it possible.

Here is your opportunity to give a Christmas present that will be welcomed by your whole family. It will delight and entertain them all.

The Stewart Phonograph not only reproduces music, but reproduces it in full, round, natural notes. No popular priced phonograph can even approach it in musical quality and clear, lifelike reproduction. A newly designed tone arm and a big scientifically correct sound chamber give it a quantity and quality of tone that is absolutely unsurpassed.

And the Stewart Phonograph has a universal reproducer which enables it to play records of any type, any make, any size or any price. This gives you choice of an unlimited collection of records.

You can hear the famous $1000-a-night song birds, the greatest instrumentalists, the comic opera stars, the funniest comedians, right in your own living room. They actually become members of your family circle—always ready to thrill, amuse and inspire you. The best bands and orchestras the country can boast will play dances, marches, stirring symphonies or the latest popular airs for you.

Just imagine what such an instrument would mean in your home these long winter evenings.

The Stewart motor is acknowledged to be the best in any popular priced phonograph. Its quietness and smoothness are astonishing. A single winding plays two ten-inch records.

And here's another big exclusive Stewart Phonograph feature. There is a stop which automatically stops the tone arm when the piece is finished. This prevents gouging and destroying the records.

Then there is a time control by means of which you can get any time you want. It is instantaneous—no fussing—no bother.

But the Stewart is not only a marvelous musical instrument—it is a beauty, too. It is finished in that beautiful verde green—the color so often used on high grade clocks, costly vases and other works of art.

Think of such an instrument for only $6.50. It's a remarkably low price to pay for years and years of entertainment.

Don't fail to have a Stewart Phonograph in your home this Christmas. It is just what you want to give your family—just what they've always wanted at home.

Nothing you could buy would be more appreciated. Nothing you could give would do more good and bring greater happiness.

Order your Stewart Phonograph today. Do it now and you'll surely have it in time for Christmas.

Order from any music dealer, department store, drug, hardware, dry goods, novelty, stationery or furniture store. Or, if your dealer has not yet received his supply, use the coupon.

Do not delay. Clip the coupon and mail it to us today.

Coupon for Order

10 Days' Trial

Stewart Phonograph Corporation
2853 N. Lincoln Street,
Chicago, U. S. A.

Gentlemen:—

Enclosed please find $6.50 for which please ship me one Stewart Phonograph.

It is understood that if I am not satisfied with the phonograph at the end of ten days I can return it and get my money back immediately.

(Remit by check, draft or money order)

Name.....

Street Address.....

City..... *State*.....

Stewart Phonograph Corporation, 2853 N. Lincoln Street, Chicago, U. S. A.

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1916, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.—The Dapperlings are kind-hearted, gay little elf-like beings who ride on rabbits and never let themselves be seen by human eyes because of their belief that, if seen, it would bring some terrible calamity upon them. For this reason their queer little houses are always built into the hillside, and are so made, with doors and windows in front and grass growing on the backs, that they can be turned around to face out when the Dapperlings are by themselves; but as soon as anybody comes in sight the houses are whirled around so that only the grass-covered backs are seen and, as these look like the rest of the hill, you would never know the houses were there. They also have an underground assembly hall with an opening in the top covered with moss and concealed in a clump of thistles.

Down by the mill brook in the meadow near the Dapperling village is the favorite playground of five-year-old Simmie-Sammie Smith and his sister Pittysing, nearly two years older, but, of course, they don't know anything about the Dapperlings. Nattie, the Smallest Dapperling of All, has watched these children at play and is not afraid of them. She would play with them if the Dapperling rules permitted, and she does meddle with their playthings slyly and unseen, much to their bewilderment. She takes Pittysing's doll and embroidery scissors, when she isn't looking, and carries them to the assembly hall to show to the other Dapperlings. Lulie Wye Dapperling makes the doll a wonderful new dress. Pittysing grieves for her doll and worries over the loss of her mother's scissors which she had borrowed without permission.

CHAPTER III.

HOW THE DOLL WAS FOUND

AFTER hunting for the doll until she was tired, Pittysing sat down to rest, and wiped her sweaty little face on her short sleeve.

"Simmie-Sammie," she questioned, "IS it, or AIN'T it, any use to keep looking for things in a place, when you KNOW they're not IN that place?"

"It AIN'T," answered Simmie-Sammie promptly. He didn't have to stop to think about it. Anybody would know that.

"Then I'm going to play!" Pittysing declared. "It's no use to look anywhere else, for 'twas here I left 'em! And I'm all done. We'll go down the brook and finish the dam we started this morning to keep the trout from going down stream."

The children sometimes fished in the brook, but they never caught any fish. Perhaps it was because their mother never let them use fish hooks. You see, she was afraid they would stick the fish hooks into their hands—or possibly their eyes. And bent pins don't work very well for hooks, as you know if you have ever tried them.

But the children thought if they could build a little dam strong enough to stand, the fish would not be able to swim over it, and perhaps could be dipped up in a pail.

The little brook always washed away the dams, objecting, perhaps, to having its waters held back. The children never tired of rebuilding them, and had made, or started, as many as twenty, I should say.

"I wish," said Pittysing, "that some beavers would come here! Don't you remember the story papa told about them, how they gnaw down little trees with their long, sharp teeth, and use them for building dams? Oh, say! instead of using just rocks and dirt, we'll take sticks, too, like the beavers, and see if we can't build a dam that will stay!"

"But YOUR teeth wouldn't be long enough or sharp enough to gnaw down twees!" objected Simmie-Sammie disgustedly. "An' you've lost one of the fwont ones, anyhow!"

"Oh, Simmie-Sammie! You're not much more than a baby yet, are you? Did I say I was going to GNAW to get some sticks? Pick 'em up, anywhere you see 'em lying round, and bring 'em to me."

While Simmie-Sammie brought sticks, Pittysing stood on a damp, moss-covered stone in the middle of the brook. Reaching toward the bank to take one from him, her foot slipped and down she sat, splash! in the shallow water. She was not hurt, and sprang out quickly, dripping wet.

"Ugh-h-h!" she shivered. "I've got to run home quick, and get some dry clothes on!"

But when they got to the house, they couldn't find their mother, though they called, and ran from room to room.

"I don't know what clothes she'd want me to put on! Guess I better stay out in the sunshine and get these dry," Pittysing decided. "Let's play scooch-tag. Who'll be IT?"

"You!" answered Simmie-Sammie promptly.

"We'll count for it. Stand in front of me." Then Pittysing chanted slowly, pointing first at Simmie-Sammie, then at herself,

'As—I—went—up—the—apple—tree,
All—the—apples—fell—on—me!
Bake—a—pudding—bake—a—pie,
Did—you—ever—tell—a—lie?
No—I—never—told—a—lie,
But—I—baked—an—apple—pie!'

"You're out, Simmie-Sammie! That makes me IT!"



"I'VE FOUND HER! I'VE FOUND HER!" SHOUTED PITTYSING.

"That's what I told you in the first place," said Simmie-Sammie.

After they had tired of playing scooch-tag, they hunted for four-leaved clovers, which they couldn't find, in the field back of the house, then wandered down to the Mill Brook. Across the brook, grasshoppers were hopping gaily about in the sunshine. The children crossed over, and counted grasshoppers a while, twenty—thirty—forty.

"My stars and body!" exclaimed Pittysing. "Who'd ever believe there'd be so many? We couldn't count 'em all in fifty-nine years! Come on! let's race to the top of the hill! One! put out your left foot. Two! swing your arms. Three! run!"

Simmie-Sammie always thought, before they started, that he could beat Pittysing racing. After they had gone about ten steps, he always knew he couldn't. When Pittysing looked back over her shoulder, expecting he'd begin to cry pretty soon, there was Simmie-Sammie, ever so far back, down on his hands and knees.

"I ain't wacing!" he called, for he didn't want her to think she was beating him that time. "I'm watching this old pillar-catter! If he was long enough, and big enough, he'd make some good furs for your Sawah-Gwace-Josephine!"

Pittysing kept on running till she was almost at the top of the hill. There was a clump of thistles growing just ahead, and she started to run around them, but she stepped on a little round stone that rolled with her, and fell right into those prickly thistles! And she didn't stop there! She went onto a bed of moss, and right through a little trap door, into what seemed like a dark hole.

Oh, yes, of course you've guessed what it was! The Dapperlings' assembly hall, with all the lights out.

For that hill was the Dapperlings' hill, and every single Dapperling house had turned around, quick, as a wink, when the children came in sight.

Simmie-Sammie heard a scream, and looked up just in time to see Pittysing's red hair ribbon go down into the hole.

By the time he got to the top of the hill, Pittysing was scrambling out.

She was covered with dirt, which clung to her damp clothes, and her face and hands were scratched, but she wasn't crying. She was too excited! I guess YOU'D have been excited too! Simmie-Sammie was!

For in one hand she held—what do you think? Yes, that little smiling, blue-eyed, curly-haired doll!

"I've found her! I've found her!" shouted Pittysing. "Look at her dress! Oh, Simmie-Sammie! Simmie-Sammie! WHERE did she get it? Do you s'pose, oh, do you truly spose she's a fairy doll? I'm going straight home to show her to mamma! Come, quick, if you want ME to wait for you!"

"I tell you what it is," said Pittysing, as they hurried along. "If you want to find things, you must just look in the place where they are! If I hadn't done that, would I ever have found my doll?"

Pittysing's cheeks were very red, and she held her head high.

Simmie-Sammie stared at her, wondering how she ever came to be so smart! He was perfectly certain she was the smartest girl in the whole world. But he didn't tell her so! Oh, no! She was feeling big enough without that!

Of course there was trouble to follow, for the embroidery scissors hadn't been found, and when Pittysing's mother (they found her this time when they went to the house) went with her to the top of the hill beyond the brook, everything looked just as it always had, and there was no hole at all that she could have fallen through. And her mother put her to bed for telling wrong stories.

The Dapperlings had been at work, you see, mending their trap door and putting the moss and thistles in order.

Still, even the children's mother couldn't explain where the doll's dress came from.

But she was glad to get her embroidery scissors back next day. Pittysing found them on the barrel-top table. The Smallest Dapperling of All had taken those home with her when she took the doll, they were so bright and shining, and she carried them back. For she hadn't meant to keep them at all.

Chapter IV, in January COMFORT, will tell how our Dapperlings made a long journey to visit their friends at another Dapperling village and of their adventures at the picnic, and how Nattie found a very interesting present to give Pittysing. See that your subscription is renewed at once so not to miss this story and a nice Christmas story, and many other nice things in December COMFORT.

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
Clubby's Regeneration *Joseph F. Novak*	3
A Christmas Party *Nancy Gunter*	3
Saint Jonathan *Violet Knapp*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner	5
Christmas Cakes and Holiday Goodies *Ella Gordon*	5
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	6
Apples, the Best Cooking Fruit	7
Love and Spite (concluded) *Adelaide Stirling*	8
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	10
Crumbs of Comfort	10
The Way of a Woman *Maud Mary Brown*	11
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	12
When Baby Catches Cold *A. M. Hughes, M. D.*	13
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	13
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	14
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	15
Modern Farmer	16
Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	17
In and Around the Home *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	18
The Brand of Shame (concluded) *Maud Mary Brown*	19
Common Sense in Christmas Giving *Mrs. Floy L. C. Smith*	19
Dissolving of Albania *C. L. Chapman*	19
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps	20
Current Events	20
Manners and Looks	23
A Corner for Boys *Uncle John*	24
When the Express Failed to Stop *J. R. Henderson*	25
How and Where to Sell Your Furs	26
Veterinary Information	27
Information Bureau	28
Talks with Girls	29
Home Lawyer	31
Children's Happy Hour	33
Family Doctor	34
Uncle Charlie's Birthday Fund	34
Religion, Rum and so Forth	34
Six Wheel Chairs in November	34
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	35
Comfort's Comicalities	35

January Comfort

will contain the opening chapters of "Nerine's Second Choice." This thrilling romance by Adelaide Stirling, quite as strong as "Love and Spite" though with a very different and less tragic plot, will run in COMFORT, as a serial.

Some Special Features for January

"Marigolds"—by Hapsburg Liebe

This touching story of the troubled course of love between sweethearts who, like Romeo and Juliet, belonged to families between which rages the deadly strife of an eternal feud, is told by one who has lived among these proud mountain folk of Tennessee whose family honor is dearer than life.

"A Calendar Party"

Describes how to give your friends a unique and amusing entertainment appropriate to New Year Eve or any time in January.

"How to Make Good Bread"

The quality of the "staff of life" is an item of no small importance to the family health; but how many can make good bread?

"A New Year Eve Adventure"

This fine story, full of startling situations, is a genuine thriller, telling of a chain of strange adventures and showing how the rich aristocrats are fleeced by the bold adroitness of the gentleman crook who is finally captured by a humble citizen. There is a good moral in it, too.

Special, Low Rate for December Renewals

As an inducement to renew your subscription promptly this month we offer the special, low rate of 30 cents for a 2-year renewal. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album.

If the number over your name on the wrapper in which this paper comes is 339, or any less number, it means that your subscription should be renewed at once. Send in your renewal today, if you don't want to miss January COMFORT. Use coupon on Page 13.

Crumbs of Comfort

Sensitive beings are not sensible beings.

When the Devil can't come himself, he sends a bottle of drink.

The great secret of success is not to get in the way of others.

Not to wish for what you have not is worth more than to have it.

Men can be to other men as the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land.

When your expenses exceed your receipts you are sure to come to want.

Those who are without expectation can not fret if nothing comes to them.

A person may go to church all his life and not go to heaven when he dies.

All the work of the world is merely taking advantage of the energies already there.

If you do not exercise your best qualities they will wither and become useless.

Put the right ingredients into making happiness and it will always come out right.

There is a great deal in the world which is beautiful and delightful, but it will not last.

Everything in this world is arranged upon definite principles and never at random.

Two poor people can live in a house together when two kings can not live in a whole kingdom.

Spend the time you have spent in sighing for fruits, in fulfilling the conditions that produce them.

Theologies are human versions of divine truths, hence the varieties and the inconsistencies of them.

Don't give all the praise to the horse that wins the race, but give some to the man who keeps the stable.

The Creator has done as much for the world as should be expected of Him. It is for man to do the rest.

Think a minute before yielding to your temper how much more you suffer from anger than enjoy from it.

Every individual's life is a sermon. Some are long and some are not good, but they are sermons just the same.

If we try to influence others we shall soon see that success is in proportion to their belief in our belief in them.

It is the beautiful work of Christianity to adjust the burdens of life to those who bear them, and to adjust them to their burdens.

However old a married union is it still garners some sweetness. Winter has some cloudless days and under the snow a few flowers still blossom.

The Way of a Woman

By Maud Mary Brown

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

LESBIA VAUGHAN, in her hyacinth-tinted gown, sitting where a shaft of sun brought into high relief her delicately chiseled face and the vivid lights in her deep-brown eyes, was very lovely.

She set her cup down with a decided click and began with nervous fingers to rearrange the tea service on the table before her.

"For my part, I hope Lydia will never enter Godfrey Towers's handsome carved doors again. But she will. She and the children will stay abroad till the scandal dies down and then she will come back and try to deceive us into thinking that her heart isn't mangled to a pulp. And that is the way of a woman."

Isn't it strange, Lesbia?" Mrs. Thornton asked.

"That that is the idiotic way of a woman? It's more than strange. It is inconceivable."

"I wasn't meaning that, Lesbia. To me, the surprising thing is the willingness with which we abdicate our power over our husbands. We let them slip from indifference to guilt and when the inevitable cataclysm overtakes us, our impulse is to pick up our skirts and scurry out of the reach of unpleasantness."

Lesbia brought her hands, clutching, to the arms of her chair.

"You don't mean that you blame women for the depravity of their husbands? You can't mean that, Edith!"

"In so many, many instances," Mrs. Thornton said quietly.

"But that's brutally unjust! There's sweet, gentle Lydia Towers. Would you blame her for Godfrey's cheap intrigue with one of his own stenographers? *Would* you?"

Mrs. Thornton leaned forward, her deep eyes burning into Lesbia's.

"Do you suppose," she asked, "that if the average man found in marriage all that it promised—sympathy, companionship, passion—the whole diapason of emotion, that wild horses could drag him away from his wife?"

"But," expostulated Lesbia, "we have our disillusionments, too. Marriage is a far cry from the romance we ignorantly anticipate. But we don't slip a moral cog because our cup of happiness isn't always slopping over."

Mrs. Thornton smiled. Her smile was the only thing about her friend that irritated Lesbia. It was one of so much experience and understanding that it made her own impetuosities seem to her childish and inconsequent.

"I didn't promise to serve as a trained nurse to Norman's morals when I married him."

"A man's emotional nature needs a little nursing now and then, and if his wife won't do it, she need not be surprised if he seeks first aid of some other woman. And she probably won't specialize on morals, either."

Lesbia sat, elbow on knee, chin resting in slender hand, looking into the fire that was grateful even with the April sun streaming in at the windows.

Her scorn of the moment before had been swept away. "You make me feel that being a wife is a stupendous undertaking."

"To realize that is the beginning of wisdom."

Mrs. Thornton rose and went over to the fire. She was a woman of fine though generous proportions—a woman molded for motherhood. That she was a widow and childless seemed an anomaly.

"We suffer and bear and rear," Lesbia began.

"*That* carries its own reward," Mrs. Thornton interrupted to say.

"Oh, Edith, why need the whole burden physical and moral, rest on our shoulders?"

It was the cry of a distraught child.

"God knows."

Mrs. Thornton stood with one hand on the mantel looking into the fire.

"If we had ten hands we would still see unaccomplished tasks; the strength of ten would not forestall weariness, nor the wisdom of ten render us infallible. It's hard. But, Lesbia, isn't it splendid to be so useful?"

She turned, her face alight.

Lesbia shuddered. "No. It's only paralyzing. Edith, it's a merciful thing Norman's good. If he should do what Godfrey Towers has done I should take my children and go where we could never see his face again. And that's the way I should meet *my* trouble."

"Why, no you wouldn't," Mrs. Thornton said confidently. "You would do the right thing. If there was a fighting chance to get your happiness back, you would take it. If it meant giving him up to a more understanding woman, you would do that without a cringe. That's the way of a woman like you."

Lesbia shook her head. "You don't know me. I should be flint."

Mrs. Thornton went over and placed her hand on Lesbia's fair head in an unaccustomed caress.

"I must run along. Don't get up."

At the door she turned.

"I sometimes think that we women are like the peasant in the Russian legend.

"The wise men, you remember, passed her cottage and asked her to go with them to seek the Child, but her household duties were pressing and she waited to finish them before going. When she was ready, the heavens were darkened. And she never saw the Christ."

There was a little sob strangled in her throat.

"We are too intent on trivialities. We let the big thing, love, flicker and die out leaving us under darkened skies, alone."

There was in her face the look of one who has paid extortionate tuition in the school of life.

Alone, Lesbia wandered restlessly about, straightening a magazine on the handsome library table, laying wood on the living coals of the fire, rearranging the mass of yellow jonquils in their dull, green bowl.

She roamed into the big drawing-room and touched the keys of the piano with idle fingers, but their silvery tones did not tempt, so she went back to the library and curled herself up on the couch, a little, hyacinth-tinted heap.

"Oh, life, life!" she cried sharply. "You are much too relentless and complex for us!"

Her lovely face from which the rounded contour had scarcely been worn or its freshness dimmed in the six years of her married life, grew suddenly strained.

"What if it had come to me?" she whispered. "What if it *should* come to me!"

She sprang up with an excited little laugh.

"How idiotically morbid! Norman's the soul of honor. It isn't very loyal to think of such things. I'll go up to the nursery and recover my reason."

There, with her four-year-old son and his tiny sister, she found surcease for her quivering nerves.

"There," she said, going to her dressing-room after they were tucked into their diminutive beds, "I've done for one unlaid ghost. Being a mother makes a woman very safe."

She suddenly remembered that Lydia Towers was a mother, too, and of the faithfulest.

The vague distress came back intensified by her brief respite.

She found herself listening for Norman's step while her maid did her hair.

"Why doesn't he come?" her nerves cried out.

A glance at her watch told her that she was dressing unusually early and she relaxed.

At last she heard him on the stair and a minute later in his room, whistling gayly as he moved about.

It was what Lesbia had listened for and heard for six years and its familiarity calmed her.

Of course everything was all right with her and Norman.

"Hello, in there," she called blithely.

"Hello, yourself, Peaches."

His favorite love-name thrilled her with its dear silliness.

"I'm coming in in a minute," he called.

When he stood before her he was overwhelmed afresh at the slim, fragrant loveliness of her in her bewildering array of white and gold.

"Will you look who's here," he said confidentially to the enraptured maid. And to Lesbia, "I approve of *you*, my dear, I do, upon my word. But I suspect all that gorgeousness means a stupid evening out. *Does* it?"

Lesbia touched the golden fillet in her hair with deft fingers.

"It's the Landon's dinner and dance," she reminded him, glowing under his ardent eyes.

"But, cheer up, it's just about the last for the season."

The maid slipped out of the room and Norman, his hand clasping hers boyishly, drew Lesbia to a divan.

"I wanted the evening with you," he scolded good-naturedly. "They've got the roadster overhauled. It's as good as new. I wanted to plan a trip for just us two tonight."

"Norman, you know I'd love to go off with you alone. How we used to plan such trips. But we were as irresponsible as linnets then, weren't we? Now there are the babies. I can't leave them. And the house has to be made ready to close, and the cottage needs a lot of new furnishings before it's opened. I can't seem to leave things to servants as I thought once I could. I'm going to be madly busy."

"Lesbia, tell me, would you really *like* to go off with me alone now?" His eyes were frankly searching.

She colored. "You *foolish!* Perhaps I don't enjoy gypsying as you do. I may be more inured to civilization and modern plumbing. But of course I would enjoy it if I could manage it. Why don't you get Harry Atherton to go?"

"The boy will soon be big enough," Norman said wistfully. "And won't the little beggar like the camping equipment? That's something to look forward to."

Lesbia turned sharply. "Do you suppose I would let Burgess go off with you, drinking out of wells and eating all sorts of unwholesome food? You're crazy!"

Norman stood up. "I hope I take Mrs. Thornton in tonight," he said with gloomy irrelevance.

Lesbia found her eyes roaming to her husband's face with curious constancy that night. Mrs. Thornton was at his left, and it was to her he turned oftenest.

During a lull in the insistence of the chatter, Lesbia heard him describing to her his camping outfit for the roadster. He was obviously enjoying her genuine interest.

Lesbia was proud of Norman—of his marks of race—but infinitely more of the attention given to his opinion when he vouchsafed a grudging word to the general conversation.

"Norman," she said as they drove home, "did you see Godfrey Towers today?"

"He lunched at the club," Norman replied with a man's reluctance to touch a subject that will end in criticism of a friend.

"How can he have the audacity to show his face among people!"

Norman was extenuating. "I say, Lesbia, Towers's actions have been pretty raw, I'll admit, but we can't measure his temptation so let's keep our yardstick off his sins."

"Temptation!" Lesbia blazed like sudden flame. "And with a wife like Lydia."

"Lydia's an all-right girl, no doubt about it. But perhaps she hasn't realized, quite, that even if she is married, she's in competition with every other woman in sight. It's possible that Norman's emotional nature was under-nourished by Lydia."

They were in the hall of their home. Under the glare of the light, Lesbia's face showed white with a resurgance of the afternoon's tumult.

"Men seem to have buried their moral natures to make way for the emotions. It's all wrong, Norman. It's like an insidious poison corroding the very souls of men."

"Better go to bed, dear, and not try to solve the whole social problem at one sitting."

She went, but she was too shocked to evoke forgetfulness.

Was Norman right? Must a wife strive against other women in order to possess her husband's fidelity? It was revolting. It frightened her. But what if it were true!

Followed a busy fortnight during which Lesbia's haunting fears were crowded into the background, for an occupied woman has little time for abstractions. But when her mind and her hands were idle, they marched to the front, captained, full-panoplied and in stately order.

May, her birth-month, came at last in all its fresh, soft glory.

"When is Sylvia going to show up?" Norman asked one morning. He had noticed a letter in her sister's handwriting in Lesbia's hands.

Her eyes were showery as she looked up.

"Norman, it's too bad! That erratic Joan Caruthers has set her wedding for the twenty-sixth and Sylvia's her maid of honor. It will be the first birthday we haven't celebrated together."

Norman gave a commiserating whistle. The twins' birthday had always been a day of jubilee for the Burgess family and Lesbia was making eager plans for this one.

"Can't she possibly get here?" he wanted to know.

Lesbia shook her head. "Joan has decided to be married at her lodge in the Catskills forty miles beyond the end of the earth."

She consulted her letter. "Really, it's ten miles in from Shandaken, and from there, after nine, there's no train to Kingston till after eight in the evening. It's the positive limit!"

"I'm awfully sorry, but I suppose Sylvia can't cut it. Since you can't carry out all your plans, let's take the roadster and go off on a jollification by ourselves."

It was the wrong moment to suggest a substitute pleasure, if, indeed, to go would be a pleasure to Lesbia.

"Dear," she fretted, "I wish you would be reasonable. I can't get up and leave my children like that. The baby carried a temperature yesterday and I'm up to my ears in plans for the summer. Get some man to go with you if you must go."

Norman folded his paper with precision. "It seems," he said, rising, "as though I pay enough for service in this house so you could shake a free foot now and then if you really wanted to."

That day Lesbia's mocking ghosts stayed close by her side.

On the morning of the twenty-fifth, Norman was unusually radiant. To Lesbia, her morrow's disappointment very keen, it was almost an offence.

"I'm off for the road at noon," he said with the abruptness of an exploding bomb.

"You aren't going to be away tomorrow?"

"Rather not! I'll be home for the dinner. Order a corker with all the frills. Today the road calls me and I'm off."

A momentary sense of loneliness enveloped Lesbia and she said impulsively: "I'm almost persuaded to go with you."

Not until hours later did she remember the dismayed confusion with which Norman met her suggestion.

At the time, repenting her words as soon as spoken, she felt only relief that he did not second her impulse.

"But I can't," she added hastily.

Norman kissed her at parting with bewildering cheerfulness.

"I don't know where I shall be tonight," he said. "I'm heading up-river. Don't change any more plans than you must because of Sylvia's absence. That would only emphasize your disappointment. So long, little woman."

Late that afternoon, Lesbia's plans for her big dinner being perfected in every elaborate detail, she telephoned to Mrs. Thornton.

She wanted to see her friend if she were at liberty, to hear her voice in any event.

Healthfulness in Food is More Important than Low Price

The principal ingredient of Royal Baking Powder is Cream of Tartar, which is derived from grapes, a natural, healthful food.

The principal ingredient of many baking powders sold at a lower price is alum or phosphate, both of mineral origin and used instead of Cream of Tartar because they are cheaper.

Housekeepers who are influenced by low price when buying baking powder will find that it pays to consider quality first.

The label on the can will show whether the baking powder you now use, or any brand, new or old, that may be offered contains alum or phosphate instead of cream of tartar.

Mrs. Thornton was out of town, a maid informed Lesbia, nor would she be back until the next day.

Lesbia sent to the garage for the big car, but countermanded the order before it was brought around. Then, deciding upon a walk, she took a few rapid turns in the park before she tried to content herself with an absorbing book. Her restlessness was difficult to exercise.

The anniversary morning awoke beaming and ardent, like a beautiful child after a refreshing sleep.

Stanley Burgess, Lesbia's younger brother, called up from his club to felicitate her in his own unceremonious manner, flowers came, and notes, and altogether her day began with auspicious happiness.

After all, yesterday with its lurking shadows was gone. Today was come. Norman would be home in time for dinner with their closest friends. Sylvia would be there in the late evening, and altogether, the prospect was far from cheerless.

It was approaching the hour of five that afternoon when Stanley put in a call for his sister's house.

The butler, unable to translate into sense the young man's message, switched him on to Lesbia's line.

At his sister's voice his own became strained.

"Why—why, Lesbia, I thought you were off motoring with Norman this afternoon."

"Silly! With a big dinner on my hands?"

"Where's he?"

"Norman? Didn't I tell you? He ran off in the roadster yesterday. He'll be here for dinner, though. Why?"

Followed a foreboding silence that made Lesbia's heart pound.

"Stanley," she called sharply, "What is it?"

"Now hold your horses, Lesbia, it's probably nothing at all, but the papers say he's been in a little smash up this side of Newburgh. He's in a hospital there. It isn't serious, they think."

Lesbia's grasp of the receiver whitened her knuckles.

"Hold the wire but don't talk, please, I want to think." Then, "Stanley!"

She waited for his "yes."

"It isn't far to Newburgh? I've been there dozens of times with Norman but I can't think."

"Short of sixty miles."

Then Lesbia's voice rang steady. She suddenly became clear-headed and practical.

"Listen, Stanley. Are you there? Very well. I'll leave my list with Benton. He'll call off the dinner. In half an hour I'll pick you up at the club and we'll go to Newburgh in the big car. Do you understand?"

"Perfectly. And, Lesbia, don't look at the papers. They're inaccurate. While I'm waiting, I'll telephone up."

She rang off.

Had Stanley Burgess been wise enough to have kept the mention of papers out of the conversation, it is probable that Lesbia would never have given them a thought, but now, while giving the butler detailed instructions, the desire to see them obsessed her. Surely, if Norman were seriously injured, or if he were—she did not finish that thought—she ought to know.

"I will telephone from Newburgh," she was saying to Benton. "And, Benton, please—have the evening papers sent to my room at once."

She dressed rapidly and without her maid. She wanted to be alone. When the papers were brought, she shrank from them, but her will lashed her hands till they obeyed its command.

"Norman Vaughan and wife injured in automobile crash," she read.

What a stupid blunder!

But as her eyes swept down the page the mistake did not clear.

There had been a woman. There was no doubt of that. A car, following, had carried the news back to the hotel from which both had started only a few minutes before. There, on the register, the driver had read, "Norman Vaughan and wife, New York."

At the writing, it was impossible to anticipate results, but neither Mr. nor Mrs. Vaughan was thought to have been fatally injured.

So much Lesbia gathered from her frenzied perusal, and the other papers confirmed the news.

She felt numb and disembodied, as though she had just read her own death-notice.

She was glad that she was alone that her strange face and stony eyes might not be peered at with curiosity.

Promptly at five-thirty she was at the curb in front of the club. Stanley came out, his own face white, the words with which he had cursed Norman Vaughan scarcely cold on his lips.

Dismissing the chauffeur and placing Lesbia in front, he took his place at the wheel.

"I telephoned. It's not serious. Still unconscious."

He knew by Lesbia's face that she had seen the papers and he cursed his mental clumsiness in having mentioned them.

In silence they insinuated their way across to the ferry, and although she was still silent as they bowled through the ugly Jersey towns that skirt the city, Lesbia's thoughts clamored noisily.

She found time to be thankful for many things—that her parents had not lived to witness her confusion—that Sylvia could not see her till the first, crushing violence of the storm had swept on—that her babies were too young to know.

She had given her unspoiled youth to this man—her soul and her body—and this was what he had done with both. She had borne his children and through his own dishonor he had rendered them fatherless. It would almost have been better if he had been——. She stopped there. She was thinking too fast.

She knew now that some prophetic sub-consciouness had tried to warn her of impending danger. Those haunting fears, had she known it, were prescient.

What was she going to do? God knew. But at least she must go away with the children. She already panted like one spent with speed.

Only at odd minutes did she give a thought to the woman who was lying in the hospital as Norman's wife. Who was she?

TO BE CONCLUDED IN JANUARY.

Who the woman is that the heart-broken wife finds to be the companion of her husband, how she treats her and how she greets her husband is a surprising revelation of "the way of a woman", as told in the conclusion of this story to appear in January COMFORT, and points a moral that is well worth pondering. Renew your subscription today so to take no chance of missing it.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

quite a number of years more.

I will take up the subject of dancing. As one who has danced and attended dances, my opinion is that it is a wholesome amusement for young folks. I do not believe in the booklet a theological student once gave me, called "From the Ballroom to Hell." Evil can be made out of any kind of amusement no matter how wholesome it may be in itself. Even a church social may be productive of harm if it is not conducted properly. Isn't dancing better for young people than a party where kissing games are played? I have known a deacon's daughter, who was not permitted to attend dances, go to a public skating rink where she skated with anyone who asked her. Her schoolmates attended invitation dances where every young man who was introduced to a girl had to be vouched for, and no undesirable characters were admitted. Many persons who are opposed to dancing base their objections on the public dance hall in cities. My father, who knew of the evils of these places, was much opposed to us children dancing but when he became aware of the nature of the dancing parties which we attended in our little town, he withdrew his objections as he said he could see no harm in our amusement. Now in my own neighborhood there are some young folks who are opposed to dancing but they go wild over "play parties" where as many as can possibly crowd into a room play kissing games, and they seem to enjoy it, but these are the same "goody-goody" girls and boys who wouldn't be caught near a dance hall, let alone at a dance. Now, dear sisters, which do you think best? The play party or a dance where only a few couples are on the floor at once, so that it is not a bit crowded, and good music to keep step by. What is your opinion?

Best wishes to all. MISS B.

CALIFORNIA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I cannot keep still any longer so would like to ask a question of Mrs. Dilly and all the other "Auti's."

Election day was on Tuesday and before going out to vote, I did all my housework, a large ironing, baked bread and got a good meal at noon. Then I went to the polls and voted the way I thought was right and returned in time to prepare a nourishing supper for my family. I cannot see any harm done to me or any of my family and the question I want to ask is—didn't I have as much right (or more) to vote as my neighbor, an old man of eighty years who can neither read nor write but who goes each election day and votes just as anyone tells him to, carrying a huge sample ballot along from which he copies? I say, yes! Any intelligent woman has a right to vote if she sees fit. I do not vote every election that comes along as some do not interest me and I do not vote on street improvements or bonds as I am not a property owner in this part of California. But I say three cheers for California, as by living here I can cast a vote for my favorite man for governor, senator and president this fall. Besides making homelife and pickles I can help make a President.

To Mrs. A. W. King, congratulations on your "spunk" in baby's welfare. I am with you in that respect. I have two children, the oldest is a girl four years old and I fed her and brought her up in the "good (?) old-fashioned way," and how sorry I am today. She was fussy and whined nearly all the time, so when baby boy was expected, a little over a year ago, I started in to study motherhood. I sent to the Government for a book and devoured its contents.

Every magazine I picked up I turned its pages to see what I could learn about babies. Then when baby arrived I started in to practise what I had been studying. My mother was horrified, my sister-in-law sneered, father laughed and even my husband smiled. Now my boy is one year old, a lovely, big, good-natured kiddo and husband no longer smiles, at least not the same sarcastic smile, mother praises and even sister-in-law looks interested. If I have twenty more they will all be raised as my boy was and I now long for another baby to raise the "better way," whereas, before my boy came I dreaded another if it were so cross and peevish as the oldest was. Baby is fed regularly by the clock and between times I have no difficulty in doing all my work, baking, washing, ironing, and crocheting.

Anyone can get a book on infant care by writing to United States Dept. of Labor, Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C., and asking for "Infant Care," by Mrs. Max West. One can also get a book on "Prenatal Care," at same place which is a fine help before baby comes.

Love to COMFORT sisters, CALIFORNIA VOTER.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Winter Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



ONE of the most artistic and comfortable styles of this season is the coat dress, a style adapted to all figures slim or mature and suitable for serge, gabardine, velvet, satin, or taffeta.

Combinations of material will be as popular as during the spring and summer season, so one may have a bodice of crepe or satin, with a skirt of serge or plaid suiting.

In dresses for girls and children there are many smart models. Some in Empire effect, with quaint pocket trimmings, others with plaits from the shoulders and added jacket effects.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

1859—Hat. 1868—Dress. Girls' Sailor Blouse Dress, with or without yoke facing, and with sleeve in either of two lengths. This design is good for linen, plaid and other novelty suitings, for serge, gabardine, galatea, gingham and percale.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires five yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size. The cap illustrated with this dress is made from pattern 1859. Cut in three sizes; children's (three to eight years), girls' (10 to 14 years) and misses' (16 to 20 years), and requires seven eighths yard of 27-inch material for the girls' size. *Two* separate patterns, 10c *for each* pattern.

1901—A Set of Utility Bags. Shoe bag, laundry bag and traveling case. For these serviceable models one could use cretonne, rubberized or plain sateen, ticking, drill, denim, crash or twill. The bags could be embroidered and finished with scalloped flaps or bound with ribbon tape.

The three bags are furnished in this pattern and are cut in one size only. The shoe bag requires one yard, the laundry bag one and seven eighths yard, the traveling case one and five eighths yard of 22-inch, or wider, material.

1584—A Desirable and Comfortable Garment. This attractive style is nice for eiderdown, flannel, flannelette, silk, satin or blanket cloth. It is ideal for traveling, as a sleeping garment, comfortable and easy to develop. The hood may be omitted.

Cut in five sizes; two, four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires three quarters yard for the hood and three and three eighths yards for the robe of 27-inch material for an eight-year size.

1902—Doll's Set of Baby Clothes. Santa Claus may bring to mother's girl. Just the thing to please little mothers. There are dolls and dolls, but no doll so dear to the heart of a doll's mother, as one dressed in baby clothes. The designs here shown will be found easy to make, as they are cut on simple one-piece lines.

Cut in three sizes; for dolls, 16, 18 and 20 inches in length. It will require two and one eighth yards of 27-inch material for the dress, one and seven eighths yard of 24-inch material for the wrapper and two and one eighth yards of 24-inch material for the coat, for an 18-inch doll.

1665—A Comfortable, practical undergarment. Girls' combination waist and drawers. For this serviceable model one could use cambric, long cloth, nainsook, lawn, crepe flannelette, silk or domet flannel.

Cut in five sizes; two, four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires two and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a six-year size.

1894—A Dainty Set of Aprons. These styles are nice for lawn, batiste, linen or crepe.

Cut in one size only. It will require seven eighths yard of 36-inch material for No. 1 and one and one quarter yard for No. 2.

1854—An Attractive Apron Model. This practical design is cut with a three-piece circular skirt, and a bib gathered to the belt in back and front, and made with shoulder seams and round neck edge.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires four and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1860—Girl's Dress, with yoke and sleeve in either of two lengths. This style is nice for wool, cloth or wash fabrics.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a six-year size.

1855—Girls' Dress, with bloomers. Galatea, gingham, seersucker, repp, linen, corduroy, poplin, gabardine, checked and plaid suiting and serge are nice for this design. The bloomers may be of the same material as the dress, or of flannel, linen, sateen, serge or cambric.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires one and one eighth yard of 36-inch material for the bloomers, and three and one quarter yards for the dress for a four-year size.

1600—Child's Envelope Night Dress in high, round or square neck edge, and with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style will prove a comfort to both mother and child, for with the envelope lap or extension the gown will be kept in place and not "crowd up" as is often the case with the loose models. One could use this design for a "creeping" frock for young children.

Cut in five sizes; six months, one year, two, four and six years. Size two will require two and one half yards of 36-inch material.

1664—Ladies' Empire Night Gown. As here portrayed, batiste, embroidered banding and "Val" lace are combined. The design is also nice for cambric, nainsook, crepe, crepe de chine, lawn and silk.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires five and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1708—A very desirable and popular apron. For percale, gingham, drill, sateen, lawn, or cambric, this model will be found very satisfactory. It is cut with sufficient fullness for comfort and ease in wearing and has deep arm opening.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires four and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1667—Ladies' House Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. Tub silk striped in blue and white with collar and cuffs of crepe embroidered in blue is here portrayed. The waist and skirt portions have slot tucks in front. Gingham, linen, lawn, crepe, drill, seersucker, chambray, percale, poplin, serge and taffeta could also be used for this style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1866—Ladies' Dress, with removable chemisette. This design will be nice for taffeta, serge, poplin, broadcloth, faille and garbardine. The waist is lengthened over the back to join the skirt, with plaited extensions at the seams. A smart yoke belt trims the hips.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1850—Ladies' Yoke Apron. This design is practical and desirable. The yoke is cut with the sleeve in one. Ample pockets trim the apron front.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires five and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1863—An Attractive and Popular One-piece Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Checked plaid, striped and mixed suiting are nice for this style. The fullness is confined by a belt at the waistline. The fronts are cut to form a panel over the center.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1878—A Simple Dress for Mother's Girl, with or without shield. Striped galatea is here shown. Shepherd check, novelty suiting or plaid woolen, serge, gabardine and velour, corduroy and velvet are equally attractive.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for a six-year size.

1861—Dress for Misses and Young Women, with or without shoulder trimming. The dress is finished in one-piece style, and has the fullness held at the waistline, under the belt. The fullness over the shoulders may be shirred, smocked or plaited.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires six yards of 44-inch material for a 16-year size.

1849—Ladies' Waist, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Georgette crepe, batiste, crepe de chine, tub silk, taffeta, madras, linen, gabardine, poplin and repp, all of these are desirable materials for this model. The fronts may be finished with or without the frill.

Cut in six sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. It requires three and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

1872—A Becoming, Youthful Model for misses and small women. This style is especially suitable for soft fabrics such as voile, gabardine, nun's veiling and satin. It is also nice for taffeta, velour, crepe and crepe de chine. The style is simple but attractive.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires six and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 16-year size.

1521—A Trim and Popular Suit for Mother's Boy. This model is good for serge, cheviot, broadcloth, flannel, gingham and linen, corduroy and velvet. The blouse is cut in coat style. The trousers are made with side closing.

Cut in four sizes; three, four, five and six years. It requires to and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

1880—Boy's Suit. Khaki cloth, galatea, serge, cheviot, velvet, mixed suiting and corduroy would be nice for the trousers. For the blouse, linen, madras, percale, soisette and crepe would be very appropriate.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires two and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for the blouse, and one yard of 44-inch material for the trousers for the eight-year size.

1725—A Simple Stylish Skirt. This is a splendid model for serge, gabardine, corduroy, taffeta, jersey cloth or linen. The model is cut on good lines and with graceful, becoming fullness.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three and seven eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

1873—Waist. 1877—Skirt. A Fashionable Gown. Taffeta and pompadour silk are here combined. The waist is made with overblouse portions, which may be omitted.

Waist pattern 1873 cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure.

Skirt pattern 1877 cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It will require eight and one eighth yards of 36-inch material to make this costume for a medium size. *Two* separate patterns, 10c *for each* pattern.

1864—A Simple School or Home Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Serge, gabardine, galatea, gingham, chambrey, linene, linen, lawn, percale, cheviot mixed and plaid suiting are nice for this style.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires three and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

1870—Ladies' Coat. Plush and velvet fabrics, velour, zibeline, corduroy, cheviot, tweed, novelty suitings and broadcloth are all appropriate for this style. The fronts are lapped in double-breasted style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six yards of 54-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1871—Ladies' Skirt, with or without pocket trimming. This attractive design is a two-piece model cut with raised waistline, and having gathered fullness at the back.

Cut in six sizes; 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure. It requires four and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for the 24-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated



USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents each unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash, (or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me

Patterns No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____

Name _____ State _____

Post Office _____ R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

Cornish Pianos, Organs and Phonographs Are Superior

In their remarkable combination of high quality and low price

WHEN you buy a CORNISH you know that you are getting more for your money than can be obtained anywhere else. CORNISH reputation bears out this statement. The CORNISH CO. has been established more than half a century, and its instruments are famous for their fine quality and wonderful durability. You can easily have a CORNISH in your home, on free trial at first, and then on terms to suit—why not do it now.



Try This Piano A Year.

Play it, listen to others play it; enjoy its rich tone qualities; note its perfect action; be proud of its superb workmanship; see how it adds to the attractiveness of the home. Absolutely convince yourself of the superiority of CORNISH instruments. There are many other styles to select from, and all are guaranteed against defect in material or workmanship for 25 years. At any time during the first Trial Year you can, if you wish, return the instrument at our expense and receive back all payments made on it.

The Cornish Phonograph



will play any kind of disc record made. Its marvelously accurate sound-reproducing device, and its noiseless mechanism appeal to you instantly. The illustration herewith shows one of the most popular styles of Cornish Cabinets. All are beautiful in design and handsomely finished. Write today for the CORNISH Phonograph Booklet, pick out the style you like, and we will send it to you ON TRIAL. You assume no risk whatever. If you should not care to keep it, you can return it to us at our expense. We will send with it 12 double disc records, 24 selections. Choose your own terms of payment. Write for this booklet today.

Direct From Factory To You

CORNISH surprisingly low prices are made possible because we sell direct from factory to the home. There are no dealer's profits or storage charges—these items YOU SAVE. Remember, you CAN'T be disappointed in dealing with the CORNISH CO. Entire satisfaction is absolutely guaranteed. Write us.

Beautiful Book Free

Write today for a copy of "The Cornish Book," pronounced by many the handsomest piano and organ catalog ever issued. Gives you our money-saving prices, and contains important information that everyone should have before buying. Write today, get it by return post.



Cornish Co.
Dept. C. X. T.
WASHINGTON
NEW JERSEY



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
A toilet preparation of merit.
Helps to eradicate dandruff.
For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray or Faded Hair.
50c. and $1.00 at Druggists.

SEND FOR BIG CATALOG
SAVE ONE HALF
Guaranteed Watches
AT WHOLESALE PRICES



23 Jewel 10 KARAT GOLD FILLED WATCHES 7.50 Value $15

7 Jewel	15 Jewel	17 Jewel	19 Jewel	21 Jewel
2.98	3.98	4.75	5.85	6.75

Every One Positively Worth Double or Your Money Back.
Actual Rock Bottom Wholesale Prices on American Watches. Send for our mammoth 226-page FREE CATALOG. 75 pages of Diamond Rings, 50 pages of American Watches, 100 pages of Jewelry. It's the greatest money-saving jewelry catalog ever issued. Over 100,000 satisfied customers in all parts of the United States, many of them your neighbors. Buy from the Wholesale Jewelers. Established 29 years.
I. PRESS & SONS
IMPORTERS & CUTTERS OF DIAMONDS
WHOLESALE JEWELERS
795 CHESTNUT ST.
PHILADELPHIA, PA.



for Whooping Cough, Spasmodic Croup, Asthma, Sore Throat, Coughs, Bronchitis, Colds, Catarrh.

Don't fail to use Cresolene for the distressing, and often fatal affections for which it is recommended.
It is a simple, safe, effective and drugless treatment.
Vaporized Cresolene stops the paroxysms of Whooping Cough and relieves Spasmodic Croup at once.
In Asthma it shortens the attack and insures comfortable repose.
The air carrying the antiseptic vapor inspired with every breath, makes breathing easy, soothes the sore throat, and stops the cough, assuring restful nights.
Cresolene relieves the bronchial complications of Scarlet Fever and Measles and is a valuable aid in the treatment of Diphtheria.
Cresolene's best recommendation is its 37 years of successful use. Send us postal for Descriptive Booklet.

For Sale by Druggists

Try Cresolene Antiseptic Throat Tablets for the irritated throat, composed of slippery elm bark, licorice, sugar and Cresolene. They can't harm you. Of your Druggist or from us 10c in stamps.

THE VAPO-CRESOLENE CO. 62 Cortlandt St., New York
or Leeming-Miles Building, Montreal, Canada



The Ideal Xmas Present for Baby

is a "Rock-a-Bye" Baby Swing.

Babies don't cry when in a Rock-a-Bye. Every move of their little bodies sways the swing and keeps them interested. They get exercise. They're kept off the cold floor and out of dirt. They can't get into mischief, pick up things from the floor which might prove dangerous, or fall out and hurt themselves.

The Rock-a-Bye Baby Swing is made of heavy washable duck on strong, steel frames. It has reinforced strap hangers and screw hook. Can be hung in any doorway, from porch ceiling or tree branch.

Get a Rock-a-Bye for your baby this Christmas.

Send $1.00 now and if you don't think it's the greatest baby entertainer ever we will return your money without question or quibble.

Send also for free catalog of other useful articles for women and children.

PERFECTION MFG. CO.
2501 Montgomery St.
St. Louis, Mo.

When Baby Catches Cold

By A. M. Hughes, M. D.

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT is serious enough when a grown-up person "catches cold," more serious than most people know, but when baby catches a cold it is serious indeed. First, because you cannot administer to a tiny baby the remedies that an adult can take; second, the baby has not yet acquired a constitution rugged enough to ward off the evil effects of a cold so but what some lasting effect may result.

And the one great mistake most mothers make is to keep baby indoors too much!

I have in mind a man whose mother kept him swaddled in thick flannel pads over his lungs and between his shoulders, and kept silk handkerchiefs around his neck under his collar from early autumn until late spring. Furthermore, whenever he went out of doors he had to wear an immense woolen muffler or scarf. The result was that he developed such a weak and tender throat that he finally got chronic bronchitis.

He had a son and from the beginning that baby was allowed to sleep out on the porch throughout the day in the carriage, with his face exposed, regardless of the weather and much to grandmother's woe. In fact, grandmother declared over and over that this treatment would kill the child. Later this young man found himself unable to bundle up his throat when out of doors. He would not even turn up the collar of his overcoat in the bitterest weather. And where his father with the wrapped-up throat had from five to fifteen different attacks of sore throat every winter, this boy never had a sore throat at all!

Too much confinement of the baby in a warm room is more responsible for baby's colds than anything else. In fact your baby's health depends quite as much on an abundance of fresh air as upon warm clothing and good food. Of course when there is a nasty wet, cold sleet storm, or a torrent of cold rain, or a thick fog that will cover your garments with dampness, it is not advisable to take baby out. But never mind the cold dry snowstorm, nor the bitter winter winds so long as baby's body is warmly dressed. Keep his little nose out where he can breathe and give him an outing every day. Let him go to sleep in his carriage out on the veranda or by an open window with all room doors closed to prevent a draft. See to it that he gets fresh air and plenty of it, and then when cold germs come flying around, as we now know they do, your baby will be so rugged and healthy that he will withstand them.

It is quite true that a weak baby and a strong baby may be placed in a room side by side where there are cold germs, and the weak baby will contract the cold while the strong youngster will feel no ill effects. And so, first of all, seek a preventive, for nothing was truer than the saying that "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

I have found, and I am sure every other physician will agree with me, that the babies that have colds all winter long are usually those that are kept most closely confined to the house. Nothing is a better protection against colds than plenty of fresh air. The living-rooms should be well aired every morning and then provided with some means of ventilation, so that fresh air is entering every moment.

There is a tendency to omit the bath during the cold weather, but this should not be allowed. Every morning, the baby should have a warm bath. Of course care must be taken that he does not chill at the time. If the baby is poorly nourished, the bath may be followed by an oil rub. Then the baby should be wrapped warmly and a warm drink given. After this he usually will sleep for several hours. When he has awakened he may be fed again and taken out for his daily constitutional. Of course, on a cold day, he should never be taken out of doors for at least an hour after his bath.

Another cause of colds in babies is the clogging of the nasal passages. The mother or nurse should carefully clean the nostrils at least every morning and evening. If there seems to be a tendency to a clogging of the air passages, the nose should be well oiled. The old-fashioned goose grease has as many virtues as any modern oil.

With babies, a frequent cause of illness is constipation. The baby's bowels must be watched carefully to see that they move freely every day. If there is a tendency to constipation, a little olive oil or cream given twice a day will usually overcome this. Occasionally, it will be necessary to use an enema or injection of warm water. It is never wise to get in the habit of giving the baby a laxative every day or even every week. This habit will become so well established that even after the child is grown, pills or other laxatives will be his constant crutch. Castor oil should rarely be given, as the after-effects are to make the child still more constipated. Constipation can almost always be overcome by a regulation of the diet, by giving olive oil or cream to the small baby, and to the older one, prunes and other laxative fruits, also coarse bread, such as graham bread.

Perhaps no two words carry dread to so many mothers as croup and pneumonia. Croup, while usually the less serious of the two, is perhaps the most alarming to the young mother, for it generally makes its unwelcome visit about midnight. When a mother is awakened from a sound sleep to find a child, who has gone to bed apparently in the best of health, struggling for breath, she naturally is alarmed. Yet, if she can keep her presence of mind, the attack usually can be relieved in a short time and the child will drop to sleep to awaken in the morning feeling as well as ever.

However, a child, who has had one attack of croup is liable to have repeated attacks for several successive nights, so it is wise to fortify against them. No matter how frequently one sees cases of croup, it never fails to awaken a feeling of terror. The oppression and distress for a time are very serious, the face is usually congested, sometimes almost cyanotic, the breathing is noisy, hard and labored, while the sound of the hard, metallic cough makes an impression never to be forgotten. The child seems to be making almost superhuman struggle for breath. This struggle is caused by a spasm of the larynx which does not allow enough air to enter the lungs. If a physician is present he usually relaxes the spasm by a few whiffs of chloroform, but the same results may be accomplished almost as readily by a mild emetic. This relaxes the muscles and also empties the overloaded stomach, for it is a fact that an overloaded stomach usually precedes an attack of croup. A child that is subject to croup should eat a very light and easily digested evening meal.

It is spasmodic croup that I have described, and the difference between that and the more dangerous membranous croup will be explained further on. Every home should be provided with emergency remedies, especially for croup if there is a child in the family.

The best emergency remedy for spasmodic croup—the remedy that is safest and most frequently used—is syrup of Ipecac. When the spasms begin, give a teaspoonful every ten minutes until the child vomits. This is the average dose for a child of two years. For a child of one year dilute the teaspoonful slightly with water. For a child of three or four years, give two teaspoonfuls if the first two doses of a spoonful do not result in vomiting. Do not wait too long, but administer this the moment the child shows a tendency of having spasms, that is, finds it difficult to breathe. An ice cold cloth applied for a few moments to the throat, is also a relief in most cases.

You can buy a croup kettle, for administering the fumes or vapor from hot water and turpentine, but an ordinary tea kettle will do, or any bowl or dish in an emergency. However, the kettle will produce the most vapor. Keep a small bottle of turpentine beside the Ipecac only for this purpose, do not have to rush out to shed or barn where the turpentine is kept with the paints. Three or four drops in the kettle of hot water is enough. Hold the back of your hand over the steam to see that it is not hot enough to burn, then make the child inhale these fumes.

Spasmodic croup is a reflex spasm of the larynx, associated with a mild and *not dangerous* inflammation of the throat and responds to the above treatment. A slight fever may accompany this.

Membranous croup is a *serious condition*, the proper name being "laryngeal diphtheria." It is caused by the same germ that causes diphtheria of the tonsils or other parts of the air passages. Treatment: Send at once for nearest physician and while waiting try the remedies used for spasmodic croup, especially the turpentine vapors. In these days physicians should, in serious cases of membranous croup, administer anti-toxin at once.

The difference in symptoms between spasmodic and membranous croup are as follows: If the attack begins in the day, with high fever, unusual shortness of breath, nausea and vomiting, and the cough and hoarseness of croup, it is the membranous variety. If the attack begins at night and still does not clear up at day, and does not respond to the emergency treatment, it is still membranous croup.

Spasmodic croup generally begins at night, and it will respond to the emergency treatment of Ipecac as an emetic, turpentine vapors and an ice cold cloth applied to the throat.

Breathing the hot, dry air from a stove or furnace predisposes to croup. A pan of water should be so placed as to keep the air of the room moist.

No special after-treatment is necessary for ordinary cases of croup. Every effort should be made to prevent the attacks by regulating the food and insisting upon plenty of fresh air at all times.

Pneumonia usually follows exposure of some sort, but lack of fresh air and nourishing food predispose to it, or make the child more liable to contract the disease. A child whose body is in good condition is much better able to resist the exposure than is one who is debilitated from insufficient food or oxygen starvation.

With babies, there is a short, catchy cry that is characteristic of acute pneumonia or bronchitis. Although there are several forms of pneumonia, the form called broncho-pneumonia is most common with babies and small children. The chief symptoms are quick, difficult respirations and a rapid pulse. The child may breathe as often as sixty a minute. The skin feels hot and dry, indicating a feverish condition. The child usually is very restless. Coughing may or may not be present. Sometimes the onset of the disease is marked by vomiting and, rarely, by convulsions. Intestinal complications are common, there often being four or five green stools a day. The urine is usually scant and highly colored.

The disease varies in severity. Some cases would get well with no treatment, while some babies die within twelve hours. As a rule, the baby has a better chance for life if treatment is begun in the early stages. It is here the mother's work is needed. There are many things she can do before the arrival of the doctor. In fact if those who live far from a doctor waited until he arrived before anything was done the baby would have a poor chance for its life. One of the chief requirements is good ventilation. It is better to have the room cold than to have poor air in the room. The baby should be kept warm by clothing and by hot water bottles placed near it. He may have hot drinks to help induce perspiration. His position should be changed frequently. The old-fashioned onion poultice applied to the chest in the early stages doubtless has saved the lives of many babies. Good results may be obtained by rubbing the chest and neck with turpentine and oil. Moist inhalations are as beneficial in pneumonia as they are in croup. The child should inhale the steam for ten to fifteen minutes four or five times a day. The bowels should be kept free. Although the baby will have no appetite and can be coaxed to take only a small amount of nourishment, he will be thirsty and should have as much water as he will drink. If there are signs of collapse, a hot mustard bath may be given. However, the chief aim of the mother should be to keep the baby warm enough to induce perspiration while at the same time he has plenty of fresh air to breathe.



DELICIOUS CHOCOLATE CREAM DROPS

Soak ½ envelope Knox Sparkling Gelatine in 2 tablespoonfuls cold water 5 minutes. Mix 2 cups granulated sugar and ¼ teaspoonful cream of tartar together; add ½ cup cold water and boil until syrup is clear. Stir soaked gelatine through syrup quickly and turn in a pan to cool, but do not scrape pan. When partially cool add 1 teaspoonful peppermint (scant measure) or vanilla, and beat until creamy and stiff enough to form in centres. Place small pieces of confectioners dipping chocolate over hot water until melted. Remove and drop centres one at a time into chocolate and place on paraffine paper.

THIS year make candy for home use or put up gift boxes for your friends. Here are two good candy recipes. There are many more in our book, as well as recipes for Jellies, Desserts, Salads, and a wholesome, easily digested CHRISTMAS PLUM PUDDING, which would be a treat for your Christmas dinner.

KNOX
SPARKLING GELATINE

CHRISTMAS DAINTIES

Soak 2 envelopes Knox Acidulated Gelatine in 1 cup cold water 5 minutes. Add 1½ cups boiling water. When dissolved, add 4 cups granulated sugar and boil slowly for 15 minutes. Divide into 2 equal parts. When somewhat cooled, add to 1 part ½ teaspoonful of the Lemon Flavoring found in separate envelope, dissolved in 1 tablespoonful water, and 1 tablespoonful lemon extract. To the other part add ½ teaspoonful extract of cloves, and color with the pink color. Pour into shallow tins that have been dipped in cold water. Let stand over night; turn out and cut into squares. Roll in fine granulated or powdered sugar and let stand to crystallize. Vary by using different flavors and colors, and adding chopped nuts, dates or figs.

FREE
Our RECIPE BOOK will be sent for your grocer's name.

Knox Gelatine Co., Inc.
425 Knox Ave.
Johnstown, N. Y.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

CHICAGO, 3046 Polk St., ILL.

DEAR SISTERS:

I have been interested in Woman Suffrage for some time and more so since it has been discussed in the Sisters' Corner. So far there have been some great letters—Emma Stockinger's, Mrs. Dilley's and Mrs. McKnight's, for instance. My opinion is that states that have given women the vote are just so much more advanced and enlightened than those that have not. Their men have finally awakened from their antediluvian state (as Mrs. McKnight says) and are beginning to realize that it is not fair for them to have all the say. We are just as human as they and our lives are just as much affected by laws as theirs, more, so, in fact. We have to obey said laws, live under conditions invoked by these laws and raise our children under them. Now why, I should like to know, is it that we should not have something to say when it comes to making these all-important laws? I do not see how anyone can bring such foolish arguments as neglecting home and children. The way some talk, one would think it took days to cast a vote, whereas it is a matter of only a few minutes. I know for I have voted and hope to do so many times more. I will tell the sisters just how I voted so those who think it takes one away from their household duties will see just how much time was consumed. I stopped in the polling place on my way to the grocery to do my marketing, was asked my name, age, address, how long resident of same, and a few more questions then I was given a ballot, went in one of the booths, made my X's before the names of whatever candidates I chose. Of course I knew just the ones I was going to vote for, as I had previously made my choice, and as it required only a minute or so, you see it took only about five minutes for me to vote. I count in time well spent, I admire one of these broad-minded, well-read, modern women more so than these "modest violets" or whatever they are called—"shrinking" I believe. It never does to shrink in this world. One wants to expand and that is what men and women are doing who are in favor of suffrage.

I notice one sister says, "Do suffragists know when they vote the women of the red light district will also vote?" Of course we do, but good women are so much in the majority there is no need to worry about the others. I don't think the poor creatures have enough ambition left to vote. When we have a little more to say about laws there surely will not be so many of these poor, unfortunate women.

About the advantages of city and country life, in my opinion Mrs. Hanna was right when she said a child in the city had more educational advantages for there is hardly anything that is not taught in the schools, free of charge and then there are the night schools. But when it comes to making a living for a large family I say the country every time.

Life insurance has been mentioned by some of the sisters. I also believe in it. It doesn't require such an effort to keep up some insurance, the rates aren't very high and what a help it is for the mother and children when the provider is called away. It is really a very important matter when one stops to think it over.

Another question brought up by one of the sisters is the divorce question. My opinion is in this country they go too far with divorce, the divorce laws being altogether too easy. On the other hand, I do not believe in two people living together when they just cannot get along. What is the use of everlastingly wrangling and disagreeing and making both parties miserable. It is little less than a crime to bring up children in such an atmosphere. I certainly do not believe in one party remarrying while the other is alive. Our vows are made to God, "Until death us do part" and if afterwards we cannot agree we are not justified in breaking our vows. If people used a little more common sense before and opened their eyes to see what they were about to do, there would be fewer unhappier marriages and consequently not so many divorces.

One more subject before I close. This subject of birth control. When we have it we will be a nation to be envied. We will not have so many almshouses, insane asylums, homes for incurables and penetentiaries, etc. How many poor souls are born who would be better off if they never saw this world. This idea of quoting the Lord sent them is all "Bosh." Mrs. K. in the September issue, wrote a good letter on the subject.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and all,
MRS. W. M. REYNOLDS.

BRANDYWINE, W. Va.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I am a new subscriber to COMFORT and my first letter is to the Sisters' Corner, which I enjoy very much. I particularly enjoyed Mrs. C. E. West's letter of Coalinga, Cal., for I have a son there who knows her.

I have been married twenty-four years and am the mother of eight children, four boys and four girls, and I have always lived in West Virginia. I am now living in the little town of Brandywine, which has about two hundred inhabitants, situated on the South Fork river emptying into the Potomac at Moorefield, W. Va.

We have in our little town a Christian church of which I am a member and we also have the largest Sunday School in the county. Do you know what made our church Sunday School the largest? We had a Red and Blue Contest starting in July 1916 and ending in September, which increased the attendance sixty per cent. If any of the COMFORT sisters are interested in Sunday school work, and of course they are, try a Red and Blue Contest.

Wishing the COMFORT sisters and all success and hoping to hear from you by letter or through COMFORT,
With best wishes, I am, MRS. J. L. SIMPSON.

Mrs. Simpson. Congratulations on your Sunday school. I don't want to be a pessimist but I knew of a similar contest that pretty nearly resulted in a church war. Both sides lost sight of the real object they were working for and the spirit of rivalry was so keen that even the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17.)

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

SPANISH CREAM.—One half envelope Granulated Sparkling Gelatine, three cups milk, whites of three eggs, yolks of three eggs, one half cup sugar (scant), one quarter teaspoon salt and one teaspoon vanilla. Soak gelatine in one half cup milk. Scald remaining milk and pour slowly on the yolks of eggs, well beaten. Add sugar and salt and return to double boiler. Cook until mixture thickens somewhat. Remove from stove and add gelatine and whites of eggs beaten until stiff. Flavor, and turn into individual molds, first dipped in cold water, and chill. Serve with whipped cream. More gelatine will be required if large molds are used.

NUT FRAPPE.—One half envelope Granulated Sparkling Gelatine, one quarter cup cold water, one half cup sugar, one cup cooked pineapple and strawberries, one cup cream, three quarters cup of milk, white of one egg and one cup chopped nuts. Soak gelatine in the cold water five minutes and dissolve over hot water. Add dissolved gelatine to cream, milk and sugar and stir in beaten white of egg. When cold add the pineapple and strawberries which have been chopped in small pieces, also the chopped nuts. Serve ice cold in sherbet glasses.

DATE PUDDING.—One cup suet, one cup raisins, one cup molasses, one cup sweet milk, one cup walnuts, one cup dates, two and one half cups flour, one teaspoon soda: steam three hours.

BAKED SPARERIBS.—Put spareribs in cold water and let cook for almost an hour. Into a baking dish put a layer of raw sliced potatoes, then a layer of raw sliced onions. Lay the spareribs on this and finish dish with another layer of onions and the top layer of potatoes. Add enough hot water to half fill dish and bake one hour, covered the first half hour.

HAM CAKES.—Take pieces of boiled ham or smoked shoulder and chop fine. Boil potatoes and mash or use cold potatoes and chop. Take two thirds of potatoes to one third meat. Add one or two eggs (beaten), enough to make it the right consistency to shape into round, flat cakes. If too moist add a little flour. Fry in hot fat after dredging with flour. Should be seasoned to suit taste with salt and pepper. Fish cakes made in the same way are very nice. This is a good way to use up pieces of meat or fish.

PLANKED STEAK.—For the sister who asked for planked steak. This will need a plank adapted to the size of the oven, at least one inch thick. It must be of hard wood, such as oak, hickory or ash. Wipe a porterhouse or cross-cut of the rump, steam, cut one and three quarters inches thick, remove fat and broil seven minutes. Put a border of mashed, seasoned potatoes around the edge, using a pastry tube. Remove the steak to plank and bake in hot oven until steak is done and potatoes brown. Spread steak with butter, salt pepper and fine chopped parsley.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.
I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name* .....
Street
Postoffice ..... *and No.* .....
R. F. D. No. ..... *Box No.* ..... *State* .....
December, 1916.



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

HOP up onto my lap and snuggle down close and I'll give you all a good Christmas hug. I'm going to talk about the war. "Oh, please Uncle Charlie, don't," I hear thousands of you say, "it is such an unpleasant subject, talk of something that has a little more Christmasy flavor, such as you used to do in the good old days before war broke out." Well, dearies, let me tell you something; though this is the third war Christmas we have had, and we may have two or three more before we are through, this world conflict, terrible as it is, has a wonderful side to it, a side so inspiring and sublime that I am simply carried away when I think of the good as well as the bad that has come out of it already and the glorious good that will come out of it in the future.

To me this war is something more than what the socialists think it is, the mere struggle for markets, an attempt of one group of the powers to extend its boundaries at the expense of the other group. I hate to associate the god of Love with anything that is horrible, cruel, bloody and brutal, and yet behind it all I cannot help but think at times that there is a divine influence at work. The majority of you have not sensed this influence and can see in this war nothing but its horrors, and you hate it for various reasons. It has made living more expensive. If it has not killed your relatives it has killed off some of the relatives of your friends. People will discuss it when they ought to be talking about baseball, Charlie Chaplin or the weather. War has poked its ugly nose into the movie pictures: it puts its bloody hand on the screen and you would so much rather see a picture of a white slaver carrying off a pretty country-side victim to the vice dens in the city. Then too you have heard about Zeppelins killing people in their beds, and it has just dawned on those sleepy, sluggish brains of yours that maybe the flames of that terrible conflict may leap across the ocean and you may wake up some fine morning and find a bomb has blown your head off, smashed your home to pieces and left not enough of you or your friends to make an excuse for a decent funeral.

But there is a different side to this war, a side to which few have given a thought. It is the sublime, I may say, the divine side. If you were in Europe now you would see that side. War is teaching the people of Europe the ennobling lesson of devotion, service and self sacrifice, the fundamentals of all worth-while religion. Millions of people who never did an unselfish act in their lives, drunken, sordid, selfish, miserable little human "beans" revolving like the gold fish in an eternal humdrum circle, without an idea, an ideal or a bit of imagination, a fragment of emotion or enthusiasm, have suddenly become heroes and demi-gods. The miserable little costermonger of the streets of London, the white slaver and Apache of the underworld of Paris, the dull-witted, vodka-drinking moujik of Russia, the hot-heated, stiletto-thrusting Sicilian; in fact the whole breed of men, aye and not only the men, but the women of Europe have been dragged from their narrow, selfish little ruts, and have gone forth to work or die for the causes they represent, with the courage of heroes, and the devotion of martyrs, and have laid down their lives as cheerfully as hitherto they laid down the bits of coin that brought them their daily wine or beer. All the old barriers of caste and exclusiveness have broken down in the presence of a common danger and a common ideal.

Those millions of people in Europe hitherto had never found themselves. Now by doing things for one another, working for one another giving up for one another and living lives of real devotion and self sacrifice, they have become giants where they were pigmies, men and women where they were but cash registers, money grubbers and two-legged animals. Their lives now are lives of real devotion. There is a light in their eyes that bespeaks a spirit awakened, a soul new born, and in spite of the gaps in the family circle these people are happier than they have ever been before in their lives, because at last *they are* really and truly *alive*. A new uplifting force has come into their lives and the splendor of it has transfigured them and lifted them to heights which they have never before reached. The soul and the spirit are at work. Sacrifice, devotion, service, these have made them akin to the divine. They have a religion at last that is worth while, the only religion that will save humanity, the only religion that will save you, the only religion acceptable to Christ.

Millions in the old world who had forgotten God and denied His existence are now crowding the churches with the same delight that they once crowded the theaters. Lavedan the great French journalist, one of the bitterest foes of religion, gives his experience as follows: "I once laughed at faith and thought myself wise. But as I saw France bleeding and weeping, my laughter could not give me joy. I stood by the way and saw the soldiers as they went lightheartedly to face death. I asked, what is it that makes you so? I counted the sacrifices of our people and saw how they accepted them with praying hearts. Who can hope when everything is failing save he who hath faith in God. What would become of France if her children did not believe, or her women did not pray? A vast people of the dead cover the field! How hard it is to be an atheist upon this national burying ground. I can't do it. I can't be one! I have deceived myself, and deceived you who have read my books and sung my songs. I was mad! It has all been an awful dream. Oh, France! France! return to your faith and to your best days. To depart from God is to be lost. I know not whether I shall be alive tomorrow but I must tell my friends, Lavedan does not care to die an atheist. It is not hell that makes me afraid, but this one thought grips me: God lives, and thou art so far from Him! Oh, my soul, rejoice that thou art permitted to see the hour in which, kneeling, thou hast learned to say I believe in God, I believe."

It is in times of storm and stress that men and nations feel their helplessness. They are not strong enough to stand alone. They feel the need of that support which can only come from a power that is more than human.

As I told you when this great war started, Christianity has not broken down, for Christianity has never been tried. Had there been any vast bodies of real Christians, instead of machine made, lip Christians, which the churches turn out by the millions as manufacturers turn out buttons, there would have been no war. If the church in Europe had applied the same energies towards promoting social justice as it has to booming heavenly bliss, there would have been no war. Why has the church, which could in the proper hands and inspired by a real Christian spirit, have ushered in peace and made war impossible, fallen down on its job? Listen to this and you will know. The Rev. Loomis O. Black, one of the most popular clergyman of Troy, N. Y., retired from the ministry August first, to devote his time to social work. His congregation offered to double his salary, but the golden bait had no attraction for him. He declares he never again will occupy a pulpit as a pastor. He says:

"I have been brought to take this step by the fact that the church has no definite policy, nor does it desire to have any on any of the problems before the country today. The church has absolutely no desire to wield any influence to help the common people to get fair play. It is not back of any organization of men to get their rights. The moneyed classes control the attitude of the church toward any problem. The church has no desire to have its ministers deal with any subject that is the least questionable. For instance a preacher must not preach about socialism; he must not tackle the liquor question; he must not speak of brothels. He must withdraw himself from active affairs which should claim the attention of a clergyman as well as any other man. Above all if he has ideas on social problems he must not voice them. The church is more interested in righting men's little faults and inconsistencies than in dealing with the great crimes that undermine society. The church will find fault with a vaudeville performance or a baseball game on Sunday, but it will say nothing against conditions, which year after year degrade and starve millions. The church while it is sympathetic in dealing out charity is doing absolutely nothing to remove the causes that produce these unfortunate conditions."

So much for the spiritual aspect of the great war, now for the material side. What you are most interested in is in knowing what effect this great war is going to have on Europe, politically, racially, socially, financially, etc. I will touch upon these points in another issue. Let me say however right now that there will be a new Europe after this war. The people have seen a great light and it will be impossible for the nations or the governments to go back from the state control of the many industries and public utilities, which the emergency of war made imperative. The people of Europe, and especially the people of Britain, have accomplished stupendous wonders, miracles in fact, through state organization. Marvelous efficiency has replaced the old haphazard, happy-go-lucky way of doing things. Individualism in Great Britain, as in America, had run riot, and though the freedom of the individual to do as he pleases is the very essence of liberty and democracy, it falls down and fails utterly in the presence of a great national emergency.

The war is teaching the nations of the world that only as men organize can democracy be maintained. Some day the whole world will be organized with every man upon this revolving sphere doing his part in the world's work. We are striving to reach this ideal and it will be reached in time. When the cancer begins to eat out the vitals of the human body, the surgeon applies the knife. Greed, lust, selfishness, self interest and immorality were eating out the hearts of nations. Great wealth and hideous poverty existed side by side in every land on earth. The world was sick though we did not realize it, and the knife has been applied to the cancer that was devouring it, and the putrid blood of selfishness is fast draining away from the reeking sore in which it festered and a new and healthy growth is now taking its place. The war is full of horror but it is also full of promise. In two years, woman the despised, the chattel, the slave, the breeding machine, has been forced from the seclusion of her home and has taken man's place in the industrial field, lifted his stricken body from the trenches, ministered to his needs and supplied him with the implements of war. Here war has worked a miracle that peace could not have done in a century. Woman today stands shoulder to shoulder with man. He appreciates her now at her true value, and hand in hand they will face together the problems of a new life in a new world, glorified by their mutual sacrifice, service and devotion.

After the war you will see a different world and though it may be a stricken world and drenched with blood, not one drop of that blood will have been spilled in vain. The Russian moujik who has fought on the fields of France and battled shoulder to shoulder with the democratic Briton, will spread abroad in the land of the Czar the lessons he has learned through contact with free peoples. Out of evil cometh good, and though this war has sown seeds of hate that will last for decades it has sown too, other seeds, seeds that will bring forth a harvest of democracy that will sweep thrones and dynasties from the face of the earth, blot out old wounds and animosities and weld warring nations into one brotherly whole. All things work together for righteousness, and though the pathway of progress is a pathway of thorns, at the end of it lies a golden goal which suffering humanity will eventually reach, the goal of peace and brotherhood. Every Christmas brings us nearer that goal, and though the skies are black with the clouds of war, remember it is always darkest before the dawn, and beyond those clouds which soon will clear, angel voices are once more hymning God's inspiring message: "Peace on Earth Good Will to Men."

This is my last message to you for this year. How quickly the time flies. Already nearly a fifth of the twentieth century is gone. What bright hopes we had for this century. How I envied the bright boys who were going to grow up in it, and more than one that I envied is mouldering in the dust on the battlefields of Europe. You see it doesn't pay to envy anyone—don't do it. Once more let me extend my gratitude to all those who have stood back of me in my stand for preparedness. Every vile name that malice, venom and hate could imagine has been hurled at me this year. To my amazement I found that I was a hireling of the munition makers, a traitor to the working class, a liar, scoundrel and heaven knows what else; and all because I wanted my home and the land I live in and those who are near and dear to me (including yourselves), protected from enemies without and enemies within. All I am striving for is to give those who are dreaming great dreams, an environment in which they can realize their dreams to the full, and this cannot be done in a world that is in the grip of anarchy and running red with blood, by idle talk, wild theories and piffling platitudes. We are still in the acorn stage of development, the big oak tree of brotherhood that will spring from that acron, has hardly begun to sprout. Force still dominates. Might is still right. It is because I love you and love this great country that I want you protected, so that you can live up to your ideals and realize your dreams. To those who have assailed me let me say: "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

Send me all the loving thoughts you can on Christmas Day. Write me Christmas letters if you have the time and the inclination, for I feel closer to you at that time than any other day in the year. I cannot feast with you in person, but I can in spirit, and as in years past I will drink the health of everyone of you at one o'clock on Dec. 25th in a glass of boiled milk, and I will pray God to give you happiness for that day at least, and I trust this weary old body of mine may be spared to function for a few more years, so that I may help to guide you through those critical years of world reconstruction that lie ahead of us. God love you and bless you all.

A new correspondence list has recently been printed. League members only can secure it by sending a stamped addressed envelope.

The Christmas season will soon be here and if you haven't a set of Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books your home is not complete and you are not equipped for the full enjoyment of life. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best Christmas gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

BURNSVILLE, MISS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

For fourteen years I have been an interested reader of the best paper ever published, COMFORT. I was six years old when COMFORT first came to our home. I am now twenty-four and have been married six years to one of the best "Johns" on earth. We have two jewels of children," a girl aged five, and a boy sixteen months old.

Uncle Charlie, I read every word you write with the greatest of interest and your understanding cannot be equaled. I do wish all the people on earth could see conditions as you do and have your views about war, the ballot and everything else for the betterment of mankind. I think like you about Lincoln, he was the greatest and best man except Jesus, ever on earth. And now Uncle Charlie, I as well as millions of others think you are our "second Lincoln" and may our Father in Heaven give you many more years of life here on earth to continue your good work. Uncle, what are the black and white plagues? I know I am ignorant and ignorance is the worst thing on earth, but I do not know and wish to know.

Uncle, my John and I think you are a hero, a good sport and a gentleman. How I do wish you were our President! What a good one you would make.

Uncle, the twenty-eighth of Feb. about ten o'clock, it was snowing, sleeting, raining, thundering, lightning and the wind blowing at the same time. Did you ever hear of the like? Some of the people around here said it was a sign that the end of time was not far off. But my I do not believe in signs. I don't think it had anything to do with the end of time, do you? Lots of the old people said they never heard of such weather before in their lives.

Do you believe the good Lord sends these awful cyclones to destroy certain people and things or is it just the works of nature? Just happens to strike certain places I suppose. My husband believes God sends such calamities to make the people quit so much wickedness. Uncle, please tell me how you understand it.

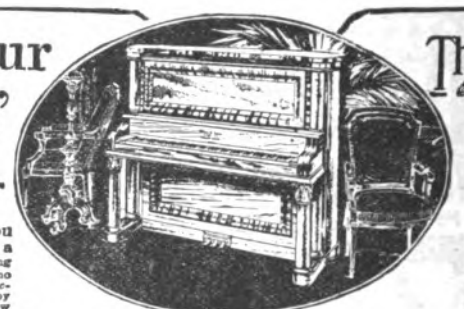
With love and best wishes to you and your "goats" an every COMFORT reader, I am your friend,

ANNIE N. SKELTON.

The black plague is caused by sexual immorality, and its effect on both the guilty and the innocent, the rich and the poor throughout society is simply murderous; for its evil effects are carried from one generation to another, leaving behind a trail of ruined lives and broken hearts in its deadly pathway. One out of every seven cases of insanity in this state is caused by syphilis, otherwise known as black plague. In the state of New York, paresis due to the black plague slays as many people as typhoid fever, and more than scarlet fever. One man in every nine between the ages of forty and sixty years of age dies of paresis, commonly referred to as softening of the brain. The black plague is responsible for one fourth of the feeble-minded children in institutions. Because immorality cannot be stopped is no reason why we should permit this hideous disease to continue its horrible ravages and bring misery and death to tens of thousands of humans, many of them innocent victims of the vileness of others. In New Zealand, the most progressive country in the world, they are taking drastic measures to stamp out the black plague. They are going to do it, no matter who is hurt or who suffers. Science by testing the blood, which the black plague poisons, can quickly detect the presence of this disease in the human system. The agitation in so many states for a clean bill of health from a competent physician to all those contemplating matrimony, is a measure largely directed at the black plague. If the blood of the nation can be kept pure and wholesome and especially free from venereal or black plague infection, half the diseases from which humanity now suffers, will vanish, and we shall all be well on the way to that goal desired by all, when we shall have healthy bodies and healthy minds. The ravages of the black plague in England have been so great that a royal commission was recently appointed to thoroughly investigate the subject. The report which is an appalling document has just been handed in, and when the great war is out of the way, Great Britain will take steps, just as we shall do in a few years from now, to wrestle with this monstrous evil. As long as society adheres to its present wicked, double standard of morals, ostracizing the female sinner and lionizing the male debaucher, the black plague will continue to flourish. The conscience of the nation thank heaven, is being slowly aroused. Disease and ignorance are twin brothers, and women are refusing longer to remain ignorant of matters that vitally concern their health and their happiness. The ballot will give women a voice in public affairs, will give them power to protect their own vital interests. Once we have a thinking nation and universal suffrage will stimulate the brain cells and start women thinking, we shall be well on the road to getting a moral nation, and a moral nation will mean a healthy nation, and when we get a healthy, moral nation, there will be a single standard of morals instead of a double one and the black plague will be largely a thing of the past. If the governments of the earth were as careful about protecting health as they are property and trade, the world would soon be a paradise. The man who commits murder as a rule slays but one, the man who transmits disease, slays scores, and projects endless suffering into the future. Disease breeds ignorance and ignorance breeds disease. Let us get rid of both. The white plague is consumption, called tuberculosis by the doctors. Everybody knows what that is, as it is so common. It was formerly considered incurable, but is curable if given the right treatment in time as mentioned in COMFORT'S November editorial. No dear friend, I don't believe that God sends cyclones to destroy anybody for if God did that He would not be God but a wholesale murderer. Nature has its periods of calm and storm, and in this respect is like ourselves, very human. Man eventually will control the tempest just as he now controls the automobile that he guides through the city streets. Nature is a stern old mother. If she coddles you one minute she is liable to spank you the next, but no matter how hard she hits, man's indomitable spirit is only strengthened by the chastening and rises superior to every calamity. That shows the God in him. If we had everything our own way and had things too easy, with our present mental and spiritual development, which is not

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

On Four Weeks' Trial—



The Wing Piano

Yes, we will ship you on 4 weeks' free trial a genuine highest grade Wing Piano or Player Piano DIRECT from our own factory, all freight prepaid by us. Your choice of 38 new art styles in any shade of mahogany, walnut or oak on four full weeks' Free Trial in your own home. At the end of four weeks, if you wish, you may return it at our expense.

No Money Down—Freight Prepaid

No money down—no deposit—no freight to pay. You'll be amazed at our direct-from-the-factory price on the famous Wing, guaranteed for 40 years. Easy monthly payments or cash if you prefer. But first, four weeks' absolute free trial in your own home.

is renowned everywhere for its exquisite purity of tone and superior construction. Since 1868—for 48 years—we have been building Wing Pianos. More than 45,000 are now in use.

Valuable Book Free "Book of Complete Information About Pianos." Tells all about the secrets of piano making and selling. Its 136 pages show how to judge piano quality and prices. Sent free and prepaid. Also our catalog of newest art styles in Wing Pianos and our free shipment offer.

Wing & Son (Est. 1868)
Wing Bldg., 9th Ave. & 13th St., Dept. 3049 New York



Mr. Edison's Wonderful New Phonograph

Only $1.00 and after free trial!

Yes, we will send you the New Edison—Thomas A. Edison's great phonograph with the diamond stylus—and your choice of records without a penny down for free trial. If you decide to keep it, send us only $1. Pay the balance at the rate of only a few cents a day. Try the New Edison in your own home before you decide to buy. Entertain your friends with your favorite records. See how life-like is its music.

FREE Catalog—Write

Send your name and address today for our new catalog and pictures of the New Edison phonographs. Also full details of our rock-bottom offer. No obligations.

F. K. BABSON, *Edison Phonograph Distributors*
904 9 Edison Block Chicago, Illinois

Every Home Can Save Money by Using Gearhart's Family Knitter



Knits a pair of ribbed-top hosiery, with reinforced heel and toe, in 30 minutes. Equals old-fashioned, hand-knit hosiery that stores don't have. Over 100,000 in use. A big money-making proposition. Yarns furnished at cost. Catalog and samples of work FREE. Big money for agents.

GEARHART KNITTING MACHINE COMPANY
Box 402, Clearfield, Pa.



ACORN UNI-LITE FREE

Turns night into day. 300 candle power. Carry as a lantern; use anywhere as a lamp. Weather proof. For house, barn, garage, camp and around the farm. Write for *big, free offer. Special opportunity to farmers, stockmen and motorists. Agents make big money.* Write tonight for new 1916-1917 offer.

ACORN BRASS MFG. CO., 811 Uni-Lite Bldg., Chicago



NEW SANITARY $7.30 FEATHER BEDS NOW ONLY

FULL WEIGHT 40 POUNDS; 1 pair 6lb. Pillows to match $1.15. Selected, New, Live, Clean, Sanitary Feathers. Best Featherproof Ticking. Sold on money back guarantee. DO NOT BUY from anyone at any price, until you get the BOOK OF TRUTH, our big new catalog mailed FREE. Write a postal card TODAY. Agents wanted.

American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk 208 Nashville, Tenn

Learn Music At Home!

SPECIAL OFFER—EASY LESSONS FREE—Piano, Organ, Violin, Banjo, Mandolin, Guitar, Cornet, Harp, 'Cello, Clarinet, Piccolo, Trombone, Flute or to sing. You pay only for music and postage—which is small. No extras. Beginners or advanced pupils. Plain, simple, systematic. 16 years' success. Start at once. Send your name and get free booklet by return mail. Address U. S. School of Music, Box 12, 225 5th Ave., N. Y City.



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Money in Early Broilers

A DISTINCT branch of the poultry business, and one that is extremely profitable for those who can run it successfully, is raising young chicks in the winter for early broilers. To commence on a large scale requires a large capital, but there are hundreds of men and women who have accommodations on their premises that would enable them to start in a small way, and by investing the profits from the first year they could obtain a really good equipment for the business.

The up-to-date broiler plant consists of an incubator cellar, a nursery, or brooder house, as it is usually called, and a broiler house. Both the latter are divided into small pens, about two feet wide and five feet long. In the nursery house the top ends of the pens are enclosed like boxes to the depth of about a foot and a half, and have hot water pipes running through them to furnish heat for the chicks to brood under. The brooder house is divided in the same way, but the hot water pipes only run around the walls of the house, as the birds don't need the immediate heat to brood under, after they leave the nursery, when they are five or six weeks old.

But, until you can afford the proper equipment, one or two incubators can be run in the cellar of the house or an unused room where there is no other heat. Individual brooders can be used instead of the nursery and brooder house if you have any light outbuilding to stand them in. In fact, I like the individual brooders better for the nursery period than the pipe-house system, because it is only necessary to heat as many as are needed, and with the pipe system the entire house has to be heated, even if you are only going to use one system.

Most of the different makes of brooders on the market are made with two compartments: A chamber with a round hover, which is heated with a lamp, and an outer compartmen for exercise and feeding. The average price is nine dollars, and the machines are supposed to hold one hundred chickens, but seventy-five are quite enough, and even that number should be decreased to fifty the second week and twenty-five the fourth week—that is, if the chicks are to be confined entirely to the brooder. But if it stands in a warm room, where a small outer enclosure can be made on the floor of the house for a playroom, fifty chicks can be carried through to the squab broiler age in one brooder.

Wyandotte chickens when hatched will weigh two ounces. If all goes well, they should gain two ounces during the first ten days; four ounces for the third week; another two ounces in the fourth week, and at the end of the eighth week they should weigh two pounds.

The entire life of a chicken intended for a broiler is so artificial that few if any of the rules for raising ordinary chicks can be applied to them. The great aim is to develop them as quickly as possible, for to get the best price, a broiler must grow quickly and be plump.

Like all newly hatched birds, they must have nothing to eat for the first thirty-six hours. After that, commercial chick feed (which is a mixture of all sorts of small seeds and cracked grains) should be their sole diet for ten days.

When there are small quantities of chicks to feed, and cash is of more value than time, it will be cheaper to mix the feed at home. Take one quart each of finely cracked corn, bran and hulled oats; mix with the same quantity of golden millet, Kafir corn and very sharp, fine gravel, crushed charcoal and finely chopped clover hay. Mix thoroughly, then pass through a fine sieve, to insure there being no large pieces of corn or oats for the babies to choke themselves with. For the three days they are confined to the hover department, put a small pan filled with the mixture in each corner, and, instead of water, fill a small drinking fountain with milk which has been scalded and allowed to cool. Leave it with them for ten or fifteen minutes, at morning, noon, and again at about 3 p. m. It must not be allowed to remain all the time, because the heat from the hover will turn it sour.

After they are allowed access to the outer compartment, mixed grain can be scattered on the cut hay (or whatever is used to cover the floor) so that the chicks will have to scratch, which compels them to take enough exercise for healthy growth. The plan is to feed little and often. The milk can be allowed to stand in the outer compartment, but the fountain must be thoroughly cleansed and scalded every day.

After the tenth day, the door of the outer compartment can be opened and the chicks given further liberty, if there is a stove in the building to warm the atmosphere; but if there is not, don't let them out of the brooder until they are four weeks old. In either case their diet must be slightly changed after the tenth day. Steam some of the chopped clover hay—about a quart—and add one pint of coarse corn-meal, one pint of ground oats and half a small cupful of chopped liver which has been boiled for five minutes (raw liver is too strong for young birds, and it should not be boiled for more than five minutes). Feed once a day at noon. Put the mash into two or three dishes, so they can all get a chance to eat at once. Remove any that is left at the end of ten minutes. If it is not possible to get fresh liver, use one teaspoonful of beef meal or any of the commercial meat preparations which are ground fine. Continue to scatter the dry grains three times a day.

When they are four weeks old, give mash twice a day about 9 a. m. and 2 p. m., increasing the allowance of meat slightly; and if you have plenty of skim-milk, make cottage cheese and give it to them as an extra once or twice a week. From the fourth week keep a pan containing grit and charcoal always before them. After they are six weeks old increase the quantity of corn-meal in the mash, and correspondingly decrease the ground oats until all corn-meal and no oats are being used. Also, stop steaming the clover and mix it dry with the other ingredients; then moisten mash in scalded milk in which suet has been boiled (one pound of chopped suet to four quarts of milk.) Boil for fifteen minutes. Feed it three times a day—9 a. m., 12 m. and 3 p. m. The last two weeks before killing omit all dry grain; feed nothing but mash, made as before, only as soft as possible without being sloppy. Feed four times a day all they will eat in ten minutes, but on no account leave food before them longer than that, or they will become satiated. Birds pushed along should be in fine condition for market when from ten to twelve weeks old.

Our broilers are never given water to drink, but always scalded milk. Scalded milk invariably checks any tendency toward bowel trouble, and is also a strong factor in making the flesh tender and juicy.

Correspondence

J. A. W.—As you found the broken egg in the bird, and the hen's breast was bruised, it is safe to conclude that the hen's death was caused through injury. It is just possible that a coon or fox may take the hens when on wide range. Sometimes a young dog is answerable for such injuries, and frequently a new horse or cow may kick hens that may run around their feet. Try and discover how the birds got hurt, and take means to save others from suffering in a like way. Such cases can be cured if treated at once. A bird with any obstruction or inflammation of the egg passage usually has a drooping appearance. Wings and tail sag slightly, and if you pick up a suspicious looking bird and examine the vent, it will be found hot and in constant motion. Young pullets and overfed hens are apt to get in this condition when they first commence to lay, and of course any kick or injury that breaks the unshelled egg in the intestines is sure to cause inflammation of the egg duct. The best treatment is to insert a small syringe or a stiff feather saturated with olive oil into the vent. If a feather is used, turn gently before removing. Keep the bird in a small coop, and watch the results, repeating the treatment every hour. If it is a case of being egg bound, it will help the egg to pass down and out; and if it is a ruptured egg, there will be some trace of the egg to be seen somewhere around the vent within a short time after using the oil. A broken egg creates acute inflammation, and if it is not removed, acts as a poison to the whole system. After four or five hours' treatment with the plain oil in cases of a broken egg, a small syringe must be filled with a weak solution of carbolic acid (or some other good disinfectant) and warm oil. Insert it into the vent, which must be thoroughly sprayed. Give two 20-grain doses of sulphate of magnesia to cleanse the intestines. Every care should be taken to remove every trace of the broken egg, and to thoroughly cleanse the passage; but if it is neglected, vent-gleet is very likely to develop and spread through the entire flock.

W. H.—Follow the instructions for winter feeding which have appeared in recent numbers of COMFORT.

F. K.—No; I don't think condensed milk would be a satisfactory food for young turkeys. If on free range, they will pick up enough insects and weeds for the first two or three weeks. If confined to yards, feed sour milk and curd cheese or custard, and very little grain until five weeks old.

F. E. D.—I have not experienced such trouble as you describe with capons. Air puff (or to give it its correct name, *emphysema*), is caused by some injury to the lungs or lung tissues. Perhaps you bound the birds too tightly while you were operating on them. If not too severely hurt, time will effect a cure. After caponizing, birds should be kept quiet in small quarters and fed lightly on stale bread which has been soaked in milk and squeezed dry, or very small quantities of finely ground oats and corn made into a mash.

F. R. W.—If the turkeys are to run at large, ten hens to one gobbler. If, however, you keep a gobbler confined to a good-sized yard, and turn in one hen a day you can keep from fifteen to twenty hen turkeys.

S. W. W.—Unless a brick henhouse was very well constructed and ventilated, there is danger of its being damp, and of imperceptible drafts developing in a short time. Personally, I consider lumber, covered with good roofing paper, the most satisfactory henhouse one can have.

J. E. W.—Pullets that are about to lay, and old hens that are just through moulting, frequently go on to the nest and come off without laying, for a few days before settling down to produce eggs.

R. M. G.—If you observe strict cleanliness in the house you can keep twenty-five hens successfully through the winter on a floor space of ten by sixteen feet. The American Standard of Perfection gives full descriptions of every breed and variety of fowl.

M. C. B.—The coloring of Partridge Wyandottes is as follows: Male bird; head and back, dark red; neck and saddle, red with distinct black stripes down each feather, tapering to a point near the end of the feather. Breast, greenish black; body and fluff, black or slightly tinged with red. Tail, glossy, greenish black. Beak, dark horn, shading to yellow at tip. Shanks and feet, yellow. Face, wattles, earlobes and comb, all bright red. Weight, eight and one half pounds. Hen, five and one half pounds; cockerels, seven and one half pounds; pullets, five and one half pounds. The plumage of the Barred Plymouth Rocks is bluish gray, with narrow parallel lines of bluish black. Face, comb, wattles, earlobes, all bright red, and weigh one pound more than Wyandottes. There are also buff and white varieties of Plymouth Rocks. I cannot recommend breeders or give prices of stock and eggs in this column.

R. L. H.—From the fact that you say there is a very disagreeable odor on the bird's breath, it is safe to say that they are suffering from very malignant roup. Roup is a contagious disease, so the whole place must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Better kill and burn the carcases of every bird that is badly affected. Wash feed pans and water dishes in strong soda and boiling water. If the house has an earthern floor, scrub off about an inch of the surface, burn, and fill in with fresh material. Give the whole house—walls, ceiling, perches and nest boxes—a thorough sluicing with whitewash which has been mixed with scalded milk, and two ounces of carbolic acid and half a cup of salt added to each pailful. Use raw mixture quite hot, and don't spare it. Swish lots of it into all corners, cracks and crevices, and if it is possible, keep the birds out of the house for twenty-four hours, and scatter quicklime over the floor; of course being careful to cover it all up before the birds are let into the house again. Put a teaspoonful of kerosene oil into every quart of drinking water for the general flock as a preventive. Don't slight the work, for now is the most important time of the year. If your stock gets sick and out of condition, the results will show when it comes to the hatching season. Look over the poultry-house and see if there is not some knothole or crack in the neighborhood of the perches which needs covering up. It is usually some such unsuspected draft which causes common cold that is apt to develop into roup and become epidemic. Birds that show signs of cold, running eyes, cough or sneezing, should be at once confined to a quarantine coop. Place in a warm sheltered outhouse far from the usual poultry quarters, and treat as follows: Fill a syringe with a solution of permanganate of potassium, or any good disinfectant, and thoroughly spray the bird's throat, mouth, nostrils and eyes. If you have no syringe, bathe with the mixture, then use the tip of a stiff wing feather in the throat and nostrils.

B. F. C.—The first hen had what is known as keratitis, which usually develops from a catarrhal inflammation of the mucus membrane about the eyes. The first symptoms are the eyelids growing together, and bubbles of pus, visible when the eye is open. Later, a small white ulcer may be seen on the pupil. As soon as any of these symptoms are noticed, put ten drops of tincture of pulsatila in each pint of drinking water. Bathe the eyes with a weak solution of peroxide, and then anoint the lids with an ointment made of ten grains of finely powdered iodoform in one ounce of vaseline. Cleanse the nostrils and roof of mouth with warm water, then mix equal parts of pulverized camphor, boric acid, and subnitrate of bismuth, and blow a little of the mixture through a straw into the nostrils and the cleft in the roof of the mouth. Keep the sufferers in a small coop while treating, and feed lightly on strengthening food. Poorly ventilated houses or exposure to storms are usually the cause of eye troubles, but frequently they develop in conjunction with an attack of roup.

A. F.—Unless the weather was very wet or very hot when the second lot of chickens were hatched, it seems as if the fault must rest with the parent stock, as you say they received the same feed and general care as the first hatch did. Chickens hatched from eggs laid by hens that were out of condition, or running with too few male birds, are apt to be wanting in constitutional strength, and gradually weaken when it comes to the strain of growing and feathering. There is really nothing to be done in such cases, and it is a blessing when they die, for if they do survive, they are never profitable, and if used as brooders, their progeny will have still less vitality and strength.

E. J. T.—Tools for caponizing can be bought at most poultry supply houses or stores that carry agricultural implements.

B. S.—Unless the sleeping quarters are kept very dry, and the ducks are given plenty of clean, dry litter to sleep on, they are very likely to develop rheumatism. Another cause of leg weakness and rheumatism with ducks confined to small quarters, is the want of green vegetable food, which should form at least two thirds of their rations. Rub the shanks and feet with a mixture of sweet oil and turpentine.

O. B. W.—Partridge Wyandottes are good general purpose fowls, for, like all other varieties of Wyandottes, they are good winter layers, and dress well for the table either as chickens or mature birds. Rhode Island Reds are also what are known as general purpose birds and weigh about the same as Wyandottes.

B. E.—The crest and wattles are a little larger on the male Guinea fowl. He also carries his body more upright than the hen, and the cry is different. The females seem to repeat "buckwheat," or "come back," in a monotonous tone. The male makes a sort of chuddering noise, ending with a high note.

G. A. D.—It would not be detrimental to future stock to mate one of the cockerels with the pullets, but as they are not very strong in characteristic points of the other variety, I advise you to sell some of the cockerels you have raised, and get a single comb rooster to mate with the pullets, for by that means you will be more likely to get a high percentage of single comb chicks. Yes; Buff Orpingtons can be bred to lay as many eggs as Rhode Island Reds. Remember always that feed and general care have as much to do with the bird's productive powers as their breed or variety.

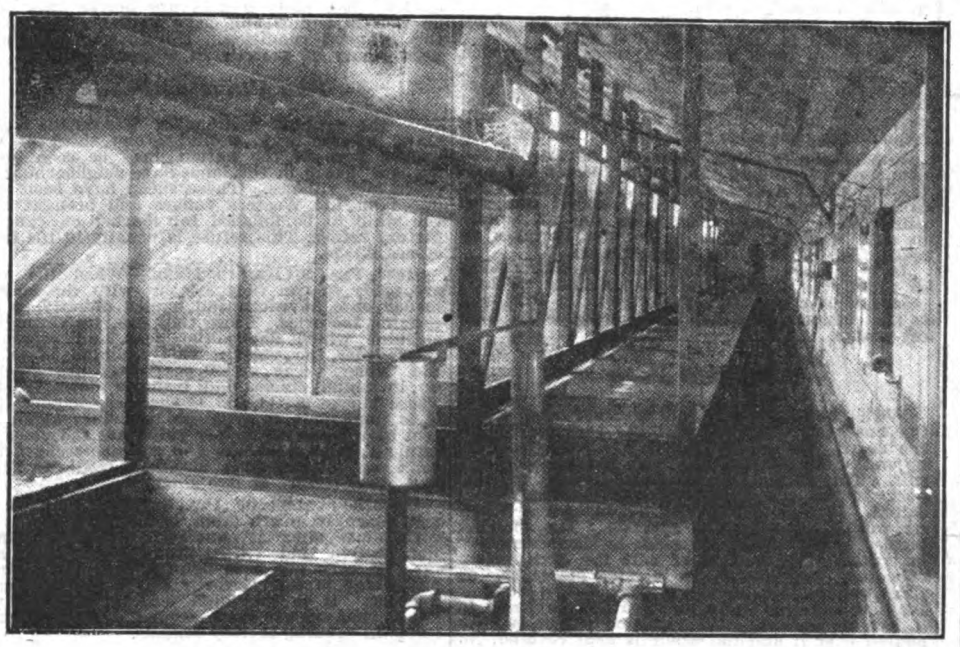
F. M. F.—The birds must have chicken pox. Rub the sores with carbolic vaseline. Feed a mash composed of two thirds chopped clover which has been steamed for several hours. Read answer to B. F. C., in this issue, and if the eyes are affected, use the same treatment as recommended in that case.

F. D.—The American Standard of Perfection, which is an authority accepted and used by all judges at poultry shows, says the Barred Plymouth Rocks (males) should have yellow beaks; females, yellow, or yellow with slightly dark stripings, so there is no occasion to object to your birds or doubt their being thoroughbreds. (2) It is against the rules to answer such questions through the mail.

W. M. B.—If you will write again, telling me what birds you are interested in, I will try and help you.

C. B.—You will find directions and advice for feeding hens in the winter, little chicks and growing stock, in this department as the different seasons come round. Look through the last few issues of COMFORT about feeding for winter eggs. It is much better not to give medicine unless birds develop some special disease. Keep them free from lice; provide a dry, draft proof house for them to sleep in, and keep it clean, and the floor deeply covered with litter for them to scratch in on stormy days when they can't get out, and they are not likely to want much doctoring. Leghorns are supposed to produce the most eggs, and Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds are good winter layers, and more profitable than Leghorns as table birds.

F. E.—Worms don't particularly injure fowls unless they are very numerous, but of course it is better to get rid of them before they multiply, and you can be pretty sure that the whole flock needs attention after what you have found in those you killed. By means of a medicine dropper, give each bird from twenty to thirty drops of turpentine and olive oil mixed in equal parts. The dose should be administered in the morning whilst the birds are fasting. Two hours later give them a mash of ground oats and corn, moistened with Castor oil; spread mash out on long boards, so that each bird is likely to get an equal share. Keep the birds confined to the house for half an hour, then let them out, sweep out all the droppings and burn. Repeat the treatment after a week has elapsed, and you can feel pretty sure that the birds are free from the unwelcome intruders. Worms don't really affect the flesh of the bird, but of course the idea of eating them is repulsive, and if they should become very numerous, they will deplete the bird's strength and health to such an extent that they will not be fit for food.



INTERIOR OF BROODING HOUSE, LUCAS POULTRY PLANT, ILLINOIS.



SQUAB BOOK FREE
Make money breeding PR squabs. 1917 prices highest on record. Squab book free, telling money-making experiences. How to sell by parcel post. $6 to $8 doz. Write at once. PLYMOUTH ROCK SQUAB CO., 206 HOWARD ST., MELROSE HIGHLANDS, MASSACHUSETTS.

150 EGG Incubator and 150 Chick Brooder Both for $11
Made of California Redwood, covered with asbestos and galvanized iron, copper tanks, double walls, self-regulating, complete, ready for use. 30 days trial. Money back if not O.K. Order direct. Catalog free. Ironclad Incubator Co., Box 21 Racine, Wis.



POULTRY and SQUABS for PROFIT
Write for Foy's Big Book FREE—an encyclopedia of poultry information—written by a man who knows. Leading varieties of poultry and pigeons in natural colors. Low prices on fowls and eggs. FRANK FOY, Box 5, Clinton, Iowa.

A High School Course In Two Years
Learn in your own home. Here is a thorough, complete, and simplified high school course that you can finish in two years. *Meets all college entrance requirements.* Prepared by leading members of the faculties of universities and academies.
Write for booklet. Send your name and address for our booklet and full particulars. No obligations. Write today—now.
American School of Correspondence, Dept. P3049 Chicago, U.S.A.



Cause and Effect

"Now you see how nice I look; but you don't know how nice I feel. I'm what Mamma calls 'the Effect.'

"What do you think is the 'Cause'?

"Mamma says it's Fels-Naptha soap, the wonder-worker that keeps me and all the rest of the house, inside and out, in apple-pie trim, WITHOUT ANY FUSS ABOUT IT!"

Fels-Naptha does work wonders all by itself, if set properly to its duties according to the directions on the wrapper.

The daintiest wear of the daintiest little maiden, and also the rougher operations of house-cleaning, it's all the same.

Fels-Naptha is an all-'round household cleanser, yet strangely enough some people think it useful for one thing only—the one they happened first to have used it for!

Wherever soap is used—use Fels-Naptha and get the benefit of its great value for yourself. Use it the better, easier, quicker, cheaper way. Use it the Fels-Naptha way.

Fels-Naptha, 10 bars in carton, or by single bar.

FELS & CO., PHILADELPHIA



YOU CAN HAVE 5 YEARS TO PAY

30 Days Free Trial

OUR DIRECT FACTORY TO HOME
plan saves *you* money.
WE PAY THE FREIGHT
and ship to you any piano or player piano you select from our catalog.
25 YEARS GUARANTEE
on all our pianos and player pianos.
FREE MUSIC LESSONS
to all who accept our offer. Write for handsomely illustrated piano catalog and full details of our selling plan.

SCHMOLLER & MUELLER PIANO CO.
Established 1859. Capital and Surplus, $1,000,000
Dept. COM-126 Omaha, Nebraska

Send This Coupon Today

SCHMOLLER & MUELLER PIANO CO.
Dept. COM-126 Omaha, Nebraska.
Send me your Piano Offer and Free Catalog.
Name.....
Address



Indoor Closet

More Comfortable, Healthful, Convenient

Eliminates the out-door privy, open vault and cesspool, which are breeding places for germs. Have a warm, sanitary, odorless toilet right in your house. No going out in cold weather. A boon to invalids. Endorsed by State Boards of Health.

ABSOLUTELY ODORLESS
Put It Anywhere In The House

The germs are killed by a chemical process in water in the container, which you empty once a month. Absolutely no odor. No more trouble to empty than ashes. Closet absolutely guaranteed. Write for full description and price.

ROWE SANITARY MFG CO. 1228A ROWE BLDG., DETROIT, MICH.
Ask about the Ro-San Washstand—Hot and Cold Running Water Without Plumbing

Save Half Your Shoe Money



Sizes 1 to 13 Heights 6 to 17 in.

Wear Overland Aluminum Shoes
They last twice as long as all-leather, rubber or wood-soled boots and shoes.

Water-Proof, Rust-Proof, Rot-Proof
Best leather uppers. Thick felt insoles. No metal touches you. Warm, comfortable, easy to walk in. Keep feet in good condition and prevent sickness. Best by test for all work in any weather.

MONEY BACK if shoes do not meet with your approval. Write for FREE catalog which shows styles, gives prices and tells how to order. A postal brings it.
OVERLAND SHOE CO., Dept. 8A, Racine, Wis.

EASIER MONEY
MORE OF IT—



MADE in a business all your own. Sell Lange's extracts, spices, toilet articles, teas, coffees, family and veterinary remedies direct from automobile or wagon to home. Wagon supplied on easy terms or auto outfit sold cheap for cash. Long established, well-known, big line, large profits, steady income. Previous experience unnecessary - we give thorough salesmanship training. Our contract beats all others. Exclusive territory near your home. Big money chance. Write quick.

The Lange Co., Dept. W, De Pere, Wis.

FREE 1917 GARDEN GUIDE



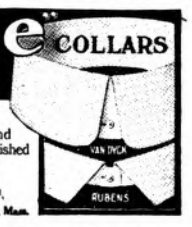
Have a prize garden in 1917! Plan it now. First get this free 96 page Pure Seed Book and Planting guide; describes all new varieties vegetables and flowers; handsomely illustrated. beautiful home grounds, flower and vegetable gardens, landscaping, shrubbery, orchards, farms. A dictionary on gardening! Flower lover's delight! A berry-grower's book! An orchardist's manual! A most wonderful gardening guide catalog! Better than our famous 1916 book. Don't miss it. Ask today. A postal gets it.
GALLOWAY BROS. & CO., Dept. 2441 Waterloo, Iowa

SAW YOUR WOOD



With a FOLDING SAWING MACHINE, 2 CORDS by ONE MAN in 10 hours. Send for Free catalog No. E 8 showing low price and latest improvements. First order secures agency.
Folding Sawing Mach. Co., 161 W. Harrison St., Chicago, Ill.

REVERSIBLE "Linene" COLLARS
TRADE MARK



Send 2 Cents
in U. S. Stamps to pay postage and we will send you FREE a starch-finished
SAMPLE COLLAR
State size and which style wanted.
REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. E Boston, Mass.



Ballard's Bran
IDEAL DRUGLESS LAXATIVE

At your Grocer's. If he does not have it, send us his name and address with 35c (West of Denver 40c) in stamps for trial package.
BALLARD & BALLARD CO.
Station C Louisville, Ky.

ELECTRIC HOME, FARM, THEATRE, HOTEL, SCHOOL & STORE LIGHT PLANTS. Economical. Safe. Clean. Power Motors. Auto Storage Batteries. Dynamos. Engines. Belts. Railways. Motion Picture Machines. Xmas Lights. Catalog. 3 cts. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, Ohio.

The MODERN FARMER

This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Finishing Pigs for Market

IT is well to remember that the youngest pork is the cheapest pork and that the fattest hogs are the most expensive. This is only another way of stating two facts that should be constantly kept in mind by the feeder of hogs, viz.:

1. The older the hog the more feed it takes to make a pound of gain.

2. The longer the feeding period the more feed it takes to make a pound of gain.

The above facts have been repeatedly proven by experiment stations and by expert feeders; hence the farmer should depend on young hogs for his market pork. These should be finished as rapidly as possible and as soon as they will command a good price rushed to the market.

PORK MADE IN COLD WEATHER COSTLY.—It seldom pays to prolong the feeding period far into the winter. Pork made at this time is costly for three reasons,—the two stated above, and the third one that hogs cannot lay on fat rapidly in cold weather. This is because it takes so much feed to keep the animals warm.

It is usually the wisest plan to fatten hogs as rapidly as possible and then dispose of them before winter sets in. Pork made in this way is the cheapest pork and hence returns the largest profits.

Pickled Pork

With the coming of cold weather also comes the butchering of pigs and the preservation of the meat. The usual way is to stack the sides up on a shelf, salting each piece heavily with dry salt. This is the poorest possible way to keep pork for the reason that it cannot be uniformly salted. It taints, rusts and molds. A much better way is to pack it in a pickle. The simplest pickle for this purpose is made by dissolving salt in water,—two pounds of salt for each gallon of water. The meat is cut in small pieces, two or three pounds in a piece, and packed in a crock or jar that has been thoroughly scalded, as firmly as it can be packed. The brine or pickle is then poured over it and the whole is kept covered. No meat must show above the brine. If during the winter the meat should show the least traces of being "off flavor" the brine should be removed, the meat washed in clean, cold water and a new brine prepared and poured over as before.

SWEET PICKLE FOR PORK.—If it is desired to smoke the bacon or hams, a good sweet pickle for this purpose is made as follows:

Two pounds of brown sugar, eight pounds of salt, two ounces of saltpeter for each 100 pounds of meat.

Dissolve the sugar, salt and saltpeter in two or three gallons of boiling water and cool to room temperature. Pack the meat in a scalded jar as before and when the "pickle" is thoroughly cool pour over the meat exactly as in the use of brine. Add enough boiled and cooled water to cover. Never put pickle on hot.

SUGAR CURED HAMS AND BACON.—After five or six weeks hams and shoulders will be sufficiently cured to smoke. Bacon will cure in three or four weeks. Remove from pickle, drain and smoke with cobs or hickory wood. If it is desired to keep this meat for several months, smoke for four or five days or even longer. If at any time before meat is ready to smoke there are any indications of spoiling, drain off pickle and boil it over again, skimming off any scum that may come to the surface. Meantime rinse meat with cold water, scald jar thoroughly and replace. After pickle is thoroughly cooled pour over meat as before.

SWEET CORNED BEEF.—The same pickle can be used for beef, only the amount of salt should be reduced to six or seven pounds instead of eight. The beef, from which most of the bone should be removed, should be packed in scalded jars just the same as the pork, and the prepared and cooled pickle poured over it. If the pickle is removed and boiled over occasionally, the meat rinsed and the jar scalded and cooled before repacking, and the cooled pickle poured over it as at first, beef can be kept sweet and wholesome all winter in this pickle.

DRIED BEEF.—After beef has been in the above pickle three or four weeks it will make the finest kind of dried beef. Simply remove from pickle, hang up and drain, smoke for two days over cobs or hickory wood and hang up near the stove to dry. When so cured beef will keep indefinitely.

Exercise in Snow Time

When passing through Canada one is surprised to see no animals in the yards or paddocks. In that country it does not seem to be the general practise to make every animal take outdoor exercise every day in winter and with us many stockmen do not like to turn their animals out when the snow is deep. It has been found that every time dairy cows are turned outdoors for exercise in cold weather that there is a shrink in milk which in some instances amounts to several pounds. That is the reason the cows are not turned out and it is not uncommon, in some districts, for dairy cows to be kept indoors the year round. That practise, in our opinion, is absolutely wrong. It is true that a small shrink in milk takes place when cows leave a hot stable and stay out in the yard for half an hour or so, and especially so if they are allowed to drink ice water from a tank; but there is little if any shrink in the long run if cow stables are kept down in temperature to not over 50 degrees and if the cows are out every day the year round. If the record of the two herds is kept the none exercised ones may make the most milk and butterfat in the year, but the gain will be far less than some people expect and it may be altogether offset by detriment to the health. Out-door exercise is absolutely necessary to good health and for the sake of the unborn calf. Gradually but surely the health of a herd will be undermined by in-door life and lack of exercise. In such a herd tuberculosis will be liable to run riot if it finds entrance and that is true of other contagious diseases. Such diseases are very largely the penalty of pampering and the man who nurtures and maintains strong constitution and resistant powers in his cows will be the most successful dairyman and have comparatively little trouble from disease.

By all means see that every animal has some outdoor exercise every day in snowtime and plenty of fresh air in the stable. Slight shrink in milk will be more than made up for by good health and, in the long run, cow compared with cow, the exercised ones will prove most profitable. Sheep should be out every day in winter and have a shed or well ventilated stable to run to when the weather is inclement. They should be kept dry and if then well exercised and so fed that their bowels are active they will do well in winter and come to the lambing season in good condition. Horses and hogs also need plenty of exercise in winter time.

Pea Vines as Feed

the canning sections of Wisconsin, which state, by the way, produces one third of the canned peas of the nation, may be seen great flocks of sheep in the immediate neighborhood of cities and villages. These sheep have been produced on the Western ranges and brought into the state to be finished for market on canning factory refuse. This refuse is usually in the form of pea silage.

HOW PEA SILAGE IS MADE.—When the peas are ready to can they are cut with the mower, loaded onto hayracks and hauled directly to the canning factories. There they are run through a machine which shells the peas and separates them from the vines. This machine is called the "viner." The green pea vines are stacked up in round stacks and tramped down solidly. These stacks settle and become so compact that it is impossible to separate the vines again except by the use of the hay knife, but the vines retain all their greenness and succulent character. This pea silage makes excellent feed for sheep and other classes of live stock.

FEEDING VALUE OF PEA SILAGE.—One ton of pea silage is worth from two to three tons of corn silage since it contains about three times the protein and twice the carbohydrates and fat. If corn silage is figured at $4.00 per ton, pea silage is easily worth $10.00 for the same purpose. It is this high feeding value of pea silage that makes sheep feeding especially profitable in canning factory regions.

County Fair Exhibits

The "Fair" season is over and the exhibits that we have seen are still fresh in our minds. The student of better agriculture is impressed with the unused opportunity to teach better farming at these fairs. A few instances will serve to illustrate this point.

Quality—Not Size—Important

The average exhibitor, and many of the judges too, for that matter, pay too much attention to size—too little to quality. The biggest melons, the longest ears of corn, the largest apples, the heaviest hogs, too often carry off the blue ribbons. This sets up wrong standards and *hurts* rather than *helps* agriculture.

The big melon may be coarse and unpalatable or a poor shipper. Even though it is of good quality it is ordinarily a poor seller because of its size. The average customer does not care to pay the price. The largest potatoes are seldom in demand on the market and usually very low in quality. Besides they are often hollow. The longest ears of corn seldom have a high proportion of shelled corn to cob; hence are unprofitable for the farmer to raise. The biggest apples, like the largest potatoes, do not sell well and in most cases are of poor quality. The heaviest hogs are usually coarse, poor breeders, do not bring the best prices and in the end cost more per hundred weight to produce. For these reasons less importance should be attached to *size* and more attention should be paid to *quality*.

Uniformity Desirable

In a well-selected sample all the units are of the same size. Every housewife knows that big and little potatoes do not bake evenly in the oven or boil at the same rate in the pot. This is true with every kind of fruit or vegetable which is cooked for the table; hence uniformity of size stands next to quality. This is likewise true of all exhibits composed of several individuals. We like to see a uniform litter of pigs, or a bunch of lambs all of the same size. Both experience and scientific investigation have proven these to be the most profitable.

There are ordinarily too many premiums offered on the county fair lists,—that is, premiums are given on too many varieties. Many of these varieties cannot be profitably grown in the county where the fair is located and for this reason they should not be encouraged. County fair officers should pay more attention to the make-up of the premium lists. They should learn if possible the most profitable breeds and varieties produced in their counties and pay the highest premiums on these.

New and untried varieties should be recognized but those that have proven themselves unprofitable should be dropped off the premium lists.

These simple rules may help to improve the usefulness of county fair exhibits:

1. Select the best in quality, not the largest in size.

2. In collective exhibits aim to get all units of the same size and shape. The medium size is usually preferred.

3. Exhibit only those breeds and varieties that may be grown with profit.

Keeping Milk and Cream for Home Use

Many people who buy small quantities of milk from the milkman complain when it does not keep and put the blame on the farmer who produced it. This is entirely unfair until the purchaser himself is sure that it is not his own fault.

There are three chief reasons for the souring of milk, viz: Careless handling, the use of unsterile milk vessels and high temperatures. Any one of these may cause milk to spoil after it leaves the hands of the milkman.

WHAT THE PATRON SHOULD DO.—When the milk is delivered the patron should see that it is placed in a thoroughly scalded vessel. It will not do to use a simple clean vessel washed in the ordinary way. It must be scalded with boiling hot water, then allowed to cool before the milk is placed in it.

After this the milk must be kept *cool*. No one should expect to keep milk sweet longer than twelve hours without an ice box, except in the winter time when it may be kept in a window box. Even then it may develop a bitter instead of a sour taste. To keep milk sweet it should be handled with great care. It must always be *poured* from the scalded vessel into which it was placed on receipt from the milkman. It *may not* be *dipped* with a cup or a spoon except these have been scalded with the same care as was used for the original vessel.

HOW TO SWEETEN SOUR MILK.—Milk that is just turning sour, that is, that has just begun to smell or taste sour, may be sweetened by using a pinch of baking soda or saleratus, as it is often called. A very small pinch should be placed on the tip of a spoon and stirred into the milk. More soda should be added in this same way, a pinch at a time, until the milk loses its sour taste. If used immediately this will answer every purpose of perfectly sweet milk.

HOW TO KEEP MILK A LONG TIME.—Milk may be kept for several days by pasteurization. This simply means heating the milk to one hundred and fifty degrees F., holding it there for ten minutes and then cooling it as quickly as possible. The easy way to do this is to place the milk in a small vessel and set this into another vessel containing water. Place this over a fire and bring the water in the outer vessel to near boiling, stirring the milk in the inner vessel occasionally. When a scum begins to form over the milk or steam begins to rise from it, remove both from the fire, leave the milk in the hot water for five minutes longer, remove and cool quickly by placing in a vessel of cold water. Either milk or cream may be so treated and will keep for several days after such treatment, with ordinary care.

Milk or cream that has begun to turn sour may be sweetened by the use of soda and then pasteurized as described above. After being sweetened and pasteurized it may also be kept for several days and will answer every purpose for which sweet milk or cream is used.

CONDENSED MILK.—Condensed milk is nothing more nor less than evaporated milk. It has been heated and a portion of the water it contains driven off. It is then placed in cans and sealed up, in which form it will keep for an indefinite period. When opened for use water should be added to restore that driven off by evaporation. Conensed milk will answer every purpose for which whole milk is used and is finding widespread popularity.



Don't Forget the Farm Machinery

Winter is at hand. Where is the faithful old binder, or the corn plow? Out in the field! Well, it shouldn't be there, it can't stand the cold, the winds, the rain, the snow and the frost and do a good job next year. It is a well-worn saying among machinery dealers that "More farm machinery rusts out than wears out." Winter weather is hardest of all on farm machinery. No farmer can any more afford to let his machinery stand out unhoused than he can his stock.

Before storing, all machinery should be cleaned and all metal parts oiled to prevent rust and insure good running next year.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

LIMING ALFALFA LAND.—I notice that you advise using lime on land devoted to Alfalfa; but I did not know about this when I seeded a small field to Alfalfa in August. Would it be all right to put the lime on now? Also would it be well to manure the land this winter?
B. N. H., Ohio.

A.—It is best to put the ground limestone rock on the new plowed land and then work it thoroughly into the surface soil, just before seeding. Two tons to the acre may be used, if the soil is acid, as shown by testing with litmus paper and one ton of lime, to the acre may be used on general principles, if it can be had cheap enough to warrant the outlay. Even a thousand pounds of ground limestone will do some good, and if the land has long been used for corn or other grain production a ton of ground phosphate rock would help mightily. As you have not used these fertilizers it would be all right to top dress the field with well-rotted mixed horse and cow manure, to which add ground phosphate rock at the rate of at least 70 pounds to the load and apply with manure spreader when the land is frozen sufficiently to prevent wheel cutting and hoof treading. Just before thawing out in spring top dress with ground limestone rock and if you have not already put on some sweet clover soil to inoculate the soil for Alfalfa do so in spring, sowing at least 500 pounds by hand, on each acre.

OX WARBLE GRUBS.—Does the fly that causes grubs in the backs of cattle deposit her eggs in the skin of the infested places? Some say yes, but I saw an article the other day claiming that the eggs are laid on the heels and swallowed by the cattle. How may the grubs be prevented?
M. A., Pa.

A.—The old idea was that the ox warble fly deposited her eggs in the skin of the loins; but it has been shown that the fly has no egg depositor to make this possible, nor has she the power of penetrating the skin in any way. The modern belief, of investigating scientists, is that the fly lays her eggs upon the hair for the heels and legs; that these eggs are licked off and swallowed; that the hatched larvæ (minute) burrow through the wall of the gullet (esophagus), get into the connective tissue and burrow and work their way under the skin until they arrive at the loins or along the backbone at one point or another. Here they mature, puncture the skin for breathing purposes and finally emerge though the opening, drop to the ground, burrow there and finally issue as flies to carry on the pestiferous work of their kind. We have seen sausage casings, made from the gullet, that showed numerous warble grubs in the embryo stage of development. To prevent warble trouble use fly repellants on cattle in summer and wash the backs of the cattle with strong salt water in early winter; then apply oil freely to forming warbles. Adult warbles should be squeezed out and destroyed.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Milady's Eyebrow

"WHY," says Mary Elizabeth to me, in a nice little likable letter,—"why do I always look as if I were scowling, when I'm not at all? And there isn't even a wrinkle in my forehead, yet I always look as if I were 'knitting my brows.' What is the matter,—do you know?"

That gives me something quite worth while to talk about to my girls this month, for it happens that I do know just what is Mary Elizabeth's trouble. If Mary Elizabeth will look in her mirror—and if you will, Kate—and if you will, Edna—you will find that the frown is all in your eyebrows.

"In your eyebrows?" Yes, for I am absolutely sure that your eyebrows meet over your nose. Nothing else in the world (except real wrinkly creases in the forehead) can make one look as if scowling, when one's heart and mind are in the most cheerful of moods.

Eyebrows, you see, aren't such unimportant features as we sometimes think. And as for Mary Elizabeth, and Kate, and Edna—and all the rest of my girls who find on looking in the glass that their eyebrows have walked halfway to meet each other on the bridge of the nose—reach for the tweezers at once! I don't recommend tweezers for removing superfluous hair, except over the nose, and, occasionally where there is one isolated hair growing elsewhere on the face. But for meeting eyebrows, the tweezers are probably the best remedy.



USE AN EYEBROW BRUSH TO REMOVE POWDER, BRUSHING THE BROWS THE WRONG WAY.

Clip them tight at the very root of each hair, and give a quick firm jerk, so root and all will come out instead of the hair breaking off even with the skin.

Clear the bridge thoroughly while you are about it, then use a bit of cotton and mop the skin at that point with ammonia or alcohol, being sure to squeeze the cotton fairly dry and to keep the eyes tightly closed, for you mustn't let even the tiniest bit of the liquid get in the eyes. After the ammonia bath has entirely dried, lay a hot wet cloth over the eyes and brows, and when cool replace with another, continuing for five minutes. Then rub in a little cold cream very gently indeed.

Will the hairs come back? Yes, they will. And your only remedy will be to use the tweezers again—and even again, as needed.

Girls, while we are talking about eyebrows, do let me caution you about the use of powder. Even girls otherwise careful about their toilet, seem to think nothing at all of powdering the face hastily in and out of season, at home and abroad, the eyebrows coming in for a fair share, and, in spite of a careless rubbing, looking always a little powdery and unclean.

When you powder your face, use an eyebrow brush and get every bit of the powder out of the brows. To do this, do not brush the brows the way the hairs lay, but against the hairs—*toward* the nose. Brush hard and vigorously, toward the nose and up and down. By this method you will get every bit of powder out,—and produce two terribly towsly brows!

But they are not a permanent feature, so do not be dismayed, for, once the powder is out, wield your eyebrow brush again,and brush gently and carefully *away* from the nose, making every hair lay just where it should, and shaping the brow to the best of your ability. Brush until the brow is satiny-smooth.

If your eyebrows are dry and scanty, use a little warm olive oil or melted vaseline at night. Dip a new mucilage brush or a small paint brush in the spoon in which you have melted the oil or vaseline over heat or a flame—and brush the brows gently. Be careful to shape them as you brush.

Will you remember—and utilize—these two bits of eyebrow wisdom, girls? Good! Then I shall hear some encouraging news, not only from Mary Elizabeth, but from many of the rest of you, before next month rolls around.

Answers to Correspondents

Betty C.—You use soap too often. Use it on the face only at night, and then do not rub it on the face, but make a lather with the water, and apply with a complexion brush. Another thing, you probably do not get it thoroughly rinsed off after using. Rinse in many waters, hot, warm, and finally cold. In the morning wash merely with tepid water. Wipe off with a little cold cream during the day, or, better still, use a three-inch square bag of cheese-cloth half filled with rolled oats. Dip this quickly in and out of the water and use as a washcloth. It cleanses perfectly and does not irritate the skin. Pat the face dry—do not rub it, after using the beauty bag. The salicylic acid treatment for moles will leave a little red spot to begin with, but not nearly so noticeable as the moles. Why not try the acid on just one mole, and when it has been removed and you have let a couple of weeks elapse, decide whether you want to try it on the others?

Miss P. K.—If you have pimples on your forehead, cut down on sweets for a time, be careful to drink quantities of water, see that the bowels move freely daily, and eat plenty of fresh fruits. Powder is not injurious to the face, if it is of good quality. It is best to rub a little cold cream into the face before applying powder. Yes, powder could form blackheads, if you did not carefully scrub your skin with a complexion brush and hot soapy water every night. So can anything else which gets into the pores and is allowed to stay there. The way to avoid blackheads is to keep the pores clean. If you are only sixteen, I would not worry about my "large bust," because your figure will equalize itself soon. You do not tell me its size, either, so I do not know whether it is out of proportion to the rest of your figure. As to the too large hips and legs, the way to get rid of them is to *use* them—exercise them. Here is a good exercise:

For Large Hips

Lying flat on the back, lift the right leg at right angles with the body. Then bend the knee, and push out with the leg, as if the foot were on the pedal of a bicycle and you were pushing it down; at the same time draw up the left leg with the knee bent and pushed toward the chest. Push away from you with right, push toward chest with left, push away from you with left, push toward chest with right; keep the leg from the knee down perfectly straight and parallel with the floor. The motion is exactly as if you were pedalling a bicycle in the air.

Mrs. G. B. H.—Where proprietary remedies are sold by the manufacturers, the advertisement always gives the address. Where no address is given, the article is supplied by the manufacturer direct to the druggists, so if no address was given in the advertisement to which you refer, ask your druggist to get the preparation for you. In the meantime, if your freckles are not the deep-seated kind, try this formula:

For the Despised Freckle

Mix a paste by adding lemon juice to a tablespoonful of dry mustard, and finally mix in a teaspoonful of oil of almonds. When you are ready for bed, put a little dab of the paste on each offending freckle. As soon as the skin begins to warm up, wash off the paste and rub with a little cold cream. Do this every night for several days, until the skin begins to peel off. The only way freckles are ever removed is by removing the skin. Be careful not to get the paste in or near the eyes, and do not leave it on the skin too long or it will blister just as a mustard plaster does. Wash off thoroughly before rubbing in the cold cream.

Busy Bee.—The first thing you must do for the health of your hair is to stop using the roll of combings as a rat. I am glad you have discarded the roll rat you were wearing—it, of course, is responsible for most of your hair ills. Perhaps, also, you have been in the habit of roughing the hair to make it stand out. This, of course, injures the hair inevitably. Stop rubbing the hair with vaseline weekly, shampoo it once in three weeks instead of four weeks, and use a simple shampoo by shaving half a bar of white soap (the large bars) into a quart of boiling water and thoroughly dissolving over a flame. Let cool, and after wetting the hair pour some of the liquid on it and rub into a lather. Wash several times, then rinse many, many times until every particle of soap is out beyond peradventure. Do not massage vaseline into your scalp after a shampoo, but, instead, anoint the scalp with olive oil the night *before* a shampoo. Tie the head up in a towel and go to bed. You can use a medicine dropper to run through the hair until all the scalp has been covered with oil, but the hair itself not oiled. In the morning, take off the towel and give the hair a thorough shampoo. Every night brush the hair gently for one hundred strokes. Also remember that your hair cannot be healthy if your body health is below par. Eat plenty of nourishing food, see to the eliminative functions daily. By following these directions, I believe in a month or six weeks you will notice a great improvement in your hair. When I say "nourishing food," I do not mean, for you, many sweets or fats. You are already over weight—for your heighth, five feet and five and one half inches, you should weigh about one hundred and forty pounds. You should eat lean meats, plenty of fruits, green vegetables, but avoid potatoes, rice, cereals, milk, cream, much butter, much sugar, all sweets.

E. E. N.—You are quite right. The exercise, to keep the bust reduced, must be kept up. When you found it was reducing you, you should not have stopped. There is nothing to "rub on" which produces any really satisfactory results, or ones any more permanent. The trouble is, no doubt, that you are inclined to stoutness, and are eating things which help to make you so. If this is true, read my answer to "Busy Bee"—the last few sentences only. Exercise is your only sure remedy—go back to it and keep it up daily.

A Lover of COMFORT.—I am sorry you had to wait so long for your answer. I have to take letters in their turn. I was glad to hear from you, and had no trouble at all in reading your letter. As to your bust, read my answer to "A Young Mother." My suggestion for you, however, is to take the milk diet for six weeks or two months; from your description you need it for many reasons. You will improve in every way, appearance, health, weight, figure.

A Young Mother.—Building up the general health will do the most to make your breasts firm again. Probably you did not keep them well enough supported at the time the baby was small. Wear a brassiere that holds the bust firm. Exercise, also, unless you are still nursing. If you are, postpone any arm or shoulder exercises until after you wean the baby.

Exercise to Make Bust Firm

Standing with heels together, elevate the chest and then raise the arms until they extend in front of the body on a level with the shoulder, elbows perfectly rigid. Now, with palms facing each other, throw both arms back as far and as vigorously as you can, being careful not to let them drop below the level of the shoulder. Do not bend elbows. Throw forward again until they meet in front; throw back as if trying to make them meet in back. Practise for fifteen or twenty times, twice a day.

Blue Eyes.—If your complexion is really too red, and your hands also are red, possibly some of your clothing is worn too snug—your sleeves, your collars, your corsets or shoes. See that everything is easy in fit. Quite likely, however, if your friends think your complexion good, it really is nothing to worry about. Be careful of the things you eat, as the stomach, if at all out of order, sometimes causes not only a red nose but a red face. Yes, there *is* something which will make the corners of your mouth turn up, and its name is—Little Miss Blue Eyes herself! The corners of the mouth turn up or down depending entirely on the habitual expression of their owner, and whether she is happy and gay at all times, or sad and "worrying." Keep a smile on your face and in your heart, and the corners of your mouth will take care of themselves. To help the good work along, you may massage with the finger-tips, from the point of the chin up around the corners of the mouth, letting the fingers meet just above the center of the lip. Repeat thirty or more times at a sitting. Never massage down, after the up movement, but take off the fingers altogether and start at the point of the chin again. Dip fingers in cold cream before massaging.



DIPPING A MUCILAGE BRUSH IN MELTED VASELINE TO APPLY TO EYEBROWS.

Miss Emma W.—See answer to "Blue Eyes" and "A COMFORT Reader." If your hands are "always cold" and your nose red, then your circulation is out of order. You need more exercise. Read some of the exercises I have given in these columns from time to time, and see that you get half an hour's exercise daily. See answer to "Black-eyed Girl of S. C." for suggestions as to diet. For the eczema, you should consult a physician for that is not a beauty ill but one which requires medical advice, careful dieting, and other precautions. You should take it in time.

A COMFORT Reader.—See answer to "Blue Eyes." Probably your trouble is your stomach, digestion, or not sufficiently regular action of the eliminative organs. Look after them.

Black-eyed Girl of S. C.—To keep your head perfectly clean, shampoo your hair once in two weeks, unless it is dry, in which case shampoo once in three weeks. See answer to "Busy Bee." As to your dark complexion, drink lots of water—eight to ten glasses a day—eat plenty of apples, oranges and other fresh fruit as you can get it. You know the old saying "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." Also eat green vegetables, and not many fried foods or too many pies and cakes. Take a body bath daily, and rub the skin well with a coarse towel after bathing. All this will help your complexion, and I warrant it will be several shades lighter in a very few weeks.

Address all letters containing questions to KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

children of one side were hardly on speaking terms with the children of the opposite side. Sisters, don't let this happen in your church.—Ed.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Since I was a small girl of ten years I have read COMFORT and think it is the best of all my magazines.

I would like the advice of the readers in regard to one of my daughters. But first let me give you an idea of who and what I am. When a girl of nineteen I married a man with four children, the oldest being ten and the youngest two years old. I have a boy and girl of my own now, aged three and seven years, and I can truthfully say we are one of the happiest families to be found anywhere. I adore the children and they think the world of me and I have one of the very best husbands and I would not change places with any other woman.

My youngest stepdaughter is not very truthful and her father has whipped her often and I try to talk to her and encourage her to tell the truth, but really, at times I do not think she knows she is telling a lie. She is a girl of eleven years and I dread to have her grow up untruthful. Can any of the many sisters give me advice as to what course to pursue with her. I shall surely appreciate it very much and thank all who will aid me in any way.

With love to Mrs. Wilkinson and all the sisters, I'll say good by, SISTER EDYTHE.

Sister Edythe. Perhaps you are overconscientious in your stepmotherly duty toward your step child and look at the fib problem too seriously. just because your daughter is guilty of an untruth doesn't necessarily mean that she is utterly lost, for the chances are good that she will stop of her own accord—though you might aid her by removing the cause, provided you can discover what it is. Sometimes children lie through fear but that is usually when there is some misunderstanding between the mother and child. The mother has been unduly severe in her punishment or for some reason has lost the child's confidence. In this case it may be the result of an imagination that is working overtime, stimulated perhaps by the books she reads or the plays she invents. Children rely on their imagination for a large part of their amusement and grownups forget when they did the same thing and reprove a child for mixing make-believe things too liberally with actual reality instead of teaching them that they must confine their make-believe ideas to their play. The habit of truthful speaking and living should be held before a child as one of the most desirable virtues but we must consider the nature of the falsehood before judging too harshly. Anyway, I don't believe whipping will do much good. What has been the experience of other sisters?—Ed.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I wish to say a few words to Mrs. Ida Bell Aldridge in regard to her boy. I am the mother of four dear children, Luzella, age fifteen, Yolande, age thirteen, Lorraine, aged nine and our only boy, Albert, aged twelve years. I will give you my experience in bringing up my children. I am not a believer in whipping as I think this does more harm than good. My boy is quick tempered and when younger was stubborn but to succeed in this, the forming of the child's character, and that I consider the grandest achievement of a mother's life, courage, patience, perseverance and, above all, love are the only weapons needed to fight this battle. I find a boy is harder to bring up than a girl. When his temper gets the better of him I do not say a word but simply look at him sorrowfully which finally shames him. Then when he becomes calmer I ask him what he has gained. I say, gently, "My son, are you happier after such an outburst of temper? Look around at the sad faces caused by your temper and think that you have been the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)



Don't be discouraged

Resinol Soap

will improve your skin

Many and many a girl has a clear, healthy complexion today because some friend came to her with that sound advice, based on her own experience.

Resinol Soap not only is delightfully cleansing and refreshing, but its daily use reduces the tendency to pimples, relieves clogged and irritated pores, and gives *nature* the chance she needs to make red, rough skins white and soft.

Hands protected by Resinol Soap rarely chap or roughen in cold weather.

Used for the shampoo, Resinol Soap helps to keep the hair rich, glossy and free from dandruff.

If the skin or scalp is in bad shape, through neglect or improper treatment, a little Resinol Ointment should at first be used with the Resinol Soap, to hasten the return to normal conditions.

Resinol Soap and Resinol Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers in toilet goods everywhere. For a sample of each, free, write to Dept. 4-B Resinol, Baltimore, Md.

Get This Stove Book FREE

—Wholesale Prices—New Styles

MAIL postal today—save money and get best stove or range that's made. Cash or easy payments—30 days' trial—360 days' approval test—$100,000 Guarantee. We pay freight, ship within 24 hours. Ask for catalog No. 501

KALAMAZOO STOVE CO.
Mfrs. Kalamazoo, Mich.

A Kalamazoo Direct to You



"I earn $2 a day at home"

You may say that, too—if you want more income. Easy to learn. Steady work at home *the year round.* Write today, to Auto-Knitter Hosiery Co., Inc., Desk 95W, 147 Franklin St. Buffalo, N.Y.



LIGHT YOUR HOME LIKE DAY—COST 1c

for 6 hours. Pure white 100 candle power light from common Kerosene.

The Beacon Lamp Makes and Burns Its Own Gas

Better, brighter, safer, cheaper, than Gas, Gasoline or Electricity. Every home interested. 500,000 satisfied users. Agents wanted. Write quick for selling plan, exclusive free territory and trial offer.

HOME SUPPLY CO., 17 Home Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

WOULD YOU



show this standard high grade 42 key fully visible typewriter to your friends and let them see wherein it excels any $100 typewriter, if by doing this and other small assistance, you could easily have one to keep as your own? Then by post card or letter simply say, "*Mail Particulars.*"

WOODSTOCK TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. D631, CHICAGO, ILL.

Raincoat $3.98

A Guaranteed all weather garment. Write for Samples

Hart Supply Co. 1431 Locust, St. Louis

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Christmas Gifts

"At Christmas play and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year."

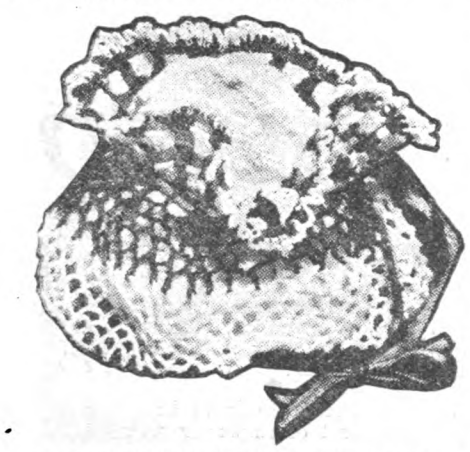
THIS holiday season is fast approaching and COMFORT readers I know are planning to make it a time of happiness and cheer for those who are nearest and dearest.

Luckily this does not require a fat purse. Just a simple gift or a kindly act prompted by a loving heart and the sincere desire to give happiness is all that is necessary.

Now that the time is short however, those who still have considerable to do begin to look around and wonder what can be made up quickly and inexpensively and still not look shabby or hurried when finished. For all such, who have considerable to accomplish and little leisure, the little useful and attractive novelties on this page have been especially collected.

Bath Outfit

The artistic decoration of towels of all sorts has become a kind of fetish lately, which now includes even the Turkish bath towels. These come with beautiful borders in all colors the ends being finished with an embroidered scallop or an edging of crochet or tatting.



CROCHETED TOILET BAG, RUBBER LINED. FIG. 1.

A bath set may consist of a bath towel, bag and face cloth which may be handmade and also a crocheted bag, lined with white rubber for face cloth and soap, if one desires.

For gifts these sets are most practical and may be made individual by the simple addition of the proper initial worked on each piece in French knots in color.

Knitted Face Cloth

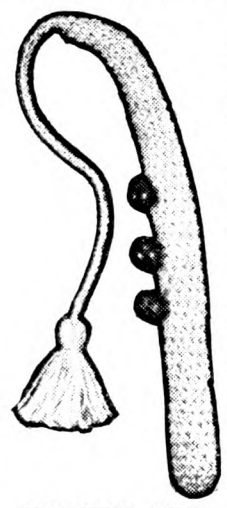
For this use a soft mercerized cotton and steel needles No. 12.

Make any size desired. Three rows plain knitting, three rows purl, and repeat until work is square.

Finish with a long crocheted shell in color to match the towel. Turkish face cloths can be finished with crocheted edge in color and an initial.

Baby's Bath Outfit

This is a gift which will surely please baby's mother. It consists of a square of toweling edged with crochet, for a lap pad. This has the words Baby's Bath across the top in colored French knots and also two buttonholed eyelets in each corner through which one fastens a square of white rubber to the under side, with ribbon. This makes it a very simple matter to separate the two when necessary to wash. An initialed face cloth, towel and bag complete the outfit.



CROCHETED WHIP.

Crocheted Whip

This is a very easily made toy suitable for a baby who is beginning to be able to amuse himself.

A ball of coarse white mercerized cotton or ordinary darning cotton or cord can be used as material. Begin by making a chain of four stitches, join, into this ring make seven single crochet; next round add 5 stitches by making 2 s. c. in every other st., then make 1 s. c. in each stitch until the whip is about seven inches long. Stuff tightly with cotton as the work proceeds, packing it down well with the end of the crochet hook. Make about three inches longer, omitting a stitch here and there so as to gradually graduate it to a point, then chain about four inches and finish off with a full tassel. The bells can be added or not, as one thinks best, but if added should be sewn on very securely so that they cannot be easily pulled off.

Baby's Badge

This little novelty surely fills a long-felt want for it prevents in a delicate way the kisses which are better omitted. All that is necessary to make this attractive little novelty is a bit of white kid from a discarded glove, or a piece of silk or celluloid can be substituted. Cover a wooden button mold with the kid or silk and then word with gold, "Don't Kiss Me," adding a spray of forgetmenots if one is a bit artistic. Finish the edge with a narrow satin ribbon, fulled through the center and four tiny bows as shown. Complete by sewing to the back a small safety pin.



BABY'S BADGE.

Crocheted Toilet Bag

Materials, yellow and white silkateen, No. 12 steel hook, one and one half yards, No. 2 ribbon, 9 inches white rubber.

Start with ch. 7, join in ring, 15 d. c. in ring.

2nd row.—2 d. c. in each d. c., join each row with a sl. st., ch. 4.

3rd and 4th rows.—1 d. c. in each d. c. with ch. 1 between.

Next 2 rows the same but make ch. 2 between doubles.

7th row.—Ch. 3 between doubles.

8th row.—1 d. c. on each d. c., with 2 doubles worked under the ch. between.

9th row.—1 d. c. on each d. c.

10th row.—2 d. c. between each double.

11th row.—1 d. c. on each d. c.

Break thread. With white ch. 5, 1 s. c. in 4th st., repeat, 7 more rows of chains, making 1 s. c. under each ch. in previous row. White yellow, 1 d. c. under white ch., ch. 5, 1 d. c. under next ch., join at end row to first ch., ch. 8, 1 d. c. and repeat all around making 4 rows yellow in all.

For running ribbons, 1 d. tr. under ch., ch. 5, 1 d. tr. under third, ch. or 1 tr. under every ch. Join and break thread, with white, 3 d. c. under ch., ch. 3, 3 d. c., repeat, next row of yellow, making 3 d. c. between each group of double, ch. 3, next row 4 d. c. of white, ch. 3. Last row, 4 d. c. of yellow, ch. 3. Edge with picot of white, 1 s. c. under ch., ch. 5, 1 s. c. between each d. c. with ch. 5 between each.



BABY BATH OUTFIT CONSISTING OF LAP PAD, LAUNDRY BAG, TOWEL AND WASH CLOTH.

The bag is lined with white rubber and may contain a cake of nice soap and an initialed wash cloth. Finish with ribbon drawstrings.

Home-Made Muff Holder

With so many things which can be easily made, it is simply the idea which is needed. Then from leftovers or for just the bare cost of material, plus a little time, many attractive little gifts can be bestowed, for the purchase price of a single article.

This muff holder is another article which comes in the class of quickly-made novelties, as no fine stitches are necessary.

Secure a long piece of wire and bend as shown, making it the right size for the muff for which it is intended. A piece of ribbon three times the length of the wire and about one and one half inches wide will be necessary. Join the selvages, then slip over the wire which should be wound with a strip of scented sheet wadding beforehand. Finish one end with a ribbon bow. Wind the other end which forms the hook, closely with ribbon and also finish with a small bow at the base of the hook.



SHIRRED RIBBON MUFF HOLDER.

A Corset Bag

Such a bag as this also comes in the list of useful presents.

For material one can use any pretty piece of ribbon or silk or a bag made up of white mercerized poplin, decorated with a spray of French knot flowerets, as shown in our illustration, is both practical and pretty.

Line with a color in sateen, make up the bag which should measure, all finished about eight by twenty-four inches. Buttonhole completely around, on all edges with coarse embroidery silk and add drawing ribbons.



CORSET BAG.

Sachets

These little bits of sweetness are always popular and desirable gifts. One of the newest ideas for a covering is of woven ribbon. These can be made in this way of any size.

For the foundation cut four squares of sheet wadding, sprinkle with sachet powder and run the edges together. Two colors of inch-wide satin ribbon is very pretty woven together. To do this fasten one end of one piece of ribbon to the corner of a sachet indicated by the bows in our illustration, carry to the opposite or third corner, pass the ribbon under this and up on the other side and back to corner No. 1. Now under this corner, up and across next to the first ribbon, under corner No. 3, and back. Continue to wind back and forth around these two corners until the sachet is covered. Then with the other color wind in opposite direction, but weave under and over as shown.



WOVEN RIBBON SACHET.

It is very simply done as one will find out with a little experimenting. Finish one corner with a bow of the two ribbons. Lavender and baby blue, salmon and green, yellow and white pink and blue or two shades of one color all make very pretty combinations.

Knitting Bag for Grandmother

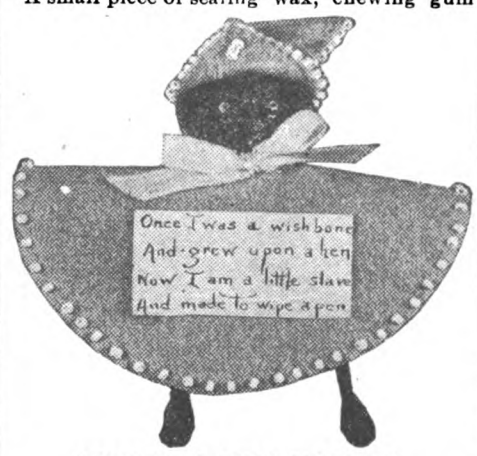
A nice present for any woman who is fond of knitting or crocheting can be made of three yards of five-inch ribbon. On each end turn up five inches and sew up the sides, thus forming a bag for holding balls of wool. This receptacle simply ties about the waist, keeping the balls from rolling away whether one is sitting still or moving about. Of course the thought represented by any bit of hand work endows the gift with a value not to be estimated in dollars and cents.

And as many charmingly useful little trifles can be made of small bits, no scraps of material should ever be thrown away, for they all come in handy and save many hard-earned pennies at this gift-giving season.

Pen-Wipers

It is safe to say that nobody ever had too many pen-wipers. These are little articles which are ever necessary. If any little girl happens to have a wishbone saved from Thanksgiving it can now be used to help fashion a very cute little wiper. Our illustration will give one a fairly clear idea of how this is done.

A small piece of sealing wax, chewing gum



PENWIPER A CHILD CAN MAKE.

or even putty can be used for the head. Mold this so the nose will be rather prominent indicate a mouth and use beads for the eyes.

Several circles of white flannel and one of red or colored flannel will then be needed. The edge of the latter and the little cap can be outlined with beads and the card on the front bearing this sentiment gives the finishing touch.

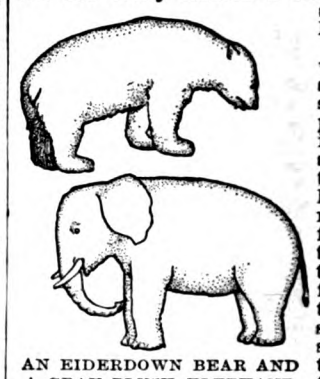
"Once I was a wishbone
And grew upon a hen
Now I am a little slave
And made to wipe a pen."

Wipers in the shape of animals also make unique little gifts.

A snowy polar bear can be cut from a piece of eiderdown flannel or white kid, with eyes, nose and mouth either outlined with silk or drawn in with pen and ink. While a realistic elephant can be made of various sorts of grey material, flannel, velvet, plush, silk or felt would all be suitable. If made of a material however which would be liable to fray the edges should be neatly buttonholed. To the back of each should be added the flannel leaves for real use.

A Stocking Doll

For a child old enough to require playthings, one can easily fashion a cute little doll, as shown in our illustration.



AN EIDERDOWN BEAR AND A GRAY PLUSH ELEPHANT.

A man's sock with white heel and toe is necessary. From it cut pieces as shown in our diagram as follows. The toe forms the head and should measure about four inches through the center. Cut the body from the top of the sock. This should measure six inches with the center of the top of the sock, slashed up three inches and rounded off as shown to form the feet and legs.

The center piece which forms the cap is three inches along the fold of the sock and four and one half inches in width, while the fourth piece shown is three by four inches and cut from the heel of the sock to form the arms.

Make up all parts and stuff with cotton. Use oil paints for the face and shape this somewhat by indicating ears on the sides, this takes up the extra fullness which would otherwise make the head too large. Seam together the curved part of the cap, then sew to top of the head and cover the jointing with a row of feather stitching. This also is added to the body as shown and marks the wrists. A tassel on point of the cap, and a narrow ruffle of ribbon around the neck completes the home made dolly which appears quite fully dressed without the extra work of making clothes.



A STOCKING DOLL.

Edging for Turkish Towels

SEE BATH OUTFIT.

This or any other simple crocheted pattern can be used. A soft mercerized cotton will be best to use for this work and No. 13 steel crochet hook.

One row single crochet into towel, one row treble crochet into every third stitch with chain between each treble.

Third row.—3 singles in first space, chain 3, skip second space, 3 singles in each of the next 3 spaces, ch. 3, skip 1 space, singles over next 3 spaces and repeat.



SHAPE OF PIECES CUT FROM SOCK.

Turn at end of row and make a shell in the first st., or under the first ch. 3 if it comes near the end of the towel. Shells 1 double treble under ch. 3, ch. 3, and form p., ch. 1, 1 d. tr., p., ch. 1, repeat making 5 d. trebles in each shell, ch. 7, 1 s. c. under same ch. with trebles, 1 shell under next chain 3.

A Handy Holder

This little "Polly" slipped into an envelope with a card bearing the old rhyme

"Polly put the
kettle on,
Let's all take
tea"

would make a most useful and odd little gift for either mother or grandmother. Bits of velvet can be used say orange or yellow for the head, blue or black for the body with green rings. Or the whole can be cut from one piece and outlined with gay colored silks.

Black beads are good for the eyes. Make thick with sheet wadding and then line neatly and if one has it handy a piece of asbestos makes a splendid interlining.



HANDLE OF VELVET BITS.

Unanswered Mail

This is a simple little gift which could be made up with an outlay of only a few cents for silk elastic. All else that is required are two ovals of pasteboard about three by five inches and any pretty bit of silk, satin, cretonne or ribbon which one may happen to have for covering. Do the work neatly turning in all edges and overcasting closely together, sewing the ends of the elastic band in as one works. Paste to the outside of the oval a white card marked Unanswered Letters and an old canceled postage stamp.



BAND FOR UNANSWERED LETTERS.

THE BRAND OF SHAME

By Maud Mary Brown

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

PART II.

THE cool night air had little effect on the furnace heat of Drake's thoughts. An unheeded step sounded behind him and a voice sang out: "Hi there, Drake!" but he did not attend.

"What the devil's the hurry?" Page Beardsley fell into step beside Drake. "I'm just walking home after leaving Edith and her friends. I say, slow down, can't you?"

"I'm in a hurry, Beardsley. I am looking for a vacant cab; I am going South tonight."

"Pretty sudden, what?" Then, after a few seconds of thought, "I say, Drake, take me along with you."

"What for?" enquired Drake disinterestedly.

"I am going to work. Edith has contempt for the idle rich. I've decided to get busy. I'd like to begin with you. I'd work like a dog, Drake."

"I've considerably less than an hour to get some messages written and to catch the next train South. Come down later if your resolution holds."

"Here are my diggings now. Give me ten minutes to change out of this silly costume, man. A hall boy will get us a taxi-cab and we shall have plenty of time. You can write your messages while I'm changing."

Like one in a trance, Drake permitted himself to be guided into the younger man's rooms. He sat brooding while Page changed and tossed a few indiscriminate articles into a Gladstone.

"We're ready, old top," he cried after having scrawled a note to his man; "and I hear the motor churning below. Come."

On the ride to the station, Beardsley furtively watched Drake's face. That he had passed through some biting experience, he knew; that it was connected with Julia and her too-daring costume, and Pierce and his too-open flirtation, he guessed. He felt that the gods had shown discretion in sending him across Drake's path. He felt a warm, rushing desire to be a friend to the sad-faced man.

At the station Page penned a brief and impudent note to Edith. "Am on the road to manhood with Drake. There's a reason. Are we engaged now, dear?" it read. He observed the superscription on one of Drake's envelopes as they gave them to a messenger. It was to Julia's father.

Drake, silent and thoughtful, refused to retire when they finally reached their stateroom and Beardsley sat up too, his thoughts upon Edith Bentley and a career—new thoughts, the latter, for Page Beardsley.

When Julia's consciousness returned she moaned piteously from the pain in her shoulder, opening her eyes, she stared about the room. It all came back to her—her husband's madness, his brutality. She shuddered but the anger which followed brought back her strength in a sweeping tide and she rose unsteadily.

It was scarcely midnight. She dragged herself to her room and tore off her costume, kicking it into a corner. She ripped the jewels off her arms and ankles, plucked them from her hair and tossed them all in a glittering heap on her lace-covered bed. Then she looked at her smarting shoulder, the hot tears racing down her white cheeks. Fortunately the burn was not deep; she applied a soothing unguent before dressing in her plainest garments. Then, flinging a few things into a bag, without a backward look she left her house. If Drake had crossed her path then she would have attempted murder with her bare hands.

Two blocks south she found a cab, and entering hastily, she ordered haste.

"Where to, mem?" the driver wished to know, and she replied without hesitation.

The next morning Edith and her father were at breakfast when their messages arrived. Edith read hers with a little stricture at the throat. Page had gone! The suddenness of it made her inexpressibly lonely. Had he consulted her, she would have counselled against going so far away. Surely there was work for willing hands right in New York. In spite of her depression she felt a throb of pride at the thought that he had cared enough to go.

Glancing up at her father, she saw that his face had gone white. "What is it?" she demanded sharply.

"There is trouble between Jefferson and Julia, my dear. He unexpectedly started for Texas last night leaving her here."

Edith recalled now that Page's message had stated that he was with Drake.

"He writes me that he has been a brute—has violated all the canons of decency and that he will do nothing to prevent her from obtaining legal freedom. He has placed a large sum of money in trust for her. But read it yourself, dear."

"I have been afraid of this ever since I was South," Edith said, laying the note aside. "Kingsley Pierce is involved, you will find. They have flirted outrageously. She appeared at the Lawrences' fete last night in a startling costume. I fancy Jeff was wild. I am going to call her up."

She left the room only to reappear directly. "Father," she began gently, "Julia isn't there. The servants found the apartment deserted this morning. I am going there at once."

Her father's shoulders sagged heavily as he rose. Scandal in connection with a daughter of his was unbearable. "I think I will go around to Kingsley's quarters," he said wearily.

Edith found the Drake servants disorganized and curious.

"My sister and her husband have been called South," she told the butler evenly. "A message came from Mr. Drake as I left the house. You will put the apartment in order after which you may go. You will be paid a month's wages in lieu of notice. Please see to everything."

Then she went to Julia's room, marking the confusion and the signs of haste. Vindictively she threw the Egyptian costume into a closet and banged the door. She gathered up the jewels and tossed them into her bag, looking, meanwhile, for a note. She found nothing.

She and her father reached home together. "Pierce isn't in his rooms," Mr. Bentley began at once. "The woman who takes care of them says that he did not sleep there and that he evidently did some hasty packing. He is not at his club. What did you learn, daughter?"

"Nothing definite, dear. However, I am afraid we may as well face the fact that they have gone together."

"Curse her!"

"I suspect that Julia needs something besides our curses father," Edith said softly.

Drake having left town the same night, there was no public comment on the simultaneous disappearance of Julia and Pierce. It was taken for granted that she had gone South with her husband. The Bentleys went about the business of life as usual but their hearts were heavy for the passing days brought no message from Julia.

Summer advanced with a rush in Texas. The oil fields were scenes of continuous activity; the ditches were nearly ready for the water that would reclaim a large area of Drake's arid land; his cattle were in the pink of condition and his wealth was multiplying daily. But to it all he gave scant heed.

Body and brain, he had thrown himself into his work in an effort to ease the blistering memories. Beardsley had become his coadjutor, capable, dependable, steady. Of him Drake had become very fond and into his hands he placed many interests.

They sat in the court one breathless night, smoking countless cigarettes. The younger man was speaking of Edith. It was seldom that he permitted himself that indulgence for he sensed the pain that the other must feel at a tale of romance, but tonight the passion of spring was in his young veins.

"She is a wonderful girl!" Drake stamped out a cigarette with his heel. "You are a lucky man, Page. I don't recall having said so, but I am deuced glad you've won her. I have thought about you both often. In fact, I have a business plan for you when you marry. You mean to keep on working, Beardsley?"

"Keep on! Why, man, there's nothing like work to reconstruct a worthless life. Keep on? Rather! I couldn't stop now. Its exhileration has got into my system. To choke something big out of life! Drake, that *is* life."

In one of his rare moments of tenderness, Drake reached over and placed a hand on the other's khaki-covered knee and they sat thus far into the night.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

Summer advanced reluctantly in Vermont. In a plain room in a shabby house in the factory village across the river from Burlington, Julia Drake stretched her body between coarse sheets, dreading to make the effort to rise.

However, she could spend few minutes idling in bed, for the factory's day shift began at seven and she made it a point never to be late at her work. She was a spooler, commanding the modest sum of nine dollars a week.

Her thoughts took wide circuit. One she spared for the money she had managed to save. Once it would have seemed amusingly little, but having earned it, it assumed proportions of dignity. She was hoarding it, miser-like, till she should have enough to pay for a divorce. She would not ask her father for that kind of aid.

She wished that she might have a bit of fresh fruit with the roll and coffee of which her breakfast consisted.

Finally she thought concretely of her husband, but something was wanting. She searched her mind till she came to the lack. No longer did she feel the stabbing anger which had shaken her formerly. Just when it had vanished, she could not, in her surprise, state. She sat up, languor vanquished.

Swinging her feet out of bed, she lowered her cheap night robe to look at the faint scar that still showed on her white shoulder. The sight of it roused no fury. She sat and stared at herself in her blurred mirror.

She was bewildered. The goal toward which she had striven had receded and she did not care. Life held no purpose now.

She dressed and automatically prepared her breakfast, then putting her room in order, she went to the factory.

Before night she was conscious of an urge that would not suffer control. After eating a frugal supper she went early to bed in an attempt to drown it in sleep. It was of no use, and at last she rose, dressed, and went out to send a telegram—the first word she had sent her father since the night of her disappearance.

The next evening she was at the station when Mr. Bentley and Edith stepped off the train at Burlington. They gazed at her, mute, as she stood before them, shabby, honestly erect, a steady light in her wide, dark eyes.

After a brief scrutiny the sisters, unmindful of the little crowd, flew together and a mist obscured their father's aging eyes.

"I will summon a cab," he offered hastily.

"Oh, no, you won't," Julia looked up to say. "You are my guests, please remember, and I don't ride in cabs. Here is our car. Hurry!"

She piloted them across the river, pointing out the factory where she worked on the way.

"Julia!" Mr. Bentley's eyes were hard as he looked about his daughter's bare room; "did he bring you to this?"

"Jeff isn't to blame——"

"I am speaking of Kingsley Pierce," he interposed sharply.

"Kingsley Pierce?" Julia turned to him in wonderment. "By the way, where *is* Kingsley Pierce? I haven't seen him since the night that Jeff ordered him out of our house."

The two were silent. "What in the world is the matter?" demanded Julia curiously.

"Pierce left New York the night that you did and we have not seen or heard from him since."

It was a full minute before Julia caught the significance of the statement. Her eyes dilated then. "And you thought——" Her face fell into her hands. "Did Jeff think that, too?"

"You should have let us know where you were," Edith said contritely.

"I meant to go to King when I left the house that night, but when it came to giving the cab-driver his address, I simply couldn't do it. The only other place I could think of in my haste was the Grand Central. The Montreal express was about to start and I boarded it and came to Burlington. I had almost no money after I had paid for my ticket and I had to go to work. I couldn't find a thing to do. I tried the shops, the offices, even the hotels. I would have tried anything. When no one would take an untrained girl, I began to realize my economic worthlessness, the shoddiness of my equipment for life. After a few days I found a job in the factory. I blessed the war that was keeping it open night and day to fill orders. I began at five dollars a week. I am getting nine now and the foreman says that I am the best spooler on the floor."

There was distinct pride in her voice.

"I was trying to save money to divorce Jeff, but just yesterday I found that I no longer wish to. Possibly he despises me. That I must find out for myself. Father, there's a train South at ten; will you start for Texas with me tonight?"

Edith's heart pounded at the thought of going to Page but she said: "You need clothes——"

"My clothes will do very well," Julia returned simply.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

It was a hot evening in June. Drake had come to the house worn out after a busy day. He was haggard and one noticed that the white at his temples was creeping higher.

Even Beardsley was tired. "The water goes into the ditch at noon tomorrow," he remarked lifelessly. "I drove the car to town to see about shipping the cattle. Everything's ready. And by the way, the tractors have come. I've ordered men to start for them at daylight. Right?"

"Right-o." Drake settled deeper in his chair by the empty fireplace.

Beardsley sauntered to a window. It would be another golden sunset, he reflected. The boy was thinking of Edith. Sometimes, when he was very tired, it seemed to him that she had set him a heavy task. He came out of his revery at the purr of a motor.

"Wonder who's who?" he said, going idly to the door.

In the next moment Edith confronted him and back of her lingered her courtly father.

The girl made the first advance. Beardsley was too amazed to speak as she led him into the living-room.

"Evening, Jeff," she saluted. "Excuse me a minute, please, while I inspect the work of your hands. I'll greet you properly presently. Father's in the hall."

Drake seemed scarcely surprised. Nothing roused him of late. Taking Edith's broad hint, he went to find Mr. Bentley.

Edith, drawing Page to a window, regarded him gravely. She put a slim finger into the line that had etched its way between nostril and mouth. She touched his lined brow.

"Oh, my dear! What have they done to you?" she cried.

"They've taken away the boy, dear. They are in the business of making men down here."

She put her cheek against his breast and wept happily.

"There is some one in the room yonder who wishes to speak to you," Mr. Bentley said to Drake when their greetings were over.

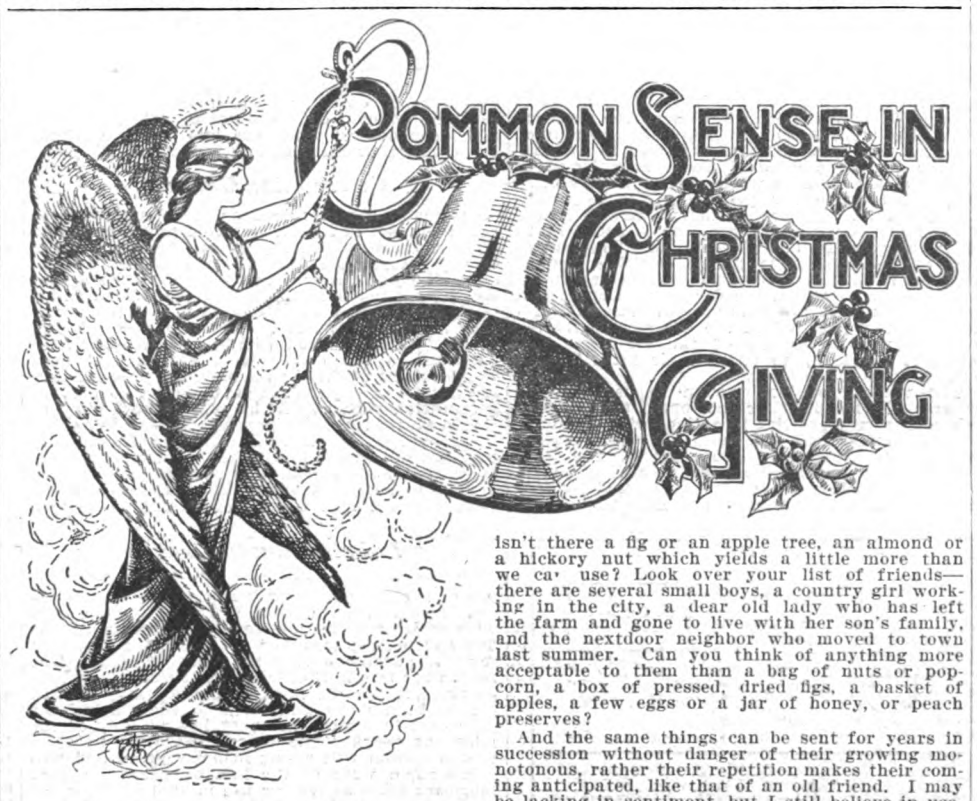
Drake listlessly entered the library and looked up to see Julia waiting for him.

"You see I'm back, Jeff," she began at once. "If you don't want me I will go away again. I haven't seen Kingsley Pierce since the night of the ball. I have been earning my living in Vermont. I am a spooler in a factory and I earn nine dollars a week."

With a stifled cry he took a step toward her but she lifted a restraining hand.

"Wait, please! When you knew me I was a little fool—discontented, headstrong, vain. Work has purged me of all that. I hated you for a long time after that night. I warmed my fury by the fever of my branded shoulder. But I found after a while that—I wanted you. You marked my soul as well as my flesh. So long as I live I can never belong to any man but you. Now do you want this new woman back? Jeff, will you *have* me back?"

Somewhere from without came the lilt of a half-breed's song. The drone of happy voices drifted in from the room beyond. The last shaft of the setting sun caressed Julia's hair, her cheeks, her scarlet lips, as she lay in the safe harbor of her husband's arms.



By Mrs. Floy L. C. Smith

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

AT this time of year the papers are full of suggestions concerning Christmas gifts and ways by which we may contrive to get through the season without suffering from nervous prostration or going into debt.

But so many of these suggestions are impracticable to the woman on the farm who has such a limited supply of both time and money. We read of the wonderful array of useful and beautful gifts to be evolved from a few yards of lace or ribbon and the scraps of silk and fine linen in the scrap bag. But did a farm woman's scrap bag ever contain anything more valuable than the patches saved to use upon small aprons and overalls?

None of us would wish to abolish Christmas giving, but neither do we enjoy the rush and flurry and strain that usually precedes that holiday and leaves us too weary to enjoy the day itself. If we could learn to plan for that as we do for our other work the mountain would shrink to a molehill and what had been a task would become a pleasure.

If we set ourselves to observe and remember, we could easily learn through the year many of the fads and wishes of our friends, and so be able to send gifts that would please them far better than if chosen at random.

As soon as the holidays are over, make a memorandum of the friends whom you wish to remember with gifts next season, jot down opposite the names, the things you think they would like and check them off, one by one as the gifts are prepared. If you have the thought of Christmas in mind all the year instead of just through the month of December, you will be surprised to find how much can be done with little or no effort.

Many papers and magazines give very nice premiums for a few subscriptions and you have a long list from which to choose. Try to have part of your Christmas money ready by July. Then when the summer clearance sales are held in your nearest town, plan to attend and look over the articles on sale, with the thought of finding appropriate gifts for certain persons. Often one can make real bargains in household articles or dress goods which your friend at a greater distance from town could not secure.

Christmas giving affords an excellent opportunity for practising the Golden Rule. We have all experienced the uncomfortable feeling that follows the receipt of a gift which we know the giver could not afford or which required much time or money that was needed in the home; so why should we in turn subject our friends to the same discomfort? A little talk with our circle of most intimate friends is pretty sure to bring out the fact that they prefer some inexpensive gift which represents us and our loving thought of them rather than something more elaborate, bought in the rush of the last moment and sent from a sense of duty.

Are we not too proud to imitate someone else and strive to send such gifts as they have bestowed upon us, instead of ones that lie within our reach and that they might enjoy far better? In our struggle to buy conventional gifts, are we not apt to overlook the possibilities of our own back yards? Take a look around the place—isn't there a fig or an apple tree, an almond or a hickory nut which yields a little more than we can use? Look over your list of friends—there are several small boys, a country girl working in the city, a dear old lady who has left the farm and gone to live with her son's family, and the nextdoor neighbor who moved to town last summer. Can you think of anything more acceptable to them than a bag of nuts or popcorn, a box of pressed, dried figs, a basket of apples, a few eggs or a jar of honey, or peach preserves?

And the same things can be sent for years in succession without danger of their growing monotonous, rather their repetition makes their coming anticipated, like that of an old friend. I may be lacking in sentiment, but I still believe in useful gifts—things which by daily association are a constant reminder of the giver.

No doubt we have all known the overworked farmer's wife struggling to feed and clothe her brood of little folks, who receives at Christmas a shower of boudoir caps, embroidered hair-receivers and flimsy doilies and cushion covers that would never bear laundrying, and (dare I mention them?) various articles of fancy work whose names an uses she cannot guess and is ashamed to ask the donor. What can she do but send a polite note of thanks, then relegate the articles to some out-of-the-way place, or pass them on to other friends next Christmas?

If one has the time and inclination for fancy work, there are many pretty things to make—things that can be of use even on a farm. Was there ever a housewife who would not appreciate embroidered pillow slips or dresser scarfs, or even a kitchen apron or a dress for the baby?

Perhaps the hardest task is to choose gifts for the distant friend whose tastes and possessions we do not know. A cheery letter is never amiss, and if you wish, you might enclose a dollar bill with the explanation: "My friend, little Bill, and I could not agree upon what to send you for Christmas, so I decided to send him along bodily to find out. Use him for whatever you wish, for he is a willing little fellow to the limit of his small ability, I only wish I could have sent his big brother William."

Another gift that is always welcomed by the distant friend is a good-sized sheet of postage stamps, and your accompanying suggestion that you are already enjoying, in anticipation, the letters you expect to receive, and know you are only one of many who will be made happy in the same way, will surely meet with a prompt response.

Children enjoy the things which will give them something to do. Suppose you were a very little girl not much acquainted with a needle, and some one sent you a silver thimble and some pretty patchwork pieces, carefully cut and basted, and a note saying: "I have been thinking that your dollie may not have covers enough to keep her warm these cold nights, and I know her mamma would like to make her a pretty quilt, so I am sending the tiniest thimble I can find and these pieces, every one of them like some of aunties' dresses, and mamma will show you how to sew them. Don't you think you would get more real enjoyment out of the attempt to make something new than from some costly toy that you were allowed to touch only on state occasions?"

Whatever your gift may be, whether costly or simple, never neglect to send with it, a note or post-card with a few cheery words of greeting for it is that which gives the human touch and makes the gift seem a real gift and not just an exchange of bargain counter purchases. The thought that our friends remember our favorite colors, our choice of books or music or our personal likes and dislikes really seems to enhance the value of their gifts.

And if we begin early to prepare and wrap our gifts ready for sending, the "Christmas rush" will pass us by, and at the last moment, instead of making frantic searches through crowded stores for neglected presents, we will have time to prepare reminders of the season for those to whom Christmas may not come—the stranger within our gates, or the children whom Santa Claus has forgotten.

"A New Year's Eve Adventure"

This splendid story by Joseph F. Novak, who is a favorite with our readers, is one of his best. It is a genuine thriller, telling of a chain of startling adventures strangely linked together and disclosing how the gentleman crook, bold, cunning and suave, dupes the wealthy aristocrats. Read it, all complete in January COMFORT. Renew your subscription today and make sure of it.

Dissolving of Albania

By C. L. Chapman

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE "kingdom" of Albania is dissolving. The Serbs are marching through it to reach the coast. The Montenigrins are annexing the villages along their borders. The Greeks have sent an expeditionary force to protect some of the southern towns inhabited by their countrymen. Italy holds Avalona, doubtless the most valuable port of the whole country. The rest of the country appears to be in the hands of brigands, or kept in a state of armed neutrality by leagues among neighboring villages.

The world will have few regrets at this passing of "independent" Albania—perhaps not as many as they should have. The Albanians are a reallly admirable people of a somewhat primitive sort; brave, liberty-loving, intelligent. But they have been unfitted to form a separate nation. Albania was made a kingdom to rob Serbia of a port on the Adriatic, bring on dissensions among the Balkan states which has thrashed Turkey, and pave the way for Austrian dominion of the Balkan peninsula. The first two purposes were fulfilled; the last failed, and with it the whole scheme of Vienna went to wreck.

Serbia will have her Adriatic seaport, and probably will absorb the greater part of Albania; a very desirable consummation if the mountaineers receive fair play and equal rights as citizens of the enlarged Serbian state. Greece is fairly sure to take possession of the Greek towns which were included in Albania, merely that the prince selected to rule over that toy monarchy might have a few real taxpayers. The only serious difficulty in sight is that Italy seems determined to hold Avalona, which is as much a Greek town as Athens.

It will be one of the ironies of history if the scheme designed to make Austria mistress of the Argean results in making Italy supreme in the Adriatic.

MEN WANTED

LEARN TO DRIVE AND REPAIR AUTOMOBILES AND TRACTORS

Big demand for trained men. Earn from $75 to $150 per month. Learn in 6 weeks by the

SWEENEY SYSTEM

of practical experience. You do the real work in machine shop, factory and on the road. No books used. Tools free.

FREE Big 64 page catalogue with views of men at work in largest and best equipped auto school in world. Send name today. Address



SWEENEY AUTO SCHOOL
1126 East 15th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

FREE FORD AUTO TO AGENTS

Here's an opportunity to earn big money—$6 to $12 a day, with easy work, all your time or spare time and obtain a Ford Automobile free besides. A straightout from the shoulder business proposition. No voting or guessing contest. We want wide-awake men and women to introduce into every home our famous ZANOL Pure Food Products, Non-Alcoholic Food Flavors in tubes, Toilet Preparations, Perfumes and Soaps; 250 other light weight household necessities.

MAKE $50 A WEEK EASY.



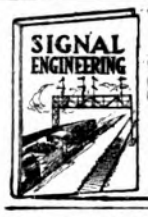
No experience necessary—we teach you how, give you the right start and help you make a success. Absolutely no limit to your earning power. We can use only a certain number of General Agents so get in touch with us at once. We furnish our representatives with a free automobile. Just send postal for particulars and money making offer. AMERICAN PRODUCTS CO., 8215 Third St. Cincinnati, O



KEROSENE ENGINES
OTTAWA LATEST DESIGN

Durable, Powerful, Reliable, Massive. Built to last; to do hard, heavy work. Uses Cheapest Fuel. Pull ¼ to ½ horse-power more than rated. ***3 Months Trial. Easy Terms.*** Sizes 1½ to 22 H-P. Easy to start. No Cranking. No batteries. **10 Year Guarantee.** Most practical engine ever built. Engine book free. A Postal brings it.

THE OTTAWA MANUFACTURING CO., 1271 King Street, OTTAWA, KANSAS.



FREE
Book on Signaling

Write today for book that tells about opportunities in the profession of Signal Engineering. Men needed. Learn how you can get training that you need to fill the big job. **$125 to $300 a Month** The free book gives you just the information you want. Write. DEPARTMENT OF SIGNALING, Dept. 3049 1810 Wilson Av., Ravenswood Sta., Chicago



WATCH, RING AND CHAIN GIVEN

We positively give a genuine American Stem Wind and Set Watch, beautifully designed case, warranted time-keeper, 5-year guarantee; Sparkling Set or Plain Ring all for selling 20 of our easy to sell Jewelry articles at 10c each. When sold return $2 & we'll send Watch & Ring. Ladies' or Gent's' style chain. Home Supply Co., Dept. 102, Chicago, Ill.

SILK REMNANTS of finest texture and richest colors. Large pkg. 10c., 3 for 25c., 7 for 50c. A. C. Fabricius, 47 Liberty Str., New York

BE A DETECTIVE

Earn from $150.00 to $300.00 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. LUDWIG, 121 Westover Building, Kansas City, Mo.

Crochet and Tatting Book

Given for One Subscription

Premium No. 7321



Containing Sixty-three Beautiful Half Tone Illustrations of New Fashionable Designs In Crochet And Tatting With Complete Instructions for Making.

EVERY woman who is interested in crocheting and tatting should have a copy of this new book written by Winifred Worth and containing many designs used by the nuns in convents **now published for the first time**. The book is of good size measuring 8 inches by 10½ inches, printed on fine quality coated book paper and consists of 28 pages on which are shown **sixty-three**, large, clear half-tone **illustrations** with full and explicit **directions** for crocheting the prettiest edgings, beadings, insertions, towel ends, doilies, etc., besides a splendid variety of new, dainty designs in tatting with the necessary instructions. The art of combining Venetian crochet and tatting is fully explained.

This book also gives sizes of hooks best adapted for the different sizes of crochet threads, the abbreviations of all of the principal crochet stitches and terms used in tatting and tells how the different stitches are made such as the **chain stitch, double crochet, half treble, double treble, treble crochet, cluster** and **open mesh** stitches. Among the many crochet edgings, beadings, and insertions illustrated and described are the **clover leaf, Irish, picot, cross-bar, half-shell, half-wheel, ¼-stitch** and **filet** edgings; **festoon, Irish, fence-row, picot** and **shell** beadings; **mile-a-minute, half-shell, clover leaf, filet** and **monkey-face insertions; butterfly wings, Van Dyke Point, nuns' pattern** and many others. The tatting motifs are varied and beautiful, consisting of beadings, edgings and insertions for **table mats, bedspreads, curtains, guest towels, coin-purses, night-gown yokes, bath towels, sash curtains, ribbon holders, plate doilies,** etc., etc.

We will send you free and postpaid this book of the loveliest fashions in beautiful lace work with simple and complete directions which you can easily follow upon the terms of the following special offer.

Offer No. 7321A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this book of crocheting and tatting designs with directions free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7321B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this crocheting and tatting book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7321. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

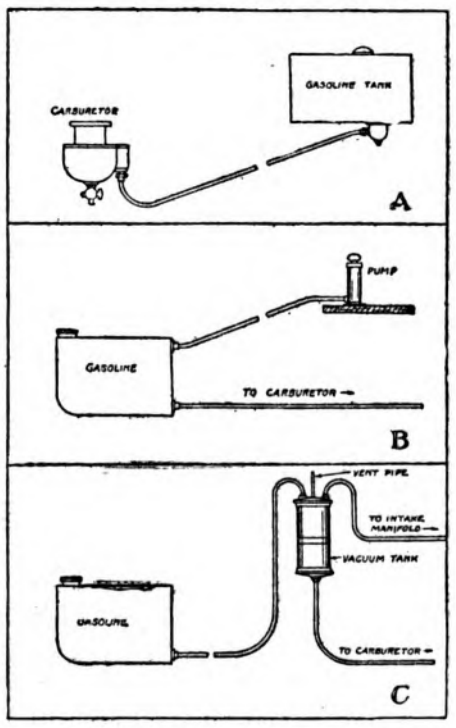
Three Types of Gasoline Systems

AT the present time there are three types of gasoline systems in general use on automobiles, namely gravity, pressure and vacuum. This discussion concerning the different methods of feeding the gasoline to the carburetor is intended to acquaint the owner with these systems and not to draw comparisons.

The first to be described is gravity, it being the simplest of all. As is well known by all, gravity is based upon the law of nature that liquids will flow to the lowest level. Since this system is so very simple why then is it not used by all manufacturers instead of installing the more complicated systems? The answer is that the car does not always travel on level roads but is required to run up steep grades at certain times. If the tank in which the gasoline is stored on the car is not raised sufficiently the angle on which the machine is placed is apt to result in the carburetor being placed higher than the tank. If this condition existed the gasoline would not flow to the carburetor and thus the car would stop for the want of fuel. Another reason for it not being universally adopted is that as the automobile developed, more storage room was wanted in the car and thus the tank was moved to the rear of chassis. The installation of starting and lighting systems was one of the chief reasons for desiring greater carrying space. A sketch of the gravity system is shown at A. In brief it may be said that its advantage is simplicity.

At B, is shown a type known as the pressure feed. The storage tank is located at the rear of car from which the gasoline is forced to the carburetor by air pressure. Some manufacturers employ a power pump while others use the ordinary hand pump for producing the necessary air pressure. Under ordinary circumstances about two pounds of air pressure is sufficient to force the gasoline out of the tank. The advantage of this system is that a positive flow of gasoline to the carburetor is insured regardless of the angle on which the car may be operating. Its disadvantages are that pressure must be produced in the tank before the car can be started and frequent inspection of the air pipes and joints is necessary to prevent air from leaking out.

The vacuum or last system to be described is one of the most recent upon the market. While it is very positive in action yet it is slightly more complicated and more difficult to understand. This system is pictured at C. The main storage tank is carried at the rear of car from which the fuel is gradually transferred by suction to a small auxiliary tank near the motor.



From this tank the fuel flows to the carburetor by gravity, a method described above.

The small tank, often referred to as the vacuum tank, consists usually of two steel shells, the inner one containing a metal float and valve mechanism attached to the cover. The inner shell is connected to the gasoline tank, and to the intake manifold and is also open to the atmosphere by means of a vent tube. The outer shell which is the larger is connected only to the carburetor and atmosphere. The two shells are connected by a flapper check valve located at the bottom of the inner shell.

The action is entirely automatic. The valve mechanism is so arranged as to use the suction created by the pistons in the motor. The suction produces a vacuum in the inner shell and thus draws the gasoline from the main tank at the rear of car. As the vacuum tank fills the float rises, bringing the valve mechanism into play causing the suction valve to close and opening the atmosphere valve. The gasoline which has been drawn into the inner shell now flows down to the outer shell through the flapper valve and from there to the carburetor as needed. When the inner tank is empty the float again drops causing the suction valve to again open and gasoline to be drawn from the main tank. The advantages of this system are said to be that it practically combines the gravity and pressure system, allows more carrying space in the car since the main tank is located at the rear of chassis and also affords a positive flow of liquid to the carburetor regardless of the angle on which the car may be running.

Volt and Ampere

Anyone who has had anything to do with electrical instruments knows that current is spoken of in volts and amperes. The volt is the term used to indicate the pressure of the current in the same sense that the pressure of water or steam is spoken of in pounds. In the study of electricity the volt has a certain fixed value exactly as the pound means a certain fixed weight.

The flow of water is measured by gallons. In the same manner the flow of electric current is referred to in amperes. In other words it is the rate at which the current flows.

Easily Made Metal Polish

No motorist need be ashamed of the appearance of his car for the need of a good metal polish for one can be easily prepared from ingredients usually to be found around the premises. The preparation consists of one part ammonia, two parts of alcohol and enough whiting to form a paste. This polish is satisfactory for brass, nickel or silver and is used by merely smearing the part with same. The ammonia and alcohol will dissolve all dirt and oxides and allow the same to become absorbed by the whiting. When the preparation is rubbed off with a soft cloth, the metal will appear bright. If a good whiting is not immediately obtainable corn-starch may be used with equally good results.

Emergency Wheel Puller

A great number of the pleasure cars now in use are equipped with what is termed the semi-floating rear axle. With this type the rear wheels are forced on to the axle shafts and keyed. Should for any reason it be necessary to take off one or both of the rear wheels difficulty is apt to be encountered unless a specially designed wheel puller is at hand. Without the use of such a device the operator can often remove the wheel by first removing the hub cap and then the nut at the end of the axle shaft. Next insert a small block of wood in the hub cap. This wood should be of the proper size so as to allow the cap to be screwed partly on the hub of the wheel. The principle involved is not difficult to understand. The wooden block bears against the end of the axle shaft and by screwing the hub cap on further the wheel will be forced off the shaft. Should the wheel prove to be exceptionally stubborn a few sharp blows on the cap with a large block or hammer will greatly assist in the work. It is well for the operator to bear in mind however that the removal of the wheel by this method is not recommended when the hub cap is of light construction or made of brittle metal.

Concerning Gaskets

To insure against leakage it is necessary to bolt the parts such as a manifold to the cylinders after inserting a gasket between the two. Should, at any future time, it be found necessary to separate the parts it will be found that the gasket will have a tendency to stick to the metal and before the same can be separated it is often necessary to tear the gasket. If a new gasket is not at hand this condition will be a source of inconvenience to the owner or workman and even should a new gasket be immediately procurable it is a source of expense. It is far better to prevent a condition such as this by coating both sides of the gasket with flake graphite before installing the gasket on the car. For the benefit of those who are not aware of the fact it will be well to state that flake graphite is not affected by heat or cold and will therefore allow the gasket to be removed as a unit instead of having to be torn off.

Lubricating the Gears

The majority of car manufacturers advise the use of a thick grease or heavy oil for use in the gear boxes. This kind of lubricant may be used with entire satisfaction during the warm months but has been determined to be a poor lubricant for this purpose during the colder months. The reason for this is that when the surrounding temperature is low the thick grease or heavy oil will collect in a mass and stick to the side of the gear case in which case very little if any of the lubricant reaches the gears. Needless to state this condition will result in noisy gears and will cause rapid wear of the moving parts. A gear lubricant more suited for use in cold weather can easily be made by mixing a quantity of flake graphite with a medium cylinder oil. A medium grade oil will always flow unless the conditions are extreme while flake graphite is not affected by climatic changes.

Locating the Cracked Cylinder

Even the amateur motorist is aware of the fact that there are many conditions which will result in the cracking of a cylinder. If the crack is in the outer wall of the cylinder, commonly termed the water jacket, the crack is not considered serious as the same can be readily located and fixed. However if the inner wall is cracked the defect cannot be noticed from the outside and besides affecting the operation of the motor is difficult to find. Considering that the inner wall of the cylinder is cracked a simple method of locating the affected cylinder is as follows:

Fill the cooling system with water until the liquid reaches the mouth of overflow pipe in the radiator. Next turn the motor over by use of the hand crank taking care to notice in which cylinder the compression is taking place. For example should the piston in the No. 1 cylinder be going up on the compression stroke and should it be noticed that the water starts to flow into the overflow pipe of the radiator, this would prove conclusively that the No. 1 cylinder was cracked. The reason for arriving at this conclusion is that the gas from the cylinder would be forced through the crack and in this manner cause the water to rise in the cooling system forcing some of it out through the overflow pipe of the radiator.

Questions Answered

Cleaning out Radiator

I have a 1912 touring car which has always afforded satisfactory service until recently. My present difficulty is that the radiator has a tendency to overheat. I believe the radiator is clogged with rust and would like you to inform me of an easy method of cleaning it. J. B., Nashua, N. H.

A.—The following has been found a simple but efficient method of cleaning rust and other sediment from radiator: Place car so that present cooling fluid can be drained off without touching tires. All pet cocks should then be closed and the radiator filled with clean water in which has been mixed about one quart of commercial muriatic acid. This can be obtained at any drug-store. After filling the radiator to the overflow pipe with this preparation place the cap in position and start motor. Allow it to run about five minutes at slow speed. This liquid should then be drained off and the radiator refilled with clean water. Start the motor and allow it to run from five to ten minutes at a fair rate of speed. This water should then be drained off. It is imperative that the radiator be clean of all cleaning solution. As an extra precaution it will be well to flush the radiator through with clean water once or twice during the week following the cleaning.

ENGINE KNOCKS.—My engine knocks when speeded up or going up grade. I retard my spark lever and it still knocks. A friend of mine has a car of another make which has a similar knock. We have had an expert working on them and they run nicely only knock on high power or going up grade. Can you suggest the remedy? J. T. W., Rogersville, Tenn.

A.—We have carefully noted what you say concerning the car owned by you and the one owned by your friend. We regret that you have furnished us with but little data on which to work and therefore it is almost imposible to intelligently advise as to the remedy. For your information we may advise that there are numerous conditions which could bring about the result such as you relate the most common of which are wrong ignition timing, carbon in the cylinders and faulty ignition current breaker. It would first be our suggestion that you have your mechanic carefully check up the ignition timing. It is essential that when the spark lever is fully retarded the spark must not take place in the cylinder until the piston has passed the top center point. After determining that the ignition is correctly timed carefully examine the breaker points. If they are pitted or burnt over they should be smoothed with a very fine file and then set to the proper gap. If the points are loose or much worn they should be replaced with new ones. It may be stated that from the tone of your letter, the writer is of the belief that the majority of your trouble is located in the breaker. If there are heavy deposits of carbon in the cylinders due to the extreme heat in the cylinders this substance will become incandescent and thus preignite the gas charges. If the charges are ignited ahead of time the tendency is to turn the motor in the reverse direction but due to the momentum stored by the flywheel the engine continues to turn in the right direction but is made to labor. The remedy, of course, is to remove the carbon.

Current Events

U. S. WHEAT CROP DECREASES.—According to the government forecasters there will be a total wheat crop of only 654,000,000 bushels. The total last year was 1,012,000,000 bushels. A corn crop of 2,777,000,000 bushels is promised against a total last year of 3,055,000,000 bushels. Oats promise a yield of 1,274,000,000 bushels against a total crop last year of 1,540,000,000 bushels. The indicated yield of winter wheat is 455,000,000 bushels, against a crop of 655,000,000 last year; and of spring wheat 199,000,000 bushels against 357,000,000 bushels in 1915.

WORLD'S WHEAT CROP FALLS.—The International Institute of Agriculture says that with harvesting virtually completed in most European countries, the indications are that the world's wheat supply for 1916 will be almost 25 per cent less than last year. The gathering of crops on a large scale is now limited to North America, Great Britain, Russia and Scandinavia. The barley crop for the world is estimated at 20 per cent less than last year, although five per cent above the average. The total yield of oats it is predicted will be 22 per cent less than in 1915, but 15 per cent above the average.

RECORD IMPORTS OF GEMS.—At the rate at which importations of precious stones at the port of New York are growing, the figures for the current year will exceed $50,000,000. This total has never before been reached in the history of the port.



Write *today* for a pair of **Mated Everbearing Strawberry** plants, one large packet each of the new Cereal **Feterita, Sudan Grass** and **Silk Leaf Poppy** seed, **all Free for Testing.** Send 10 cents for mailing expense, or not, as you please. We offer genuine Progressive Everbearing plants at 50c per dozen: 90c for 50; $1.75 for 100; $5.00 for 300, all postpaid. CATALOGUE FREE.
The Gardner Nursery Co., Box 423, Osage, Iowa

32 NICE POST CARDS different sorts, and a Good Magazine for one year. The WHOLE THING for only ten cents. ROBERTS & CO., 826 MADISON ST., CHICAGO

Large List, Dialogs, Entertainments, Recitations, Drills, **PLAYS** Catalogue Free. T. S. DENISON & CO., Dept. 8 Chicago, Ill.



TYPEWRITERS
SOLD or RENTED anywhere at ¼ to ½ Manufacturers' Prices, allowing Rental to Apply on Price. FREE TRIAL. Installment payments if desired. Write for circular 229
TYPEWRITER EMPORIUM, 34-38 W. Lake St., Chicago



Wrestling Book 10c
Be an expert wrestler. Learn at home from world's champions—the famous **Frank Gotch and Farmer Burns** Only 10c and this *wrestling book* is yours. Learn the tricks and science of wrestling and jiu-jitsu. Men and boys learn easily by mail. State age. Farmer Burns 3049 Ramge Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

IF YOU STAMMER
attend no stammering school till you get my large FREE book and special rate. Largest and best school in the world curing by natural method. Write today. **Lee Wells Millard, Pres., North-Western School, 2333 Grand Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.**

Driver Agents Wanted



5-Pass., 30 H.P. Electric Starting 114-in. W'base

Ride in a Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. I am daily shipping cars to Bush Agents. 103 went out last April. Big profits for you. Write at once for my 48-page catalog giving full details of 1917 model. Address J. H. BUSH, Pres., Dept. 1204
BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Ill.

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN

Prem. No. 7342



Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Two

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome illustrated Pendant and Chain herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch **genuine rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the **rolled-gold** pendant is also made of and set with **your own birthstone** and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond,** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald,** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are solitaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or for one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7342.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

was absent; and her absence was explained in the appended letter, which he read with dismay and dejection:

"Dear Mr. Bryant:—Inclosed you will find the amount which you so kindly loaned me on Monday, and without which I should have been in sore straits. On reaching home that day, I found my mother dying. She was buried yesterday afternoon, and I'm now entirely alone in the world. I find that circumstances will not permit me to return to your employ, and when you receive this I shall have left New York. Pray do not think that because I do not see you and thank you personally before I go, I am ungrateful for all your recent and unexampled kindness to me. I am not, I assure you; I shall never forget it—it will be one of the sacred memories of my life, that in you, in a time of dire need, I found a true friend and helper.

"Sincerely yours, EDITH ALLANDALE."

The lawyer lost no time in hastening to Edith's late residence. There he learned from Kate O'Brien that Edith had already gone, but she knew not her destination. He stated that he wished to consult the young lady upon a business matter and that if Mrs. O'Brien should learn of her address, it would be considered a great favor if she would bring it to him. This the kind-hearted Irish woman agreed to do, and with a heavy heart the young lawyer returned to his place of business.

Meanwhile, Edith was being wheeled along the rails toward her destination. When the train reached New Haven, feeling faint, for she had not been able to eat much breakfast, she got out to purchase a lunch.

She entered the station and bought some sandwiches, together with a little fruit, and then started to return to the train.

Just in front of her she noticed a fine-looking, richly-clad couple who were evidently bound in the same direction.

The gentleman opened the door for his companion to pass out, but as she did so, the heel of her boot caught upon the threshold, and she would have fallen heavily to the platform if Edith had not sprung forward and caught her by the hand which she threw out to save herself.

As it was, she was evidently badly hurt, for she turned very white and a sharp cry of pain was forced from her lips.

"Are you injured, madam? Can I do anything for you?" Edith inquired, while her husband, springing to her aid, exclaimed, in a tone of mingled concern and impatience:

"What have you done, Anna?"

"Turned my ankle, I think," the woman replied.

Edith stooped to pick up the beautiful Russia leather bag which she had dropped as she stumbled, and followed the couple to the train, where, with the help of a porter, the injured lady was assisted into a parlor car.

The one adjoining it was the common passenger coach in which Edith had ridden from New York.

"Here is madam's bag, sir," she remarked to the gentleman, as, supporting his wife with one arm, he was about to pass into the Pullman.

"Are you going on this train?" he inquired.

"Yes, sir; but I do not belong in the parlor car."

"Never mind; we will fix that all right. Bring the bag along, if you will be so kind," he returned, as he went on with his companion.

So Edith followed them to the little stateroom at one end of the car, where madam sank heavily into a chair, looking as if she were ready to swoon.

"Oh, get off my boot!" she pleaded.

Edith drew forward a hassock for her foot to rest upon, and then, with a face full of sympathy, dropped upon her knees and began to unbutton the boot, which, however, was no easy matter, as the ankle was already much swollen.

The train began to move just at this moment, and the young girl started to her feet, an anxious look sweeping over her face.

"Never mind," said the gentleman, reassuringly. "Unless you have friends aboard the train to be troubled about you, I will take you back to your car presently."

"I have no one—I am traveling alone," Edith responded.

"Then would it be presuming upon your kindness too much to ask you to remain with my wife?" he inquired. "I am perfectly helpless, like most men, when any one is ill and we know no one on the train."

"I will gladly stay, and do whatever I can for her," eagerly returned Edith.

As Edith, from time to time, continued her ministering to the injured foot, rubbing it with alcohol, to reduce the inflammation, she was questioned by her new acquaintances, and informed them of her recent bereavement and of her lonely condition, and stated that she was going to Boston to try to secure employment.

She was applying the alcohol when the lady said:

"That will do for the present, Miss ——. What shall I call you, please?" she remarked, signifying that she did not care to have the foot rubbed any longer at that time.

"Edith Allen—— Oh, what have I done?" the young girl suddenly cried out, in a voice of pain, as the woman winced and gave vent to a moan beneath her touch.

"Nothing—do not be troubled, dear—only you happened to touch a very tender spot," explained the lady, trying to smile reassuringly into the girl's startled face. "So your name is Edith Allen; that sounds very nice," she continued. "I am fond of pretty names as I am of pretty people."

Edith opened her lips to correct her regarding her name; then suddenly checked herself.

It did not matter, she thought, if they did not know her full name. She might never see them again; she had a right to use only the first half of her surname, if she chose, and it would not be nearly so conspicuous as Allandale, which was so familiar in certain circles in New York.

Thus she concluded to let the matter rest as it was.

The acquaintance thus begun was productive of an utterly unexpected result. Before the trip was ended, the lady had induced Edith to accept the position of traveling companion to her, at a salary of twenty-five dollars a month. She stated that about a month previous she had lost the services of the female who had filled the position, and until this time had been unable to find a suitable person for the place.

Edith decided to try the position for a month; "then," she added, "if I meet your requirements, we can arrange for a longer time."

"Very well; I am pleased with that arrangement. And now, Edith—of course I am not going to be so formal as to address you as Miss Allen——"

"Certainly not," interposed Edith.

"I was about to remark," the lady went on, "that I think it is time we were formally introduced to you. My husband is known as Gerald Goddard, Esq., of No. —— Commonwealth avenue, Boston, and I am—Mrs. Goddard."

Edith wondered why she should have paused before speaking thus of herself; why she should have shot that quick, flashing glance into her husband's face as she did so.

She was a very handsome woman of perhaps forty-two or forty-three years. She was slightly above the medium height, with a magnificently proportioned figure. Her hair was coal-black, with a tendency to curl; her eyes were of the same color, very large and brilliant, and rendered peculiarly expressive by the long raven lashes which shaded them. Her complexion was a pale olive, clear and smooth as satin; her features were somewhat irregular, but singularly pleasing when she was animated; her cheeks slightly tinted, her lips a vivid scarlet, her teeth white as alabaster.

Later, when Edith saw her arrayed for an evening reception, she thought her the most brilliantly handsome woman she had ever seen.

As Mrs. Goddard finished speaking, Edith involuntarily glanced up at Mr. Gerald Goddard, when she was startled to find him sharply scrutinizing her, with a look which seemed to be trying to read her through and through.

His glance sent a strange chill running through her veins—a sensation almost of fear and repulsion; and she found herself hoping that she would not be obliged to see very much of the gentleman, even though she was destined to become an inmate of his home.

He was evidently somewhat older than his wife, for his hair was almost white and his face somewhat lined—whether from time, care, or dissipation, Edith could not quite determine.

He would have been called and was regarded by the society in which he moved as a remarkably handsome and distinguished looking man, who entertained "like a prince," and possessed an exhaustless fund of wit and knowledge.

Nevertheless, Edith was repelled by him, and felt that he was not a man to be either trusted or loved, even though she had not been an hour in his presence before she was made to realize that his wife adored him.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE VENOM OF JEALOUSY.

And thus Edith became companion to the wife of the wealthy and aristocratic Gerald Goddard, who was known as one of Boston's millionaires.

Her duties were comparatively light, consisting of reading to Mrs. Goddard, whenever she was in the mood for such entertainment; singing and playing to her when she was musically inclined; and accompanying her upon drives and shopping expedition, when she had no other company.

Edith, however, was not long in the household before she made the discovery that there was a skeleton in the family. At times Mr. Goddard was morose and irritable, and his wife displayed symptoms of intense jealousy. About five weeks after Edith's installation in the home, Mrs. Goddard's brother, Monsieur Correlli, a young sculptor, come there, on a visit to his sister. He was handsome and talented, and had come from France, to "do the United States," during a long vacation.

Mrs. Goddard was proud of her brother, and often attended receptions and parties with him as her escort, and was delighted to show him off to her friends and acquaintances in the most select of Boston society.

On returning to her home, after one of these receptions, she heard merry laughter in the library. Listening attentively, she discovered that it emanated from her husband and Edith, who sometimes, at his request, read to him during the frequent absences of his wife.

The demon of jealousy at once took possession of her. Suddenly entering the library she requested Edith to at once attend her in her boudoir. On arriving there the enraged woman gave way to her passion of jealousy. In blunt words she taunted the girl with attempting to steal the affections of her husband, and closed her bitter comments with the threat that "the woman who tried to win my husband from me would never accomplish her purpose. *I would kill her!*"

Edith did her best to assure the angry woman that her suspicions were unfounded, and in a little time Mrs. Goddard was half convinced that she had been too hasty in her accusations.

That night the pure girl calmly deliberated upon the subject, and recalled several occasions when Mr. Goddard had seemed to be deeply absorbed in the contemplation of her features, eying her with glances of undisguised admiration and rapture. She determined, therefore, to be a little more circumspect hereafter, and avoid giving him such opportunities.

Another trial awaited her about a week later. Emil Correlli had become quite attentive to her, seeking every chance to be alone with her, showering compliments upon her, and extolling her charms. On one of these occasions he was bold enough to propose marriage, and, before she could recover from her astonishment, had the effrontery to steal a kiss from her unwilling lips.

This bold affront, added to the previous unfounded accusations of Mrs. Goddard made Edith decide to leave the house at once. She announced her decision to her mistress; but that lady, in great humiliation, begged her to overlook her brother's impetuosity, saying that his conduct should be considered only "a tribute to her manifold charms," and that hereafter she would have no cause for complaint of either him or her.

The proud woman's deep contrition, and her earnest appeals, had the effect intended, and Edith decided to remain.

That evening a prolonged interview occurred between Mrs. Goddard and her brother. The result of it was that the sister agreed to do her utmost to place Edith beyond the reach of her husband by combining a scheme which would make her the bride of Emil Correlli.

Some days elapsed, and then an incident worthy of record occurred. Edith had been out for a stroll, and, just as she was retracing her steps along Commonwealth avenue, an elegant carriage came slowly around the corner. The driver was in dark green livery, and seemed to be under the influence of stimulants. Suddenly he learned sideways, and fell off the box, landing on the ground.

Edith impulsively started forward, shouted "Whoa" to the horses, and lifted the reins. The animals stopped immediately, and in a moment a lovely face was thrust from the carriage window, and a sweet voice asked:

"Thomas, what is the matter?—what has happened?"

She stepped from the carriage and was soon informed of the accident, and its probable cause. She was a tall, elegantly formed woman, of perhaps forty-three years, with large, dark brown eyes and rich brown hair. Her skin was fair and flawless, as that of a girl of twenty, with a delicate flush upon her cheeks, and Edith thought her face the most beautiful she had ever seen.

A policeman presently appeared upon the scene, and the lady requested him to secure some competent person who would drive the vehicle to its stable. To secure attention to this request, she gave the policeman a bank note, and named the location of the stable. She then said to the coachman, who was engaged in brushing the dust from his clothing:

"Thomas, you may come to me at nine o'clock tomorrow morning—without the carriage."

As the coachman staggered off, the lady turned to Edith, thanked her for the service she had performed, and gave her a card bearing a name and address—"Mrs. I. G. Stewart, Copley Square Hotel, Boston, Mass."

At the solicitation of the lady, Edith gave her name, and stated that she was the companion to Mrs. Gerald Goddard, of Commonwealth avenue.

This information caused Mrs. Stewart to turn pale, and otherwise manifest a strange agitation. She quickly recovered, however, and stated:

"Ah! I was introduced to Mrs. Goddard's brother, Monsieur Correlli, a few evenings ago, but I have never had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Goddard. Now it is time for me to go, and I shall have to take an electric car to get back to my hotel. Again let me thank you for your timely service. I hope you and I will meet again some time; and, dear, if you should ever need a friend, do not fail to come to me. Good afternoon."

Shortly after the departure of Mrs. Stewart, as Edith was walking homeward, she was overtaken by Emil Correlli, who begged permission to attend her, as they were both bound for the same destination. It would have been rude to refuse, so Edith consented, although she would have preferred to go alone.

They had not advanced far before Edith became aware that they were followed by a woman, who kept parallel with them, on the opposite side of the street. Monsieur Correlli seemed unconscious of this fact, as he was apparently engrosse, in the effort to entertain his companion with animated conversation. When they were within a few yards of Mrs. Goddard's residence, the woman suddenly darted across the avenue and placed herself directly in their path.

In an instant Emil Correlli seemed turned to stone, so motionless and rigid did he become. For a full minute his gaze was riveted upon the stranger, as if in horrible fascination.

"*Giulia!*" he breathed, at last, in a scarcely audible voice. "*Le diable!*"

The woman had a veil over her face, but Edith could see that she was very handsome, with a warm, Southern kind of beauty, although it was of a rather coarse type. She was evidently a foreigner, with brilliant black eyes, an olive complexion, scarlet lips and cheeks, and a wealth of purple-black hair, which was coiled in a massive knot at the back of her head.

She was of medium height, with a plump but exquisitely proportioned figure, as was revealed by her closely-fitting garment of navy-blue velvet.

The moment Emil Correlli spoke her name, she burst passionately forth, and began to address him in rapidly uttered sentences of some foreign language, which Edith could not understand.

It was not French, for she could converse in that tongue, and she knew it was not German. She therefore concluded it must be either Italian or Spanish.

As the girl talked, her eyes roved from the man's face to Edith's, with angry, jealous glances, while she gesticulated wildly with her hands, and her voice was fierce and intense with passion.

At last she paused in her tirade, simply because she lacked breath to go on, when Emil Correlli replied to her, in her own tongue, and with equal fluency; but in tones that were both stern and authoritative, while it was evident that he was excessively annoyed by her sudden and unexpected appearance there.

Finally, after another attempt upon the girl's part to carry her point, he stamped his foot imperatively, to emphasize some command, and, with a look which made her cringe like a whipped cur before him; when, shooting a glance of fire and hate at Edith, she turned away, with a crest-fallen air, and went, dejectedly, down the street.

Edith would have been glad, and had tried, to escape from this scene, for after the first moment of surprise upon being so unceremoniously confronted by the beautiful stranger, she had stepped aside, ascended the steps, and rang the bell.

But, for some reason, no one came to the door, and she was obliged to repeat the summons, but feeling very awkward to have to stand there and listen to the altercation that was being carried on so near her, although she could not understand a word that was said.

At last, just as Monsieur Correlli had delivered his authoritative command, the butler made his appearance, and let Edith in.

Before she could enter, the woman was gone, and Emil Correlli sprang up the steps, and was by her side.

He glanced anxiously down upon her face, which wore a grave and pre-occupied look.

He knew that she was wondering who the fiery, but beautiful and richly-dressed stranger was: knew that she could not fail to believe that there must be something suspicious and mysterious in his relations with her, and he was greatly exercised over the unfortunate encounter.

He had set his heart upon winning her—he had vowed that nothing should stand in the way of her becoming his wife, and now this—the worst of all things—had happened, to compromise him in her eyes, and he secretly breathed the fiercest anathemas upon the head of the marplot who had just left him.

Later that evening, Emil Correlli took the first opportunity to explain the unfortunate *contretemps* to the wondering Edith. He stated that the girl was the daughter of an Italian florist, who had audaciously presumed to dun him for a small bill he owed her father for floral purchases.

This matter, satisfactorily explained, as he thought, he renewed his protestations of love to Edith, solicited her hand in marriage, and was staggered by her emphatic refusal.

Her refusal was reported to Mrs. Goddard by that lady's brother, and she counseled him to be patient.

"I have in mind," she said, "the germ of a most cunning plot, which must succeed in your winning Edith Allen," and then she proceeded to unfold her plan, which, for boldness, craft, and ingenuity, would have been worthy of a French *intriguante* of the seventeenth century.

"Anna, you are a trump!" Emil Correlli exclaimed, admiringly, when she concluded. "If you can carry that out as you have planned it, it will be a most unique scheme—the best thing of its kind on record!"

"I can carry it out if you will let me do it in my own way; only you must take yourself off. I will not have you here to run the risk of spoiling everything," said Mrs. Goddard, with a determined air.

"Very well, then; I will go this very night. I will take the eleven o'clock express on the B. and A. I have such faith in your genius that I am willing to be guided wholly by you, and trust my fate entirely in your hands"

"I can write you from time to time, as the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 29)

Pioneer Brands of Rubber Footwear

BOSTON RUBBER SHOE CO. BOSTON U.S.A. TRADE MARK HUB MARK

ONLY daring manufacturers risked the trade-marking of rubber footwear in the early days of the industry. The brands shown here are the most illustrious survivors.

So little was known of the processes by which rubber was made durable, shape-holding and wearable in all kinds of weather, that the men who trade-marked their products simply challenged fate!

"CANDEE" TRADE MARK

WALES GOODYEAR SHOE CO. TRADE MARK

They said, "You can depend upon us to make the very best rubber footwear possible; we'll put our trade-mark on them as an evidence of our good intention."

If the rubber footwear you buy bears any one of these trade-marks, you get high-quality, perfect-fitting, good-looking, serviceable rubber footwear. Look for these quality-marks.

GOODYEAR'S RUBBER GLOVE CO. TRADE MARK

AMERICAN RUBBER CO. TRADE MARK

Seventy-four years of successful manufacturing and the experience of forty-seven great factories are back of every pair of rubber shoes, overshoes, arctics, boots, etc., produced by the United States Rubber Company, the largest rubber manufacturer in the world.

Rubbers that fit wear twice as long as rubbers that do not fit.

United States Rubber Company

UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY US RUBBER SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.)

much, we'd grow soft and degenerate. On the other hand if calamities could make people quit wickedness, we would have been angels long ago. When a man has learned to control himself and live close to God, and he is learning to do it gradually in spite of many terrible backward slumps, learning to become more spiritual and less material, he will have the power to control the elements and make the storm clouds do his bidding. Already he can rise above the storm and float upon its angry breast. Remember there is no limit to what man will be able to do for man is of God. Not that old tribal God that the warring nations of Europe call to when they ask for help to destroy one another, but the universal Father, all good, all wise, who paints the wayside flower and lights the evening star, and who holds the heavenly bodies in their appointed places as they ceaselessly sweep from age to age through endless space. Thank you dear friend, for the things you say of me and my humble efforts to minister to the needs of the lowly of earth. Such encouraging words as yours make life worth living.

PAINT BANK, VA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am twenty years of age; have black hair, dark eyes, fair skin; am about five feet six inches tall; am also blind in one eye. I am a Methodist, and a progressive. I have lived with Mr. and Mrs. John D. Reynolds of this place ever since I was five years old. They have raised me. Mother was a poor widow, and had to put her four older children out. They have been better to me than my parents could ever possibly have been. My foster-father has been magistrate of this place, for over forty years, and is still holding the office.

Uncle Charlie, I received your story-book a few months ago, and was tickled to death with it. It was so entertaining, and after supper every night I read aloud to ma and pa. I read your answers to the cousins' letters to them, also, and they laugh at your funny answers.

Uncle, I have something good to tell you; we had Christmas tree exercises last December, and I recited one of your poems and the whole church roared!

Dear Uncle, you are doing a noble work, and God will bless you in it. You are nearer the hearts of more people than any other person in the world. We COMFORT readers *positively could not* do without Uncle Charlie. I do not know of a single person who is acquainted with you through COMFORT who hasn't reserved a corner in his heart for you.

Pa is always anxious to see what your opinions are on various topics of the day.

The Texas gentleman that called you a Benedict Arnold should excite pity as well as indignation. If you are a Benedict Arnold, so were the Pilgrim fathers, so was Thomas Jefferson, Washington and Lincoln. You are a true American if there ever was one.

You certainly will have many a gem in your crown. May you live long and prosper, and when we are all called away from this world, may we all meet in a better one, where I expect to shake hands with Uncle Charlie.

Haven't we any Indian cousins? If so, why don't they write?

Yours for Woman's Suffrage, ICEY MAY PAITSEL.

Icey, I want you to convey to your foster parents the gratitude of myself and the COMFORT family for the lovely way they have treated you, a poor little orphan girl, and reared you to be such a fine specimen of womanhood. The penmanship in your letter is a rare treat. It did not strain my aching eyes to read it. So many adopted children are ill used, exploited and abominably maltreated at times, that I just feel like hugging anyone who is good to an orphan. I remember the day when there was nothing for the poor bereaved mother, left without her mate and supporter, but to put her children in institutions to be neglected and half starved. Now we have mothers' pension laws in no less than twenty-seven states. The same devoted band who brought mothers' pensions into existence are trying and will eventually succeed in passing an amendment to this law, providing that mothers who are forced to work and who have only their own earnings to depend on for support, shall receive a pension of forty dollars a month for two months before maternity and three months after the child is born—that would be two hundred dollars in all. This amendment will soon be introduced into the legislatures of the twenty-seven states which are now operating the mothers' pension system. The women of Colorado are going to see to it that it goes through their legislature. Here is an object lesson for you who don't believe in woman suffrage. Look what women's votes could accomplish for such a glorious project as this and other legislation on the same lines. The object of this amendment is to see that a mother is relieved of work and worry during the critical period when the child needs nourishment, nourishment that could not be given if the mother had to work. This plan has been tried in Europe for some years with excellent results. Institutions are being crowded with sickly, defective and feeble-minded children, because mothers are unable to supply proper nourishment to their babies at birth. Owing to these conditions the expense to the state has been enormous. There are 22,500 dependent children in the state of New York alone. These children cost the state millions of dollars. It is far more economical to see that the child has a chance to be well born than to have it starved at birth and later forced into an institution. Icey's mother twenty years ago was forced to part with her children Today she could keep them around her if she happened to be in a Mothers' Pension state, and give them the love and attention no institution can give. It would save the tax payers millions of dollars if mothers were relieved of work and worry just before and after child birth, and the gain to society and the state would be incalculable. It may interest you to know that under the Mothers' Pension system, ten million dollars is being spent yearly for the support of a hundred thousand children, that is at the rate of a hundred dollars per child. It costs nearly double that to keep them in institutions in wretchedness and misery. Icey, you are a lucky girl. Give your foster parents a hug for Uncle Charlie.

HEDGESVILLE, W. VA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a school girl of fourteen; I weigh one hundred and two pounds, am five feet six inches in height, I have auburn hair and fair complexion. I am in the eighth grade at school, but expect to finish this year and go to high school, at Hedgesville, the nearest town, which is about six miles from my home. I live in the mountainous part of West Va. I live on a farm about twelve miles from Martinsberg, the county seat of Berkeley Co. I go to school eight months in a year, beginning with September and ending in April. In summer I work out in the field and help my mother in the house too. My hobbies are going to school, riding horseback and music. I am the eldest of the children at home. I have one brother and sister. I attend Sunday school every Sunday. I am like most of the boys and girls around here, I am good while I am at Sunday school, and bad just as quick as I get home. How many girls my age can cook everything, and keep house all alone? I can bake pies, bread and cake. As I have already told before I am the eldest of the children, and the eldest child always has more and harder work to do than the younger children. Mamma says I do not work very hard, but I think different.

There is a skating rink one mile from my home, and I went there often last winter. I would like to see you skating when the ice is slippery, Uncle, I know you would make a good appearance, just like I make when the ice jumps up and knocks me down.

Your niece, GRACE ODETTE BEALL.

Grace, yours is a bright little letter. I'm particularly interested in your hobbies which you say are: "Going to school riding horseback and music." I have heard of young ladies riding horseback, but never heard of them riding music. I know there is lots of music when some people ride, especially if they are seated on the back of a mule that declines to go. Of course it is possible that you ride the piano, parlor organ, or phonograph. It would be some fun to see you urging that fiery parlor organ of yours around the countryside, and when next you do it, I hope we may all be there to see. I have heard of musical rides, but never of riding music. The next time you indulge in this musical hobby, put us wise, Grace, and we will all be on hand to see the stunt. I like your candor and frankness. You are good when in Sunday school and bad when out of it. I'm sorry that the influence of Sunday school is not strong enough to hold you except for the brief hour or so the session is being held. I'm not surprised for youth is rebellious and headstrong and does not take very cordially to spiritual things. The grown-ups, like the children, do not as a rule carry their religion far beyond the church door. If we had the right kind of religion and the right kind of preachers and teachers, religious influences would spread far beyond the Sunday school and church. When I look over the Sunday school lessons I am not surprised. Old Testament history has to be taught by a master mind to be made interesting to children. Even the biggest bonehead can hardly fail to make Christ's life story interesting. The way to impress children would be not to lock them up in school, but to take them around the countryside and explain to them the wonders of nature and wondrous work of nature's God. The humblest wayside flower provides a better inspiration for a sermon than fifty pages of Old Testament history. Take children to visit the sick, the helpless and the friendless, just as Christ would if He were on earth. Teach the boys to be chivalrous and protect not only their own, but other boys' sisters. Teach the boys and girls the need for sincerity, truth, honesty and upright living. Tell them of the great part they have to play in the uplift of the race and the development of this nation. Teach boys and girls that there is something higher in this life than the mere pursuit of pleasure, the indulgence of self. Teach self control, the glory of self sacrifice, devotion and service. There is more that is inspiring and ennobling to be learned from the life of Lincoln than from almost any character in old Testament history. The people of Israel didn't have all the prophets or all the heroes. Make spiritual things interesting. Teach the joy of being good for good's sake, not from the fear of hell or the hope of heaven. This is a big subject and I can only skim the surface of it here. Our Sunday school and churches are not doing one thousandth part of the good they could and should do. The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are not only few, but they don't know their business and they don't know how to get results. Teach a religion that lasts all the week, then we will have a world worth while. Christ gave us such a religion, but the church is afraid of Christ. Too much Christ would hurt business—and we mustn't hurt business.

NASHOBA, OKLA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have taken COMFORT for fifteen years and always enjoy Uncle Charlie's writings, especially the introduction.

I have Uncle Charlie's poems and think they are fine. I can't keep them at home half the time for the young people like to recite them. We use them at our Literaries, school exhibitions and have even spent hours reading them at other social gatherings. I often wonder how you can be so jolly and suffer like you do. I only had the toothache for about a month and was as cross as a bear.

Tell Maria and Billy the Goat I like them too.

I am married to the dearest of Joes and have three little girls, aged two, three and five. My one aim in life is to educate my children. Am even teaching school now so we can buy stock and make a living without raising cotton all our lives.

Wishing you many more years of usefulness, your friend, MRS. ADDEA HARRIS.

So you can't understand, dear friend, how one can suffer and still be jolly. Well I suppose it is a mystery to a good many people. What can't be cu however must be endured. Toothache for a month would drive anyone crazy, but if you knew that toothache was going to continue for the rest of your life, you'd decide to do one of two things, jump off the dock or use every atom of your will power to shut out the pain. When I first became an invalid I was irritable and rebellious. Then when I found kicking and complaining only made matters worse, I took the thing philosophically and made the best of it. I spent six years in hospitals and institutions. I schooled myself to shut out the most horrible sights and the most terrifying sounds. Many a funny song and pome have I written to the accompaniment of the death rattle. I didn't get callousned or hardened. I just built a little imaginary world of my own and lived in that and never came out of it except when forced to. Many and many a time when life has seemed unbearable, my responsibilities too great to be borne, and somebody was taking care of me while my guardian angels were out taking a little recreation, I've picked up the phone, preliminary to calling up an ambulance to take me to a city hospital. Then I thought what a cowardly thing that would be to do—to run away like a cur dog from the battlefield of life, humiliated and defeated. Fortunately most of us have others dependent on us, aged and infirm relatives, faithful and devoted friends, or helpless little children. I have my share of such. If it was only a matter of self we would give up. The thought of those other lives, the thought of those who have toiled for us, suffered for us, acts as a bugle call to everything that is heroic and worthy in our natures. We cannot lay down our cross without making the crosses of others more than they can bear, and just as that resolve comes into our souls, that kindly Providence that tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, lifts the cross of thorns a little from our tortured brows and eases the pain in our racked bodies and lights again the lamp of hope in the skies of despair. That's how Providence keeps doing with me. Just when I feel I can't endure another straw, and want to close my eyes and give up, some blessed ease will come. Sometimes it's a long, long time in coming but it always comes. We know that those little oases of ease in the great, dark, dreary desert of suffering and pain will eventually be reached, and know that finally will come that eternal oasis where pain will be no more, and that is what heartens us to go on. I hope you will succeed in educating your little ones without too much interference from the boll weevil.

WHEELER, TEXAS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am writing to the Cousins' League because I'm interested in your rules. They are fine. Let every one keep them and they will make fine men and women. I'm fifteen years old. I would be glad to hear from any of the cousins. I have just written to two of the girls in the League and Mercy Work. I sent them a handkerchief apiece. I am the sheriff's daughter. Papa is holding office for the third term. We live in the jail. It is a nice place. We have a fine country out here. It is good and healthy. I never *have* been sick, I don't know what it would be like. I must praise you again. The League is the most wonderful thing. I like to read the COMFORT. I'm in the ninth grade. We have a large car. IRENE GUANTER.

Irene, I am delighted to meet the sheriff's daughter. You know I just can't get over you living in that jail. Strange you should select a jail as a place of residence. What did you and papa do to get sent to jail? The Goat says you didn't get sent, you got elected. We gather from your letter that this is the third time you have been elected to jail. That must be an awful mean bunch of people in your county, Irene, and they must have got it in for you, or you and papa must be awfully naughty or they would not persist in electing you to jail. I'm glad that your jail is a nice place. None of the jails that I was ever in were particularly nice. They had too many bars in them, and as I am a strong prohibitionist I naturally object to bars. Do you think if I were to come down to Wheeler, Texas, I would get elected to jail? About the quickest way to get to jail down South would be to make a speech on woman suffrage. Never mind, if the men put me in jail for talking on that subject the women would soon pull me out. I tell you right now Irene, I'd rather be in jail in progressive Texas than walking about free in some sections of these United States. I've a warm spot in my heart for Texas, though it is nearly thirty years since I honored your state with a visit. I hope some day Irene, you will be able to catch Mr. Villa and put him in one of your cells, and if you could only go over to Europe and catch the Austrian and German Kaisers, the Czar and King Georgie, and put them all in nice, warm cells in your jail, then hire me to come down and do the cooking for them, I would not charge you a cent for my professional services. I'd cook up a nice little lynching bee, and when it was all over there would be peace on the Rio Grande and peace in Europe. I've always had a strong desire to remove the kinks from the world, and now that we've got a sheriff's daughter who owns a private jail, I don't see why I should not get busy and do the job up in good shape. So you have a large car. What's the good of a car to people who live in jail? Irene, here's a conundrum for you: "Why are the prisoners in your jail like an automobile?" Give it up? "Because they have been *retired*." Here's another one Irene, I got this out of Billy the Goat's joke book. "Why is Texas the most militaristic state in the Union?" "Because even the oil wells are being drilled." Irene, I'm not surprised that you take an interest in shut-ins, considering the number of them you have in your jail.

ADA, OKLA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I thought perhaps you could give me some information that would enable me to earn some money. I'm a telephone operator, but I wish to join the movies. Which company is the best to apply to is what I want to find out. I want the address of reliable, good paying companies. Could you send me some.

I am sincerely, ESTHER HOBSON.

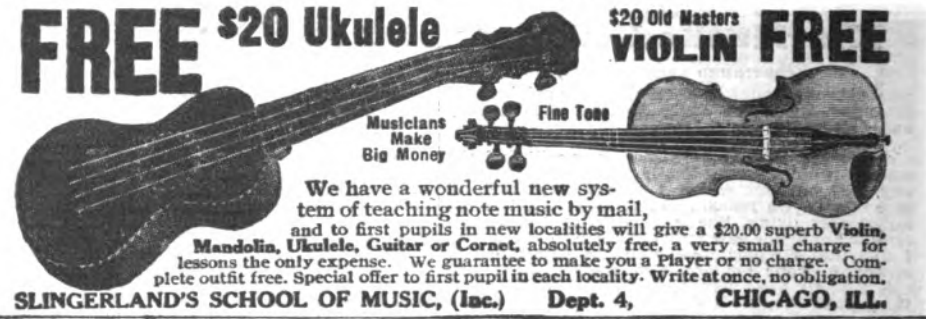
Esther, take my advice and give the movies a wide berth. There are a few people who make immense sums out of the movie business, but the rank and file don't make a bare existence and won't do until the business is organized, just as the actors and the railroad employes have had to organize their business. The amusement business attracts more skins, frauds, sharks and shysters than any other industry or profession. If a girl is very beautiful and very clever and has a whole lot of influence both the stage and the screen offer opportunities for money making not found in any other line of effort. Directly however, a girl gets in the limelight, unless she has a will of iron, a character of steel, the fortitude of a saint, the resisting power of a Gibraltar, she will be the prey of many villains who haunt every avenue of the amusement business. For every girl who can go through this fiery furnace unscathed, a hundred fall by the wayside. Throw scores or hundreds of young people together of either sex, girls without chaperonage or protection, and young men, cold, calculating and conscienceless, wise to every worldly wile of the libertine and the debaucher, and you know what is going to happen to the girl. The artistic temperament (and nearly all who gravitate towards the stage and screen have that temperament in a lesser or greater degree) is a hard thing to control, and it leads people to perpetrate unconventional acts which make the average person stand aghast. Promiscuity, which invites familiarity is the greatest menace to morals. Men who would not dare accost a girl on the street and who would not be allowed to cross the threshold of a hog pen, let alone enter a decent home, can in the movie business, act with the greatest familiarity and find the movie rehearsal environment an ideal field for exploiting their peculiar deviltry. In New York the supernumaries and "extras" who fill out the backgrounds of the spectacular films, have been scandalously exploited by the agents who hire the hordes of people needed in many of the picture plays. The company pays three dollars a day, the agent takes half and for his dollar and a half the poor movie "fan" may have to hang around for hours and hours and at times do a number of stunts that would make a Carnegie medal hero look sick. The screen supers are organizing to protect their interests and get a living wage for their strenuous work. I know a young lady, bright and attractive who had screen fever. She had come into quite a snug little legacy and she determined to break into film work. She spent six or seven hundred dollars on costumes, another hundred dollars on photographs (the latter she left in bunches with all the movie agents in New York). She had no artistic ability, but she made a fine appearance. I got a friend of mine, a movie director to take an interest in her. In four weeks she earned the large sum of ten dollars. Her living expenses, carfare, etc., in the meantime cost her seventy-five dollars. She found that to get on in the movies she had to pay the price, a price no decent, honorable woman will pay. She took my advice and got out of it. The picture business is a fine one for girls to stay out of.

MIDWAY, Wash Co., PA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

You sure write some fine pieces. I agree with you where you speak about feeding the brain with good reading as well as the body with food. I surely like to read and believe me, people can learn a whole lot by reading your pieces. I don't see where you get time to write the pieces you do, and take care of the cousins' letters as well. And you must read a lot also to get all the knowledge you have. I believe in

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)

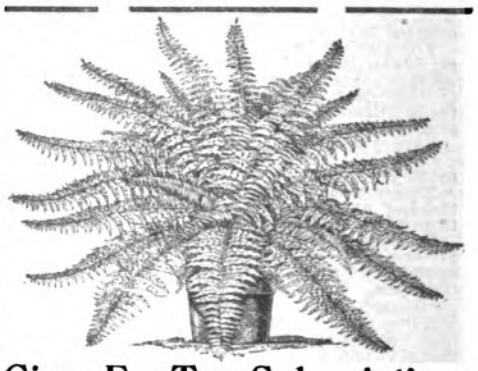


We have a wonderful new system of teaching note music by mail, and to first pupils in new localities will give a $20.00 superb Violin, Mandolin, Ukulele, Guitar or Cornet, absolutely free, a very small charge for lessons the only expense. We guarantee to make you a Player or no charge. Complete outfit free. Special offer to first pupil in each locality. Write at once, no obligation.
SLINGERLAND'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC, (Inc.) Dept. 4, CHICAGO, ILL.

NO MORE WORK SHOE TROUBLES
The new patented National Aluminum Shoes stop all pinching, distorting or rubbing of foot. GUARANTEED to protect your health and save money by outwearing several pairs of kind you now use. Water-proof, rust-proof, break-proof, light, comfortable, fit fine, easy to walk in. Keep your feet warm and dry. Easy to clean. Snow or mud does not ball up and stick to sole. Cushion felt insole. Best pliable leather uppers. Sizes 1 to 12, 6 to 16 in. high. Wear them anywhere, anytime. Special Transmission Rubber Taps outwear any other kind--easy to renew if they ever wear out. FIT AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED or MONEY BACK. Postal brings OUR FREE catalog.

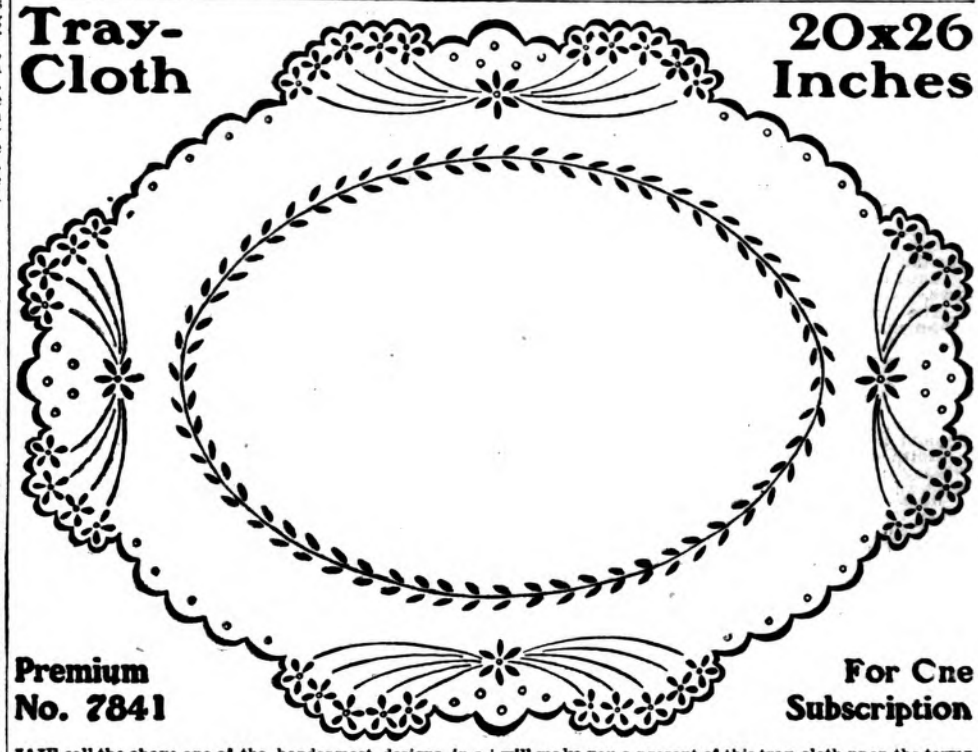
FREE try on in your own home
National Aluminum Shoe Co. Dept. 30, Racine, Wis.

AUTO FREE
You may feel that you can't afford to buy a car, but if you live in the country or town under 10,000 you can get a new 1917 OVERLAND, without cost, as a reward for a few weeks' spare time work in your own community. 40 autos already given away. Write today for my new easy plan. C. F. ALDRICH, Mgr. St. Paul, Minn.


Four Beautiful Ferns

Given For Two Subscriptions
PREMIUM NO. 6112

BEAUTIFUL charming ferns make the home bright and cheerful. They need but little care and live indefinately, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise four of the handsomest, most popular varieties ever grown for house culture. They are the Asparagus Plumosus or "Lace" fern, the Boosevelt, the Boston or "Fountain" fern and the Whitmani or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost no attention except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type, and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were fresh from the greenhouse. We are able to illustrate only one variety, "The Roosevelt," but remember you get all four ferns free on this offer.

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you you by Parcel Post prepaid the above described collection of four beautiful ferns each one of them a strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. Premium No. 6112.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Tray-Cloth 20x26 Inches

Premium No. 7841
For One Subscription

WE call the above one of the handsomest designs in a tray-cloth we have yet seen to say nothing of its large size, which is 20 x 26 inches and yet in spite of its size it does not require an unusual amount of work to finish it. The stitches themselves are simple as it may be worked either in solid or eyelet embroidery with buttonhole edge. It looks the neatest when worked all in white, although one or more colors may be used if desired. This extra large, attractive tray-cloth comes stamped on pure white "Butcher cloth" which in reality is a very fine linen finished cotton—a material which has the appearance of pure linen and will if anything give longer service. We will make you a present of this tray-cloth upon the terms of one of the following special offers.

Offer 7841A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c we will send you this handsome tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7841B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 10c additional (35c in all) we will send you this tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid. Premium No. 7841.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

E. C., Carterville, Ill.—It would be quite proper for you to write a letter of sympathy to an old sweetheart whose wife had died. As you are married and your sweetheart days were years ago, such a letter could only be as one from a dear friend.

Blue Eyes, Atlanta, Ga.—If you were deceived and knew nothing of the drinking habits of the man you married there may be a reason why you should leave him if he continues to drink and conduct himself as he does. If you knew before that he was a drunkard, there is no reason now why you should leave him. On the contrary, you should stay with him and try to reform him, as many girls who marry drinkers to reform them think they can do, to their lifelong sorrow. As to going on the stage to make your own living, if you have the ability and a good position is offered you at the beginning, as you state, the risk is not much greater than in other gainful positions taken by women. The atmosphere of the stage, however, is not a healthy one and we would not recommend it except in particular cases. There are many high-minded men and women on the stage, but more who are not and the majority rules in the result.

Sweet Genevieve, Mannington, Va.—First cousins may kiss all they please—their parents, brothers and sisters but first cousins, or any other cousins or different sex should not kiss to excess. A lady may write to her first cousin first, but ordinarily cousins don't wait on etiquette in their correspondence.

Two Friends, Verona, N. Y.—When a lady twenty years old is told of her lover's love and he asks her to marry him and kisses her, etiquette does not prescribe any rule of action on her part, but the inference may be drawn that she would be within the rules of propriety if she kissed him in return for his kisses and other courtesies. (2) When girls and boys of school age go driving they should have a chaperon.

COMFORT Reader, Smithfield, Utah.—It is a matter largely of circumstances and personal acquaintance as to whether a lady shall say "Thank you," when asked to dance. If everybody says it at the dances which you attend, it would be just as well to follow the custom. Don't try to make fashions unless you are a great power socially.

Bride-to-be, Mt. Carmel, Ill.—The announcement of a wedding is made in the name of the parents of the bride usually, but when that is not possible, then in the name of the guardians, to the friend at whose house the ceremony took place, or in the name of the groom's parents, or people. Sometimes among the unconventional the announcement is made in the name of the bride and groom. If you have your cards printed, as they should be, or engraved, you will find various forms at the printer's.

Green Eyes, Anderson, S. C.—An engaged young lady should not receive presents or other attentions from young men except by and with the consent of her fiance. A sensible man engaged to a girl not living in his neighborhood will not be too exacting and will trust to her own sense of the proprieties not to cause gossip by being too popular with the young men. An engaged girl, if she cares very much for the man, will not care so very much for society and when she does go into it she will do so with proper regard for the absent one. At the same time, engaged couples, separated from each other, need not exclude themselves from the world.

Anxious, Eufola, N. C.—A young woman of twenty-three should have tact if she hasn't much else, and tactfulness is one form of politeness. When the young man asked you if he might call and you did not reply, and then asked if he might write to you and you still gave him no answer, how could you expect him to continue the acquaintance? Don't try to win him back. He will not come. One trial was enough. What you should do now is to take a few lessons in tactfulness so you will know what to do with the next young man you meet.

Jennie, Nutley, N. J.—No, Miss it is not "the write thing for a girl of sixteen to walk home from scool with a highly respectable lady's man." Nor any other kind of a man. She should stay at "scool" until she has learned how to spell it. What kind of orthography teachers do they have in Nutley? (2) You would be just as well off if instead of going to the movies with a young man of eighteen, you made up movie parties and all go together. (3) Custom permits the exchanging of rings, but etiquette does not recognize it. Don't do it, until you are engaged.

Real Lover, Allons, Tenn.—A man past thirty always must have rather hard sledding in courting a girl of nineteen, but a man of thirty-five has it rather easy when the girl is twenty-five. You see, ten years difference in ages isn't near as much to a girl of twenty-five as it is to a girl of nineteen. As this one has had you wait two years and still isn't ready, perhaps you might get her if you waited until she is twenty-five. Our advice to you is that you let your love continue, but let your attentions cease. She couldn't get a better husband than you would be, but she doesn't think so yet and will not until she thinks she has lost you and the best chance of all. Don't snub her or show any signs of hurt feelings, but be nice and pleasant as usual, only don't play the lover any more until the signs become favorable. If they never do, then make up your mind that love goeth where it listeth and nobody can drive it. You are in a position where you might drive it some, but you would be a brute if you did. Be a man and take your medicine, if you must.

Flirt, Augusta, Ga.—There are clerks who presume upon their "store acquaintance" with ladies, to speak to them whenever they meet them on the street, or elsewhere, but the wise clerk, who knows his manners, never makes a break of that sort, if we may use a bit of slang. We should not call it impertinence, but it is an ignorance of polite usage which is just as bad. If Augusta clerks are given to the practise why not suggest to their employers, without mentioning names, that they give their clerks some lessons in good manners? Write a communication to the town newspapers. They are the great correctors of abuses of all kinds. (2) To you and to other inquirers for addresses of inquirers in COMFORT let us say that we cannot give them as that is a newspaper rule prevailing everywhere.

American Beauty, Skeel, Mich.—As you love both young men, which means that you don't love either very deeply, but the English one loves you better than the German one does, though you like the German a little better because you are German, just remember that you are now American and secondly that the girl, who marries a man who loves her more than another man does she likes better, is almost sure of making a safer and happier marriage than to marry the man who is a little indifferent. An indifferent sweetheart makes a worse husband. Besides, marrying one who is not German will get you away from the foolish idea that whatever is German is better than whatever is not.

Inquisitive, Haleyville, Ga.—The young ladies of Haleyville are showing their good manners and their good morals by snubbing you right and left. You say you are engaged to a girl away from there and yet you are trying to hide it and trying to deceive the Haleyville girls, and get one or more of them interested in you. Don't you realize that that is dishonorable in every particular? Can't you understand that as far as your honor and loyalty are concerned you are under the same obligations to your fiancee as though she were your wife? If you do not, now is the time you were learning and also profiting by what you learn. Here's hoping the Haleyville girls will snub you worse than ever, and that your fiancee will follow suit.

Peggy, Glasgow, Mont.—It might be proper enough for the gentleman to give the lady a ring of friendship, but if she is friendly to herself she will not wear it. Rings are not good mannered presents.

Brown Eyes, Meridian, Miss.—We suppose your parents object to your going with the young man you love because they can see that he is so jealous he becomes angry when you speak to any other young man and they know that if you marry a man of that type you are sure to live unhappily ever afterwards. They don't want to let their daughter foolishly get into such a trap and they object as they should. This is not etiquette, but it is good hard common sense, and you had better accept it or you'll be sorry enough by and by.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

cause of all this unhappiness. Do you not see, dear boy, how badly you make me feel when I am trying so hard to help you to be the little man I have always desired you to be," or words to that effect.

I find this way of managing my children brings the best results. I notice sometimes when I feel that I am impatient and speak crossly, my children resent it. not by word perhaps, but they are not so quick to respond.

Mrs. Wilkinson, is my letter too lengthy? If not, may I tell you my opinion of city life against country life? I was born and lived in the city until a year after I was married, then we moved into a small country town where my husband went into business. We lived there ten years. I will not describe the country conditions as most of you know what they are. After living here ten years we bought a forty-acre farm. It was as pretty a small farm as anyone could desire, and we were two and one half miles from a pretty village, but here again the same hard country conditions—wells dried up in summer and oh, the monotony of country life—it nearly crazed me. We remained there only one year and I could not endure it longer. Schools are so inferior to city schools and I find that city children are more innocent than country children. Country children see and know too much of Nature which is not good for too young minds. I do not mean by this that I believe in keeping children ignorant. No, for my children have been well instructed in regard to the sancity of their bodies and how to safeguard themselves but I do not think it necessary, or wise, to go into the grosser details of nature such as is brought before the eyes of country children every day and which, in my opinion, belittles and vulgarly lowers the sexes, which should be highly respected, as God intended. I have often heard little children in the country talking indecently. Poor little ones, they are not to blame. Such things are happening daily before their innocent eyes and then they hear their elders discussing the health of their farm stock. Little ears are wide open and often hear too much. I do not mean this for all farmers for I know many who realize these things and guard their children.

We finally sold our farm and came to this beautiful city of about 114,000 inhabitants. We have a large modern house, all improvements, such as gas, electricity and steam heat and there are no better schools for miles. The city is proud of its schools and is doing everything possible for the children. Domestic Science for girls is one fine branch of training and manual training is excellent for the boys. Children's health is carefully looked after as school nurses are always in attendance. My little ones have had better health since we came to the city. I find the city much more sanitary than the country. Streets are cleaned every day, all rubbish and refuse collected daily and all back yards must be as clean as front lawns. There are no accumulations and, on the average, I think there is more sickness in the country.

I apologize for the length of this letter and trust that no sister will bear me ill will on account of my opinions.

With best wishes to all, I am, a devoted siste,
"GEORGIE."

Georgie. Even if you hadn't made it a request I think I would have withheld your name and address, else a crowd of ordinarily happy but temporarily indignant sisters would descend upon you and your happy city home and each one would insist upon explaining just why *her* country h me was not inconvenient or lonely, and then what would you do? I know you've been properly humble in stating your opinions, but, at that, I think some of the country sisters will consider it their duty to explain matters to you. —Ed.

NORTH BEND, OREGON.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

After reading Mrs. Aldridge's letter in September COMFORT I decided to give my opinion. I am sorry for her and for her little boy. If I were you, sister, I'd never whip him to make him say his prayers and if I may say so, I do not like the prayer you have for him. "If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take." Some children will ponder over the idea of dying while they sleep and thus have the fear of death so deeply instilled that it takes years of teaching to get them away from such ideas. And if they should die, as the prayer suggests, surely the Lord would care for their souls for if they are sinful someone else is to blame.

Mrs. K. of West Virginia, you voiced my sentiments exactly regarding large families and I am from a family of nine so know a little bit about it. I had rather give my time and attention to the three boys I already have than to have to care for more children. Large families are all right if the parents are able to care for them.

Now if I may make one more suggestion I will go. Mrs. W. A. Hansley, instead of the sisters defending their respective states as you wished them to do, why not let it go and forget it. Even if Mrs. McKnight was unjust, I won't say she was, I hope the sisters are broadminded enough to know there are just as fine, noble-minded men East as West or in one state as another, so let's not turn our corner into a place for petty quarrels.

The letters on care of children are more interesting to me than all the others for I want to bring my boys up as near right as I can. Their ages are four, six and eight years. They are as good as girls to help me about the house. We are living on a rented ranch near Coos Bay and like it fine, all except the fleas.

With love to the sisters and our editor,
MRS. E. H. SMITH.

Mrs. Smith. Some authorities urge that in this day of teaching children the secrets of beginning of life we should also teach them more of the end of life, but this should be avoided until the questions of the child make it necessary and then strive to impart the knowledge in such a way as to bring a clearer conception of God's love and care. A normal, healthy child knows no fear, not even that of death, but is quick to receive and retain impressions and while it may be wiser not to tell the whole truth at one time, enough information should be given to set the little mind at rest for the time and prevent any secret ponderings. Much depends on the child itself for one of the happy-go-lucky type will accept any reasonable explanation and be satisfied with it while another child of a nervous, extremely imaginative temperament, will require a more careful explanation.—Ed.

CRUM, W. VA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

As I have never seen a letter from this part of West Virginia I thought I would ask to join your cheerful corner.

I live in the beautiful and picturesque valley of Tug river. The Alleghany mountains surround this village. Any direction you look nothing can be seen but mountains. The principal occupations are farming and lumbering.

I am a blue-eyed girl of thirteen. I wish more of the sisters would write of labor-saving conveniences in the home, especially in the kitchen. I am not lazy but I like anything that saves labor. A woman has enough to do, without making a number of unnecessary steps.

Our state is now dry and no intoxicating drinks can be shipped in. Many little children are getting bread and clothes that didn't get them before.

I believe in girls helping their mothers with the work. I have seen girls out having a good time and their poor tired mothers working themselves to death. I never stop until I have the dinner dishes washed.

I can't see why anybody condemns telling little children about Santa Claus. The happiest days of my life was when I went to bed expecting old Santa Claus to come down the chimney, and fill my stocking with goodies. A verse of a poem, which I once recited expresses my sentiments:

"Let the children have their Christmas, let them
have it while they may,
Life is short and childhood fleeting, and there will surely come a day
When old St. Nicholas will pass by the close shut door,
Missing all the merry faces that greeted him of yore."

I would like to hear from any of the sisters and will answer all letters.

With love to Mrs. Wilkinson and all the COMFORT sisters, MISS VIRGINIA QUEEN.

SPRINGFIELD, 727 E. Dale St., Mo.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have had COMFORT in my home since 1910 and while it is one of the cheapest papers I subscribe for, it is the only one that is read from cover to cover. I enjoy reading the sisters' letters but they are so well written that I have hesitated about writing for I cannot express myself as well.

But when I think of letters I have read where mothers do not approve of telling children there is a Santa Claus, I cannot keep silent. If my child had lived I would have had a little son four years old and he would have believed there was a Santa Claus, and I would have been much displeased if anyone had informed him differently. I was a child once myself with one of the most devoted mothers ever and there was nothing too much trouble for her if it made our Christmas happy. My sister and I both retain the same Christmas spirit. She has three children and every year there are elephants, cows, cats and dogs all made from the best cooky dough, and we have our homemade candies too, which are more wholesome than cheap candy. Christmas is a happy time in our family. Sister does not teach her children that Santa comes down the chimney, nor do they even hang up their stockings. Neither does she believe in sending them to bed in suspense, but generally while they are eating supper one of the older ones opens the door and places the things on the floor, as though Santa had pitched them in. Then the whole family find them together. They sit down and the presents are distributed, then they have the whole evening in which to play with their presents and go to bed too happy for words.

Now I don't see any harm in letting them believe there is a Santa, no more than to read fairy tales and myths to them and how do you expect to enlarge their imagination if you do not. If they have any intelligence at all, as they grow older they will understand the Santa Claus question in the same way they do fairy tales and they will laugh at the dear old times they had when they were young and think no more about being deceived than if it never happened. I am sure I don't feel cross at my mother or think she deceived me and I never mistrusted her because of what she told me about Santa Claus.

The easiest way the primary teachers reach the little ones is through teaching them stories about myths. My little nephews and nieces always come home with a new story and we older ones listen as though we had never heard it before, but there are very few I haven't heard, for our mother used to tell us a story every night or whenever she could find time. And I don't think there is any harm in teaching children there is a Santa Claus.

Wishing Mrs. Wilkinson success, I am,
MRS. SCOTT SHERER.

CAMP SAN SABA, TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have just been reading the good letters from the sisters in the August number of our COMFORT and I was especially interested in the one written by Mrs. C. E. West of Coalinga, Cal., for I too am a bride of six months and am interested in beautifying our home. There seems to be a contrast in our surroundings, Mrs. West, for while you are located in almost

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 25.)

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22.)

being alive and sharp on every-day happenings. I bet you would have some fun if you were here helping us search round the farm for night prowlers. Uncle Charlie, you ought to see my sister and I; at night one of us will take the search-light and the other will take the rifle, and when we hear the dogs bark, away we go out to the chicken pen and all around the barn hunting for the thieves. There was a family not far from us had two hundred chickens stolen; and there was two hundred chickens stolen from another farm.

Well, Uncle Charlie, I am still hoping for the day to come when you can come and spend a year or so with us. In this month a *great* man was born. He is fifty-three years of age. Here's hoping that he lives to be a hundred years anyway. With love,
RHODA KELSO.

Rhoda, I am glad you like to read my pieces as you call them. I try and stuff a lot of information, a little fun and some worth-while progressive ideas into my dope, and many people write me they learn a lot from the matter I gather together for their instruction and entertainment. There are however a number of feather-brained, empty-headed, wildly emotional, badly balanced frivolous people who will read nothing in a magazine but stories, and they want to tear my department up by the roots and throw it out. They forget that life is real, life is earnest, and so all the good matter that is put into COMFORT, all its interesting and instructive departments, are wasted as far as they are concerned. If we put but one kind of food into the body we'd soon grow sick and die. People who put only the very lightest kind of mental diet into their brains soon show signs of mental starvation. Once upon a time household magazines contained little else but fiction. People hadn't reached the stage where they wanted to think and know. People who did think spoke contemptuously of the household magazine. To them it was nothing but a trashy story paper, but in most cases it is so no longer. People of the frivolous turn of mind resent the vast improvement that has been made in household publications. They want to wallow in romance to the exclusion of everything else. The passion for knowledge however is spreading and the fiction fanatic is less in evidence than of yore. I am quite concerned Rhoda, at the dreadful time you are having with your chickens. I read recently that owing to the scarcity of labor in the North several hundred thousand colored gentlemen from the South had migrated to New England, Pennsylvania and other Nothern states. Maybe some of those two hundred chickens heard they were coming and rushed out to meet them. One never can tell. It must be some sight to see you girls getting out of bed at night with search-light and "riffle" marching out to the chicken pen looking for thieves. As dogs generally bark all night, I don't see how you get much sleep. I think if I were you I'd move my bed out, and let the dog sit on the edge of the bed with a "riffle" in each hand, then I think you and the chickens could sleep in security. By the way you'll have to explain to me what a "riffle" is, as it always used to be a rifle when I went to school. The Goat says he wagers that the fellow who stole two hundred chickens from a neighbor of yours had a brunette complexion all right. Talking of thieves, that reminds me of a story I heard the other day. During the revolution in Dublin, an old Irishwoman went nosing around some of the deserted stores looking for loot. She struck a shoe store, managed to force an entrance and appropriated a pair of swell evening slippers. These she took out on the stoop, sat down and tried to put them on, but she could not force her hoofs into them. She then deposited the slippers on the stoop, hustled back into the store and appropriated a huge pair of super dreadnoughts, which fitted her to perfection. When she got back on the stoop, she discovered the beautiful evening slippers had disappeared, and immediately ejaculated in a voice quivering with indignation and disgust: "Glory be to God, who would ever have thought there were such dhirty thaves in the city of Dublin." Rhoda I'm grieved to find they have such dirty thaves in the city of Midway. The Goat says he thinks the reason the chickens have pens in your state is because they live in the State of *Pennsylvania*. I'll make him do *penance* for that.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for December

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Isaac Price, Lenoir, R. R. 2, Box 79, N. C. Invalid for forty-five years. Depends on charity

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 30.)



What would he give for the coffee you serve?

Like a million other women, you can serve coffee that he would give most anything to have—coffee which starts the day "right" for all.

Everyone loves the rich flavor of Arbuckles' Coffee. Of all the coffees in America today, it is by far the most popular!

One woman says: "My husband used to swallow his coffee and hurry off. Now we have Arbuckles' and you'd think it was Sunday the way he lingers over his breakfast."

Until you try Arbuckles' you will never know what a difference good coffee can make in *your* home.

Today there are whole towns where Arbuckles' is practically the only coffee used. In one State, alone, in a year, four pounds of Arbuckles' Coffee was used for every man, woman and child in the State—four times as many pounds of coffee as the population of the State! Arbuckle Bros., New York.

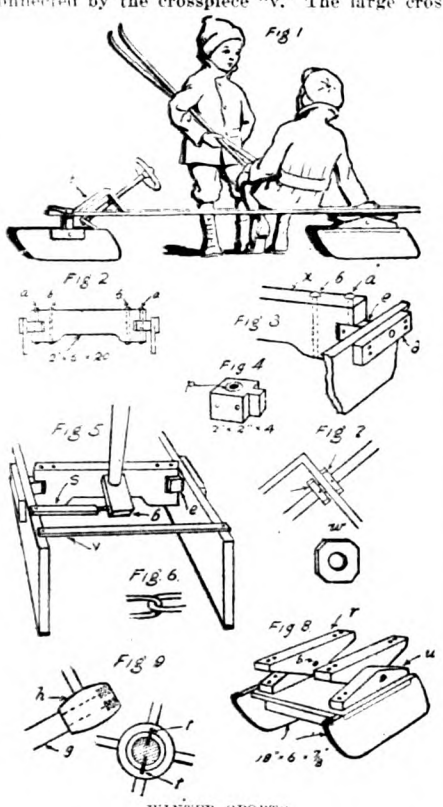
A Corner for Boys

By Uncle John

"A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a happy New Year to you all," is my most earnest wish. I hope the good St. Nicholas will bring you just the things your hearts have craved and that the spirit of this gladsome season will live in your souls for many a day. I sometimes wonder, if, in all the world, there is one person so cold and self-centered that he does not feel the thrill of the Christmas spirit. It is an indefinable, subtle, vague sort of urging, that makes us want to help others. It fills our hearts with love and generosity and exalts and magnifies the good qualities of others. I often wonder just what causes it, and, because it is such a warm and pleasant feeling, I wonder why we let it depart so quickly. Is it possible that all our lives could be as happy as the holiday week if we so willed it? And if so, why do we not will it? Will we have to wait until some great genius springs up and shows us how? Perhaps this is one reason why the Christ child was born to the human race? The angel said: "Behold, I bring you tidings of great joy," and, having brought the joy, left us to guard it or to waste and abuse it and cast it aside. I believe you will find much pleasure and profit in studying this age-old story of the first Christmas, and I hope you will apply it not merely at Christmas-time but govern your daily life accordingly.

Auto Bob Sled

This picture shows a distinct improvement in the steering gear of a bob sled which may be explained as follows. In Fig. 5, when the steering post is turned, the block "b" swings and pulls the strip "s" which is attached to the runner. Both runners instantly respond because they are connected by the crosspiece "v." The large cross-



WINTER SPORTS.

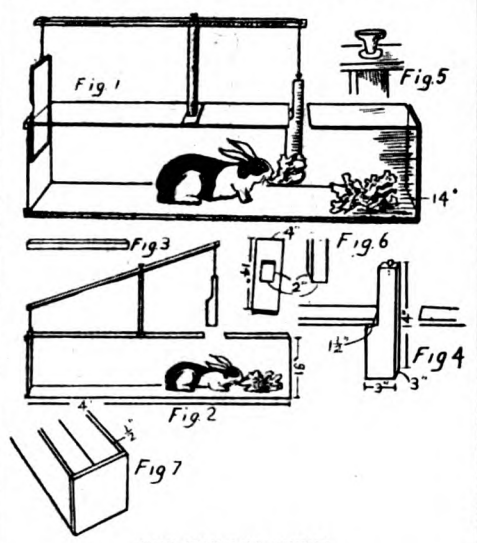
piece "x," upon which the plank rests, does not swing. It is movably attached to the swing blocks "e." Fig. 6 shows the movable joint connecting the parts "s" and "b." Fig. 2 is an end view or elevation of the front sled. The bolts "a" serve as hinges and make it possible for the runners to turn right and left; the bolts "b" strengthen the crosspiece and prevent splitting. The picture, Fig. 3, makes this more understandable. The bolt "a" passes loosely through the block "e;" "d" is a one by three by eight block screwed on the runner to reinforce it at this point. Fig. 4 is a separate view of the pivot block "e." It is made of hard, non-splitting wood like ash or maple. The hole "p" receives a one half inch bolt loosely enough to permit easy turning without wobbling. It should be kept well greased. Fig. 7 illustrates how the steering post is kept from moving up and down. Nuts like "w," which may be made of hard wood, are screwed to it above and below the slant piece "z." Study "z" in Fig. 1. Fig. 8 shows the construction of the rear sled or follower. Hard wood runners, preferably steel shod, are used and a platform of one-inch boards is built upon them. Upon the platform, the lower rocker blocks "u" are permanently bolted. They are three inches thick and of sound hard wood. Their height in the center is four inches and at the ends one and one half inch. Length about fourteen inches. The upper rocker blocks "r" are the same. A three quarter inch bolt passes loosely through the holes "b." Fig. 9 gives views of the steering wheel. The post "g" is two inches in diameter and, as shown by dotted lines, reduces to one and one half inches near the end to receive the hub "h." Wedges "t" are driven into the top of the post to keep the hub from pulling off. Perhaps you will be able to find a scrap wheel from some farm implement that will do for this purpose. An important point to note is the fact that the part "b" in Fig. 5, one by three by eight inches, tilts upward in front. The steering post meets it at right angle. In the finished drawing you can see this more clearly. Other decorations and elaborations may be added to this double runner to make it look more like an auto. Use clear, sound wood and paint it and keep all bearings and moving parts greased.

Good Books

The boy who is not acquainted with good literature is missing a great deal of pleasure and considerable mental profit. If I could find anything now in all the world that would give me as much enjoyment as the reading of Scott and Dickens and Dumas did when I was a boy, I would consider myself very fortunate. The cheap, trashy novels that seem so easy to acquire are only feeble imitations of the stories of the masters. Read one or two good books and you will never care for the inferior kind again if you have a discriminating mind. Very rarely do we find a person so ignorant that he cannot tell a good story from a weak or overdrawn one. Some persons read for pleasure, some to acquire knowledge some for inspiration and some just to kill time. Whatever your purpose may be, I believe it will better accomplish with the aid of a brilliant mind than with that of a mediocre one. Books are inexpensive and accessible everywhere. The multimillionaire who lives in luxury cannot afford better mental associates than you can. Begin, therefore to get acquainted with the giant minds of the earth at once.

Rabbit Trap

It is a well-known fact that rabbits are an actual menace to farmers in many parts of the country. I have seen moving pictures of community hunts where hundreds of thousands were killed in a single day. If you are at war with the bunny tribe you might try this trap. The main part is a box three feet long and fourteen inches square. The open end is fitted with a door that slides up and down between cleats. On the center of the top of the box a permanently fixed post two inches square and ten inches high is



THE TRAPPED BUNNY.

placed. On top of this a strip two inches wide one half inch thick and twenty-four inches long is placed with the pivot or post six inches to the right of the center. On the long part of this seesaw piece the door hangs and the bait stick is suspended from the other end. Fig. 6 shows the slight bevel or slant on that part of the bait stick which engages with the slot in the box top. When the rabbit enters and pushes on the bait, which may be a head of cabbage, the stick is released and flies upward. By virtue of its weight, the door then falls and the opening is closed and the marauder trapped. The seesaw strip is held loosely by one nail, as indicated by Fig. 5. I do not see how you can fail to understand all parts of this plan, but if you do, write and let me know. Don't send me trap plans unless they are new. This is the only slight change in one I have seen for many years.

Unique Farm Product

In France there is a five-hundred acre farm devoted entirely to the production of small trees from which umbrella handles are made. Naturally, the trees used for this purpose must be quite small, so the farm is, in reality, a large nursery. Ash, oak, chestnut and maple are the principal kinds of wood grown. A year after planting, the saplings are cut off close to the ground so they will branch out, and the several shoots are kept free from stems. The following season, incisions are made in the bark and various designs are worked in, for strange to say, when the wood is finally stripped, the markings appear, nicely engraved. The small limbs may be bent and twisted into ornamental shapes, while still growing, but most of them are perfectly straight and are shaped in factories. It is a unique branch of agriculture and the proprietor of the farm has amassed considerable wealth through the marketing of his queer product.

Riddles

What does man love more than life,
Hate more than death or mortal strife;
That which contented men desire,
The needy have and the rich require;
The miser spends, the spendthrift saves,
And all men carry to their graves?
—Nothing.

Why is "I" the luckiest vowel?
Because it is the center of "bliss," while "e" is in Hades and all the others in purgatory.

Those who have not got me do not wish to have me; those who have me do not wish to lose me; those who gain me have me no longer.
A lawsuit.

Puzzle

The pictures in each square represent the name of a Christmas gift that any boy would be glad



to receive. There are twelve in all. Can you guess them.

Answer to Christmas Gifts Puzzle

1. Dom-in-o Set—Domino Set.
2. Corn-net—Cornet.
3. Fish-pon-D—Fish Pond.
4. Check-cur-board—Checker Board.
5. Foot-ball.
6. Tenpins.
7. Basket-ball suit.
8. S-led—Sled.
9. Stocking Cap.
10. Man-dough-l-eye-N—Mandolin.
11. Eye-van-hoe—Ivanhoe.
12. Car-pen-Tea-ER Two-Ls—Carpenter Tools.

There, dear boys, is all for this month. The next number of COMFORT will usher in a new year and I hope it will be a happy one for all of us. The year that is nearing completion has been a fruitful one. Many of you have written me bright, chatty letters and made valuable suggestions and for this I am truly grateful. I have tried to interpret your wishes and desires, my main effort being to please the greatest number, and, I confess, that I have felt, all along, my inability to do this without your cooperation. Send me anything that you believe is new enough not to be generally known about by the boys of the country and I will be pleased to tell them about it through the Boys' Corner. Again, let me repeat my wish to you, for a happy and prosperous New Year.

"UNCLE JOHN."

Clubby's Regeneration

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3.)

Clubby suggested the big boy took up with spirit. They ate candy and oranges and apples and cakes, but before they began to eat dainties, Clubby had some very hot soup that a very real old dream lady brought in.

And they wore the funny cotillion caps, and chased each other with ticklers and blew loud blasts on tin whistles. Northcross put all sorts of loud, bangy pieces on the phonograph that made a lot of noise and they marched and jumped and had such a good time.

Once while they were tumbling about, the beautiful thing which Clubby had picked up in the car fell out of his pocket.

Northcross saw it. "Where did you get it, Clubby?" he asked.

"I found it in the automobile; please give it back to me, 'cause when I wake up, I'm going to give it to the guy what owns the machine, 'cause I guess it's his, and then maybe he won't be mad at me fer fallin' asleep in his *ga-raz*," Clubby said.

"I'll see that he gets it, Clubby," Northcross replied. "Will you trust me?"

"Sure. But ain't you a dream-man and won't you go away when I wake up? Gee, this's a awful funny dream. I feel like I want to sleep an' when I sleep I guess I'll wake up an' everything will be gone, won't it? I'm afraid to wake up, Mr. Dream-man 'cause I know I'll be hungry an' cold, an' maybe th' policeman 'll put me in 'cause I stole a sandwich. I didn't steal it, Mr. Dream-man my hand jus' took it; I didn't want to take it, but I did. D'you know how that is, Mr. Dream-man?"

"Bless your heart, I know how it is. Yea, the spirit was willing, but the flesh was weak," he said. "Listen, Clubby, if you will always tell the truth, as you've told it tonight, I think I can make this dream last forever."

"Oh, I will, I will," he cried, with a happy voice.

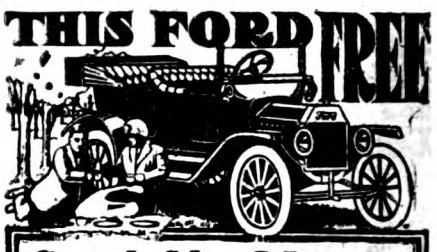
"Then come with me," and Northcross took Clubby by the hand, and led him up-stairs to a white-tiled bathroom, where in a small white foot-bath, just big enough for a little boy, Clubby bathed under the supervision of the "dream-man." The "dream-man" even took a hand at the operation, and scrubbed the lad until he was quite clean, and he presented a very attractive little face then, thin and wan, no doubt, but well featured, nevertheless.

That completed, Northcross dressed the lad in the coat of one of his own suits of pajamas, and carrying him up to his room, he made a bed for him in his Morris chair, and Clubby told whatever he knew of himself, and fell asleep in the telling.

When Northcross saw this, he went to his desk, and wrote a long letter to Robina, and told her of the vague plan he had in mind for Clubby's regeneration. He didn't care what people would think, that he, a brilliant clubman should interest himself in a little waif.

The plan he revolved in his mind that Christmas Eve bore fruit. The result was that Clubby grew into a man of fine character, a credit to Northcross who never regretted that he followed the song of the Minstrel who sang:

"From the prayer of want and plaint of woe,
Oh, never, never turn away thine ear!
Forlorn in this bleak wilderness below,
Ah, what were man should heaven refuse to hear!"



THIS FORD FREE

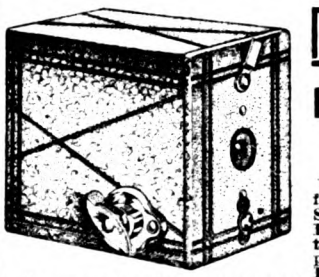
Send No Money
Just Your Name

You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars, absolutely free of charge. I have given away dozens of them. You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away and say: "I want one of your free Fords"—a postcard will do.

RHOADS AUTO CLUB,
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

"COMPARE THE WORK"
ROYAL TYPEWRITER COMPANY, INC.
NEW YORK CITY.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7314

For a Club of Four!

We will also include free of charge one Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and a complete Instruction Book. This is the well-known "Premo" camera, made by the Eastman Kodak Co., therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality Meniscus lens and an automatic shutter adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in broad daylight, so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book, all packed together in a strong box and sent to you Free by Parcel Post, prepaid, on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. Premium No. 7314.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Beautiful Watch AND SIX CHARMING PIECES JEWELRY FREE



EARN THESE QUICK. Beautiful Watch, also one Gold pl. Bracelet, one charming Pendant, set with imi. diamonds and Four Beautiful Rings. BIG VALUE. Sell 12 boxes white Cloverine at 25 cents per box, give beautiful 16x20 in. picture FREE. Return us $3.00. Be first in your town. Write today for 12 boxes.
The Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. 43 Tyrone, Pa.

Comfort's Bedtime Stories For Little Folks!

A Library of Cute Little Books

12 WONDERFUL TALES IN STORY AND VERSE 12



Premium No. 7951

Entire Library Sent For One Subscription!

The stories of our childhood—how well we remember them. After all it seems but a short time since we listened with rapt attention to the adventures of Robinson Crusoe cast away on his lonely island—of beautiful Cinderella, the fairy and the prince—the tragic fate of poor little Red Riding Hood—these were only a few of the marvelous tales that thrilled our childish imagination and helped us spend many blissful hours.

The children of today are the same as they were fifty years ago. And these good old-time stories are just as popular with the young folks now as they were then. So we have decided to give our little boy and girl friends this fine big collection of stories which includes some of the old-time favorites as well as a number of newer and later books equally as interesting. There are twelve of them in all as follows:

Robinson Crusoe, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Mother Goose, Animal Pets, Purring Pussies, Playmates, Our Pets, The Three Bears, The Sleeping Beauty, Playful Pets, The Teddy Bears.

As these stories are intended for the younger children some of them have been "boiled down" to the fewest and simplest words so that they are not as complete as the original editions, but all of them are printed on fine paper in large clear type that is easy to see and read and have no less than five beautiful full page illustrations in colors.

The first four titles named above of course need no introduction. The other eight titles are just the sort of stories that delight every child—stories of animal pets, horses, donkeys, dogs, bunnies, pussy cats, chickens, lambs, etc., wonderful romances in which there are old Stone Castles, Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses, Good Fairies, and Wicked Fairies, stories of the Bear Family—Pa Bear, old Ma Bear and little "Teddy" Bear, stories of little Playmates, the true tale of the Teddy Bears—in fact the finest collection of juvenile short stories ever published. Each book is nicely bound with a handsomely illustrated cover in colors and is 4 inches by 5¼ inches in size.

There is nothing you could get for the children that would make them any happier than this fine story collection and best of all it will cost you Nothing as we are giving it away as a premium. We will send you free the entire collection of twelve stories, each story in a book by itself—twelve different books in all—if you will accept either one of the following special offers:

Offer No. 7951 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this entire library of twelve books by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7951 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you all twelve books by parcel post prepaid. Premium No. 7951.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

When the Express Failed to Stop

By J. R. Henderson

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

MORE than once, Raleigh had been called down by Bill Mitchell, yard-master for the C. & P., but last night they had almost come to blows, and Mitchell had intimated that Raleigh's services would not be needed much longer, "if he didn't cut out the booze."

Now, as he stood with his mother, in the doorway of their little home, there was something about them that was almost piteous.

The young man rested his hands on the shoulders of his mother, as they watched the form of the call-boy disappearing down the street. At last the mother turned and looked up into his face.

"You'll go straight to the yards, my boy, won't you?"

"Yes, and I'll have to be on my way at once," he replied.

"Pleasant dreams to you, Jean!" and he turned to look into the face of a girl standing back of them, and for the time his thoughts were all of manliness and determination.

It used to be that the thoughts of Raleigh Willey, of "engine 1874," were all like that; he had been known as the surest, bravest and steadiest engineer on that division; the man who could pull "Old Thunder" through on time, when others failed.

But the little girl who was his promised wife was talking:

"I know you'll not take a drink, Raleigh, if you promise——" and she came forward for the good-by kiss.

"Yes—if I promise——" and he was gone.

Raleigh really meant, and tried hard, to keep his word.

He knew that down in the yards, his fireman, Nick Wagner, was walking around the big, panting "iron horse," oiling here, using a piece of waste there, and waiting for the arrival of the master of this flying steed, of steel and steam. He knew that his duty lay there, but—he hesitated.

Before him, situated on a side street, was the cause of his trouble—a saloon. From within he heard the clink of glasses, snatches of song and the loud laughter of the customers. Thoughts of his mother, the little girl and home, Nick and "Old Thunder"—all faded from his mind.

"One drink won't hurt me," he mumbled—and entered the "joint."

About an hour later, Bill Mitchell, the yard-master, walked up to Nick, who was seated near the engine.

"Where's Raleigh?" he asked.

"Haven't seen him," Nick answered shortly.

Mitchell was silent a moment—took a few steps up and down the track—looked at his watch and scowled.

"This thing's happening pretty often, isn't it?"

"What thing?" asked the fireman, innocently.

"What? What?"—the yardmaster's voice was extremely sharp—"you know what—this boozing business. If he don't——"

With a start, he turned just in time to see a swaying reeling figure trying to climb onto the steps of the cab.

A step forward, and he jerked Raleigh Willey around, facing him. Then the words came, in a cold, cutting voice:

"You go home!"

The sharp words seemed to steady the whirling brain of the half drunken engineer.

"Go home?" he enquired rather blankly.

"Yes! go home and stay there, until you are sent for, you—you——" he was so angry that further words failed him.

Without another word, Raleigh, half staggering—half walking, moved off down the yards. In a dim, half understanding way, he realized what had happened. He knew that alcohol had gripped him again—stronger than ever this time. What the result would be, he did not know, but he expected nothing but the worst.

Somehow, he got home and in bed, at last; and while an old mother and a young girl silently wept until the "small hours" of the morning, he slept the unresting sleep of intoxication.

Next morning the worst happened—the letter came.

It was short and curt—no word of sympathy or hope of another chance. While his mother and sweetheart looked on, Raleigh opened the missive, with hands that shook, in spite of his efforts to the contrary. A slip of paper fell to the floor—he knew what it was—he didn't even trouble to pick it up. The letter contained but few words:

Cheyenne, Wyo., 3-15-19—.

Mr. Raleigh Willey,
Green River, Wyo.

Dear Sir:—
Enclosed find check for amount due you from C. & P. R. R. Co. On, and after this date, your services are no longer required.
J. C. Brannan, Supt.

That was all—nothing said about the times Raleigh Willey had fought through the heat and sand-storms of the desert—through all manner of difficulties—overcome numberless obstacles, and brought old "Thunder" in, on time.

"It's me for some—where else," Raleigh said weakly.

"There's no use of me staying here—let one company fire you, and there's no chance to get another job—they're all down on you."

Three days later, Raleigh crawled from a box car, at Tie Siding, the nearest station to the "Sherman Hill Cut-Off," where the C. & P. were shortening their line from Cheyenne.

With a few dollars still left in his pocket, Raleigh started for a "soup-joint" a short distance from the track. Although there were several saloons in the place, and they seemed to be beckoning him, with their gilded signs and swinging doors, he passed resolutely on, into the restaurant, where he was soon enjoying a lunch of hot soup and baked beans. The owner, an inquisitive sort of individual, began to question him as he ate.

"Stranger here?" he enquired curiously.

"Yes."

"Going to work at the cut-off?"

"Don't know. Plenty of work there?"

The restaurant man hesitated, then——

"Well, I guess it's rather scarce now. You see, they've about finished the tunnel; the fill is all made, and a track laid from the main line to the east portal. Anyhow, it's a tough place now—they say there's a bunch of the 'Robber's Roost' gang hanging out somewhere around there—probably waiting for pay-day, to make a raid on this place. The men cash all their checks here, you know, and besides——" here he broke off to ask:

"Have you seen today's paper?"

"No," replied Raleigh, indifferently.

"Read that——" and he shoved a greasy paper across the counter, to Raleigh, and pointed to a paragraph, which stated that the Atlantic Express was carrying $50,000 worth of gold bullion, from the newly discovered Lucky Hit Mines, at Oronogo, to Denver. The paper also stated that the president's private car was attached to the same train.

Finishing his lunch, Raleigh paid his bill and strolled outside. He had decided against his intention of seeking employment at the "cut-off," and determined to go on to Cheyenne, see the president, implore him to give him another chance, and then, if unsuccessful, go to the mines in Colorado.

Whatever happened to him, he had sworn never to take another intoxicating drink. And he meant to keep his oath—to show his mother and sweetheart—his former employers and friends, that he could, and would, be a man among men, once more.

"I'll show them! I'll show them!" he repeated. The words seemed to have a soothing effect on his dry and scorched lips.

"If I can only get to Cheyenne and talk to the president——"

He was interrupted by the sound of a hoarse whistle in the distance.

"Here's my chance," he muttered, as the Atlantic Express pulled into the station, for coal and water. Raleigh, watching his chance, sneaked forward and climbed onto the blind-baggage.

He flattened himself out in the blind doorway, and waited.

Having coaled, the engine pulled forward to the water tank.

The fireman clambered back on the coal—but did not see the dim figure on the blind. A minute—two—then, a clang of the bell, a screech of the whistle, a puff of the exhaust and a million sparks ascending from the short, "sawed-off" stack—and the Express continued on its flying journey.

A mile—two—five. The strain of standing was becoming tiresome. With the idea of climbing onto the tender, where he could rest, Raleigh started,—then stopped, as the figure of a man brushed by him, from the steps where he had been crouching.

Almost touching Raleigh, but not seeing him, the man climbed on to the tender, ahead of him. This new actor on the scene had a bandanna handkerchief wrapped around the lower part of his face, and held a wicked looking "automatic" in his right hand. He was there for no good. He was crawling slowly forward toward the cab, where the unsuspecting engineer and fireman sat with their backs turned toward this creeping menace.

A flash of fire seemed to shoot through Raleigh's brain, as the remembrance of the article he had read in the paper, came to his mind. Also, he remembered what the restaurant keeper had told him about the "Robber's Roost" gang holding out in the neighborhood of the "cut-off." He realized fully what it meant—train robbers! For a minute he crouched—hesitated—then arose, with a grim look on his face.

"The same old game, eh?" The sound of his voice was drowned in the roar of the swiftly flying Express.

"The same old thing—capture the engineer and fireman—make them stop the train at a certain point, where the rest of the gang is waiting—uncouple the express car—move ahead and loot it at their leisure. But I'll put a stop to that, or know the reason why."

The bandit crawled on and on, his pistol raised for instant use, the muscles of his legs tightening for the spring that would mean the capture of the engine. Slowly, cat like, with a drawn, hardened look upon his features, Raleigh Willey followed him.

"Put up your hands!" It was the bandit's command that sounded above the hiss of steam and roar of the rushing engine.

"Hands up—and quick—do what I——" There sounded a sharp report—a scream, and the stricken engineer closed the throttle as he fell backwards, on to the floor of the cab.

The bandit turned, with smoking pistol, to meet Raleigh, whose great fists were pounding his flesh, like the piston rods of an engine. Once—twice—the automatic spoke again, but the bullets went wild, and with a final fierce blow, Raleigh sent the would-be robber to the floor near the fallen engineer.

A quick look at the crushed and broken arm of the latter, and he leaped forward into the seat.

"Hold that man—tie him up, and watch him," he shouted hoarsely, to the fireman, as he pointed to the insensible bandit.

"I'm going to take this train through!" and as he gave the throttle a sharp pull, the huge monster of steel once more leaped forward to her pace.

Back in the president's private car, this great man was interrupted in his reading of an important stock report, by the slowing down, then sudden increased speed of the train.

"Wonder what's the matter," he muttered, then resumed his reading. But Raleigh Willey neither knew, nor cared what the president of the C. & P. was doing or thinking of. He knew, that far down the track—probably at the end of the cut-off—a band of reckless, dangerous men were waiting for their confederate to stop the Express, that they might "crack" the safe and make away with the $50,000, in gold bullion. He knew that through this cut, he must force the heavy train with the speed of an avalanche—he must run the gauntlet—in order to escape.

The wounded engineer had sat up, and was watching the cursing, screaming wretch on the floor, while the fireman fed the seething, roaring caldron, within the fire-box, with shovel upon shovel of smutty "black diamonds." Up—up—went the needle of the steam gauge; faster and faster and faster went the flying monster.

Ahead, Raleigh saw the figures of six or seven men waiting.

With a sarcastic grin upon his greasy, dust-begrimed face, he jerked the throttle wide open, leaned out the window and—laughed. The fireman grabbed the whistle cord, and with a fearful screech, a flash and a roar, the train went tearing, thundering by the point of danger. They had attained a fearful speed; there were many shots fired by the bandit's, but no one was injured.

"There was no danger of them hitting us," he shouted to his fireman, with a grin.

"Why?" motioned his mate.

"Because, we were going so fast that the bullets intended for us, would come nearer the president in the rear car."

At the next station, the captured bandit was turned over to the police. Raleigh helped them get him out of the cab, and began looking after his engine—oiling here and there—after its recent burst of awful speed.

In the meantime, his fireman had been explaining matters (with embellishments) to the president, who had come forward. Holding out his hand to Raleigh, the president exclaimed:

"Good work! fine work! old man." Then with a start:

"Aren't you the man who pulled my car through that awful storm—over a sinking bridge and——"

"I guess you know the whole story," interrupted Raleigh, "how I lost out—how I lost 'Old Thunder——"

The president's face was serious.

"Yes, I know, but let us forget about that—here's a little present——" He was again interrupted:

"I lost 'Old Thunder' because I deserved it. But that's all passed, Mr. Daniels. I've started on a new record—and it's a clean one—that I'll swear to. I don't want money, Mr. Daniels—I want 'Old Thunder,' and if you'll give me another chance, I'll make good."

One week later, there was a wedding in Green River.

Everybody was happy, but a certain old mother was delirious with joy, and was trying her best to tell everyone the wonderful story of her boy's success. A knock sounded on the door—a letter was handed in. Raleigh paled—perhaps they had no faith in him after all—perhaps they had decided not to——

"Read it," he said brokenly, to his wife. She trembled too, as she read:

Cheyenne, Wyo., 3-29-19—.

Mr. Raleigh Willey, Green River, Wyo.

Sir:

As you see, the enclosed check is made to the order of Mrs. Raleigh Willey, for the sum of five hundred dollars. I wish you both prosperity and much happiness. To drop from pleasure to business, will say that: On and after the 31st of the present month, you will pull No. 3—the "Overland."

Very truly, William Daniels, Pres.



Only $1.00 and after trial!

YES, the New Edison—Mr. Edison's great new phonograph with the Diamond Stylus reproducer and your choice of all the brand new Diamond Amberol Records on **free trial without a penny down.** Now, on this offer, you can have the **finest,** the **best** that money can buy at a price very much less than that at which imitations of the genuine Edison are offered. Seize this opportunity. Send the coupon now.

Rock-Bottom Offer Direct Let us send the New Edison to your home on free trial. Entertain your family and friends with your favorite records—everything from Grand Opera to the latest city song hits, Comic Vaudeville and roaring Minstrel Shows—then if you choose send the outfit back to us at our expense. But if you wish to keep Mr. Edison's superb new instrument, send us only $1.00 after the free trial. Pay the balance on the easiest kind of monthly payments. Don't miss this wonderfully liberal offer.

Catalog FREE

Get our New Edison catalog. Your name and address on a post card or letter (or just this coupon) is enough. No obligations in asking for the catalog. Find out about this offer—**while this offer lasts.**

F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3049 Edison Block Chicago, Illinois
Canadian Office: 355 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

To F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3049 Edison Block .·. Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:—Please send me your New Edison Catalog and full particulars of your free trial offer on the new model Edison Phonograph.

Name.....

Address.....

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.)

a desert, we have a central location in a very pretty, fertile valley which is a garden spot in reality, being irrigated from flowing wells. Mrs. West, in my former home the soil in our yard was sterile and I found that cactus plants would grow where nothing else would. Perhaps it is the same with you. The cacti grows in abundance here and many varieties. Many of them bloom at different seasons of the year and the flowers are very fragrant as well as beautiful. I think one can make such pretty pyramids and mounds using different varieties alternately. I would like to hear from you personally and learn more about "The Oasis." I should be glad to hear from any of the other sisters. I think it very helpful for us to meet in the "Cozy Corner" and exchange ideas.

With all good wishes for Mrs. Wilkinson and the COMFORT readers, I remain, MRS. R. W. MARSH.

WILEY, COLO.

DEAR SISTERS:

In reading the sisters' letters in last December COMFORT, Mrs. Lenora Holt's letter touched the question that lie nearest my heart in her talk on, "Is it right to teach children there is a Santa Claus?" I am going to make that question a little stronger even by stating it thus: "Is it right to even let children *believe* there is a Santa Claus?"

And I think you will all agree with me when you learn the heathenish origin of this Santa Claus and you will not want to link such a fable with the sacred birthday of Christ who said, "I am the Truth," for what is this Santa Claus which we add to His holy birthday, but a fable? And when traced down is one of the most heathenish, unreasonable fables ever taught or practised. Perhaps there are many who do not know the heathenish origin of Santa Claus. So for the benefit of those who do not I will relate it here and its use in different countries:

Away back in the fourth century there lived an Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, whose name was St. Nicholas. Among his own class he was considered a holy personage. He did good, helping those oppressed against the oppressor, the poor against the rich. He was supposed to have died December 6th 342 A. D., and his festival on the anniversary of that date is celebrated in Roman and Greek Catholic countries.

In Bari, a seaport on the southeastern cost of Italy, there is a subterranean building of Saracenic architecture. Beneath the superb church of St. Nicholas are the bones of the saint, Legend relates that these were originally buried in his own cathedral at Myra in Lycia; and that in the eleventh century they were stolen by certain merchants of Bari, who landed with them at that town on May 9, 1087 and handed them over to the archbishop and on that very day the bones were reburied in what was then the church of St. Stephen, then the church name was changed to St. Nicholas. There was supposed to have been thirty persons cured of various distempers by intercession of the St. Nicholas. Since that time the tomb of St. Nicholas of Bari has been famous for pilgrimages and to this day, the sixth of December draws hither pilgrims by the thousands, all with staves bound with olive and pine, many of them barefoot, all clad in picturesque, ancient costumes, devoted, earnest and fiery in memory of St. Nicholas. The sailors take the saint's image far out to sea, returning at nightfall with bonfires, torches and music. The bones of St. Nicholas are deposited in a sepulchre beneath the magnificent cyrpt, which is in itself a sort of subterranean church of rich Saracenic achitecture. Through the native rock, which forms the tomb, water constantly exudes, which is collected by the canons on a sponge attached to a reed, squeezed into bottles and sold to pilgrims as a miraculous specific, under the name of the "Manna of St. Nicholas."

Just stop and think of our own civilized Christian nation practising such heathenism as that.

If St. Nicholas was celebrated on the old, original day, December 6th, and kept apart from Christ it would not be quite so bad, but think of linking it to the most holy and sacred day of our lives, the day of the birth of our blessed Lord and Master.

Of course a lot of people, Christians at that, who have been practising this Santa Claus fable (the German diminutive for St. Nicholas) did not know its origin. But now, all who have read this know and cannot shut their eyes to the truth, for Christ said: "It is ye who sin—who know the right and walk not therein." So all you lovers of Christ and the truth, arise to help down one of the greatest enemies of Christianity now existing.

Someone will say: "Why, the children just love to hear about Santa Claus." Of course they do—any story, false or true, can be made attractive to the child. But how much more would they love the story of Jesus, if it were given as much time and thought as the story of Santa. And even though we go far enough to tell the child that it is only a man dressed up to represent St. Nicholas, even that detracts the child's mind from the real truth and teaches it to remember St. Nicholas (only a good man) when it should be remembering the Divine Christ.

I was talking to a lady about Santa and about it being wrong to teach it to children and she said "Hush" because a child of seven years was by her side. Question: Was she afraid the child would learn the truth, or was she afraid the child would find out she had been lying to it?

Just picture the dear little flexible minds, which God has given into our keeping to train for Him, cobwebbed with such fables, for their little minds are easily clouded and they are eager to grasp and believe anything we tell them.

The first to gain from and teach a child in the home is Respect—with a capital R—and no parent can hope to retain the respect of a child when the child finds out the parent has lied to it. If the child does retain its respect, then all honor to the child.

Some will say, "I taught my child Santa Claus, and look at him, a noble, Christian fellow." Just be-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27.)



FREE DIAMOND RING OFFER

Just to advertise our famous Hawaiian im. diamonds—the greatest discovery the world has ever known. We will send absolutely free this 14k gold f. ring set with a 1-2k Hawaiian im. diamond—in beautiful ring box postage paid. If this is satisfactory pay postmaster $1.25 to cover postage, boxing, advertising, handling, etc. If not satisfactory return at our expense and money refunded. Only 10,000 rings given away. Send no money. Answer quick. Send size of finger.

KRAUTH & REED, DEPT. C.
MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO



10c a Day Now Buys This Superb Bauder Violin

An exquisite instrument. Made by the great Violin Maker, J. A. Bauder. Pay at rate of 10c a day. 10 days free trial.

Rare Old Violin Circular Free — WURLITZER — We supply the U. S. Govt.

Thousands of expert instruments to choose from. You get the benefit of our mammoth facilities by buying in large quantities. Write today for circular.

Write Today For Special Circular. No obligations. Your name and address is enough.

THE RUDOLPH WURLITZER COMPANY Dept. 2046
E. 4th St., Cincinnati, O. S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

New Feather Beds Only $5.40

6-Pound Feather Pillows $1.00 per pair. Satisfaction guaranteed. Write for free catalog and our wonderful free offer. Agents wanted. Southern Feather & Pillow Co., Dept. 200, Greensboro, N. C.

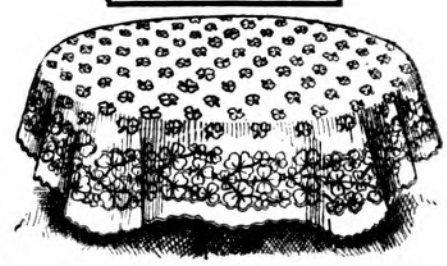


LOVERS' BUDGET FREE

To get acquainted with you, we will send our great LOVERS' BUDGET, consisting of—12 Love Letters, 14 Flirtation Signals, 7 Fortune Telling Secrets, 10 Funny Readings, 1 New Gypsy Fortune Teller, 12 Flirtation Cards, 11 Parlor Pastimes, 250 Jokes & Riddles, 73 Toasts, 40 Amusing Experiments in Magic, 6 Comic Poetry, also bargain sheets of solid gold filled rings, for only 10c to help pay advertising.
THE AUCTION CO., DEPT. 1292 ATTLEBORO, MASS.

Round White Table-Cloth

Premium No. 7265



Yours Prepaid For Five Subscriptions

HERE is a genuine **BARGAIN** when you consider the present high price of all kinds of cloth. If you had this beautiful pure white table-cloth offered to you for $1.50 you would buy it in a minute. Here is your chance, however, to get one without paying a cent. By a fortunate purchase we secured a few hundred of these cloths **WAY BELOW COST** and as usual we are going to give our women readers the benefit of the trade. They are **pure white mercerized damask** and measure 54 inches in diameter which is a good size for the average round table. The pattern is **REFINED AND ELEGANT**—dainty three-leaf **clovers** which are quite small in the middle of the cloth and larger near the edge. The edge is scalloped and embroidered. You could not ask for a handsomer, more durable table-cloth than this one. It is made for service and will wear for years. We **guarantee** that every one of them sent out will give **absolute satisfaction.**

You can obtain one of these fine table-cloths by accepting the following offer **AT ONCE.** If you want one of them **DON'T WAIT** as our supply is limited.

Club Offer. For five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this handsome pure white **clover** design damask Table-Cloth free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7265.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Ship Your Furs to Funsten

More furs are going to be worn this year than in any season in history. As a result, the demand is unlimited—**prices are high!** Don't wait! Ship your furs to **Funsten today** while the market is good. Your check comes by return mail.

Get Quick Cash

Wise trappers ship early—before markets are crowded. We want skunk, coon, mink, muskrat, fox, wolf—**everything,** and pay best prices.

Funsten Animal Baits guaranteed to increase your catch. $1.00 a can postpaid. **Funsten Perfect Smoker** gets **every** animal in the den. Price $1.50; parcel post, 30 cents extra. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back. **Traps at Factory Prices.**

FREE! 3 Books in one (Trappers' Guide, Trappers' Supply Catalog, Trappers' Game Laws). Tells how, when and where to trap, how to remove, prepare and ship skins. Also latest Fur Market Reports, shipping tags and big book **FREE—Write Today.** We tan hides and furs for coats, robes and garments.

FUNSTEN BROS. & CO.
1257 Funsten Bldg. St. Louis, Mo.

FURS

Highest spot cash prices for furs of all kinds, also hides and roots. NO commission charged. Honest grading. Square treatment. You get every single penny that's coming to you. Old established reliable fur house. Unlimited facilities.

TRAPPERS

If you have furs, ship them to us at once. Or get our free price list and shipping tags. But act quick.

ROGERS FUR CO.
Dept. 620 St. Louis, Mo.

TRAPPERS

BE WISE

Remember this—we pay higher prices for your furs than any other house—and

WE CHARGE NO COMMISSION

Send us a trial shipment today—let us **PROVE** our claims to you. Our higher prices, liberal grading and fair dealings have made us the Fastest Growing Fur House in America. Send for **FUR** price list, Trappers' Guide, State Game Laws, Catalogue of Trappers' Supplies—**ALL SENT FREE**—with particulars of our great **FREE GIFT** to trappers.

HILL BROS. FUR CO. 306 N. MAIN ST. ST. LOUIS, MO.

FURS

BIG ADVANCE IN PRICES Muskrat away up. Skunk higher than a year ago. Fancy prices for all other furs. Biggs pays most. Get Our **RAW FUR PRICE LIST FIRST.**

FREE Send for **"Trappers' Exchange,"** our free monthly Trappers' Magazine. Full of pictures and stories of actual trapping and hunting adventure. Subscription free. **TRAPPERS' SUPPLIES**—Guns, Ammunition, Traps, Baits at ACTUAL FACTORY COST. CATALOG FREE.

MORE CASH FOR YOUR FURS

E. W. BIGGS & CO.
502 Biggs Bldg.
Kansas City, - Mo.

HIGHEST CASH PRICES PAID FOR

RAW FURS

We are the fastest growing **RAW FUR** house in New York—NOW the world's greatest Fur Market. We charge no commission and grade liberally. Write for our price list.

DAVID BLUSTEIN & BRO., 166 W. 27th St., N. Y.

TRAPPERS

BIG MONEY IN FURS

Learn how by reading our new book "Fur Facts." Write for it today. It's Free. Price List, Tags, etc., also Free.

Abraham Fur Co.
36 Abraham Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

Love and Spite

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

"I hunted high and low for your wife and child; if it had not been for that faithful fool there," pointing at Martha, standing silent behind Richard, "I should have been safe to this day. But how was I to know you had taken a servant into your confidence, or that she went straight from this house to the woman you said was your wife, that when Miss Barry left me Martha took her to the woman, who got her to promise she would care for the child till she was twenty-one, and would never let her know who she was, or that her father was a madman and a murderer.

"For I had that much revenge, Richard de Burgh! The woman who loved you died abhorring you."

She stopped, panting for breath, burned with the fires of hell that had been shut in her breast these many years.

Huntley spoke quickly, for Richard's face was ghastly at this worst blow of all.

"Don't go on, that's enough!" he said.

"There's more," she gasped, "and I will go on! You shall all hear it, all know what my life has been."

But for a minute her eyes closed, her face, all pinched and yellow, looked like that of a dying woman.

CHAPTER XXIX.

THE CONFESSION.

"How do you know all this?"

Richard's face was nearly as pinched as Alicia's; at the sound of his broken voice, that had been pitiless, she unclosed her eyes and stared at him, gloating even now on his pain.

"Know?" she cried. "Hugo saw his old governess, Miss Barry, about a year ago, with a girl who looked so like Gilbert that he came to tell me, to ask me if it could be Richard's child. I sent him time and again to Miss Barry, to cajole her into telling who the girl was, or to send her to us; but she stuck to her bargain, she sent the girl away, and but for a mere chance, we should never have seen her. Hugo made certain she was Richard's child. Then he lo ked everywhere for her, and all the time she was here, come under a false name, to spy."

"I came by accident, because I wanted to get out of going to the Warden School, because Martha let out my name was De Burgh, and it seemed a chance to get to my own people," Jocelyn said quickly, but her lips trembled.

"I know how you came," evilly, "but it doesn't matter. Ever since you have been in this house things have been going against me. They have gone against me all my life, but I never was beaten before. I would not be beaten now if my heart had not died with my Hugo." She beat her hands on the coverlet.

"I've fought all my life," she moaned. "I never gave in, I never repented. Not when I found I had hurt my back lifting the old man to throw him from the window, and grew into the helpless cripple I am. Not when I knew that I feared the dark in which I had killed him, and had lights burning night and day, so that the twilight could never creep on me and make me see that sight over again. You think I am an old woman." She clutched Jocelyn's hand. "I am but fifty-seven. I tell you I have lived in hell for years." An awful shiver came over her.

"And it has been all for nothing," the dreary whisper more to herself than them. "They say Hugo is dead." She plucked with her fingers at the satin quilt.

Richard came a step nearer to her.

"And I?" he said slowly. "Have I not suffered? But I would forgive you all, Alicia, all, if my wife had not died believing me a villain and mad. When you married my father I never thought again of the day you said you loved me. I never loved you. I loved in all my life but one woman, and she was married to a brute who had deserted her. When he died I married her. Martha has the papers that my wife gave her when she died. We kept it secret, because my wife wished it, because she wanted to live a quiet life and not come to Castle de Burgh. I was a fool to do it. I might have known you meant mischief. But here, before Heaven, I forgive you, as I pray He may forgive you blacker sins than I have against you." In the solemn silence Alicia laughed.

"I have confessed to spite Gilbert, not for your forgiveness!" she cried. "Do what you like, now, hang me, tell it all abroad. For my son is dead."

Huntley stood by, his quick hand writing as she spoke.

"Sign this," he said gently, "and don't speak like that. No one will hang you, and you have Gilbert left."

Alicia lifted her eyes to his, and her look was devilish.

"My son is dead," she said, after that long glance of unconquerable malice. "Give me the pen. But first write this:

"I, Alicia de Burgh, do swear before Heaven that I alone killed my husband, Henry de Burgh, by pushing him from an open window; that the story told by the witness, Martha Hewitt, is true and would have been told at the trial but for me, who hurried the woman away by persuading her that it was the only way to save Richard de Burgh, whom I falsely accused of the murder; through me he was proven to have done it, and to have been of unsound mind. This my confession, I have caused to be written, not because I repent, but that Gilbert and Moyra de Burgh may know that they have no right to inherit the property."

She took the pen from Huntley, and slowly, laboriously signed her name.

Her hand fell heavily on the quilt, she relinquished the pen.

"Take me up, Willie Huntley," she said slowly, "and carry me to Hugo. You can come, too," her black, dull eyes turned on Jocelyn. "If I had known you before I might—but it's all no matter."

Very deftly Huntley stooped and folded the bed-clothes round the cripple; as he lifted her her emaciated face was yellow as wax against his shoulder, her eyes were purple round the lids. The gorgeous coverlet wrapped her like a sumptuous shroud, and Jocelyn followed with a heart full of pity.

Wicked as the woman was, she was strong in her wickedness. Who knew what she might have been if she had not loved "not wisely but too well," till her heart learned the worst bitterness that life holds?

They had laid Hugo de Burgh on his bed; the crimson wound in his throat was covered with white linen; his eyes some kindly hand had closed. Yet his dead face was dreadful. The white lips sneered still, as if in mockery. The fine, cruel hands were torn and bruised by the teeth of the great wolf-dog that had died to defend his master.

The doctor stood by the head of the bed. As Huntley came in, carrying the dead man's mother, he started and waved them back.

"Take her away, Lord Huntley!" he cried sharply. "The shock—she is not fit for it."

His quick eye, as he came forward hastily, noted the hang of Alicia's head on Huntley's shoulder, the lax arm that drooped over the gorgeous, trailing coverlet.

"Poor soul! Poor soul!" he said, almost absently. "I thought as much."

Huntley looked down at his burden.

"What do you mean?" he cried.

"Mrs. De Burgh is dead," Doctor Maitland said quietly. "The shock has done it, but for some time I have known it was not far off."

Huntley remembered how she had grown suddenly heavy in his arms as he walked. Very gently he laid her down beside the son whose dead face she would never look on, and straightened the rose and gold of her wrappings round her quiet limbs.

Mother and son had gone before a higher Judge than humanity. Jocelyn de Burgh, whom they had wronged, fell on her knees beside the bed and prayed.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

That night, when Moyra had cried herself to sleep, Jocelyn and Huntley talked long together. Together they determined that Moyra should never know what had been in that letter from Guy Meredith that the dead woman had never read.

"Guy will never tell her he wrote threatening Hugo with exposure; why should we? Let her be happy thinking he knows no more than she does," Huntley said.

For the letter had been but one more proof of Alicia's guilt.

Meredith's mother had written to him, begging him to give up Moyra, since she had thought for years that her grandmother murdered her husband, and lately had known she did.

A man who had been poaching was badly hurt in a fight with the Meredith keepers, and Mrs. Meredith had been sorry for him. Day after day she had visited him in the infirmary of the jail, till at last he had asked her to bring a magistrate; he had something to tell before he died.

He had been hanging round Castle De Burgh waiting to speak to a maid servant, who was his sweetheart, and was the first to pick up old Mr. De Burgh from the stones of the river that was shallow just there. And the old man had spoken.

"Alicia—Alicia pushed me," he said, as he died. The poacher went to Alicia and she laughed at him, but she paid his passage to Canada. He never went, for he was arrested for stealing, and he never told till he found he was dying. Then it weighed on him that he had left the innocent to suffer for the guilty. He made a deposition of all that he knew and swore to it.

But he lived still, a breathing, sensible witness of Alicia's guilt, and it was this man's confession that Guy Meredith had written to Huntley, vaguely and threateningly to Hugo.

"And me?" Jocelyn said, as Huntley stood up to say good night to her.

"What do you mean?" he asked abruptly, for she trembled as she faced him.

"I mean you had better let me go. I feel—I feel as if those two up-stairs had died through me."

"They died through the visitation of God, with their sins on them," he answered very gravely. "And you, my Jocelyn, must forget everything but that your troubles are over."

He took her gently to him.

"My brave love," he said softly; "my brave, brave love!"

A year after things were changed, indeed, at Castle De Burgh.

The great house was shut up; there were none of them who would willingly live there. Certainly not Richard de Burgh, who had been cleared forever of the stain on his name, pardoned by the home secretary for the crime he had never committed, and justice done to him at last!

Not Gilbert, who had married Mollie Moore on his stepbrother's generous allowance and taken her to travel wherever she most longed to go. Not Moyra, who was to marry Guy Meredith in the spring, and lived now with Jocelyn.

For Jocelyn, her blue eyes bluer than ever, her lovely face sweet and untroubled, was Jocelyn de Burgh no longer, but Lady Huntley of Holycross. She was happy as she had never dreamed of happiness; and Richard de Burgh was happy at seeing her. Otherwise the man's heart was weary in his breast. He longed greatly for the day that should take him to that first Jocelyn, who had loved him and died thinking him a murderer. He lived quietly at a small house he had taken, near his daughter's grand one; and thought, as each day passed over his head, that it was one day gone from his long waiting, one day less to the time when he should meet his love and see in her clear eyes that in heaven she knew!

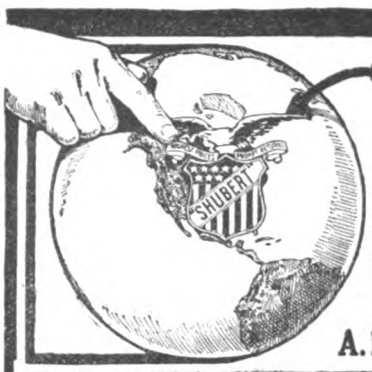
Miss Barry lived still in the dingy London house, hard and iron-gray still. She had never even thawed when Jocelyn had gone to her and thanked her for her care, begged her pardon for having thought hardly of her. She had never liked her. She did not pretend liking now; but there were tears in her old eyes as she told Richard de Burgh how she had kept her word to his wife. For Richard had always known the way to the cold woman's heart.

But Miss Barry lived without Martha. Martha, who had kept house for her beloved Mr. Richard, and would till death claimed her, a "very faithful servant, to shine as doth the day."

And the real Jane Brown?

Was made happy with a school of her own, till in after days she married well and happily. But she and the sham Jane Brown have never met since they parted in the ladies' carriage at Chester.

THE END.



The Best Fur House On Earth For Fur Shippers

Nothing is more important to the Fur Shipper than doing business with an Honest—Reliable—Responsible—Safe Fur House.

Safety First—"Ship To Shubert"

the largest House in the World dealing exclusively in American Raw Furs, where you will always receive an Accurate and Liberal Assortment, the Highest Market Prices and the usual **"Shubert"** Efficient, Speedy, Courteous **service.**

Write for the latest edition of **"The Shubert Shipper,"** containing valuable Market information you must have.

A. B. SHUBERT, Inc. 25-27 WEST AUSTIN AVE. Dept. 49 CHICAGO, U.S.A.

SHIP YOUR **RAW FURS** Direct to New York The International Fur Market

Trappers' Guide Free on Request

WHY? Because shipments to New York eliminate unnecessary transportation and handling charges involved in reshipment from the Interior. Your pelts will reach New York eventually. **Why not first?** Here in New York you will find: The Largest Raw Fur Market; the greatest number of Raw Fur Dealers; the largest number of Fur manufacturers; 90 per cent of America's Fur Dressers and Dyers; the biggest outlet for manufactured Furs and the most wonderful retail Fur establishments on earth. **RAW FUR MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION, 46 West 24th Street, New York**

The Advantage of Shipping Your RAW FURS To New York was never so apparent as right now, when **this market** is outbidding the whole world for your product. After ten years of publicity we have convinced the fur trade that New York is the logical, as well as the most profitable **market** for the shipper.

Send for price list and ship to **M. F. PFAELZER & CO., 115 W. 29th St., Desk 53, New York.**

How and Where to Sell Your Furs

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE sale of the trapper's collection of furs has been greatly aided by the large fur houses who make a business of advertising for furs, sending price lists through the mails and doing all the business without greeting the trapper face to face.

A number of such firms have their advertisements in this paper, and a trapper may have every confidence in the advertisers in COMFORT doing exactly as they promise, and will do well to ship his furs to any of the different companies and get the highest, market prices.

The market value of raw furs formerly depended almost entirely on foreign demand. Prices were fixed at the great auction sales in London. These are held four times a year; in January, March, June and October. Three firms of auctioneers conduct the sales. They are C. M. Lampson and Company, A. and W. Nesbitt and Frederick Huth and Company. Aside from the auction houses, that famous fur company of the Canadian wilds, the Hudson Bay Company, held a sale in January and March.

The war has caused many changes. The Hudson Bay Company has abandoned its sales. The London sales, while still held, lack the support of German buyers, the principal factors in the European fur trade.

Germany, blockaded on all sides by the Allies, has been able to secure but little furs in the two years gone by, and were the war to end, she would again predominate in fixing market values.

Auction sales of furs are now held in New York and St. Louis, conducted by firms in a manner similar to those held in London. They have been largely patronized in the past year, and no doubt will do much to maintain high values in all American furs until the war's end.

Some trappers doubt the wisdom of shipping furs but these are in the minority. Those who ship to the large firms are nearly always certain to receive the full, market value. In dealing with the small home town buyer, as a rule, he buys as cheaply as possible, in order to increase his own profit when he ships. Therefore, if the trapper will ship he will secure the same prices as the home town buyer and realize the profit that would have been the other fellow's, had the skins been disposed of at home.

A trapper who is in doubt about the responsibility of the firm to whom he ships his furs, should instruct the firm to hold his lot of furs separate, so if returns are not satisfactory, the shipment may be returned. In this way, he runs no chances of being compelled to accept a valuation less than he considers the worth of his shipment. There are some houses that hold all shipments separate, but most fur houses do not do so unless requested. It takes a vast warehouse to hold all shipments separate, and in the large cities, rents are much too high to utilize space for such purposes.

The fur grader in the large fur houses is working hard to please the trapper. The grader knows that if the trapper is not pleased, he will not ship again. It is the aim and desire of any reputable fur house to hold its shippers. Every firm wants all the furs it can get, and by increasing the shippers, the business is enlarged and made more prosperous.

SKUNK We pay top prices for Skunk, Mink, Muskrat, and all raw Furs. Price list free. M. J. JEWETT & SONS, REDWOOD, N. Y. DEPT. 5.

TAYLOR

WILL PAY YOU MORE FOR



PRICES HIGH SHIP TODAY

We have a big demand for all kinds of furs. Ship at once while market is good. Don't delay. A postal card request will bring you our new catalog booklet "Opportunities for Pleasure and Profit in Trapping" also price list, shipping tags, etc. **ALL FREE. Write today.**

F. C. TAYLOR FUR CO.
685 FUR EXCHANGE BLDG.
ST. LOUIS, MO.



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

VETERINARY QUESTIONS.—What is the normal temperature of the horse? (2) Where is the temperature taken? (3) How many days does the mare carry her foal? (4) How many openings are there in the teat of a mare? (5) Is a black horse that color when born? (6) How long does it take for a horse's hoof to grow down at the toe? (7) At what age is a horse mature or adult? (8) The molar teeth wear down daily. Why is this not noticeable? (9) What is the capacity of a horse's stomach? (10) Where does a horse store drinking water? (11) How long does feed take to pass through a horse? MISS F. H.

A.—We believe we asked these questions in an editorial article with the hope that our readers would hunt up the answers for themselves. 100 degrees. (2) Angle of lower jaw. (3) 336 days. (4) Two. (5) No. Brown. (6) About thirteen months. (7) Five years. (8) The teeth descend in their sockets as they wear off. (9) Five and one half gallons. (10) First large intestine, called "cocum." (11) About five days.

CANKER OF THE EAR.—I have a Water Spaniel dog, suffering from a running of the head. The odor is offensive. MRS. A. L.

A.—Twice daily perfectly cleanse the ear with peroxide of hydrogen or wood alcohol on cotton tied to a small stick. Then lay the dog on its side and pour into the ear that is uppermost a little of a lotion composed of one dram each of powdered alum and sugar of lead, two drops of carbolic acid, thirty drops of glycerine and soft water two ounces. Hold the dog down until the sediment has time to settle into the ear, then treat the other ear in the same way. Let the dog live an outdoor life on simple food and keep him out of water. The trouble is due to lack of drying of the ears when wet.

SHRINK IN MILK.—I have a cow, part Jersey, six years old. I milked her within a week of her freshening. When the calf came she didn't give enough milk for it. What is the cause? J. O. B.

A.—A cow should always be dried off for at least six weeks before calving and then will be likely to give a good flow of milk if in good condition and well fed. Nothing can be done to improve matters other than to feed well and dry her off six weeks or more before the next calf is due.

WEAK RABBITS.—We have some young rabbits about two months old which let one ear fall down. They eat and seem to be well and are fed twice each day. In the morning they have green Alfalfa and bread and milk and fresh water; in the evening they have dry Alfalfa hay and sometimes cabbage, carrots and lettuce as a change. Is this a disease? MRS. W. A. L.

A.—Disease is not present. Make the rabbits take plenty of exercise to give them muscular strength.

INDIGESTION.—I have a seven-year-old mare in poor condition. Her hind legs began to stock years ago, when in foal. They stock worse after standing a little or after a long drive. Her feed is ground oats and meal, half and half. She has rock salt before her all the time. L. E. G.

A.—Have her teeth attended to by a veterinarian and then feed whole oats, one ninth part of wheat bran by weight and mixed clover hay. Add ear corn in winter. Allow her a box stall and each time she comes in rub her legs dry and bandage snugly with flannel from feet to hocks and knees. Never let her stand for a single day idle in the stable. If she passes worms give the treatment often prescribed in this department.

AILING CATTLE.—What is the matter with my cattle? They began dying two years ago. They get weak in their backs and can't rise up. Some look healthy, eat and drink and some do not eat at all. They die from suffocation and when examined the third stomach is all dry. What should be done to prevent others from catching the disease? MRS. D. S.

A.—You may be sure that improper feed and management explain these troubles. If at all times the cattle have an abundance of sound, nutritious feeds and plenty of pure water and succulent or laxative feed to keep the bowels active no such sickness or losses will occur. Prevention is the important matter to consider.

SHEDDING HAIR.—I have a young spitz dog that sheds her hair all the year around. Is this a natural condition and is there a way to stop it? D. K.

A.—This will not happen if you make the dog live an active outdoor life and have but one small meal a day, without sweets or potatoes. Keep the dog free from fleas. If necessary tub him once a week in a solution of coal tar dip made according to directions given upon the container.

SKIN DISEASE.—I have a horse four years old that has a skin trouble. His hair comes out in spots all over him. One eye gets red and bloodshot. J. W. T.

A.—Have the horse clipped and clip him again in spring wash affected parts of skin with a 1-100 solution of coal tar dip thickened with sulphur and repeat every three days. Reduce grain feed and increase work or exercise daily. The eye trouble probably is periodic ophthalmia (moon blindness) and incurable. See answers on that subject in back numbers of the paper.

SYNOVIAL DISTENSIONS.—I have a young colt eighteen months old, in good health. He has wind puffs on his left hind leg in the knee joint. Can you advise me what to use? D. F. Y.

A.—The distensions are filled with synovia (joint oil), not wind, and constitute a bog spavin in front of the hock joint and a thoroughpin which appears at each side of the joint. The condition is practically incurable. Coat the joint with pine tar (if not sore from liniment) and let colt run out. Repeat the application each time the tar is about worn off.

TAIL RUBBING.—I have a four-year-old mare in good condition, but rubs the root of her tail. She hasn't any breaking out and does not rub the hair off. I have given medicine for all kind of worms. W. L. N.

A.—Reduce the feed and work or abundantly exercise the filly every day. Cleanse the tail. Pull upon locks of the upstanding hair of the rubbed part until the skin gives with a crack. Pour on and rub in a mixture of one part of kerosene and two parts of cottonseed oil every three days until no longer needed. Cleanse udder and on each side of it if found to be foul.

SNEEZING.—I have a heifer eighteen months old that goes to a post and rubs her nose on it and sneezes for a half hour at a time. She looks well, eats heartily and has free range of a pasture. It is not contagious as she has been with the other cows. MRS. W. Z. D.

A.—The cow possibly has a little discharge fom the nostrils or a growth in one of them which causes her to sneeze. Try effects of syringing out the nostrils twice daily with lukewarm water containing one teaspoonful of saleratus to the quart.

RICKETS.—I have pigs, two months old, that walk on their ankle joints when they hurry. They seem to be weak over their hind quarters. I feed them corn and bran slops. S. P.

A.—Lack of exercise and malnutrition induce this disease of the bones. Worms may be an aggravating cause. Pigs should have very little bran. It is too irritating to the bowels. Corn is best kept for feeding the grown pigs for market. Turn the pigs loose on Alfalfa. Or allow free range and feed Alfalfa hay. Also feed slop of wheat middlings, ground barley or rye, and 10 per cent of tankage. Allow free access to slaked lime, wood ashes and wood charcoal.

LAMENESS.—Will you tell me what is the matter with my horse? He is nine years old and is lame on his hind leg and has a tumor on the stifle joint. It looks like sweeney but the skin is not tight. J. F. S.

A.—Sweeney is wasting of the muscles of the shoulder and has no connection with a tumor of any kind. Write again giving a clear description of the case and enclose a picture of a horse marked to show the location of the trouble.

WIND-BROKEN MARE.—I have a fine mare twelve years old. When you drive her it seems hard for her to get her breath. When she is doing nothing she appears all right. Is there any cure? MRS. M. H. O.

A.—We cannot tell from your description whether the mare is a "roarer" or affected with heaves (broken wind). There is no cure for either disease. If you can find out exactly what is wrong and write again we may be able to suggest some treatment that may help.

LEAKING MILK.—What can be done for a cow when her teats leak milk, without injury to the cow?
W. J. H.

A.—Milk the cow three or four times a day and twice daily soak her teats in a saturated solution of alum.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.)

cause the child found you out, forgave you, and lived it down, does that lighten your responsibility? Not in the least. If I should tell a lie to some dear friend and they should find it out, fogive me and live it down, would that lighten the crime for me? Not in the least.

People go to the trouble to make up big fable stories about Santa Claus, but will not read the plain truth to the children to get them to believe in Christ.

Even from a worldly standpoint, the child would respect the parents more if it thought they gave the gifts to it.

And we have gone so far that the missionaries—I hope not all—teach Santa Claus. It is a wonder they can ever convert the skeptic heathen when he learns we are practising customs just as dark in heathenism as any of their old, handed down, witchery customs.

Ask a child who is the most important person at Christmas-time and nine times out of ten they will say "Santa Claus." The dark blanket of Santa Claus is held up before the child's eyes until Chist is hidden entirely. I have seen Christmas programs carried out in churches and the name of Christ not even mentioned, but old Santa was there in all his glory, or if not entirely forgotten, Christ was used merely as a side issue, so to speak.

Someone says, "If you are starting to reform the world you will find it a great task, there are so many evils and fables in the world today." We cannot down them all at one time. As the old man on his death bed told his sons, "The son who can break this bundle of sticks which I have tied together may have all my money." They all tried, but one, but could not break them. Then the last, and least, son took them and said, "That is easy," and broke them one at a time.

That is the way some people look at the evils of the world—all in one large bundle. Separate them, analyze, and then break them one at a time.

Your COMFORT sister, MISS FLOY SCOTT.

YATES CENTER, KANS.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

After reading Mrs. Ida Bell Aldridge's letter I thought I would add my mite.

First and foremost don't try to force religion upon a child. In place of the prayer (preceded by punishment) choose some interesting story, at first one containing no preaching and read it to the child, after giving him a wholesome supper, a bath and a clean nightgown. Let him go to bed or sit in a chair as he pleases. Sometimes my youngsters just lounge around on the floor while I read. The Cubby Bear stories in COMFORT are hard to beat. I also take several magazines for children from three to twelve years of age.

If I were going to deal with your child the first thing I should look to would be his diet. A doctor who was a very dear friend of mine, was at my home one time and noticed how disagreeable and peevish my children were. He said, "Mattie" (he had known me since I was eight yeas old), "you are feeding those children to temper if not to death." I was shocked for they were as healthy and plump looking as could be and had bright eyes and rosy cheeks. I asked why he thought that. He said, "No child so physically perfect should be so peevish and fretful." Then he told me how to feed them. For breakfast, a slice of buttered toast, preferably brown or graham bread, an egg, soft boiled, poached, or better still, raw. Don't throw up your hands in dismay. Beat the egg well (in a cup) finish filling the cup with fresh milk, add a bit of salt, one quarter to one half teaspoonful of sugar and a few drops of any desired flavoring extract, if desired, and you have a drink that is perfectly nutritious for we all know milk and eggs are a perfect food and at the same time are very palatable and digestible. After my eighteen months' old baby had the measles he would not eat anything and if he did he would vomit almost immediately. I tried the milk and egg diet and it worked splendidly.

For dinner, rice cooked in a double boiler from one and a half to three hours; cook in milk if you choose. Oatmeal cooked the same way is good, with a fruit sauce, not too acid, bread and butter with a light dessert like corn-starch pudding (if the child is over two years old), tapioca pudding, Indian meal pudding, cooked slowly and thoroughly. In winter a small amount of meat may be added.

For supper, corn-meal mush (cooked several hours), any good soup, or even popcorn and milk is much relished at our house. Never feed a child hot bread. The doctor said bread should be forty-eight hours old before giving it to a child but one cannot always live up to that.

Many people do not know that a child under eighteen months of age cannot digest potatoes or any food containing a large amount of starch. This is meant as a suggestive bill of fare and not to be followed too literally. Chocolate and cocoa furnish nourishment and many pleasant combinations can be worked out. Meat broths are also very nourishing.

The next thing I would do with that boy of yours would be to praise him but not notice anything he did even though it may be done with the intention of aggravating you. If he finds that you don't notice such things they will lose their charm at once. Let him alone as much as possible but treat him kindly always and if physical punishment is absolutely necessary be very, very sure that no hint of anger is displayed by you for that will only make matters worse and be ready with a kiss and smile, even in the midst of the punishment, and tell the little fellow how bad you feel because you have to punish him. I hope you do feel badly too, for I always do and I have actually cried as I talked to my little ones after punishing them.

Another scheme I tried about the work question was this: My little boy was like the child described in Mrs. A's letter and so lazy he would not do anything unless actually forced to One day I said, "Husband, go out in the yard and see if you can find a little boy who will bring mother some wood. Her little boy doesn't like to do it." A smile lighted up our little boy's face and in a few minutes he was back with the wood. We have much fun over our "make-believe" boy.

I never hire my children to do anything but all the pennies they get go into their banks and at Christmas they write a letter to Santa Claus telling what they want and then give me the pennies to take to him. They always get what they write for, even if mother wears last winter's hat. Of course we always talk these things over and they usually decide to get what they need. Last year it was a "wagon to haul wood in." This year it is to be a pig and Santa can put whatever he wants to in their stockings if he has anything left after he has seen the other little boys and girls. Last spring I gave them twenty-five cents each if they would keep the papers and trash picked up off the yard. They raked and swept the yard once a week and didn't need reminding all summer.

Suppose some morning you tell your boy that if he will help you, get the wood, feed the chickens, or any light task you may have for him to do, and help you get your work done that after dinner you would take a lunch and go fishing or on a picnic and go, no matter what it costs. But if something happens that makes it impossible, explain kindly the reason and arrange for another day, and don't be vexed at a little pouting or a few tears for such disappointments are as hard for the little folks as those of life are to us.

And first, last and always, don't expect an angel of a good healthy boy. I have known many a wayward son, who, in my opinion, was made so by his mother constantly showing him his faults, in all kindness, too, but my adage is:

"Do not look for wrong or evil,
You will find them if you do;
As you measure to your neighbor
He will measure back to you.
Look for goodness, look for gladness,
You will find them all the while,
If you bring a smiling visage to the glass
You'll meet a smile."

Now dear Mrs. Aldridge I will close, hoping I have helped you for I realize your anxiety. This is not theory with me but actual experience. I had a boy like yours but thanks to my doctor friend, my husband and I now have as loyal and loving a little son as we could wish for. MRS. GEORGE A. STEELE.

HABBERTON, ARK.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Have you room for another homesteader? I have noticed several in the corner from time to time. We have been holding down forty acres for two years and hope in one more to call it our own. We are thirteen miles from town and one mile from the main road and one and one half miles from church and school. Our climate is lovely; the winters mild and while the summers are hot the nights are never uncomfortable and one can always find a breeze in the shade during the hot days. We are in the Ozarks and have the best water on earth.

We came to our claim with only a tent and camp equipment. Not a horse, cow or wagon and very little money. But my husband had a good sharp axe. Did I hear someone whisper, "It can't be did!" We haven't starved yet and won't till the smokehouse is empty—yes, it's locked. We have a one-room loghouse and there wasn't time to hew or bark them but they keep out considerable cold and we hope to add a room soon. Husband and I were both raised in town but prefer farm life and have learned some hard lessons in the school of experience. We lost our meat last fall. Just a week from the day we butchered I boiled out all the grease for soap and have plenty of soap and it was the first lesson in soap making too.

I enjoy the sisters' letters and hope I may come again. I have a twenty months old boy and read with great interest letters from other mothers.

With best wishes to all, I am, MRS E. A. WATSON.

ANSONIA, 186 Wakelee Ave., CONN.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I just read MRS. Aldridge's letter and feel like adding my mite.

Do not whip your child to make him say his prayers. Coax him lovingly, try the shortest prayer you know and if that won't do, let him alone about it. Maybe you might try asking it for him yourself, or you could tell him stories about Jesus and how He loves the little ones and cares for them.

I have never had any trouble with my children in that way for I commenced to teach them as soon as they were able to talk. It may be different with my baby who is twenty-one months old. I try to make her say grace after meals but instead she stands up in her high chair, folds her hands and says, "Gong, gong, pie," or whatever she has just eaten, meaning that it is all gone. It was a joy to us all when she came for the other baby was then ten years old and there is a boy and a girl older. They are a great help in taking care of the baby and also help to spoil her. Her name is Elizabeth Louise.

I believe it is best to whip a child in early years if it needs punishment but after they are ten years of age I think they ought to obey because they are old enough to understand.

My baby had a blood tumor on her back and I have painted it with spirits of camphor and sweet oil almost ever since she was born and it is nearly gone now. I am thankful to COMFORT for the remedy.

I look about the same as I did when I wrote to COMFORT before, three and seven years ago, only a little older but feel younger. I am thirty-five years old. I have made many pen friends through COMFORT and have taken the paper eleven years now. That speaks for it.

Mrs. Hanna Walker, California, I should like to hear from you again.

With love to all the COMFORT readers and the editor of this corner, MRS. HERMINE HANSEN.

TERRE HAUTE, R. R., IND.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT READERS:

May a new subscriber be admitted to your circle? I have read COMFORT a little over a year now and how I do enjoy the letters that are printed each month.

Where in the world Mrs. Hanna gets her idea that a poor family with children to rear and educate, has more advantages in the city than in the country is more than I can conceive. A poor family in the city is all right, in a way, as long as the husband and father is well and strong and the weekly wages (hard earned) come in each week, and then it takes a lot of figuring and skimping of this and that to make both ends meet in these times. But if the man of the house is out of work, what then? Rent to pay, fuel and food to buy, and a bunch of healthy youngsters can eat a lot of food. When the mechanic is out of work

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 29.)

INFANTILE PARALYSIS



left 8-year-old Evyln Olson so crippled she had to crawl on her knees. Five months' treatment at the McLain Sanitarium restored her feet and limbs to the satisfactory condition shown in the lower picture. Her mother has this to say:

"We feel it our duty to recommend your Sanitarium. Evyln was stricken with Infantile Paralysis in August, 1915. March 1, 1916, we carried her to you. Five months later she could walk without crutches or braces. Words cannot express our thanks.

MR. and MRS. JOHN OLSON,
R. D. No. 9, Grinnell, Ia.



For Crippled Children

The McLain Sanitarium is a thoroughly equipped private Institution devoted exclusively to the treatment of Club Feet, Infantile Paralysis, Spinal Diseases and Deformities, Hip Disease, Bow Legs, Knock Knees, Wry Neck, etc, especially as found in children and young adults. Our book, "Deformities and Paralysis," also "Book of References, free on request. Write for it today.

The McLain Orthopedic Sanitarium
990 Aubert Avenue St. Louis, Mo.

VETERINARY COURSE AT HOME



Taught in simplest English during spare time. Diploma granted. Cost within reach of all. Satisfaction guaranteed. Have been teaching by correspondence twenty years. Graduates assisted in many ways. Every person interested in stock should take it. Write for catalogue and full particulars - - - **FREE**

London Vet. Correspondence School
Dept. 8, London, Ontario, Can.

For rheumatism
Sloan's Liniment KILLS PAIN
Penetrates without rubbing

COMB AND BRUSH SET



FOR LADY OR GENT

Premium No. 2622

THERE has been no Premium offer in years that has been so pleasing to our friends as this new **Comb and Brush Set.** The great beauty of this latest style dark green or Malachite finish on the back of brush with the SILVERINE shield for engraving initial or monogram has made this set one of the best as a present for birthday, wedding or any special occasion. The brush is **nine inches** long over **2 1-2 inches** wide with splendid firm white bristles well fastened and should last for years. **The Comb** is **black, seven inches** long and **one & one half inches** wide with **coarse and fine teeth.**

Club Offer: For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send this Set Free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 2622.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

25 ASSORTED HY-GRADE SOUVENIR POST CARDS, POSTPAID. **10c**
The S. & D. Co., Dept. COM., Brunswick, Maine.

KLEVER GIFTS from the West for everybody, mailed anywhere. Give something different this Christmas. Write quick for catalogue.
Western Novelty Company, Pueblo, Colorado.



FREE Fine Camera and complete outfit for selling 20 Large Colored Art & Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Beautiful Post Cards at 10cents each. Satisfaction Guaranteed or money returned. Order your choice today.
GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 325, CHICAGO

YOUR BEAUTY Learn of your "beneath-the-surface" beauty and how to bring it to favorable notice. Send us 2c. in stamps for sample of a wonderful beauty aid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Obey the impulse now.
Artaud Laboratories, Box 614, Pueblo, Colorado.

FREE



Write today for 20 pkgs. Art Post Cards to sell at 10c per pkg. When sold send $2.00 and get your choice of presents.
PEERLESS WATCH CO., Dept. 420 Chicago, Ill.

Girls—Here Is A Beautiful Home For All Your Dollies

This Big Doll House Is Just What You Have Always Wanted



Looks Just Like A Real House With Yard, Flowers And Windows And Doors That Actually Open And Shut

Premium No. 7921

COMFORT loves little children and never loses an opportunity to please them, so when we had this large magnificent doll house offered us at a **special reduced price** you may be sure that we took up all that we could buy of them. You never saw a finer doll house than this one. It is not one of the small toy-like affairs that are not large enough to be of any account when you want to really and truly "play house." You will be surprised and delighted to see how much like a **real** house it looks and with the **large size** of it—over one foot high, a foot long, nearly ten inches wide, and of course the **door-yard** that extends clear around the house makes it still larger, and it looks like a real yard, too, with beautiful **flower beds laid out, walks** and handsome green **climbing vines** that come way up over the windows. It is built of very **heavy folding cardboard** in true **colonial** style just like the houses that rich people live in, with a **large porch,** plenty of windows that **open outward,** and doors that **actually open and shut.** The sides of the house and the chimney are painted a handsome **bright red,** the roof is light green while all the windows and doors are finished in white.

No little girlie ever had a larger or prettier doll house than this one and **all your dollies will certainly feel very proud of such a beautiful home to live in.** We are certainly pleased that we are able to make so many little ones happy with a present of one of these fine houses, and we are sure that every mother who sends for one will be as well pleased as the children. We will **give** you this doll house which comes all **folded** and ready to easily set up **all ready for housekeeping,** upon the terms of either of the following special offers.

Offer No. 7921A For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c, we will send you this large beautiful doll house free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7921B For your own subscription, or renewal, or extension of your present subscription, for one year at 25c and 10c additional, (35c in all) we will send you this doll house free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7921.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

By the slip of a paragraph we answered A. H. Stillwater, Minn., in October COMFORT that Miss Marion May, 215 West 101st Street, New York, was the Secretary of the Anti-suffragist Association, when the fact is that she is Corresponding Secretary of the N. Y. State Woman Suffrage Association with the same address. The Secretary of the Anti-suffrage Association of New York is Mrs. M. E. Loomis, with headquarters in New York City. We extend our apologies to Miss May with the assurance that all the Antis who have written, or may write, to her, are just what she is looking for as material to work on, and that she never would have heard from them except for our mistake.

Mrs. A. K., Vassar, Mich.—The reason the skins, on which you have tried several methods of tanning, are stiff and harsh is not the fault of the method, but of the tanner. You are trying to do something you do not know how to do, except as far as you have been told. Tanning properly depends more on the tanner than on the method and to be anything at all of a tanner requires knowledge and practise. We might tell you a different, perhaps a better, method than any you have tried, but we cannot give you the necessary ability and experience to apply the method. COMFORT readers along other lines ask us the same kind of questions you do about methods to use, but they do not seem to think it is necessary to know anything except the method. A skilled person in any work with the poorest method will get better results than the unskilled person can get with the best method known. We hope inquirers will make a note of this when they fail to get results and look to the improvement of themselves instead of the methods they may be failing to make good with.

T. R. N., Everton, Mo.—There are city newspapers which publish a certain number of "Want Notices" free, but we know none except The Enquirer, Cincinnati, O. Inquire of N. W. Ayer & Son, Advertising Agents, Philadelphia, Pa. (2) Walker's Rhyming Dictionary is the standard, but it cannot teach you how to write songs and poems, nor can any book. Poets are born, not made. There are many books on the use of words. Try Trench or Fyffe. Inquire at any large book store. Ask for lists of books on the subject.

Mrs. N. B., Nickelsville, Va.—You can only sell your apple logs by bringing them to the notice of possible purchasers and the best way to do that is to advertise in your local, or nearest city, papers. COMFORT inquirers often ask us for information concerning firms which buy certain lines of farm and other products and we cannot give it because in small sales of this kind business can only be done with local or near-by city dealers, or purchasers. These can best and quickest be reached by local advertising and as the cost is small we recommend all inquirers to go to their own immediate newspapers for this.

J. C. S., Noma, Fla.—Old magazines are a drug on the market and unless you can sell them at a cent or two apiece you will not find dealers willing to purchase. Thousands of them can be bought at second-hand stands in the cities at prices ranging from two for a nickel up to a dime apiece in rare instances. We bought not long ago from a second-hand dealer three bound volumes of Harper's Magazine date 1850-51 in good condition for a dime. Can you beat that? At another time we saw a dealer buy a whole wheelbarrow load of old, unbound magazines for fifteen cents. The same weight of unprinted paper would have brought more money.

Mrs. M. B. W., Library, Penn.—The straight prohibition states are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Washington and West Virginia. You may not have seen this list in COMFORT, but it has been there just the same, and we believe more than twice. We hope you will see it this time.

N. L. A., Brookwood, Ala.—Girls may learn to become prescription drug clerks, but not a great many do, as the work is not in all particulars quite woman's work. Where pharmacy is taught in Alabama is probably at the State University. We leave it to you to find out where that is located. Write to the President, C. H. Denny, LL. D., for information. In the mean time have a talk with some physician and druggist whom you know and get their opinion of your taking up the study of pharmacy. What the educational requirements are in Alabama to enter the school you can learn from the physician, or the druggist.

Miss P. T., Wakefield, Va.—This is an age of efficiency, and if you do not even know the duties of a governess, how could you fill the position of governess if we told you where you could get such a position, which we cannot. Such positions are found by capable persons who know what is to be done, how to do it and what to do to get it to do. The ability to be a first-class governess carries with it the ability to find the place. If you have to be led to it, you will have to be led after you get it. The efficient governess does not require to be led because she is a leader. Begin your inquiries among families in your neighborhood who have employed governesses.

B. M. C., Anna, Ill.—As a great many COMFORT readers, men and women, make things to sell and don't know how to sell them, we will go into some detail as to how to handle your wonderful hair tonic. First give it a good name. Trade-mark is not necessary, nor is there any government license to sell. But a trade-mark is desirable. If there is any local license you must find that out by inquiry of local officials. Put your tonic up neatly and attractively, and when you have a stock ready for distribution place it with drug-stores and groceries on sale, that is they only pay you for what they sell. Now to let the public know about the wonderful tonic and what a good thing it is, advertise it liberally, half page, at least, at a time and often, in your local newspapers. That will start something and you will reap the benefit. When you have got it going all right in your own county, place it in the adjoining county and advertise in the newspapers of that county, and so on until you have it going in all the adjoining counties. In this small and gradual way you may build up a very comfortable business and possibly, if the tonic becomes popular, sell out to a corporation which sees enough in the business to spend real money on it. There are so many medicines and other articles now on the market, that to get before a wide public costs a mint of money in advertising and nothing will go unless it is well advertised. You can meet the cost in one county to begin with, but in the whole state and country you cannot. Therefore begin at the bottom and climb up as you gain strength. You will not find it easy work, even going at it in the smallest way, and you will make many mistakes before you learn how, but if you will stick to it and keep it going you may get there by and by, and you may not.

Brown Eyes, Central, Ind.—We imagine that you are not the only pupil in the public schools of this country who finds it difficult to meet the cost of changing text-books and thus far the cause of complaint is not being removed as thoroughly as it should be. As Indiana prides herself on her public schools and the high intellectual standard of her people you might get somebody in authority interested in your case so that you would not have to leave school because you could not afford to buy new books when ordered to do so by teachers acting under orders from those higher up. Suppose you write a plain letter of your needs and your desire to secure an education, to Hon. Chas. A. Greathouse, State Superintendent of Education at Indianapolis and ask him what can be done for you. If he can offer no assistance, we suppose you will have to do the best you can on your own hook. At the same time, it seems to us that your parents must be poorer than in purse merely, to permit their daughter to grow up in ignorance rather than make some sacrifice to prevent it.

BIGGEST BOOK IN WORLD.—A committee headed by one George Skal of New York has been formed to have made up and presented to the German people a great book containing the newspaper clippings on the voyage of the merchant submarine Deutschland. The book will be inscribed in letters of gold and will be placed in the Royal Library in Berlin. It will contain every line printed concerning the undersea voyage of the Deutschland, as well as editorial comment, photographs, and cartoons. The book will be about the size of a grand piano. The volume is to rest on a table supported by two American eagles and two German eagles of silver.

RECIPE FOR GRAY HAIR.

To half pint of water add 1 oz. Bay Rum, a small box of Barbo Compound, and ¼ oz. of glycerine. Apply to the hair twice a week until it becomes the desired shade. Any druggist can put this up or you can mix it at home at very little cost. Full directions for making and use come in each box of Barbo Compound. It will gradually darken streaked, faded gray hair, and removes dandruff. It is excellent for falling hair and will make harsh hair soft and glossy. It will not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy, and does not rub off.—Adv.

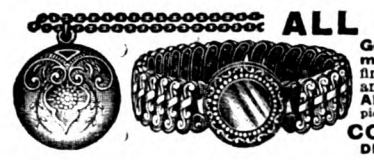
MONEY Made quickly by smart men. T. ARTOL CO., 115 Nassau St., N.Y.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties, Catalog Free. D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.

Money $ $ FOR WISE MEN $ $ KEY FREE. J. Warren Smith (A) Ottawa, Ill.

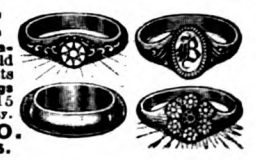
Kremola Cream. **Wonderful bleach.** Removes brown spots, etc. By mail $1. Booklet free. Dr. C. H. Berry Co., 2975 Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.



ALL THESE FREE

Gold plated Locket set with im. Diamond and 22-inch Neckchain, one Gold finished Signet Extension Bracelet, fits any arm, and these 4 beautiful Rings ALL GIVEN FREE for selling only 15 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. Write today.



COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO.
DEPT. 39, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

26-Piece Daisy SILVER SET

Premium No. 6806

Sent To You Prepaid For A Club Of Six



WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS

WE have in the past made many offers of table ware, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer a **complete set of 26 Pieces** in return for such a small club of subscriptions. And please don't think that because we **are** giving away this set on such liberal terms that it is plated on a brass base and consequently will change color and have that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. This Set which we offer you here is plated on a **white metal base** therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will not show signs of wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—**6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife.** Each piece is **full regulation size** for family use, the handles are handsomely **embossed and decorated** with the beautiful **Daisy design** which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and the bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and **bright polished.**

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to offer it as a premium for so few subscriptions. It is by far **the greatest value** we have ever offered, in fact we are **so sure** that it will please and satisfy all who accept this offer **we are going to guarantee every Set sent out for a period of five years.** We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Daisy Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this 26-Piece Daisy Table Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 6806.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Big Package Beautiful Christmas Novelties!



52 All Different Lovely Gold And Color Embossed Christmas Enclosure Cards, Folders, Cut-Outs, Seals, Stickers, Tags, Etc.,

Premium No. 7931

All Sent Postpaid To You For Only One Subscription

Also An Exquisite Christmas Calendar For 1917!

All the **latest new style** Christmas novelties, beautifully printed and **embossed** on superfine paper in **gold, purple, crimson, holly-green** and all the colors of the rainbow. The use of these dainty, appropriate emblems of **holiday cheer** is now almost universal—everyone realizes how much these refined little cards, tags, seals, stickers, etc. **add** to the value of the Christmas gift. Even though it may be only a little remembrance these bright colored tokens of **Joy and Happiness** show that **loving thought** has gone into it and **care** and **pains** have been taken with it and this knowledge changes the plainest, most inexpensive present into a gift well nigh priceless.

The ordinary small town stores do not carry these strictly high-grade Christmas novelty packages—they are to be secured only in the large cities and at a high price. So for the benefit of COMFORT readers we had this special assortment made up **expressly for us** by one of the largest and best known Christmas novelty manufacturers in America. And in order to give the **greatest value possible** we had them add to the assortment a **most beautiful 1917 Christmas Calendar** 4½ inches wide by 6½ inches long, lithographed in no less than **five colors on heavy white coated specially prepared paper.** This Calendar alone is worth all that we ask you to send us for the whole collection—and you will say so too when you see it.

Now let us tell you what this big assortment contains:

One Extra Large Colored and Holly Embossed "Christmas Stocking" Enclosure Card.

Five Large Elegantly Embossed and Colored Christmas Enclosure Cards.

Ten Medium Embossed and Colored Christmas Enclosure Cards.

Two Large Handsomely Colored and Decorated Christmas Tags.

Four Medium colored and Decorated Christmas Tags.

One Extra Large Colored and Holly Embossed Christmas Book Mark.

One Beautiful Extra Large Colored and Embossed Christmas Novelty Cut-out Card.

Two Dainty Colored and Embossed Novelty Cut-out Christmas Folders.

Ten Beautifully Colored and Embossed Santa Claus, Evergreen, Poinsettia, and Christmas Bells Gummed Seals.

One Special Large Oval Illustrated Gold Embossed and Colored Christmas Gummed Seal with the words "Do Not Open Until Chistmas."

Five Novelty Santa Claus Cut-out Christmas Gummed Seals, Embossed in colors.

Ten Cute Novelty Children Cut-out Christmas Gummed Seals.

One Artistic, Beautifully Embossed and Finished Christmas Calendar for 1917.

All the Enclosure Cards, Tags, and Folders carry a **Cheery Christmas Greeting** such as "Merry Christmas," "With Best Christmas Wishes," "Christmas Greetings," "Merry Yuletide," "Christmas Joys" and others equally as pleasing and appropriate. These are to be tied to or enclosed inside your Christmas packages to bear a loving message with the gift. And all the gaily colored gummed Stamps and Seals you will use to **seal and decorate** the outside of your Christmas letters and packages as well. You will be surprised and delighted to see how much they add to the attractiveness of your gifts to say nothing of the fun in "doing them up."

And don't forget that in addition to all of these lovely cards, seals, tags, stickers, etc., we are also going to send an exquisitely **embossed and multi-colored Christmas Calendar for 1917,** a large **handsome Holly decorated Book Mark** and two large **Christmas Novelty Cut-out Folders** which are as unique as they are pleasing. When you first look at one of them it is to all appearances a handsome Christmas Post Card and the other a very attractive four page Booklet, when Presto—a flip of the finger, and a startling transformation takes place, causing the figures and designs to stand out in **bold relief,** and in a life-like manner that is truly wonderful. These cute novelties are something entirely new this season and they make very attractive center-table or mantlepiece ornaments as they are large and stand without support.

This splendid collection will furnish your whole family with all the Holiday Gift Decorations needed for this Christmas and they will surely add to the pleasure of your giving and the gifts themselves will be all the more appreciated by the recipients. We purchased a large quantity of these Novelty Packages but even at that we fear we have not enough to go around **so take no chances of being disappointed but send in your order at once.** Also Christmas will be here almost before you are aware of it, and you want to make **sure** of receiving your package **in time** so that you can get your Christmas packages all ready before Christmas Day.

We will send you this package of beautiful Christmas Novelties including the large Handsome **Christmas Calendar for 1917** upon the terms of either one of the following very liberal offers:

Offer No. 7931A. For one one-year's subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this big package of beautiful Christmas Novelties free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7931B. For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription, for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this beautiful Christmas Novelty Package free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7931. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Daisy Water Pistol



Premium No. 7901

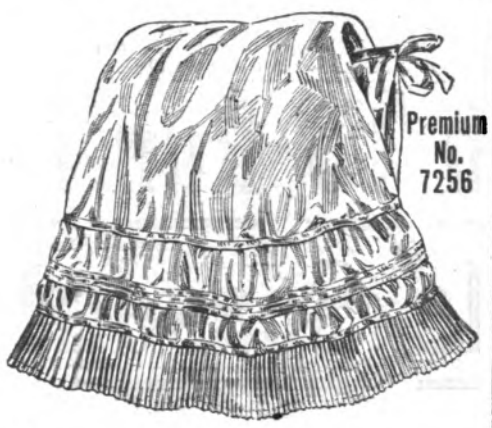
Given For One Subscription

THIS is the largest and most powerful water pistol on the market, manufactured by the Daisy Manufacturing Company, makers of the famous Daisy air rifle. In shape, size and appearance it looks exactly like a **.32 automatic "Colt"** having a regular full-size checkered butt and 5½ inch barrel with a handsome **blued steel** finish over all, and it squirts a solid stream of water **thirty feet or more** straight to the mark you aim it at. It works by **compressed air**—there are no rubber bulbs to wear out. To load the "Daisy" you simply pull the trigger back as far as it will go—hold it there—immerse the end of the barrel in water—then release the trigger slowly. To shoot it you give the trigger a quick pull just the same as you would a regular revolver. This liquid pistol serves two purposes—loaded with a weak solution of dilute aqua ammonia it is a **good protection against vicious dogs, tramps, burglars, etc.** Loaded with water it is perfectly harmless and the greatest **fun maker** out. Boys and girls can have literally **"barrels of fun"** with it by giving their friends **surprise shower baths** when they least expect them. We will send the Daisy Water Pistol free to any address upon the terms of either one of the following offers:

Offer No. 7901A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you the Daisy Water Pistol free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7901B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription to COMFORT for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you the Daisy Water Pistol free and prepaid. **Premium No. 7901. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Panne Satin Petticoat



Premium No. 7256

Given For Six Subscriptions

THIS is one of the best bargains we have been able to offer this season. These handsome latest style **colored** petticoats are made of finest quality mercerized **panne satin** which has all the sheen and brilliancy of the highest grade satin. They are well made in every respect with finished seams and come in a variety of different flounces one of which is shown above, but all of them are popular, up-to-date styles and will surely please the most exacting taste. We have them in colors of **green, blue and black,** and in sizes **from 36 to 44. When ordering be sure to specify size and color wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three three-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these fashionable high-grade panne satin petticoats free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention what size and color you desire. Premium No. 7256. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Large Shaggy Teddy Bear

The Best Playmate A Boy or Girl Ever Had



10 Inches High And Full Jointed

FREE FOR A CLUB OF TWO!

EVERY little boy and girl wants a **Teddy Bear** and here is an opportunity for every father or mother who reads COMFORT to get one without expense. "Teddy" looks exactly as you see him in the picture above. He is a big shaggy fellow, over 10 inches **tall,** made of rich, handsome brown plush, paws lined with felt, carefully stitched and finished and his head, arms and legs are jointed in such a manner that you can place him in almost any position. He will stand up, sit up, stand on his head, go on all four feet, in fact, you can make him assume all kinds of positions that are so **comical and lifelike** that it makes the children scream with delight just to look at him. He also has a voice and **squeals right out good and loud** every time you squeeze his "tummy". "Teddy" is so well made that no matter how roughly he is handled he cannot become broken and with ordinary care should last for years. We will send you "Teddy" free if you will accept the following special

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this big shaggy Teddy Bear free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6992. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

HERE we are once more at the last month of the year and the year is 1916, meaning much to many people and something to every human being. Some have been good and some ill, some have been rewarded and some punished, but you girls and I seem to be about as usual, don't we? Not much richer, not much poorer, not much happier, not much sadder and we ought to thank the good Lord that we are still able to be fair average human beings in a world very much as we have made it. What 1917 will bring to us, no one can tell, and if any one could, he would be a monster if he did, so let us say good by to the Old Year and shout welcome to the New. In the mean time, watch me go to work!

The first letter I take from the pile before me is from Lonesome Maid of Piney Ford, Ohio, and she wants to know if I think a young man, who says he will write and does not and says he will call and does not, cares for her as much as she does for him. If she cares so little for him that she doesn't care whether she ever sees him again or not, then I should say he cares as much for her as she does for him. Why is it a girl will not take a snub from a man unless he simply slams it at her? P. S. Ohio has the ceputation of having fine schools, but, my, my, they certainly don't show any signs in Cousin Lonesome's letter. I don't wonder that the young man didn't want to get any more letters from her.

Brown Eyes, Baltimore, Md.—As your nagging brother drove two of your sisters away from home and they married and you are engaged and he has begun to nag you, why don't you do as they did? You say you are almost driven to desperation at home, yet you insist on staying there when you have a chance to go away. It must be a very mild form of desperation, or you are making much of very little. Some folks do that, you know.

Broken Heart, De Funiak Springs, Fla.—I'll tell you what you do, cousin, for your broken heart because of the very common man you love and you are a very wealthy girl. You forget him and spend quite a lot of your money on spelling books, grammars and other educational articles and every break in your heart will be mended so it will be just as good as new.

M. J. A. B., Adams, Mass.—I think, my dear, you have made a mistake in your associate who is too ignorant to know when she is doing you an injury by her talk to you and about you. She may not mean any harm, but what difference is that if she does the harm? She might not intentionally give you poison, but if she did, not knowing it was poison, and it killed you, you would be just as dead, wouldn't you? I think you would be much easier in your mind and less liable to gossip injury, if you quietly got rid of this friend. You'd be safer with an average young man, seeing that you are a sensible girl.

Three Roases, Mathis, Texas.—I think you would be quite as safe in marrying a soldier whose past you did not know, as you would be in marrying any other kind of a man you knew as little about. You should not marry any man whose past and present you did not know as fully as is necessary. (2) It is not proper to speak to a young man you do not know, even if he does speak to you first. Anyway, it is the lady's place to speak first, and no lady will speak to a man she does not know unless she is compelled to by circumstances. (3) What are "Roases?"

Dakota Girls, Baldwin, N. Dak.—Listen, girls, if these young men who you say are so fine and so active in all kinds of religious work, but never take the girls to church or anywhere, are really consistent in their belief, you should tell them that works of necessity and mercy must be done or there isn't any real religion in them. Then you may tell them that as you can't find any other young men, it is a work of necessity for them to take you and it would be a mercy to you all if they did. If that doesn't bring them to a realizing sense of their Christian duty, you might as well give them up and accept the attentions of the sinners of neighboring communities. That is the only remedy I can think of just now. Begin by showing them this answer to your inquiry if you are not afraid to.

Water Lily, Lake Shore, Minn.—Don't you think, my dear, that you should mind your mother without question about the beaus, instead of asking me whether she is right or not? Not one mother in a hundred thousand will knowingly give her daughter bad advice.

Gray Eyes, Kosciusko, Miss.—Let him cry his eyes out when he comes around begging you not to break the engagement when he has given you every cause to and is just as careless after you forgive as he was before. He isn't any good and you won't be any better than he is if you remain engaged to him. There, that's what I think about his kind of engaged young men, and you may do as you please.

Anxious One, Lysite, Wyo.—Yes, dear, it was right for you to stop speaking to Fifteen-year-old for saying you let Fourteen-year-old love you and to give him back the precious pencil-slip he gave you and you owe him no apology nor nothing and when he teases you about Your Beloved you should break your slate over his face and tell him to go to thunder. I don't know where thunder is, but that's where people are very often told to go. My, my, isn't love something wonderful? But you do know how to spell, which is also wonderful!

S. S. O., Okaton, S. Dak.—As the young man failed to injure you as he tried to do and now is going with another girl and trying to prejudice her against you, it shows how mean and unworthy he is and you should neither speak to him, nor permit him to speak to you. A nice girl can't have too little to do with a man like he is. If the other girl is the right kind she will find him out soon, and will treat him as you did. (2) Only the very silly people stop speaking over trifling differences.

Trouble, Bethesda, Ky.—You are not the first girl whose sweetheart had a change of heart and fell in love with a younger sister. I suppose there is no cure for it, and all you can do is to console yourself with the thought, that at least he is still in the family. It is ever so much better to do that than to mope and be unhappy for what you cannot prevent.

Waiting, Torrington, Conn.—Eighteen is not young for a girl to begin to take notice of the young men, if she is through school, and the very first notice she should take is of the kind of young men who insist upon hugging and kissing. Stop that before it gets a start and if any young man says he will not go with you if you do not permit it, tell him frankly that you are not seeking the society of men of his ideas. No girl ever lost the respect of any man by respecting herself. Men, the right kind of men, I mean, want self-respecting women for wives and though, as a girl, you may not be popular with a certain class, you will, as a woman, hold the regard of those whose regard is worth holding. You have the proper ideas and you should not be persuaded to change them to meet any popular demand. Too many girls who start well, permit themselves to finish ill. Don't you do it!

Inquirer, New Salem, Pa.—If disinheritance by your parents will cause you greater loss than to lose the lifetime happiness you believe will be yours with this fine young man whom you have known from childhood, then save the inheritance and lose the happiness. Otherwise marry him and see how long it will be before your parents begin to show signs of wanting to be friends with their daughter in the comfortable home their son-in-law provides for her. You have my blessing.

Black Eyes, Coeburn, Va.—Break your engagement with him and wait until you are old enough to know what an engegement means before making another. And by all means don't make it with the present party. I should think you would be glad enough to break with a young man who paid you no attention in public. He must be ashamed of you.

The Daisy Trail, Minn.—Don't marry any one of three, or thirty, young men who want you, until you have head enough and heart enough to know which one you want, without having to ask somebody else to choose for you. (2) It is not absolutely necessary for the man to ask the girl's parents for her, if she is of age, as eloping couples usually omit that part, but it is the custom and should be observed. It is also the custom for the man to put the engagement ring on the girl's finger, we believe, but it isn't closely followed because it often happens that the ring is sent to her, in which event she must put it on herself. Her reply is not governed by custom and she may say anything she pleases. If she doesn't know what to say she shouldn't become engaged.

There, my dears, all your deserving questions are answered, except those sent to other departments and I feel real sure that all of you are perfectly satisfied with the answers. Now run along till next year and do everything you can to make the old year die happy. By, by till 1917.

COUSIN MARION.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27.)

his family must stop eating or live on charity. But it isn't so with the farmer and his family. Any farmer, that is a farmer at all, simply cannot go hungry. We have our cellar stocked with potatoes, sweet potatoes, turnips and apples, our lard and smoked meats, to say nothing of all our canned fruits, jellies, pickles and preserves, and remember all these things were raised on the farm. Then with our chickens, eggs and milk, does that sound like going hungry? No! Then the farmer and his family are the most independent people on earth, of panics and things of that sort. I don't mean to say farm life is easy. But nothing worth having is easy to obtain. It is hard work for the man and hard work for the woman, but farm men and women work together and consequently they get along better together. Did you ever stop to think of where most of the divorces come from? You seldom hear of a farmer getting a divorce. Why? Because the farmer and his wife work shoulder and shoulder together and that is what it takes to get along. Of course we farmers' wives don't have the back fence to gossip over every day, but farm life is so varied, having something new each day, that we do not miss it, and the cheap entertainments our town sisters pity us for having to do without. And the schools, unless one lives too far in the backwoods, will be found quite up to the standard.

I have a little boy, six years old, and I hope some day he will be a farmer like his father. This spring we gave him the little runt pig. When we sold it, with some others a short time ago, his father gave him his money and after looking at it a moment he exclaimed: "Say, I'm through with ten cent store junk, after this I'm going to take my dimes and buy stock." Why, even a little child can see things grow into money on the farm and 'tis money that talks these days.

And when I write of my boy I can't help but think of Mrs. Aldridge's little boy. I think, Mrs. A., your little son has lost confidence in you. Take him on your lap and talk to him. Overlook all his faults for a while, don't make mountains out of mole hills, praise him for all his good traits, no matter how small for there is nothing in the world a child likes better than praise, and I think before long you will see a difference in him. Never promise him anything unless you mean it and if at the last moment you find it impossible to do as you thought, tell him in a nice way and explain just why, same as you would to an older person. Win his confidence and he will be all right.

I would like to shake hands with Mrs. K. of W. Va. She expressed my sentiments exactly.

May I come again, or have I made my letter too long? I sincerely hope not but I feel as though I could write a column in answer to those who pity the poor farmers.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and all, I am,
Very truly yours, MRS. CHRIS H. BAUER.

OSKALOOSA, IOWA.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I will tell the sisters from Alva, Oklahoma, a few things I heard a doctor say about nerves and how to build them up. In the first place, don't worry and don't drink tea or coffee for it affects the nerves the same as alcohol and tobacco. Take plenty of exercise, drink water and more water. The common white bread possesses very little food value for nerves, so eat corn-meal bread or whole wheat bread. Eat fish, and cook potatoes with the skins on. Baked potatoes, eaten skins and all are nutritious. If possible have one hour of sleep out of doors each day for that one hour in the open air is equal to two in the house. Use fresh vegetables, right out of the garden, fresh eggs and if milk can be drank while warm it is more beneficial. Buttermilk or any kind of sour milk is good too. She said that little babies had broken down nerves from too much company at first.

I am a farmer's wife and have two boys age three and five years. Why is it they say "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." I, for one, don't believe it, for my boys, ever since they could sit up and take notice have tried to do what papa does, so a mother might try all her life and if the father isn't the man he ought to be, the boys are not likely to respond to her teachings unless she teaches them not to look up to their father, so I think more responsibility rests on fathers than on mothers in raising boys.

Wishing COMFORT success, MRS. C. L. RICE.

WHITETAIL, BOX 115, MONT.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

As so many of the sisters are writing in to express a few of their ideas, I thought I might as well try it also. I am a school teacher. I have taught for the last five years.

So many people ask me if teaching is not a tiresome and dreary work. I am glad to say I do not find it such. Children are such interesting "beings," so willing and always developing as they grow. What really is more interesting? If the teacher finds no pleasure and complains of it being a tiresome work, I am sure, it must be very dull for the children under her care. I am afraid many of the teachers do not realize that their ways and actions, also the manner in which they express themselves, has so much to do with the pupil.

Often the teacher, also the parents expect too much from the children. They do not realize that their minds are not as fully developed as their own. They do not seem to know that the children must be taught the difference between right and wrong until their own consciences are able to guide them right.

Don't you think fault finding is often a great mistake? It seems that is all some can find. The saying is, "Seek and you shall find." It must be that that is all they are seeking for, as that seems to be the only thing they can find. We all have good qualities also, and if we would look for them and find them, we would have something to profit by, anyway. It would help us to find much more pleasure and contentment for ourselves as well as for others. I often think of this little quotation:

"Dare we condemn the ills that others do?
Their strength is small, their trials not a few,
The tide of wrong is difficult to stem,
And if to us more clearly than to them
Is given knowledge of good and true,
More do they need our help and pity, too;
Dare we condemn?"

I think we should study our own actions more, for many of us don't know how we do act, and what

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 31.)

Faces As Fair As A Summer's Day

Are Possible If Stuart's Calcium Wafers Are Used for a Short Time After Each Meal.

Many people have been heard to say that they used creams and lotions for years without effect, yet after five or six days of Stuart's Calcium Wafers their complexions were perfectly clear.



"I Got Rid of Blackheads in a Jiffy by Using Stuart's Calcium Wafers."

They contain no poisonous drug of any kind, are perfectly harmless and can be taken with absolute freedom, and they work almost like magic. Calcium Sulphide, their principal ingredient, is the greatest blood-cleanser known to science.

No matter how bad your skin may be, Stuart's Calcium Wafers will quickly work wonders with it. It's goodby to blackheads, pimples, acne, boils, rash, eczema and a dirty "filled-up" complexion. You can get a box of Stuart's Calcium Wafers at any drug store at 50 cents a box, and you will be positively delighted with their wonderful effect.

And if you wish to try them first, send your name and address to F. A. Stuart Co., Box 342, Marshall, Mich. A free trial package will be mailed in a plain wrapper.

BIRCH Car FREE To You!



Yes, it's a fact. You can get this superb **28 h. p. 5-passenger BIRCH Motor Car** with electric lights and starter, absolutely Free, and the agency for your territory, *if your name reaches me soon enough.* **Make $3,000 to $10,000 a year** in the automobile business. I will show you how. Get full information at once. *Write quick*—before too late, Ralph Birchard, Pres., **BIRCH MOTOR COLLEGE Inc., Dept. 1220, 81 E. Madison St., Chicago.**

FREE Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 5 years, for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice. GATES MFG. CO. Dept. 425 Chicago

PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D.C. Advice and books free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best services.

CARDS Send 2c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Rose Catalog and list of 2000 Songs given Free. OHIO CARD CO., B14 Cadiz, Ohio.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21.)

plan develops," she replied, "and send you instructions regarding the final act."

"All right, go ahead—I give you *carte blanche* for your expenses," said Monsieur Correlli, as he rose to leave the room.

Five hours later, he was fast asleep in a Pullman berth, and flying over the rails toward New York.

Meanwhile Edith, who was inclined to leave the house, and throw herself upon the kindness of Mrs. Stewart, found her mistress unusually gracious, seeking her aid in forwarding invitations for a reception, and in planning for what she called "a mid-winter frolic." She also incidentally announced, to the great gratification of Edith, that Monsieur Correlli had hurriedly departed for New York, with the intention of being absent a considerable time.

TO BE CONTINUED.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Premium No. 4276

Soft Warm Bed Blankets

Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Six

THIS IS an offer which no good housewife can afford to overlook. It is your opportunity to secure as many large comfortable bed blankets as you may need **without a cent of expense.** These fine double blankets are **72 inches long and 55 inches wide,** extremely well made and finely finished. They are pure white in color and come with either blue or pink borders. Please notice that they are large enough for any standard size bed being of sufficient length to come up well on the pillow and wide enough so that they may be snugly tucked in at the sides. This is in reality one of the best bargains in a premium we have ever offered on account of the fact that we have bought a large quantity of these blankets direct from the mill at a special low price and therefore are enabled to offer them to our readers for a very small club of subscriptions. When you think of this big warm blanket on your bed or lying on a closet shelf ready for use when wanted, we believe that you will want to start a club at once for the sake of securing one or more of them free of all cost to you. We will gladly send you one or more of these splendid blankets upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these large, double bed blankets free by Parcel Post prepaid. You may have your choice of either blue or pink border. **Prem. No. 4276. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.)

for support. Very sad case. Well recommended. Remember this afflicted brother in your Christmas giving. Emily Whitfield, Finleyson, Ga. Invalid for many years. Send her some cheer. Mrs. M. J. Kline, Benton, R. R. 2, Pa. Invalid. No means of support. Needs clothes, food and medicine. Remember her with Christmas cheer. Lafayette Swanson, Boomer, R. R. 2, N. C. Paralyzed from waist down. Result of being thrown from wagon by runaway team eleven years ago. His wife tries hard to support the family and also nurse her husband, a task utterly beyond her strength. Don't forget them. Lulu Thornburg, Patterson, Mo. Invalid for many years. Needy and worthy. Send her some cheer. C. C. Williamson, Wevaco, W. Va. Cripple, left arm useless, right leg five inches shorter than the other. Has wife and four small children. Their home was swept away in the floods that devastated W. Va. some months ago. They need food and clothing. Give them a boost. James Allen, South Solon, R. R. 2, Ohio, has tuberculosis. Unable to work. Has wife and three small children. They need food, clothing and medicine. Remember them. Mrs. Margaret Watts, Boomer, N. C. Invalid, has heart and stomach trouble. No means of support. Very sad case. Send her a dime shower. Claude Shifflet, Richmond, R. R. 3, Ky. Helpless boy seventeen years of age. Needs clothing and cheer. Ellen Mays, Carmi, Ill. Helpless invalid. No means of support. Send her some cheer. Rosa A. Joyce, Spencer, R. R. 1, Box 51, Va. Invalid for many years. Needy and worthy. Stella Barnes, Stamford, N. Y. Bedridden invalid. Aged mother her only support. Send her a dime shower. Mrs. A. S. Wright, Box 566, Brunswick, Md. Widow, seventy-one years of age. Her only son and support sick with tuberculosis. Send them a greenback shower. Mrs. Emma Whitehead, 228 E. Lexington Ave., Elkhart, Ind. Invalid for many years. Depends on the charitable for support. Very sad case. Highly recommended. Captain Tom Snow, Allegan, R. R. 2, Box 25, Mich., one hundred and one years of age last October. Alone in the world. Make his Christmas bright by sending him a shower of letters and cards. No financial aid needed. Beatrice Nelson, Bells, Tenn. Invalid. Would like cheery letters and flower bulbs. Alta H. Powell, Blue Mound, R. R. 1, Kans. Invalid. Would like cheery letters and postal cards.

The Christmas of these poor souls will be a ghastly and not a merry one, unless you come to their aid with something more substantial than tracts and sympathy. Their names will not be listed again for a year, so pray be generous. Once more a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and God bless you all.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a 15-month subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

Drop Uncle Charlie's Poems in That Christmas Stocking and Make Everyone Happy

If you want a real old-fashioned Christmas, and want to forget European wars and hard times, get a copy of that wonderful volume, Uncle Charlie's Poems. Here is the finest present for young or old in the world. To deprive the children of this book is a crime. Read "How Father Carved The Turk," "How Pop Played Santa Claus," and "Just Behind The Battle Mother," and you will have the whole family yelling with delight. For parlor or platform it is the dandiest book in the world. A big 160-page gorgeous volume, beautifully bound in lilac ribbed silk cloth, a scream from cover to cover. Autographed by Uncle Charlie's own hands, with heart-touching sketch of his life, and half tone pictures, showing Uncle Charlie dictating his monthly talks to Maria. This exquisite volume free for a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. These clubs count toward our great cash prize competition. Dandiest Christmas gift in the world. Work for it today.

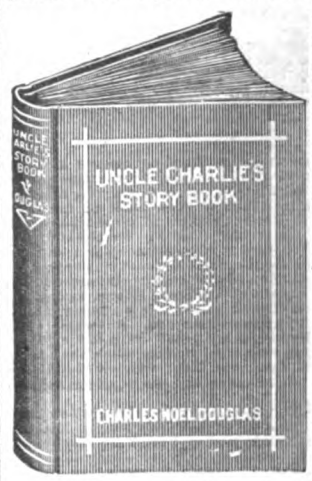
Uncle Charlie's Song Book a Superb Christmas Gift

You can't have a real Christmas without music in the home, and Uncle Charlie's song folio, a superb collection of entrancingly beautiful songs will set every music lover wild with delight. Songs for Christmas and all occasions, all tastes, and every song a hit. The ideal gift for all music lovers. Cheap at five dollars. Contains full music for voice and piano. Four splendid pictures of Uncle Charlie on the cover. Send two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each and Santa Claus will bring this gorgeous collection of musical masterpieces to your door, free of charge. Poems and song book free for a club of six. Secure both and a Merry Christmas will be yours. Greatest bargains ever offered. Send for them today.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, half-tone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

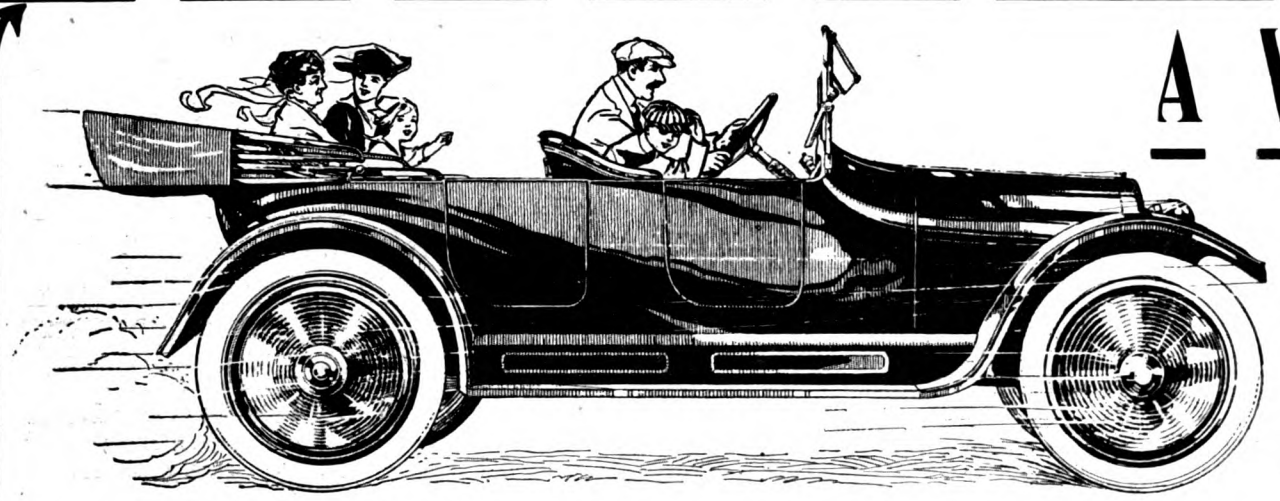
Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.

Win This $635 Auto And Enough Cash To Run It A Whole Season!



THIS is the big, beautiful, powerful "Overland" which we are going to give away as First Grand Prize in COMFORT'S Subscription Contest. If you win this car—and your chances are as good as anybody's—you are also sure to win enough money in Monthly Cash Prizes to pay for running it an entire season—perhaps two seasons. If you really want an automobile here is your opportunity to own one without a cent of expense and win a good sum of money besides. Read every word of this announcement, then get busy with the subscription blank below.

108 Monthly Cash Prizes And 61 Grand Prizes Besides The Auto!

No money is required to enter this Contest and compete for the prizes. **It is free to all!** This splendid Overland Touring Car will actually be given **free and freight prepaid** to the man, woman, boy or girl who sends us the largest number of subscriptions to COMFORT up to and including April 30, 1917. Besides the Automobile there are also 61 Grand Cash Prizes and 108 Monthly Cash Prizes as follows:

First Grand Prize $635 Five-Passenger Overland Touring Car
Second Grand Prize $200 Cash
Third Grand Prize $150 Cash
Fourth Grand Prize $100 Cash
Fifth Grand Prize $75 Cash
Sixth Grand Prize $50 Cash
Seventh Grand Prize $25 Cash
Next Ten Grand Prizes, each $15 Cash
Next Fifteen Grand Prizes, each $10 Cash
Next Thirty Grand Prizes, each $5 Cash

NOVEMBER CASH PRIZES

First Prize	$30	Next 3 Prizes	$5 each
Second Prize	20	Next 4 Prizes	3 each
Third Prize	10	Next 8 Prizes	2 each

DECEMBER CASH PRIZES

First Prize	$30 or $60	Next 3 Prizes	$5 or $10 each
Second Prize	20 or 40	Next 4 Prizes	3 or 6 each
Third Prize	10 or 20	Next 8 Prizes	2 or 4 each

JANUARY CASH PRIZES

First Prize	$30 to $90	Next 3 Prizes	$5 to $15 each
Second Prize	20 to 60	Next 4 Prizes	3 to 9 each
Third Prize	10 to 30	Next 8 Prizes	2 to 6 each

The Cash Prizes for February, March and April are the same as those for January **with the exception** that the First Prize is $30 to $120 for February, $30 to $150 for March and $30 to $180 for April.

The Grand Prizes will be given in their order to the sixty-two Contestants who send in the most subscriptions up to and including April 30, 1917. The $635 Overland Car will go to the one who sends in the **largest** number of subscriptions. The $200 in Cash will go to the one who sends in the **second** largest number. The $150 in Cash will go to the one who sends in the **third** largest number, and so on.

The Monthly Cash Prizes will be paid to the contestants who send in the largest number of subscriptions **each month**—from November 1916 to April 1917, inclusive. And as the Grand Prizes are to be given to those who send in the largest **total** number of subscriptions for **the entire six months** you will readily see why those who win the most Monthly Cash Prizes will also win the Grand Prizes. And this also explains why the man, woman, boy or girl who wins the First Grand Prize of the Automobile **will have plenty of money to run it** because he or she will already have won a large number of the Monthly Cash Prizes.

You Get Your Premiums Anyway!

Remember this is a contest in which you simply cannot lose because we pay you for your work whether you win the prizes or not. Every club will entitle you to a fine premium which you may select from our regular Premium List or any issue of COMFORT. If you do not care for premiums you can have a cash commission. If you choose premiums they will be sent to you promptly upon receipt of every club sent in. If you prefer the cash commission you may deduct and retain 40% of all subscription money collected and remit the balance. In this way you are **absolutely sure** of being rewarded for your time and trouble, and of course we place the **same clubs** to your credit in the Contest, thereby giving you the chance to win one or more of the Monthly Cash Prizes as well as the Automobile or one of the other Grand Prizes.

Start Early And Be A Winner!

Don't wait and let others get ahead of you but hustle around for your first club and send it in as soon as possible using the special subscription blank printed at the right. **Remember you have everything to gain and nothing to lose.** You are **sure** of your premiums anyway—or your cash commission if you prefer—and even a small club **will start a prize your way.** Start a club today. Get all your friends and acquaintances and everybody you see to subscribe or renew their subscriptions to COMFORT. They will be glad to help you out. Just as soon as we hear from you we will mail you free and postpaid **full information** regarding the contest, rules and conditions, etc., and everything else you need to help you make a successful start. Mail us the special contest blank with your first club right away and let us enter your name in this Grand Contest for the $635 Overland Car and other Prizes.

Address All Contest Letters And Orders To
COMFORT, PRIZE CONTEST DEPT., AUGUSTA, MAINE.

CONTEST SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

COMFORT, Prize Contest Dept., Augusta, Maine. **Date 1916**

Dear Sir: Please enter my name in the contest. I enclose $..... ..... to pay for the following subscriptions to be placed to my credit on the Monthly Cash Prizes, Auto and other Grand Prizes.

Subscriber's Name	Street and Number or R. F. D. Number	Box No.	Post Office	State	Write Below Length Of Time Subscribed For

Send me Premium No..... My Name is..... State.....

Post Office..... Street and No..... R.F.D. No..... Box No.....

COMFORT'S Subscription Price is 25 Cents a Year, 50 Cents for 3 Years, $1.00 for 6 Years, 2 Years' Renewal (for old subscribers only) 30 Cents. Foreign Subscriptions are Barred from this Contest.

AGENTS

New Kerogas Burner

Makes Any Stove A Gas Stove

Burns Common Coal Oil (Kerosene)

Sells in Every Home



Fits Any Stove

Makes a gas range out of your old cook stove or heater. Easy to install—just shove it into the fire box. No trouble to operate or keep clean. Just supply it with fuel.

No Coal—No Dust—No Ashes
Burns Just Like Gas

Cuts down on the housework. No kindling to cut—no coal to carry—no ashes to empty. Just a clean, gas-like flame. Quickly lighted. Extinguished instantly by the turn of a valve, just like gas. Necessary winter and summer.

ABSOLUTELY SAFE

Burns Kerosene (coal-oil). Can't Explode. Do away with dangerous gasoline stoves. The Kerogas is better and altogether safe. Fire Prevention is better than Fire Insurance.


Showing Burner in Stove

Clean, Odorless, Cheap, Wonderful Labor Saver

The Kerogas pays for itself in a very short time in the money it will save. Helps cut the high cost of living.

Aker Averaging 8 Sales a Day

The Kerogas is a wonderful money-maker for agents. Aker averaging 8 sales a day, says he expects to sell a dozen a day when he gets fairly started. Carleton made $17.50 in a day and a half. M. G. Emanuel writes: "It's a wonder. I'll keep you busy filling orders." "Can sell 25 Burners right here in my locality."—Roy F. Mills. W. E. Aton sold 12 first day.

Agents get busy quick on this new, big money-making proposition. Almost every home a prospect. Women wild about it. Low price makes quick sales. Big profits. Easy to carry and demonstrate. Your territory is open. Write quick for demonstrating sample to workers.

Thomas Burner Co. 2730 Gay St. Dayton, O.

LOOSE FALSE TEETH HELD FIRMLY IN PLACE by our Plate Suction Powder. Price 50c. Prepared by Registered Dentist. **Moon-Power Mfg. Co., Box 673, Plainfield, N. J.**

Tapestry Table Cover



Nearly One Yard Square

Premium No. 6642

Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Two!

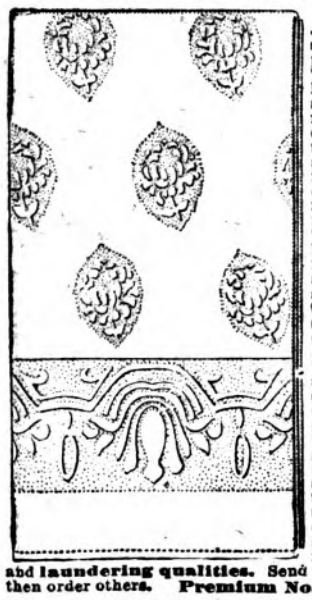
THIS beautiful, fringed **Tapestry Table Cover is nearly one yard square** which is a size large enough for any stand or small table and **is very elaborately made up in handsome colors** on an interwoven background which is of a color that **harmonizes** with the fringe which extends entirely around the cover. Add one or more of these beautiful colored covers to the furnishings of any room and it will **enliven and cheer up the whole atmosphere of your home.** They are just as durable as they are handsome and taken altogether are something any woman should be pleased to own and display. We will send you this Table Cover, exactly as described, if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Tapestry Table Cover free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6642.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Pair Brocade Towels

Premium No. 5872



Beautiful new Jacquard designs. Large, pure white Towels of excellent quality. Of superior domestic material these Towels in every way are the equal in quality and are an exact imitation of **highest grade German Towels** selling at 50 cents and 75 cents each. Size **19x38 inches, full bleached** are white as snow; a pair of these beautiful towels are a satisfaction to the eye. Not only delightful **Toilet Towels** but are adapted to use as **stand or bureau covers, tray cloths, etc., etc.** The illustration gives a splendid idea of the border and **figure,** shows **the design distinctly** and we can positively guarantee **entire satisfaction** in use and **laundering qualities.** Send for one pair at least, then order others. **Premium No. 5872.**

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you one pair Brocade Towels free by parcel post prepaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

M. E. S., Oklahoma.—Under the laws of your state, we think that if your husband died without a will and that if he left yourself and one child as his only heirs at law and next of kin you would be entitled as widow, to receive one half of his estate after payment of debts and expenses of administration. We think you have a legal right to sell or dispose of your share of the estate in any way you may choose.

C. DeL., Louisiana.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon your default in the payment of the money you borrowed from the bank you mention, the bank would have a legal right to enforce the payment of the loan with interest and costs against any property you might own not exempt by law from levy under execution; we think such payment could be enforced against the property you mention.

Maud S., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that where a deed to real estate runs to both husband and wife a tenancy by the entirety is created, so that the whole property upon the death of either becomes the sole property of the survivor, and does not go into the estate of the one dying first; upon the death of a married man, leaving no will and leaving no child or descendant, we think, in your state the widow would receive absolutely one half of the real estate and the whole of the personal property.

P. B. F., Maine.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the fees of the lawyer who kept your husband's will and attended to the probate of it for you, are not fixed by statute, but would be limited to a reasonable amount for the services performed; we think you as executrix can withdraw the moneys belonging to the estate now on deposit in the banks upon the presentation of a certificate showing your appointment as executrix and the other necessary papers; we think the legacy to the niece, who has died since the death of your husband, should be paid to her legal representative, who would be her executor, if she left a will, and her administrator, if she died without a will; we think you can file your final account as executrix at any time after the expiration of the time to file claim against the estate and after the collection of all the assets and the payment of all debts and legacies.

A. E., Iowa.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that all property within the jurisdiction of the state, and any interest therein whether belonging to the inhabitants of the estate or not, and whether tangible or intangible, which shall pass by will or by the intestate law and of the state or any other state, or by deed, grant, sale or gift made or intended to take effect in possession or in enjoyment after the death of the grantor or donor, to any person in trust or otherwise, other than to or for the use of father, mother, husband, wife, lineal descendant, adopted child, the lineal descendant, adopted child, the lineal descendant of an adopted child of a decedent, or to or for charitable, educational, or religious societies or institutions within the state are subject to a tax of five per cent of its value above the sum of one thousand dollars, after the payment of all debts, for the use of the state; we think this tax is increased in some instances; this tax is commonly referred to as the inheritance tax. We think, in your state, upon the death of a widower, leaving no will, and leaving one child as his only heir at law and next of kin, the whole estate, after payment of debts and expenses of administration, would go to such child.

Mrs. W. S. S., Mississippi.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a conveyance of the homestead must be by the joint deed of the husband and wife if living together, else the conveyance is void as to two thousand dollars in value of the property conveyed; in other words we think the wife's signature is necessary to the conveyance of any part of the homestead, if living together, unless the part left is of a value of two thousand dollars.

Mrs. D. A., Ohio.—Under the laws of Kentucky, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving no child or descendant, his widow would receive dower of a one third interest for life in his real estate, the balance going to his parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents or other kindred depending upon who is left; if there is none such and no paternal or maternal kindred the whole of the property would go to the widow.

T. H., Colorado.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that the man you mention cannot be compelled to support the minor children of his deceased wife by a former marriage; we think he is legally liable for the burial expenses of his wife.

Miss P. I. N., New Hampshire.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that women become of age at twenty-one.

N. B., Oklahoma.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a surviving widow and more than one child, or one child and the issue of a deceased child, his widow would receive one third of his estate, the balance going in equal shares to his children, the descendants of any deceased child taking the parent's share; we think that if there be children of two marriages they inherit equally.

D. G., Texas.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the woman you mention, who has an insane husband from whom she is not divorced, cannot legally remarry during the lifetime of such husband, and that any children born to a marriage contracted under such circumstances would be illegitimate.

H. H., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving no child or descendant and no parent, his widow would receive absolutely all of the personal property and one half of the real estate, the balance of the real estate going in equal shares to the brothers and sisters and their descendants. We do not think the child of the widow by a former marriage would receive any share in the estate.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.)

an impression we give those in our environment, through our actions.

I often read the discussions on Woman Suffrage. I suppose we all have formed opinions either for or against this great question. I think if a woman had the right to vote she would take more interest in politics. It would bring the study of "what is going on in the world," into the homes. There are many points in favor of this question, but I cannot take the time to go into detail now.

In regard to Mrs. E. D. Hanna's statement of living in the city. She thinks the city has so many better qualities than the country. I cannot wholly agree with her. The child in the country cultivates a purer mind, as a rule. It learns more through its own experience. It is brought in closer touch with nature. Many children, in the city are compelled to work, when they should be going to school, whereas, if they were living on the farm, they could arrange things so that they could go to school and do the work also. On the whole the children in the country are more able to confront the tasks that will come their way as they go out into the world, I think.

I hope the Sisters' Corner will draw many new members into its interesting circle during the coming winter, when there will be more time for such work.

Besides being a teacher, I am also a claim-holder. My claim is quite rough, but it is very good for pasture. It is two and a half miles from town. This country is very good for cattle, as there is considerable rough land suitable for pasture and grazing. When the winters are not too severe the cattle run about at large and feed upon the grass. The grass cures itself, so it is almost as nutritious as when it is green.

I will close by describing myself. I weigh about one hundred and forty-five pounds. I am five feet six inches tall. Have blue eyes and medium brown hair.

One more interesting subject, which has just entered my mind and that is the need of a "social center" in the country and small town. The young folks are at a loss as to what to do for amusement and to extend their education to practical things such as sewing, cooking, agriculture, simple manual training, how they can make money on the farm, how to give social affairs, etc. I think a one- or two-year course in such work would be far better than all the high school they can cram into their heads.

When the eighth grade pupils get their diplomas, they are able to fight most any battle, give the life of any great man, or recite endless poems, but they have not even a vague idea of how to sew, drive a nail, mend a broken chair or pail, plant a seed, or dress themselves in a becoming manner.

Love to Mrs. Wilkinson and all sisters,
Sincerely, ELIZABETH DIRKS.

Miss Dirks. If anyone knows of a "social center" comprising all, or part, of the advantages you suggest, perhaps they will give the rest of us the benefit of their knowledge. We'd all like to hear, I'm sure.—Ed.

The Land of Beginning Again

I wish there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again,
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
And all our poor selfish griefs
Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat, at the door
And never put on again.

I wish we could come on it all unaware,
Like the hunter who finds a lost trail;
And I wish that the one whom our blindness had done
The greatest injustice of all
Could be at the gate like the old friend that waits
For the comrade he's gladdest to hail.

We would find the things we intended to do
But forgot and remembered too late—
Little praises unspoken, little promises broken,
And all of the thousand and one
Little duties neglected that might have perfected
The days of one less fortunate.

It wouldn't be possible not to be kind
In the Land of Beginning Again;
And the ones we misjudged and the ones whom we grudged
Their moments of victory here,
Would find the grasp of our loving handclasp
Moré than penitent lips could explain.

For what had been hardest we'd know had been best
And what had seemed loss would be gain,
For there isn't a sting that will not take wing
When we've faced it and laughed it away;
And I think that the laughter is most what we're after,
In the Land of Beginning Again.

So I wish that there were some wonderful place,
Called the Land of Beginning Again,
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
And all our poor selfish griefs
Could be dropped, like a ragged old coat, at the door
And never put on again.

—*Louise Fletcher Tarkington.*

Best Ways of Doing Things Around Home.

To remove tar from silk, rub with lard and then wash in warm soapsuds.

When pressing woolen goods spread a newspaper over the material instead of a cloth and there will be no lint to brush off.

Place a dish containing quicklime in a damp closet or cupboard. This not only absorbs the dampness but acts as a disinfectant.

Add a teaspoon of beef extract to a meat pie and enjoy the delicious flavor, even if made from pieces of almost tasteless meat.

Save egg shells for cleaning bottles. Crush and put into bottle with cold water and shake thoroughly. Repeat process if necessary, rinsing well.

MRS. H. L. W., So. Dakota.

When putting muslin curtains on a brass or wooden rod, cover the end of the rod with the finger of an old glove. This saves time and also prevents tearing the curtain.

Black silk can be made to look almost as good as new by sponging on the right side with weak tea or coffee and pressing on the right side with a thick flannel between the silk and the iron.

TO CUT HOT BREAD.—To cut brown bread when hot use a piece of common twine, instead of a knife. Cross the twine, after it is put around the loaf the width of the slice, and draw the ends, and the brown bread will be cut smooth and even. Heat the knife to cut fresh white bread smoothly.

Remedies

CUTS, OR SORES.—Bathe inflamed parts with salt and water, one tablespoon of salt to one and one half cups of warm water. Dust with a good talcum powder.

INDIGESTION.—Burn willow to a charcoal and beat to a powder. To a pint of this add two tablespoons of salt and one half teaspoon of sulphur. Mix well and take a teaspoonful after each meal. This will keep food from souring and aids digestion too, or at least, it is the only medicine I have taken for two years. MRS. ADLEL LOVELACE, Troy, S. C.

TOOTHACHE.—If the tooth is hollow, fill the cavity with a piece of tar. This generally relieves the ache in a few minutes. N. C., Oregon.

PNEUMONIA.—Equal parts rye meal and chopped onions and enough apple vinegar to make a poultice. Cook five minutes, stirring all the while. Fill a flannel bag, large enough to cover chest, and apply as hot as can be stood. Repeat till patient perspires.

EMMA PLIESEIS, Pocahontas, Mo.

Requests

Poem, "The Woman that Understands."

Directions for making ornamental work and necklaces from "Job's Tears."

Mrs. Cecil Ritchey, Center Point, Ark., would like the September 1915 number of "Home Life."

Miss G. Pond, Los Angeles, 5612 De Longpre Ave., California, would like the old hymn, "Life is Like a Lightning Railroad."

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Wanted the address of Sadie Lintner, born December 20, 1898, and adopted when four years of age by Nora Wallace, Mrs. Elmer Nordhouse, Wheatfield, Ind.

Wanted, information of my mother, who left me at the New York Foundling Hospital, October or November, 1888. I was then about two months old. Oscar Snyder, Cuba City, Wis.

Wanted, help in locating Walter Snyder, age 22 years. Mother anxious to hear from him, also legacy awaiting him from grandmother's death. Walter, come home. Mrs. Lydia Snyder, Yoe, Pa.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Harry G. Boge, Cornelius, R. R. 2, Box 56, Oregon. Theodore Neumann, Dodgeville, Box 53, Wis.

OYSTERO

Oyster broth powder made from fresh, whole oysters with only the moisture evaporated by vacuum. Delicious Oyster Broth instantly prepared simply by adding Oystero to milk and heating it.

Send 10c for a sample sufficient to make four cups.

Schieffelin & Co. *Distributors* New York

SIX ELEGANT LACE CURTAINS FREE TO LADIES

Send no money. Simply name and address. We will send you, postpaid, 12 boxes of our famous White Cloverine, also 12 beautiful Art Pictures 16x20 in. Sell the Cloverine at 25c. each and give one beautiful picture free with each box. Return us $3 collected and we will immediately send you six (three pair) beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains nearly three yards long. You will be proud of them. Everyone buys after you show pictures—stores usually charge $1 each for them. Write to-day.

The Wilson Chemical Co.
Curtain Dept. No. 705, TYRONE, PA.

"DON'T SHOUT"



"I hear you. I can hear now as well as anybody. 'How?' With the **MORLEY PHONE.** I've a pair in my ears now, but they are invisible. I would not know I had them in, myself, only that I hear all right.

"The **Morley Phone** for the **DEAF** is to the ears what glasses are to the eyes. Invisible, comfortable, weightless and harmless. Anyone can adjust it." Over one hundred thousand sold. Write for booklet and testimonials.

THE MORLEY CO., Dept. 766, Perry Bldg., Phila.

Sunshine Lamp 300 Candle Power FREE

To Try In Your Own Home



Turns night into day. Gives better light than gas, electricity or 18 ordinary lamps at one-tenth the cost. For Homes, Stores, Halls, Churches. A child can carry it. Makes its light from common gasoline. No wick. No chimney. Absolutely SAFE.

COSTS 1 CENT A NIGHT

We want one person in each locality to whom we can refer new customers. Take advantage of our SPECIAL FREE TRIAL OFFER. Write today. AGENTS WANTED.

SUNSHINE SAFETY LAMP CO.
164 Factory Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

New Illustrated Book FREE Write at once for your free copy of this intensely interesting illustrated book showing how disease is successfully eradicated through advanced Drugless Healing.



CHIROPRACTIC Our direct, practical, profusely illustrated course surely and quickly prepares you at home, during spare time, to enter this amazingly profitable profession. Everything so clear and easy that if you can read and write, you can readily master it—splendid openings. Easy, pleasant and surprisingly lucrative. Chiropractors make as high as **$25 a Day** while yearly incomes of $5,000 and $6,000 are not uncommon.

Free Charts and Lessons For a short time only we offer 20 complete lesson sections of the Course and $15 set of 8 charts, absolutely free. This offer strictly limited. Send your name and address today for valuable free illustrated book on drugless healing and full particulars.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, Dept. 717 Manierre Building, Chicago

TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 48 Packages Soap Powder FREE



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only 4 doz. pkgs. of our famous washing powder FREE among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. **NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO**



$2.00 and You Get This Superb Cornet

WURLITZER 200 years of instrument making

An astounding offer. Pay the balance at the rate of 10c a day. Free trial before you decide to buy.

FREE Band Catalog! Send us your name and address. The 250-page book is free. Thousands of instruments are shown. Rock-bottom prices—easy payments. Generous allowance for old instruments. We supply the U. S. Gov't. Write today.

Free Carrying Case with this Superb Triple Silver Plated lyric cornet, genuine leather. Write today.

THE RUDOLPH WURLITZER CO.
Cincinnati, O Dept. 3049 Chicago, Ill.

FREE  **POWERFUL AIR GUN**

Big lever action rifle free for selling 20 Art and Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. **GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 825 CHICAGO**

$40 A WEEK. SURE

AGENT'S SAMPLE FREE



300 candle power outdoor Lamp and Safety Lantern. Storm and Weather Proof. For house, barn, camp, anywhere. No smoke. No odor. Absolutely safe. Burns Kerosene. Guaranteed. Burns 95% air, only 5% fuel. Price low. Sells fast. 100% profit. Year round sales plan. Save your territory now. Write quick for free sample offer.

Foote Mfg. Co., Box 1512, DAYTON, OHIO.

$1.50



6 YEAR GUARANTEE

Sample Watch Free

Genuine full standard size railroad style watch with locomotive on dial and locomotive handsomely engraved on back. Full nickel plated case, extra dust proof, Arabic numerals on dial, heavy R. R. style figures. Genuine American make, stem wind and set, fully GUARANTEED for 5 YEARS. To advertise our business and introduce this wonderful watch and our great catalogue of Elgin, Waltham and Hampden watches we will send this elegant watch to any address by mail postpaid for ONLY $1.50 and if you sell two of these watches we will give you ONE BARREL WATCH FREE for your trouble. Send this advertisement with $1.50 and watch will be sent by mail postpaid, or send $3.00 for two and we will send ONE EXTRA WATCH FREE. Order today as this offer may not appear again. Address **R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 538 So. Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.**

Make The Children Happy With A Set Of These New Dressing Dolls!



Bobby in his Boy Scout Suit | Beatrice in her Holiday Dress | Betty in her Party Dress | Bobby in his Sunday Best | Beatrice in her Winter Dress | Betty in her Play Dress | Betty in her Visiting Dress | Beatrice in her School Dress | Bobby in his Sailor Suit

The Little Folks Love To Play With These Large, Handsome Life-Like Dolls Which May Be Dressed In So Many Different Beautiful Costumes. Over A Foot Tall, Printed In Gorgeous Colors, Ready To Be Dressed When You Receive Them.

Three Dolls With Nine Dresses And Nine Hats Given To You!

YES—this is the most delightful family of dolls that any little girl or boy ever had to play with. The children enjoy them because they are something entirely **new and different** from all other dolls. Even the most **expensive** imported dressed dolls do not begin to furnish the little ones with the **amusement and joy** to be derived from these dear little boy and girl dressing dolls with their **bright happy faces** and so many different changes of **suits, dresses and hats.** In the large cities where all the newest ideas are first put on the sale these large handsomely attired life-like dolls are going into all the rich homes where there are little ones and they are fast taking the place of the more costly and elaborate dolls and other toys, because the children never tire of them. These dolls are of course not the small so-called "cut out" paper dolls but are actually **14 inches** in height, printed in the most **beautiful life-like colors** on thick heavy cardboard and so made that they will stand upright in almost any position you wish to place them. But the best part of all is that you can **dress and undress them** as often as you wish. We not only give you the dolls but all the extra **different, beautiful suits, dresses and hats** that go with them. Each doll has three different suits or dresses and three different hats and there are **three dolls and nine different** dresses and hats in all.

Brother Bobby the little boy doll has a handsome Kakhi **"Boy Scout" suit** with shoes, leggings, coat, hat, haversack and staff complete; a real sure-enough white **sailor suit** including boatswain's whistle, and a real swell **Sunday-go-to-meeting suit,** consisting of a black and white check top coat, nobby hat, tan gloves, stockings and white top shoes.

Sister Beatrice is a handsome little girl with golden curls and has a most **sumptuous wardrobe** consisting of a pretty checked **holiday dress,** a saucy little hat with feather, white socks and slippers, **a school dress** with striped Tam-o'shanta, school bag and lunch box and a very **expensive** winter costume including a handsome **set of furs, muff, fur-trimmed hat,** leggings and gloves.

Cousin Betty is exactly as pretty as Beatrice only she is a handsome brunette whereas Beatrice is a blonde. Betty is not to be outdone in the matter of clothes either. She is always ready for a **romp** with a sensible **play dress** cut in the latest style with hat to match and carrying a large dressed doll in her arms. Then she has a **visiting dress** with hat, etc., as shown in illustration and a perfect dream of a **party dress.** And of course when undressed each of these little girl dolls has her own **dainty lace and ribbon trimmed underwear** while Bobby is every inch a boy in his cool "B. V. D's"

These Dolls Will Cost You No Money!

We will send you all three dolls with nine dresses and nine hats or if you prefer one doll with three dresses and three hats free and prepaid in return for a small favor. Send us only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents and we will send you **all three** dolls with their nine dresses and nine hats by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7842.**

Or, for your own renewal for two years at thirty cents and twenty cents extra (50 cents in all), we will send you all three dolls with nine dresses and nine hats by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7842.**

Or, we will send you one doll with three dresses and three hats for one one-year subscription (not your own) at 25 cents, or for your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all). **Premium No. 7911.** It will not be necessary for you to write a letter—just fill out the coupon printed at the right and return it to us with the subscriptions and money. **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

No Matter How Many Dolls There Are In The House Now You Cannot Have Too Many And You Want This Complete Doll Family Sure

No Need Of Writing A Letter—Send The Coupon With Your Subscription And Remittance!

DRESSING DOLLS' COUPON

IF YOU SEND TWO ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIBERS WRITE THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES HERE

Publisher COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.—I enclose 50 cents and two one-year subscriptions for which send me all three Dressing Dolls with 9 Dresses and 9 Hats, free and prepaid.

Subscribers' Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D.No ..... Box No ..... State .....

Subscribers' Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

IF YOU SEND ONE 3-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION WRITE THE NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

I enclose 50 cents and one 3-year subscription for which send me three Dolls with 9 Dresses and 9 Hats.

Subscribers' Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

IF YOU SEND YOUR OWN 2-YEAR RENEWAL WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

I enclose 50 cents for my own 2-year renewal for which send me three Dolls with 9 Dresses and 9 Hats.

My Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

IF YOU SEND ONE 1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION WRITE THE NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

I enclose 25 cents and 1 one-year subscription for which send me one Doll with 3 Dresses and 3 Hats.

Subscribers' Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

IF YOU SEND YOUR OWN ONE-YEAR RENEWAL WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

I enclose 35 cents for my own one-year renewal for which send me one Doll with 3 Dresses and 3 Hats.

My Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

NO MATTER WHICH OFFER YOU ACCEPT BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR OWN NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

My Name ..... Post Office ..... R.F.D. No ..... Box No ..... State .....

39 SELECTED NOVELS FREE

We want to give you this big collection of thirty-nine Novels, Novelettes and Stories, some of the most interesting works of the most popular writers. Each is a complete story in itself. All are well printed on good paper and firmly bound in paper covers. We will give you this whole collection of best reading just to make you acquainted with our paper, **Good Stories.**

The Desmond Blood	*Etta W. Pierce*
A Doctor's Story	*Mary Kyle Dallas*
Secret of the Holly Tree	*Charlotte M. Bræme*
Unmasked	*S. Annie Frost*
The Coral Cross	*Mrs. C. F. Gerry*
The Countess Clarice	*M. T. Caldor*
Lady Maud's Picture	*Jane G. Austin*
Mistress of Thornton Park	*Mary J. Holmes*
In a Violin	*Etta W. Pierce*
The Witching Hour	*The Duchess*

And 29 others.

GOOD STORIES is a monthly paper filled with the best and most delightful serial and short stories we can buy. In addition there are household departments with "tried and true" receipts, helpful editorials, up-to-date fashions. Good Stories has something for every member of the family.

WRITE NOW Send us your name and address with ten cents in stamps or silver for a 3-months' trial subscription to Good Stories, and we will send you, **Free and Postpaid,** this grand collection of 39 Novels.

Publishers Good Stories, 101 Chapel St., Augusta, Maine

Wonderful New STEREOSCOPE

Premium No. 6462



With 100 Views

For A Club Of Two!

Lions, Tigers, Bears and all kinds of Wild Animals, Home Scenes, Domestic Pets and Happy Childhood Days. Here is something **as good as a circus** for the children **the year round**—an indestructible, new style **Stereoscope** made of **all metal** with powerful, magnifying **lens,** and with it we give you **free** a big collection of **100 Views of home scenes, domestic pets, farm scenes,** all kinds of **trained and wild animals, hunting scenes,** views from the **Arctic** and **tropical** countries, and **happy childhood scenes**—the biggest and finest assortment of the most **delightful and entertaining** stereoscopic views for children ever gotten out. Boys and girls need not be obliged to hunt for something to occupy their active minds indoors with one of these Scopes at hand because it will give them a never-ending, joyful **entertainment** keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. Aside from the pleasure they will derive from the **fifty** beautiful **scenes of home life,** the **fifty** exciting **animal views** will furnish them with a **regular circus, the lions, tigers, bears, buffalo,** and all kinds of **wild and savage animals** as well as **horses, dogs, cats** and other domestic animals standing out **real and life-like** when looked at through this Scope. Any boy or girl would be delighted to have one of these wonderful Stereoscopes together with the big collection of 100 entertaining and exciting Views that come with it and knowing this we have purchased a large quantity of them direct from the factory and because we bought so many we got them at a price **low enough** to enable us to **give them away** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Stereoscope with 100 Views free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6462.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Barking Dog



Premium No. 7422

For A Club Of Two!

YOU simply press down gently on top of "doggie's" head and he **opens his mouth and barks right out loud.** And not only does he bark like a real dog but he **looks** like one. With his **alert sparkling eyes, "bat" ears, and snubby upturned nose** he is the perfect likeness of a cute little bull terrier pup. He is pure white with brown spots, and sitting on his haunches as you see him in the picture he measures over six inches high. His body, head and legs are made of practically **indestructible** material covered with soft thick felt; the marvelous mechanism in the throat that produces the bark is so constructed that it will not easily get out of order.

These wonderful barking dogs come from **Japan** where they make some of the finest mechanical toys in the world. In spite of the war we managed to import a limited quantity of them and while they last we are going to send them **free** to COMFORT homes where there are little boys and girls. Doggie looks so lifelike and his sharp yelping bark sounds so natural we know he will surely delight the children more than anything else you could possibly get for them. We will send you this fine barking dog exactly as illustrated and described free upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer: For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this cute novelty, Barking Dog free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7422.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Children's Happy Hour

Matilda's Happy Christmas

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

DEAR children, do you know what makes everyone so happy at Christmas-time? It is love. The presents you get are nothing unless love is mixed with the giving. When you make a gift to a friend, be sure and make it tell the story of your love for him. I knew a little girl once who thought all the pleasure of the Christmas season came from the toys and dolls she got. She longed to have more and more and made up her mind that she would spend nearly all of her money on herself and besides that ask Santa Claus for playthings enough to fill a whole room. Her uncles and aunts and grandparents and papa and mamma gave her plenty of money but she spent it all on herself and when Christmas morning came she had so many presents she didn't know which one to look at first. Her stocking was full, and the table was piled high and there were things on the floor. Not one had forgotten her but she had forgotten everybody. For the first few hours she was so busy and excited she did not know just how she felt but something seemed to be gnawing at her heart and accusing her and telling her she had down wrong. Try as she might, she could not make the feeling go away. She took the things off her Christmas tree and put them back again and dressed herself in her two new suits, the plaid one with the coat and leggings and the black velvet one with the Tam-o-shanter cap, but this did not seem to please her. In desperation she put on her new pink silk pajamas, but even that did no good. To tell the truth there was unhappiness in her heart and it was growing bigger every minute. Even when the neighbors came in and praised her things and patted her on the head she felt no joy. Late in the forenoon her grandma came with more gifts and of course they showed her everything Matilda had received. When they had handled the whole pile, Matilda's mamma said:

"I guess everyone in the world gave my little girl something."

"And what did she give?" asked grandma, staring over her spectacles at the child.

Matilda tried to answer but could not. A lump came in her throat and two hot tears burned in her eyes. Finally she sputtered out:

"I didn't give a thing and I'm dreadfully unhappy," and then she burst out crying and could not be comforted for quite a long while.

"We must find some way to make her happy," whispered her kind and worried mother.

"Let her come with me," offered grandma, "I will manage it." To not a soul but Matilda did she tell her plan but the child seemed greatly pleased. More than half of her playthings were loaded on the automobile and away they went to a poor family over the hill. Six children were there and they had no toys at all. One by one Matilda doled out her pretty new things and when she saw the happy smiles on the faces of the ragged children her own heart grew warm and she knew she had discovered a great secret. It was this. To make yourself happy, you must make others happy. There was one little girl about her own size there and Matilda whispered to grandma that she would like to give her the new velvet coat and cap.

"You may," smiled the kind old lady and they had to drive home again for it. It did not take long and when Matilda had put it on her new friend she just could not help from crying a little, but this time it was from happiness. When they got back it was just time for dinner and when grandma told the story of their adventure everybody looked proudly at Matilda and this time she did not have to turn away in shame.



Cut-Out Doll Directions

Paste the entire picture on a piece of cardboard (using boiled flour paste) and smooth, with the hands, from the center towards the edges. Put it in a large book to dry and let it remain there at least three hours. Cut out each dress and hat with scissors and color them with crayons, chalk or water colors. To put the hats on, slit them on the dotted lines and press down over the head. The dresses are held on by bending the little flaps back around the body. To make the doll and Christmas tree stand alone bend the base strips back near the ends to form corners or angles. Keep the set in an envelope and when your mamma reads the story you can arrange the dolly girl and the other figures to suit yourself.

Stocking Full of Christmas Presents

Free For A Club Of Two!

BIG Christmas Stockings brimful of presents for the little folks and older children as well. COMFORT is going to play **Santa Claus** this year and distribute hundreds of these Christmas stockings among its readers who have little ones for whom Christmas Trees and Santa Claus Gifts must be provided at all cost. The contents of the stockings vary a little but the general assortment remains practically the same and you may be sure of receiving as many presents as are herewith illustrated. Each stocking contains just the gifts that delight the hearts of boys and girls—**rattles, horns, dolls, whistles, musical fifes, harmonicas, imitation watches, toy dishes, marbles, tops, bugles, cut-out paper dolls and dolls' dresses, beads** and other pleasing **holiday novelties.** The stockings are large size, being nearly **a foot and a half long** and all the presents are regular size, much larger than they appear to be in the accompanying illustration. **Sweet tinkling Christmas bells and ribbon bows** decorate each Stocking and there is also attached a **handsome embossed Christmas Card** upon which is printed "Merry Christmas from Santa Claus" or some similar inscription. If you have no children of your own to make happy this Christmas you probably know of **somebody's** little boy or girl who would be **delighted** with one or more of these Big Christmas Stockings, so you should not fail to take advantage of this offer at once, as Christmas is almost here and besides our supply of the stockings is limited and they may be all gone before your order reaches us **unless you send it in at once.**

Our Christmas Offer. For a club of TWO one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you one of these Big Christmas Stockings full of Santa Claus Gifts free by Parcel Post prepaid. Remember our supply is limited, so you should send us your order early to avoid disappointment and delay. Premium No. 6582. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

INITIAL Dinner Set 31 PIECES FREE



With a few hours easy work you can sell 12 boxes White Cloverine at 25c. a box, giving an **Art Picture FREE** with each box. Return to us the $3.00 collected and this beautiful dinner set is yours. You can also earn watches, fine jewelry, bed spreads, blankets, musical instruments, silverware, etc. Large premium catalogue. Be first in your town—Write Now.

WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Dept. A-26, TYRONE, PA.

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers." **RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.**

"LET ME" read your character from your handwriting. Mind you get a good reading that will help you in love, health, business and domestic affairs. Price 10c. Money back if dissatisfied. **G. A. Beauchamp, 2583 8th Ave., New York.**

UNCLE CHARLIE'S Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address **UNCLE CHARLIE, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.**

A BEAUtiful neck, face and arms Don't pay 50c. but send 10c. for sealed package which transforms instantly. Look your best in spite of moles, sallowness, blotches, freckles, wrinkles, blackheads, etc. If you want to be charming and attractive order at once. Warranted absolutely harmless. **TOILET COMPOUND CO. Dept. A. Box 1927, Boston, Mass.**



Engraved Gold Bracelet

FOR ONE SUBSCRIPTION



THIS Round Bracelet with artistic engraving and unique **Spring Fastening** is the most attractive pattern we have seen this season. Not too large but large enough and as it is perfectly round, it fits well and becomes all ages. There is a demand for bracelets of enormous size, but this style is medium large and nearly **three inches in diameter;** we consider it a beautiful pattern. This bracelet is the very latest style so you will want one while fashionable, and as we guarantee fit and wear, you need not hesitate to order.

Offer No. 4501 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this handsome Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid.

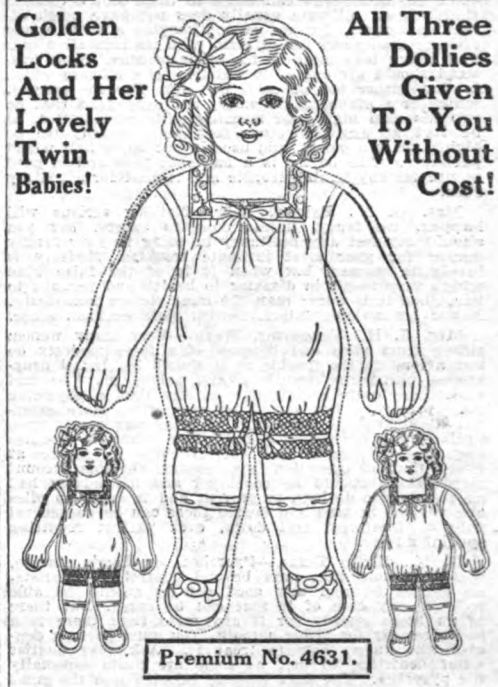
Offer No. 4501 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4501.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Free To Every Little Girl!

Golden Locks And Her Lovely Twin Babies!

All Three Dollies Given To You Without Cost!



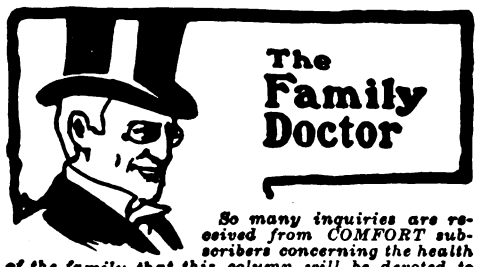
Premium No. 4631.

Mothers, Don't Fail To Read This Offer!

COMFORT wants to give **free** to **your** little girl and **every** little girl this handsome **doll Family** stamped in **beautiful colors** on strong cloth with **full directions** so that you can cut them out, stuff and sew them up **in less than ten minutes.** "Golden Locks" is almost as big as **a real baby,** for she stands **one and one half feet high** and her cute little twin babies which you see in the picture stand **over half a foot high. These dolls cannot be broken** no matter how much they are thrown around or dropped on the floor and you can make them **bend their arms and legs, stand up and sit down in a chair and assume all sorts of natural positions.** They have beautiful **golden hair** which hangs in the **dearest curls** you ever saw and fastened with a **bright red ribbon bow** that cannot get lost or become untied, **handsome red cheeks, rosy lips and lovely blue eyes** which smile at you in such a **lifelike way** that you would almost think **they were ready to speak and say "Mama."** As shown in above illustration they are dressed in **dainty lace-trimmed underwear with bright red stockings and black buttoned boots.** The three dolls together—"Golden Locks" and the two sweet Baby Dolls—make the **cutest and prettiest** Doll Family any little girl ever had to play with. They are lots better for the little folks than the more expensive bisque and china dolls **because they will not break or snarl their pretty hair or lose their eyes.** There is no little girl who will not instantly **fall in love** with this beautiful Doll Family and spend many happy hours with it, so we hope that every mother who reads this offer will take advantage of it at once. We will send you **all three dolls free by Parcel Post prepaid** on the terms of the following special offers.

Offer 4631 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **all three dolls** free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 4631 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you **all three dolls** free by Parcel Post prepaid. **(Premium No. 4631). Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. K., Wetaskiwin, Alta.—What you need more than anything else is rest and the advice, not the medicine, of a competent and kindly physician. There is nothing radically wrong with you, but your nerves are out of order and your general system is so run down that scarcely an organ is working as it should. Any treatment by us would be impossible because it will be absolutely necessary for proper treatment for a physician to see you and after examination tell you what should be done for each individual disarrangement. If you could go to a hospital for a month where you could rest, have proper food and be looked after by intelligent nurses and physicians we believe you would be put fairly on the road to normal health. Two things you possess which are invaluable in recovering health and those are good sense and a cheerful spirit. We are sorry we cannot make you as well in body as you are in head and heart. Our sincerest sympathy goes out to the thousands and thousands of overworked women who need only rest to be well.

Mrs. J. V., Union Point, Ga.—Looseness of the bowels of long continuance as an after effect of measles is neither chronic diarrhea nor chronic disentery and just what it is can only be determined by examination by a physician, and frequently not then. It can only be properly treated by such a physician, though the patient may be of great assistance by keeping a careful watch on the diet, taking principally liquid food, milk, eggs, rice, a little rare meat and stale bread. The object being to eat only the most digestible food in order to give the stomach as little work as possible. Milk punches are often of value, as the alcoholic stimulant is beneficial to the stomach and intestines. The taking of strong astringents should not be done except by the advice of a physician. Stomach troubles of this sort are very stubborn, often incurable, and require all the care of the patient as well as the attention of the physician, though his constant attention is not needed. Suppose as a home treatment you try two milk punches a day, morning and evening, containing about a tablespoonful of good whiskey, each, and take a one grain camphor pill, three times a day for a week and see what effect they will have.

L. S., Lexington, Mo.—We are glad to learn that you are sufficiently interested in your bodily welfare to want to know where you may procure books on anatomy, physiology and hyglene and for your benefit and that of other COMFORT readers who ought to know about themselves we will say that for ordinary use the text books of the schools are the best to begin with and any teacher in your community will tell you what books they use and where you may get them. If you are still interested after reading them carefully and want to know more, any physician in your neighborhood will tell you what are the most popular books on the subject for general reading. In the school books, usually all three subjects are to be found in the same volume and the price is reasonable. You cannot read anything of more vital value to you and we hope COMFORT readers generally will read up on the subject.

Old Subscriber, Port Orford, Oregon.—The large lumps you mention as appearing at cetain times on various parts of your husband's head and body are not due to any catarrh or eczema we know of in this part of the country, and they can only be properly treated by a physician who can examine them and determine their cause. Climate usually does not have much effect on eczema, but we cannot imagine a much worse climate than yours for catarrh, with its rain all winter and heavy fogs most of the other months. Your husband should get out of it and live in a climate which is dry, either hot or cold, but dry. For the eczema, which is a stubborn customer, we recommend that he rub his skin night and morning with cocoa-butter, to be had at any drug-store for about seventy-five or eighty cents a pound, and usually put up in half pound packages. The butter is a fine skin food and is good to use for any itching trouble and is good for a healthy skin.

Mrs. G. N., Palmer, Nebr.—Nothing serious will happen, we fancy, unless done to excess, but you should not feel any hesitancy in going to your family doctor for your most intimate troubles. Modesty is lovely in woman, but when it is of the false kind which may result in disaster to health and perhaps to life, then it is worse than the most vicious immodesty. Never let modesty interfere with plain common sense.

Mrs. J. H., Vancouver, Wash.—Very many women suffer from piles and because of a false modesty do not attend to the trouble as it should be. In all drug-stores ointments, solutions and salves may be had which are quite as effective as any that a physician may prescribe, but something more than mere external application is necessary, as piles may result from indigestion, constipation and other stomach troubles requiring treatment and they become so severe at times that an operation is necessary. On this account a physician should be consulted and his advice had as to what to do both to prevent and to cure. As piles are various in kind and degree there can be no general rule of treatment laid down, each patient requiring special advice.

D. K., Elgin, Texas.—Pyorrhea, or Rigg's disease, which at one time was beyond control of dentists, no longer is, and any good dentist should be able to cure any case of it that can be cured. But there is no home remedy for it any more than there is a home remedy for filling a tooth. You must go to a dentist who knows how to treat it. Ask your dentist what dentrifice to use, as some are made especially for pyorrhea. The drug emetine injected into the gums is a sure cure for this disease, but it must be administered by a skilled physician or dentist.

C. H., Pontiac, Mich.—You are like a good many other COMFORT patients who imagine that a doctor a thousand miles away can guess nearer to what is wrong with them and then guess at a treatment to go with his first guess and get better results in their cases than their own home physicians, but they are mistaken. We are sorry we cannot make a well man of you, but we cannot and the best advice we can give is that you keep on trying the doctors who can examine you and at least not guess at the proper treatment. Did you ever try osteopathic treatment? You are young enough to have hope in plenty.

E. B., New York, N. Y.—The statement is just as ridiculous as it sounded to you because everybody doesn't have to have measles some time before he dies. Most people have it in childhood, some adults have it, some old people die with it, but a great many people escape entirely, just as you have done so far and will continue to do if you are careful to keep away from contagion.

Mrs. M. O. G., Round Top, Texas.—Massaging the calves is about as good treatment as can be administered for cramps. Hot applications are also beneficial. But thorough massaging will start the circulation better than anything else. (2) The surgeon who recommended the operation can tell you much more definitely than we can. Ask him.

G. H., Dubois, Wyo.—It is not at all uncommon for men to have a very heavy growth of hair all over their bodies and usually the hairy men have very good health, as you do. It is natural and while it may be removed, it will grow again and the better way is not to interfere with nature and be glad she made you hairy all over rather than bald all over.

No. 5, Grundy Center, Iowa.—When you don't know anything about a medicine except its name and are not very sure of that, it is a very wise thing for you not to be asking what it is good for, how to administer it, where it can be bought and other questions showing you wish to try it on yourself. Why don't you try it on the cat so that if it results seriously, it will be the cat and not you who must suffer from ignorance? Don't try to doctor yourself unless you are absolutely sure you know just what the matter is and what shouldn't be done for it.

The Uncle Charlie Birthday Fund

UNCLE CHARLIE in his report just to hand states that from October 1st to November 1st, 120 of our readers by subscriptions and donations increased the fund being raised for his benefit by $116, making the grand total $336 contributed by 320 members of the COMFORT family up to November first.

Uncle Charlie, needless to say, is deeply grateful to all those who have so generously given their time and means to make this inspiring project a success. All gifts have been personally acknowledged by him. What has been done so far is small, but it is only a beginning. Thus far only one in 5,000 of our vast army of subscribers have been heard from and there must be thousands, nay tens of thousands anxious to make this a testimonial of practical importance.

For twenty years Uncle Charlie has battled with fate, asking odds of no one, and he is asking nothing now. The movement started with our readers and it is up to them to make it a success, as he refuses to be put in the position of seeking reward for rendering a public service that he deemed to be his duty.

But sympathy and compliments do not buy bread, or bricks, or provide for sickness and old age. It requires but little if any drain on either our time or resources to forever place Uncle Charlie beyond the reach of want or worry, and now, if ever, is the time to do it.

Christmas is with us and Christmas is the magic key that unlocks every heart and every pocket. Everyone knows of Whitcomb Riley the beloved poet. Uncle Charlie is our Whitcomb Riley and in his book of poems will be found dozens of pieces just as humorous and delightful in their way as "Little Orphant Annie" and the "Raggedy Man." Only one COMFORT home in thirty-five has a copy of this delightful and beautiful work, which should be in the hands of every child and grown up in the land, for it appeals to both young and old with irresistible force. Uncle Charlie's Story Book too is a mine of wealth. Read "How Uncle Charlie Became A Hero of The Spanish War" and "How Maria and Billy the Goat" first made his acquaintance, and you will rock with laughter and your eyes will fill with tears and life will be made sweeter for you all.

Play over and sing the delightful melodies in his wonderful song book, and pay a visit to his home by securing his beautiful picture book, the home which it is in your power to make actually his, by a little effort on your part. At least a hundred thousand of you should secure these books. Those who already have them, know scores who need them and can pass them along as gifts.

Christmas only comes once a year. If the Uncle Charlie Fund is to be made a success worthy of COMFORT and its readers, we must all get together and pull together with a will. The time is short. Let every day count. Don't leave it to the other fellow but do a double share in case the other fellow does not do anything at all. A few can accomplish little but millions can accomplish miracles, and there is no more inspiring and beautiful work than this.

Here is how you can help.

1. By cash donations.

2. By purchasing Uncle Charlie's books (see advertisement.)

3. Those who cannot spare the money for a cash donation or for purchase of his books can contribute by getting subscriptions to COMFORT in aid of the "Uncle Charlie Benefit Fund" and instead of taking the club premium or cash commission themselves direct that it be credited to the fund. In such cases I will pay over to Uncle Charlie one half of the subscription price of all subscriptions sent for this purpose. The regular cash commission on COMFORT subscriptions is 40 per cent, but for Uncle Charlie's Benefit Fund I will allow 50 per cent. Another way to help him and benefit yourself is to get up a subscription club and take one of his books as your premium.

In one or other of these ways every COMFORT reader who wishes to do so can help swell the fund for Uncle Charlie which has my hearty approval and will have my assistance within the limits of propriety.

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

Religion, Rum and so Forth

"Two hundred and sixty-two million dollars is a good deal of money," said a man who did not have that much saved for a rainy day, "and it is more when that amount is spent every year for one thing, yet the people of this country spend that much annually on their religious organizations,—home churches and foreign missions.—250 millions of it being spent at home. Three quarters of a million dollars a day, thirty thousand an hour, five thousand dollars a minute! Some money, that, isn't it? Seems like enough to convert the whole world, doesn't it? And it might, if we didn't spend so much to offset it. There's liquor, for example, all kinds of hard drinks. Do we spend five thousand dollars a minute on that bad habit? Do we? Well, we spend nearly ten times five thousand a minute. Our liquor bills for one year amount to two billion, two hundred million dollars. Very close to ten times more spent for rum than for religion! That doesn't sound much like converting our own country from the error of its ways, much less the whole world, does it? Then there's tobacco. Not a bit of use for anybody to have that habit, but we have it just the same, and we spend one billion two hundred millions a year on it. Nearly five times as much as for our religion, and tobacco never yet helped anybody to a better life, nor saved a soul from sin! For jewelry and silver-ware, which most of us plain people don't have any surplus of, eight hundred millions a year are spent by those who have the money. For automobiles which some of us are able to get by mortgaging our farms, or something like that, five hundred millions are spent. Twice as much as for religion, though this is offset some by the fact that a good many people these days ride to church on Sundays in their cars. For candy, which isn't necessary at all, we spend two hundred millions a year and for tea and coffee half that amount, or say, a dollar each for our population of one hundred millions. Lots of us don't drink soda-water or other soft drinks, at least, not very often, unless we count the red lemonade when the circus comes around, yet somebody spends one hundred and twenty million dollars a year for it, and to make matters worse, they spend thirteen millions a year for chewing-gum. Think of chewing up that much money every year!! For patent medicines we spend eighty millions a year,—everybody has aches and pains—and for millinery, the women, or their husbands for them, spend ninety millions and this seems to me, next to religion, to be the most reasonable expenditure. Allowing that one third of our population is women of an age to wear millinery, the ninety millions represent an expense of only about three dollars per person, and certainly the woman who can get along with only three dollars' worth of hats and trimmings a year could not be called extravagant by anybody except a prevaricator of the most malicious mind. Maybe some day we will learn to spend our money for better things, but just now, it looks like too much of it was being worse than thrown away, doesn't it?"

What Shall I Give Them For Christmas?

HOW MANY TIMES do you ask yourself this question as the holidays draw near and you are making up your list of those whom you wish to remember with some appropriate yet inexpensive Xmas gift?

Oftentimes you find it almost impossible to decide—it even becomes a source of downright worry because all of us like to feel that the presents we give are something that will be actually needed and appreciated by the recipients.

Why not let us help you solve at least one of your Christmas problems this year? We believe we know of one present that will bring more pleasant and more frequent reminders to your friends than almost anything else you could buy—and that is

A One Year's Subscription To Comfort

Here is the one gift that pleases everybody—a gift that will become a cheery, welcome reminder of you month after month for an entire year—and at so little expense you will not notice it at all. Simply send us 25 cents and the name and address of the friend you wish to remember written on the coupon below and we will enter the subscription for one full year to commence with our Christmas number and with it we will also mail

A Beautiful Christmas Presentation Card

so that both paper and card will reach the recipient at about the same time. The card is beautifully colored and embossed with a dainty appropriate Christmas design and verse on one side and on the other side is a specially printed announcement of the gift and a space left for your name as the giver which we will fill in ourselves before the card is mailed.

Isn't this a splendid idea? Surely among your friends there is someone who will appreciate and enjoy such an interesting magazine as COMFORT and who will think of you gratefully every time the carrier leaves it at the door.

Better send us your friend's name and the money now—it's none too early to avoid the Christmas rush—and you will have at least one present less to think about because we will attend to all the details. After you mail the coupon and money you can dismiss the matter from your mind as we will take good care of your order and mail both the paper and the handsome Christmas Card properly filled out with your name as the giver at precisely the right time.

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY!

"COMFORT FOR CHRISTMAS" COUPON

Date_____1916.

Publisher COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Dear Sir: As a Christmas present from me please send COMFORT for one year to the following address, also the Christmas Card properly filled out with my name. I enclose 25 cents to pay for same.

My Friend's Name.....

Street & No. or R. F. D. No...... *Box No.*.....

Post Office..... *State*.....

(Be Sure To Write Your Own Name And Address Here)

My Name is.....

Street & No. or R. F. D. No...... *Box No.*.....

Post Office..... *State*.....

☞ If you wish to make a present of COMFORT to more than one friend write the full names and addresses on a separate sheet of paper and pin this coupon to it. DE SURE TO ENCLOSE 25 CENTS FOR EACH NAME SENT.

6 Wheel Chairs in November

375 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

Six wheel chairs in November is a gain of two over October and makes a total of 65 that I have sent out thus far this year. It is much the best showing we ever made; it is splendid, but we ought to do even better and we can if we try. So all please boost with a will to make December a big month for the shut-ins and close the year's record of the Wheel-Chair Club in a blaze of glory.

The six November wheel chairs go to the following applicants. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Miss Etta Hendrixson, R. 3, Kaufman, Texas, 226; Henry C. Williams, 3610 Ave. F, East Lake, Tenn., 200; Mrs. Martha E. Harvey, Fallon, Nevada, 140; Mrs. Della Wyman, Jamestown, N. Dak., 126; Raymon Boswell, Forsyth, Mo., 110; Mrs. Edith M. Cole, Bryant Pond, Maine, 97.

Etta Hendrixson, age 15, has been in bed since May, 1915, suffering from tuberculosis of the right thigh bone. Four of her good friends sent 226 subscriptions, all in one day, saying that 200 of them were for her chair and the extra 26 were to help some other needy shut-in to obtain a wheel chair. Certainly they have the right stripe of Christian charity and it shows up in their work. You will see their names in this month's Roll of Honor below.

Henry C. Williams, age 14, is severely afflicted with rheumatism from the effect of which he has been a crippled shut-in the last fifteen months. Mrs. Williams sent the entire 200 subscriptions for the boy's chair all in one bunch as she had obtained them so quickly with the help of friends.

Mrs. Martha E. Harvey, age 64, is so badly crippled by rheumatism that she can not walk, yet this brave sufferer does all her housework sitting in a chair, made by her son, in which she manages to push herself over the floor. She is a widow dependent on her son, himself a cripple, who earns a living by selling popcorn. Her wheel chair will be a much needed help.

Mrs. Della Wyman, age 40, crippled the last six years by paralysis. For some time she was under treatment at the State Hospital in Jamestown, N. Dak., but Mrs. G. L. Acheson of Dale, N. Dak., who obtained all the subscriptions for her chair, writes, that Mrs. Wyman is about to leave the institution. She says Mrs. Wyman is in great need of a wheel chair.

Raymond Boswell, age 15, has been a helpless cripple all his life and can not even use his hands. The wheel chair will be a pleasure to him and a great help to his mother in taking care of him.

Mrs. Edith M. Cole, age 30, has five children ranging from three to twelve years of age. Although her legs are so drawn up by rheumatism that she can not take a step she does all the cooking for the family and sends her children to school. What a pity for such a good mother to be so afflicted! The wheel chair will help lighten her toil.

We have an interesting Roll of Honor this month, and I hope more of you will get your names there next month so to help me send a ray of joy into the sad lives of a goodly number of poor crippled shut-ins by presenting them with a wheel chair on Christmas.

Sincerely yours,
W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours. Subscription price is 25 cents, but if sent in clubs of five or more for the Wheel-Chair Club, I accept them at 20 cents each.

COMFORT Wheel Chair Enables Him to Get a Peep at the Outside World

ARTHUR, ILL.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to you and COMFORT friends who so liberally helped me to obtain my wheel chair which enables me to escape from the confinement of my room and get a peep at the outside world which looks very beautiful to me after having been a shut-in for twenty-three long years. God bless you and all who helped me.

Yours respectfully, JOHN W. HANKINS.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

Mrs. T. A. Williams, Tenn., for Henry Clinton Williams, 200; Nellie Odell, Texas, for Emmett Odell, 150; Mrs. Rosetta Smith, Nevada, for Martha E. Harvey, 68; H. C. Anderson, Texas, for Miss Etta Hendrixson and Needy Shut-in, 58; Mrs. H. C. Anderson Texas, for Miss Etta Hendrixson and Needy Shut-in, 56; John Hearn, Texas, for Miss Etta Hendrixson, and Needy Shut-in, 56; Mrs. S. H. Couch, Texas, for Miss Etta Hendrixson and Needy Shut-in, 56; Mrs. G. L. Acheson, N. Dak., for Mrs. Della Wyman, 55; Mrs. R. W. Bryan, N. C., for Jessie D. Bryan, 40; Mrs. S. W. Walker, North Carolina, for Herbert Walker, 35; Mrs. J. F. Hickman, Ark., for Miss Ona Catts, 33; Mrs. Lena Andrews, Mass., for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 31; Mrs. Annie Boswell, Missouri, for Raymon Boswell, 30; Mrs. D. P. Cooke, N. C., for J. C. Shook, 26; Mrs. L. E. Killion, Okla., for Raymon Boswell, 20; Mrs. J. A. Moad, Okla., for Mrs. Naomi Moad, 18; Mrs. J. Mack Law, Tenn., for Edw. Bryan Law, 13; Leithor D. Darter, Texas, for own wheel chair, 13; Etta Cox, Ky., for own wheel chair, 12; Mrs. J. W. Sifford, Missouri, for Willie Sifford, 12; Miss Mary Weston, Iowa, for Miss Margaret Dew, 11; Minnie Ostrander, Okla., for General, 11; Mrs. G. E. McCone, Colo., for General, 11; Miss Nellie Ferguson, Texas, for Mollie Fay Belle Ferguson, 11; Catherine Fraisure, Fla., for own wheel chair, 10; Mollie Andrews, Okla., for Buel Hibbard, 10; Vera Sherrod, Wash., for Mrs. Arabella Sherrod, 10; Mrs. Merton Rowe, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 10; Stanley Kulawik, Texas, for J. R. Claxton, 10; Mrs. John Tiller, Iowa, for General, 10; Mrs. Chester Andrews, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 10; Mrs. Inez Bisbee, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 10; Mrs. T. A. Ivey, Ga., for Miss Ann Allen, 10; Mrs. Leland Andrews, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 10; Mrs. Alice Redding, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 10; Mrs. Alton Ames, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 10; Ada Beck, Ky., for Annie Opal Beck, 9; Mrs. E. J. Allen, Ky., for General, 9; Mamie Hibbard, Ark., for Buel Hibbard, 8; Rev. W. Glass, Ala., for Mrs. Sarah M. Baker, 7; Minnie Kurtz, Iowa, for General, 6; Mrs. Della Andrews, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 6; Mrs. Nina Beach, N. Mex., for own wheel chair, 6; Mrs. W. E. Garnes, Ohio, for General, 5; Mrs. F. A Harrison, Texas, for J. R. Claxton, 5; P. F. Lally, Ky., for Elta Cox, 5; Cora A. Losley, Ill., for own wheel chair, 5; Mrs. C. A. Lynch, Idaho, for General, 5; Miss Ella Paddock, Indiana, for Mrs. Adella Albiston, 5; Miss Lona Norris, Ala., for Mrs. Flora Gifford, 5; Mrs. N. B. Ridge, Ill., for General, 5; Annie Swinson, N. C., for own wheel chair, 5; Mrs. J. R. Williams, Texas, for Mrs. Jim Claxton, 5.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents--Men Or Women. A real honest-to-goodness-sells-itself line—over 250 light weight, popular priced necessities. We pay 100% commission. $6 a day can be made at the start. No capital—no experience required. Enormous demand—sells fast—big repeaters. Valuable territory opened—all or spare time. Elegant agent's outfit furnished free. Write today. Postal will do. American Products Co., 9215 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 98c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 586 Broadway, New York City.

Agents—Pair Silk Hose Free. State size & color. Beautiful line direct from mill. Good profits. Agents wanted. Write today. Triple-wear Mills, Dept. G, 720 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free. William Ragsdale, East Orange, N. J.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 231 N. 2nd, St. Louis, Mo.

Earn $50 to $100 monthly distributing Parker Hosiery to regular repeat customers in your home town at mill prices. All or spare time. Protected territory. Credit given. G. Parker Mills, 2733 No. 12th St., Phila., Pa.

Men And Women; $1500 to $3000 Yearly taking orders for over 90 Household Articles. Outfit Free. Big Chance. Full Particulars. Duo Factories, Dept. B. 40, North Java, N. Y.

Agents—Steady Income. Large manufacturer of Handkerchiefs and Dress Goods, etc., wishes representative in each locality. Factory to consumer. Big profits, honest goods. Credit given. Send for particulars. Freeport Mfg. Co., 60 Main St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Every Home on Farm, In Small Town or suburb needs and will buy the wonderful Aladdin kerosene (coal-oil) mantle lamp; five times as bright as electric; tested and recommended by Government and 34 leading universities; awarded gold medal; one farmer cleared over $500 in 6 weeks; hundreds with rigs or autos earning $100 to $300 per month; no capital required; we furnish goods to reliable men; write quick for distributor's proposition, and lamp for free trial. Mantle Lamp Co., 610 Aladdin Bldg., Chicago.

Agents; Cooper made $314 last month, $91 last week selling "Kantleak" Raincoats. New proposition. We deliver and collect. Sample coat Free. Comer Mfg. Co., 13 Opal St., Dayton, Ohio.

Guaranteed Hosiery Selling From Mill earns $5 a day for our representatives. No Capital or experience needed. All or Spare Time. Weber Mills, Nicetown Station, Phila., Pa.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Photo Pillow Tops, Portraits, Frames, Sheet Pictures, Photo Plates, Pennants, Paper Mache Frames. Rejects credited. Prompt shipments; samples & cat. free to agents. 30 days credit. Jas. C. Bailey Co., Desk M6, Chicago, Ill.

Agents—200 Per Cent Profit. Wonderful little article. Something new; sells like wildfire. Carry right in pocket. Write at once for free sample. E. M. Feltman, Sales Mgr., 9515 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents can make big money selling hosiery of exceptional quality at prices that cannot be secured elsewhere. Big repeater. Write. Fisher Hosiery Co., 723 Sterling Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Agents—Make a dollar an hour. Sell Mendets, a patent patch for instantly mending leaks in all utensils. Sample package and catalogue of household specialties free. Collette Mfg. Co., Dept. 452 A, Amsterdam, N. Y.

Insyde Tyres, inner armor for Automobile tires, double mileage and prevent punctures and blowouts. Quickly applied. Cost little. Demand tremendous. Profits unlimited. Details free. American Automobile Accessories Co., Dept. 110, Cincinnati, O.

$100.00 Weekly easily made selling to dealers on commission "18-92" highest quality Aluminum Cooking Utensils, guaranteed for 20 years. Exclusive or side line. Write immediately for proposition. Ipalco, Lemont, Ill.

Turn Spare Time Into Dollars. Something new. No canvassing or investment. Daydark Co., Desk 54, St. Louis, Mo.

$1000 Per Man Per County—Strange invention startles world—Agents amazed. Ten inexperienced men divide $40,000. Korstad, a farmer, did $2,200 in 14 days. Schleicher, a minister, $195 first 12 hours. $1200 cold cash, made, paid, banked by Stoneman in 30 days; $15,000 to date. A hot or cold running water bath equipment for any home at only $6.50. Self-heating No plumbing or waterworks required. Investigate. Exclusive sale. Credit given. Send no money. Write letter or postal today. Allen Mfg. Co., 296 Allen Bldg., Toledo, O.

Agents: Make 100% selling Harwood's Freckle Cream and other toilet needs. Write today—Harwood Laboratories, Aurora, Ill.

We Pay $36 A Week and Expenses To men with rigs to introduce poultry compound. Year's contract. Imperial Mfg. Co., Dept. 9, Parsons, Kans.

Man Or Woman Of Good Character in each town to distribute free goods as advertising. Experience unnecessary. References required. $15 a week to start. Address Hudson King & Co., 7 South Clinton St., Chicago.

Agents—Revised prices—Big increase in profits. Free Sample And Particulars Delbare's Naptha Washing Tablets. Wash clothes clean without rubbing. Guaranteed not to injure the finest fabric. No acids, lime or caustics. Manufactured by Naptha Washing Tablet Company, 718 So. Dearborn, Chicago.

Women to distribute toilet goods to friends and neighbors. $1 a dozen for your trouble. Sample free. Daley Mfg. Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Agents sell our waterproof aprons, soaps and toilet articles. Big profits. Pelham Manufacturing Co., North Pelham, N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED

Lady Or Gentleman To Travel for old-established firm. No canvassing. Staple line. $18 weekly, pursuant to contract. Expenses advanced. G. O. Nichols, Philadelphia, Pa., Pepper Bldg.

"Easy Steps" scientific foot-comforters; sponge rubber inside-cushions; 200% up; $2 dozen, makes $4 extra; Big clean-up. Samples 24c. Manhattan Products, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Agents Wanted—To advertise our goods by distributing free sample to consumer. 90 cents an hour. Write for full particulars. Thomas Mfg. Co., 519 North St., Dayton, O.

Would $150 Monthly as General Agent for $150,000 corporation and a Ford Auto of your own, introducing Stock and Poultry remedies, Dips, Disinfectants, etc., interest you? Then address Royoleum Co-Operative Mfg. Co., Dept. 2, Monticello, Ind.

Blaxit Safely While Hot. New stove polish, works without soiling the hands. Agents Wanted. Boss Mfg. Co., New London, Ct.

To Sell new parlor baseball game. Novel, fascinating and instructive. Price 50c. Send 30c for agents outfit. Barnum Novelty Co., Dept. B, Bridgeport, Conn.

Spiral Spring Curtain Rods; fit any window; put up in minute; sample 10c; circulars free. Moore Co., 4132 Nerome Ave., Cincinnati.

Agents Sell Duz-Win Washing Paste. Wonderful compound. Washes and whitens clothes without boiling, rubbing or bluing. Guaranteed absolutely harmless. 100% profit. Splendid repeater. Send for free sample and agents proposition. Duz-win Products Co., Crow St., Utica, N. Y.

Agents—A one-cent post card will put you in touch with an $80 a week proposition selling Aluminum Utensils and Specialties direct to the consumer. Don't let one cent stand between you and prosperity. Div. B.B.P., American Aluminum Mfg. Co., Lemont, Ill.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents: Biggest selling household necessity. Huge profits; steady repeater. Write today. Peck Specialty Co., North Haven, Conn.

$61.50 Weekly. Introducing and selling a new gas light burner for kerosene lamps. Beautiful light. No chimney. No mantle. Samples free. Luther Mfg. Co., Dept. 246, Cincinnati, O.

$1,000.00 For Your Next 100 Days. Spot Cash. New money-making invention for agents, general agents, managers. Recently invented. 1,000,000 already sold; 200 more salesmen wanted at once. Amazing automatic Compressed Air Washing Machine. Washes tub of clothes in six minutes. No cranks to turn or levers to push—no rubbing. Works like magic. Price only $1.50—makes sale at every house; 200% profit. L. Palmer, Glen Allen, Ala., put out on trial 108 machines, sold 107. Profit $107.00. Write now, Wendell Co., 1114 Oak St., Leipsic, O.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. **Earn big pay** while you learn at home during spare time. Only eight weeks required. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of students we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 per month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Salesmen Wanted—Reliable Men That can furnish team and wagon to travel in the country and sell old established line of medicines, flavorings, spices, soaps, toilets, condition powder, etc. Permanent work. Pay Big. Write today for free copy of "Opportunity." It tells how. Seminole Medicine Co., Boone, Ia., Box 228.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Learn Nursing At Home. Rates low. Easy terms. Catalog free. Philadelphia School for Nurses, 2227 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

POULTRY

Poultry Paper, 44-124 page periodical, up to date, tells all you want to know about care and management of poultry, for pleasure or profit; four months for 10 cents. Poultry Advocate, Dept. 112, Syracuse, N. Y.

$888 In Pigeons! Start raising squabs for market or breeding purposes. Make big profits with our Jumbo Pigeons. We teach you. Large, free, illustrated, instructive circulars. Providence Squab Co., Providence, R. I.

Pure Bred Poultry. All varieties. Stock for sale. State your wants and let me quote you prices. C. P. Condon, West Chester, Ohio.

S. C. White Leghorns. World's greatest laying stock bred from trap nested hens. Ill. circulars free. Ondawa Farms, Shushan, N. Y.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

Will Pay $100.00 for Trade Dollar 1885; $7.00 for 1853 Quarter without arrows; $750.00 for certain $5.00 gold without motto. Cash premiums for rare coins to 1912. Get posted. Send 4c. Get our Large Coin Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

$4.25 Each Paid for U. S. Eagle Cents dated 1856. Keep all money dated before 1895, and send 10c at once for New Illustrated Coin Value Book, 4x7. It may mean a fortune. Clarke & Co., Coin Dealers, Box 20, LeRoy, N. Y.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Invent Something. It may bring wealth. Free book tells what to invent and how to obtain a patent through our Credit System. Waters & Co., Succeeded by Talbert & Parker, 4206 Warder Bldg., Washington, D. C.

The Story Of Fred Taylor's Success, who laid the foundation of a fortune in one year through our unique Co-operating Realty plan, will be sent on request. If you desire to make big money and be your own boss write today. Previous experience unnecessary. McDonnell, S240, 1426 You St., Washington, D. C.

Free—The Western Miner, 3 months to get acquainted. Devoted to Investment and News. 2539 W. 37 Ave., Denver, Colo.

REAL ESTATE

Small Missouri Farm $10 Cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes; Highly productive land; close to three big markets. Write for photographs and full information. Munger, D-104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Best Opportunities today are in the South for farm and other homeseekers. Low priced lands, largest profits per acre in grain, alfalfa and other crops, healthful home regions; openings for live stock, dairy, poultry, fruit and truck farmers. Write for literature. M. V. Richards, Ind. & Agr. Commr., Room 19 Southern Railway, Washington, D. C.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

You Can Do Better On A Southern Farm. Send for a years subscription Free to our beautifully illustrated magazine, The Southern Homeseeker, which tells all about good, low priced land and Southern opportunities. Write F. H. LaBaume, Agrl. Agt., N. & W. Ry., 269 Arcade Bldg., Roanoke, Va.

Landless Men! Ten acres means independence. Excellent tracts for poultry, truck, fruit; near town; best county in Michigan. Only $250. $5 down, $4 monthly. Also general farming lands. Write for free literature. Swigart Land Co., A-1248 First National Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

FARM LANDS

California Land $1.00 Per Acre Cash. Balance 90c month per acre. Immediate possession given. No taxes. No interest. Level San Joaquin Valley. Only four hours from San Francisco. 5 acres up. Clear; ready to plow. Open ditch irrigation $1 acre per annum. Particulars, maps, photos, free. Stevinson Colony, Desk B., 785 Market St., San Francisco.

Uncle Sam is watering a farm for you in Salt River Valley, Arizona, where you will live longer and better, and make more money with less work. Read our Roosevelt Dam folder free on request. C. L. Seagraves, Industrial Com'r AT&SF Ry., 1946 Ry. Exchange, Chicago.

Productive Lands. Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 197 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

Florida—Pretty 4-room cottage with 5 acres near city; fine for fruits, chickens and truck; $650. Geo. Colburn, Lake City, Florida.

Wanted. Energetic young farmers for trucking, Poultrying, dairying, general farming. Cheap lands, delightful climate, good markets, roads, schools, churches. Free Booklet. A. Johnson, Pineora, Ga.

OIL LAND INVESTMENTS

Oil and Independence, Oklahoma Oil Field Land may make your fortune. Your chance of making enormous profits from a small investment—Lots sold on payments of $1.00 cash and $2.00 monthly. Write for particulars. Address, Frank P. Cleveland, 1114 Adams Express Building, Chicago.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis, Mo.

MALE HELP WANTED

Be A Detective—Earn $100 to $300 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Government Needs Men and Women over 18, for stationary and traveling positions. Big salaries. Write, Ozment, 8R, St. Louis.

Government Farmers Wanted. $75 to $125 monthly. Free living quarters. Write, Ozment, 8F, St. Louis.

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 828 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

Civil Service Examinations open the way to good Government positions. I can coach you by mail at small cost. Full particulars free to any American citizen of eighteen or over. Write today for Booklet CE 1450, Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Wanted—Men, 18 or over, as Railway Mail Clerks. $75 month. Franklin Institute, Dept. R9, Rochester, N. Y.

Earn $75 to $150 a month. Easy work, short hours, Lifetime position. Examinations coming. American Citizens only. Write for Free book J-15, of Government jobs. Patterson Civil Service School, Rochester, N. Y.

Silvering mirrors, plating tableware, auto brass. Home booklet plans free. Clarence Sprinkle, Dept. C C, Marion, Ind.

500 Men Wanted At Once 20-40 For Electric Railway Motormen and Conductors. All parts U. S. $60-$100 monthly. Experience unnecessary. Send Stamp for application blank. National Railway, Dept. 142, Kansas City, Mo.

HELP WANTED

Wanted—Men to become chauffeurs. $18 week. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. R812, Rochester, N. Y.

Gov't Wants Railway Mail Clerks. $75 month. List jobs open free. Franklin Institute, Dept. R 12, Rochester, N. Y.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

Will Pay reliable woman $25.00 to distribute Free (not to sell) 200 pkgs. Borax Soap Powder among friends. No money required. A. Ward Company, 732 N. Franklin St., Chicago.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Government Matrons Wanted, age 24 to 45, $60 monthly. Free Living quarters. Write Ozment, 8M, St. Louis.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

In Time of Need

"Help the blind!" muttered the beggar on the corner, near a picture theater.

"Here, poor man," said a young woman, "here is some money."



She dropped the dime on the pavement and the "blind man" leaned forward to pick it up.

"I thought you were blind!" exclaimed the girl.

"No, lady; I'm only taking the regular man's place for a while."

"Is he sick?"

"No, lady. He wanted to go in and see the moving picture show!"

Just His Luck

It happened during one of the air raids, at a place not specified in the newspaper reports.

Isaacstein, just emerging from a chemist's shop, got in the way of the explosion, and when he recovered in the hospital found that both his feet had been amputated.

"Just my luck," he grumbled, and I had just vent and bought sixpenny-vorth of corn-plaster."—Tid-Bits.

Fair Exchange

Dora—"And so you quarreled?"

Lallie—"Yes, and I returned all his presents, and what do you think he did?"

Dora—Something horrid, I'm sure.

Lallie—He sent me half a dozen boxes of face powder with a note explaining that he thought he had taken as much as that home on his coat since he first met me."



The Connoisseurs

Two farmers, attired in corduroys and gaiters, were strolling through a picture gallery, where they looked, and apparently felt, decidedly out of place. But at last they brought up before a picture which really seemed to please them—a portrait of a lovely girl with a particularly ugly bulldog.

"This is something nice, Dick," said one.

"What is it called?"

Dick referred to the catalogue.

"Beauty and the Beast," he said.

The other man looked closer at the bulldog.

"Ah!" he sighed, appreciatively, "he is a beauty, too!"

When the Ranch Sailed

The following story is told about Col. D. C. Collier:

While riding along a mountain road in San Diego, Cal., Col. Collier came upon a dilapidated corral fence upon which hung a sign bearing the following announcement: "For Sail." A bright looking small boy sat on the fence beside the sign and Col. Collier asked him: "When does this ranch sail?"



The small boy glanced up quickly at Col. Collier, smiled and said: "When some sucker comes along who can raise the wind." Col. Collier doffed his sombrero, thanked the lad for his information and rode on his way feeling greatly enlightened, for he understood that "raising the wind" meant raising money.

A Modern Linguist

The class in English was being taught the intricacies of forming adjectives from nouns by the addition of -ous. Examples were given such as hazardous from hazard, meaning full of hazard; contemptuous, full of contempt; venturous, full of venture, etc. Then the class was asked to give examples of their own.

"I have one, sir," piped up little Reginald.

"What is it?" asked the teacher.

"Pious, full of pie," beamed the scholar.—P. R. Hayward.

Safety First

"It would please me very much, Miss Stout," said Mr. Mugley, "if you would go to the theater with me this evening."



"Have you secured the seats?" inquired Miss Vera Stout.

"Oh, come now," he protested, "you're not so heavy as all that."

In Need

For three successive nights Newpop had walked the floor with the baby. On the fourth night he became desperate and bought a bottle of soothing syrup.

"Why, James," exclained his wife, when she saw the bottle, "what did you buy that for? Don't you know it is very dangerous to give to a child anything like that?"

"Don't worry," was her husband's reply. "I'm going to take it myself."—Wisconsin State Journal.

Lucky

"My cousin is to be married on the thirteenth of next month."



"On the thirteenth? I should think she would be afraid of such an unlucky date."

"Evidently you have never seen my cousin. Any day would be a lucky day for her to get married."

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

Just Photographed:—The cowboy of the wild west, riding "Sharkey" the famous bucking Bull. Send 10c for this real photograph. Echo Photo Co., Echo, Miun.

FOR SALE MISCELLANEOUS

Pony Carts, Sleighs, Harness. Send 4c for catalog of 42 styles at Factory to User prices. Wal-Rite Co., Saint Paris, O.

AUTOMOBILE TIRES

Ford Owners—complete set nonskid 3500-mile tires, prepaid to you, $27.95 or write for description. J. A. Duckett, Merkel, Tex.

PHOTO FINISHING

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

SCHOOLS

Telegraphy—Wire & Wireless & Station Agency Taught. Largest School. Catalog Free. Dodge's Institute, L St., Valparaiso, Ind.

CALLING CARDS

Special Offer. 25 Calling Cards, 25 Address Cards, 10 Friendship Cards, 20 cents. Automatic Printing Co., Gardner, Mass.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentabilty. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1916 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel, 232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Three books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg., Wash., D. C.

ENTERTAINMENTS

Plays Speakers, dialogues and entertainments; catalogues free. Address Dept. A, Ames Pub. Co., Clyde, O.

LAME PEOPLE

The Perfection Extension Shoe for any person with one short limb. No more unsightly cork soles, irons, etc., needed. Worn with ready-made shoes. Shipped on trial. Write for booklet. Henry J. Lotz, 313 Third Ave., New York.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$35.00 Profit Nightly. Small Capital Starts You. No experience needed. We teach you the business, Catalog free. Atlas Moving Picture Co., 407 Franklin Bldg., Chicago.

$20 to $50 nightly Complete outfit, machine, Film, Everything furnished on Payment Plan. Catalog free. Moving Picture Sales Co., Dept. CC, 540 Plymouth Place, Chicago.

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Write Photoplays, Short Stories, Poems: $100 each. No correspondence course. Details free. Atlas Pub. Co., 326, Cincinnati, O.

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

Write Photoplays! $75 each. Send for free booklet "How to Write Moving Picture Plays." Universal Pub. Co., 315 Fergus Falls, Minn.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct Free—sell on Commission. Big Rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31, Auburn, N. Y.

See Here! We want your ideas for photoplays and stories! Accepted in any form, and criticised Free. Sold on commission. Write Now! Ms. Sales Co., Dept. E., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Overland

TRADE MARK REG.

So *much* more for the money

This car sells itself to anyone who starts out to get the most for his money in a good, big, roomy, five passenger car.

Comparison proves a plain case to anyone who cares to know.

You don't have to be an expert or have any special knowledge to determine the big extra value you get in this car.

Its advantages stand out so boldly that they cannot be overlooked in a comparison with any car selling for $795—or for a great deal more.

You get more power—35 horsepower motor—more than 250,000 in use.

You get more room—112-inch wheelbase.

You get greater comfort—long, 48-inch cantilever rear springs and 4-inch tires.

You get greater convenience—electrical control buttons on steering column.

You get bigger, safer brakes—service, 13⅜ x 2¼; emergency, 13 x 2¼.

You get better cooling—you never heard of an Overland overheating.

This is the biggest and best car we have ever been able to sell until now for less than $1000.

In fact it's a thousand dollar car which the economies of our enormously increased production enable us to sell for $795.

If you want the most for your money in a big comfortable, roomy, five passenger car of long proven mechanical superiority—here it is—no argument possible—you can determine the facts for yourself.

And back of the car is the largest and most successful automobile concern in the world that produces cars of this size and class.

And back of it also are the best established, most successful automobile dealers to be found.

You can't beat such a combination—a car that everyone knows is 100% right mechanically—a car that is priced so low that extra value sticks out all over it—a big, strong thoroughly established concern back of the car and a successful enterprising local dealer to do business with.

See the Overland dealer in your nearest town—he will gladly show you the car — demonstrate it, give you a prompt delivery—and render prompt, efficient service as long as you own it.

Now is the time to buy—when you've time to enjoy your car and lots of good driving weather.

And when things freeze up, put on your curtains and go anywhere comfortably in any kind of weather all winter long.

Same model, six cylinder—35-40 horse power—116-inch wheelbase, $925.

Catalogue on request. Please address Dept. ***852***

The Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio

"Made in U. S. A."

$795

Model 85-4 f. o. b Toledo

NEW YEAR NUMBER

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

Vol. XXIX

JANUARY 1917

No. 3



"Happy New Year" he read bitterly

Temptation beckoned

Gray helped the man up the steps

"Don't move or you'll get this"

New Year resolutions we'll be good friends, shake!

A New Year Eve Adventure

See Story Page 3

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Copyright 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 8

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

If Food Prices Are High, How About Everyday Shoes Going to $12 a Pair?

So much noise is being made by those who are clamoring vociferously for an embargo to stop the exportation of food stuffs that attention is diverted from the rapidly diminishing supply of another article of necessary utility which now threatens a degree of scarcity that would cause more inconvenience and distress than the prevailing high food prices.,

The prices of shoes have nearly doubled within the last few months and they are being marked up each week; not only that but in many instances they are being made of inferior material. It is certain that they will go higher and, unless some vigorous preventive measures are taken at once, will very soon reach a figure that is prohibitive to the family of average income.

The cause is found in the scarcity of leather due to the extraordinary demand of Europe for war purposes having overtaxed the leather resources of the world. Many of our shoe factories have been running overtime to fill profitable war orders while foreign governments have been and still are buying up enormous quantities of leather in this country for military purposes. The supply is nearly exhausted and what little remains is mostly in the hands of speculators. The shoe manufacturers are alarmed at the shortage. They assert that the present supply will not last them over four months at the most and that, unless something is done immediately to relieve the situation, they will soon have to run with half crews although they have orders enough to keep their factories busy night and day if they could get the necessary leather.

They predict that, if the present condition continues, medium grade shoes will be twelve dollars a pair before spring and other grades in proportion, which means, of course, that many families would have to go barefooted,---even at that price there would not be shoes enough to supply domestic requirements. Besides the suffering caused by the high prices and shortage of shoes nearly one half the hands now employed in the shoe factories will be thrown out of employment, a calamity which high food prices are not likely to entail.

The shoe manufacturers and, at their instigation, the retailers have petitioned Congress for an investigation of the leather situation and for some means of relief. Just what means would be effective they fail to make clear, but Congressman Michael P. Phelan, of Massachusetts, to whom they have appealed, has promised his best efforts to stir Congress to take action. Let us hope that some adequate measure may be devised to mitigate this burden of inconvenience and expense which threatens the people.

The shoe and leather situation is one of many forceful illustrations arising out of present war conditions that might be cited to show the injustice of singling out farm products as the subject of embargo while permitting free exportation of all other commodities with consequent war prices. Whether the government has the power to impose an embargo for the sole purpose of reducing the open market price of an article is doubted. But if there is to be an embargo let it cover everything that is above normal price in consequence of the war. That would be only fair, but it would never go because every fellow that is shouting for an embargo wants it on the other fellow's products—NOT on his own.

The Temperance Cause Gaining Ground

TO those who are sincerely interested in the uplift of humanity it is encouraging to note the growing sentiment in favor of total abstinence from the use, and against permitting the sale of intoxicating liquors. On the first day of last November Virginia, the latest accession to the splendid array of prohibition states, put into successful operation the most drastic law yet devised for the suppression of the liquor evil. Evidently the Old Dominion is in earnest in her purpose to banish intemperance for she has not only abolished the manufacture and sale of liquor within her borders but does not permit anybody to bring into the State, even for personal use, more than one gallon of wine or distilled liquor or three gallons of beer at a time, and that not oftener than once a month.

And this law is being enforced with satisfactory results, for the people of Virginia are in no mood to be trifled with as those of certain other prohibition states have been by negligent or corrupt nullification at the hands of local officers. The Virginia statute provides a speedy means of removing any official that neglects to perform his duty faithfully with respect to the suppression of the liquor traffic.

Bells chimed and bonfires blazed in token of public rejoicing on the last night in October when eight hundred saloons, bars and poison shops in Richmond, Norfolk, Lynchburg, Petersburg and Newport News closed their doors never to open for pandering to vice through commerce in the great destroyer of men.

Nineteen states now absolutely prohibit the sale of liquor, and the increase in the area of dry territory in the local option states during the past year indicates that many of the latter will soon adopt state-wide prohibition. All this has given such an impetus to the movement for nation-wide prohibition that the Anti-Saloon League predicts that the year 1920 will witness the closing of the last saloon in the United States. A bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of liquor in the District of Columbia is being debated in Congress with fair prospects of its adoption at the present session.

It is a national disgrace that our government licenses the sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico, all territories over which Congress has complete power. Congress has always taken pains to prohibit and severely punish the sale of intoxicants among the Indian tribes. Can't our lawmakers see that what is essential for the uplift of the red men is equally necessary for the regeneration of the multitude of white men and negroes that are making besotted wrecks of themselves, causing inexpressible anguish to their families and inestimable injury to the community? It is no credit to us that we make a better law for the Indians, whom we govern without their consent, than we do for ourselves, for our action is based on our false conceit that we, as a race, have strength of mind and will to use the seductive stuff without danger of falling victims to its destructive influence. The drink habit is not confined to men of low intellect and untutored mind. Do you know of a community however small that does not present a lamentable example of a man of uncommon ability ruined by alcoholism? But as a people we are awakening to the necessity of invoking the strong arm of the federal government to extinguish throughout the length and breadth of the land this menace that is no respecter of race, color or station in life.

Giving Away the People's Birthright

THE habit, to which Congress and our state legislatures are prone, of leaving the stable unlocked until after the horse is stolen—not one only but horse after horse and of even giving the thieves a helping hand should be severely rebuked and summarily ended forever. If it was their own property we would not care, but it is the people's birthright of which the lawmakers are so negligent and prodigal.

The numerous state and federal prosecutions and investigations of the trusts—notably of the coal and oil interests—have not afforded the people any relief but have loaded them with the expense of these fruitless proceedings designed to appease their wrath. If our legislators had not in times past given away the natural resources of the country and permitted them to come under the power of private monopoly, we should have no coal and oil troubles to deal with because the sources of supply would have remained subject to governmental control. Only a few years ago the immensely valuable coal lands of Alaska were barely rescued from the maw of a capitalistic octopus when, at the last moment, public exposure of the fraud compelled official action to thwart the scheme.

While the government is investigating the evils resulting from the concentration of ownership of our natural resources in the hands of a few individuals and corporations, and is considering recommendations for government ownership of certain public utilities, Congress is facing the other way by proposing to give away, practically free, some of the most valuable natural resources that still pertain to the public domain.

The Senate has passed the Shields waterpower bill which, according to the published statement by Gifford Pinchot, President of the National Conservation Association, makes a free gift, to the waterpower interests, of public waterpowers on our navigable streams estimated at sixty million horsepower, or double the power of every kind now used to run every train, trolley, factory, shop, mill, boat, mine and electric plant in the United States. This bill has passed the House, but in a different and better form. It is now in Committee of Conference to determine the form which shall finally be adopted, and it is claimed that the waterpower interests expect to control the action of the Conference. This raid on the public property failed at the previous session because the editors of the country rallied to the defense of the public rights, and the bill was postponed until after election.

The Myers bill, now on the Senate calendar for early consideration at the present session, does for the waterpowers on the public lands what the Shields bill does on navigable streams.

These two bills are bad enough, but the oil lands provisions of the Phelan bill, now before Congress, are even worse. Mr. Pinchot says: "This bill disposes of vast areas of public oil lands on terms unfair to the public. It is almost unbelievable, but this measure actually gives away the fuel oil reserves of the United States Navy to claimants whom the Supreme Court recently declared to have no legal rights whatever. The efficiency of the Navy, our first and most important line of National defense, is to be sacrificed for the profits of the Standard Oil Company, the Santa Fe Railroad interests, and a few other claimants, who want what they have no right to get."

The Navy Department has entered a vigorous protest on the ground that: "Oil burning naval vessels possess such manifold military advantages over coal burning vessels that it would be practically suicidal from a military point of view for the Navy Department to abandon the policy of building oil burning ships," but the passage of the Phelan bill would probably compel the Navy Department to return to coal burning ships for want of a reliable source of oil supply.

These three iniquitous bills may yet be killed if our Senators and Congressmen hear from their constituents on this subject at once. Don't you think the government should retain ownership of its oil lands and develop its waterpowers for the benefit of the people? Now is the time for the people to raise the hue and cry, and lock the stable before these three horses are stolen.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. ***We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.*** If you do not get your magazine by the 15th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we ***must*** have your ***former*** address, as well as your ***new*** address to make the change. Be sure to send ***both.*** We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second class mail matter. **Copyright, 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.**

A New Year Eve Adventure

By Joseph F. Novak

(*See front cover illustration*)

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

SHUDDERING with the cold as an icy blast of wind swooped down upon him, John Gray thrust his hands deeper into his pockets, drew his head into his collar in the manner of a tortoise, and shrinking into himself as if to expose as little of his bulk to the wind as possible, he trudged on.

It was snowing, a blinding, wet, sleety downpour, which covered street and sidewalk with ankle-deep, whitening slush, and frosted the tall buildings whose high tops seemed to vanish into the night.

Gray loitered along; it was late and near to the close of the Old Year. The inclement weather kept the city streets well vacated, and those who celebrated the New Year Wassail were cozily ensconced in warm, bright-lighted cafes.

Gray felt himself an outcast, and indeed he had been for sometime, having been only that day released from the "cooler," convict parlance for the jail. But his record there had been a good one, and he had had the usual time deducted for good behavior. This incarceration had been his first, but he had deserved it and he knew it. It had come about through a drunken brawl.

He passed a gaily lighted *rathskeller*, which held forth a welcome. Almost unconsciously, he passed the back of his hand over his lips, and hesitated. But only for a moment, for somehow, the thought of the sermon he had heard in jail on Christmas Day, the week before, came back to him, and with it, the resolution he had made to hit the straight trail when he was freed. Tomorrow would see the birth of the New Year, this eve was that appointed for the death of the old, and with it, he hoped, of his old life. Tomorrow a New Year would arise, like a Phœnix from the ashes of the old, he too wished that he might rise, a new man, endued with new life and new respect.

But his good resolution weakened as he saw the resorts of the wealthy, where money flowed for vanities and nonsense. What a little of it would be required to put him on his feet.

He wandered on, passing more brilliantly lighted cafes, hotels and clubs. In the windows hung withered holly framing wishes for a Happy New Year.

"Happy New Year," he read bitterly, "much of a Happy New Year it is for one who is cold and miserable and hungry and just out of the cooler."

And now suddenly, through the shrieking wind, church bells clanged out and factory whistles screamed, proclaiming the arrival of the New Year. In spite of himself, Gray's pulses quickened. Perhaps he was too easily discouraged; one couldn't always expect to find a job within twelve hours of their release from jail. Besides he was cold and tired; possibly the best thing to do would be to go to his "five-cent flop," and perhaps the morrow would bring forth better luck. Yes, that would be the best plan—sleep and rest for the time being, and trust in the message of the clanging heralds of the New Year.

He had walked a considerable distance from the business section of the city, and now trudged along a boulevard whereon faced fashionable hotels, clubs and restaurants. The street was almost deserted, but the gaily lighted windows, and at the curb the congregated motors, told of the merry-making within.

Gray turned about to return to the business section wherein was located the "flop," and started to walk at a brisk pace, but as he was crossing an alley, he happened to notice what seemed a human form, crunched in a heap. The alley was dark and forbidding, but to a man who is down and out, there is no danger in darkness, and so Gray went to investigate.

He reached the prostrate form and found it to be a man indeed. He was lying on his side, his eyes closed. He was clad in an opera coat and dress suit, and his white shirt front was nicely splashed with sleet and mud.

"Drunk, I suppose," Gray communed with himself. "One of those little sons of the rich, evidently. But still, he can't lie here. I guess I'd better call the police."

He felt the man's pulse, thinking he might be frozen. But he was still warm. Then with a hasty glance around, to assure himself that no one observed him, Gray felt into the man's pocket. His hand encountered what seemed to be a well-filled purse. Then he went to the man's vest and saw he wore a watch and chain with a heavily jeweled charm.

Temptation beckoned.

"No," Gray fought with the tempter, "no, I won't take it, though it's no more than this 'soak' deserves."

A sudden thought came to him.

"Suppose I bring him safely home? When he found his valuables safe, he'd probably believe in my sincerity in wishing to hit the straight trail, and maybe he'd help to get me a job of some kind. A fellow like this probably could. I believe I'll do it."

He took out the purse and from it a calling card. Then gathering the inert form in his arms, he brought the man to his feet, and with his arm about his shoulder, Gray half carried, half walked him down the alley to a bleary light, in the flare of which, he read the name and address on the card he had taken from the man's purse.

"Marvin Lyford, 4225 Drive Boulevard."

"Went down the last minute on his way home," thought Gray, for the address on Drive Boulevard was but a few blocks distant.

Avoiding the streets wherever possible, Gray bore his burden along. Once he encountered a pedestrian, but this individual evidently decided that Gray was the chosen pilot for the gentleman with two sheets in the wind, and so said nothing.

The address on Drive Boulevard was an ultra-fashionable looking old residence, with broad, snow-covered lawns, unbroken by a single step.

Gray helped the man up the steps and rang the bell, but though he rang several times, there came no answer. Even the servants, it seemed, were away.

Gray was undecided as to what to do now, but finally chanced searching the man for his keys. These he found, and one of them opened the door.

It was an odd sensation, this breaking into a house, but Gray now felt himself under the instructions of the man he brought home, so he closed the door, found the electric switch and turned on the light, then looked around.

The light, softly shaded, revealed a rich reception room, with rich hangings to the left which suggested an entrance to luxuriously furnished drawing-rooms beyond. To the right was a massive staircase leading to rooms above. Up this stair, Gray carried his charge and sat him in a hall seat while he examined the rooms which opened on to the corridor, until he came to one which he decided might belong to Mr. Lyford. So he left it lit up and went out into the hall and brought the man into the room and laid him on the bed.

But now he observed something that caused him to smother an involuntary oath and the next minute to investigate. The fellow was bleeding! He leaned close to the prostrate man's face. That breath was not that of a drunkard. The man was hurt. Had he been assaulted? And if he had, how came it that his assailants had not robbed him?

Feeling that he might just as well go the limit now that he had gone so far, Gray quickly undressed the unconscious man and found that he had been *shot!*

Why?

He stepped to the connecting bathroom and turned on the water. He found it at a boiling point, it being kept so by the automatic gas-heater. He filled a basin with the water and picking up several towels, he washed, and then roughly dressed the wound, and this finished, he bethought himself of his next step.

He must call a doctor. But who? Most people had their own family doctor—ah, possibly this very necessary person's 'phone number might be on a slip with the fire and police call which most people kept handy for emergency tacked up beside the 'phone. He would see.

So Gray went down-stairs and prowled around until he came to the 'phone in the high-ceiled somber library, and luckily he found a 'phone index, and on it the name of "Dr. Stone" whom, he concluded, was the family doctor and the one to be summoned.

He picked up the receiver and called the doctor.

After a time, he got a connection, and a sleepy voice answered that the doctor could be reached at the Century Club if the call was urgent. And the number of the club was given.

Gray thanked the sleepy voice, and when the line was free again, he called the Century Club.

"Dr. Stone, please, I must talk to him. An urgent case."

For some moments he sat rigid at the 'phone. Then a voice answered.

"Hello," Gray shouted into the transmitter. "Dr. Stone? I am calling from the Lyford residence. Marvin Lyford has been shot and your services are required. I don't know how serious the matter is."

Odd that a doctor should be so astounded at the news. But there was no doubt that he had been, for he had smothered an exclamation. Was it of horror, surprise or amazement? Gray, listening, could not determine. Odd too, that a doctor should stammer over the matter.

"Am I sure this is the Lyford residence at 4225 Drive Boulevard? Of course.....Do hurry, I'm afraid the man has lost a great deal of blood," said Gray. Still the doctor at the other end of the wire seemed to hesitate.

"Which Lyford is it? I don't know. Marvin is the name, a man who appears to be about thirty-five years old. Who am I? Oh, don't argue, just come. You don't know me, you've never seen me before.....Well, if you don't come, I shall call someone else.....Oh, you will? Very well, then. I'll wait for you. In fifteen minutes? Good, the sooner the better. Thank you. Good by."

"Fool," growled Gray. "You'd think rich little boys can try adventurous stunts and always come away with a whole skin. Well, I hope that 'quack' hurries."

He sat down to await the coming of the doctor, and while waiting, he studied the unconscious man's face. It was not a prepossessing face. It was in a way, handsome, but not the kind of handsomeness that suggests good nature or benevolence. Rather it was of a hard, sneering sort, and altogether disagreeable when closely observed. It was made further disagreeable in appearance by a peculiar little break in the lip, much as if the man had had his mouth "smashed" at one time. But evidently he was a gentleman and debonair, for his garments, both outer and under were of most expensive material.

Gray decided that he had probably had his trouble for nothing, but he would see, nevertheless.

A little gold clock on a table nearby slowly ticked off the minutes, and after ten of them had gone, the bell rang.

The doctor, of course, so Gray hurried down the stairs and opened the door.

Two men stood on the threshhold, one with a small case in his hand, the doctor, and another man, seemingly about twenty-five years of age. He was a nice-featured, boyish young man, with a healthy glow in his cheeks and his lustrous eyes seemed unduly excited.

"My assistant," said Doctor Stone, as Gray eyed the young man. "Where is Lyford?"

"Up-stairs, and you'd better hurry. I didn't know he had been——"

Gray got no further, for the "assistant" had slowly circled behind him. The next minute, a strong, healthy young arm came about his throat, and an uncomfortable looking revolver was thrust into his face.

"Don't move, or you'll get this!" the young man threatened. Then turning to the doctor, he said: "Better tie him up, and I'll watch the stairway for any others."

"But I say!" exclaimed the bewildered Gray, "what's the matter with you? What do you think I am? Let me explain, won't you?"

"Shut up," answered the doctor pleasantly. "You'll have plenty of time for explanations. How many more of you are there in the house?"

"Why, look here! Man alive! What do you think——" persisted Gray, though he made no effort to loose himself from his bonds. "There's no one else in the house, and as for me, well I simply piloted Lyford home, that's all."

"Oh, you did, did you?" said the doctor, pleasantly sarcastic. "You certainly have the brass, though. But you're balled up on your game. Careful, boy," he cautioned to the young man, who, having lighted the rooms down-stairs, now started up the staircase.

Suddenly from above, there came a wild yell of laughter, and the voice of the young man, saying:

"Good Lord, doctor, are we dreaming? What kind of 'con' game is this? Bring that fellow up here!"

Gray was marched up the stairs and ushered into the room where he had lately left his charge. The fellow was still lying on the bed just as he had left him, and the young man and the doctor looked at each other and roared, but there was a note of grimness in their mirth, nevertheless.

"Patch him up, Stone, and I'll call the police," said the young fellow. "Some turn things have taken! It seems to be our inning now."

The doctor gave his attention to the man on the bed, while the young fellow gave his attention to Gray.

"Do you know who that fellow is?" demanded the young fellow. He was a nice young chap, and seemed incapable of the melodramatic actions he had indulged a short time before.

"I don't know him," Gray returned. "But from his cards and the name on his purse, I suppose he is Marvin Lyford."

"Where is the purse?" questioned the young fellow.

"In the drawer of that dresser, together with Lyford's watch and keys."

The young man went to the drawer, opened it and seemed amazed. He quickly scanned the contents of the purse and seemed satisfied.

He turned about, and Gray felt the keen eyes search his face. The face that was scanned was not bad, nor vicious. It was worn and thin, but not sneaking nor dishonest, only a little weak, the face of a man who had struggled with life, had tried to taste of its gaieties and in an evil moment had lost.

Gray felt the inventory of his face, of his thin, worn suit, poor shoes and old linen. And too he felt kindness and sympathy come into the eyes that "sized him up."

At length the young fellow spoke.

"Tell me all about it."

And Gray did. Told of having been released from jail in the afternoon of New Year's Eve, of his resolution to go straight, of his inability to find a job, and of his hope that the next day would bring something and of his decision to go to a lodging house and sleep, when he noted an inert figure, well dressed, lying in an alley.

"I thought he had two sheets in the wind, and that he fell down, dead drunk. I knew the simplest way out of the matter would be to call the police, but when I saw the expensive watch, and felt the big roll, I thought I'd bring him home, and then, when he was out of his cups, I'd tell him what I had done. You see my interest was selfish. But anyhow, I thought this way he'd see that I wanted to be honest and would give me a hand, for it would have been easy for me to pick his pocket and steal his watch. But instead, I picked him up and half-carried, half-walked him home, and then when I brought him here, I saw that he was bleeding. I looked for the 'phone and found Dr. Stone's number and supposing he was Lyford's family doctor, I called him. And—well, I guess I needn't go on," and Gray smiled faintly, his smile keeping company with the one dancing about the young man's lips.

"You've told your story, my man, now let me tell you mine. I am a member of the Century Club, a club wherein we are all equals. We don't consider it necessary to put our things under lock and key. Well, a gentleman with high references visited us, and he was welcomed heartily. During the evening someone suggested a game of bowling and we went down to the bowling alley with this gentleman of high repute, Mr. St. Claire Lee of New York and Richmond.

"We took off our coats and vests and started in to bowl, when Mr. Lee begged to be excused. He was detected in the act of vanishing without bidding us farewell, and almost simultaneously, I noticed that my dress-coat was missing, and it contained my purse in which I had nearly a thousand dollars, to say nothing of my watch, chain and charm worth probably fifteen hundred. Mr. Lee was making an exit in an unconventional manner when he was called to halt, and not obeying instructions, he was plugged. He ran and we followed. But not being detectives, we didn't know he'd shelter himself in the building where he was most wanted, and of course we didn't look for him under our noses. From your story, I think you found this man in an alley alongside the Century Club. I happen to be Marvin Lyford and the gentleman on the bed is our illustrious guest, Mr. St. Claire Lee of New York and Richmond, but more appropriately known as 'Lightning Change Larry' of Sing Sing. You have apprehended a slick crook, my man, and that's an accomplishment. Allow me to congratulate you," and he held out his hand.

Gray, astounded, nevertheless took the proffered hand. It was warm and boyish and thrilled with life and health.

"Now tell me your name, and what you did before you spent some time—er, of enforced seclusion as a guest of the county," Lyford went on mischievously.

"John Gray's my name, and I was a chauffeur," Gray replied, hoping he could get a similar job.

"Guess I can fix you up on that," commented Lyford. "Now, you'd better be my guest for tonight, for I don't want you to go back to the retreat of tramps and hoboes. That's beneath the dignity of a sleuth when he's not on the job. How's that fellow?" Lyford suddenly interpolated, turning to the doctor.

"He's popped pretty badly and may be done for," returned the doctor. "You'd better hurry that police call."

Lyford went down to the telephone, and after a wait of some time, an ambulance came and very quietly the wounded crook was carried to the ambulance and then to the hospital of the jail. His injury proved fatal a few days later.

After the man was taken away, Dr. Stone bade the young men good night, apologizing to Gray for their rough treatment, and left. Gray was alone with his new-found friend.

"I'll try and rouse up the servants and see if we can't have something to eat," Lyford now said, "and in the meantime, you'd better take a bath."

Gray accepted gratefully, and when he had finished, he clad himself in a suit of Lyford's pajamas, which though rather short (for Gray was much taller than Lyford) did very well. Then he put on the bath-robe and stepped into the bedroom.

Lyford likewise had disrobed and now lounged in comfortable negligee. The butler had been roused up and had managed to get together a light lunch that tasted good to Gray after his rather strenuous night.

The lunch finished, the two men chatted a while, then Lyford suggested bed, at the same time giving Gray the big comfortable davenport on which to sleep for the butler had placed soft pillows and heavy blankets upon it.

Lyford soon fell asleep, but Gray, though comfortable beyond dreams, laid awake thoughtfully, wondering if it were not all a dream. When morning came, it found him still in his reverie.

Presently Lyford awoke, and calling out a cheery good morning, he got up and threw his bath-robe about him.

"I'm playing bachelor," he said, "for the rest of the family are everywhere, I guess" (meaning that the various members of the family were in various places as guests). He threw back the heavy window hanging, and ran up the shade. The snow was still falling, but it fell less tempestuously. The world gleamed in wondrous purity.

"New Year's Day," Lyford said, "a clean, white, spotless day. A good time for us to make New Year resolutions, one of which will be that we'll be good friends. Shake!"

They did, the man of wealth and leisure and the outcast who had been reclaimed.

Put upon his mettle, Gray made good, as the passing of the days showed.

A CALENDAR PARTY

by Elizabeth C. Read



Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

AN informal Holiday Party which comes after the stress of Christmas "preparedness," is a welcome diversion, and should reflect the gayety of the season. The house, already in holiday attire, is a point gained, so that one's entire attention may be directed toward other features.

A calendar party suggests itself as appropriate, and it may be elaborate or simple as individual taste prescribes; but, however simple, it is of necessity picturesque because of the variety and color which are introduced.

Invitations, suggestive of the season, request each guest to represent a certain month of the year, or one of the four seasons—in any way, of course, which the ingenuity of the guest dictates.

The months are easily differentiated by several distinguishing characteristics, such as holiday events, weather conditions, sports peculiar to them, etc.; and as practically every month admits of double treatment, the hostess is enabled to extend her guest list by repeating the month without monotony. For instance, January has the New Year, and mid-winter sports; February, Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays, and St. Valentine's; March, St. Patrick's day, and the "lion" and "lamb" weather; next comes April Fool's day, showers, and the opening of the baseball season; May brings May day, moving day, and spring flowers; June, roses, Flag day, and commencement; July suggests Uncle Sam, Columbia, and Fourth of July symbols; August, Emancipation day, and the end of summer; then come Labor Day and Columbus day for September and October, respectively, also hints of autumn; November gives us Thanksgiving and Election day; then Christmas, and the end of the year for December. Discernment on the part of the hostess, in designating who shall represent what, will add much to the interest of the occasion.

Entertainment features should carry out the general idea of the party, an element of contest adding zest, and furnishing the excuse for prizes or suitable souvenirs. Thus, a calendar game: Small envelopes, each containing a card bearing the name of a different month, are drawn by, or distributed at random, among the guests. The letters composing the names of the month are to be used, in sequence, as the initial letters of words will combine into a telegram, or an epigram; or, for a New Year party, into a "toast" or a "resolution." Example: Epigrams for *M*arch-*M*alice *A*nd *R*evenge *C*onfound *H*appiness. *M*aid *A*nd *R*omance *C*onnote *H*appiness. Toast for May, Here's to "*Me* And You."

This done, each guest replaces the card in the envelope, upon which he writes his name; the envelopes are then exchanged, and the contents are read aloud without revealing the names of the writers—a vote being taken to decide upon the prize winner. The one requirement in judging these compositions is that they make good sense, though some latitude (such as *p*hunetic spelling) might be allowed in working in difficult initials; or, if toasts or resolutions are chosen as a subject, the words "Here's to" or "I resolve," would be understood.

Other calendar suggestions, to furnish amusement, follow:

(1.) A Calendar Marathon, or a tight-rope race is represented by extending a narrow white or red ribbon across the floor, changing its direction at four points, significant of the seasons, but in reality, to make the race a little more difficult. Each guest is asked to walk the rope, from season to season, by looking at his feet through the reverse end of opera glasses; this gives one a sense of elevation, which affects the equilibrium, and it is highly amusing. Prizes may be awarded either for time or distance, as they may not all reach the end of the year.

(2). Twelve lighted candles, suggestive of the months of the year, are placed on the floor at intervals convenient for walking in and out between each two of them. The guests, in turn, are blindfolded and asked to walk through the line of candles without touching them—the real amusement centering in the first and last candidates, who should be wisely chosen as to temperament, etc. A woman of conspicuous dignity is chosen first, and as she threads her way between the candles, she is kindly admonished against the flame catching her skirts; but when the blindfold is removed, she finds that the candles were "snuffed" before she began her tortuous way. The intermediate candidates, who care to participate, merely avoid, if possible, touching the candles. The last one, however, is the "smart" man who is always "getting one" on the other fellow, and as he cautiously maneuvers, he is constantly warned to look out for May, July, or September; but, at last, proud of his success, the handkerchief is taken from his eyes to disclose the fact that all of the candles had been removed after he was blindfolded. A paper fool's cap is a suitable reward for his skill.

A date game, requiring a little thought, may also be introduced. Cards, or slips of paper (corresponding to number of guests) bear the heading "Discoveries and Inventions;" below is a list of dates, at the right of which is the corresponding discovery or invention written with the letters transposed.

Example: 1875 plentoehe. (Inv.) Answer, Telephone.

Interest is increased if the dates cover a wide range in time and subject; for instance, from the invention of printing—the discovery of the Hudson river or Anaesthesia, to present day utilities, such as the automobile, aeroplane, wireless, etc. An element of humor may be injected by including political issues.

Example: 1912, louMseloB. (Inv. -paent repudiated). Ans. Bull Moose. "Watchful waiting," preparedness, hyphenism, may be similarly used.

Big Washington, Lincoln and Valentine Number

coming in February, will be large in size and great in interest, with more good stories and instructive and entertaining reading matter than has appeared in any one issue for a year. Have a good laugh over the illustrated Lincoln jokes, learn how to make your own valentines, how to get up a Valentine Luncheon and a Washington-Lincoln Birthday Party and how to make the special cakes, sweets and all the other fixings for them.

Make Sure by Renewing Your Subscription Today

Nerine's Second Choice



Stooping over her sister she stirred the fire into a blaze.



As they vanished in the chilly passage, the bell, with one final reverberation, stopped.



Kit pushed Maurice's eager hands and smooth cool face away angrily—ungratefully.

By Adelaide Stirling

Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith. Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

THE January evening had darkened down early in fine showers of rain and sleet. A damp, cutting draught came in at the window seat just where Nerine Lispenard knelt where she had knelt in spite of it for the past twenty minutes, her face pressed against the cold window pane.

Before her the garden lay dark, wintry, sodden; just down by the gate were dimly to be seen through the sleet the lamps of a small brougham, waiting there as it had waited, Nerine thought, for centuries.

As she made this reflection for the tenth time the lights, with a jerk and a plunge, vanished.

There was nothing now to see but the gloom, yet the girl still stared uncertainly out through the glass, all blurred by her breath.

Had those lamps really gone—gone to the station—or had they merely been sent back to the stable?

The door of the room behind her opened quickly, and there came in two girls, one as tall as Nerine herself, the other a tiny creature, but both laughing like two elves.

"Gone! gone! gone!" cried the foremost. "But oh, my heart was in my mouth!"

"He passed me on the very doorstep!" The little girl was a mere bundle of wraps and furs as she came into the firelight. "If the sleet had not been driving into his august countenance he must have seen me."

"No!" cried Nerine, joyfully. She leaped forward and made a dive at the speaker. "You dear Kit, how did you ever get here?"

"I walked," said Miss Belton, sedately. "From the station, that is. Something told me he might have missed his train, so that I did not engage the wheels of a chariot. My boxes repose in the waiting-room in consequence."

"He missed two trains," observed the tall girl, who was Miss Lispenard the elder, as she sat down on the hearth rug and spread out two chilled hands to the fire. "And he was on the point of countermanding the carriage this last time, till I thought despair would have killed me."

There was no note of laughter in her voice; her tragic gesture was perfectly serious and equally serious her sister's response.

"Thank heaven! For one blessed month we are rid of him."

"Is he any—worse—then?" inquired Miss Belton, taking off her outer garments and casting them on the floor.

Nerine looked at her.

"Worse? Not even he could be worse and remain human. My dearest Kit, this is a frightful place you have come to; you will hardly have the comforts of life." Stooping over her sister, she stirred the fire into a blaze that lighted up the bare old room. "You shall hear the worst," she said. "Never say that we did not prepare you for three weeks of bread and scrape."

Agatha Lispenard, Nerine's elder by five minutes, looked up judicially.

"Don't frighten her," she said. "She will go home tomorrow if she thinks we are as poor as all that."

Kitty Belton put a quick hand on Agatha's shoulder.

"Agatha," she cried, "you forget. You said"—reproachfully—"that if I came we would do like men who keep bachelor's hall, pay share and share alike."

"I may have said it"—dryly—"but I didn't mean it. You know, Kit, that Nerine and I have always enough for you."

"Very well." Miss Belton got up and picked her wet hat off the floor. "But if I am not to share expenses I am going to catch the six-thirty train back to Belton."

"You will catch nothing like it!" exclaimed Nerine.

"Unless Agatha keeps her promise," pinning on her hat. "I mean it. I am angry—furious!"

"Oh, pay it all, if you like!" Agatha said, crossly, "so long as you stay. We can't spend a fortune, even with the most riotous living. Only think," she went on, her lovely face flushing, "he has dismissed all the servants but the kitchen maid, and the horses are to go out for exercise only, no matter how much we want them. Are you prepared, Kit, to make your own bed of a morning?"

"And to lie on it at night," said Kit, discarding her hat once more. "Is that all he's done? I thought he had probably left out just so much groceries and provisions, and had sent written orders to the grocer and butcher regulating your allowances."

Agatha looked at Nerine in curious silence. Kit's jest, for some reason, fell flat.

There was a brief silence, and then Kate asked:

"Now, girls—both of you—where do you think he's gone?"

"Kamtchatka!" said Nerine, idly wondering if she ought not to go and assist Jane with the evening meal.

"He went," said Agatha, deliberately, "to Monte Carlo."

"Monte Carlo?" cried Nerine. "Mr. Mayne went to——"

"Monte Carlo," with a nod of her black head. "How do I know? He gave Jones an address to which his letters were to be forwarded, and Jones lost the card. I suspect he would have been severely reproved by Mr. Mayne, for I met him standing outside the door afraid to knock. He could have let me walk on him when I produced the precious card."

"You gave it to him? How could you? The man is a reptile."

He is better than his master, even so. Fancy the old hypocrite, who says 'Cards and dancing are the vices of the century,'" and she imitated the clear-cut enunciation of a familiar voice. "He would have to get to heaven as best he might if his beloved Plymouth Brethren knew where he was going."

"I hope he'll gamble away all his money," Nerine said, earnestly. Had not all that money been ground out of her and hers, saved off their young backs, out of their hungry mouths for this past ten years? Ever since their mother had died and left them unreservedly to the tender stepfatherly care of Clarence Mayne.

"I wonder," said Kitty Belton, "how your mother came to marry him!"

"Poor little mother!" Agatha said. "She was only twenty-seven when she died, and she had lived such a pleasant, easy life all her days that she never thought there was any other sort possibl."

"Did she leave him everything?" asked Kit, more as a sign of sympathy than anything else, for she knew the Lispenard tragi-comedy by heart.

"Only till we are twenty-one," cried both sisters in a breath. "Then horses, income—everything is ours!"

Nerine stared at the fire with an unpleasant look in her gray eyes.

"And then," she remarked, slowly, "there will be short work of Clarence Mayne. Pouf! He will go like that puff of smoke there will when the fire begins to blaze."

"There are really only ten months more," said Agatha, briskly. "We are twenty now, Kit!"

"Old Mayne has made the most of the last ten years," Nerine went on, somberly. "He has saved and pinched and scraped! Kit, you should see our garments. But when you do," smiling sadly, "I don't believe you will care to walk out with us."

"But he can't save much on his own account," said Kit. "He has two horses, and he spares no expense at the club."

"He has two horses," Agatha assented, "but he can't help that. There was some clause in the will about that. He would infinitely prefer two donkeys!" laughing. "He can't ride. And when he drives in the brougham he sits always with one hand on the door."

"Don't talk about him!" Nerine cried. "There are only ten months more of his regime, and for one month of that he will be away. Kit, how did you get your people to let you come to us?"

With a deal of trouble, Miss Belton might have said truthfully. Clarence Mayne's house was not in the best of odor with the world, nor were Agatha and Nerine themselves precisely regarded with approval. Perhaps no one ever understands exactly why other people are just what they are. Sir William and Lady Belton thought that their cousin's children might have managed better, been bolder, braver than they were. Surely they need not have shut themselves up as they did till their father's old friends, beyond a yearly call, left unreturned for months, knew nothing of them. And when they were invited to Belton they need not always have sent a polite refusal!

It was with a mule's obstinacy that Kit had obtained permission to go and stay with cousins whose conduct was chiefly remarkable for eccentricity. But come she had and she passed over Nerine's question skillfully.

"Oh, I wanted to come," was all she said. "No wonder the girls had refused to go to Belton at Christmas," she thought, as the fire blazed up and she saw the woefully shabby dresses they wore. "Mamma could never be made to understand that a man who called himself a gentleman could refuse his stepdaughters gowns to wear."

Clarence Mayne's cleverness was a complete concealment of art. He was an interloper, all but an adventurer, when he married Mrs. Lispenard. But on those rare occasions when he had encountered the hostile Lispenard connections, the charm of his perfect manners had made them forget those undeniable facts. Just as the rector of St. Jude's, when he found that on the death of Mrs. Mayne church subscriptions would cease, could say nothing to Mr. Mayne's discredit when that gentleman confessed to him that belonging as he did to the strictest division of the Plymouth Brethren, his conscience could not allow of his assisting in the smallest degree in the work of the Established Church.

As for that business of Maurice Lispenard, doubtless Mr. Mayne was to be blamed. The boy who should, in the natural course of events, have gone to Eton and Oxford, had gone, in simple fact, nowhere beyond the scanty learning instilled by his sisters and picked up by his reading; he knew no more than any plowboy. But Maurice must have had low tastes and little regard for learning; perhaps, as Mr. Mayne delicately implied, he had been urged in vain to embark on the ordinary course of education, but had gone his own way, which had ended in going to Liverpool to learn to be a mechanical engineer. A Lispenard in a leather apron, toiling in a grimy, oily workshop, with hands such as the Beltons had never imagined could belong to one of good birth! Hands black, rough, ingrained with dust and oil; but in very truth capable hands, which went well with Maurice Lispenard's acute, inventive brain.

Only the boy's sisters knew exactly how he had lowered his pride to entreat his stepfather for the education which was his right. Only they knew the slighting, courtly wave of the hand with which Clarence Mayne had dismissed those appeals as one silences an importunate, spoiled child.

Only they knew that Maurice had gone off to Liverpool to work as an ordinary apprentice because he had no other way of entering any occupation at all, and dared not to live for two years more in th same house with Clarence Mayne.

Nerine breathed more freely since Maurice was gone.

Lispenard House was no place for a lad, set as it was, in a growing town, an island with its huge walled garden in the midst of populous streets. It had once been a country retreat, with a park, of which there was nothing left now but the enormous garden, in the midst of which the old house stood. But the house and garden were of great value, as Clarence Mayne well knew when he paid court to John Lispenard's widow, and it was not till he was safely married to her that he discovered how really immovable the property was tied up.

Mrs. Mayne knew nothing of such things and cared less. She was a Canadian girl, whom John Lispenard had married during that wild, adventurous life of his in the New World. He was an only son and an orphan, with but one blood relation in the world, the Lady Belton, who was Kit's mother. He had left England when he came of age, and for the rest of his life was virtually lost.

All Lady Belton ever heard of him were the presents which now and then reached her from various out-of-the-way-places; a letter or two telling of his marriage and inclosing a photograph of his wife, and then after an interval of some years a letter from his disconsolate widow, mentioning his death in a mining accident in Nova Scotia, as though Lady Belton already knew all about it. The point of the letter was in the postscript of three pages. She was going to be married to Mr. Clarence Mayne, and they and their three dear children, who would now have a second father, were coming to England to live at Lispenard House, which the writer had never yet seen. Would Lady Belton get them respectable maids who would be ready to come to them as soon as they arrived?

Arrive they did in due course. Mrs. Mayne as tall, handsome and unpractical as when John Lispenard had married her; her new husband inexpressibly unobjectionable, with manners which might have been acquired at the court of old France; small and clear cut as to features, with blue eyes which had too cold and direct a gaze for most people to meet. The three children were unmistakable Lispenards, apparently about the ages of five and four. Lady Belton thought them wonderfully well grown for their age, when, at Mrs. Mayne's sudden death about a year after her arrival in England, Mr. Mayne told her they were but four and three, but, then, both their parents had been very tall and robust.

Mrs. Mayne, on her arrival in England, made that will which was so soon to be needed. As the lawyer discussed the matter with her, she discovered how very little she had to leave.

Lispenard House and Lispenard money were all strictly entailed. She left Clarence Mayne his income until the two elder children of her first husband should be of age; then it had to go to the male heir in the direct line, not from any will of John Lispenard, but by that of his father.

When Maurice was old enough to understand his position he vowed to himself that there should be share and share alike between himself and his twin sisters. They should have as much right in Lispenard House as he, and as much money made over to them. If the third was not enough to enable him to live in his father's house as his father's son should, he would have a profession and by it earn a sufficient income.

Kit was the boy's only confident, and she veered between admiration and disgust at his purpose like a weathercock, to which her father's and mother's worldly-wise opinions and her affection for Agatha and Nerine played north and south winds.

She had come across her cousins about two years ago, while staying with some people in the neighborhood, and had been their fast friends ever since.

"Girls," Kit cried, shaking off the thoughtful silence which had fallen upon the three in the big room, where the fire played fitfully from bare floor and scant furniture to vaulted ceiling, "how much money have you? I mean what is the exact amount of your present funds?"

Agatha laughed where she still sat on the hearth rug, her long white hands clasped round the knees of her shabby dress.

"Funds, my dear! Call them riches," she cried. "We have really, truly and absolutely, besides the three sovereigns doled out for our month's support by our beloved stepfather, fifteen pounds."

"Where did you get it?" Kit asked, bluntly, though it was not a particularly large sum to her.

"We made it," Nerine said. What pretty boots Kit had on, and she would burn them in a minute. "Kit, your boots are touching the grate!" warningly.

"Of course! I'm drying them," as the triumphs of the shoemaker's art hissed loudly on the hot bars. "Tell me about the money."

"We have a friend,' said Agatha, mysteriously, "and he gave unto us money for empty words."

"Nonsense!" Nerine's cheeks turned red. "You know we never saw him, nor he us. Kit, we saw an advertisement in the Piccadilly *Budget* for short stories and we wrote two——"

"And got eight guineas apiece for them!" Agatha broke in, triumphantly. "We spent a pound on some things we wanted, and we've fifteen to maintain us during the next three weeks. How," with a long sigh of pleasure, "shall we ever do it?"

In Kit's pocket were two ten-pound notes, not counting loose gold and silver. Lady Belton had said she was to be sure to buy Agatha and Nerine some trifling present, furs or anything they cared about having. And her money burned in her pocket. But she would wait until she knew what they wanted.

She yawned involuntarily with weariness, and Nerine saw it.

"Agatha it is half past six and we quite forgot in getting the old man off that Kit had had no tea!"

She stooped to the wide hearth, where the grate had been an after thought of economical Mr. Mayne's, and lighted a candle, whose feeble flame brightened slowly and shone on the two Lispenard heads, black and smooth as silk, and on the rioting, curled head of little Kit, like tangled floss of gold.

Kit was pale. She had not, tenderly cultured flower though she was, the strength of the Lispenards, who had grown up like weeds. And she had eaten nothing since morning.

"Take her up-stairs, Agatha, and give her a pair of my shoes," Nerine said. "And we'll have tea at once, so don't be long. The fatted calf"—laughing—"is only a chicken, and cold!"

CHAPTER II.

KIT'S SECRET.

Agatha gathered Kit's costly wraps under one arm and slipped the other round Kit herself, who carried the candle, dropping wax plentifully by the way.

Along the empty baize-covered passages the two passed silently as two ghosts. The great house was strangely quiet to Kit, for there was not a servant nor a light to be seen all through their journey to the room got ready in secrecy for the expected guest.

Big as it was, it was cozy and even cheerful. The old-fashioned chintz hangings of the bed were gay with shiny roses and parrots. The screen between the door and the fire was embroidered with cherry-colored ladies courtesying to blue-and-yellow gentlemen in white wigs. An old-fashioned cheval glass, set in carved flimsy mahogany, reflected the light of the fire, and two candles burned in high silver candlesticks on the chintz-hung toilet table.

It was an enormous contrast to Kit's little silk-curtained nest at home, but she liked it. Who knew, she thought, looking around shyly as Agatha poured out hot water for her travel-weary face into the depths of a priceless basin, if some day she might not have this very room for her very own and live in it always? If——

Kit hid her face in the depths of the basin and sponged away her hot cheeks with the hotter water. She and Maurice Lispenard were only nineteen, and besides——

Kit's heart beat a little faster as she dried her renovated countenance. How much did Agatha know, she wondered, about her and Maurice?

"Kit," cried Agatha, "your skirts are all wet, and we haven't even sent for your boxes," hearing the suspicious swish with which the guest's

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26.)



Comfort Sisters' Recipes

The COMFORT Sisters' Corner

This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

SHAKESPEARE tells us, "neither a borrower nor a lender be;" and while we ordinary mortals would hardly presume to contradict that worthy gentleman, most of us will agree that borrowing and lending have advantages all their own. Not only is it a great convenience to the borrower but it gives the lender a feeling of satisfaction to be able to help a fellow man—or fellow woman since women are supposed to be addicted to the borrowing habit more strongly than men. Who knows, maybe the fair Anne borrowed enough coffee for the immortal William's breakfast (or whatever his favorite morning beverage was) but let us hope she returned it promptly, and that brings me to the real object of this little talk. Whether we believe in borrowing or whether we do not is immaterial in itself but if we do borrow, let's make it a point to "pay back." Particularly with the prevailing high prices it is really dishonest to borrow foodstuffs, even in small quantities, unless they are returned or full value given, though, of course, it is equally dishonest at lower prices, though the loss is not so much.

Aside from articles of that sort, most every household can boast (?) of other things too numerous and varied to mention that have been borrowed and never returned. Chief among these are books and there is nothing more distressing to a lover of books than to loan some cherished copy to a friend who promises faithfully to return it "just as soon as it is read" and then, if it is returned at all, to receive it in a sadly dilapidated condition.

A National Pay Back Day would be a good idea but in the meantime, while we are waiting for it to materialize, let's take an inventory of goods to be returned—and return them.—Ed.

DORCAS, OHIO.

DEAR SISTERS:

Many times I have heard people say that no matter what ailed them they did not want to be taken to a hospital. I don't agree with them for if anyone has a sickness that their home doctor cannot cure and he thinks there would be a chance for their lives by being operated upon and advises going to a hospital, it would be wicked on their part not to try.

Last spring I spent three weeks at a hospital in Columbus, Ohio, and I was treated as nicely as anyone could possibly be. The nurses were very kind. But for one thing I didn't try to see how much bother I could put them to. Some people think that because they are paying a good price for their care they should get their money's worth out of the nurses. There were six women and a little girl in the ward I was in and I feel safe in saying that one of these women was more bother than the rest of us put together. She wanted so much and was so fussy and disagreeable that the nurses did not like to wait on her and then she complained she did not get the care the rest of us got, simply because we treated the nurses as we would want to be treated were we in their place. A nurse has a hard time of it at best and one told me it was a pleasure to wait on patients that were reasonable. Of course all hospitals may not be alike but in this one I was treated fine from the surgeon down and it wasn't because I had money either. They sympathized with the poor, suffering humanity that came there and that was why they pulled me through a serious operation and I feel thankful we have institutions like that where we can be taken care of.

I don't remember ever reading anything on this subject and I thought it might help some suffering sister that dreaded the hospital.

I have read COMFORT since the days of Aunt Minerva and her owls and it will always be a welcome visitor in our home.

If any of the sisters have any good books they don't care for and will send them to me I will return favor with pink dahlia bulbs.

MRS. ALTA BEEGLE.

Mrs. Beegle. A friend of mine who is a trained nurse of several years' experience was calling on me recently and knowing she would be interested I let her read your letter which she was much pleased with, only she felt that you had omitted one important feature of nursing—that a "case" is merely a "case" to a nurse, or, in other words, no matter how disagreeable or provoking a sick person may be, they receive the same good care a more agreeable patient would receive, on the theory that their illness happens to affect them in that particular way and that they are not really responsible for anything they may do or say. That is a very kind and charitable way of looking at it too, and quite the proper way, as all who have been ill will testify.—Ed.

COLUMBUS, N. C.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I wish you would publish a short appeal for me in COMFORT for I am in hopes some of the good sisters will help me get enough subscriptions for a wheel chair for my little daughter, Catherine. She is quite helpless and has never walked or stood alone as she has suffered all her life from spinal weakness. She cannot talk and I have to feed and care for her as I would an infant and now that she is growing so large it makes it hard for me. She delights in getting out in the yard and a wheel chair would enable me to take her out so many times when otherwise she would have to stay in her room alone. I shall do all I can to get subscriptions but we live in a thinly settled neighborhood, five miles from the nearest town so it is impossible for me to get the entire two hundred as I cannot leave her to go any distance to solicit subscriptions. I have cared for her all her life without the aid of a wheel chair or any help save my own arms. We are poor, working people on a small farm and cannot raise the funds to buy one. I trust all who can will help me raise the two hundred subscriptions, for the sake of my dear little one.

Thanking all in advance for any help they may render, An old subscriber,

MRS. SADIE V. BARNES.

BOONE MILL, R. R. 3, Box 104, VA.

DEAR PEOPLE:

I would be so thankful if the COMFORT sisters would help me get a wheel chair for my little son, Roland, who has not walked a step for a year and a half and the doctors say he will never walk again. We live back in the mountains and see very few people and I cannot get away to solicit subscriptions or to do any work to get money to buy him a chair. I will feel so thankful to the sisters for any help they will give my poor little boy. He is fourteen years old.

Your sincere friend, MRS. W. M. CHEWNING.

It is very seldom that we print letters soliciting subscriptions for the wheel-chair applicants, but these two cases are so out of the ordinary that we will make an exception to our general rule. As will be seen, the parents live in thinly settled districts and the mothers are unable to go any distance to get subscribers or even to leave home to earn money to buy a wheel chair for their crippled children. Here is a chance to win their heartfelt gratitude as well as add a few stars to your crown, by sending in as many subscriptions as you possibly can for either, or both, of the children. Send the subscriptions direct to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and mention in your letter the person for whose benefit they are intended. Read the wheel-chair offer in another part of the paper.—Ed.

MO.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I think COMFORT is the finest paper ever printed and I don't see how I could go along without it. I am a young wife and mother, just seventeen years young, so you see I get many helpful hints concerning my housekeeping and the care of my little son. I have been married two years to one of the best men that ever lived. I was married at the age of fifteen. Some of you may say it was too young, yes, I know it was, but my mother being dead and my father a poor man, he willingly gave his consent to our marriage as he had known the young man over a year before our marriage and knew him to be hardworking and honest. I have never known what it was to be unhappy since we were married. He is eleven years older than I am. We enjoy teaching our baby to talk. He is just beginning to lisp a few words. My husband and I are both high tempered. Before we were married we came to an understanding with each other that when one was angry the other was to keep still, and we find that it works splendidly and saves us both harsh words and bitter feelings. How many sisters ever try that way? If not, try it once and see how well it works and you will be so delighted with the result that you will try it always. I do not believe in divorce. I believe that when a couple are thinking of marriage they should understand each other and know their bad points as well as the good. So many people rush into matrimony without giving it as much thought as they should. I was taught to regard marriage as God's work and therefore to keep it holy. How many agree with me?

Best wishes to COMFORT sisters, Mrs. Wilkinson and Uncle Charlie. BELL.

Bell. In conjunction with your letter I would like to publish one I received from a dear old man, eighty-one years old, on the training of children, but since I cannot do that I'll do the next best thing and give you his ideas in a condensed form. He protested against the injustice, even cruelty, of allowing babies to learn too many things they must *unlearn* a little later in life. Baby talk and baby actions are very cunning and we are prone to let them go on in their cute ways till a time comes when the cuteness is worn off and the poor child must be broken of habits which never should have been formed. For instance, the habit of encouraging baby to strike its mother or other people, is one that if persisted in will result in later punishment for the child, even though it is not to blame and if any hands are to be slapped they should be those of the person who taught or permitted the child to form such a habit. Then this "baby-talk" idea deserves a moment's notice and while it may require will power to talk to the "'ittle sweet s'ings" in a sane, rational manner and tone, it is worth while to make the effort. Ask your school teacher what her opinion is. The child who starts in schoolwork hampered by imperfect pronounciation does not make as rapid progress in his studies as does the child whose mother is made of sterner stuff and able to resist so much of nonsense in talking to her children.—Ed.

DETROIT, 342 Jay St., MICH.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have received so many nice letters since my letter was published in COMFORT that I have found courage to write again. I hope this letter, if published, will be as kindly received.

We are not living in Corunna, Mich., now as my husband received a better position in Detroit. I, like Mrs. E. D. Hanna, prefer city life. Living is high in large cities, but there are many advantages as well as disadvantages. Many times one may have a small garden in the back yard which helps wonderfully when one has a thin pocketbook and besides the vegetables are so much nicer than those at the stores. We have always had a garden till this year.

Another advantage is the free libraries. I am a lover of good literature and would not be able to get the good reading I enjoy were it not for the libraries. This summer I have been reading H. Rider Haggard's books and certainly believe there is not another romancer like him. What better reading can one ask for than "Marie," "Allan Quatermain," "King Solomon's Mines" or "The Heart of the World?" I enjoy Sir Walter Scott's and Washington Irving's writings too and many others that, as my letter will be lengthy, I will not mention. Like Ethel Shafer, I have a little book in which I jot down the names of books I read and their authors.

How I wish I might become acquainted with Mrs. A. W. King; no one knows, perhaps I may some day. Strange things occur sometimes. But I do hope she writes again telling more about the Physical Culture she mentioned.

I certainly agree with her on the subject of children's diet. So many, many mothers make a serious mistake by giving their babies solid food before the digestive fluids in the stomach are able to digest it properly and the result is peevishness, sickness at teething time, indigestion and sometimes constipation. Poor babies, how they suffer through the ignorance or carelessness of their respective mothers. No baby should be given solid food till nature tells us the stomach is ready for it which she does by giving the baby from six to eight teeth. Even then if the baby is delicate, or is cutting teeth, or the weather is hot, it is advisable to wait until the baby is a little older. Many baby books say to begin feeding solid food when the baby is a year old that is because a normal baby has from six to eight teeth at that age. The diet after the first year should be as simple as possible although of course there should be some variety in the food. I believe if a good foundation is laid by the use of proper food during the first few years of life, the child will be well prepared in health and digestion for later life. Each child is a law unto himself and anything which is found to disagree should be discontinued and not given again for some time.

Since coming to this crowded city we have not always been able to have a house by ourselves. In the first house was a family with two small children, the younger a baby of eight months. One day when I went into their rooms I saw the baby sitting on the floor eating an apple. The mother proudly told me he ate everything, and I guess he did—everything from turnips to sourcrout. He was having a hard time cutting teeth and as yet had cut none. It made my heart ache to hear the poor baby cry and cry with pain when I knew his mother's carelessness was largely to blame. The next family had had a little girl, but had lost it at thirteen months of age. She told me she had fed her baby everything from the time she was six months old, but admitted the child had been troubled with constipation and had been sick a good share of the time she had been cutting teeth. And I have known of several other cases. Why will mothers who love their children cause so much useless pain!

My baby Ethel is thirteen months old and has never known a sick day. I hardly know when she cuts a tooth except that she is a little cross the day the tooth comes through. Her eleventh tooth has just appeared. On account of the hot summer I have but just weaned her. I began gradually feeding her solid food when she was eleven months old. Now she has four meals a day and eats bread and milk, soft boiled or poached eggs, bread and butter, zwieback, graham and soda crackers, all cooked breakfast foods, beef broth, rice, tapioca, custard and corn-starch puddings, stewed prunes and jello. Her brother Glenn, three years old, is feeding her some bread and milk as I write this. I believe in teaching children to help.

Here is a subject I would like to refer to you sisters. Why is it so many cannot get along with their mothers-in-law? Whose fault is it? Even if there is no active trouble there is often a feeling of animosity between them.

I will close hoping that if this letter is published in time some of the sisters will send me a letter on my twenty-fourth birthday which is January twenty-seventh. And if there are not too many, I will try and answer all. Your COMFORT sister,

MRS. WALTER ALVERSON.

Mrs. Alverson. Thanks for bringing up the subject of "in-laws." I've wondered many times where the fault lay and now, maybe, we'll get some true-to-life experiences that will help both sides.—Ed.

JUNIPER, COLO.

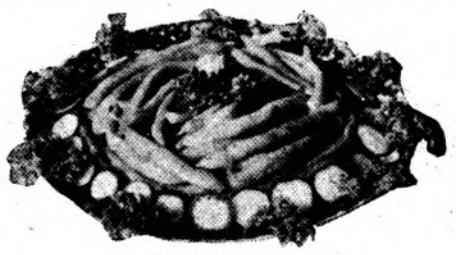
DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a subscriber to COMFORT for years but have never written to the Sisters' Corner, but since reading the letters directed against Mrs. McKnight, and being in sympathy with her views on Woman Suffrage, I must say a few words in her defense. I think Mrs. McKnight's letter to Mrs. Dilly was instigated not through temper or spite as some infer but rather from knowing something of the injustice and suffering in this country and desiring to accomplish with the vote what woman's influence (referred to by Mrs. Dilly) has failed to do.

I wonder it hasn't occurred to Jennie Brooks and others who fear contamination from voting with the women of the red light districts, that with the vote they have the power to eliminate these wholesale markets of the virtue of girls and boys. Do you ever consider the cause as well as the effect? The inmates of the brothels (poor specimens of humanity down to the lowest depths of degradation) were once virtuous girls, the most of them forced there by white slavers. And the men who support these vile institutions of disease and crime (physically and morally unfit to marry and become fathers) were once virtuous boys. No, I say as long as the Government allows the saloons and brothels to degrade and destroy human beings for the revenue (blood and soul money) women not only need but should use the vote.

You ask why women have not made greater progress? Because women and women's interests have been confined within four walls for so long a great many of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)



CALF'S LIVER AND BACON.

OF equal importance in the making and baking of bread is the care of it after it is baked.

Remove loaves at once from pans and place side down on a bread or cake cooler, or whatever is used for a substitute. For a crisp crust allow bread to cool without covering but if a soft crust is desired, cover with a towel while cooling though do not keep bread wrapped in cloth after it is put away as the cloth absorbs moisture and gives an unpleasant taste to the bread. When thoroughly cooled put in a tin box or stone jar and cover closely. The tin or jar should be scalded three times a week in cold weather and every day in summer to prevent molding. Stale bread can be used in so many ways that it behooves the housewife to take care that none is wasted.

MEAT PIES.—Make crust as for any pie. For filling use one pound of leftover meat, cut into small pieces, one half pound fresh pork, cut up, and one onion. Put all together and boil one hour, adding pepper and salt to taste, and water enough to boil. Fill the crusts with the chopped meat, cover and bake in hot oven.

CALF'S LIVER AND BACON.—Fry bacon till crisp, but not hard and take out of fat. Cover liver with boiling water and soak fifteen minutes. Drain and wipe. Cut into strips about half an inch thick. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, roll in flour and fry in the bacon fat. Do not cook liver hard. Five minutes will probably be long enough. Arrange bacon in center of platter with strips of bacon around it and decorate with hominy balls to be served with liver and bacon.

HOMINY BALLS.—Bring to boil one cup of milk and one cup of water and add one half cup of hominy and one half teaspoon of salt and cook in a double boiler one hour. When cool shape in balls, dip in egg and crumbs and fry in deep fat.

SALMON FISH BALLS.—Two cups of minced canned salmon, one cup of mashed potatoes, one half cup of drawn butter, pinch of pepper and one quarter teaspoon of salt. Work in the potatoes with the salmon and moisten with the drawn butter until it is soft enough to mold and keep its shape. Roll the balls in flour or corn-meal and fry quickly to a golden brown in lard or cooking oil. Drain and serve on a hot platter. MISS BESSIE CHRISTENBERRY, Rockwood, Tenn.

SCALLOPED OYSTERS WITH MACARONI.—Break one half package of macaroni into small pieces and cook in boiling salted water one half hour. Drain. Cover the bottom of a baking dish with slices of thinly cut bread, stale preferred, then add a layer of macaroni, a layer of oysters, dot with small pieces of butter and add salt and pepper to taste, and a thin layer of finely rolled cracker crumbs. Proceed in this manner till the dish is filled, having the top layer of crumbs, much thicker than the other layers. Beat one egg into one pint of milk and pour into the dish. Bake half an hour in a moderate oven.

VEGETABLE CUTLETS.—Boil seven large potatoes, mash, add butter, seasoning and enough hot milk to moisten. Chop three small onions and fry in butter. Cook separately ten small carrots and one small turnip. Chop and add with the onion to the potato. Season to taste and cool. Mold into small cutlets, dip in beaten egg and bread crumbs and fry to golden brown in boiling fat.

POTATO CHOWDER.—Peel and cut in dice five good-sized potatoes. Throw into cold water. Cut one quarter pound of ham in shreds and chop a medium-sized onion coarsely. Fry ham and onion together until nicely browned. Drain water from the potatoes and put in a layer of potato dice in the bottom of a stewing kettle, then a sprinkle of the ham, and onion. Then more potato dice, and so on until all is used. Cover with cold water and let come slowly to boiling point. Cook until the potatoes are done enough not to lose their shape. Add a pint of good, rich milk and season to taste with salt and pepper. Rub to a smooth paste two level tablespoons of butter and two of flour. When the chowder boils up, stir in the thickening and continue to stir gently until it boils again. Serve at once.

MRS. WALTER ALVERSON, Detroit, Mich.

POTATO CAKES.—Leftover mashed potato may be utilized for delicious potato cakes. To a cup and a half of potato add one egg and beat the two until light, seasoning to taste. Form into cakes, roll in cracker crumbs and fry in pork f t.

STUFFED POTATOES.—Bake large evenly sized potatoes. Cut off tops and scoop out centers. To six or seven large potatoes add one pint finely chopped cooked meat one tablespoon butter, one cup bread crumbs and seasoning to taste. Refill potatoes and serve while hot.

SAUSAGES WITH APPLE RINGS.—Let sausages simmer in boiling water in a frying pan for fifteen minutes, then drain and fry until brown. Make a



SAUSAGES WITH APPLE RINGS.

syrup of one cup each of sugar and water; core, pare and slice in rings four or five apples, cook rings a few at a time in the syrup until tender, turning often to obtain shape. Serve them with sausages and they make a delicious dish.

MARY H. NORTHEND, Salem, Mass.

DELICIOUS STEW.—One pound stew beef, two pounds of pork chops, two onions. Put in a layer of pork, then a layer of beef and a little onion, season each layer with salt and pepper. Continue until all the meat is used, cover as closely as possible and set in a large boiler of boiling water. Put a cover on the larger boiler, too. Cook three and one half hours.

WALDORF SALAD.—Peel and cut one apple into dice and sprinkle with two tablespoons of orange juice. Add one cup of finely cut celery, one cup of broken walnut meats, one half teaspoon of salt. Mix thoroughly, moisten with one cup of mayonnaise, place in nests of lettuce leaves and garnish with candied cherries.

OYSTER OMELET.—Beat six eggs separately very light; season with pepper and salt; add two tablespoons of cream, and pour into a frying-pan, with a good tablespoon of butter; drop in the omelet eight or ten large oysters, chopped fine, and fry; fold over, and send to table immediately.

PLUM PUDDING.—One cup seeded raisins, one cup currants, one half pound citron, one cup sugar, one cup bread crumbs, one half cup chopped nuts, grated peel one lemon, salt, one half teaspoon allspice, one half teaspoon cloves, one quarter teaspoon nutmeg, three quarters teaspoon cinnamon, one wine glass brandy; mix ingredients, put over top one half pound finely chopped suet; let stand over night; stir, add yolks of four eggs, two cups flour, two teaspoons baking powder, then the beaten whites put in bag wrung out in cold water with plate underneath and steam four hours.

SAUCE.—Two cups brown sugar, one half cup butter; cream and melt in double boiler; stir in one beaten egg; remove from fire and add one cup cream and flavoring.

SQUASH OR PUMPKIN PIE.—One cup squash or pumpkin, sifted, two eggs, one pint milk, stir squash and milk until smooth; set on back of stove to keep warm, add eggs, pinch salt, one half teaspoon cinnamon or nutmeg, one small cup sugar; bake with under crust.

MY MOTHER'S MINCE MEAT.—Two pounds chopped beef, four pounds sour apples, three quarters pound chopped suet, one pound stoned raisins, one quarter pound chopped citron, two and one half pounds sugar, one and one half teaspoons cloves, five teaspoons cinnamon, two teaspoons mace, one half teaspoon black pepper, three tablespoons salt, one pint of cider and vinegar mixed, one pint molasses and the juice of two lemons.

MRS. ANDREW DABOVICH, Virginia, Nevada.

MOLASSES CORN BALLS.—To three quarts of carefully selected kernels, allow one tablespoon of butter, one cup of molasses and one half cup of sugar, with a little salt. Boil until brittle when tried in cold water. Pour this mixture gradually over the corn, taking care that it is evenly distributed. Shape into balls with as little handling as possible.

BREAD PUDDING.—One cup of bread crumbs soaked in one pint of milk. Add two beaten eggs, quarter of a cup of sugar, one eighth teaspoon of soda, one quarter teaspoon of salt, one tablespoon of melted butter and a pinch each of nutmeg and cinnamon. Bake about three quarters of an hour in a moderate oven. Beat the whites of two eggs to a stiff froth and gradually beat in two tablespoons of sugar and drop into small mounds on pudding. Bake to a golden brown



BREAD PUDDING.

and then in the center of each put a cube or ball of jelly.

CRACKER JACK.—Four quarts popped corn, two cups shelled peanuts, one cup molasses, one cup sugar, and butter size of an egg. Boil molasses, sugar and butter until it will spin a thread, then pour over corn and peanuts, mix well and form into any desired shape.

MRS. DAVID LOWE.

FAVORITE CAKE.—Stir together till creamy one half cup butter or lard and one cup of sugar; add two well-beaten eggs. Then alternately one cup of milk and two cups of flour, well sifted with two teaspoons baking powder. Add a pinch of salt and one teaspoon of vanilla. This is one of the best recipes I ever tried.

MOCK CREAM FILLING.—One large sour apple, grated, white of one egg one cup of brown or confectioner's sugar and flavor to taste. Beat steadily for twenty minutes. Can scarcely be told from cream filling.

MRS. C. R. MILLER, Clackamas, R. R. 1, Oregon.

RICE CAKES.—Add enough milk to two cups of cold boiled rice to make quite thin and cook in double boiler till rice is soft, add salt, one beaten egg and enough flour to handle. Spread half an inch thick on pan, mark into squares and bake in hot oven till brown. Butter while hot.

DOUGHNUTS.—One egg, beat thoroughly and add one and one half cup of milk and cream half and half, one and one half cups sugar, one and one half teaspoon baking powder, a little nutmeg and flour enough to make a soft paste. Roll very thin, cut out and fry in hot lard. Dip in sugar.

WHITE DIVINITY CAKE.—Two cups sugar, five tablespoons melted butter, one cup sweet milk, three cups flour, two teaspoons of baking-powder, whites of six eggs and one teaspoon vanilla. Cream butter and sugar, add milk; stir well while adding the flour, into which the baking-powder has been stirred; add flavoring and lastly the eggs beaten very stiff. Bake in layers.

CHOCOLATE CREAM CAKE.—One and three quarters cups of sugar, three cooking spoons of butter, three eggs, one cup of milk, two and one half cups flour, two teaspoons baking-powder and last of all add one quarter pound melted chocolate.

CARAMEL FROSTING.—One cup brown sugar, one half cup thin cream, and one teaspoon butter. Boil until a soft ball can be formed in water. Beat until creamy, add vanilla and spread on cake.

CHOCOLATE FILLING.—Four tablespoons chocolate, melt and let cool; add three tablespoons milk three quarters cup of sugar two teaspoons butter and one egg. Mix well and cook until it thickens. Let cool, flavor and spread on cake.

MRS. ANNA BLECKMAN, Leslie, Mo.

The Masked Bridal

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



"Oh how lovely" exclaimed the young girl



"Pray give them back to me at once"



She could not hear a word but her jealous heart imputed the very worst to him.

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Edith Allandale, the only support of an invalid mother pawns a valuable watch. To redeem it she offers a five-dollar gold piece, paid to her by Royal Bryant, to the broker, who, dropping it into the drawer declares it a counterfeit and returns it. Going home her mother suggests it may be genuine and again Edith goes out to buy food and coal. While eating supper an officer enters, followed by the grocer who insists upon Edith's arrest for passing counterfeit money. Mrs. Allendale unnerved, faints away, and Edith protesting her innocence, is hurried to the station house, leaving her mother in the care of Kate O'Brien. Edith writes to Royal Bryant explaining the situation.

He redeems the watch, secures Edith's release and sends her home, where she finds her mother dying. After her death in reading letters, Edith learns she is an adopted daughter, the child of a dear friend, who believes she is legally a wife, until the father of her child admits his perfidy and deserts her. Edith writes Mr. Bryant, giving no address and goes to Boston, securing a position as companion with Mrs. Gerald Goddard. Edith discovers there is a skeleton in the family, when Mrs. Goddard accuses her of attempting to steal her husband's affections. Emil Corelli, Mrs. Goddard's brother is persistent in his attentions to Edith; she tries to avoid him and decides to leave. Mrs. Goddard begs her to stay. Edith, going to walk renders assistance to Mrs. Stewart, who is attracted to her and shows agitation when she learns she is a companion to Mrs. Goddard, and if she needs a friend to come to her. Edith is overtaken by Emil Corelli. Nearing Mrs. Goddard's house, a woman, unknown to Edith addresses Emil in a foreign tongue. Realizing that Edith thinks there is something mysterious in his relation to this woman he endeavors to set it right, renews his protestations of love, offers marriage and is staggered by her refusal. Mrs. Goddard unfolds a scheme which cannot fail to make Edith Allen his wife, but Emil must go away. Mrs. Goddard plans with Edith for a "mid-winter frolic."

CHAPTER IX.

THE HOUSEKEEPER AT WYOMING.

THE invitations for the merry-making were at length printed and forwarded to the favored guests, but the family were not to go to Wyoming for a week or so, and meantime, Mrs. Goddard devoutly hoped that the weather would change and send them a fine snow-storm, so that there would be good sleighing during their sojourn in the country.

She had her wish—everything seemed to favor the schemes of this crafty woman, for, three days later, there came a severe storm, which lasted as many more, and when at length the sun shone again there lay on the ground more than a foot of snow on a level, thus giving promise of rare enjoyment upon runners and behind spirited horses and musical bells.

At last the day of their departure arrived, and about ten o'clock, Mrs. Goddard and Edith, well wrapped in furs and robes, were driven over the well-trodden roads, in a handsome sleigh, and behind, a pair of fine horses, toward Middlesex Falls.

It was only about an hour's drive, and upon their arrival they found the Goddards' beautiful country residence in fine order, with blazing fires in several of the rooms.

The housekeeper, Mrs. Weld, had attended to all the details of preparation, and was complimented by both Mr. and Mrs. Goddard. In appearance the housekeeper was very peculiar, very tall and very stout, and in no way graceful in form or feature. Mrs. Goddard voted her as "a perfect fright," with her eyes concealed behind large, dark blue glasses. She had been employed through the agent of an intelligence office, and had come highly recommended. A close observer would have noted many oddities about her; and Edith, coming suddenly upon her in her own apartment, had reason to suspect that the housekeeper was not what she seemed—in fact, that she was disguised.

Noiselessly Mrs. Weld went about her duties, her footfalls dropping as quietly as the snow. On one occasion, arriving unexpectedly within hearing of her master and mistress, she heard him entreating her to give him possession of a certain document. This Mrs. Goddard refused until he had performed some act which, as it was apparent from the conversation, she had long been urging upon him as a duty.

Fearing discovery, Mrs. Weld did not wait to hear more, but silently walked away.

A few busy days succeeded, and then the guests began to arrive at Wyoming. The housekeeper seemed to take a great fancy to Edith, and the latter cheerfully assisted her in many ways.

A theatrical performance, planned by Mrs. Goddard, was one of the amusements arranged for the entertainment of the guests. On the afternoon of the day set for the presentation of the little dramatic episode, a great packing case arrived from the city and was taken directly to madam's room.

A few minutes later, Edith was requested to go to her, and, upon presenting herself at the door of her boudoir, was drawn mysteriously inside, and the door locked.

"Come," said madam, with a curious smile, as she led the way into the chamber beyond, "I want you to assist me in unpacking something."

"Certainly, I shall be very glad to help you," the young girl replied, with cheerful acquiescence.

"It is one of the costumes that is to be worn this evening, and must be handled very carefully."

As Mrs. Goddard spoke, she cut the cords binding the great box, and, lifting the cover, revealed some articles enveloped in quantities of white tissue paper.

"Take it out!" commanded madam, indicating the upper package.

Edith obeyed, and, upon removing the spotless wrappings, a beautiful skirt of white satin, richly trimmed with lace of an exquisite pattern, was revealed.

"Oh, how lovely!" exclaimed the young girl.

Next came the waist, or corsage, which was also a marvel of artistic taste and beauty.

This was laid against the skirt when the costume, thus complete, was a perfect delight to the eye.

"It looks like a bride's dress," Edith observed.

"You are right! It is for the bride who figures in our play tonight," said madam. "This must be the veil, I think," she concluded, lifting a large box from the case, and passing it to her companion.

Edith removed the cover, and uttered an involuntary cry of delight, for before her there lay a great mass of finest tulle, made up into a bridal veil, and surmounted by a coronet of white waxen orange-blossoms.

An examination of two other boxes disclosed a pair of white satin boots, embroidered with pearls, and a pair of long white kid gloves.

"Everything is exquisite, and so complete," murmured Edith, as she laid them all out beside the dress.

"Yes, of course, the bride will be the most conspicuous figure—the cynosure of all eyes, in fact—so she could need to be as complete and perfect as possible," Mrs. Goddard explained, but watching the girl, warily, out of the corners of her eyes.

"Who is going to wear it?" Edith inquired.

Madam's eyes gleamed strangely at the question.

"Miss Kerby takes the part of the heroine of the play," she answered, "whom, by the way, I called Edith, because I like the name so much. I did not think you would mind."

"Oh, no," said the girl, absently. Then, with a little start, she exclaimed, as she lifted something from the box from which the gloves had been taken: "But what is this?"

It was a small half-circle of fine white gauze, edged with a fringe of frosted silver, while a tiny chain of the same material was attached to each end.

"Oh! that is the mask," said Mrs. Goddard.

"The mask?" repeated Edith, surprised.

"Yes; I don't wonder you look astonished, to find such a thing among the outfit of a bride," said madam, with a peculiar little laugh; "but although it is a profound secret to everybody outside the actors, I will explain it to you, as the time is so near. You understand this is a play that I have myself written."

"Yes."

"Well, I have entitled it 'The Masked Bridal,' and it is a very cunningly devised plot, on the part of a pair of lovers whose obdurate parents refuse to allow them to marry," madam explained. "Edith Lancaster is an American girl, and Henri Bernard is a Frenchman. They have a couple of friends whose wedding is set for a certain date, and who plan to help them outwit the parents of Edith and Henri. The scene is, of course, laid in Paris, where everybody knows a marriage must be contracted in church. The friends of the two unfortunate lovers send out their cards, announcing their approaching nuptials, and also the fact that they will both be masked during the ceremony."

"How strange!" Edith murmured.

"Yes, it is both a novel and an extravagant idea," Mrs. Goddard assented; "but, of course, nobody minds that in a play—the more extravagant and unreal, the better it suits the public nowadays. Well, the parents and friends of the couple naturally object to this arrangement, but they finally carry their point. Everything is arranged, and the wedding-day arrives. Only the parents and a few friends are supposed to be present, and, at the appointed hour, the bridal party—consisting of the ushers and four bridesmaids, a maid-of-honor, and the bride, leaning upon her father's arm, proceed slowly to the altar, where they are met by the groom, best man, and clergyman. Then comes the ceremony, which seems just as real as if it were a *bona-fide* marriage, you know; and when the young couple turn to leave the church, as husband and wife, they remove their masks, and behold! the truth is revealed. There is, of course, great astonishment, and some dismay manifested on the part of the obdurate parents, who are among the invited guests; but the deed is done—it would not do to make a scene or any disturbance in church, and so they are forced to make the best of the affair, and accept the situation."

"But what becomes of the couple who planned all this for their friends?" Edith inquired.

"Oh, they were privately married half an hour earlier, and come in at a rear door just in season to follow the bridal party down the aisle, and join in the wedding-feast at home."

"It is a very strange plot—a very peculiar conception," murmured Edith, musingly.

"Yes, it is very Frenchy, and extremely unique, and will be carried out splendidly, if nothing unforeseen occurs to mar the acting, for the amateurs I have chosen are all very good. But now I must run down to see that everything is all right for the evening, before I dress. By the way," she added, as if the thought had just occurred to her, "I would like you to put on something pretty, and come to help me in the dressing-room during the play. Have you a white dress here?"

"Yes; it is not a very modern one, but it was nice in its day," Edith replied.

"Very well; I shall not mind the cut of it, if it is only white," said madam. "Now I must run. You can ring for some one to take away this rubbish," she concluded, glancing at the boxes and papers that were strewn about the room; then she went quickly out.

Edith obeyed her, and remained until the room was once more in order, after which she went up to her own chamber, where she laid her clothing out upon the bed, in readiness for the evening, and then went down to her dinner, which she always took with the housekeeper before the family meal was served.

Edith found Mrs. Weld looking unusually nice—although she was always a model of neatness in her attire—in a handsome black silk, with folds of soft, creamy lace across her ample breast, while upon her head she wore a fashionable lace cap, adorned with dainty bows of white ribbon.

"Oh! how very nice you are looking," Edith exclaimed, as she entered the room. "What a lovely piece of silk your dress is made of, and your cap is very pretty."

"Thank you, child," the woman responded. "Of course, I had to make a special effort for such an occasion as this."

"If you would only take off your glasses, Mrs. Weld," said the young girl. "Couldn't you, just for this evening?"

"No, indeed, Miss Edith," hastily returned the housekeeper. "With all the extra lights, I should be blinded."

"But you have such lovely eyes——"

"How do you know?" demanded Mrs. Weld.

"Partly by guess—partly by observation," said Edith, laughing. "Let me prove it," she continued, playfully, as she deftly captured the obnoxious spectacles, and then looked mischievously straight into the beautiful but startled orbs thus disclosed.

"Child! child! what are you doing?" exclaimed the woman, as she tried to get possession of her property again. "Pray, give them back to me at once."

But Edith playfully evaded her, and clasped them in her hands behind her.

"I knew it! I knew it!" she cried, in a voice of merry triumph. "They are remarkably beautiful, and no one would ever believe there was anything the matter with them. Oh! I love such eyes as yours, Mrs. Weld—they are such a delicious color—so clear, so soft, and expressive."

And Edith, inspired by a sudden impulse, leaned forward and kissed the woman on the forehead, just between the eyes which she had been so admiring.

Mrs. Weld seemed to be strangely agitated by this affectionate little act.

Tears sprang into her eyes, and her lips quivered with emotion for a moment.

Then she put out her arms and clasped the beautiful girl in a fond embrace, and softly returned her caress.

"You are a lovable little darling—every inch of you," she said, with sudden fervor.

"What a mutual admiration society we have constituted ourselves, Mrs. Weld! But, I am sure, I am very happy to know that there is some one in the world who feels so tenderly toward me."

"No one who knew you could help it, my dear," gently returned the woman, "and I shall always remember you very tenderly, for you have been so kind and helpful to me in many ways since we have been here. I suppose the affairs tonight will wind up the frolic here," she went on, thoughtfully. "You will go your way, I shall go mine, and we may never meet again; but, I shall never forget you Miss Allen——"

"Why, Mrs. Weld! how strangely you appear tonight!" Edith involuntarily interposed. "You do not seem like yourself."

"I know it, child; but the Goddards expect to return to town tomorrow, and I may not have an opportunity to see you again alone," returned the housekeeper, with a strange smile. "I do not want you to forget me, either," she went on, drawing a little box from her pocket, "so I am going to give you a souvenir to take away with you, if you will do me the favor to accept it."

She slipped the tiny box into Edith's hand as she concluded.

More and more surprised, the fair girl opened it, and uttered a low cry of admiration as she beheld its contents. Within, on a bed of spotless cotton, there lay a gold chain of very delicate workmanship, and suspended from it, by the stem, as fresh and green, apparently, as if it had that moment been plucked from its native soil, was a shamrock, in the heart of which there gleamed a small diamond of purest water.

"Why, Mrs. Weld, how beautiful!" exclaimed Edith, "but—but—isn't the gift a little extravagant for me?"

"You are worthy of a stone ten times the size of that," said her companion, smiling; "but, if you mean to imply that I have impoverished myself to purchase it for you, do not fear; for it was a little ornament that I used to wear when I was a girl, so it costs me nothing but the pleasure of giving it to you."

"Thank you, a thousand times!" returned Edith, "and I shall prize it all the more for that very reason. Now, pray pardon me," she added, flushing, as she returned the glasses she had so playfully captured, "I am afraid I was a little rude to remove them without your permission."

"Never mind, dear; you have done no harm," said the housekeeper, as she restored them to their place. "Come, now, we must have our dinner, or I shall be late, and there must be no mistakes tonight, of all times."

When the meal was finished, Mrs. Weld hastened away to attend to her numerous duties, while Edith went slowly up-stairs to dress herself for the evening.

CHAPTER X.

"THE GIRL IS DOOMED!—SHE HAS SEALED HER OWN FATE!"

After her toilet was completed, Edith descended to the second floor.

In the ladies' dressing-rooms, she found everything in the nicest possible order, and then passed on to those allotted to the gentlemen, in one of which she found that the maids had neglected to provide drinking water.

She was upon the point of leaving the room to have the matter attended to, when Mr. Goddard, attired in evening dress, entered.

"Where is Mollie?" he inquired, but with a visible start of surprise, as he noticed Edith's exceeding loveliness.

"I think she is in one of the other rooms," she replied. "Shall I call her for you?"

"Yes, if you please; or——" with a lingering glance of admiration—"perhaps you will help me with these gloves. I find it troublesome to button them."

"Certainly," replied the young girl, but flushing beneath his look, and, taking the silver button-hook from him, she proceeded to perform the simple service for him, but noticed, while doing so, the taint of liquor on his breath.

"Thank you," he said, appreciatively, when the last button was fastened. Then bending lower to look into her eyes, he added, softly: "How lovely you are tonight, Miss Edith!"

She drew herself away from him, with an air of offended dignity, and would have passed from the room had he not placed himself directly in her way, thus cutting off her escape.

"Nay, nay, pretty one; do not be so shy of me," he went on, insinuatingly. "Why have you avoided me of late? We have not had one of our cozy social chats for a long time. Did madam's unreasonable fit of jealousy that day in the library frighten you? Pray, do not mind her—she has always been like that ever since—well, for many years."

"Mr. Goddard! I beg you will cease. I cannot listen to you!" cried Edith. "Let me pass, if you please. I have an order to give one of the housemaids,"

"Tut! tut! little one; the order can wait, and it is not kind of you to fly at me like that. I have been drawn toward you ever since you came into the family, and every day only serves to strengthen the spell that you have been weaving about me. Come now, tell me that you will try to return my fondness for you——"

"Mr. Goddard! what is the meaning of this strange language? You have no right to address me thus; it is an insult to me—a wicked wrong against your wife——"

"My wife!" the man burst forth, mockingly, and with a strangely bitter laugh.

"I do not love her," he said, hoarsely; "she has killed all my affection for her by her infernally variable moods, her jealousy, her vanity, and her inordinate passion for worldly pleasure, to the exclusion of all home responsibilities. Moreover——"

"I must not listen to you! Oh! let me go!"

Before Edith was aware of his intention, he bent his lips close to her face, and whispered something, in swift sentences, that made her shrink from him with a sudden cry of mingled pain and dismay, and cover her ears with her pretty hands.

"I do not believe it!" she panted; "Oh! I cannot believe it. I am sure you do not know what you are saying, Mr. Goddard."

Her words appeared to arouse him to a sense of the fact that he was compromising himself most miserably in her estimation.

"No, I don't suppose you can," he muttered, a half-dazed expression on his face; "and I've no business to be telling you any such things. But, all the same, I am very fond of you, pretty one,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

BREAD—SOME GOOD RECIPES FOR SEVERAL KINDS



By Ella Gordon

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"MEASURED by actual nutritive power, there is no other complete ration which, in economy, can compare with bread," says Dr. Wiley, the celebrated food expert. But bread is the "staff of life" only when made digestible and palatable, for no article of diet is so necessary or so influences the health of a family. Bread was one of the earliest foods known to mankind and was made by pounding dry roots, wetting to form a dough and baked in hot ashes.

Now in the day of scientifically prepared grains and ovens that insure a dependable heat for baking, it requires but the mastery of a few elementary principles and ordinary interest and care to become a good bread-maker. Housekeepers who fail in making good bread often think it requires a certain knack which they do not possess, unaware of their own failure to use proper care and materials.

Good bread and milk supplies all the nutritive power required by the human body, and bread is usually the first solid food taken by children and an equally valuable food in old age when the appetite and digestion have become impaired. for the convalescent, nothing takes the place of crisp toast served with hot milk.

Then comes the all-important sandwich for the lunch and dinner box and right here is good bread indispensable.

Simple rules to keep in mind:

Use the same cup for measuring the dry and liquid ingredients.

Sift flour, meal or graham and fill measure with spoon, making cup even full.

Have liquids lukewarm and unless flour is kept in warm place bring that to same temperature so it will not check the process of fermentation.

To one quart of liquid use three quarts of flour for yeast bread.

Bread raised over night requires one half yeast cake to one quart of liquid.

Quickly raised bread requires two yeast cakes to one quart of liquid.

Quickly made bread is the best flavored and is accomplished by setting it to rise in the morning, all the ingredients lukewarm and kept so by covering dough and keeping it out of drafts in a moderately warm place. Do not try to hurry the rising as it will make the bread sour and heavy.

Milk makes richer bread than water and will keep moist longer.

Prevent a crust from forming over the dough by keeping it tightly covered while rising. If a dry crust is worked into dough there will be streaks through the bread.

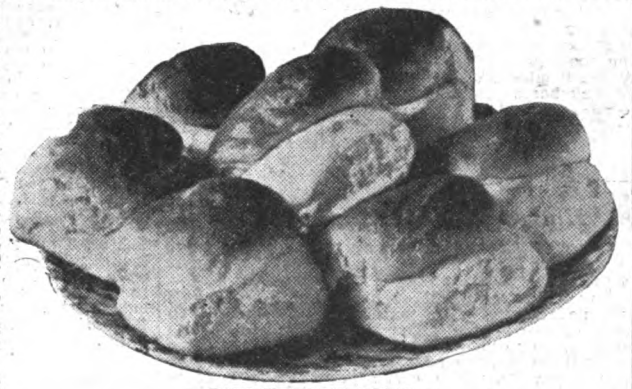
Dough should rise till double in bulk and then cut down with a wide bladed knife.

The best shortening is butter or lard. Sweeten with granulated sugar. To one quart of liquid use one even tablespoonful of salt.

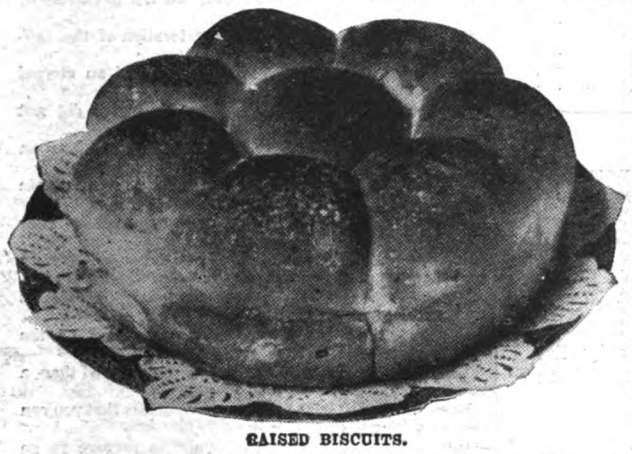
To knead, dust the board with flour, turn out the well mixed dough and then flour the hands. Draw the dough farthest from you to the center and press with the palms of the hands. Repeat till dough is smooth and elastic with an occasional cutting through and through of the dough. Keep the hands well floured and avoid using more flour than possible on the board.

Fill tins half full, and when raised even full they should be put in the oven to bake. Have the oven sufficiently hot to brown a little flour in one minute for rolls and in five minutes for loaves. Bake loaves one hour. During the first twenty minutes the heat should slightly increase and the loaf rise and begin to brown. Hold the heat steady the next twenty minutes and decrease the last twenty minutes.

On taking bread from oven remove at once from pans and place on a wire sieve on something that will allow the air to circulate freely around it. When about half cool, cover closely with a bread cloth that the crust will be tender.



PARKER HOUSE ROLLS.



RAISED BISCUITS.

Recipes

RAW POTATO YEAST.—Much of the success of this recipe depends on having everything ready to do with that the work may be quickly done. Have a kettle of water boiling hard before commencing to make yeast. Use silver spoon. Pare four medium-sized potatoes and cover with cold water. Next mix together one third cup of flour, one third cup of sugar and one tablespoonful of salt in a large mixing bowl. Grate in the potatoes, keeping the potato covered with the flour to prevent turning dark. Add one pint of boiling water, at the same time rinsing the potato from grater by pouring over it. Mix all together very thoroughly and then add in a small stream enough more boiling water to make it the consistency of thin starch. About one quart is usually necessary, depending on size of potatoes. Should the mixture fail to thicken when this amount is added pour into an agate dish and bring to a boil, stirring very frequently to prevent sticking. Strain through a coarse strainer and stir frequently till the mixture is just lukewarm and then add one large cup of yeast three quarters of a compressed yeast cake dissolved in half a cup of lukewarm water. Place a towel over the top of bowl and set in a warm place till foamy, stirring occasionally during this process of rising. When the yeast seems well risen, pour it into glass jars, reserving enough separately for the next yeast making. Keep cool in a dark place, and it is better never to bring the yeast into the hot cookroom, but measure it from the cellar.

WHITE FLOUR BREAD.—In a large mixing bowl put one pint of milk and one pint of water that has first been scalded and cooled till lukewarm. Add two tablespoonfuls of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of warmed butter or lard and two yeast cakes dissolved in one cup of lukewarm water or two cups of yeast. Add three pints of sifted flour and stir till smooth, then add one tablespoonful of salt and three pints more of flour and stir till smooth. If liquid yeast is used a little more flour will be necessary. Turn out on floured bread-board. Knead, rise in a greased bowl, put into tins, bake and cool according to rules in above article. This is a quick method of making bread which brings better results in winter when fermentation is slower. One half the yeast will raise the bread but it will have to set over night. Bread started in the morning and baked in later afternoon is always the best.

RAISED BISCUITS.—Reserve a portion of the white flour bread dough, mold into balls the size of a large English walnut, put well apart in tins, raise till double in size, then brush with white of egg mixed with a little water and bake fifteen minutes in a hot oven, decreasing the heat the last five minutes.

PARKER HOUSE ROLLS.—Scald and cool two cups of milk and add two tablespoonfuls of sugar, four tablespoonfuls of butter or lard, one yeast cake or one cup of liquid yeast and three cups of sifted flour. Beat till very smooth, cover and rise in a warm place which should take about one hour. Cut down and add one teaspoonful of salt and three more cups of flour or possibly a little more and knead well. Let rise again till about double in bulk then roll out thin and brush with melted butter. Cut into rounds with biscuit cutter, make a heavy crease across the center and fold once. Place well apart in a pan, let rise till light and bake in a hot oven fifteen minutes.

GRAHAM MUFFINS.—Mix together one cup of entire wheat or graham flour sifted, one cup of white flour, one half teaspoonful of salt, two tablespoonfuls of sugar and four teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Beat one egg, add one cupful and two tablespoonfuls of milk and two tablespoonfuls of molasses and mix together and stir into the dry ingredients. Lastly beat in three tablespoonfuls of warmed butter. Bake in hot muffin pans twenty minutes or till brown and slightly shrunken around edges.

FRIED BREAD WITH FILLING No. 1.—Beat one egg very light and then beat in one half cup of sugar. Add three quarters of a cup of milk and two cups of flour to which has been added one rounding teaspoonful of baking powder and quarter of a teaspoonful of salt. The batter should be quite stiff and a little more flour may be necessary. Have ready either dried apple sauce or mince meat and to each mixing spoonful add about three teaspoonfuls of filling by putting it onto the batter, covering it with batter, and then taking up the mixing spoonful and dropping into hot, deep fat. Fry till a golden brown. Garnish with jelly.

FRIED BREAD WITH FILLING No. 2.—Reserve portion of raised dough and roll about half an inch thick. Cut in rounds, put about three teaspoonfuls of filling onto one half, turn over the other half, pinch edges together and drop into hot, deep fat and fry brown.

The baking specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture have been conducting a series of successful experiments in using boiled potatoes with flour in making bread. It has been found to make as appetizing and as nutritious a product and that the bread keeps fresh longer than when made from all flour.

Potato Bread

Straight Dough Method

The following is one of the methods for making potato bread, worked out in the government baking laboratory, and recommended in a recent bulletin.

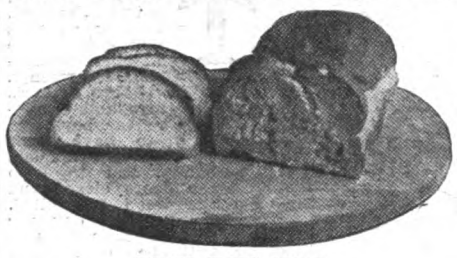
For four one-pound loaves, the following ingredients are required:

Three pounds of boiled and peeled potatoes, two and one quarter pounds of good bread flour, three level tablespoonfuls of sugar, one and one half level tablespoonful of salt, two cakes of compressed yeast, four tablespoonfuls of lukewarm water.

Wash thoroughly and boil in their skins about twelve potatoes of medium size. Cook them until they are very tender. Drain, peel and mash them while hot, being careful to leave no lumps. Allow the mashed potato to cool to 86 degrees F. or until lukewarm. To three pounds (five solidly packed one half pint cupfuls) of the mashed potato, add the yeast, which has been rubbed smooth in a cup with three tablespoonfuls of lukewarm water. To get all the yeast, rinse the cup with the remaining tablespoonful of water and add this also to the potato. Next add the salt, the sugar and about four ounces of the flour (one scant half pint of sifted flour). Mix thoroughly with the hand, but do not add any more water at this stage.

Cover the mixing bowl to avoid the formation of a crust on top and place out of the way of drafts to rise, where the temperature cannot fall below 80 degrees F. or be much higher than 88 degrees F. Where the housewife has no thermometer she should see that the dough in all the risings is kept moderately warm, but not up to blood heat. Any water used in mixing the dough should be moderately warm, but by no means hot. This sponge if kept at the proper temperature, should, after two hours, become quite light.

To this well-risen sponge, which now will be found to be quite soft, add the remainder of the

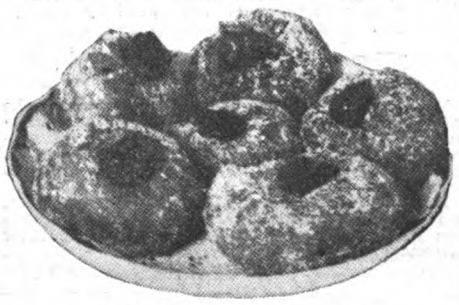


WHITE FLOUR BREAD.

flour, kneading thoroughly until a smooth and elastic dough has been formed. The dough must be very stiff, since the boiled potato contains a large amount of water which causes the dough to soften as it rises. Do not add water to the dough unless it is absolutely necessary to work in the flour. Set the dough back to rise again,—temperature at about 86 degrees F.—until it has trebled in volume, which will require another hour or two. Then divide the dough into four approximately equal parts, reserving a tiny lump weighing two or three ounces for an "indicator." Shape the sample into a ball and press it into the bottom of a small tumbler with straight sides. The glass should be slightly warmed. Note the volume of the ball of dough in the tumbler and mark the glass at twice this volume.

Mold the four portions into loaves and place in greased pans which have been slightly warmed. Place the glass containing the "indicator" beside the pans and let all rise, under proper temperature, until the "indicator" shows that it has doubled in volume. Then place the loaves in the oven and bake in a good, steady heat (400 degrees to 425 degrees F.) for 45 minutes.

TO TEST OVEN.—Where no oven thermometer is at hand, a convenient test will be to put a teaspoonful of flour in an earthen dish in the oven. If this flour becomes light brown evenly through-



FRIED BREAD WITH FILLING.

out in five minutes' time, the oven is right for bread baking. If the flour scorches in that time, the oven is too hot

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

them are intellectually unfit for the ballots. They either don't care or vote as they are told and naturally that impedes the progress of those who do know and care.

I am not an extremist. I believe Man was intended by nature to be the leader, Woman to be his companion (not his property), and to walk beside him in progress and not follow behind. In fact to be his mental as well as his soul mate.

I think the home is woman's highest sphere (when she has a home), but not to the exclusion of all outside interests. I think she should know something of what is going on in the outside world and help make it a better place to send her boys and girls when they are grown.

I wish you Anti's who are well housed, well fed and well clothed, who have children and noble husbands, would tell me what you advocate for the thousands of women who have neither homes nor husbands. Women who have to compete with men in making a living. If they can get better laws by which to live and make a living have you any right to say they shouldn't? And in so doing, are you extending to them that Christian spirit to which you profess? Yes, the Anti's have a right to their own opinion, but they have no right to try to deny to others what they themselves do not want or need.

It does seem strange—that the finest and most prominent men and women of the nation are in favor of women voting while so many of the COMFORT sisters are opposed to it. However, I wish more would give their reasons, as I have never yet heard a good one given.

If Mrs. Aldridge will read "Finding God in Millersville" in the September American Magazine, she may

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8.)

Mr. Edison's Wonderful Phonograph

Only $1.00 = $1 After Free Trial



Yes, you may keep this new Edison—Thomas A. Edison's great phonograph with the diamond stylus—and your choice of records, too, for only $1. Pay the balance at rate of only a few cents a day. Try the New Edison in your own home before you decide to buy. Send no money down. Entertain your friends with your favorite records. Grand opera, old time melodies, funny minstrel shows. Then send it back at our expense, if you wish. Or keep it on our rock bottom offer—$1 down and balance in easy payments.

Write Today For Our New Edison Book. Send your name and address for our new book and pictures of the New Edison phonographs. No obligations.

F. K. BABSON, *Edison Phonograph Distributors*
9041 Edison Block, Chicago, Illinois



10¢ Makes Big Pie (12c to 15c in Far West) At Grocers

Try Recipes on the Package—Fruit Cake Puddings and Cookies

Ask for

NONE SUCH MINCE MEAT

"Like Mother Used to Make"

MERRELL-SOULE CO. Syracuse, New York

FREE A 54-PIECE FULL SIZE HANDSOME DINNER SET



WE TRUST YOU NO MONEY NEEDED WE PAY FREIGHT

Sell 12 boxes of 7 cakes fine Toilet Soap, and with every box, give as premiums to each purchaser all of the following articles; a Pound of Baking Powder, Bottle Perfume, Box Talcum Powder, 6 Teaspoons, Pair Shears and Package of Needles and the **Dinner Set is Yours.** Many other equally attractive offers and hundreds of useful Premiums or Cash Commission given for your time. **Special Extra Present** of a 26-pc. Silverine Knife, Fork and Spoon Set FREE of all cost or work of any kind, if you write at once. You advance no money. You have nothing to risk. Write today for our **Big FREE Agents Outfit.** Act quickly—don't delay. THE PURE FOOD CO. Established 1897. 139 W. Pearl St. CINCINNATI, O.

The Seaboard Magazine Free



Will you be shown you can make more money farming in the Seaboard Southeast? Do you want facts about its fertile lands, long growing season and mild climate? Can you buy low-priced lands here, when convinced it will profit you to move? Then send your address for Seaboard Magazine, free.

B. L. Hamner, Gen. Dev. Agt.
976 Royster Bldg., Norfolk, Va.

REVERSIBLE **"Linene"** TRADE-MARK



Send 2 Cents in U. S. stamps to pay postage and we will send you FREE a SAMPLE COLLAR of our New Style "Copley." State size wanted. REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. E, Boston, Mass.

$10 PER DAY EASILY EARNED AS A PIANO TUNER

The TUNE-A-PHONE Gives You an ideal profession for making money. We teach tuning by an infallibly accurate method at your own home in spare time. Guaranteed. Illustrated booklet FREE.



NILES BRYANT SCHOOL OF TUNING
19 G St., Battle Creek, Mich.

MEN WANTED



We positively teach you at home by mail to earn $25 to $50 weekly as Chauffeur or Repairman. Students assisted to positions. Best system, lowest price. MODELS FURNISHED. Write for Free Book, PRACTICAL AUTO SCHOOL, 70-F, Beaver St., New York.

Given To You WITHOUT EXPENSE



Rocker Q850 This Rocker would cost you $8 or $10 at retail. We give it with a $10 purchase of Larkin Products.

Buy your necessary home supplies from Larkin Co. and the saving you make by dealing from

FACTORY TO FAMILY

is given you in the form of this Rocker or a thousand and one other useful things of your selection.

BIG BOOK FREE

Mail Coupon today and get our latest Catalog—Everything explained including our money back guarantee.

Send Coupon to Nearest Address.

Larkin Co. Buffalo Chicago Peoria

Please send me your Catalog No. 76

Name.....

Address.....

G. P. 335.....

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

find the answer to her question in regard to whipping children to make them say their prayers.

Mrs. Pratt, I heartily appreciate your idea of a Christian.

With best wishes, yours for progress and woman suffrage. MRS. EMMA KERSEY.

Mrs. Kersey. Not only would I advise Mrs. Aldridge to read the story you mention, "Finding God in Millersville," but the rest of the sisters as well, and the men, too. It is a wonderful little story and deserves the praise it has received.—Ed.

SO. DAKOTA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

This is my second letter to COMFORT and this time I hope Mrs. Wilkinson will be more kind than she was before, for I am seeking advice.

I have been married a little over two years and am twenty years old. My husband is eleven years older than I am. He loves me I know and is always kind and good to me, but still there is something bothering me. I like to go out among people and enjoy myself or as some say, "have a good time," but whenever I suggest going to visit any of our friends my husband always seems inclined to stay at home. In the end he most always goes with me but he never acts as though he were enjoying himself and some of our friends have noticed this also. The only place he seems to be willing to go with me is to see his mother and sister. And although they are good to me and mother is a dear old lady, I feel out of place there as they are of a different nationality and generally speak in their language which I cannot understand or speak.

I don't think he can be ashamed of me, for I am fairly good looking and always try to look my best at all times.

Will some of the sisters please write to this corner and give me their ideas and advice on this matter?

I shall be glad to hear from any who care to write as sometimes I get rather lonesome. I have never lived on a farm before.

I will leave my name with our dear friend and helper, Mrs. Wilkinson, and sign myself, your COMFORT sister, "MRS. PETE."

Mrs. Pete. I'm going to let the sisters settle your difficulty for you. Doubtless some of them will tell you that if you have a husband willing to stay home you should let him. Others will say that if you knew his disinclination for society and was willing to marry him in spite of it, that you should be a good sport and make the best of it. Others will advise you to go alone, and I've even heard some advocate going with men friends of the family, with the husband's knowledge and consent of course. What do the sisters think about it?—Ed.

MO.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

May I be permitted to have a few minutes' chat with you while I am in the mood to talk?

This season of the year makes me realize how much is given us to be thankful for. This passing away of another year numbers our deeds with the past. Has the time been well spent? With each word and deed recorded has it been kindness, charity, and love toward our fellow men? It may have been ever so small but like the little pebble dropped in the great river, a little splash, then the ripples and the waves have carried it out on the great body of water. So with our aims and ambitions. To be noble men and women we should create the habit of letting the little pebbles of love and kindness drop where they will be passed on and on till they may become joy and gladness.

The passing of 1916 may have marked the happiest year of our lives, bringing us with full appreciation of our blessings to the beginning of this year. And how shall we spend it? Life is so uncertain that we cannot tell but let us mothers with girls just budding into womanhood, ever pray for them virtue and self respect. Let us try to be the true, tender, affectionate mothers God intended us to be. Let us consider it an honor to find ourselves trusted, chosen to be the guide and counsel of our little ones and appreciate the fact that He thought us worthy to be a mother.

I have long been a reader of COMFORT and have had many hours of pleasure from its pages. Long may it live to carry messages of love, sow seeds of kindness and reap its harvest in a world to come.

With love to all and malice toward none, I am, Your loving sister, A MOTHER.

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

This is the first of a series of twelve lessons on the philosophy of life as taught by those who believe that the stars exercise a potent influence over human destiny, and ascribe to birth-stones a talismanic charm for the protection of those who wear the gems that symbolize their respective birth months.

We are not advocating these beliefs, though they have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss February will appear next month and we trust our readers will be entertained by what she has to say.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.



MISS JANUARY.

THIS little maid, Miss January, looking so pert and comfortable in her seasonable garments, brings us New Year's Greetings and a message to the boys and girls to have their ear-laps and mufflers handy, and to keep the doors closed and the wood box filled, for on that day the weather man says it will be cold with high winds.

And when a few kindred spirits have gathered about the warm blaze, how often do the mysteries of the future become the absorbing topic of conversation and are vainly sought for in the tea cup or in the shuffling of the deck!

But there were wise men, hundreds of years ago, who told that our destinies are ruled by the aspect of the planets when we were born, and claimed to read the decrees of Fate recorded in celestial horoscopes.

These Solomons taught that born between the twenty-second day of January and the twenty-first day of February, men are destined to succeed in their ambitions, for genius has marked them for her own. The years of youth will not pass without struggles, for money will be scarce and the burdens of others will fall on the young shoulders. But the skies will clear, and at thirty he is a resolute man, finding the early hardships but taught him to live right.

He will be a great speaker and the country will know him as a man of a highly conscientious nature and very religious.

He may not show good judgment in selecting a wife for he will be much influenced by the opposite sex.

"Woman's affection is best proved
By the care she takes of your linen."

Women whose birthdays occur between the dates mentioned have faithful natures and make loving, devoted wives. They are active, of nervous temperament, and will be liable to diseases of the nervous system. They are natural business women and will succeed.

Personal appearance will greatly concern them, and places of public entertainment and instruction will attract their interest and receive their patronage.

The Magic Influence of the Birthstone —For January 'Tis the Garnet

That a magic influence has been attributed to jewels since the world began is undisputed. We trace all through the Bible references to precious stones, even as early as Gen. ii, 12.

Fact and fancy are strangely interwoven in the value set on some particular gem, which may arise purely from association or from the fact that good fortune attended the years during which some ornament was carried about the person or worn as a jewel.

However this may be, optimism promotes success, and faith and hope bring health and happiness, and sentiment is good for all mankind. The daily sight, or the knowledge that we carry a gem that is dear from association, causes a sentiment that cannot be analyzed. Call it superstition, if we will, but we would not part with it, and we know that it awakens and strengthens the better qualities within us; that it has been a secret personal comfort through life.

There is a very pretty story of the lad who wore a ring of garnets, given him by his father, saying it possessed great power to remove all obstacles that blocked his way to success.

By the time the son reached manhood, his country was defending her shores from the enemy, and his King called him to take many a perilous journey that might cost him his life.

But he wore his ring of garnets either on his finger or suspended about his neck, and his faith in his father's gift and prophecy kept his brain clear, and his hand steady through many an hour of peril, to return to his ruler and hear his words "well done."

And thus has come about many a custom wherein gems have played an endearing part because of association and tradition, and one of the most popular of the times is the Birthday Stone, symbolic of the month in which the wearer was born.

Those born in January should wear the garnet, symbolic of power, "the guardian of all right; it makes those on whom it acts, free; it is mightiest when most gentle—mere force must fall before it."

How to Make a Miss January

Some of COMFORT'S young people may want to make a Miss January, so here is the way it is done.

Buy a ten-cent doll or make a head of cloth and paint face with water colors. Fasten to neck of bottle the right height and fill bottle with sand or earth to make it heavy. Make arms and fill with hayseed. Make a plaited skirt of pale green or white crepe paper. The coat is made of red crepe paper and chould come half way over the skirt. Use the red for crown of hood and trim with white cotton; also make the muffler, mittens and muff (all the M's) of cotton. Speck it with bits of black ink to represent ermine.

SPRINGFIELD, 5 West Main Street, OHIO.

MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Please allow a silent sister, one of the so-called uncivilized race, a Japanese, a few words.

I am Irish, but born in Japan of Missionary parents, raised in Japan, and married to a Japanese in Japan, but for the last few years of U. S.

I have three very sweet babies, and you can laugh if you want to, for they are to me the sweetest babies in the world.

If this letter is printed, I may come again and tell you some interesting things of my country people, and I am sure that if you ever were in Japan you would think as all do who have been there, and that is that it is a most wonderful country.

And very civilized also, and far more modesty in that country than here, and that counts in the civilization part. I am not trying to say U. S. is not civilized, but I do say that U. S. is far behind when it comes to modest women and girls.

To Miss Jessie Rose. I am glad to hear that you wish to become a nurse and I admire your "pluck" and I wish you all success. If you will go to a good hospital, explain your case, you will find them glad to help you, but dearie, you will have to get all your pluck together, and keep it too. It will be hard the first two years, but after the first two years you can get a good salary, and your third year will graduate you, if you are sincere and keep a stiff lip. Always remember to speak gently even if you have a very cross patient. You can enter a hospital, not necessary to have so very much education. They take girls in on a three years' term. The first year the salary is very low, and the work hard and as this is the starter's hardest year, you must keep firm to win and not get discouraged.

The second year is better, and you are more with the patients, and so learn more the second year than the first, and the salary is some better also, and the third year, if you have been a good, studious girl, will be your triumph, and then you can demand fine wages. Of course you always get your board and room from the start. So good luck dearies, and let me know once in a while how you are getting along, and watch the nurses' ways, and especially their conversation, and you take notice of all, in fact be especially observing, all the time and remember all you hear and see, and do it, and no one will know whether you went through high school or not, and you do not have to tell the nurses all about yourself, even though they do ask, so again good luck.

I had a birthday the 24th of November.

My little girl, aged four years, can wash all the dishes, and I scald them and she wipes them and puts all away in their place as good as I can do it. She is a great help to me, and I believe it right to teach the little ones how to work, and clean, and be neat and obedient. They love their bath, and want it every night.

Mrs. Ida Bell Aldridge, that is a beautiful little prayer, and I am very sorry that your child will not say it; all my babies say theirs as soon as they get their nighties on, without me telling them to. I am indeed sorry but please do not whip, or force him to say them; it is more example he needs; try to point out all the nice things, and the kindnesses to him as all coming from God. Tell him pretty stories, similar to fairy tales, every moment you have to spare, only let it be about some child afflicted in some way or miserably poor, and hungry, and how God, as a fairy, aided them. When he wants a new toy tell him you cannot spare the money, but that if he will pray to God, and be good that God will send money enough in some way to buy the toy, and in this way you will keep his heart thinking over the fairy stories, and win his heart in the way you want it, but when you say you have not money to buy, stick to it and don't buy until he prays in faith then keep your promise and get it if you have to go without a meal. Do not promise and deceive him.

Thanking you all for the many helps you have given me in the past, I am with sincere wishes for eternal friendship. MRS. TONY KOGA.

Mrs. Tony Koga. We stay-at-home sisters are looking forward to a long letter from you telling us a lot of interesting things about your life in the land of cherry blossoms and about your babies too. Indeed we won't laugh at them for we know they are all you think them to be.—Ed.

CORNERSVILLE, MD.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

By all means let us all contribute our mite toward a home for Uncle Charlie. I am glad to see how enthusiastically many readers have taken to the idea and hope the good work will continue.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
A New Year Eve Adventure *Joseph F. Novak*	3
A Calendar Party *Elizabeth C. Read*	3
Nerine's Second Choice (continued) *Adelaide Stirling*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner	5
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	5
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	6
Bread—Some Good Recipes *Ella Gordon*	7
The Kingdom of Our Birthright	8
Crumbs of Comfort	8
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	9
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	10
Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	11
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	12
Marigolds *Hapsburg Liebe*	13
In and Around the Home *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	14
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	15
Modern Farmer	16
Uncle Charlie's Home Fund	17
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps	20
The Way of a Woman *Maud Mary Brown*	22
Comfort Readers Tell How They Succeeded with their Incubators	23
Home Lawyer	24
Information Bureau	25
Spring Trapping	25
Talks with Girls	26
Manners and Looks	27
Children's Happy Hour	28
Family Doctor	29
November Prize Winners	30
A Corner for Boys *Uncle John*	31
Seven Wheel Chairs in December	32
A Few Odd Breads of the World *Edna Mary Colman*	33
Veterinary Information	34
The Goddess of Lonesome Ranch *Hapsburg Liebe*	34
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	35
Comfort's Comicalities	35

PAYSON'S INDELIBLE INK

ready for use with a ***common pen.*** It makes a clear mark and will not spread or wash out and will protect cotton, linens and heavier fabrics from confusion or loss. A household necessity for eighty-two years. Stationers and Druggists sell it in the old-fashioned red and yellow wrappers, or it will be sent prepaid for 25 cents by **R. L. Williston, Northampton, Mass., Dept. C.**

February Comfort

will be our big Washington, Lincoln and Valentine number with a raft of wit and wisdom, a lot of bright stories and a variety of entertaining, amusing and instructive matter.

Some Special Features for February

"My Lady O'Crinoline" A charming romance of the Civil War, telling how a soldier boy won a sweetheart at a Valentine party of the enemy.	**"Unique Mementoes of Washington"** that give an intimate view of his private life and habits. These curious relics of priceless value are pictured and described.
"A Valentine Luncheon" telling how to entertain your friends enjoyably and how to prepare and serve the refreshments most attractively.	**"Useful Valentines That Children Can Make"** shows the children how to make pretty and useful valentines better than shop-made goods.
"Illustrated Lincoln Stories" A lot of jokes and amusing short stories that show Lincoln's wonderful wit, wisdom and kindness.	**"The Wrong Way Out"** A fine story that teaches what is a woman's due. If all would learn the lesson there would be less unhappy homes.

Special, Low Rate for January Renewals

As an inducement to renew your subscription promptly this month we offer the special, low rate of 30 cents for a 2-year renewal. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album.

If the number over your name on the wrapper in which this paper comes is 340, or any less number, it means that your subscription should be renewed at once. Send in your renewal today, if you don't want to miss January COMFORT. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name*.....

Street

Postoffice ..... *and No*.....

R. F. D. No.....*Box No*.....*State*.....

January, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

Worry is rust upon the blade.

Every misery one misses is a new blessing.

The most zealous are not always the wisest.

By persuading others we convince ourselves.

Worth makes the man and want of it the fellow.

What a man can do well is his greatest ornament.

The world is his who can see through its pretension.

The society of women is the element of good manners.

A very small bit of religion will make a good-sized cloak.

We may despise the world, but we can not do without it.

Books are a guide to youth and an entertainment to age.

If men are so wicked with religion, what would they be without it?

A pure mind in a fair body is indeed a fine picture in a good light.

To praise justly is to pay an honest debt; to flatter is merely a gift.

A house without family worship has neither foundation nor covering.

Being quick to condemn faults in others is no sign of being faultless.

Slander spreads like an oil-spot; we try to cleanse it, but the mark remains.

The respect of others is the first restoration of the self-respect a man has lost.

Foundations which must bear the weight of an eternal life must be surely laid.

When the Lord endowed man with brains He did not intend to guarantee them.

You can make money much easier with health, than you can make health with money.

It is somewhat remarkable that when a man is a brute he is the most vicious of all brutes.

The two things one never should be angry with are what he can help and what he can't help.

We have been put into the world, we know not why; we are taken out of it, knowing no more.

We should be as careful of our words as of our actions and as far from speaking ill as doing ill.

God made the lilies and God made man, both on the same broad principle of free and natural life.

There are few wild beasts more to be dreaded than a talkative person with nothing to talk about.

Keep yourself so busy with your own affairs that you can not spare time to meddle with other people's.

Why we are in the world at all is not to prepare to go out of it some day, but to serve God in it now.

Young men are apt to think themselves wise enough, as drunken men are apt to think themselves sober enough.

Keep in the midst of life. Be among people and among things and among troubles and difficulties and obstacles.

The superfluous blossoms on a fruit tree are meant to symbolize the large way God loves to do pleasant things.

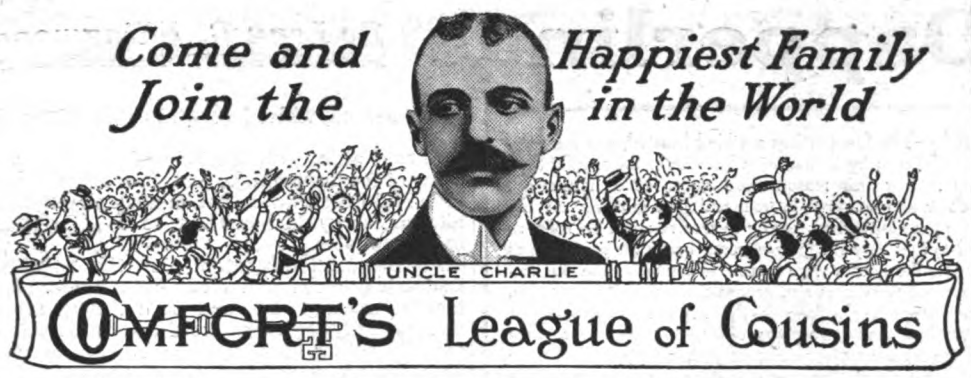
Whoever lends an easy and believing ear to slander is of very bad morals, or has no more sense and judgment than a child.

The act of divine worship is the inestimable privilege of man, the only created being who bows in humility and adoration.

We should never be ashamed to own we are in the wrong because it shows that we are wiser today than we were yesterday.

Give bread to a stranger in the name of the universal brotherhood which binds all mankind under the common father of nature.

Never let us think evil of those who do not see as we do, but let us pity them and take them by the hand and spend time and thought over them trying to lead them to the true light.



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all. Hop up onto my lap, for I want to have a real heart-to-heart talk with you all about the big things of life, things that vitally concern everyone of you.

Last year I hammered away for months on the subject of preparedness and Americanism. I told you what was expected of you as citizens of the greatest republic on earth, tried to inject some real patriotism into your sluggish souls, tried to make you understand that you are living in the most tremendous period of the world's history, tried to make you realize that that terrific conflict in Europe, which President Wilson, at the beginning of the war told you did not concern us, does concern us just as vitally as it does those nations who are engaged in it. Remember that your future and the future of America, as well as the future of England and Germany, France, Austria and Russia, in fact the future of the whole human race is being decided right now on the bloody fields of Europe. Nearly a score of nations have been plunged into the fiery crucible of war, and from that molten furnace of hell, hate, ambition and lust, will emerge a new world. It may be a better world, it may be a worse world. That all depends whether democracy wins, or autocracy triumphs, whether the people are to be on top, or divine right monarchs are still to control and hold in the hollow of their hands the lives of millions of unfortunates. Whatever happens, when the time comes we have got to be ready to battle for the cause that needs assistance, and the wrong that needs resistance, and the time may come any moment, and we must be ready to quit ourselves like men, to play our part nobly and well. This is the most tremendous moment in the history of man on this planet, and I want you all to realize the deep significance of that fact, and all it means to you and every living creature.

There is a foolish idea purposely spread by peace for profit papers to fool the Henry Dubbs, that when this war comes to an end, the old world will be a broken reed, morally, spiritually, financially and physically. While this war has been one of devastation, it has also been one of regeneration. The barriers of caste and class have crumbled to dust and greed and selfishness have been replaced by sacrifice, devotion and heroic service. The Central powers are losing nearly a million men a year, but every year eight hundred thousand youths come to military age. The population of Russia increases by leaps and bounds. Three million souls have been born into that country since the war started. It is the same with all other countries. Nature makes up the ravages of war with an unstinting hand, and science sends ninety per cent of the wounded back to the firing line again.

During this great war Europe has been growing thin, while we have been accumulating fat. But Europe has not been destroying herself or plunging to ruin. Instead she has been shedding the superfluous flesh of luxury, idleness, pleasure and high living, until today she stands like a trained athlete, ready for industrial or military war, mobilized and organized to the last man, woman and child. While Europe has been growing vigorous and strong, acquiring youth and virility, America has been growing weak, decadent, luxurious and wasteful, until at last conditions have been reversed, and the old world has become the new world, while the new world has become the old. Since the war began we have become a creditor instead of a debtor nation. Once we were always in Europe's debt, now Europe is in our debt. Two and a half billion dollars, much of it in gold has come to these shores during the last two years, and yet we have sent but thirty-five million dollars—a mere beggarly pittance—to help those European countries devastated and made helpless by the ravages of war. The giving as usual has been left to a few, the vast masses of the people have done nothing, though millions have died and are dying in Europe right now, dying for us, dying so that we may be free and that government of, for, and by the people shall not perish from the earth.

Europe has found her soul, we, alas! have not yet found ours. Before the war is over more than half the gold supply of the entire earth will have found its way to these United States. There is not a country in the world that has any particular love for us and by many nations we are hated and despised. The fatter and richer we grow the more liable to attack we become. Envy and hate can soon forge an excuse to vent their violence. Then too our very weakness from a military point of view is an open invitation to attack.

We have been, and are still living in a fool's paradise. We have had preparedness parades that have simply staggered the imagination, but there was not an atom of sincerity or real patriotism among those who marched in them. We have had flags, banners, brass bands, fireworks, and patriotic, spread eagle speeches, that cracked both eyes and ears. Millions have been willing to march for their country but enlist and fight for it—never. We will do the marching, but the other fellow must do the fighting, has been the craven cry from East to West. It's another case of "Let George do it," and George has gotten tired of being kicked around, and simply refuses to do it until he has a stake in his country, gets a square deal and has something to fight for. Under the shadow or our great Capitol at Washington, passed a preparedness parade of fifty thousand people. The following day recruiting stations were opened, and a hundred officers and men were up at sunrise looking for business. They expected that wonderful patriotic outburst would bring at least a thousand recruits, but their combined efforts after fourteen hours of hard work produced but one man and he wasn't a resident of Washington. Captain MacGonigal in charge of the recruiting stations fired with indignation and disgust, wrote to the Washington Herald next day and said: "Patriotism! I'm beginning to think this town hasn't any. Plenty of people come in here and talk to me all day long, but they don't enlist, instead they give me a nice long lecture on the curse of war, and wind up by telling me I ought to be ashamed of myself for coming down here and trying to lure the young men off to be food for cannon. Thus far I've stood for it and kept my temper, but my patience has been strained to the breaking point."

One recruit out of fifty thousand preparedness paraders! So much for our patriotism, once our greatest asset, our pride and glory and now something that has ceased to exist. Our people do not realize that no country is worthy of self government or can long retain self government unless it is ready and willing to defend that government.

There must be a cause for this apathy and there is. The vast masses of the people are not satisfied with the way this country has been and is being run, and well may they be dissatisfied for it is always run more or less in the interests of the few while the needs of the many are forgotten. Then too any program of preparedness and of national security in time of war that is not superimposed on a foundation of social and economic security in time of peace, is false to the needs of a nation's life. What this country needs is constructive statesmen, statesmen who will deal with the humanities as well as with business. But, alas! it is overrun with hordes of destructive politicians. Before you can expect people to become patriotic you must give them something to be patriotic about, a country must be worth living in to be worth dying for. We have such a country and we create enormous wealth, but it goes into too few hands, and though we live in a glorious land endowed by nature with inexhaustible riches, and though wages and living standards here are higher than in nearly any country on earth, life is not what it should be for many of our people.

America today is not a nation. It is a mere hodge podge of forty-eight loosely jointed states, nearly all of these states are in the hands of political rings whose sole idea is to fatten at public expense. Most of these states too, have conflicting and radically different sets of laws and are inhabited by millions of people, whose hearts, souls and sympathies are with the monarchical countries of Europe, and millions more who care for it only for what they can get out of it, and who think they have a right to extract the last gallon of oil, the last ton of coal, the last ounce of copper, the last nugget of gold, and sweep from its surface the last stick of timber and the last grain of wheat without giving to the state one hour of service or one atom of devotion. These latter are the hogs of creation, drunk with materialism, soused with profit, and mad with power, and the worst of it is we have millions more among us who envy this type of human hog and though they curse him and the country that produced him, would act exactly as he does if they had the opportunity. It was Cromwell who welded the British nation into one strong articulate whole. It was Bismarck who took the scores of little German states and made them into the mighty empire whose power and efficiency enables it to defy almost the whole world. Germany was poor and poverty-stricken; in half a century of organization, cooperation and social legislation she became the wonder of the world.

Today we have the richest country on the face of the earth, but thanks to bad management, stupidity, folly, lack of vision, ideals and patriotism, our country is but a weak, flabby, inefficient, disjointed, backward looking, unwieldly thing. Not until our forty-eight states are knit together in one harmonious whole, not until national organization, a more equitable distribution of wealth, a higher, broader and more practical and rational form of education, rekindle our ideals and deepen our spiritual life, shall we have a United States that is really and truly united. We must build a nation. We have the foundation, we have the material, but we lack the vision and the spirit. Europe has been reborn in two years, we too would be reborn in the same period, if the red hand of war were chastening and purifying us, as it is the peoples of the old world.

We however, do not want war, though I believe as was set forth in the pastoral letter of the Protestant Episcopal Church recently, that God hates a godless and empty peace as much as He hates an unrighteous war, and our peace is godless, for it is a mere cloak that covers an industrial war that is at times as relentless as that which is now taking place in the old world.

Again what is wrong with America? Anyone who has the soul of a flea and the vision of a bat, must know what ails us is the lack of social justice and the need of social legislation to smooth out the festering sores in our social and political life and to narrow the awful chasm that exists between the haves and the have nots, the rich and the poor. One or two sessions of Congress could bring harmony into our national life and relieve millions of homes from the ever pressing fear of want, unemployment and sickness. Why does not Congress take action? It is common knowledge that two per cent of the people own sixty per cent of the nation's wealth, 35 per cent of the people own 33 per cent of the wealth, while 65 per cent of the people own but five per cent of the nation's wealth. Those figures come from one of our government's own commissions. We spend six billion dollars annually for institutions to take care of the derelicts of society. We have nearly three million children who have no schooling. One eighth of our babies do not live to complete the first year of their lives. Our state institutions are simply loaded down with the feeble-minded, criminal, insane and degenerate. Tens of thousands are killed or injured in industries who might be saved to the nation by care and safety appliances. Ninety per cent of our immigrants are allowed to go to the city while vast stretches of land lie uncultivated. During the winter tens of thousands of unemployed throng our cities. Annually in the United States there are 600,000 deaths which might be prevented if existing knowledge of hygiene were properly applied. At least half of the three million and more sick beds which are constantly filled in the United States are unnecessary. The financial loss from earnings by those cut off from preventable diseases or premature death, amounts to $1,500,000,000 annually, and over fifteen years are lost to the average life through the lack of application and knowledge which already exists, but which simply has not yet been disseminated and applied.

Only fourteen in a hundred of this nation's children ever enter the first year of high school, only one hundred and ten in a thousand ever finish the fourth year of the high school course. We are spending hundreds of millions for military preparedness, and we are wise to do it, and must do it, but most of that money will be wasted unless social preparedness and military preparedness go hand in hand.

Let Congress take notice, appoint a Minister of Welfare, gather together the brainiest and big-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17.)

WANTED! We Want 300 Agents at $35 to $70 a Week

NEW INVENTION—just out. Needed in every home every day. Patent just applied for. Nothing else like it. Supplies what every housewife has wished for for years. Perfected after long experimental work by mechanical experts. Low priced—anyone can use it—**sells on sight.** We want three hundred representatives at once—men or women hustlers—to advertise, accept orders and manage deliveries for our new **Quickedge Knife and Shear Sharpener.** Sharpens any kitchen knife, paring knife, carving knife, bread knife or shears and scissors **in ten seconds.** Agents are taking orders at every house—**wiring for rush shipments.** Write today for this opportunity to make $10 to $20 every day, over

$300 Per Month

This little machine is a mechanical masterpiece. A child can use it. Just put knife in slot—turn crank—**grinds automatically**—draws blade to keen, sharp, perfect, lasting edge **at absolutely correct bevel for daily use.** Nothing to adjust—nothing to change, nothing to wear out or get out of order—**absolutely guaranteed**—will last for years. Once they see it and use it, women will not do without it for ten times its cost. One agent wrote: "It was easier for me to learn to sell the **Quickedge** than it was to learn to tear open my pay envelope in my former dollar-a-day job." Get out of the dollar-a-day class. Get this position, where profits start the first day.



No Experience Required

Just take one of the machines to any house and show it—give a ten-second demonstration upon the dullest knife in the house; **the order is yours right on the spot; instantly.** No talking necessary. No argument. The machine simply sells itself; **and stays sold.** Every customer becomes your friend. They tell others; your profits double and multiply. Leave one hundred on trial over night. Collect the cash for every one of them next day. **The machine will do its own talking;** it is so easy to operate, no explanations or instructions are necessary. Secure your county now; **free.** Get started right now and

Only $1.50 Selling Price

Low price, ease of operation, astonishing quickness and absolute perfection of results, money-back guaranty. These things make the **Quickedge** the fastest seller of the age—**the biggest money-maker for agents, general agents and managers ever invented.**

Make as Much Money Next Week as These Men are Making Now

J. C. Lewis, of Kansas, says: **"I have sold one hundred Sharpeners in four days."** Hobart Kerr, of Md., writes: "The women can hardly wait till they get them." Herbert Cain, of Ky., sold nine after supper. At the end of his first day, J. W. Gordon, of Pa., writes: "I have sold two dozen, and **I sold to everyone I saw."** Wm. G. Hall, of N. J., says: "I think it is great. I sold six in about one-half hour. The machine is a mighty fine proposition. **I am a mechanic, and I know what I am talking about."** Peter Courtland, of Mich., writes: "I received your sharpener and opened it in a barber shop. I ground his shears, and I got an order for one right on the spot." H. A. Henkel, of Va., says: "I have examined it and find it a wonderful little machine. **The workmanship is simply perfect."** Frank King, Colo., says: "Sample received Saturday. Sold ten today. Sell to most every house." Forest Webb, of Pa., says: "Went out Monday afternoon for about three hours and received one dozen orders. **Profit $12.00."** H. Tillery, of Tenn., wrote: "Took three orders first hour. When you sharpen an old dull knife, dull, as a hoe, in less than a minute, **they sit up and look."** Ray Carter, of Mass., writes: "I went out two days and have orders for thirty sharpeners." **Profit $30.00 for first two days.** John Durr, of Wis., also says: **"I have sold thirty in two days."**

Make $70 Next Week

Easy to start—easy to make big money if you will just follow instructions and work faithfully. **No charge for territory. 200% profit for agents.** Business supplies capital. Exclusive protection, co-operation and assistance. Failure impossible. Nothing to risk. Success assured.

Easy to demonstrate—and every woman is anxious to see it work—then she would not do without it. No talking necessary. Just show the machine and take the order—**one dollar profit on every call you make.**

Send for application blank and complete information today—**free.** Investigate. **Get the proof.** Don't delay. Write a postal card or letter right now. **Territory is being assigned very fast.** Get your county now—**free.** Write today.

You can make this money. **Send now.** Territory free. Get busy.

WRITE TODAY

The Quickedge Sharpener Co.
No. 639 Sharpener Bldg.
215 N. Desplaines St., Chicago, Ill.

The Quickedge Knife and Shear Sharpener
Grinds Any Kitchen Knife or Shears In 10 Seconds
Absolutely Guaranteed

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1916, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.—The Dapperlings are kind-hearted, gay little elf-like beings who ride on rabbits and never let themselves be seen by human eyes because of their belief that, if seen, it would bring some terrible calamity upon them. For this reason their queer little houses are always built into the hillside, and are so made, with doors and windows in front and grass growing on the backs, that they can be turned around to face out when the Dapperlings are by themselves; but as soon as anybody comes in sight the houses are whirled around so that only the grass-covered backs are seen and, as these look like the rest of the hill, you would never know the houses were there. They also have an underground assembly hall with an opening in the top covered with moss and concealed in a clump of thistles.

Down by the mill brook in the meadow near the Dapperling village is the favorite playground of five-year-old Simmie-Sammie Smith and his sister Pittysing, nearly two years older, but, of course, they don't know anything about the Dapperlings. Nattie, the Smallest Dapperling of All, is not afraid of these children. She would play with them if the Dapperling rules permitted, and she does meddle with their playthings slyly and unseen, much to their bewilderment. She takes Pittysing's doll and embroidery scissors, when she isn't looking, and carries them to the assembly hall to show to the other Dapperlings. Later, Pittysing stumbles into the opening through the top of the assembly hall and finds her lost doll decked in a wonderful Dapperling dress which she believes to be the work of fairies.

CHAPTER IV.

CHIPPIE CHATTER

"NATTIE, Nattie, come! We're almost ready to start."

The Smallest Dapperling of All didn't want to get down. Dapperlings' beds are hung from the ceiling, on springs, so you see they get DOWN, instead of getting UP, as we do. If you never slept in a Dapperling bed, and I don't suppose you ever did, you have no idea how warm, and soft, and cozy a bed can be.

Nattie was still sleepy when she came to the door, but once outside, she was wide awake enough.

It was a lively scene. How astonished Pittysing and Simmie-Sammie would have been if they had seen it! The early morning air was fresh and keen. The stars were twinkling gaily at one another, and the moon, just a mere scrap of it left, was still in the eastern sky.

The Dapperlings were out in full force, calling out happy greetings, and at the foot of the hill, all saddled and bridled, and anxious to be off were the rabbits.

At last all the Dapperlings were mounted, and away they went. The rabbits were feeling frisky, and leaped and bounded along, up the hill, through the woods, away and away, while the moon and stars faded and the eastern sky grew rosy. By and by the great, round, shining, beautiful sun came up above the mountain. Then the mists cleared away, the air grew warmer, and it was broad day.

On a distant hillside, miles away, was another Dapperling village, and at the foot of the hill our Dapperlings got off their rabbits to make a call on their friends.

They had a fine visit, and wandered around, looking over the place, laughing and talking sociably.

Nattie, with another little Dapperling, was looking for strawberries, when they heard a queer little sound, something like a cough, something like a sob. They started to run, but Nattie said, "We're not 'fraid-cats, let's find out what the trouble is."

Then the other little Dapperling said, "Oh, it must be something caught in one of the snares." And, sure enough, it was.

A snare had been made by tying a horse-hair noose to a little bush, which was bent over and fastened down by a tiny twig stuck into the ground. Behind the noose had been placed some beechnuts.

A little squirrel had spied the nuts, foolishly run his head through the noose, when up went the little bush, and he was caught fast. He turned his bright eyes upon the Dapperlings and tried to scold at them, but the noose was too tight around his neck.

All of a sudden, Nattie made a beautiful plan.

"Who set the snare?" she asked. Then, without waiting for an answer, she went on, "Oh, do you s'pose they'd give that squirrel to me? I want him dreadfully, for a very special purpose."

When she had heard all about Nattie's plan, the other little Dapperling said, "I'll help you coax for him. I'm sure they'll give him to you."

So they ran back and told the others about the squirrel, and what Nattie wanted of him.

They all thought it a very nice plan, indeed, and said she might have him. But the next question was, how to get him home?

Then old Shandle-Spinx, who was really kind-hearted, though you never would have guessed it to look at his face, said, "I'll manage that. I'll tie his feet together and take him up in front of me, on my rabbit's back."

Nattie clapped her hands for joy, and wished they would start for home that minute, though she was too polite to say so.



THE RABBITS WERE FEELING FRISKY AND LEAPED AND BOUNDED ALONG.

They had dinner first, a picnic dinner, which they ate sitting in the shade of some tall, green ferns, while the rabbits nibbled away at fresh clover-tops.

After dinner was over, they saddled their rabbits, said good by to their friends, and set out on their long ride home.

Nattie was so interested in her squirrel she kept turning around to watch him, and fell off her rabbit twice. If he hadn't been the tamest, quietest rabbit of them all, he would certainly have run away, and left her to get home as best she could.

Old Shandle-Spinx had plenty of trouble, for the squirrel never had gone riding on a rabbit's back before, and he didn't like it. And he never had had his feet tied together before, and he didn't like that! So he squirmed and twisted, and used every one of his strong little muscles trying to get away.

When they got home, the squirrel was shut into the assembly hall, with some water and plenty of food, where he stayed until next morning.

Then Nattie, with the help of Zipzang, another of the Dapperlings, took him down to the little Mill Brook, where the children played, and hitched him by the horse-hair to a leg of the barrel-top table.

For this was the beautiful plan the Smallest Dapperling of All had made—she would give him to Pittysing. She had been feeling sorry for poor Pittysing ever since she got into trouble over the doll and the scissors. You see, it was all Nattie's fault, so she felt that she ought to do Pittysing a kindness, to make up for it. And what would a little girl be likely to enjoy more than to have a live, bright-eyed little squirrel for a pet?

Nattie put a little pile of beechnuts under the table, to keep the squirrel contented. Then Nattie and Zipzang hid behind a bush and waited for the children to come. And what do you think happened?

Sly old Cattie Puss, with her shining green eyes, saw that squirrel, and came creeping, creeping along so still that she was almost ready to spring upon him before the Dapperlings saw her at all.

Well, it wasn't any harm to let a CAT see them, and after all the trouble they'd had getting the squirrel to give Pittysing, they were not going to stand quietly by and see Cattie Puss gobble him up—no, indeed! So they both rushed out from behind the bush, and screaming as loud as ever they could:

"Woo!" "Boo!" "Shoo!"

And Zipzang flourished a little stick right in front of those big green eyes.

Cattie Puss was so scared she forgot all about the squirrel. She turned and ran, and didn't even stop when she got home, but ran right on past the house over to Grandma Brown's, where the door stood open. There she sneaked in, ran up the back stairs, and hid under Grandma Brown's bed.

Pittysing and Simmie-Sammie had been helping their mother that morning, washing the dishes while she made strawberry preserves.

Simmie-Sammie had only broken one saucer, and that was a cracked one, so it didn't count, and after Pittysing had rinsed the dish towels and spread them on the grass to dry, their mother gave them some cookies and a dish of the strawberry preserves.

"We'll play we're travelers going across a big desert," said Pittysing, "and the Mill Brook will be a spring of water in a—a—oh, I don't remember what they call it but in a green place—and we'll eat our lunch there. Where's Cattie Puss? She can be a yellow camel."

They couldn't find Cattie Puss, so they crossed the desert without any camel. When at last Nattie saw them coming, it seemed to her she had never seen them walk so slowly before.

"Hush!" warned Pittysing. "Simmie-Sammie Smith! There's a little squirrel right under our table! Keep still's you can. I'm going to give him some cookie crumbs."

"He's tied!" cried Simmie-Sammie. "See? He can't get away. Oh, Pitts, I'm going to put him in that old bird cage up stairs, an' keep him always."

"He's mine, for I saw him first," Pittysing reminded him. She pulled off her apron, threw it over the squirrel, broke the horse-hair that held him, and picking him up, wrapped in the apron, started for home. Simmie-Sammie ran along beside her, holding her dress.

"It AIN'T yours!" he sobbed. "You've got a cat, an' a piano, an' a doll—two dolls! An' I ain't got nuffin!"

"Why, you've got a rocking-horse, and a hen, and a Teddy Bear—oh, lots of things! But never mind. Don't you cry, and Chippie Chatter'll be OURS! That's what's going to be his name—Chippie Chatter!"

The Dapperling story for next month tells how Nattie is seen by Pittysing and what happens.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

Some years ago I entered one of the large New York hospitals to study nursing. In one of the wards, very sick and poor, lay Uncle Charlie, wracked with pain but enduring his suffering uncomplainingly. Friendless, penniless, always cheerful, he held close to his idea of making this world a happier and more livable place. At that time I little thought to see his dream materialize, but he has "followed the gleam" and succeeded.

When he entered the hospital he entered a home for incurables. Wretched as I thought him in the hospital, his suffering and privation there were even more intense but he worked unceasingly and hopefully until he secured a start. Then came the day when he was able to establish his little flat, a hen coop in very truth and for which rent must be earned every month and the poor, sick body so seldom able to bear the strain. But Uncle Charlie's efforts have drained his strength, though the will to go on is still strong within him. But should what little strength he has give way he might be forced to spend his remaining days in a hospital. Not a bright prospect and not one of us but what wish Uncle Charlie better fortune than that and we mean to keep up the good work till the better fortune proves true.

I have been deeply interested from the start in this Home Fund, for I know so very well how much it is needed and how deeply it will be appreciated.

LYDIA E. LASKOWSKI.

Miss Laskowski. Uncle Charlie will be surprised and delighted when he reads your splendid letter and I hope it will serve to keep up the interest in behalf of his Home Fund, which, as you say, means so much to him—Ed.

BOONEVILLE, ARK.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Since my letter appeared in October COMFORT I have received more than a hundred letters and all of them bright and comforting. They were a great pleasure indeed.

How I would like to answer all but I cannot so am writing to all of you through dear old COMFORT. Several sent stamps for replies and I answered a few but I am too weak and nervous to write much. All of you who sent money, please accept my sincere thanks, for it came just in a time of need as the first of October I came here to the State Sanatorium and needed so many things. I have gained one and one quarter pounds in three weeks, since I came here. Booneville is in the extreme western part of the state and the sanatorium is five miles out from Booneville, among the pines.

Dear sisters, your kind letters did me more good than I can express and God will hear all your earnest prayers in my behalf. I just imagined all those appeals going up to His throne at once and my heart was filled with the sweetest peace and contentment.

Some of the letters I received were urging me to try Christian Science, some Divine Healing and others sent recipes for remedies—all of which I put away for future need as I can use nothing of that kind while I am in the sanatorium.

I am a Baptist and I believe God will help those who help themselves. I have lots of faith in God and I believe so much in prayer and since I have received all your good letters my faith has been strengthened wonderfully. Will all of you dear ones accept this as an answer to your letter as I cannot do more?

Thanking you all for your kind remembrances and dear Mrs. Wilkinson for making it possible for me to receive them, I am your friend and sister in Christ.

MRS. BIRDIE MILLION,

CALIFORNIA.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Please admit a sister who has been taking the paper for some time and enjoying it. My mother used to take it when I was a small child. I am twenty-three years old now and have been married but a few months and of course think my husband is one of the best. I've known him for years but hadn't seen much of him for six years as he was in the U. S. Navy. People may say what they want to about the blue jackets being bad boys but I'm here to say they are just like you find them the world over—there are good and bad in all professions and I pity them if they are any meaner than some men I've seen on the outside.

A few words to Mrs. Birdie Million of Arkansas. Have you tried eating raw eggs and drinking plenty of sweet milk and being rubbed with olive oil for your tuberculosis? I've seen that tried many times and it helped build the patient up.

Speaking of women having large families—I don't think it right unless the parents are able to care for the children and educate them and even then I think they should stop before the mother's health is gone. Some men want to keep their wives at home all the time and rejoice in the fact that they don't have time to go anywhere.

I'm glad to see so many states making it a law to use antiseptics in the new born babies' eyes—in the future we won't have so many blind children. There is nothing sweeter than a little flower of a baby and it is sad to think so many are blind through neglect, and not always in the poor families but in the wealthy as well.

About the divorce question. I think we should all do our best to please our husbands after marriage as we did before and then there would be fewer divorces. But if a divorce is necessary I think it is a sin for one party to marry as long as the other lives.

I'll come again and give some advice on the care of babies, as I was a nurse over four years and my special study was babies.

Wishing all happiness,

G. H.

NOVELTY, MO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

After reading Miss Pearl Whitt's letter I can keep silent no longer. She says women have held the "reins of government" in their hands for the past six thousand years and "The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world." To read that you would naturally infer that the mothers were the only guides children had. Think of how many children have gone down to a drunkard's grave from a father's influence. This alone proves that fathers are helping to rule the world. Then she tells of a suffragette who registered at a hotel with eight different men, as the wife of each. She didn't stop to think that in telling of one indecent woman she was telling of eight indecent men. She speaks of woman suffrage as "usurping authority over the men." There is no true woman who wishes to do that but they do want equal rights with men and I am one of them and not the least bit ashamed of it either. I have known of wives and mothers where if they had had equal rights with men would have been well off. According to the law at the present time, after years of hard labor and saving a man and his wife may accumulate some of this world's goods which they have both worked for, and if the wife dies the husband is allowed to keep all the property but if the husband dies the wife must take a small share of the property while the balance goes to the children or her husband's relatives. If the husband has all the property, why not the wife as well? She is the weaker and needs it more and in most cases suffers more and works harder than the man does to earn it.

I have three sons and five little daughters and I don't want to die until I know that my daughters will have equal rights with me—mind you, I don't say "authority over men." It is no wonder that some men fight the suffrage movement just as the slave holders of old fought the freeing of their slaves. But God pity the woman who has become so accustomed to being a slave that she doesn't care to be free.

If Miss Dora Ennis reads this letter, please write to me. With love to all,

MRS. CALLIE SANDERS.

IRRIGON, OREGON.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have written several letters to this corner but none of them have been printed. However, this time I have a real reason for writing as I want to talk on the divorce question. How can people say divorce is all right when one of God's commandments to us says plainly, "Thou shalt not commit adultery," and in another place, "Whom God hath joined together let not man put asunder," and (Matt. xx.9) "Whosoever shall put away his wife and shall marry another committeth adultery; and whosoever marrieth her that is put away also committeth adultery." I suppose I could give other quotations from the Bible but these are enough, and unless you are an infidel. Mrs. C. Smith, you surely can't help seeing that marrying again after divorce is wrong. Please do not be offended, Mrs. Smith. I am not trying to criticize or judge you, which I have no right to do. You wished to hear different opinions so here is mine.

Sisters, do you know there is only one way to really *know* whether you are doing right or not and that way is taking your question to God? I dare say if Mrs. Smith, before her marriage at seventeen, had earnestly and sincerely asked God's guidance, knowing she would receive it, she would not have made her great mistake. I am only seventeen years old myself, but I know that is true. Why will people stray from the only path of happiness and then when they find themselves drifting deeper and deeper into misery, seek the world's way out of it? Whenever we find ourselves in deep trouble we might as well drop things right where we are and go to God with the things that are making us miserable. Sisters, if any of you who read this letter are downhearted or discouraged or in trouble of any kind, stop right now, before you do another thing and go and make your heart right with Jesus Christ. If you will search your heart for a moment you will realize that you must cast your cares upon the Lord before you can be happy.

I have seen many women going through their every-day routine of household tasks in a monotonous way, doing just what had to be done and grasping at a little pleasure now and then which was forgotten as soon as it was over. And that is just the way a great many women go through their whole life, and let me ask you, when they are gone how much better off is the world for their having lived in it? This may sound pretty strong but nevertheless it is true; that is just exactly what you, sister, are doing if you are not a *real* Christian. I'm not speaking of make-believe Christians, but real ones. Christians at heart are the only persons who ever really succeed in life, measuring by the true standard of success, and they are, as well, the only ones who are really happy.

You may tell me I am young and carefree and to wait till I begin to see some real trouble, and so on—then indeed is when I'll be glad I learned to lean on Jesus Christ when I was young and his comradeship will be doubly—oh, a hundredfold—more sweet.

Here I am preaching a regular sermon and I started to talk about divorces. Just the same, not until we get down to the bottom of things can we see these different things in their true light and if we take that light from the Bible we know we are right. So I wanted you to get that viewpoint and then tell me if you think divorce is right.

With sincere kind regards to all of you,
Your little-girl sister, EVANGELINE DOBLE.

GRATTON, N. DAK.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND EVERYBODY:

Just a hasty call to COMFORT and I promise not to tarry and prevent some other sister from joining this ever sunshiny corner.

COMFORT and its readers did not disappoint me when I came to them in my loneliness, isolation and ill-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Framing the Face

POLLY has pretty features, yet never looks pretty. Ann has a high forehead, prominent ears, and not a particularly pretty face, yet she is always attractive. And Polly's reason and Ann's reason are one and the same—their hair!

Polly doesn't know what to do with hers, and so her pretty face looks out at you from an ugly frame. Ann has spent many painful half-hours experimenting, until she has learned just how to dress her hair to lower the line of her forehead conceal her ears, and provide a becoming setting for her almost plain face. And so, on coming away from her, if one were to ask if she were pretty, you would promptly say: "Yes!"—yet she isn't.



COVER THE EYES WITH THE HAIR BUT NOT IN SUCH AN EXTREME MANNER AS THIS.

Oh, there's witchery in hair, girls, and you must learn to do yours to the best advantage.

If you are young, and smooth skinned, and clear-eyed, and have a good low forehead, you may, if you choose, brush your hair softly back from your brow. But never, never, may you do this if your forehead is high, or if you have passed the thirty mark.

You may part your hair in the middle at any age—if you don't care how old you look—but if you wish to look as young as possible, try parting it a little to one side of the middle and only part half way back. It takes away half a dozen years at least.

With large ears, do the hair loosely and let it entirely cover the ears. You will have to handle the hair in sections to do this, as the section which covers the ears should be pushed forward a very tiny bit on the cheeks while the section just above does not want to be quite as far down on the forehead; so must be drawn back separately and pinned with separate pins. Of course when all the sections are pinned back, the hair looks as if handled in one piece.

I say to do this "with large ears," but I should go a step further; for unless you have the French style of face and are brushing your hair back and up, with absolute severity, into a plain French twist (and few faces can stand such severe lines), your hair should be dressed to at least partially cover the ears. If the hair is drawn away and up from them, it is impossible to get a soft, fluffy effect. While if the hair is permitted to half cover the ears, or even entirely cover them, a loose effect can be readily secured.

A rather attractive way of doing the hair, for a young face, is to adopt the side part (just half-way), draw the hair, in sections, loosely back to the nape of the neck, tie tight close to the head, divide in two sections, and do in two closely touching coils flat to the head.

A very good style for an older face, and one indeed becoming to almost any age, is as follows: Part a square from the crown part way down the back of the head then pin it in a tight flat coil; draw the parted front hair over this in two sections, pinning, then coil the ends on the back of the head; next, draw the left back and side hair (with ends turned under) over it and pin tight, finally draw the right back and side hair (ends turned under) up toward and just below the crown, and pin securely.

See what you can do with your hair this month.

Answers to Questions

Dora.—The scar on the cheek is difficult to remove. Probably the best you can do is to massage it gently with the finger-tips a couple of times a day. Dip the fingers in cold cream before massaging. Yes, brown hair can be dyed red, but it should be done by a professional. I never recommend dyes to an amateur, because it is a difficult task, and the novice is almost certain to ruin her hair.

Mrs. Ida W.—I am sorry it is against the rules of this department to answer letters by mail. I presume since your letter was written you have read the directions for taking the milk diet, which I published.

Mrs. Winnie C.—Get cocoa-butter from your druggist. It comes in small cakes. Hold a cake over a flame and while warm rub it on the breast gently, round and round, following the shape of the bust. Use it once a day. Be careful not to rub vigorously. Taking the milk diet is really a better way to increase the size of the bust, and the exercises I have given are also very effective.

Worried Sister.—I wish I knew how much you weighed, before I gave you any directions about reducing for—I have found that girls of nineteen sometimes think themselves too fat when they are not at all. For five feet five inches, you should weigh one hundred and forty, with a bust and hip measurement of thirty-eight and one half inches. I do not know just what you mean by a "short diet." If you mean you are cutting down the amount you eat, that may not be at all necessary, indeed may be undesirable. Just avoid potatoes, rice, macaroni, fats, gravies, sweets, cereals, cream, milk, much butter or sugar. But do not do *this* unless you are really overweight, for otherwise the body needs all these elements. Eat plenty of fruits daily. See answer to "Mrs. P. D." for formula for Epsom Salts Reducing Paste. I don't believe you need to use it, however. The lactic tablets are perfectly safe, but why use them, unless you weigh one hundred and sixty or something like that? By attempting to reduce, if you do not need it, you are likely to impair health, complexion and general appearance, so go easy, my dear.

Gray Eyes.—Read this month's chat with my girls for an answer to your question about eyebrows. Do not use the lotion you suggest, for your tan. Try this, instead:

Face Bleach

Fifteen drops of tincture of benzoin, one ounce of strained honey. The white of one egg, enough ground barley to make a paste which will spread easily.

Cut a piece of cheese-cloth to cover the face, making holes for eyes, nose and mouth. Spread the paste on the face, cover with the cheese-cloth and wear all night. In the morning, remove mask, wash face with warm soapy water, then rinse in warm water, and dry. Repeat for several nights.

Mrs. P. D.—The Epsom Salts reducing paste is as follows:

Epsom Salts Reducing Paste

Dissolve one and one half bars of white kitchen soap in a quart of boiling rain-water, over the stove. When the soap is all dissolved and you merely have a liquid, add to this a pound of Epsom Salts which has been dissolved in a pint of rain-water. The soapy liquid should be partially cooled before adding the salts solution. Beat. Massage this preparation into the fleshy parts of the body at night and allow to dry on the skin. Wash off in the morning. Twice a week lie for several minutes in a tub of very hot water in which you have dissolved half a boxful of ordinary baking soda. When you are very hot indeed jump out, dry yourself very rapidly and wrap yourself in a warm blanket. Lie down for half an hour, and let yourself perspire heavily. At the end of that time, rub in the Epsom paste.

Evelyn May.—The thing for you to do is to keep your body in good healthy condition, for the health of your hair depends on that. Eat plenty of good nourishing food, cereals, potatoes, rice, green vegetables, milk, cream, butter, fruits, meats, fish; exercise every day in the open air, and sleep with plenty of fresh air in your room. Shampoo your hair once in three weeks. There was a formula for a shampoo liquid in last month's COMFORT. Brush it one hundred strokes every night. If your hair is curly, part it round the head, from ear to ear. Part the front half in the middle or a little to one side, from crown to forehead, and, slightly rolling each side away from the face, bring the two halves of the front together at the crown and tie with a big ribbon bow. Now let the ends of this hair fall in with the back half of the hair, and tie again just at the nape of the neck or fasten with a big shell barrette. If your forehead is high in the middle, parting the hair on one side will be best, since you can draw the hair down a little on the forehead; while if it is high on the sides, you should part it in the middle, and, when rolling it, let it lie out a little on the sides.

E. A. P.—See answer to "Evelyn May"—a good style for you, whether your har is straight or curly.

Happy, Mont.—There is no cream which will fatten sunken cheeks, the only way to do that is to build up the body. Get to work at that. The milk diet is by far the best way, and you will achieve your result in five or six weeks, I am sure. Try it.

Beulah M.—I am sorry it is against the rules of this department to answer letters by mail. The household ammonia is the kind to use for removing superfluous hair.

Perplexed.—I am sorry not to have answered your letter sooner, but, you know, to print a magazine with the immense circulation of COMFORT, the work has to be done a long time in advance, so no letter is sure of getting an answer inside of three months, and where there are so many, there is often more delay. However, so many of my girls ask similar questions, that quite often you will find an answer to the problem troubling you long before your own inquiry is reached by me. If your hair is so very oily, it shows that the little oil glands are not in a healthy condition. Sometimes, if the soap is not rinsed out of the hair thoroughly when shampooing, it clogs the scalp, checks the natural outlet of the oil, thus irritates the glands, and they begin to secrete an abnormal amount of oil. Keep the scalp perfectly clean and free from soap, rinsing ever so many times after each shampoo. Sun the hair in the open air, brush many times a night, massage the scalp with the finger-tips nightly, and shampoo once in two weeks. Massage will do more to make the hair grow than anything else. You can use this lotion rubbed into the scalp with the fingers, when massaging:

Lotion for Greasy Hair

Alcohol, one ounce; witchhazel, one ounce; distilled water, one half ounce; resorcin, twenty grains.

After shampooing and rinsing the hair, always use cold water for the final bath—very cold water, so that the scalp receives a good healthy shock.

Brown Eyes.—You weigh too little for your height. For five feet six inches, the weight should be about one hundred and forty-three pounds. If your bones are large, you might weigh a little less and yet be in good proportion. You say your nose is too long. Perhaps it looks so because your face is too thin, and, when you get fatted up a trifle, the nose may not seem thin or sharp. There is nothing to do to make it smaller, but you should avoid doing your hair high on your head, or in a direct line with your nose—as in a Psyche knot; and in purchasing hats be sure to avoid any which have a wing or fold of velvet standing back from the face as if continuing the line of the nose. Nothing to do for the eyes which are smaller than you wish! Just keep them in good condition by washing out with boric acid in the morning—a three or four per cent solution; buy it in liquid form at your druggist's—by never misusing them, and keeping the lids in good condition. But don't fail to increase that weight!

Miss M. H.—You can buy sulphuret of barium at your druggist's, or by mail from any drug-store. If you



PARTING THE HAIR SLIGHTLY TO ONE SIDE LENDS YOUTH TO THE FACE.

will notice what I said about using this as a depilatory, you will see I said the hair would come back again. It should only be used on or under the arms, and not even then if you desire to get rid of the hair altogether, for it will surely come back.

Blue Eyes, Tenn.—For the excessive perspiration under the arms; first, take a body bath the first thing in the morning—it is not enough to just wash under the arms. Second drink quantities of water, for though it will come forth in perspiration, the perspiration will not have as strong an odor as if you drank less. Third, eat plenty of fruit for the same reason to make the perspiration as odorless as possible. Fourth, scrub the armpits whenever you change your dress during the day—two or three times, say. Have a soft flannel pad filled with corn-starch, and after washing the armpits and rinsing thoroughly, dry, then rub the end of a cake of slightly moistened soap over the armpit. Be careful to do this very lightly, so there is no visible soap left under the arm. Afterwards, use the flannel pad and pat the armpit. The corn-starch will sift out and powder the armpit. Be sure to keep the bowels very open, as all of these things affect the perspiration.

Blue Eyes, Tenn. (S. H.)—If your hair has not come in since typhoid fever, I expect it would be a good thing to cut it very short—almost shingle it. Probably you did not cut your hair when you had typhoid, as you might. I had mine shaved close to the scalp and it came out again as thick and strong as possible, though I was sick three months. Whether you cut your hair or not, massage the scalp every night with your finger-tips. The principle thing you need to do is to feed the body well and get your health in perfect condition. Also brush the scalp every night.

M. A. N.—I am sorry that it is against the rules of this department to answer by mail. I gave an eyelash grower in last month's COMFORT, but for fear you have not seen it, use melted vaseline or warm olive oil, and brush the lashes gently with a mucilage brush dipped in the oil. For a bust developer, exercise is the best remedy next to the milk diet, but since you ask for a "neck fattener," also, it is evident you need a general fattening, so the milk diet is the thing for you. Try it for six weeks.

Sunshine.—See "Gray Eyes" for "Face Bleach" which is a good "Neck Bleach."

Blue Bell.—Your weight is exactly correct for your height, one hundred and twenty-five pounds for five feet two inches. Bust and hips could add two inches in size without being too large. If your cheeks are not full, perhaps you are a little too fat in some place—the legs, possibly—and so, though the right weight, haven't enough to go round. If any part of you is unduly fat, reduce it, by local exercise; then fatten up a little more generally. Massage—very gentle—will help plumpen your cheeks; vigorous massage reduces, remember. Use, of course cold cream on the fingers in massaging. Be sure to get eight or nine hours of sleep daily, with lots of fresh air in the room. Nervous people invariably look thin in the face, even when they are rested, their faces seem to plumpen up. Keep this in mind.

Miss A. M. G.—You could weigh three pounds more for your height, your bust could be one inch larger, and your hips should measure the same as your bust; weight should be about twenty-eight or twenty-nine inches, though at nineteen it is natural that you should be more slender than later. If you have blue rings under your eyes, you probably aren't as well as you ought to be. Do you drink eight or nine glasses of water a day? Be careful about getting chilled when you do not feel well, and especially keep the ankles warm. You say your hands are red and you have some freckles. If you do much work outdoors it is hard to keep both hands and face from showing some signs of it, but a good healthy tan is not unbeautiful. Wear broad-brimmed hats tied flat at the sides to shade the cheeks—or else wear a sunbonnet,—that is, about your outdoor work. For the hands, scrub them scrupulously every night before going to bed with toilet soap (not the yellow kitchen soap, ever) and a nail brush. Then dry very thoroughly and carefully, and rub a good hand lotion in. If the water is hard, soften it with a few drops of tincture of benzoin—or, better still, use rain-water. It is a good plan to have a bowl of almond meal on your washstand, and after washing the hands and slightly drying, pour a little almond meal in the palm of one hand and rub both hands thoroughly with it.

Hand Lotion and Whitener

Rosewater, four ounces; orange-flower water, four ounces; borax, one half dram; spirits of benzoin, one dram; bruised almonds, one ounce.

Add the bruised almonds to the rosewater and orange-flower water, and let stand for twenty-four hours, filter, then add the borax, keep stirring until the latter is entirely dissolved, then add the benzoin, drop by drop, continually stirring. You can have your druggist put this up.

Cupie.—Oatmeal bags are not used for "bleaching" the skin—only for cleansing it, but they are so good for that that the skin looks whiter for their use. Fill a bag three inches square half full of rolled oats, then use as a wash-cloth, dipping in the water very quickly. Pat the face dry after washing. See answer to "Blue Bell" and "Happy, Montana."

Gray Eyes.—For your height, five feet ten inches, you should weigh one hundred and fifty-four pounds, so you have fourteen pounds to gain. You could do this on the milk diet in one month or six weeks. Your bust measure is not too much, in fact could be one inch larger—forty-one inches; this is true, also, of the hip measurement. Your waist could be larger, as well. Here is an exercise for developing the muscles of the legs:

To Develop the Legs

Hands on hips, heels together, head erect and back straight, rise on the toes slowly, then, without letting the heels touch the ground, slowly lower the body by bending the knees while keeping the back perfectly straight, until it is in a squatting position, the buttocks touching the heels. Without moving the hands from the hips, raise the body to an erect position again, always keeping the back perfectly straight. Practise this fifteen or twenty times, twice a day.

Mildred.—The use of a depilatory removes the hair only for the moment; it always returns. The best method I know of for removing hair, next to electrolysis, which is, of course, the one sure, safe, quick way—is to use peroxide of hydrogen and ammonia. One day dampen the growth with peroxide and the next with ammonia. The peroxide bleaches the hair, the ammonia kills the roots. It is a very slow process, varying in length with different people. If the ammonia irritates the skin, stop the treatment for a couple of days, then resume.

A COMFORT Reader.—Your bust measure, thirty-six, and hip measure thirty-six, and waist measure twenty-six, is about right for your height, five feet two. It might even be an inch larger without exceeding the accepted measurements, though if you are small-boned the present measurements are probably better. You probably use too much soap, and do not rinse face or hands sufficiently. Use soap on the face only at night. When washing the hands, rinse very thoroughly, and dry carefully. See answer to "Miss A. M. G."

I. C. D.—The milk diet is the best way to gain. Take it for six weeks or two months. You need to weigh about one hundred and twenty-five for your age and size. You have seen directions in COMFORT since your letter to me was written. Yes, cocoa-butter would c use the growth of superfluous hair if used on the face. If I were you, and only seventeen, I should leave my bust alone. A slender bust is considered the fashionable thing for a girl of your age, and, indeed, the society woman of today is very anxious to be slender in that portion of her body and makes strenuous efforts to achieve that result, so don't worry, and do let yourself alone. Do not use cocoa-butter elsewhere, and at your age it is not advisable to use it on the bust. To develop the legs, see answer to "Gray Eyes." Another good exercise for the ankles and lower part of leg, is as follows:

To Develop Calf of Leg

Standing with heels together, hands on hip, head up, back straight, rise on toes slowly until you are standing on their very tips. Now let the heel sink slowly to the floor, being as long about it as possible. Practise this exercise until the muscles of the leg feel tired.

Address all letters containing questions to KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

LE PAGE'S GLUE 10c
FIXES RICKETY FURNITURE

Start Now —I'll Show You How You Can Easily Make $25 per Week At Home



W. B. STARK who will help you start a money-making business.

No Experience Necessary

Let me send you some samples of the work you can do on a Newcomb Loom. The more you need the money the more I can and will help you to get started to making it.

Now is just the time—start this easy work at home in your spare time. I will tell you how you can make your time most profitable—how you can engage in a delightful and fascinating occupation in your own home, that will not interfere with your other duties and assure you big profits. I promise that you'll be **interested.** I say, and I know that every word I say is true, that you can **make more money** and **make it more easily** by weaving on a Newcomb Automatic Loom than at **any other kind of home employment.** My 20 years' experience with others and their letters **prove** what you can do. The

Newcomb Automatic Loom

is made especially for **home workers.** A simple movement of the hand is all it requires of the operator. No treading—no stooping—no shuttle throwing. **No experience is necessary.** You will be delighted with the ease with which you can make the finest and most durable carpets, rugs, mats, draperies of every kind, and even beautiful portieres, chenille curtains, hammocks.

Bear in mind also, that **no cash outlay for supplies** is required. Old carpets, sacks, cast-off clothing and rags all furnish material for the loom. You can be sure when you own a Newcomb, that you will have more than enough work to keep you busy. Many of our customers make from $25 to $30 a week. **You can do likewise.**

Do not neglect this opportunity. Write me today for my free catalog, "Weaving Wisdom," which tells all about our looms and the extremely reasonable prices on which you can obtain one of them.

W. B. STARK, Secretary
NEWCOMB LOOM CO.
44 Taylor St. Davenport, Iowa

Read What This Woman Does

"Made over 11,000 yards of carpet on my loom in spare time the past three years," writes Mrs. Sadie E. Taggart, West Plains, Mo. "I never weave a day that I don't make 20 yards and I do my own housework. I weigh only 115 pounds—don't tire of weaving. Loom as good an investment as an 80-acre farm."



CROCHET BOOK FREE



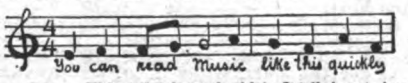
Contains 84 rare, and beautiful designs for Edgings and Insertions. To introduce **TEXASILK**, our new hard twisted, mercerized cordonet cheat for tatting, edging and initials), we will mail this Crochet Book Free and Postpaid to any lady sending only 10c silver or stamps for 2 full size sample balls

TEXASILK

comes in size 70 only, in white, black, medium green, pink, rose, scarlet, light blue, delph, light yellow. Crochet Book is clearly illustrated so designs may be copied by anyone. Send at once and get this book FREE.

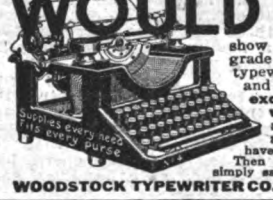
(43) **COLLINGBOURNE MILLS, Dept. 4356, ELGIN, ILLINOIS**

MUSIC LESSONS FREE



At Your Home. Write today for our booklet. It tells how to learn to play Piano, Organ, Violin, Mandolin, Guitar, Banjo, etc. Beginners or advanced pupils. **AMERICAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 15 Lakeside Bldg., Chicago.**

WOULD YOU



show this standard high grade 42 key fully visible typewriter to your friends and let them see wherein **it excels any $100 typewriter,** if by doing this and other small assistance, you could easily have one to keep as your own? Then by post card or letter simply say, *"Mail Particulars."*

WOODSTOCK TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. J631, CHICAGO, ILL.

Learn Music AT HOME!



Lessons Free **New Method—Learn To Play By Note**—Piano, Organ, Violin, Banjo, Mandolin, Cornet, Harp, 'Cello, Guitar, Piccolo, Clarinet, Trombone, Flute or to sing. Special Limited Offer of free weekly lessons. You pay only for music and postage, which is small. Money back guarantee. No extras. Beginners or advanced pupils. Everything illustrated, plain, simple, systematic. Free lectures each course. 16 years' success. Start at once. Write for Free Booklet Today—Now.

U. S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Box 12, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York City

PLAYS Large List, Dialogs, Entertainments, Recitations, Drills, Catalogue Free. T. S. DENISON & CO., Dept. 6 Chicago, Ill.

The Wing Piano



One of our 38 Styles

On Four Weeks' Trial

Yes, we will ship you on four weeks' absolutely free trial, *all freight prepaid,* direct from our own factory, your choice of thirty-eight new styles of the highest grade Wing Piano or Player Piano.

No Money Down—Freight Prepaid Nothing on arrival—no deposit—no freight either way. Use it and enjoy it four full weeks; then, if you wish, ship it back *at our expense.* You alone are the judge. You will be amazed at our rock-bottom direct price on the superb Wing, guaranteed 40 years. Easy monthly payments or cash. Write now.

Valuable Book—FREE

"The Book of Complete Information About Pianos" sent free and prepaid. Valuable 140-page book. Tells how to judge piano quality and prices. Beautiful art catalog also sent and particulars of our great Free Shipment Offer. Write today.

Wing & Son, (Est. 1868)
9th Ave. and 13th St.
Dept. 3041
New York

Wing & Son *(Established 1868)*
9th Ave. and 13th Street, Dept. 3041 New York, N. Y.

Please send me free your "Book of Complete Information About Pianos," and details of your free trial offer on Wing Pianos.

Name.....

Address.....

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Mid-Winter Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



AS the season advances the styles become more attractive and pleasing. Especially noticeable is the popularity of the new one-piece coat dress, which is nice in serge, satin or velvet. Comfortable, practical aprons are always attractive to the neat housekeeper, and a model that protects the dress, and does not hamper the arm movements is to be recommended.

Evening dresses show new and novel effects in Empire style.

Children's garments are quaint and attractive with the new pocket trimmings, the coatee effects and new yoke shapings.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.

1883—A Good Sensible Apron. This style has several practical features. It envelopes the figure and is cut so wide over the shoulders as to almost supply sleeve sections. The fullness of the apron may be held by the belt or worn loose.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires four and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1881—Practical Cover-all Apron. Gingham, lawn, percale, alpaca, drill, linen, and sateen are all good for this style. The model is made to slip over the head and is closed in front with lacing through eyelets. This design could serve as a morning dress.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires five and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1905—Dress for Misses and Small Women. The waist is full beneath the yoke sections which form part of the back. The full pockets on the fronts may be omitted. This model is good for gabardine, serge, novelty, plaid and check suiting, for velvet, corduroy and broadcloth.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires five and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for a 16-year size.

1896—Ladies' Capes in several styles. One may have old furs that can be cut up to meet the styles, or one may make these attractive accessories of velvet, plush or other pile fabrics. Taffeta, corduroy, velour and faille are equally nice. The styles here shown are cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires, for No. 1; one yard of 36-inch material; for No. 2, three quarters yard of 27-inch material for No. 3; one yard of 44-inch material.

1910—Waist. 1907—Skirt. An Elegant gown for many occasions. Gabardine, serge taffeta, voile, satin, velvet, corduroy and broadcloth are all nice for this model. The waist pattern is cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure.

The skirt is in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It will require six yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size for this costume. Two separate patterns, 10c *for each* pattern.

1900—A new and attractive Ladies' Dress. This style is nice for satin, taffeta, serge, duvetyn, broadcloth, velour, gabardine and velvet. It would be effective and pretty in combinations of cloth and silk or satin.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. Size 36 requires six and three eighths yards of 44-inch material.

1885—Ladies' Combination of Corset Cover and Drawers. This model is fine for crepe, nainsook, batiste, lawn or silk. The cover may be finished with square or round neck outline.

Cut in seven sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three and five eighths yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1893—Waist. 1892—Skirt. A Practical Business Costume. Novelty suiting, plaid or checked woolen, serge, voile, corduroy or velvet would serve for the skirt, while linen, madras, batiste, flannel or taffeta is nice for the waist. The waist pattern is cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure.

The skirt in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires two and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for the waist and three and three quarters yards for the skirt for a medium size. *Two* separate patterns, 10c. *for each* pattern.

1913—A Serviceable Set of Bags. This group represents some new features in bags, attractive, practical and convenient. No. one is a smart, roomy work bag, with firm upper portions and ample space for any article one may wish the bag to hold. No. two is a dainty opera bag. No. three may be developed as a handbag, good for many uses.

These three attractive models are cut in one size; it requires for No. one, three quarters yard of 36-inch material, for No. two, five eighths yard and for No. three, one half yard.

1919—Ladies' Shirt-waist. Flannel, madras, lawn, batiste chambrey, taffeta, linen, drill, satin, faille, and other seasonable materials may be used for this style.

Made in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires two and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1887—Ladies' House Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Percale, lawn, dimity, gingham, chambrey, drill, linene, seersucker and galatea are good for this model. The style is new and attractive. The skirt has ample fullness and good lines.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1908—Ladies' Night Gown. This model may be made with an underfacing for eyelet closing and with or without yoke facings. It may have long sleeves with turnback cuffs, or short sleeves gathered to a band.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1936—A Simple School Dress with sleeve in either of two styles. Striped woolen in brown tones was used in this instance, with trimming of brown velvet. The belt portions are stitched to form convenient pockets at the sides. The skirt is gored and is arranged in smart plaits.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a six-year size.

1903—Child's Dress, with or without pocket and belt, and with sleeve in either of two styles. Poplin, repp, serge, gabardine, gingham, percale, galatea, chambrey, crepe, velvet or taffeta could be used for this style. It is also nice for challie and cashmere. The fullness of the dress may be gathered or smocked between the belt sections.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and five eighths yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

1614—Child's Set. Comprising a yoke dress with sleeve in wrist or elbow length a slip and one-piece drawers. These designs embody comfort and utility, and as they are simple in construction they are easy to develop.

The pattern, comprising all styles illustrated, is cut in four sizes; one, two, four and five years. The dress requires two and one half yards, the slip two yards and the drawers three quarters yard of 36-inch material, for a two-year size.

1918—Child's Rompers with round collar or square neck outline and with long or short sleeve. Gingham, chambrey, drill, galatea, flannelette and serge are good for this style. The pattern is composed of a waist and bloomers which may be joined to the waist or buttoned on separately.

Cut in three sizes; two, four and six years. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

1911—A Jaunty Junior Model. The waist and skirt may be finished separately or joined under the belt. The skirt is gored and arranged in smart plaits.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires four and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 14-year size.

1500—Ladies' House Dress with two styles of collar, with long or shorter sleeves and with or without pockets. This style is good for gingham, seersucker, lawn, sateen, linene, linen, and drill. It could be developed as a dress for business wear. Ample pockets trim the skirt, which is cut with five gores.

Cut in six sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42 inches bust measure. It requires seven yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

1891—A Smart and pretty style for Mothers' Girl. Serge, gabardine, voile, prunella, checked suiting and plaid mixtures, taffeta, velvet and corduroy are nice for this style. The trimming could be of matched satin on serge or of checked or plaid suiting.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 10-year size.

1940—Ladies' Dress consisting of a one-piece overdress and an under-waist, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This design is lovely for combinations of material. In blue serge, with waist of crepe in a matched or contrasting shade, the model will be suitable for general wear and also for more formal occasions.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires two and one half yards of 44-inch material for the under-waist, and three and seven eighths yards for the overdress, for a 36-inch size.

1938—One-piece overdress having an under-waist in surplice style, with sleeve in either of two lengths for misses and small women. This style is charming in its simplicity and especially adapted to slender figures.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires four and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for the underdress, and three yards for the overdress, for an 18-year size. The under-skirt measures about two and one eighth yards at the foot.

1528—A Simple, Neat School Frock, with sleeve in either of two lengths. The design is nice for serge, for voile and corduroy. The skirt is a three-piece model, cut with graceful flare and ample fullness. The sleeve is good in either length.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires two and one half yards of 44-inch material for an eight-year size.

1629—A Popular Apron. Just the thing to make "in a hurry" and to find convenient and comfortable ever after. This style is nice for ginghams, seersucker, alpaca, sateen, lawn, linen, drill and percale.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires five and one half yards of 27-inch material for a medium size.

1615—Ladies' Camisole in Kimono Style. Batiste, dimity, nainsook, crepe, lawn or silk are nice for this style.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires one and one quarter yard of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1890—A Smart Coat and Cap for the Little Miss. Cheviot, plush fabrics, velour, broadcloth, velvet, silk, corduroy, tweed and similar cloakings are nice for this model. The fronts are single breasted. Deep pockets form a smart and serviceable trimming.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for an eight-year size, and three quarters yard of 24-inch material for the cap.

1909—A New Coat Dress for misses and small women. This model is ideal for the winter serges and gabardines and would be real smart in velvet, satin, corduroy or taffeta. This model is comfortable and practical.

Cut in four sizes; 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires six yards of 44-inch material.

1536—Girls' Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. Blue serge with collar of white pique is here shown. The model is good for voile, gabardine, cheviot, and mixed suitings, also for galatea, chambrey, gingham and percale.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for an eight-year size.

1825—A Simple, Practical Skirt Model. Wool poplin, faille, taffeta, gabardine, serge, mixed suiting, tweed, velour, velvet and corduroy are nice for this design.

Cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires three and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.





AGENTS WANTED!

Either Sex. To sell our silver handle *Embroidery Needles.* The easiest and quickest seller ever placed in hands of agents. Show a woman what this needle is capable of producing and a sale is assured. *Write for Terms.* Address
WHALE ART COMPANY,
6127 Virginia Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

AGENTS: $40 A WEEK

Startling new hosiery proposition—unheard of.



Hosiery for men, women and children. *Guaranteed for one year.* Must wear 12 months or replaced free. Agents having wonderful success. H. W. Price sold 60 boxes in 12 hours. Mrs. Fields 109 pairs on one street. G. W. Noble made $35 in one day. Sworn proof. Sold only through agents. Not for sale in stores. A hosiery proposition that beats them all. Big money sure. A chance of a lifetime. Write quick for terms and samples.
THOMAS MFG. COMPANY, 2330 Elk St., Dayton, Ohio

DAVISLAC Dries hard in an hour with a beautiful lustre. A varnish for floors, furniture and interior woodwork. A quart can with brush $1.25, delivered Free east of the Rocky Mountains.
CHAS. DAVIS CO., Inc., Franklin Ave., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

39 SELECTED NOVELS FREE

We want to give you this big collection of thirty-nine Novels, Novelettes and Stories, some of the most interesting works of the most popular writers. Each is a complete story in itself. All are well printed on good paper and firmly bound in paper covers. We will give you this whole collection of best reading just to make you acquainted with our paper, **Good Stories.**

The Desmond Blood	*Etta W. Pierce*
A Doctor's Story	*Mary Kyle Dallas*
Secret of the Holly-Tree	*Charlotte M. Braeme*
Unmasked	*S. Annie Frost*
The Coral Cross	*Mrs. C. F. Gerry*
The Countess Clarice	*M. T. Caldor*
Lady Maud's Picture	*Jane G. Austin*
Mistress of Thornton Park	*Mary J. Holmes*
In a Violin	*Etta W. Pierce*
The Witching Hour	*The Duchess*

And 29 others.

GOOD STORIES is a monthly paper filled with the best and most delightful serial and short stories we can buy. In addition there are household departments with "tried and true" receipts, helpful editorials, up-to-date fashions. Good Stories has something for every member of the family.

WRITE NOW Send us your name and address with ten cents in stamps or silver for a 3-months' trial subscription to Good Stories, and we will send you, **Free and Postpaid,** this grand collection of 39 Novels.

Publishers Good Stories, 101 Chapel St., **Augusta, Maine**



WATCH, RING AND CHAIN GIVEN

We positively give a genuine American Stem Wind and Set Watch, beautifully designed case, warranted time-keeper, 5-year guarantee; Sparkling Set or Plain Ring all for selling 20 of our easy to sell Jewelry articles at 10c each. When sold return $2 & we'll send Watch & Ring. Ladies' or Gen ts' style chain. Home Supply Co., Dept. 102, Chicago, Ill.

USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address **COMFORT,** Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash, (or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me

Patterns No._____ Size (or Age)_____ No._____ Size (or Age)_____ No._____ Size (or Age)_____

Name_____ State_____

Post Office_____ R.F.D. No._____ Box No._____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

Marigolds

By Hapsburg Liebe



Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THERE were four Tom Carters in the White Rock Mountain section. There was Big Tom and Little Tom, Long Tom and California Tom. It had not been the call of the wanderlust that had sent the latter-named Tom Carter to California; it had been an unhappy love affair. He hadn't stayed there long; he had spent four days in San Francisco, that was all. The city is merciless, very merciless, to the hill man. The city does not understand the mountaineer, and no more does the mountaineer understand the city. Your hill man, if he is true to his ideals, cannot look up to a foreman; he cannot ask too earnestly for work, and when he is down he can neither beg nor steal—under any ordinary circumstances. His pride may be primitive, but it is also the finest, as well as the most stubborn, pride under the sun.

When Lettie Allen married the son of her father's bitterest enemy, instead of Tom Carter, they went to Memphis, in the other end of the state, to live. They couldn't live on in their home country, for neither side would have them; they were cast out, and their names never mentioned; but they needn't have gone to Memphis. They needn't have gone to any city. Two years later Jonathan Perry died and left his young wife Lettie with a year-old baby and utterly without means.

Lettie lived in a hand-to-mouth existence in the outskirts, in a very poor little wooden house. In the narrow front yard she grew a round bed of marigolds; she had nothing but these to remind her of her beloved dim-blue mountains. She worshiped the golden yellow flowers, and sometimes she wept over them when it was dark and no one could see.

During those two long, long years, California Tom had grown stern and silent. He had not forgotten Lettie Allen. He was not a man to forget anything. Tom remembered how cold San Francisco had seemed to him, and he reasoned that Memphis must seem equally cold to Lettie and the man she had married. No word ever came from them, which worried Tom. So he hied himself to Memphis, without letting anybody know where he was going, to see that all was well with Lettie and her husband. He didn't know of Perry's death, of course; he would have gone to Memphis sooner, had he known of that.

To find them in such a big town—that was the problem. He knew nothing of city directories. He looked for them as he would have looked for a squirrel or a wild turkey in his mountains; days and days he spent in watching for them on the streets. It required patience. And it required money. California Tom's money was all gone, and he was on the verge of starvation, when he found Lettie.

It was at sundown, and Tom was in the outskirts looking, always looking, for Lettie and Jonathan. He was tired; he was so weak from hunger that his steps were slow and halting, strangely like those of an old man. Then he saw her bed of marigolds. They were the first marigolds he had seen in Memphis. If he had not seen them, he would have passed her poor little house without knowing that she lived there. The marigolds found him for her. her.

Tom went in. The yellow flowers were so many messages of love from home to him—to him, lone and lonesome, a wanderer in a strange land. He sank down wearily, half delirious, beside them. For five minutes he drank in their fragrance gratefully. Then Lettie came out, and she carried her year-old child in her arms.

"I hight ha' knowed you lived here, Lettie," said Tom, going to his feet with something like a new strength in his limbs. "How goes it wi' you and Jonathan and the baby, Lettie?"

"Tom Carter!" cried Lettie, her voice betraying both joy and sadness. "How come you here, Tom?"

"I jest happened to be in town, and I thought I'd look you and Jonathan up," Tom smiled a little pitifully. "How goes it wi' you and Jonathan and the baby, Lettie?"

"Jonathan's been dead a long time, Tom," murmured Lettie. Three months is a long time to a mountaineer alone in a big city; it is a century. She went on: "They buried him in a place they call a potter's field."

"Do ye need anything, Lettie?" blurted Tom.

Lettie straightened, for the hill pride was not yet dead. Then she turned her sad brown eyes toward her baby's wan face, and went deathly pale. A great struggle was going on in the little woman's heart. She looked back at Tom. He seemed so big and so strong, and so dependable. She didn't know of his gnawing hunger and his weakness.

"Yes," she admitted tremulously. Mother love is mightier, even, than the pride of the hills. "Yes, Tom, we need everything!"

With the last word she fainted. Tom caught her and carried her into the house. She still held her baby against her breast. Tom put her on a bed and revived her.

"Listen, Lettie," he said. "I got plenty o' money, and I'll go and git some good things to eat. Don't you worry now, Lettie, acause I shore have got oodles o' money." He lied like a gentleman.

Tom made his way out to the fast darkening street, and as he went he whispered over and over to himself—"Thank God I come! Thank God I found 'em!"

The hill man walked a block, stopped and leaned against a decaying picket fence. How was he to get provisions? There was but one answer: He must steal them. He could, doubtless, he reasoned, beg something for them to eat; but begging was infinitely worse than stealing. An hour later California Tom broke into a small suburban grocery store and came out with two baskets full of packages, and he did it without being seen.

When the feast was over, Tom took the baby on his knee and looked inquiringly toward Lettie.

"Would ye like to go back home?" he asked.

"They wouldn't le' me come back," said Lettie. "Pap he told me ef I married one o' them lowdown Perrys I couldn't never darken his door ag'in, and you know him well enough to know 'at he keeps his word."

"I believe he'd break it this one time," muttered Tom. "They're all tore up about you, Lettie. Ef you cain't go back home, you can go to my people, I'm shore o' that. You've got to leave here: you cain't stay here no longer. This hain't no place for you."

"Ef I was to go to yore people——"

He never knew what she meant to say, for she never finished. She lapsed into a thoughtful silence.

"Ef I'll loand ye the money," asked Tom, "will ye go?"

She didn't answer. Again he asked the question, and again she made no answer.

"You used to love me, Lettie," murmured Tom. "Do you reckon you could ever love me any more? Ef ye could, we'd be married, and 'en you could go back home without borrying money from anybody. I wish to goodness, Lettie, you'd say, 'yes.'"

"*Yes!*" said Lettie; and she smiled and was beautiful. "I allus loved you, Tom. I loved you when I married Jonathan. Jonathan he lied to me about you, and he was mean enough to tell me about it afterward. He told me you said I'd be tickled to death to git you—and so, like a fool, I married him to spite you! Yes, Tom, I'll marry you, and I'll be glad to marry you, whenever you want me to!"

Tom rose and kissed her on the forehead; then he gave her the child and put on his hat.

"I've—I've got a little business to 'tend to, and 'en I'll come with a license and a preacher, and we'll be married and git right on a train and go back home," said California Tom.

He kissed her again on the forehead, and went out to the street. Once more he walked a block, stopped, and leaned himself against a decaying picket fence. Where was he going to get the money necessary to pay their way back to eastern Tennessee?

For four successive days Tom Carter tried to get work and failed. There was work, but he didn't know how to find it. He hated to make more excuses to Lettie. Driven to desperation, he decided to turn robber long enough to get the money necessary for their trainfare and marriage expense. The house he picked out for the scene of his first burglarizing happened to be the home of a man high up in police circles, and Tom entered it an hour before the break of day, when most people sleep soundest.

He entered it by an up-stairs window that looked out upon the roof of a broad veranda. His hands trembled as he felt his way along the walls; they had never trembled like that before. Tom figured that a well-to-do family like that which lived in this house would keep money lying almost anywhere—on mantels, dressers, almost anywhere. He went down a broad flight of stairs without noise, and found a mantel. There was no money lying on it. Next he found a table, and there was no money lying there, either. Then he stumbled over something, and it made a noise. Tom held his breath. A moment later the lights flashed on, and a big, broad man in a long green robe appeared on the stairway landing with a revolver in his hand.

"Hands up—quick!" said the man.

Tom put up his hands. The man of the house half turned to a sixteen-year-old boy who stood on the stairway above.

"'Phone headquarters and tell them to send somebody out here after this burglar," he ordered.

The boy carried out his father's instructions. The man of the house then went to Tom and made sure that he had no weapons.

"Sit down," he said, not unkindly.

Tom sat down.

"You don't look like an ordinary burglar," said the man with the revolver, taking a chair himself. "And I don't think you are an ordinary burglar. Why did you break into my house?"

California Tom Carter, from White Rock Mountain, told the lieutenant of police everything in a straightforward way. By the time he had finished the man from headquarters had come to make the arrest and it was daylight.

"Hold him here," said the lieutenant, "until I dress myself. I want to make some investigations before I give him over to you."

Half an hour, and the three men came to a halt before Lettie Perry's poor little house. The eyes of the lieutenant of police were turned toward Lettie's bed of marigolds. Then the lieutenant looked toward silent Tom Carter.

"I don't want any more proof, Tom," he said. "We'll not bother your Lettie. Will you let me lend you enough money to marry you two and carry you back to your mountains?"

Tom's lips moved jerkingly: "Shore!"

Two minutes later the lieutenant of police and the man from headquarters turned away from Lettie's gate. The lieutenant wore a marigold on his coat lapel.

"You see," he said to his companion, "I came here from the mountains, twenty years ago, and I know how it is."

Money Back If Not Satisfied



Only $1

and you get this

Wool Mackinaw

$1 Down, $1.35 Monthly

Astounding bargain!

Yes! For here's better quality at lower price than others sell for cash. You will be proud to have this Wool Mackinaw, snappy and up to date. Don't miss this—order at once.

Cut double breasted and three-button style. Broad shawl collar can be turned up to fasten under neck, or entirely over ears. Box plaits in front and back with belt all around. Two large pockets with flaps, and cuffs on sleeves. All seams piped. Made from durable 30-oz. Mackinaw cloth in rich plaid effects. Comes in maroon, dark brown or oxford gray. Sizes, 34 to 46. Cannot be bought for $10.00 cash.

Order by No. F-13 — Remember our money-back guarantee. Send $1.00 cash then $1.35 monthly. Total Price, $8.95.

Order by No. F-13

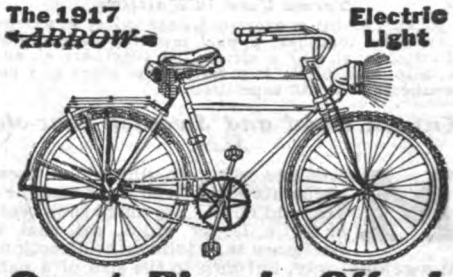
Send Coupon

Do not miss this offer. Send now while you still have this chance to get fitted out for the winter. Only $1.00 to get this comfortable Mackinaw sent on approval. Take immediate advantage of this great bargain. Send coupon *now*.

Elmer Richards Co.
Dept. 1071, W. 35th Street, Chicago, Ill.

Elmer Richards Co.
Dept. 1071
W. 35th Street, Chicago
Send the Wool Mackinaw.
Size ..... Color .....
I enclose $1.00 as first payment. To be returned if I do not keep the Mackinaw. Also send catalog.
Name .....
Address .....
If you don t want to order right now and want only Bargain Catalog free today put X here .....

The 1917 ARROW Electric Light



Great Bicycle Offer!

Write for catalog. Wonderful 1917 Arrow—new motorcycle type—shipped **no money down.** Pay small amount each month while you ride. Write for our special, rock-bottom offer.

Write Today Fisk Thorn Proof Non-Skid Tires, motorcycle stand; many new features. Send for free catalog.

ARROW CYCLE CO., Dept. 3041 California & 19th St., Chicago, Ill.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

ness, but answered the call at once.

Hundreds and hundreds of letters came and even yet, an occasional letter comes. Through COMFORT, I found a schoolmate of long, long ago, and was heartily made glad by a loving letter. Some addresses were too dim to read, being written with lead pencil—some wrote beautiful letters and sent cards and gave no address, but I thank everyone of them!

To the dear ones who sent stamps, to the loving, Christian-hearted sisters who continue to write, who have helped me in hundreds of ways, I give my heartfelt gratitude and in every possible way I can, will pass their kindness on.

I have been appealed to for help in *any* form, clothes, stamps, shoes and money, until my heart was sick when I had no more to give.

What pitiful letters were some I received, and I know that COMFORT does not yet fully realize all the good it does, taking comfort and help into each home, however humble.

Our own shack is all the brighter now and as the darksome winter days come on, COMFORT and its readers will reward my faith in them by at least sending us a kindly, loving thought—occasionally. The editorial is fine—and shows kindly consideration for humanity.

I am doing all I can to get up as large a contribution for Uncle Charlie's Home as possible for one situated in as restricted isolation as I. To all who

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)



© 1917 S. M. S. Co.

Let Us Send It

Tell Us What You Want Most—On Credit

Tell us what you want. Let us send it on 30 days' free trial, subject to return. If you like it, pay as you can—a little each month. Millions buy here in that way.

A Year or More

Take a year or more on each bill. Save up 2 or 3 cents daily. You can furnish a home in that way.

No References

Send no references. Your Credit Card will come with our catalog. When you see what you want, simply tell us to send it. We gladly trust home lovers. We want charge accounts.

Now 1915 Prices

You can have home things here now at 1915 prices. Our present stock was bought on yearly contracts made in 1915. Our next stocks of the same goods will cost vastly more.

This Bargain Book shows over 5000 home things, many in actual colors. It costs us with mailing $1.50 per copy, but we send it free.

Send the coupon now. In a month or two all these prices must enormously advance. You will never see such bargains again.

Massive Rocker on a Year's Credit



$3.15

Catalog Shows 64 Rocker Bargains

Look at this handsome rocker—there are 64 like it in our big catalog. You pay only a little monthly for the one you select. This handsome rocker has heavy hard wood frame, nicely finished by special process in a perfect imitation of genuine quarter-sawed oak in a rich golden color. Full box saddle seat is big and comfortable, being 19 in. deep and 19½ in. wide. Pretty back has heavy top panel 7 in. wide. Front posts are cut from strong lumber. Rocker is 35 in. high. **No. L4B1205. Price..... $3.15**

No Money Wanted

We never ask a customer who is on our books to pay any money down. They wait until after the 30 days' free trial in the home.

The first payment is not due for a month. Our customers get the goods, use them a month, and approve them before paying a penny.

Spiegel, May, Stern Co.

1309 W. 35th Street, Chicago

$1.50 Book Free

Picturing 5000 Home Things

Furniture	Baby Cabs—Cameras
Carpets—Rugs	Silverware—Clocks
Refrigerators	Chinaware—Lamps
Draperies—Linens	Sewing Machines
Curtains—Bedding	Kitchen Cabinets
Oilcloth, etc.	Stoves—Ranges

Send Coupon for It

Ask also for our Style Book picturing 1000 Spring Styles for Women

SPIEGEL, MAY, STERN CO. (1179)
1309 W. 35th Street, Chicago
Mail me your Spring Bargain Book.
Also the books I mark below.
____Stove Book. ____Watches and Jewelry.
____1000 Spring Styles for Women.

Name .....
Address .....
.....
Check which catalogs you want.

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or stitches each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through both loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Terms Used in Knitting

K. knit plain; o. over; o. 2, over twice; n. narrow 2 stitches together; p. purl, meaning an inversion of stitches; sl. slip a stitch; tog. together; sl. and b., slip and bind; k. p. knit plain; stars and parenthesis indicate repetition.

Knitted Hood and Sweater Year-old Size

MADE according to directions these garments will be the right size for a year-old child. To make the sweater for a larger child, all that is necessary is to follow the directions in a general way, but knit to the size of a pattern for an older child. Required material—Between three and four skeins of white saxony, one half skein pink saxony and one half skein light green saxony. Two pairs needles No. 13 or 14.

Directions for Knitting Hood

The hood is begun in the center of the crown. Cast on 50 stitches. The first seven rows are in Brioche stitch which is made as follows:—

1st row.—Wool over, slip 1, insert needle as though to purl, that is, on side opposite to ordinary stitch, knit two together, and repeat to end of row.

2nd row.—Over, slip 1, as though to purl, knit together the next st. and the thread which lies over it, and repeat to end of row.

Repeat this row six times more. Next seven rows of a fancy stitch made in this way; * k. first 4 sts., p. 1, k. 3, p. 1, k. 3, p. 1, repeat from * ending row with k. 4. This makes 14 rows.

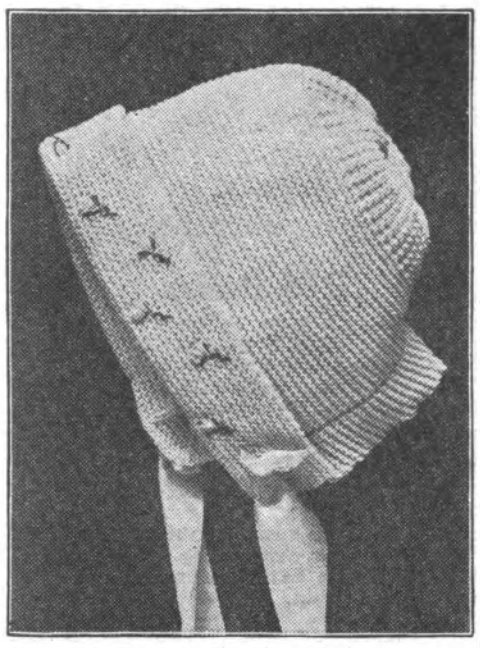
15th row.—K. plain. Cast 10 sts. on end of this row, turn.

16th row.—K. 9, p. 1, k. plain to end, cast on 10 sts., turn.

17th row.—K. 9, p. 1, k. to other purled st., p. 1, k. 9. Repeat this row 30 times.

Purl 3 rows. Knit 12 rows for turn back and bind off.

Sew up the back of the hood from the neck



HOOD TO MATCH SWEATER.

up, draw up the first row leaving a space about the size of a quarter which can be filled in with crochet. Make ch. 4, join, fill with 15 or more double crochet, add a second row and sew in place.

Directions for Sweater

Cast on 110 stitches. Knit first 10 rows plain.
11th row.—K. 14 purl to end of row.
12th row.—Purl to 14th row st., k. 14.
13th row.—K. 14, p. 2, k. to end.
14th row.—K. p. 2 over purled 2, k. 14.
15th row.—Same as 13th row.
16th row.—Same as 14th row.
17th row.—K. 14, p. 2, k. 4, p. to end of row.
18th row.—P., k. 4, p. 2, k. 14.
19th row.—K. 14, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. to end.
20th row.—K. p. 2 over p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 14.
21st row.—Same as 19th row.
22nd row.—Same as 20th row.
23rd row.—K. 14, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. to end of row.
24th row.—P., k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 14.
25th row.—K. 14, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. to end.
26th row.—K. p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 14.
27th row.—Same as 25th.
28th row.—Same as 26th.
29th row.—K. 14, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. to end.
30th row.—P. k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 14.
31st row.—K. 14, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. 4, p. 2, k. to end row.

Make 8 more rows like the 31st row. All knitted plain excepting the purled stitches which form the border around the bottom. Bind off the last 30 sts. on end of work opposite purling for the armhole, knit 1 row from here, to the bottom and back again, then cast on 30 stitches



KNITTED ROSEBUD TRIMMED SWEATER.

and make 70 rows for the back, making the purling across the bottom. Make the second front to correspond with the first.

Sleeves

Cast on 62 stitches, knit 42 rows. Make cuffs of 28 rows Brioche st. the same as used in hood, finish off with 6 rows knitting, bind off and sew up.

Lay fronts and backs together and sew up shoulders, sew in sleeves.

Collar

Cast on 70 sts. for the collar, knit 4 rows, purl 6 rows, knit 12 rows and bind off. Sew to neck. Finish with either a crocheted cord and pink and white balls or ribbon.

High Crocheted Boots

Begin with ch. 11, turn, 1 s. c. in each of 10 sts., ch. 1, turn, 9 more rows of 10 s. c. each, worked through both loops of each stitch. Now 1 s. c. down side, 2 s. c. in corner st., 1 s. c. in each st. across end, 2 s. c. in corner, 1 s. c. up side, ch. 21 sts., fasten to opposite side, break thread. Fold ch. together and in 11th or center st. of back work 1 s. c., 1 s. c. in each st. all around, join to first s. c. by sl. st., ch. 1. Next row in center st. of toe make 2 s. c., otherwise same as last row. 2 more rows 1 s. c. in each st. Next row sk. a st. on each side of the toe. Next row, sk. st. in center of toe, 1 row 1 s. c. in each st. next 2 rows sk. couple of sts. To draw in heel a little add row of s. c. in each st. and break thread.



CROCHETED BOOTS.

Start again in center of back, 1 s. c. in each st. all around, join to first st., one is now beginning to make leg of boot. Make 20 rows, single crochet, working through both loops of each st. and increasing by making 2 s. c. in center st. in back in every third row or as is necessary.

21st row.—1 tr. c. in each st. join, ch. 1, 8 more rows of s. c. and finishing top with picot scallop of 1 s. c., 1 d. c., 1 p., 1 d. c., 1 p., 1 d. c., 1 p., 1 d. c., 1 s. c., repeat. Run ribbons through the treble row of crochet as shown.

To make the little garments very attractive, one can now add a touch of the popular wool embroidery, by scattering tiny rosebuds down the front of the sweater, on the turnback of the hood and on the boots as shown. The directions for the boots as given will fit over a year-old child's shoe.

Directions for Embroidering Rosebuds

Thread a darning needle with the pink wool and take a lazy daisy stitch about one half inch long. Bring needle out near starting point and take a second stitch a bit longer than the first, add a third the length of the first, add similar stitches on either side of green wool and one straight stitch in the opposite direction to form stem.

A Rosebud Afghan

A beautiful rosebud afghan may be made to complete a child's carriage outfit as follows. Make five or six inch squares in twilight stitch of baby blue saxony and squares of an equal size in single crochet of white saxony, by working back and forth and taking up both loops of each stitch, thus making the work solid and also giving a rather star like effect to the stitch. Make a chain one at the end of each row to keep the work even. Embroider the white squares with rosebuds, then join all by alternating the squares. Bind with a satin ribbon or finish with a scallop.

Crocheted Sleeveless Jacket

FOR MISS M. E. STAMM.

Materials required. 4 skeins Germantown 2 skeins saxony for border, 1 medium and 1 fine bone crochet hook.

To make a jacket for a 36- or 38-inch person, begin with ch. 114 stitches. This jacket fits snugly, the center of the back and the fronts run off to points and half sleeves can be made or not as preferred.

1st row.—2 d. c. in 4th st. from hook, 1 d. c. in each of the next 54 sts., then as the widening is done in the center of the back, work 3 d. c., ch. 2, 3 d. c. in the 55th st., 1 d. c. in each of the next sts., excepting the last, in which work 3 d. c., ch. 3, turn.

2nd row 2 d. c. in 1st working through the back loop only to form a rib, 1 d. c. in each d. c., widen as in first row, by working 3 d. c., ch. 2, 3 d. c. under ch. 2 of preceding row and work 3 d. c. in last st., ch. 3, turn.

Repeat the 2nd row until one has 15 rows, for a sleeveless jacket or 22 rows if half sleeve is desired. Fasten off.

For sleeveless jacket do not break thread, but at end 15th row, turn and work back on 30 stitches, as usual, then ch. 3, turn, work to end again. Repeat making 5 more rows on the 30 stitches. Make 3 d. c. in front edge of each of these rows, but finish with 1 d. c. on opposite end as directed. Break wool. Finish opposite front in the same way.

Now count 30 stitches from the center of the back. Join wool and work 30 d. c. on 30 d. c., increasing in center as usual then 1 d. c. in each d. c. to corresponding stitch of first d. c. ch. 3, turn. Repeat, making 6 more rows in this way.

To join the jacket under the arms, count 30 stitches from the front of one front and 30 stitches from the center of the back, join the remaining 14 or 15 sts. together by single crochet, now s. c. along the ends of the short rows to draw these in a little to form under part armhole. Join opposite side in same way. In jacket with 22 complete rows, join under arms by working s. c. on 23 stitches after counting 30 stitches from center of back and fronts.

Begin border at under arm seam.

Border. Ch. 3, * skip 2 chs., 4 d. c., skip 2 chs., 1 d. c. and repeat from * all around, putting 9 d. c. in center of back and at each corner of front, be careful not to skip any chains, when turning the corners at the neck to prevent puckering. Join.

2nd round.—Ch. 3, * 4 d. c. in center of shell of preceding row, 1 d. c. on d. c., repeat all around and join.

3rd round.—Ch. 3, 5 d. c. in center of shells, 1 d. c. on d. c., edge armholes in the same way.

A picot edge of colored wool or silk can be added to the borders if one fancies.

Crocheted Carriage Robe in Twilight Chain

BY MRS. A. A. WERTMAN.

This robe or afghan is of two colors, the outside which is illustrated being made up of heavy wool crocheted and placed over white saxony knitted lining. Materials, 4 skeins heavy or coarse pink of baby blue wool. Medium size bone crochet hook, 2 skeins white saxony, 1 pair knitting needle, rather coarse so work will be loose.

Outside of Twilight Chain

With color make a rather loose chain, a yard long without stretching, turn. Sk. 7 sts., 1 sl. st. in each of the next 3 sts., ch. 3, sk. 3, 1 sl. st. in each of the next 3 sts. Repeat working in this way to the end of the chain, but finish with a group of 3 sl. sts.

2nd row.—Ch. 4, 3 sl. st. in ch. 3 below. Ch. 3, 3 sl. st. in next ch. 3, repeat to end finishing with 3 sl. sts., turn. Repeat until work is the desired size.

Knitted Lining

Of the white saxony make a lining of the same size of plain knitting. Pin together and working through both edges, finish with a crocheted fringe.

Fringe

With colored wool, fastened in end of corner row ch. 24, 1 sl. st., in the 19th and 20th chains from hook, ch. 4, 1 sl. st. next to fastened wool. Make 2 more chained loops and sl. st. next each other closely, to fill in and round corner. Next loop sl. st. to end of next row. Repeat this around all four sides.

Crocheted Beading

For Lingerie or Children's Dresses

This pattern is very pretty on children's dresses, run through with black velvet ribbon.

Ch. 22, 1 d. c. in 9th st. from hook, ch. 2, skip 2, 1 d. c., ch. 2, skip 2, 1 d. c., repeat making 2 more spaces, ch. 3, turn.

1st row.—2 d. c., in sp., 1 d. c. on double, 3 sps., 4 d. c., ch. 3, turn. Next 2 rows the same

4th row.—3 d. c., ch. 9, 4 d. c., ch. 3. turn.

5th row.—3 d. c., 1 sp., 4 d. c., 1 sp., 4 d. c., ch. 3, turn.

6th row.—7 d. c., 1 sp., 7 d. c., ch. 3, turn.

7th row.—3 d. c., 1 sp., 4 d. c., 1 sp., 4 d. c., ch. 3, turn.

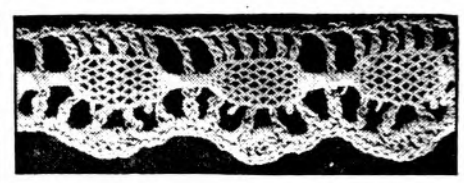
8th row.—3 d. c., ch. 9, 4 d. c., ch. 3, turn.

9th, 10th and 11th rows.—all same as first. Then repeat pattern from 4th row.

Lobster Braid Edge for Curtains

The pattern can be very rapidly made and also makes an effective trimming along the straight edge, make 1 d. c. in each picot of the braid, ch. 2, 1 tr. c. around stem, ch. 2, and doubles as before.

On the opposite to make scallop, 1 d. c. around stem, on each side of the tr. st., ch. 2, 1 d. c., in first picot, * ch. 3, 1 d. c. in third picot, ch. 3, 1 d. c., in fourth picot, ch. 3, 1 d.



LOBSTER BRAID EDGE FOR CURTAINS.

c., in last picot, ch. 2, 2 d. c., around stem, 1 on each side of the treble. Repeat from * for length required.

Stocking with Fitted Knee-Cap Designed for Rheumatic Sufferers

BY GEORGIA T. DRENNAN.

For solid comfort in cold weather nothing is better especially for elderly or rheumatic people, than such a stocking or knee-cap as is here shown.

It comes up well over the knee, fits snugly and will stay in place without a garter.

Either Germantown yarn, zephyr, mercerized knitting thread or soft cotton can be used knitting on either coarse or fine needles.

Cast up 100 stitches evenly on 3 steel knitting needles, and knit around plain.

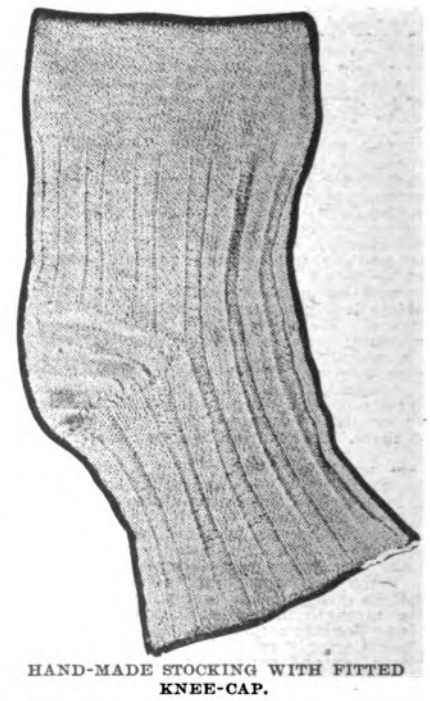
Now k. 5, p. 5 sts. for 47 rounds. This makes the longitudinal ribbing which fits closely about the knee.

48th row or next row.—Knit off the first 25 sts., to begin the gore or the knee-cap.

49th row.—Knit across plain, taking up one st. from the end.

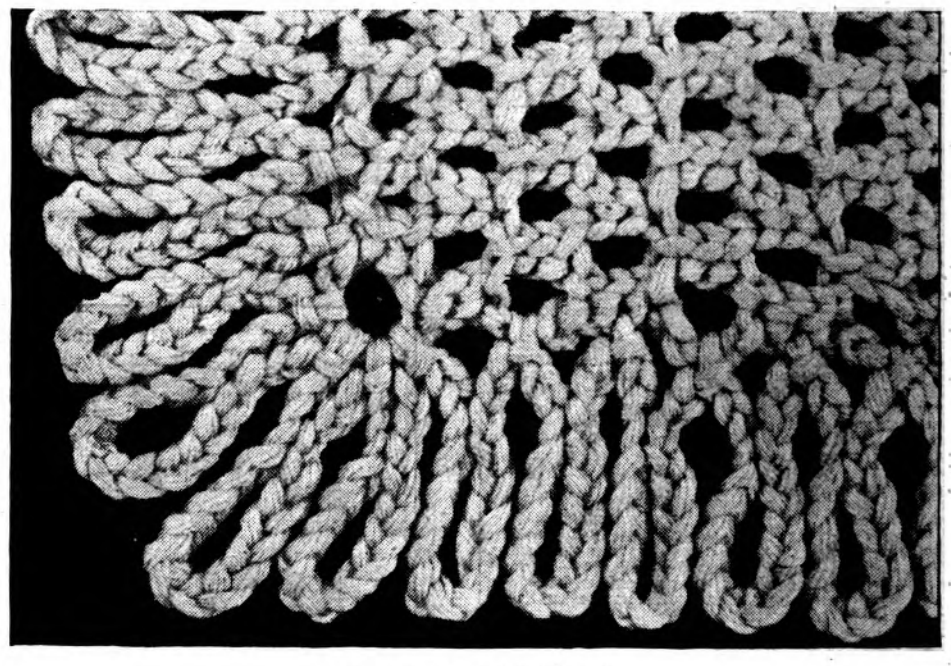
50th row.—Purl and take up one st. from the end.

Continue in this way for 5 rows. Then reverse making 5 purled and 5 plain rows alternately until the knee-cap is finished. Take up one st. at end of each row whether plain or purled.



HAND-MADE STOCKING WITH FITTED KNEE-CAP.

When only 40 sts. of the original ribbed portion are left, the upper half of knee cap is completed. Then knit plain and purl as before, but knit 2 sts. together at the end of each row, back and forth, to narrow the *knee-cap* down to ninety-nine stitches.



CROCHETED CARRIAGE ROBE.

Knit plain, purling the center stitch of third needle, to make seam down back of the leg.

Widen for the calf and then narrow for the ankle as usual in making stockings.

Knit the Heel

Turn the cap, narrow for the instep, knit the foot and narrow off the toe.

Bind off and make end of thread secure on wrong side.



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Points for Early Hatching

THE problem in the minds of the majority of poultry keepers at the present time is "How can I best secure a goodly number of strong, vigorous chicks from my spring hatches; large, vigorous fellows, free from any taint of disease, that will with good care, develop into strong, profitable adults to keep up my stock?"

For there are always a lot of old birds each year who are past their usefulness as egg producers, that must be disposed of. Hence, the necessity of producing a full quota of vigorous chicks each year if the productivity of the flock is to be maintained. The demand for strong chicks of high quality, is constant, and comes from many sources.

First, of course, the owner of his own plant wishes a goodly number for his own use. Secondly, the producer of high quality baby chicks has a large demand for the sale of these youngsters as day-old chicks, for which a very remunerative price is secured. Again, where one has secured a reputation for producing hatchable eggs and husky youngsters, a large quantity of hatching eggs can be sold at a profit during the spring months.

In selecting desirable breeders, both male and female, the first consideration should be that of vigor. The parents themselves should show a bright, prominent eye; a good, deep, wide body; a short, deep head, a good distance between the hock joints, and should be of suitable color pattern, characteristic of the breed represented. Second, the parents should be selected with some knowledge of their ancestry or pedigree.

In the beginning of the breeding work, owing to the lack of accurate records, it will often be impossible to know the exact ancestry, and external appearance will have to count for much. In such cases it may often be desirable to purchase good breeding males from reliable breeders, for which a fair price can well be paid.

A few selected birds, trap nested during the winter, will make possible systematic selection along egg-producing lines. Again, the parent stock should show every indication of health, and the poultryman should know that no disease has ever affected the birds selected to produce hatching eggs. Some diseases may apparently have beeen cured, but disease leaves the individual in a weakened condition, so that progeny from such individuals show tendencies toward infection. Health, then, should be a fundamental requirement.

Suitable parentage, consisting of carefully selected hens and cockerels, is fundamental. Pullets which are immature and late hatched should never be used for breeding. When pullets are used as breeders, a large percentage of eggs is often found infertile. On account of the small size of the eggs, the chicks at hatching time are correspondingly smaller than chicks otherwise produced. The progeny from small pullet eggs lack vitality throughout their lives, and if the practise is continued, a rapid deterioration in the efficiency of the flock will follow. The yearling hen mated to the vigorous cockerel, produces the best quality chicks.

In the breeding pen, fertility is of primary consideration, and special efforts should be made to attain a high percentage. In this regard, do not mate too many females to one male. With the light, active breeds, such as the Leghorns, one male to twelve or fifteen females seems about the right proportion. With the heavier breeds, such as the Plymouth Rocks, one male to ten females is as safe a ratio as can be followed. Season also influences the question. The early matings before the normal breeding season has commenced, should contain less females to a male than matings during late March and April.

Next we have to consider the handling of the hatching egg after it is produced, and the following points are of special significance. The eggs should, by all means, be laid in clean nests, for soiled, dirty eggs are bound to carry contamination which may affect the chicks disastrously. Frequent collection of the hatching eggs, especially in winter, when the temperature is very cold, is desirable, thus preventing chilling, and also preventing injury to the eggs. After collecting the eggs, they should be carefully graded. Eggs of uniform size, as near as possible, weighing about twenty-four ounces to the dozen, should be used. All exceptionally large eggs or malformed eggs should be sold for eating. Eggs of irregular, rough or thin shells should also be disposed of. Only normal shelled eggs of a uniform color and of an average size should be kept for hatching. They should be kept in a room where the temperature is not over fifty degrees, and never below thirty. Such a temperature retards evaporation and retains the quality of the egg.

A high temperature of seventy or eighty is apt to cause germ development which results in a dead embryo. It is not a good plan to hold hatching eggs any length of time before placing them in an incubator. It has been found, by careful experience, that the hatching power of the egg decreases as the length of the holding time increases. Even in a cool room and carefully turned, hatching eggs will deteriorate, and it can be stated that it is undesirable to keep them more than three weeks under any conditions, and one week is much better. It is a safe practise to place the eggs in such a way that they can occasionally be turned if they are going to be held for three or four days or longer.

Plenty of room is also needed in the breeding pen. Breeding birds should never be crowded. It prevents sufficient exercise and has a tendency to increase disease and parasites. Plenty of exercise should be the rule. This can be best accomplished by feeding considerable grain in deep litter. Lack of exercise tends to the formation of fat, and this is bound to increase fertility.

It is very desirable to construct a number of small houses, especially adapted to the management of the breeding flock, in which special matings can be made of a few selected birds, such flocks being given range during the winter and early spring in order to get them into suitable breeding condition. The feed for the breeding flock is very nearly identical with that required for the ordinary laying hens.

One noticeable exception can be made, and that is that the ration for the breeders should not be forced in any sense of the word. A ten to twenty per cent meat scrap mash is as concentrated as it is safe to go. Green food is necessary, as birds relish it, and seem to increase appetite and vigor. Plenty of feed should be given, but in such a way as to compel exercise and reduce the formation of excessive fat. The birds should be compelled to work for all the grain in dry, deep, clean litter.

The aim in the management of this breeding flock should be, first, large eggs, which are secured only from large, healthy, adult hens, fed a well-balanced ration in sufficient amount. Second, a fair number of eggs, which can be secured from any well-managed flock of healthy birds. Third, strong germs, which are secured by having the birds properly mated and well cared for. Fourth, a heavy albumen dense and free from an excessive amount of water, means eggs which will hatch livable chicks. These factors are assured in a flock of healthy birds which are not forced excessively for a maximum production.

Where to Put the Incubator

When only one or two incubators are to be run during the season, it is scarcely practicable to build or construct a special incubator cellar for that purpose, therefore the question arises as to what kind of room or place about the premises will be suitable for the operation of the incubator. Preferably they should be placed in the cellar or in a room with north windows instead of south, which is usually more apt to be more uniform in temperature day and night, because the southern windows absorb much heat from the sun during the day and lose this at night. It is also the temperature which should surround the eggs as they are turned and cooled day after day. If the room is too cool, the eggs will become too suddenly cooled and chilled, and if the room is too warm the eggs will not have a chance to become cooled sufficiently in the length of time allowed to remain out of the incubator.

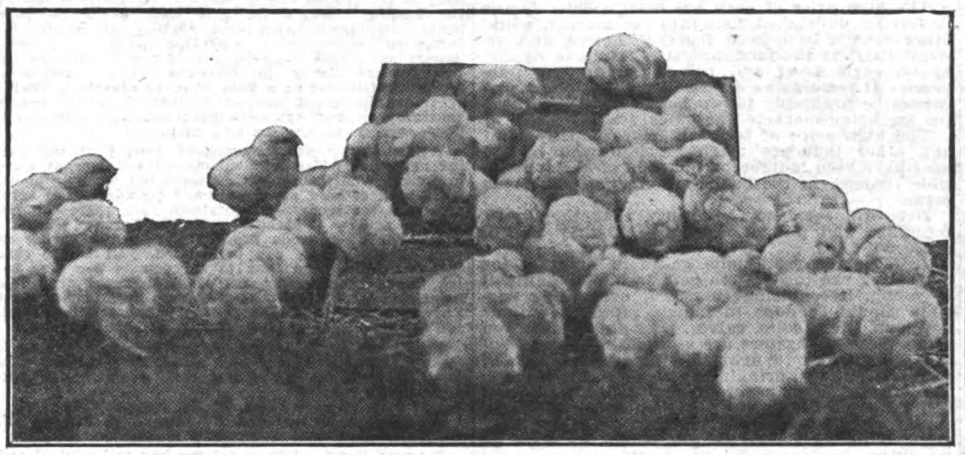
The ventilation of the room is one of the most essential features which should be looked into before the machine is started. There must be a constant supply of fresh air in the incubator room, because the eggs in developing need a constant supply of fresh air. The gases given off during incubation must be removed and supplanted by fresh air.

Every incubator has some arrangement whereby fresh air is admitted to the machine at all times. Also every machine requires the airing or cooling of eggs at regular periods during the hatch. The purpose of this is to bring the eggs into contact with the fresh air Never allow an incubator room to become stagnant or filled with stale or disagreeable odors. The system of ventilation should be so managed that no drafts of wind blow across the room and strike the machine in operation.

There are several serious effects of drafts. In the first place, drafts interfere with the even burning of the lamp, causing the flame to flicker and even to smoke. This not only results in a variation in the temperature of the incubator, but fills the lamp and compartment with soot, taking away from its efficiency. There *is* also a serious risk of fire resulting from a flame that is kept flickering. Particular attention should be given to this point when there is a prevalance of strong winds out of doors. Avoid opening windows that are directly opposite in the room, particularly if the incubator is in a line between them. It is easy to get fresh air into a room without creating drafts.

Points to Remember in Running a Machine

First, temperature. The best temperature is known to be from one hundred and two to one hundred and three degrees on the fertile egg. A great variation from this either high or low, not only reduces the number of chicks hatched, but reduces the vigor and fertility of those which get out of the shell. A high temperature running continuously throughout the hatch results in an early hatch, and is apt to be accompanied by weak youngsters, while a low temperature results in a prolonged hatch and poor results. An ideal hatch which results is one which, due to uniform temperature, starts on or about the twentieth or twenty-first day, and is completely over with in from twelve to twenty-four hours.



WHITE WYANDOTTE CHICKS.

A second factor, of equal importance in the management of the incubation, should be the supplying of fresh air. The growing embryo needs a full supply of oxygen, without which the embryo cannot grow normally. This oxygen can best be supplied to the egg by causing fresh, pure air to flow into the machine and into the air chamber. This ventilation, as it is called, must take place continuously, but without any rapid movement which would cause a too rapid evaporation of the egg content.

Another consideration of equal or greater importance is the necessity of maintaining the moisture content to such a point that excessive evaporation will be prevented. If, due to dry atmospheric conditions, evaporation takes place rapidly, much of the contents of the egg, which otherwise would go into the chick, is given off into the air and the result is undersized chicks at hatching time. The big, heavy, fluffy youngsters can only be produced where a fairly high humidity is contained in the egg chamber. This high humidity also results in a better percentage of hatch, due to its effect upon the egg shell in making it thinner and more easily broken at hatching time. It is a good plan to insure this high humidity by sprinkling the eggs on the eighteenth or nineteenth day with warm water before closing the machine.

At hatching time the incubator should be darkened, thus keeping the chicks from trampling one another in an effort to get to the light. The quieter they can be kept, the better. The chicks should be allowed to remain in the machine until they are thoroughly dry, which is from twenty-four to thirty hours after the hatch is complete. These few points in regard to the proper care of the eggs in the incubator are essential.

The great advantage of early hatches is splendidly shown in a report from the New Jersey Experiment Station issued last year. The eggs for the hatch which is quoted were brought for a large poultry farm whose birds have the reputation of being vigorous, and good egg producers. The eggs were produced by yearling hens, and set in a big sectional incubator on January 19th, 1914, and seven hundred chicks hatched out on February 9th. They were placed in a pipe-heated brooder house, and kept there until they were twelve weeks old. Some were lost through crowding, toe picking, and other accidental causes. At from nine to twelve weeks of age the cockerels were sold alive as broilers, the average weight being a little over one pound. The market was average for the season, the price being fifty-eight cents a pound. This resulted in a very attractive return in cash, and shows one of the advantages which may be secured from bringing off considerable number of chicks early in the spring. Approximately 300 pullets were put on range at twelve weeks of age, or about the first week in May.

The chicks in the brooder were fed the regular N. J. State brooding rations, consisting of dry mash and cracked grains, with bone and skim-milk being fed. These two ingredients are specially mentioned as they seem specially desirable at this early season to induce a rapid growth, for rapid maturity is what we are after. On range they are fed a grain ration of equal parts of wheat and cracked corn and dry mash in large hoppers always before them. The mash contained ten per cent of high grade meat scrap, and ten per cent of dry ground bone. Skim-milk was not fed on range. The first egg was found on the range the 10th of July, just five months from the time of hatching. From this date on the flock, as a whole commenced to mature, and on the 29th of July they were placed in their permanent laying quarters and gotten into shape for an early production.

The house provided for them was of the New Jersey Multiple Unit type twenty feet deep by forty feet long. Two hundred birds were selected as being the most uniform in development and of good size and maturity. From the time that these birds were placed in their permanent quarters until the next fall, or until August, 1915, they were never let out of their house, so yards were provided, and all green food, together with all nourishment, was provided in the house.

The birds were fed the standard N. J. State Rations. The dry mash consisting of

Two hundred pounds of wheat bran, two hundred pounds of wheat middlings, one hundred pounds of round oats, one hundred pounds of corn-meal, one hundred pounds of gluten meal, one hundred pounds of ground Alfalfa, two hundred pounds of high grade meat scrap.

Was fed in large hoppers, the birds having access to it at all times. This mash was supplemented by a morning scratch feed consisting of equal parts of wheat and oats, which was fed in deep litter at the rate of one pound to ten birds. Special care was exercised, to see that the litter was always in a dry, coarse clean condition. At, or just before noon, a considerable quantity of mangel beets, or at various times sprouted oats, were fed, all being given at a feeding which the birds would eat up in one hour. In the afternoon a night scratch ration was given, consisting of:

Two hundred pounds of cracked corn, one hundred pounds of wheat, one hundred pounds of oats, one hundred pounds of buckwheat.

In addition to these standard grain rations a constant supply of fresh, clean water was kept before them all of the time, and during most of the period sour skim-milk was fed in large pans, all they would drink being given. The milk seemed to be very valuable, and was in part responsible for the excellent showing of the pen.

The flock commenced laying well soon after being placed in permanent quarters, and continued to give a good account of themselves at all times except during their moult, which took place in November, December and January. The number of eggs laid during the year, the per cent production, the value of eggs, cost of food, and resulting profit or loss by months is shown on the accompanying table. It will be seen that the total flock, which averaged for the year 190 birds, laid a grand total of 26,280 eggs, or 138 eggs per bird average for the twelve months period. This means an average per cent production for the period of 35. The total value of the eggs produced was $679.30, the eggs being marketed in most part, wholesale in New York City. The value of the eggs was in all cases figured on wholesale New York quotations for first grade white eggs. The total cost of all food consumed, including the skim-milk, which cost $9.00, was $257.53. The skim-milk was figured at the rate of 25 cents for a 40-quart can, which is the creamery price for the product in New Jersey. The profits are shown for each month, and it is interesting to note that during only one month did the flock not pay for its feed. This was during December, or during the height of the moult. The total profit for the year above feed was therefore $421.83. This means a net profit above feed for each bird of $2.22.

In determining the net profit from each venture the labor cost and interest charges must of course be deducted. After substracting these figures the results would then show a net return of about $1.85 per bird, which is attained through the production of nothing but market eggs. This figure does not include the increased revenue obtained from the sale of the surplus cockerels, as broilers, at a time when very fancy prices were secured, nor does it include increased returns which were secured from the sale of many of the eggs from this flock in the spring for hatching purposes.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

B. B.—Better write to Mr. H. J. Goette, St. Paul, Minnesota, enclosing a stamp, and asking the address of members of the club in your vicinity.

A. O.—You don't say how old the hens are, or how you feed, so it is difficult to tell what has caused the trouble, which appears to be liver complaint. If you have been feeding much corn, reduce the quantity. Give them mash in the morning, made of two parts finely chopped clover or Alfalfa hay which has been steamed for several hours, or ground oats and wheat. Don't give them more than they will eat up clean in ten minutes. At night scatter mixed grain, oats, Kafir corn and wheat in deep litter, so they will have to scratch for every kernel. Add one teaspoonful of sulphate of magnesia to every pint of drinking water, one day a week until they have had three doses.

M. C. H.—I really can't guess what the trouble is with your birds, especially as you say neighbors are losing chickens in the same way. The only suggestion I can offer is that the birds get into fields where there is ripening broom grass or milo maize, and eat unthreshed grain. I have been told by several correspondents that the hulls of the new milo maize grain seems to irritate the intestines and cause

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)

Coin Your Spare Time Into Real Money

We have paid the November cash prizes and shall be paying the December monthly prizes about the time this reaches you. Enter now for the January cash prizes and the $635 Overland touring car. Don't delay. Don't waste those precious moments—make them pay. Read our New Grand Prize Offer on page 32, and start today.

Let me put you on the map as a Poultry Raiser



My Big Poultry Book "Hatching Facts", sent **free**, will tell you how to become a successful chicken raiser. It contains photographs and letters from **Belle City** owners who have won cups and prizes for championship hatches. What I have done for others I can easily do for you with my

World's Champion Belle City Incubator



The Incubator with the Paragon Board construction, the choice of America's most successful chicken raisers. Over 524,000 now in use. With the book come full particulars about my **Low Price, My 10-Year Money-Back Guarantee, my $1,000 Gold Offers.** Your opportunity to make extra money. Write me today. - - Jim Rohan, Pres.

1-2-3 Months' Home Test Freight Prepd.

Belle City Incubator Co. Box 135, Racine, Wis.

BIG HATCHES!
On One Gallon of Oil—One Filling of Tank!



RAYO Incubators produce higher average hatches because center heat insures even temperature. Hinged glass top puts eggs, thermometer and all in plain sight, saving labor. Oil tank needs but one filling for entire hatch. Flame regulator saves 3 to 6 gals. oil every hatch. Hatching chart and money making book on request. Write for them and new catalog.

Rayo Incubator Co., U. D. Sta- 3307 Omaha, Neb.

150 EGG Incubator and 150 Chick Brooder Both for $11



Made of California Redwood, covered with asbestos and galvanized iron, copper tanks, double walls, self-regulating, complete, ready for use. 30 days trial. Money back if not O.K. Order direct. Catalog free. Freight paid east of Rockies (1)

Ironclad Incubator Co., Box 21 Racine, Wis.

130-Egg Incubator and Brooder Both $10



Freight Paid East of Rockies

Hot water; double walls; copper tank; best construction. Write for free catalog.



(1)

Wisconsin Incubator Co., Box 16 Racine, Wis.



Poultry Book Latest and best yet; 144 pages, 215 beautiful pictures, hatching, rearing, feeding and disease information. Describes busy Poultry Farm handling 53 pure-bred varieties. Tells how to choose fowls, eggs, incubators, sprouters. This book worth dollars mailed for 10 cents.

Berry's Poultry Farm, Box 31, Clarinda, Iowa



50 Varieties Chickens, Bronze, White Hollanp, Bourbon Red turkeys; Toulouse, Embden, African, China Geese; Pekin, Rouen, Indian Runner, Muscovy ducks. Guineas, Incubators and Brooders. Catalog two cents.

THEODORE FRANZ, Box 97, Mankato, Minn.



PFILE'S 66 VARIETIES farm-raised Land and Water-Fowls. Eggs in season. Incubators. Illus. Catalog and "Grower's Guide," 2c. **An honest deal.** Write today. **HENRY PFILE, Farmer-Poultryman, Box 644, Freeport, Ill.**



SQUAB BOOK FREE

Make money breeding PR squabs. 1917 prices highest on record. Squab book free, telling money-making experiences. How to sell by parcel post. $6 to $8 doz. Write at once. **PLYMOUTH ROCK SQUAB CO., 206 HOWARD ST., MELROSE HIGHLANDS, MASSACHUSETTS.**

POULTRY and SQUABS for PROFIT



Write for Foy's Big Book FREE—an encyclopedia of poultry information—written by a man who knows. Leading varieties of poultry and pigeons in natural colors. Low prices on fowls and eggs. **FRANK FOY, Box 5, Clinton, Iowa.**



64 BREEDS Valuable New Poultry Book Free—108 pages. Fine pure-bred chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. Choice, hardy, Northern raised. Fowls, eggs and incubators at low prices. America's greatest poultry farm. 24th year in business. Write today for Free Book.

R. F. NEUBERT CO., Box 871, Mankato, Minn.



Every Fowl a Money Maker

Henry Steinmesch knows the Chicken business. He has been at it for 30 years, and is a leader in all Poultry activities of the country. Steinmesch says—"The Chicken business is bigger than ever, and growing fast. The secret of success is making every Chicken earn you money. **My Big Free Book** tells you how, saves you money, time and steps. Write for it today.

Henry Steinmesch, Pres. 76 N. 4th St. St. Louis, Mo.



62 BREEDS, Pure-bred Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys. Hardy northern raised, vigorous, beautiful. Fowls, eggs, incubators at low prices. **AMERICA'S PIONEER POULTRY FARM;** 23 years exp. Large fine Annual Poultry Book and Catalog **FREE.**

F. A. NEUBERT, Box 642, Mankato, Minn.

How To Get Winter Eggs



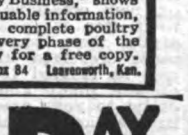
It's easy enough to get winter eggs when you know how to properly feed and care for your hens. Our **Free Book,** "Dollars and Sense in the Poultry Business," shows you how to get this valuable information, and how to obtain a complete poultry education, covering every phase of the business. Write today for a free copy.

AMERICAN SCHOOL OF POULTRY HUSBANDRY, Box 84 Leavenworth, Kan.

PIGEONS PAY

Better Than Chickens

Young pigeons (squabs) bring 40 to 60c each when 3 to 4 weeks old. Big demand in city markets. Each pair of pigeons easily clear $4 per year. Always penned up. Very little space and money needed to start. Free Book explains all. MAJESTIC SQUAB CO., Dept. 65, ADEL, IOWA.



HATCHER & HOVER IN ONE

Hatches 95% of the eggs; raises all the chicks. It's two-in-one—saves cost of Brooder. Perfect ventilation, vermin-proof, safe, convenient. *$6.90* for the *Perfect Hatcher & Hover.* Guaranteed. Write for big FREE Book.



The Perfect Hatcher Co., Dept. 1, Leesville, Ohio.

UNBEATABLE



For record hatches of healthy, profitable chicks—chicks that dodge the great chick graveyard—you can't beat the

"PROGRESSIVE"

Hundreds of dead air cells surrounding hatching chamber protect against sudden outside changes and insure nearest to nature's healthy hatching conditions. No dry, hot blasts to "cook" eggs—no hatches spoiled by temperature changes. GENUINE CALIFORNIA REDWOOD. Double-Disc Heat Regulator, Safety Lamp, Egg Tester, etc. Your money back with 8 per cent interest if not satisfied. Freight prepaid East of Rockies. Special deal if you mention this paper. Send for BIG FREE BOOK.

$9.85 FOR BOTH

Progressive Incubator Company Box 169 Racine, Wisconsin



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

New and Unusual in Fruits and Flowers

IT is the unusual that always attracts. We pass by "old-fashioned" plants without giving them a moment's thought, but the instant we see some new or unusual one we stop and begin to wonder what it is. Plant breeders, horticulturists and seedsmen are continually at work upon the improvement of plants, hence something new or improved is likely to appear at any time.

How New Plants are Created

Not many years ago people regarded with suspicion the man who dared assert that an old plant could be improved or a new one created, but today we have so many visible evidences of this fact that it is no longer occasion for doubt. Every new creation in plant life makes us pause and wonder how it all came about. This is how it happens: There are two ways in which it may be done,—by *crossing* and by *selection*.

Crossing

Two plants are selected that have desirable qualities. Let us suppose that one has *size* and the other *color*, for example. It is desired to get the size of the first combined with the color of the second. These two plants are *crossed*, that is, the pollen from one is applied to the pistil of the other. This is a process that requires great skill and care, but the result is seed. These seeds are sown the next year. Many plants are produced; some resemble one parent, some the other; perhaps one or two resemble both parents. Size and color have been combined. These are allowed to go to seed and the seeds planted the second year. Some of these plants revert—that is they turn back—so that they resemble the original parents, but many "come true." By continuing this process of selection for six or seven years these seeds always "come true" and are ready to be placed on the market.

Improvement by Selection

In every field or garden can be found some plants better than the rest. These are chosen as parent stock. By planting their seeds year after year, saving only the seeds from the best plants, the original stock can be greatly improved. It takes six or seven years, often much longer, to produce substantial improvement by this method.

Sports

It sometimes happens that plants change character so greatly as to be wholly unlike the parent stock. Everybody is familiar with the striper or white corn-stalks. These are called "sports." If "sports" are taken as parent stock and selections carefully made for several years new varieties are produced.

The polled-Durham cattle were produced in this way. A man living in the state of Minnesota had a Durham cow with horns that gave birth to twin calves, both heifers. Neither of them developed horns. Another farmer in Ohio had a young Durham bull without horns. These animals were mated and the polled-Durham breed of cattle is the result. Burbank produced his spineless cactus and his white blackberry in exactly the same way.

Where to Get New or Improved Plants

As soon as a plant is improved it is usually sold to seedsmen and dealers in nursery stock for dissemination. These are the best sources from which to secure new creations. One should study the advertisements in farm papers if he wishes to secure new and unusual varieties. Some of them are advertised directly but the majority of them are to be found listed in the pages of the catalogues issued by the seed and nursery houses. If you fail to find mention of new creations in their advertisements, the next step is to send for their catalogues and study these pages. The reliable dealer—and most seedsmen and nurserymen are reliable—can be trusted to give an accurate description of the plant and fairly set forth its special claim to your attention in his advertisement or in the pages of his regular catalogue.

Cheaper Horse Feeding

While it is a mistake to make any very sudden change in the ration of the work horse, it can be done gradually without danger. Many get into the habit or routine of giving horses the same ration fed by their fathers and grandfathers for the reason that they have found that diet to be satisfactory, so far as the horse is concerned; but a little figuring may show that the old ration is not now economical.

Whole oats cannot be excelled perhaps as an all-round horse feed but we find that it is being wastefully used in the winter season as is hay. When horses are working hard the oat ration, together with a small quantity of wheat bran at each feed gives excellent results, but when horses are idle or doing light work in winter it is possible to reduce the expensive feed yet maintain the animals in good condition. Oat straw may well take the place of the expensive hay, if some bright corn fodder can be added. Old, weathered corn fodder or corn fodder that is moldy is absolutely unfit as feed for horses and often proves deadly. In very cold weather oats may be withheld altogether and ear corn with oat straw and a little hay or fodder substituted. If roots, such as carrots, parsnips or rutabagas can be supplied as an adjunct feed, the horses will show benefit in the condition of their coats.

But what we particularly wish to recommend here is that "blackstrap," New Orleans or cane sugar molasses, should be considered as a horse feed whenever it can be bought at a reasonable figure. It is very readily digested, does not cause colic or scours and quickly plumps a thin, harness-galled work horse. A quart of molasses mixed with three quarts of hot water and then stirred thoroughly with corn meal, wheat bran and cut hay, or cut oat straw, fed night and morning, will work wonders in a thin horse. It may be found necessary to starve the horse at first to take the molassed feed but he will soon take it with relish and show improvement. When such a ration is fed night and morning to a hard-worked horse it is usual to feed whole oats at noon and long hay at night. The idle work horse need scarcely have any grain if fed molasses, cut hay and bright fodder. Sound corn silage may also be safely fed in small quantities to the idle horse in winter, but not in combination with molasses. Corn and Alfalfa hay make a balanced ration but are expensive at present as are most of the usual grain feeds, but molasses and straw should help to cheapen the ration and yet give good results.

Economy in Feeding

With wheat nearing the $2.00 mark, corn at $1.00, and other grains in proportion, one naturally finds that mill feed also has soared in price. Stockmen consequently have been at their wit's end to figure how to make ends meet in turning feed into marketable produce such as meat, milk, cream and butter. One result of the perplexing problem has been the flooding of the late fall and early winter markets with "she stuff" of indifferent quality.

Dairymen, trying to economize, have marketed every heifer and cow that failed to pay her board and return a fair profit in produce. Such cattle have sold around three or four cents a pound and averaging not much in excess of 800 pounds per head have failed to pay the cost of their production. Still it has been good policy to sell them. If retained, they would have "eaten their heads off" at the present price of feed and the heifer calves they might have produced would not have been worth raising, while vealing calves just now is not very profitable so far as dairy cattle are concerned. Calves also have gone to market in great numbers and not in the best of condition, while light pigs, around 100 to 125 pounds, have also glutted the market.

The high price of corn has been a chief factor in forcing unfinished hogs into the market, while other causes have been fear of cholera and, in some districts the fact that late corn was caught by an early frost and ruined for feeding purposes. It remains as a certainty that dollar corn cannot be profitably fed to heavy hogs and those too are being marketed as quickly as possible.

The high price of feed will more quickly than any other influence teach farmers who in the past have been indifferent the need of certain sensible changes in the business management of the farm.

Here are some of the things that they must recognize and put into practise if they are to succeed:

1. The cheapest made gains in animals for marketing are the growth gains while the animal is young. Recognizing this fact, everything possible should be done to induce rapid growth or development in colts, calves, pigs and lambs. Too often these youngsters are stunted by spare feeding and having to fight flies on bare, unshaded pastures where drinking water is inadequate. The stunted beast never proves profitable. Forced feeding later in life, to make up for lost opportunity, is expensive and profitless. All stunted young animals should be got rid of as soon as possible.

2. The most profitable young animal is the one that is out of a profitable dam and pure bred sire from profitable stock. If a man is going to make veal calves his specialty, he should use a sire that will beget calves that are large at birth and possessed of the ability to lay on calf flesh quickly. Such calves only come from large, thrifty cows. It does not pay to veal little calves from small dairy cows. Nor does it pay to raise stock for market from scrub sows, ewes or mares.

It is not a difficult or very expensive matter to substitute fast developing hogs for the runs and razor-backs too commonly owned in many districts. From such stocks spring pigs may be made to weigh several hundred pounds by November and this quickly grown pork is profitable. The winter feeding of runts that only weigh 75 to 100 pounds in late fall is a losing proposition. So, too, the colt from the right sort of sire and dam will have grown fast while suckling and by the time it is 12 months old should weigh from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds. There is an appreciative market for such colts.

3. The foolish and wasteful practise of boarding robber cows should be abandoned everywhere and heifer calves from such cows had better be knocked in the head at birth than raised for dairy purposes. It only pays to keep and raise the heifer calf of a cow that averages at least one pound of butter fat a day throughout her lactation period. The one-pound-of-butter-fat-a-day cow is now being sought after by every sensible dairyman and a herd of such cows never can come from scrub cows and a scrub bull.

More than ever before it is necessary to breed and feed animals that are of the best possible kind and family for production. If that policy is not followed feeding will be done at a loss wherever attempted.

A Critical Time for Ewes

Success at lambing time is very largely dependent upon the proper management of ewes in winter and especially during January and February when snow is likely to be deep and the temperature low. There are two fundamental facts to be remembered in the successful management of the pregnant ewe, viz.:

1. Exercise and 2. Activiy of the bowels.

Ewes of the mutton breeds fatten readily, laying on much inside fat and becoming sluggish and constipated. Lack of exercise helps to induce condition and errors in feeding complete the mischief. To enforce exercise it is a good plan to spread the hay for the ewes over the surface of a big field at a distance from the stables and make the ewes walk there and back daily. If the snow is deep a home-made snow plow will quickly open up the narrow path needed by the sheep. Some of the most successful sheepmen make their ewes walk a mile to get their hay and then scatter over a large field while feeding and walk home a mile for shelter. But exercise alone will not suffice. Thousands of ewes are killed each winter by feeding them nothing but coarse dry, woody swale or Timothy hay, threshed clover hay, or other coarse, bulky forage. It is imperative that the pregnant ewe should be allowed good clover or Alfalfa hay and in addition two pounds of roots or sound corn silage daily to regulate the bowels. It also is customary to feed a small quantity of whole oats and wheat bran and to allow some shelled corn in very cold weather, but the most important matter is to enforce exercise and keep the bowels active.

If the paunch of the ewe is kept distended with the objectionable roughage we have mentioned, the liver becomes overtaxed and diseased, partial paralysis of the muscles of the stomach sets in and chronic constipation results with injurious pressure upon the womb. If the ewe does not die in this condition it is certain that she will have difficulty in lambing, dead or puny lambs or lack of milk. These troubles are incurable but easily prevented as we have shown.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

BARLEY AND CLOVER.—I am much interested in the combination of barley and clover crops. Please tell me how to prepare the soil, how much seed to the acre, at what time to plant and when to harvest; also what and how is the best use to be made of barley as feed? B. A., Dexter, Ind.

A.—Prepare the land as for corn and sow one and one half to two bushels of barley to the acre. The land must be clean, rich and well drained. A warm friable loam is best and as a rule it is not wise to seed to barley unless that crop is commonly grown in the district. Barley is sold for the making of malt, or is ground and fed to hogs as a part ration, or rolled and made a small part of a horse's ration. Barley hay is the staple horse feed in some Pacific coast states. Seed when the weather is settled just after oat seeding. Seed two pounds of red medium clover with the barley to be used as fall pasture for stock, and plow under as green manure.

RAISING SUNFLOWERS.—I was much interested in the article on the "Cultivation of the Sunflower" in November COMFORT. Can you tell me where I can get a book on the raising of sunflowers, and where I can get sunflower seed suitable to grow in this (Wisconsin) climate? I presume an early variety would be required for this locality. Will they do well on new land with light sandy soil? I have ten acres I can plant to sunflowers next spring, if advisable. D. S., Stanley, Wis.

A.—The best bulletin on sunflower cultivation is by Dr. Harvey W. Wiley. It is Bulletin No. 60, Bureau of Chemistry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and is entitled "The Sunflower, Its Cultivation, Composition and Uses." It may be had free by making application to your senator or representative in Congress, now in session at Washington, D. C. Write him at once and he will see that you get it. According to this bulletin sunflowers do best on a rich loam soil and require about the same kind of fertility and cultivation as does corn. Search the catalogs of the leading seed houses for sunflower seed advertisements. Also write to Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and to Agricultural Experiment Station in your own state for further advice regarding seed.

SUNFLOWERS AS A CROP.—Please tell me about raising sunflowers as a field crop. What kind would do best in Montana? When and how to plant, distance between rows, where to get the right seed, the kind of seeds to be used, and where could I sell my crop are questions I would like answered, as I want to plant fifteen acres to sunflowers next spring if it would be a profitable crop. MRS. J. D., Lewistown, Mont.

A.—See answer to D. S., above. The Russian variety is considered the best. Plant and cultivate in drills, the same as for corn. Plant early in spring as soon as the ground can be worked. St. Louis is one of the leading markets for this seed. Write to your State (Montana) Experiment Station for special information and advice regarding success of sunflowers as a field crop in your locality. We advise our readers living in districts where sunflowers are not cultivated as a field crop, to ascertain whether this crop would succeed in their localities before venturing on any extensive planting. This advice applies equally to any untried crop.

WHAT ABOUT SUNFLOWERS.—I read your interesting article of "Raising Sunflowers" and I want more information on the subject. Please tell when to plant, what kind of seed and how many pounds to the acre. Where is the seed to be obtained, and where can the crop be sold? MARGARET E. K., Toronto, Kans.

A.—Sunflower seeds are planted in the spring as soon as the ground can be worked, just before corn planting time, from four to six pounds per acre being used, according to size of seed. There are three principal varieties,—the common, the black giant and the mammoth Russian. The Russian is preferred. See answers to D. S. and Mrs. J. D., above.

BRINE FOR HAMS AND BACON.—Pease tell me how to make a brine for hams and bacon. One of the "Sisters" told me the recipe had been published in COMFORT, but I missed it. MRS. H. T., Sonoma City, Cal.

A.—See article entitled "Pickled Pork," page 16, December number of COMFORT'S Modern Farmer.

SALTING PORK.—I have a large hog to be killed and salted for winter use. Please tell just how to do it and the proportion of salt to use per weight of meat. LEONA P., Baldwin, La.

A.—Your question is also answered in article referred to above. See December number.

Write today for a pair of Mated Everbearing Strawberry plants, one large packet each of the new Cereal Feterita, Sudan Grass and Silk Leaf Poppy seed, all Free for Testing. Send 10 cents for mailing expense, or not, as you please. We offer genuine Progressive Everbearing plants at 50c per dozen; 90c for 50; $1.75 for 100; $5.00 for 300, all postpaid. CATALOGUE FREE.
The Gardner Nursery Co., Box 423, Osage, Iowa

SEEDS
Reliable and Full of Life
SPECIAL OFFER
Made to build New Business. A trial will make you our permanent customer.
PRIZE COLLECTION Radish, 17 Varieties, worth 15c; Lettuce, 12 kinds, worth 15c; Tomatoes, 11 the finest, worth 20c; Turnip, 7 splendid, worth 10c; Onion, 8 best varieties, worth 15c; 10 Spring Flowering Bulbs, worth 25c—65 varieties in all; worth $1.00.
GUARANTEED TO PLEASE.
Write today; mention this paper.
SEND 10 CENTS
to cover postage and packing and receive this valuable collection of seeds postpaid, together with my big instructive, beautiful Seed and Plant Book, tells all about Buckbee's "Full of Life" Seeds, Plants, etc.
H.W. BUCKBEE
Rockford Seed Farms
Farm 65 Rockford, Ill.

Livingston's SEEDS
"TRUE BLUE"
Make better gardens. All are tested for purity and vitality. Have been giving satisfaction for over 50 years. Be sure and try our
5 FINE VEGETABLES 10c
One large packet each of Bean, Beet, Lettuce, Radish and Tomato—postpaid. All are heavy yielding and exceptionally fine in quality. Try them.
Large CATALOG FREE
Gives helpful cultural directions and offers strictly high-grade seeds at fair prices. Write for your free copy to-day.
The Livingston Seed Co., 114 High St., Columbus, Ohio

SEEDS Grand Trial Offer
$2.50 Samples only 10c.
We will mail the following 25 Packets choicest Fresh, Reliable Vegetable and Flower Seeds for 10c. Money returned if not satisfactory.
BEET, Crosby's Egyptian, best, sweetest early sort.
CABBAGE, New Glory, early, sure header.
CABBAGE, Danish Ball-head, best, solidest winter.
CARROT, Perfect, Half-long, best table sort.
CELERY, Brittle winter, best, crispest.
CUCUMBER, Emerald white spine, great favorite.
LETTUCE, Cream Butter, tender, popular heads.
MUSKMELON, Sweetest Gem, best garden melon.
WATERMELON, Deposit Early, earliest, sweetest.
ONION, Prizetaker, weight 3 lbs., 1000 bus. per acre.
PARSLEY, Triple Curled, best, most ornamental.
PARSNIP, Improved Guernsey, smooth, sweet.
PEPPER, Crimson King, early, large, sweet.
RADISH, White Icicle, best, early, long, tender.
TOMATO, Greater Baltimore, best, large, smooth.
TURNIP, White Globe, large, fine flavor.
ASTERS, Show mixed. WAVES OF GOLD, fine.
ALYSSUM, Little Gem. PINKS, 50 Grand Sorts.
COSMOS, Early Giant. POPPIES, Showy Sorts.
KOCHIA, Grand foliage. ANNUALS, 500 Sorts.
MIGNONETTE, Sweet. Catalog and 10c check free.
DEPOSIT SEED CO., Deposit, N. Y.
20 packets Grand Large Flowering Sweet Peas, 10 cts.

JAPANESE ROSE BUSHES
Five for 10cts.
The Wonder of the World
Rose Bushes with roses on them in 8 weeks from the time the seed was planted. It may not seem possible but we Guarantee it to be so. They will BLOOM EVERY TEN WEEKS Winter or Summer, and when 3 years old will have 5 or 6 hundred roses on each bush. Will grow in the house in the winter as well as in the ground in summer. Roses All The Year Around. Package of seed with our guarantee by mail, only Ten Cents.
JAPAN SEED CO., Box 257, South Norwalk, Conn.

Ballard's Bran
IDEAL DRUGLESS LAXATIVE
At your Grocer's. If he does not have it, send us his name and address with 35c (West of Denver 40c) in stamps for trial package.
BALLARD & BALLARD CO.
Station C Louisville, Ky.

If I Send You this Suit
made to your measure, in the latest style, would you be willing to keep and wear it, show it to your friends and let them see our beautiful samples and dashing new styles?
Could you use $5.00 a day for a little spare time? Perhaps I can offer you a steady job. If you will write me a letter or a postal at once and say: "Send me your special offer," I will send you samples and styles to pick from and my surprising liberal offer.
Address: L. E. ASHER, President
BANNER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 474 Chicago, Ill.

A TALKING MACHINE FOR YOU—A REAL MACHINE
WHICH REPRODUCES TALKING —— SINGING AND DANCE MUSIC PERFECTLY
PLAYS ANY SIZE OR MAKE DISC—RECORD
FREE
Strongly and durably made. Will give you pleasure for years. Fully guaranteed. We give machine with record free for selling only 60 packets of "Garden Spot Seeds" for us at 5c per pack. No money required. We trust you. Write for seeds today. When sold, send $3 collected and Talking Machine, complete, is yours. Parcel post prepaid. Supply limited; send now. LANCASTER COUNTY SEED CO., Sta. 40, Paradise, Pa. Catalog 300 presents, free.

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!
$24 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Lightrunning, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.
30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.
ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12)
2182 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO
100,000 now in use

Get Wholesale Stove Prices
Direct from manufacturers. Save money—Quick shipment—We pay the freight—30 days' trial. We make stoves, gas ranges, furnaces, kitchen kabinets and tables.
Write for Catalog No. 501 and mention article wanted.
KALAMAZOO STOVE CO., Kalamazoo, - - - Mich.
A Kalamazoo Direct to You

9 CORDS IN 10 HOURS
RUNS EASY No Backache
weighs only 45 lbs.
EASILY CARRIED
SAWS DOWN TREES
BY ONE MAN. It's KING OF THE WOODS. Saves money and backache. Send for FREE catalog No. B 8 showing low price and latest improvements. First order gets agency.
Folding Sawing Machine Co., 161 West Harrison St., Chicago, Ill.

Indoor Closet
More Comfortable, Healthful, Convenient
Eliminates the out-door privy, open vault and cesspool, which are breeding places for germs. Have a warm, sanitary, odorless toilet right in your house. No going out in cold weather. A boon to invalids. Endorsed by State Boards of Health.
ABSOLUTELY ODORLESS
Put It Anywhere In The House
The germs are killed by a chemical process in water in the container, which you empty once a month. Absolutely no odor. No more trouble to empty than ashes. Closet absolutely guaranteed. Write for full description and price.
ROWE SANITARY MFG CO. 126A ROWE BLDG., DETROIT, MICH.
Ask about the Ro-San Washstand—Hot and Cold Running Water Without Plumbing

Uncle Charlie's Home Fund

START the new year right by presenting a brick to the birthday fund to provide Uncle Charlie a home.

He reports an increase of $51.00, bringing the total received prior to December first up to $388.00 contributed by only 382 members of the great COMFORT family numbering millions that have been benefited and inspired by his humanizing and Christianizing work.

The movement to raise this fund was started by our readers through their letters to the Sisters' Corner. At first I was reluctant to print these apeals for fear the results might disappoint the expectations of the promotors of the project, for the masses are seldom loyal and grateful to their benefactors to the extent of rewarding them in any substantial form.

But now that it has been undertaken and publicly announced, Uncle Charlie, who has sacrificed so much for others, should not be submitted to the humiliation of its turning out a fizzle. The responsibility rests on his friends, thousands of whom have been profuse in their written expressions of love and admiration, to give him something more substantial and convincing than mere lip service. If each would give according to his or her means, be it ever so little, the sum total would attain a magnitude that would honor him and reflect credit on them.

He does not desire a contribution from anyone that does not wish to help. But if each acts on the theory that his mite is not needed and will not be missed the entire project to provide a home for Uncle Charlie will result in ignominious failure. He is in the hands of his friends.

The third day of February it will be twenty years since Uncle Charlie suffered the affliction that has made him a helpless, bedridden shut-in. I hope the advent of that anniversary will see his benefit fund assume respectable proportions.

Again let me remind you how you can help:

1. By cash donations.
2. By purchasing Uncle Charlie's books (see advertisement.)
3. Those who cannot spare the money for a cash donation or for purchase of his books can contribute by getting subscriptions to COMFORT in aid of the "Uncle Charlie Benefit Fund" and instead of taking the club premium or cash commission themselves direct that it be credited to the fund. In such cases I will pay over to Uncle Charlie one half of the subscription price of all subscriptions sent for this purpose. The regular cash commission on COMFORT subscriptions is 40 per cent, but for Uncle Charlie's Benefit Fund I will allow 50 per cent. Another way to help him and benefit yourself is to get up a subscription club and take one of his books as your premium.

In one or other of these ways every COMFORT reader who wishes to do so can help swell the fund for Uncle Charlie which has my hearty approval and will have my assistance within the limits of propriety.

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

gest men we have in the land, not pap hunting lawyer politicians, but scientists, savants, and experts and we have hundreds of them. Let these advise the Minister of Welfare and Congress as to what steps shall be taken to promote the welfare of our citizens, to raise living and thinking to higher standards and inaugurate an era of justice and real prosperity that would automatically abolish poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, drunkenness, vice, crime, saloons and brothels, hyphenated citizens and soreheads and anarchists and give us a country full of loyal, happy, intellectual people, ready to fight for right, righteousness, democracy and freedom not only in this land, but in any other land where humanity might call for assistance—and real genuine dyed-in-the-wool Americanism might be needed. Now get together, stick together and pull together. Read, study discuss, fraternize and organize. The best "ism" and greatest need of the country right now is Americanism. Make that word your rallying cry and the basis of all your ideals. Do that and you will have started the New Year right. Do that and 1917 will mark a new epoch in the upward and onward march of a nation which should be first in all noble projects and would be first if you'd only highly resolve to make it so.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

DUDLEY, IDAHO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am so far away that some of you may think that I am almost out of the United States, but you may locate me way up in northern Idaho, along the Coeur d'Alene river valley. My home is in the valley just below the mouth of Fourth of July Creek canyon. This creek was named in 1861. A detachment of soldiers were on their way into the Coeur d'Alene country to fight the Indians and they spent July Fourth along the headwaters of this creek and named it Fourth of July Creek. They blazed a large white pine tree and carved the date on it. These figures are still plain and may easily be read.

Through this canyon and across my ranch runs the only cross country road to be found through the mountains of northern Idaho. This wagon road connects the Pacific northwest country with the states to the eastward, and naturally there is a great deal of travel this way. Last year because of the Panama Pacific Exposition and because the war in Europe forced most of our rich people to spend their money at home there was a great deal more automobile travel through here than there ever was in a single year before.

We see people of most all classes and conditions, from the aristocrat to the homeless, drifting American workingmen.

On Jan. 1st., 1916, state-wide prohibition laws went into effect in Idaho and Washington. The liquor interests will be scheming to get a chance to have these states voted wet again as soon as they can get enough petitioners to have the question brought up to be voted on again. I will welcome the day, and try to hasten it too, when we will have Nation-wide prohibition.

You wanted to know what we were doing to make this old world a better place in which to live. I am using my vote, my influence, as well as some of my money to the end that the cause of righteousness, liberty and justice may triumph, and that we may learn to live in the relationship toward each other in which God intended we should live. (God bless you for that Earl. Wish there were more like you.—Uncle Charlie.)

As my letter is quite long I must close. Shall be glad to hear from some of the cousins. With love to all,

EARL J. BYRNE. (League No. 40,001.)

Earl J. Bryne's League number is 40,001. Earl joined us in February of last year. Several thousand have joined the League since then, and if a few more of you will come forward we will soon have fifty thousand. Quite an army, don't you think? I know just where you are located Earl, and could almost walk to the spot blindfolded. It's an ill wind that blows no one any good and the war by keeping people at home has made vast numbers who know no more of their country than a blind pig knows of heaven, acquainted with the many wonders of the great land they live in. I thank God that before I was cut down I had a chance to see and know Uncle Sam's domain thoroughly and completely. It is an open book to me. Those who live in this country and who have never been out of the little valley in which they have been reared have my sincerest sympathy. Before long we shall have universal military service. We've got to come to it whether we like it or not. There will be an awful howl go up when that day arrives. I suggest however, if Uncle Sam wants recruits for his armies, every year he should give a quarter of a million of the brightest of his boys an excursion trip that would take in all the scenic wonders of this wonderful land. Let the Eastern boys go West, let the Western boys come East. Let them see Niagara, Plymouth Rock, Jamestown, St. Augustine, Washington, the Yellowstone National Park, Glacier Park, Puget Sound and its big towering mountain sentinels, the Rockies, the Sierras, the Yosemite and the big trees, the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, the scenic beauties of Colorado and the great lakes. Let them see it all. Make it a part of their training and education. Do that and we shall have no more German-Americans, Irish-Americans, British-Americans, Scandinavian-Americans, Italian-Americans or any other of the hyphenated breed. We should have genuine, dyed-in-the-wool, hundred per cent Americans, loving their country and glorying in it. Before we ask people to fight, let them see what they are fighting for. There would be no political bums in Congress if the young men and women of our nation had the proper education. The way to get an education is not to stick your nose in a book, but to go and see the things the book tells you about. That kind of an education might be costly but it wouldn't be one fiftieth part as costly as our present system which teaches nothing or next to nothing, and does not even succeed in giving a boy the faintest idea of the grandeur and glory of the country he lives in or make him even attached or devoted to his motherland. The great trouble in this world is that few people have that wonderful gift, imagination. Without imagination they can only grasp what they can see, and like your Missourian they won't believe anything until they see it. They are like the farmer who went to the circus. After staring at the giraffe for half an hour, he came to the conclusion that "There ain't no sich animile." Most people spend their lives gazing at a clapboard house that looks like a dry-goods box with the pip, plentifully sprinkled with tomato cans and broken bottles, then when you picture to them a continent three thousand miles broad, a mountain peak covered with eternal snow, and a canyon thousands of feet deep and ten miles broad, they look you in the eye and grunt: "There ain't no sich animile!" What is the result? These people do not believe in protecting our shores for most of them don't believe we've got any. They have no patriotism, no nationalism, no pride of race, no soul. They have stuck in a rut until they are dying of dry rot. If you tried to pull them out of the rut if they didn't bite your hand for attempting the job, they would fall to pieces as you yanked them out. Incidentally they will tell you that books are "pizen" and reading an invention of the devil. The cure for these people is a peep at their own country. If they tell you that it's Rockefeller's country and not theirs, tell them if that is so, Rockefeller showed good sense in swiping it, while they showed stupidity in letting him do it. A country will always belong to the other fellow when the majority of people prefer ignorance to knowledge, sloth to action and stick like prairie dogs in miserable holes as did their cave-dwelling ancestors tens of thousands of years ago. Well we can't do much with the grown ups, but I do hope that Uncle Sam will consider my suggestion and make a knowledge of this country a part of the education of the brightest youth of our land. Please note the soldiers had to go into this portion of Idaho and fight the Indians and make the country safe for settlers to work and live in. This was another disgraceful exhibition of militarism and I trust all the peace-at-any-price fanatics will at once gather at their locals and hold meetings of protest. People who do not believe in armies or navies or what they ignorantly and foolishly call militarism, but which is only plain common-sense protection to life and property, have no right to take advantage of the militarism that made the West habitable and secure. By the way, if it were not for this awful militarism as they call it the whole bunch of us would be over in Europe right now, eating wind pies and fried dog shadows, or dying in the trenches for Kings, Kaisers, Czars and Emperors, etc. Earl, I'd get out of that canyon if I were you. It must be awful to live in a country that has been polluted by the presence of those dreadful militarist soldiers, so much nicer, better and healthier to be killed by Indians than to have the protection of "militarism."

6703-25-67 N. W., SEATTLE, WASH.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a girl of thirteen and have tried my skill in writing the composition which I send you. I would like to know if it is suitable for my age.

I am in the seventh grade.

Yours truly, ROSE SPRINTLS.

The Falling Rose Petals

BY ROSE SPRINTLS

It is spring, the birdies sing,
And the flowers sweetly bloom:
Among the flowers of the spring,
The sweet scented roses are the best of all;
They are falling on the moss covered ground.
Many little hands are held out to greet them,
Many fair faces come to scent them
Many little feet trot under its bushes,
At last! when the sumer is ore the sweet scented blossoms fall,
They cover old mother earth with the fragrence of sweet blossoms.

Rose, that is some address of yours. It looks like a section of an astronomical calculation. I should think if you took all those numbers and shook them up twice you'd know how many old maids there were on Mars and also exactly when Haley's comet was going to put in its next appearance. Your potery contribution Rose, has been read with a great deal of interest. Being a Rose yourself, you naturally would write about roses. Billy the Goat says he belongs to the rose family, because he went to bed yesterday and later on *arose*. Though your pottery has reason, it is sadly lacking in rhyme. Now why didn't you write your first four lines something like this:

It is spring, the birdies sing,
And the flowers sweetly bloom,
The butterfly is on the wing,
And roses burst their wint'ry tomb.

If I had been you I think I would have had it go something like this:

It is spring, the birdies sing,
The skeeter is sharpening up his sting,
The high cost of living makes money take wing,
And sulphur and 'lasses are now the thing.
Last year's straw hat from the attic we bring,
And swat the flies as they start to cling
To baby's bald head, bing, bing, bing.

You being a poetess Rose, or a potteryess, would naturally scorn to write jingle of this flippant character. There is one line in your pottery Rose that has got me quite excited. You say "When the sumer is ore." Now Rose what is a sumer? I've heard of a consumer, but I've never seen a sumer. I used to be a consumer and so did the Goat and Maria, but when steak got to thirty dollars a pint and eggs a thousand bucks apiece we tightened up our belts and quit eating. We are saving up to buy a potato. We've got fifty-seven dollars so far. Perhaps when we get another fifty dollars we may be able to buy half a one. Billy and Pete, our two canaries, are looking worried. Well they may. We are thinking of converting them into song bird hash. We've got to live. The Goat thinks you mean summer instead of sumer, Rose. I, however, am not so sure of that, as the summer could not be ore. The dictionary says that ore is a natural substance, part of a rock containing metal. Now I don't think you would be mean enough to convert our beautiful summers into a bunch of dilapidated old rocks. That would be dreadful. I think you meant o'er, which is an abbreviation for over, instead of ore.

Many little hands are held out to greet them,
Many fair faces come to scent them.

I think I would have written those lines thus:

Many little hands are held out to greet them,
And as living's so high the kids start to eat them.

There is more truth than poetry in that, and after all truth is more important than poetry or pottery either. Your last two lines in which you attempt to rhyme fall with blossoms is excruciating. I would have written it thus:

At last the sweet scented blossoms fall,
Covering the earth with a fragrant pall.
Now dear I'll quit this critical prattle,
And say adieu to fair Rose of Seattle.

WHISTLER, ALA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Will you please tell me through the columns of your paper the COMFORT, name of a medicine you said was useful in ejecting gas from the stomach. Do you know of a good remedy for indigestion? Sister has it very bad. She has tried doctors but they do her no good. Sister does not digest anything. She has to try anything anyone tells her. (God help her if she does.—Uncle Charlie.)

I am a subscriber to COMFORT and enjoy reading your interesting letters. Trusting you will advise me,

Your friend, LULA ECKERT.

As so many people suffer from stomach trouble, Lulu, I will answer your letter through the columns of COMFORT, then perhaps thousands may benefit from what I have to say instead of one. Most stomach trouble is caused by the vile habit so many people have of bolting their food, as though they were animals instead of humans. People still think their teeth are in their stomachs, instead of their mouths. No food should go into the stomach until it has been reduced to a pulp. About seventy-five per cent of the meat in this country is wretched stuff, tough, indigestible, and as a rule badly cooked. When people start bolting that kind of stuff there is bound to be trouble. Don't swallow the fiber of anything if you have a troublesome stomach. Chew your food thoroughly, and if you find fibrous matter remains that will not be reduced to a pulp, just place your fork to your lips and remove it. This can be done without violation of table manners. We don't swallow fish bones and cherry stones, why then swallow meat fiber? It is a poor stomach indeed that cannot digest food that has been thoroughly masticated. Every morning of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

Just to Prove that "Spear charges Less"



50c with order and 50c a month pays for this Complete Bed Outfit. Consists of a handsome, strongly constructed Iron Bed, in 4 ft. 6 in. width only, and in blue, green or plain white enamel; rust-proof steel link fabric spring fastened to angle steel ends with full helical springs; well made 50-lb. cotton top mattress and a pair of select, sanitary, well covered feather pillows. This bed is a great big value, and will be shipped on 30 days' trial. Return it at our expense if not satisfactory, and your first payment as well as freight charges will be refunded. You get everything for $11.95.

Order No. E386

Bed, Spring, Mattress, Pillows COMPLETE OUTFIT

Shipment will be made immediately upon receipt of the small first payment of 50 cents. This Big Bargain is offered to prove that I Save you Money wherever you live. But you don't have to buy from pictures. Like everything else I sell, this Bed Outfit is sent on

30 Days' Home Trial and Use

If your satisfaction is not complete you can return the outfit after a month's trial. Your first payment and all freight charges will be refunded. Order No. E386. Terms: 50c cash with order, balance 50c per month. Total price $11.95



Order No. E2828

Try This Kitchen Cabinet 30 Days

50c Monthly

This is an ideal value in a fine, low-priced kitchen cabinet. Is made of select solid oak finished golden. Material and workmanship guaranteed. The hardwood base top measures 41 x 26 inches. Has 45 pound capacity flour bin with sifter, roomy china closet and plenty of drawer and utensil space. Cupboard doors are fitted with attractive art glass, and all the trimmings are of the neatest design. This cabinet will give the utmost of satisfaction, and will be shipped on 30 days' trial. Return it at our expense if not satisfactory and your money will be refunded.

Order No. E2828. Terms, 50c cash with order balance 50c monthly. Price $11.95

Send for My New FREE Book Today



You should have my fine, big, complete catalog of everything for the home. It shows bargain after bargain. Every article is illustrated (many in beautiful colors) and fully described as to construction, materials and finish down to the smallest detail.

It will introduce you to

A Thousand Bargains

in Everything for the Home. Furniture, Carpets, Portieres, Rugs, Clocks, Stoves, Dishes, Go-Carts, Guns, Linoleum, Silverware, Lace Curtains, Bedding, Springs, Mattresses, Sewing Machines, Washing Machines, Ranges.

"I Will Trust You Gladly" Spear, of Pittsburgh



Open Account Easy Terms To All

I will open your charge account as soon as I have your name and address. I give the longest time to pay and guarantee fair, square and liberal treatment. Everything I sell is sent on

30 Days' Home Trial

and use. There are no strings to this offer. If your satisfaction is not complete we want you to return the goods; we will refund your money.

Nathaniel Spear, Pres.

Spear & Company

Dept. E Pittsburgh, Pa.

SPEAR & CO, Dept. E Pittsburgh, Pa.

I would like to know all about the Spear Open Account, Easy Payment Plan for home furnishing. Please send me, free, your complete Bargain Catalog with Prices, Terms and Information, without the slightest obligation on my part.

Name.....

Town.....

State.....

30 DAYS FREE TRIAL



Total cost only $7.50 by Our 7 MONTHS TIME Purchase Plan

to prove to you that this magnificent Royal has the Sweetest, Purest, Loudest and Clearest tone—to prove to you that it is as large and handsome as the trust machines that sell at $35.00—to prove to you that it has the strongest motor, the best reproducer and tone arm and the most ingenious devices to start, stop and control the music. Shipped with a supply of 10-inch double disc records of your selection, so you can enjoy the finest entertainments for one whole month. Return the outfit AT OUR EXPENSE if for any reason you do not wish to keep it. Drop a postal for our big list of unsolicited testimonials, record book and other literature. They are free.

S. H. DAVIS, 62-F 6101 May St., CHICAGO



10 Cents a Day Pays for This Cornet

An astounding offer! Only 10c a day buys this superb Triple Silver Plated Lyric Cornet. Free Trial before you decide to buy. Write for big offer.

WURLITZER (see years of instrument making)

Free Band Catalog Write for big 250-page Band Catalog. Rock-bottom, direct-from-manufacturer's prices on all kinds of instruments. Pay at rate of a few cents a day. Generous allowance for old instruments. Free trial. We supply the U. S. Gov't. Write today.

Carrying Case Free with this superb triple silverplated Lyric Cornet.

The Rudolph Wurlitzer Co., Dept 3041 4th St., Cincinnati, O. S. Wabash Av., Chicago



FREE

Fine Tone

$20 UKULELE MANDOLIN, VIOLIN, GUITAR OR CORNET

We have a wonderful new system of teaching note music by mail. To first pupils in each locality, we'll give a $20 superb Violin, Mandolin, Ukulele, Guitar or Cornet absolutely free. Very small charge for lessons only expense. We guarantee to make you a player or no charge. Complete outfit free. Write at once — no obligation.

SLINGERLAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Dept 78, Chicago, Ill.



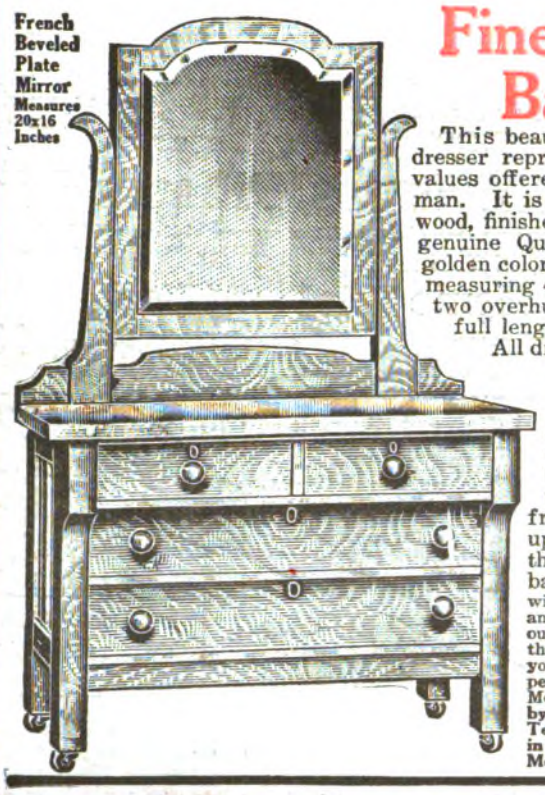
NEW SANITARY FEATHER BEDS $8.25 NOW ONLY

FULL WEIGHT 40 POUNDS. 1 pair 6-lb. Pillows to match, $1.15. Selected, New, Live, Clean, Sanitary Feathers. Best Featherproof Ticking. Sold on money back guarantee. DO NOT BUY from anyone at any price, until you get the BOOK OF TRUTH, our big new catalog mailed FREE. Write a postal card TODAY. Agents wanted.

American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk, 208 Nashville, Tenn

No Money

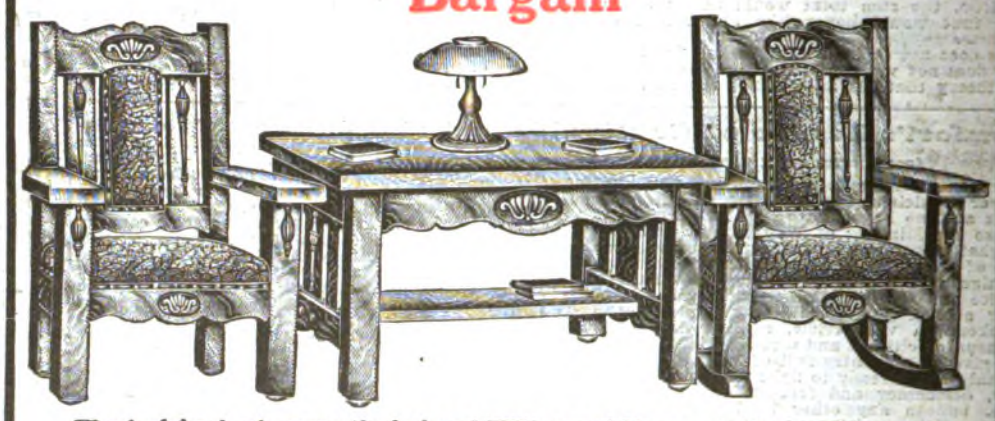
French Beveled Plate Mirror Measures 20x16 Inches



Fine Dresser Bargain

This beautifully designed Colonial dresser represents one of the finest values offered by the House of Hartman. It is massively built of hard wood, finished in a close imitation of genuine Quarter-Sawed Oak — rich golden color. Has large roomy base measuring 40x19 inches. Fitted with two overhung top drawers and two full length roomy drawers below. All drawers trimmed with neat wood knobs and fitted with secure locks. Mirror frame is strictly Colonial in design and contains a high grade French beveled plate mirror measuring 20x16 inches. Mirror frame supported by artistic upright standards and further set off by handsome back guard. This dresser will add wonderfully to the appearance of your home. Send for it on our free trial offer. If you decide that it is not what you want, you may return it at our expense and you will not be out a cent. Merely mail coupon below. **Order by No. MA262. Price only $9.87. Terms: No Money in Advance, 50c in 10 days. Balance, 75c per Month.**

Wonderful 5-Piece Library Set Bargain



Wonderful value in correctly designed William and Mary period **3-piece Library Set**—substantially built throughout of solid oak, properly finished Fumed. Table made with large 26x38 inch top, trimmed with 3-panel end, offset by period carvings. Has shapely rim, convenient book shelf. Legs cut from 2-inch stock, fitted with nickel slides. Rocker and arm chair are extra roomy, splendidly constructed and unusually comfortable. Panel back and seats are upholstered in durable imitation Spanish leather, over wood fibre and jute. Dainty carvings will be found on panels in back and front post, as well as deep embossed carvings on top rail and seat rail. Six springs resting on steel channel bars support seat. Chair and rocker made with genuine quarter-sawed oak arms.

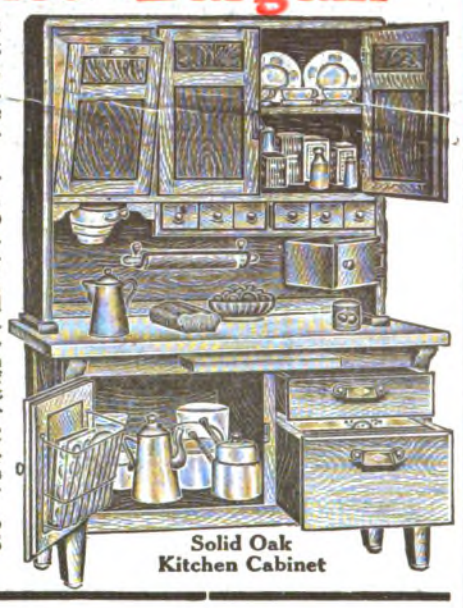
Order by No. MA259. Special Bargain Price $16.95. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c In 10 Days. Balance $1.25 Per Month.

Kitchen Cabinet Bargain

Mail coupon below and let us send you this famous Hartman Solid Oak Kitchen Cabinet without one cent in advance, no C. O. D. or references like others ask, just to prove what a wonderful bargain it really is. We know you will find this Cabinet a wonderful value at our Special Bargain Price. Note the many up-to-the-minute time and labor-saving features.

Removable tilting metal flour bin with sifter attachment, 40 lb. capacity. 2 partitioned spice drawers, made to represent 6 small drawers, each divided into 3 sections. Swinging sugar container, 7 pound capacity. Wire rolling pin rack. Removable sliding kneading board. Handy cupboard for utensils in base, with convenient wire rack on door. Large utensil drawer and convenient bread and cake box with ventilated sliding metal top. Upper section of cabinet is beautifully trimmed with chipped glass doors. Has roomy handy cupboard with shelf. White wood top measures 42x26 inches. Extreme height of cabinet 65 inches. Base is mounted on invisible slides to prevent marring of floor. Attention is called to the continuous top construction, a feature only found on high priced and high grade Cabinets. All drawer bottoms, cupboard bottom and panels are made of 3-ply lumber which will absolutely prevent warping or splitting. Drawer pulls, catches, etc., are finished in bright copper. Entire case Gloss Golden finish. Send coupon—send no money—for free trial according to our liberal credit terms.

Order by No. MA258. Price $16.85. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c in 10 Days. Balance $1.25 Per Month.



Solid Oak Kitchen Cabinet

Sensational Sale of Rockers



Seat Supported by Six Steel Springs

Send coupon for this big, roomy Rocker and let it prove for itself what a wonderful bargain it really is. An unusually attractive, sturdily built rocker, made with artistic solid oak frame, neatly finished gloss golden. Has embossed front post, measuring full 3¾ in. in width; shapely arms measuring 23 in. long by 3¾ in. wide. Back is divided into two sections, the uppermost section trimmed with straps and large buttons. Seat measures full 19¼ in. in width by 18 in. deep and is supported by 6 heavy steel coil springs fully covered with wood fibre and jute. Upholstering is of durable imitation Spanish brown leather. Remember, we don't ask you to send one cent in advance. We will send you this grand rocker for free trial. After it arrives, you can use it for 10 days as your own. Compare it with other rockers selling at anywhere near this low price. Then if you want to keep it, you can pay balance in small monthly payments—otherwise return at our expense and you are not out a cent.

Order by No. MA268. Price only $4.85. Terms: No Money in Advance. 50c in 10 days. Balance 50c per Month.

Only 50¢

Sensati

The proof of the quality of any article is in the using of it. That is why we invite you to take your pick from these two pages of wonderful bargains. We will send you the bargain of your choice without a cent of advance payment, no deposit, no C. O. D., no references asked like others do, no mortgage security or red tape of any kind.

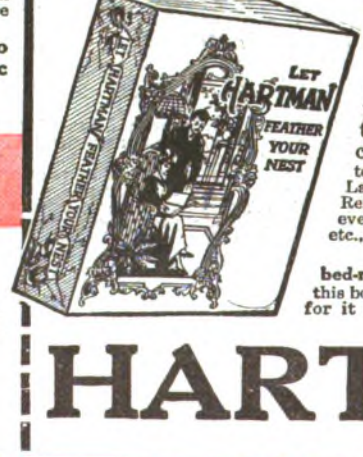
We want you to judge our merchandise, not by the descriptions and illustrations shown here—which cannot begin to do it justice—but by actual use in your own home. We assume the entire responsibility. No obligation of any kind whatever rests upon you.

HARTMAN'S Low Prices

The House of Hartman is the gigantic home furnishing institution organized solely for the purpose of selling dependable home furnishings exclusively on easy credit. Hartman's is the largest concern of its kind in the world. We have over $12,000,000 capital and resources—a buying power so vast that we can buy merchandise of every kind in stupendous quantities. We control the entire outputs of some of the largest factories and mills in the United States. Our tremendous volume of business enables us to quote lowest rock-bottom prices and to extend the most liberal credit terms ever devised.

Get Hartman's Mammoth Money-Saving Bargain Book FREE

Be sure to mail Coupon in left hand corner for your free copy of our Mammoth Bargain Book. Contains thousands of wonderful bargains in practically everything for beautifying the home. Pages 17 to 53 are filled with the most beautiful assortment of Rugs, Carpets, Table and Couch Covers, Portiers, etc., you can imagine, all handsomely illustrated in natural colors. Pages 53 to 67, a wonderful display of exquisite Table Sets and Lace Curtains. Then on up to page 260, you will imagine you are walking through an immense furniture store with an endless array of luxuriously upholstered Rockers, Easy Chairs, Couches, and Davenports, Beautiful Beds, richly carved Dining and Library Sets, Dressers, Chiffoniers, Dressing Tables, Writing Desks, China Closets, etc. Then comes 32 pages of Kitchen Cabinets, Sewing Machines, Sewing Tables, Mirrors, Lamps, Clocks, Phonographs and other household articles, many pages beautifully printed in colors. Our Silverware section, pages, 293 to 306, shows practically everything you can think of in elegant guaranteed Silverware. Pages 306 to 330 are devoted to Traveling Bags, Suit Cases, Trunks, Porch Furniture, Lawn Swings, Glass and China Ware, Go-Carts, Baby Carriages, and Refrigerators. The Stove and Range section—347 to 391—will supply your every need. Then there are pages devoted to Washing Machines, Wringers, etc., and two full and complete Paint and Roofing and Jewelry sections.



And you can order anything you want from this book at lowest bed-rock prices and on the easiest credit terms ever devised. You need this book as your reliable shopping guide. Write a postal or send coupon for it today.

Free Book Coupon

HARTMAN FURNITURE AND CARPET CO.,
3964 Wentworth Avenue, Dept. 107 Chicago, Ill.

Without any obligation on my part please send me Catalog or Catalogs I have checked below.

General Catalog. Paint and Roofing Catalog.

(Place line like this ▬ in front of Catalog or Catalogs wanted.)

My Name is .....

R. F. D. or Street Address.....

Town or City..... State.....

HARTMAN FURNITU
3964 Wen

HARTMAN W

In Advance

rlight Table Lamp



ful
in
cessful
t, most
im of
Has no
roduces
ll. Has
wicks.
easy to
ially re-
homes
child-
e tipped
de down
atever.
ruction.
osene or
80 hours
eight of
iam. of
graceful
design.
h 12 in.
e, with
panels,
mental work. **Order by No. MA 263. Price $8.95.**
y in Advance. 50c in 10 days. Bal. 75c per month.

High Speed Rotary Washing Machine

Can Be Operated Sitting Down or Standing Up



Here is your chance to get one of the easiest to operate hand-power machines ever built. Can be worked sitting down or standing up, by 10 or 12 year old boy or girl without tiring. Note **High Speed Fly Wheel.** When started, practically keeps machine going with its own momentum. **Fly wheel has space for belt, if desired to to use as power machine.** Some of the big improvements: **Balance Wheel** conveniently placed at outside of tub, enabling you to get at all working parts. **Tub and other parts** genuine kiln-dried Louisiana Red Cypress. Tub 24 in. in diameter, strongly bound with three metal hoop bands. Capacity eight shirts. **Corrugated Bottom and sides** get excellent results, while dasher block rotates at high speed and circulates the clothes round and round in the tub. **Strong Wringer Attachment** fitted to top of tub, enabling you to easily and firmly attach a large wringer. **Dasher Post** allows you to wash the finest fabrics. **Tub** stands upon four solid braced legs. **Iron Parts** finished with enameled paint. Send no money. Just the coupon brings it to you for free trial. **Order by No. MA264. Price $11.75. Terms: No money in advance. 50c in 10 days. Balance $1.00 per month.**

Fine Brussels Rug

Special Bargain



Here is a wonderful bargain in a handsome Brussels rug. Is of beautiful design—in a rich Oriental medallion pattern. The colors are rich in tone, embracing a combination of shades with browns, tans and greens predominating. The worsted used in its weaving presents a surface that will render very fine service. Four sizes to choose from. You cannot duplicate this bargain on such liberal terms.

Order by No. MA260. State size wanted.

Size 6x9 ft. Price $11.75. Terms: No Money in Advance. 50c in 10 days. Balance $1.00 per Month.

Size 8 ft. 3 in. x 10 ft. 6 in. Price $18.35. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c in 10 days. Balance $1.50 per Month.

Size 9x12 ft. Price $19.65. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c In 10 days. Balance $1.50 per Month.

Size 11 ft. 3 in. x 12 ft. Price $26.85. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c in 10 days. Balance $2.00 per Month.

50 In 10 Days

Seasonal Sale

We make this offer because we want you to see the tremendous values we offer.

The articles shown in this advertisement are merely an illustration of the wonderful bargains shown in our mammoth catalog.

Put us to the test. Let our merchandise speak for itself. If the quality stands the test of actual use, and you decide to keep what you order, pay only 50c in 10 days after arrival and the balance in small monthly payments according to prices and terms quoted under each item. If for any reason you do not wish to keep it, return shipment at our expense.

Low Prices and Liberal Credit Terms

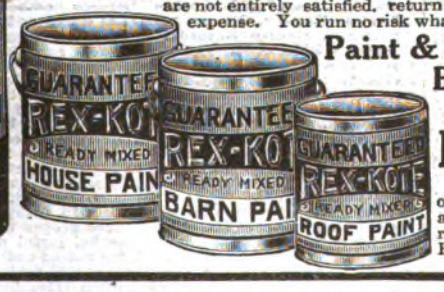
Send no money—just the coupon—for any one of the big money-saving bargains shown on these two pages. Then when it arrives, you can decide at your leisure as to whether or not you wish to keep it.

Only one of these bargains will be sent to a family on these amazing terms; but when you receive our mammoth Bargain Catalog you can order as much as you like—all at bed-rock prices and on our easy credit terms.

Remarkable Bargains In Paint and Roofing



Order all the paint and roofing you need without sending a cent in advance. We'll send it to you on 10 days' approval, and, not until you are positively convinced that it is of fine quality and a great value at our special bargain prices, do we even expect you to keep it. If you decide to keep it, you may make a first small payment 10 days after it arrives, and pay the balance in small monthly payments on our easy, long-time credit terms. No mortgage, no C. O. D., no references asked like others do. If for any reason you are not entirely satisfied, return goods at our expense. You run no risk whatever.



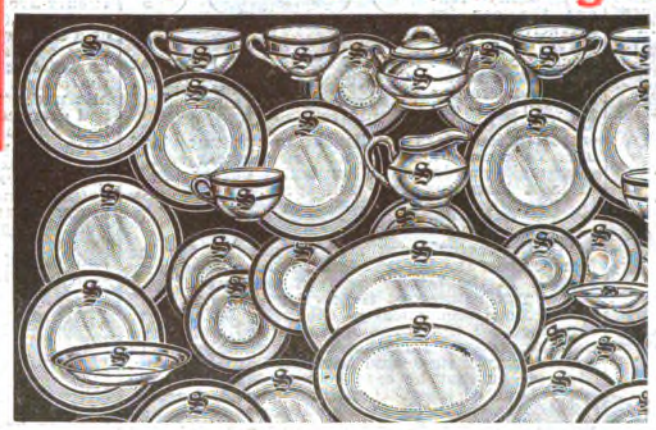


Paint & Roofing Bargain Book FREE

Send name and address on postal or coupon for Free catalog containing all paint colors. Also free samples of roofing prepaid and full details of Hartman's Easy Credit Plan.

URE AND CARPET COMPANY,
twworth Ave., Dept. 107 Chicago, Ill.

48-Piece Gold Monogram Dinner Set



Just mail coupon and we will at once ship you the complete set with your monogram initial in gold on every piece. Be sure to state initial wanted. If you think this the biggest dinner set bargain you ever heard of and wish to keep it, just pay 50c in 10 days after dishes arrive and then 50c a month until our special get-acquainted bargain price of $3.98 is paid. If you do not wish to keep them, return at our freight expense. Here is your opportunity to gratify your wish to set your table with as exquisite a set of dishes as the heart of any woman could desire. They are of splendid quality pure white Porcelain, decorated with gold bands and your own initial in gold on every piece.



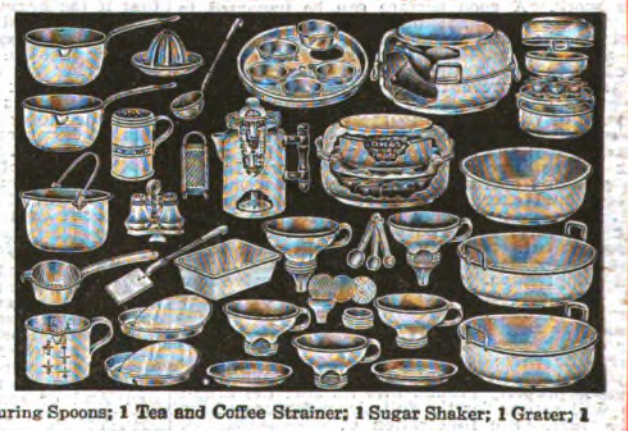
Exact Size and Style of Initial on Every Piece

Complete set consists of 6 dinner plates; 6 breakfast plates; 6 cups; 6 saucers; 6 fruit dishes; 6 new style soup coupes; 6 butter plates; 1 deep open vegetable dish; 2 meat platters; 1 sugar bowl and cover (2 pieces); 1 cream pitcher. Each dish is full size for family use and guaranteed perfect.

Order by No. MA271. Price only $3.98. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c in 10 days. Balance 50c per Month.

Be sure to state the initial you wish on your set.

Sensational 42-Piece Aluminum Ware Set



Here's your chance to get a wonderful 42-piece set of Aluminum Ware at a most remarkable bargain price. Don't send any money—just the coupon and we will immediately ship you the set for free trial. Each piece fully guaranteed—is seamless—will not scald, chip or crack. Complete set consists of—9-piece Combination Outfit consisting of 2-piece self-basting roaster, pierced tray with 5 egg poachers or custard cups and dairy pan; 7-cup Coffee Percolator with inset (two pieces); 6-qt. Preserving Kettle; 2 Bread Pans; 2 Pie Plates; 1-qt. Lipped Sauce Pan; 2-qt. Lipped Sauce Pan; 1 Ladle; 2 Jelly Cake Pans, with loose bottoms (4 pieces); 1 Castor Set consisting of Salt Shaker, Pepper Shaker, Toothpick Holder and Frame (4 pieces); 1 measuring Cup; 1 Combination Funnel (6 pieces); 3 Measuring Spoons; 1 Tea and Coffee Strainer; 1 Sugar Shaker; 1 Grater; 1 Cake Turner; 1 Lemon Juice Extractor.

Order by No. MA261. Price $9.95. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c in 10 Days. Balance 75c per Month.

Order Coupon

HARTMAN FURNITURE & CARPET CO.,
3964 Wentworth Avenue, Dept. 107 Chicago, Ill.

Without any money in advance, please send me article named below. If I keep it, I will pay 50c in 10 days after arrival of shipment, and balance in monthly payments as per prices and terms quoted in this advertisement. If I decide not to keep it, I will return it to you at your expense.

Name of article wanted..... ..... No.....

My Name is.....

R. F. D. or Street Address.....

Town or City..... .....State.....

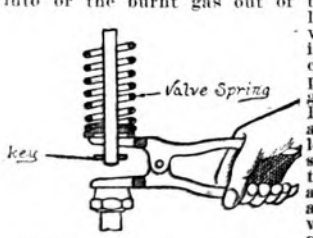
Will Trust You

Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

Grinding in the Valves

AFTER a season's run the valve faces are apt to become worn so that they do not properly register with their seats. This condition will result in loss of compression. Usually the exhaust valves are the worst offenders for the reason that they are subject to intense heat. A valve is nothing more or less than a gate or door for admitting the combustible gas into or the burnt gas out of the cylinder. The location of the valves in a motor is a matter of choice on the part of the engine designer. In some motors all valves are located on one side, in others the intake valves are on one side and the exhaust valves on the other while some motors have the valves located in the heads of the cylinders.



REMOVING KEY FROM UNDER VALVE SPRING SO THAT VALVE CAN BE TAKEN OUT.

If the exhaust valves do not properly seat there will be a loss of compression and power and a very weakening effect upon the mixture. If the inlet valves are not seating properly there will also be a lack of compression and frequent shootings of flame through the carburetor. This condition is commonly referred to as backfires. In either case the remedy is to grind the valves and valve seats to fit. Usually the instruction book furnished with the car incorporates much advice concerning the grinding of valves. Nevertheless too much attention cannot be given this subject as it is often amusing to the mechanic to watch an owner attempt to reseat a valve.

The designer of an engine always makes provision for the removal of a valve. Sometimes a valve can be got at by removing the cylinder head while at other times it is necessary to take off caps in the cylinder head. After removing the necessary parts to make the valve head visible the first step is to remove the key or pin that retains the valve spring. For the person who has never removed one of these keys the work is likely to prove somewhat perplexing. A suitable tool must be used for raising the valve spring so that the key can be taken out. When the key is removed it is a simple matter to remove the valve spring and then the valve. One of the commonest mistakes committed is the attempting to reseat a valve that is badly pitted or the head is warped. If the head is warped the valve should be replaced by a new one. If the face of the valve is badly pitted the rough surface can be removed by placing the valve stem in a chuck and then cleaning the valve with a very fine file. Care must be taken to hold the file on the same angle on which the face of the valve is machined. The easiest method of doing this work is in a lathe. However, if such a machine is not convenient the operation can be done with an ordinary bit brace.


CLEANING VALVE FACE WITH VERY FINE FILE AND BIT BRACE.

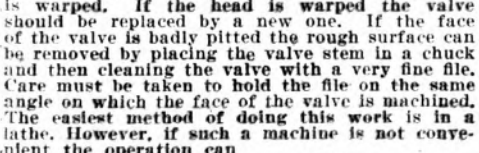
The majority of valves are recessed in the top center of the head this having been the support for the valve forging when the same was originally machined in the lathe. When a bit brace is used this recess can be used for a support when filing as shown in the illustration.

After making certain that the valve face is true examine the head of valve to determine whether it is slotted or drilled with two small holes. If the head is slotted a screw-driver bit may be used for turning the valve during the grinding operation. If two holes are drilled in the head a special grinding tool must be used. A tool for this purpose resembles a two-pronged fork. See illustration 1.

To reseat a valve it is necessary to have the valve lifter at the bottom. This can be determined by turning the motor over by hand until the lifter rises and then goes down. The grinding should first be done with a mixture of oil and emery or some preparation made especially for this work. A good surface can be imparted to the valve face by finishing the operation with a mixture of oil and ground glass. Before beginning the work it is advisable to place a piece of waste or cloth in the opening of the combustion chamber so as to prevent any emery from reaching the bore of the cylinder. Apply only a small amount of the abrasive to the valve at one time.

Very slight pressure should be exerted on the grinding tool and only half turns should be made, first in one direction and then the other. During the grinding operation one is apt to become impatient and exert considerable pressure on the tool. Do not exert heavy pressure for the reason that the valve face and seat are apt to become scored or cut. Such a condition will make it almost impossible to seat the valve so that it will hold compression. Clean and wipe the valve face and seat often and note the extent of the bright line which will appear. When the valve is beginning to seat the bright line will appear irregular and broken. However, when this condition exists the valve is not properly seated and the grinding operation must be continued. When the valve is properly ground into its seat the bright line will appear for the full circumference of the valve face. See illustration C.

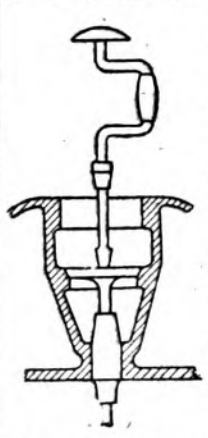
After making sure that the valves are properly ground it will be well to examine the valve spring. To prevent rapid wear of the valve guide and stem it is necessary that the ends of spring be true. This can be determined by placing the spring on a flat surface and noting that when so placed the spring stands perfectly upright. Turn the spring over and note that the same condition exists. Should the spring have a tendency to stand off at an angle the end should be squared up on an emery grinder. After putting the valves back make sure that there is a clearance of about the thickness of an ordinary name card between valve stem and valve lifter when the valves are fully closed. As all valves do not close at the same time it will be necessary to turn the motor over by hand and test each valve separately. As a rule valve lifters are made adjustable so that this distance can be obtained.

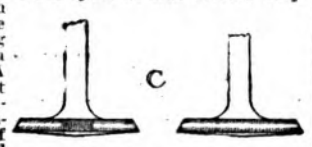


TWO TYPES OF TOOLS TO TURN VALVES WHEN GRINDING.

Points to be Considered in Buying a Car

This is the time of the year when the motor world is looking forward to the large automobile shows which are to take place in all the large cities. The person who has any intentions of purchasing a car for the coming season will invariably visit at least one of these exhibits and before leaving is apt to decide on the car which in his opinion meets his requirements. The purpose of this article is not to discriminate but place the facts clearly before the prospective purchaser so that when he possesses the car he may have joy instead of regrets. The first point to strike the layman's eye is beauty. This is but natural but beauty does not give service and therefore one must first open the cover and go deeper. First decide definitely the amount of money which one is willing to invest and then view the cars which are priced within that limit. Next consider the nature of work which is required of the car. Estimate roughly the amount of money that must be spent for the upkeep and maintenance of the machine. Don't allow any silver-tongued salesman to convince you that the initial cost is the last. True it is that the car does not eat hay and grain nor occasionally require the services of a veterinarian but there are other things which must be bought for the machine. Instead of hay, grain and water the car needs gasoline and oil. In view of the high price of gasoline consider seriously the car that is economical in the consumption of this fuel. Next consider the tires, tire repairs, etc. A car that is heavy in weight wears out the tires quickest. Then there is the matter of service. By this term is meant a reliable manufacturer and nearby dealer who thinks just as much about keeping the car on the road as he does of accepting the profit from the sale. A slight accident may easily render the car inoperative and if parts or a good mechanic cannot be obtained readily it is necessary to keep the car idle for a considerable period. Cars are bought to run not stand idle. To consult a friend who owns a car of the same make you intend to buy before purchasing is in most instances time well spent.


GRINDING IN VALVE BY USE OF BIT BRACE.



VALVE AT LEFT IS NOT PROPERLY GROUND. VALVE AT RIGHT IS PROPERLY GROUND—NOTE EVEN BRIGHT LINE.

The Truck on the Farm

"Is the motor truck more economical for the farmer than the horse?" is a question frequently asked. If the farmer has sufficient work it is the honest opinion of the writer that the truck is the more economical in the end. Let us first consider that the latest statistics available show that the average farm horse only actually works approximately three and one half hours per day. This means that he eats 10 pounds of food for every hour of labor. Consider harness, wagons, horseshoes, care, etc. Some advocates of the motor truck have gone so far as to state that man works for the horse instead of the horse working for the man. They advance the following data proof: One horse consumes in a year approximately 12,000 pounds of food which is the equivalent of the harvest from five acres. The horseshoes used in this country contain enough iron to build 40,000 average motor trucks. They next consider the number of street cleaners, wagon builders, harness makers, veterinarians, whip makers, food planters, reapers and machinery builders. The horse when idle must be fed and cared for while the truck if idle incurs no expense. Edison is credited with once saying that the horse is the poorest motor ever built. He advises that if the horse was built of metal like the gas engine, he would require no more space than the ordinary soap box. By this he no doubt wishes to infer that the horse is out of proportion when considering the amount of work he does. The amount of work that the horse can do is limited to a few hours each day while on the other hand the motor truck stands ready to work for man 24 hours each day and seven days a week if necessary. The speed of the horse decreases as the hours of his labor increases while the speed of the truck remains the same regardless of the length of time used, and you do not have to favor it on a scorching hot day.

Polishing Mud Guards

As a rule mud guards or fenders as they are usually termed are not finished in the same manner as other parts of the car. Generally they are enameled instead of painted. A motorist who takes unusual pride in the appearance of his car advises that the fenders after being washed clean, can be polished so that one may see the reflection of his face by first smearing the enamel with Bon Ami or some similar substance and when dry wiping it off with a soft cloth. All spots are said to be removed and a clean, bright surface produced.

Questions Answered

WHEN SPARK SHOULD BE RETARDED.—Please tell me what should be done to the spark when an automobile engine is in a hard pull. Also should not the spark be retarded when starting? T. R. N., Raisin, Cal.

A.—It is the intention of the automobile manufacturer to time the ignition current so that the spark will take place when the piston in the cylinder reaches top center. Due to the time necessary to convert a primary current into secondary the spark must be advanced to compensate for the high speed of a motor. In other words the faster the engine is run the higher should be advanced the spark lever. When starting the motor however, regardless of whether the hand crank or electric starter be used the spark lever should be fully retarded. If the hand crank is used and the spark lever is advanced a back fire is apt to take place. Such an occurrence may result in broken limbs. If the electric starter is used and the spark lever advanced a heavy drain is placed on the storage battery and the starter commutator is apt to become burnt. When the engine is given a hard pull the spark lever should be advanced as far as possible without causing the motor to knock. As before stated the position of the lever depends upon the speed of the engine. At times it may be possible to run with the spark fully advanced while at other times it may be necessary to fully retard the spark. The speed of the engine is the only point to be considered in the handling of the spark lever. It follows, therefore, that in proportion as the hard pull lowers the engine speed the spark should be retarded to avoid knocking.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

my life I sip a cup of hot water. After that I take a tablespoonful of mineral oil and the juice of an orange. Mineral oil is tasteless and odorless, and is a perfect lubricant. People realize no matter how ignorant they are that an engine won't run without oil. The body also runs all the better for a little lubricating. Nothing stimulates the stomach more than a well-cleaned intestinal tract. Mineral oil is not absorbed. There is no nourishment in it. It is, as I said before, just a lubricant. All the big drug-houses put up this mineral oil which is simply refined paraffin oil. It is no good putting drugs into the stomach or expecting the stomach to act if the intestines are clogged and most intestines are clogged. Olive oil is a lubricant and a food, but the stomach absorbs so much of it that very little gets into the intestinal tract, and then again it nauseates many people. I also have on my tray at every meal five drops of nux vomica, the greatest stomachic we have, a regular old medical stand by, and there is nothing to beat it. It tones up the stomach, gives one an appetite, helps to disperse gas, and is a splendid heart and nerve tonic. Nux vomica is strychnine, a deadly poison if taken in large or even small quantities, ten drops is the limit. It can be taken before eating, or sipped while eating. After eating take five or ten grains of lactopeptin or five or six drops of takadiastase in a little water. The latter drug is a starch digesting ferment, and has been used for a number of years by the best stomach specialists. It is cheap and can be got in any drug-store. If you are troubled with gas, lie down on your right side for a little while then turn over on your left side. Repeat this stunt two or three times and then sit up and you will find the gas will immediately disperse. Turning from side to side acts as a stomach massage and churns up the food aids digestion and quickly expels gas. One should always keep in the house some tablets of soda, mint and pepsin. These tablets can be got for a few cents in any drug-store and it has to be a pretty tough case of indigestion that they won't handle successfully. Gas is caused by food fermentation. The stomach is too weak or too diseased, or the digestive juices are not secreted in sufficient quantities to act on the contents of the stomach properly so there the food lies like a lump of lead and ferments. Usually because it is the wrong kind of food or it has not been properly chewed. Now if the stomach has been toned up with hot water and nux vomica, and a digestive has been taken after eating, the odds are everything will run along smoothly and comfortably. If however there is still trouble, there is a tablet on the market which contains paw paw, soda and charcoal. This is broken up and dissolved in a little hot water and is often magic in its results. Now let me tell you something that few know about the stomach though all ought to know. The stomach is a born wanderer and as Dr. Woods Hutchinson says: "It loves to go avisiting." If you find it under your arm and walking around in your shoe don't be alarmed for it is quite some pedestrian. When the stomach does go on a visit to another part of the body it is utterly useless swallowing pepsin tablets. Sometimes the stomach drops away down out of its place, then it is impossible for it to empty the digested food up to and out of the pyloric end of the stomach. There is a little valve which at intervals opens and allows the food to pass from the pyloric end on the right side of the stomach into the duodenum which is the upper end and beginning of the small intestines of which you have no less than twenty-five feet, and from there into the big intestine and so out of the body. I read recently of a man who had stomach trouble and who went from specialist to specialist for months, getting no relief, until one physician who had something the others had not, sense and imagination, put him under the X ray and found that his tummie had dropped down out of place and was trying to hold an animated conversation with his big toe. Then the patient was put on his back, pillows placed under his loins, and a peregrinating, peripatetic, wanderlust stomach shuffled back into its place and the machinery of digestion went on normally and after a few weeks the man was well. People who have stomach trouble should first of all study the geography of the body and find out if the stomach is in its proper place or gone avisiting, for if it has gone avisiting, all the treatment and all the pepsin tablets in the world will be found useless. It would take a whole issue of COMFORT to discuss the diseases of the stomach. Acute indigestion is generally due to a catarrhal inflammation of the lining membrane of the stomach. Sometimes there is also acute catarrh of the first part of the intestines. This condition is caused by food which the stomach has been unable to digest and which has begun to decompose. This condition may be caused by fatigue, overeating, alcohol or an upset nervous system. Stomach specialists in chronic cases usually pump out the stomach after a test meal has been taken, make a chemical examination of the contents to discover the exact cause of the disorder. If a physician does not do this, his diagnosis is mere guesswork. Unless the organs are supplied with good blood the digestive juices will not be secreted properly. People who are anæmic, whose blood is of poor quality, should, if they can digest them, eat raisins which are full of iron, and should keep in the open air as much as possible and improve the condition of the blood, if they want to get rid of dyspepsia. The movements of the stomach and intestines and the secretions of the digestive juices are under the control of the nervous system. If your nerves are out of order, nervous dyspepsia generally results. The things that cause indigestion as a rule are frying pan abominations, fried articles of food, hot bread, pies, pancakes, ice water, soda water, too much candy and bad teeth. When there is vomiting and pain, especially vomiting of blood an ulcer of the stomach is usually indicated. An ulcerated stomach requires very careful treatment, as an ulcer may perforate the stomach wall and spill the contents of the stomach internally with disastrous results. Vomiting especially of dark coffee colored material, loss of weight and pallor and pain, especially in a person over forty, usually indicates cancer of the stomach. When bright blood is coughed up it comes from the lungs, when dark blood is vomited it comes from the stomach. Now please preserve this article all of you, and it will save you asking numberless questions in the future, questions I am physically incapable of answering. No stomach ailment, remember, will yield to treatment unless one diets strictly. Directly the stomach shows signs of distress, give it a rest for a day and then go on milk diet until real genuine hunger sets in, then take to a semi-solid diet and finally to full diet. Cut out tea and coffee. They are poison.

AFTON, MINN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE AND COUSINS:

I want to express my appreciation of your splendid editorials and replies to the cousins' letters. They are not only interesting but also possess a high educational value. The forcible style and language they are written in, is well calculated to set the wheels of thought in motion in the most hardened human fossil that ever lived. They have been and are still a source of inspiration and encouragement to me. I have your book of poems—a better cure for the blues I have never found. I am passionately fond of books and nearly all of my spare time is spent in their company. I am a farmer thirty years of age and single. I have a farm of forty acres. They are devoted to the growth of small fruits and vegetables. Afton (where I live) is becoming favorably known throughout the state for its excellent strawberries and raspberries. We sell our fruit through a cooperative association which we organized about two years ago and have found it a better method than the old one. Formerly each grower was obliged to haul his own berries to market or sell at home to buyers from the cities, but at a loss to the grower.

St. Paul is the capital of our state and has a population of over 200,000 people. I live within twelve miles of our new state prison. It is one of the best and most modern prisons in the United States if not in the world. At present writing the total num-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)


I HAVE NOW MADE IT POSSIBLE for any worthy, creditable person, anywhere in the U. S. to buy a High Grade WITTE engine on practically his own terms

ED. H. WITTE

Write me stating what size engine you need and I will mail you latest WITTE prices direct from factory. Write for Free Book "How to Judge Engines"—Ed. H. Witte.

BUY ON YOUR OWN TERMS

NO MONEY DOWN ALL CASH PART CASH OR BANK DEPOSIT

WITTE ENGINE WORKS
3647 Oakland Ave. Kansas City, Mo.
3647 Empire Bldg. Pittsburgh, Pa.


KEROSENE ENGINES
OTTAWA LATEST DESIGN
Durable, Powerful, Reliable, Massive. Built to last; to do hard, heavy work. Uses Cheapest Fuel. Pull ¼ to ½ horse-power more than rated 3 Months Trial. Easy Terms. Sizes 1½ to 22 H-P. Easy to start. No Cranking. No batteries. 10 Year Guarantee. Most practical engine ever built. Engine book free. A Postal brings it.
THE OTTAWA MANUFACTURING CO.,
1271 King Street, OTTAWA, KANSAS.

ELECTRIC HOME, FARM, THEATRE, HOTEL, SCHOOL & STORE LIGHT PLANTS. Economical. Safe. Clean. Power Motors. Auto Storage Batteries. Dynamos. Engines. Belts. Railways. Motion Picture Machines. Xmas Lights. Catalog. 3 cts. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, Ohio.

FREE FORD AUTO TO AGENTS

Here's an opportunity to earn big money—$6 to $12 a day, with easy work, all your time or spare time and obtain a Ford Automobile free besides. A straightout from the shoulder business proposition. No voting or guessing contest. We want wide-awake men and women to introduce into every home our famous ZANOL Pure Food Products, Non-Alcoholic Food Flavors in tubes, Toilet Preparations, Perfumes and Soaps; 250 other light weight household necessities.
MAKE $50 A WEEK EASY.
No experience necessary—we teach you how, give you the right start and help you make a success. Absolutely no limit to your earning power. We can use only a certain number of General Agents so get in touch with us at once. We furnish our representatives with a free automobile. Just send postal for particulars and money making offer.
AMERICAN PRODUCTS CO.
8215 Third St. Cincinnati, O


$40 A WEEK, SURE
AGENT'S SAMPLE FREE
300 candle power outdoor Lamp and Safety Lantern. Storm and Weather Proof. For house, barn, camp, anywhere. No smoke. No odor. Absolutely safe. Burns Kerosene. Guaranteed. Burns 96% air, only 2% fuel. Price low. Sells fast. 100% profit. Year round sales plan. Save your territory now. Write quick for free sample offer.
Foote Mfg. Co., Box 1512, DAYTON, OHIO.

$3.75 SUIT NO EXTRA CHARGES


Made to measure in latest style. Not $3.75, not even $1, not even one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. No extra charge for fancy, swell styles, no extra charge for extra big, extreme peg-tops, pearl buttons, tunnel or fancy belt loops, no extra charge for anything, all free. Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. Agents of other tailoring houses please write, we have a new deal that will open your eyes. We ask every man to answer this, every boy in long pants, every man, every where. No matter where you live, or what you do, write us a letter or postal and say "Send Me Your Offer" the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges. Write today, this minute. Address
KNICKERBOCKER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 559 Chicago, Ill.

Wonderful New STEREOSCOPE


Premium No. 6462

With 100 Views

For A Club Of Two!

Lions, Tigers, Bears and all kinds of Wild Animals, Home Scenes, Domestic Pets and Happy Childhood Days. Here is something as good as a circus for the children the year round—an indestructible, new style Stereoscope made of all metal with powerful, magnifying lens, and with it we give you free a big collection of 100 Views of home scenes, domestic pets, farm scenes, all kinds of trained and wild animals, hunting scenes, views from the Arctic and tropical countries, and happy childhood scenes—the biggest and finest assortment of the most delightful and entertaining stereoscopic views for children ever gotten out. Boys and girls need not be obliged to hunt for something to occupy their active minds indoors with one of these Scopes at hand because it will give them a never-ending, joyful entertainment keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. Aside from the pleasure they will derive from the fifty beautiful scenes of home life, the fifty exciting animal views will furnish them with a regular circus, the lions, tigers, bears, buffalo, and all kinds of wild and savage animals as well as horses, dogs, cats and other domestic animals standing out real and life-like when looked at through this Scope. Any boy or girl would be delighted to have one of these wonderful Stereoscopes together with the big collection of 100 entertaining and exciting Views that come with it and knowing this we have purchased a large quantity of them direct from the factory and because we bought so many we got them at a price low enough to enable us to give them away on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Stereoscope with 100 Views free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 6462.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

and I do not believe this is any place for you. You are too fair and sweet to serve a woman with such a disposition as madam possesses, and I wish you would leave her when we go back to the city. I know you are poor, and have no friends upon whom you can depend; but I would settle a comfortable annuity upon you, so that you could be independent and make a pretty little home for your——"

"How dare you talk to me like this? Do you think I have no pride—no self-respect?" Edith demanded.

Her act and the flash of the diamond attracted his attention to the little chain and shamrock upon her breast.

The sight seemed to paralyze him for a moment, for he stood like one turned to marble.

"Where did you get it?" he at last demanded, in a scarcely audible voice, as he pointed a trembling finger at the jewel. "Tell me!—tell me! how came you by it?"

Edith regarded him with astonishment.

Involuntarily she put up her hand and covered the ornament from his gaze.

"It was given to me," she briefly replied.

"Who gave it to you?"

"A friend."

"Was it your—a relative?" cried the man.

"No, it was simply a friend."

"Tell me who!"

"All that I can tell you, Mr. Goddard," she gravely said, after a pause, "is that the chain and ornament were given to me very recently by an aged friend——"

"Aged!" the man interposed, eagerly.

"Yes, by a person who must be at least sixty years of age," the young girl replied.

"Ah!" The ejaculation was one of supreme relief. "Excuse me, Miss Allen!" he continued, in a more natural manner than he had yet spoken. "I did not mean to be curious, but—a—a person whom I once knew had an ornament very similar to the one you wear——"

He was interrupted just at this point by the sound of a rich, mellow laugh that echoed down the hall like a strain of sweetest music; whereupon Gerald Goddard jumped as if some one had dealt him a heavy blow on the back.

"Good Heaven! who was that?" he cried, with livid lips.

But Edith, taking advantage of the diversion, glided swiftly from the room.

The man stood motionless for a moment after her departure, as if waiting for the sound, which had so startled him, to be repeated.

But it was not, and going to the door, he peered into the hall to see who was there.

There was no one visible save the housekeeper, who just at that moment, accosted a housemaid, to whom she appeared to be giving some directions.

"Ah! it was only one of the guests," he muttered, "but the voice was wonderfully like—like —— Ugh!"

He waited a few moments longer, trying to compose his nerves, which had been sadly unstrung, both by the wine he had drank in much larger quantities than usual, and the incidents that had just occurred, and then sought his own room, where he rang for a brandy-and-soda, and after taking it, went below to attend to his duties as host.

But neither he nor Edith dreamed that their recent interview had been observed by a third party, or had seen the white convulsed face that had been looking in upon them, between the blinds at one of the windows, near which they had been standing.

Anna Goddard had sought her own room, directly after dinner, to make some little change in her toilet, and get her gloves, which she had left lying upon her dressing case.

As she opened the door of her boudoir she came very near giving utterance to a scream of fear upon coming face to face with a man.

The man was Emil Correlli, who had gained entrance to the apartment by climbing the vine trellis which led to the window. His secret return was in accordance with a plan previously agreed upon.

He informed his sister that he had sent a card of invitation to Mrs. Stewart of the Copley Square Hotel.

"I am glad you did," she responded; "I have long desired to meet her."

They then proceeded to discuss the important event of the evening and Mrs. Goddard assured him that their plot was progressing admirably. Still she manifested a tinge of remorse as she thought of the despicable trick she had devised against the fair girl whom her brother was so eager to possess.

"Anna you must not fail me now!" he exclaimed, "or I will never forgive you! The girl must be mine or——"

"Hush!" she interposed. "Did some one knock," "I heard nothing."

"It was only a false alarm," she murmured, glancing down the hall; then she started, as if stung, as she caught sight of two figures in the room diagonally opposite hers.

Her face grew ghastly, but her eyes blazed with a tiger-like ferocity.

She closed the door noiselessly, then with stealthy, cat-like movements, she stole toward the French door, leading out upon the veranda, throwing a long mantle over her light dress and bare shoulders. Then she passed out, and crept along the veranda toward a window of the room where her husband and Edith were talking.

She could see them distinctly through the slats of the blinds, which were movable—could see the man bending toward the graceful girl, whom she had never seen so beautiful as now, his face eager, a wistful light burning in his eyes, while his lips moved rapidly with the tale that he was pouring into her ears.

She could not hear a word, but her jealous heart imputed the very worst to him.

She could see that Edith repudiated him—that she was indignant and dismayed; but this circumstance did not soothe her in the least.

It was enough to arouse all the worst elements of her fiery nature to know that the girl's charms were alluring the man whom she worshiped and a very demon of jealousy and hatred possessed her.

She watched them until she saw her husband give that guilty start, of which Edith took advantage to escape, and then, her hands clenched until the nails almost pierced the tender flesh, her lips convulsed—her whole face distorted with passion and pain, she turned from the spot.

"I have no longer any conscience," she hissed, as she sped swiftly back to her room. "The girl is doomed—she has sealed her own fate. As for him—if I did not love him so, I would——"

A shudder completed her sentence, but smoothing her face, she removed her wraps, and went to tell her brother that she must go below, but would have his dinner sent up immediately.

Then drawing on her gloves, she hastened down to join her guests in the drawing-room.

CHAPTER XI.

"NOW MY VINDICATION AND TRIUMPH WILL BE COMPLETE!"

When Anna Goddard descended to her spacious and elegant parlors, her face was wreathed with the brightest smiles, which, alas! covered and concealed the bitterness and anger of her corrupt heart, even while she circulated among her friends with apparently the greatest pleasure, and with her usual charm and manner.

After a short time spent socially, the guests repaired to the spacious carriage-house, where the theatrical performance was to take place, to secure the most desirable seats for the play, before the multitude from outside should arrive.

The place had been very handsomely decorated, and lighted by electricity for the occasion. Potted flowers, palms and ferns were artistically grouped in the corners, and handsome draperies were hung here and there to simulate windows and doors, and to conceal whatever might otherwise have been unsightly.

The floor had been covered with something smooth, linoleum or oil-cloth, and then thoroughly waxed, for after the play was over, the place was to be cleared for dancing.

Across one end, a commodious stage had been erected, although this was at present concealed by a beautiful drop-curtain of crimson felt, bordered with old gold.

The room filled rapidly, and long before the time for the curtain to ascend, every seat was occupied.

At eight o'clock, precisely, the signal was given, and the play began.

Programs had been distributed among the audience—dainty little cards of embossed white and gold they were, too—announcing the title, "The Masked Bridal," giving the names of the participants, and promising that the affair would close with a genuine surprise to everyone.

The piece opened in an elegantly appointed library, with a spirited scene and dialogue between a young couple, who were desirous of marrying, and the four objecting parents.

In the next scene the unfortunate young couple are represented as plotting with two other lovers, whose wedding-day is set, to circumvent their obdurate parents, and carry out their determination to become husband and wife.

This offer was full of energy and interest, and the curtain went down amid enthusiastic applause.

Edith, who had assisted madam in the dressing-room as long as she was needed, had come outside, at the beginning of the scene, and stationed herself at the back of the room to watch the progress of the play.

But she had been there only for a few moments when someone touched her on the shoulder to attract her attention.

Glancing around, she saw a young girl, one of the guests in the house, who remarked:

"Mrs. Goddard wished me to tell you to come to her at once in her boudoir. Please be quick, as the matter is important."

Edith immediately glided from the room, but wondering what could have happened that madam should want her in her own apartments, when she supposed her to be behind the scenes.

Meantime, while the guests were being entertained with the play of which their hostess was the acknowledged author, a mysterious scene was being enacted within the mansion.

When the hour for the entertainment drew near, the house, as we know, had been emptied of its guests, until only the housekeeper, the butler, and the other servants remained.

The butler had been instructed to keep ward and watch below, while Mrs. Weld went upstairs, ostensibly to ascertain that everything was as it should be there, but in reality, to carry out a project of her own.

Seeking the maids, who, since they had no duties at that particular moment to occupy them, had gathered in the dressing-rooms, and were discussing the merits of the various costumes which they had seen, she remarked, in her kindly, good-natured way:

"Girls, I am sure you would like a peep at the play, and Mrs. Goddard gave me permission to send you out, if you could be spared. I will look after ever thing up here, and you may go now, only be sure to hurry back the moment it is over, for you will then be needed again."

They were of course delighted with this privilege, but Mollie who was an unusually considerate girl, and always willing to oblige others, inquired:

"Wouldn't you like to see the play, Mrs. Weld? I will stay and let you go."

"No, thank you, child. I had enough of such things years ago," the housekeeper returned. "Run along, all of you, so as to be there when the curtain goes up."

And the girls, only too eager for the sport, needing no second bidding, sped away.

Thus the upper portion of the mansion was entirely deserted, but for the housekeeper and the unsuspected presence of Emil Correlli, who was locked within his own room, awaiting from his sister the signal for his appearance upon the stage below.

The moment the housemaids were beyond hearing, Mrs. Weld gave utterance to a long sigh of relief, whipped off her blue spectacles, and with a swift, noiseless step, wholly unlike her usual waddling gait, hurried down the hall, and into Mrs. Goddard's room, carefully closing and locking the door after her.

Proceeding to the dressing-room, a quick, searching glance showed her the object she was looking for—my lady's jewel-casket, standing wide open upon a small, marble-top table near a full-length mirror.

It had been rifled of most of its contents, madam herself having worn many of her jewels, while others had been loaned to the actors to embellish their costumes for the play.

"Ah! my task is made much easier than I expected," murmured the woman.

She saw only an empty tray, which she carefully removed, only to find another exactly like it underneath.

This also she took out, revealing the bottom of the box, covered with its velvet cushion, upon which there were indentations, to receive a full set of jewelry, necklace, bracelets, tiara, brooch and ear-rings.

The housekeeper's face was ghastly pale, or would have been but for the stain which gave her complexion its olive tinge, and she was trembling with excitement.

"She surely took that paper from this box," she muttered, a note of disappointment in her voice, as if she had expected to find what she sought upon removing the second tray.

"I wonder if this cushion can be removed?" she continued, as she tried to lift it from its place.

But it fited so closely she could not stir it.

Looking around the room for something to assist her in this effort, she espied a pair of scissors on the dressing-case.

Seizing them she attempted to pry up the cushion with them.

It was not an easy thing to do, without defacing the velvet, but, at length, she succeeded in lifting one side, when she found no difficulty in removing the whole thing.

Her agitation increased as her glance fell upon several papers snugly packed in the bottom of the box.

"Ah! if it should prove to be something of no account to me!" she breathed, with trembling lips.

At last she straightened herself with sudden resolution, and putting her hand into the box drew forth the uppermost paper.

It was yellow with time, and so brittle that it cracked apart in one of the creases as she opened it; but paying no heed to this, she stepped to the dressing-case, and spread it out before her, while her eager eyes swept the mystic page from top to bottom.

Then a cry that ended in a great sob burst from her hueless lips.

"It is! it is!" she gasped, in voiceless agitation. "Ah, Heaven, thou art gracious to me at last! Now, I know why she would not surrender it to him—now I know what the condition of its ransom must have been!

"How long has she had it, I wonder? and when did she first learn of its existence?" she murmured. "Ah! but it does not matter—I have it at last—I, who dared not hope for its existence, believing it must have been destroyed, until the other day; and now"—throwing back her head with an air that was very expressive—"my vindication and triumph will be complete!"

With the greatest care, she refolded the paper, after which she impulsively pressed it to her lips; then, putting it away in her pocket, she turned back to the jewel-casket, and peered curiously into it once more.

"I wonder what other intrigues she has been guilty of?" she muttered, regarding its contents with a frown.

She laid her hand upon one of the papers, as if to remove it, then drew back.

"No," she said, "I will touch nothing else; I have what I came to seek, and have no right to meddle with what does not concern me. Let her keep her other vile secrets to herself; my victory is already complete."

She replaced the velvet cushion, pressing it hard down into its place.

She then restored the trays as she had found them, but did not close the casket, since she had found it open.

She retraced her steps into the boudoir, where, as she was passing out, she trod upon something that attracted her attention.

She stooped to ascertain what it was, and discovered a gentleman's glove.

"Ah," she said, as she picked it up and examined it. "I should say it belongs to madam's brother! In that case, he must have returned this evening to attend the grand finale, although I am sure he was not at the dinner-table."

She dropped the glove upon the floor where she had found it, but there was a look of perplexity upon her face as she did so.

"It seems a little strange," she mused, "that the young man should have been away all this time; and if he was to return at all, I cannot understand why there should have been t' is air of secrecy about it. He has evidently been in this room tonight, but I am sure he has not been seen about the house."

She opened the door and passed out into the hall, when she was startled to hear the voice of Mrs. Goddard talking, in the hall below, with the butler.

Mrs. Weld quietly slipped across to the room opposite—the same one in which Edith and Mr. Goddard had held their interview earlier in the evening—where, seating herself under a light, she caught up a book from the table, and pretended to be deeply absorbed in its contents.

A moment later, madam, having ascended the stairs, came hurrying down the hall, and saw her there.

She started.

It would never do for the woman to suspect the truth regarding what she was about to do.

No one must dream that Edith was not lending herself willingly to the last scene in the drama of the evening and she expected to have some difficulty in persuading her to take the part.

There must be no possibility of anyone hearing any objections that she might make, for, in that case, the charge of fraud could be brought and proved against her and her brother, after all was over.

But after the first flash of dismay, the cunning woman devised a scheme which would take the housekeeper out of her way and leave the field clear for her operations.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Your Grandfather Knew These Rubber Footwear Trade Marks



WHEN he bought a new pair of rubber boots, the thing he was most particular about was to see that one of these trade-marks was plainly stamped on each boot.

Their names are names to conjure with; each one of them represents a modest beginning, a remarkable growth, a continuous record of quality production, coupled with honorable tradition.

The thought of making any article in any way or from any materials that were not the very best for the purpose would never have occurred to any of these great manufacturers.

To-day, these same trade-marks are on good rubber footwear for *your* guidance in buying. Only an expert can distinguish good from poor rubber footwear by external appearance and touch. Thus it becomes a matter of self-interest and self-protection for you to make certain that any rubber footwear you buy is marked with one of these famous brands.

Seventy-four years of successful manufacturing and the experience of forty-seven great factories are back of every pair of rubber shoes, overshoes, arctics, boots, etc., produced by the United States Rubber Company, the largest rubber manufacturer in the world.

Rubbers that fit wear twice as long as rubbers that do not fit

United States Rubber Company

UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY US RUBBER SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

A Problem That Has Blighted Many A Life

is sympathetically treated and solved in that beautiful and thrilling story of "Nerine's Second Choice." It is a charming romance enlivened with plenty of daring exploits and adventures to sustain the reader's interest at white heat as the story grows.

Don't miss the second part, in which the plot unfolds, in February COMFORT. Renew or extend your subscription two full years for only 30 cents, today, and make sure of this story complete with all the other good things in 24 issues of COMFORT.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



I Give You 25 Lessons FREE

Write AT ONCE for I. M. I. Enrollment Blank and get 25 Lessons Free as per my Special Free Scholarships Offer. Don't delay. This proposition is made to only 1,000 and to only one man in each locality. Write first and be the fortunate one from your district. With these lessons, you can quickly learn to

Be An Expert Auto Mechanic

Repair Man Chauffeur Tractioneer $75 to $300 A Month

The I. M. I. way, you learn at home in spare time. Course embodies short cuts that will land you quickly in big jobs with big pay. Jobs are ready, waiting for you. Send for Enrollment Blank and 25 Free Lessons Offer. Write me personally, Harry Wells, Gen. Mgr.

INTERNATIONAL MOTOR INSTITUTE, 125 Kesner Bldg. Chicago, Ill.

YOUR NEXT SUIT FREE



Send postal today for full information how to get your new suit, made to measure, without a penny's cost. $30 to $40 would not buy a better one. Simply wear it, tell your friends where you got it—take their orders—and make

$10 to $15 a Day

in your spare time. It is dead easy—you never saw a nobbier suit or a more stunning pattern, cut in very latest style. Your choice of 60 fabrics and 22 styles. Drop us a postal card for heavy pattern book, inside information about styles, self-measuring blanks, etc. DON'T WAIT. We prepay Delivery Charges. Mail Postal NOW!

American Woolen Mills Co. Dept. 107 Chicago

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

send a stamped envelope, I will gladly tell as much as I can about N. Dak., but COMFORT's Sisters' Corner is too precious to tell all that many wished to know.

We are still on the ranch, still trying to be cheerful in these days of hard living, for our crops were failures this year—and it is just another load the bank bears in granting loans to many who have to mortgage stock and sometimes, the ranch also, to get money to tide them over until next year—but

"Better to hope tho' the clouds hang low,
And to keep the eyes still lifted;
For the bright blue sky will soon peep through,
When the ominous clouds are rifted."

For the benefit of those who asked, but gave no address, let me say that we have no children, no home-friends, and no relatives here, that we were forced to come to this place through circumstances over which we had no control.

"I would have chosen my life to be
Active, tireless and strong;
A constant, ceaseless working for Him,
Amid the needy throng.
But He chose for me a better lot—
A life of frequent pain
Of strength withheld when 'twas needed most,
And loss instead of gain."

For God doeth all things well.

I must leave you now, but remember this, that although I am so far, far away from all of you, I think of you every day and pray for God to bless you you every night.

If not too busy in each of your several homes, I shall be doubly grateful for a loving thought and prayer. May God's rich blessing be to COMFORT, its staff, Uncle Charlie, especially, and to all the loving readers,

Lingeringly, lovingly, farewell, if we never meet again, MRS. E. H. PRATHER.

Home Is Where the Heart Is

Home's not merely four square walls,
Though with pictures hung and gilded,
Home is where affection calls,
Filled with shrines the heart hath builded!

Home!—go watch the faithful dove,
Sailing 'neath the Heaven above us;
Home is where there's one to love,
Home is where there's one to love us!

Home's not merely roof and room—
It needs something to endear it;
Home is where the heart can bloom—
Where there's some kind lip to cheer it!

What is home with none to meet—
None to welcome, none to greet us?
Home is sweet—and only sweet—
Where there's one we love to meet us.

—*Charles Swain.*

Trifles

What will it matter in a little while
That for a day
We met and gave a word, a touch, a smile
Upon the way?

What will it matter whether hearts were brave
And lives were true;
That you gave me the sympathy I crave
As I gave you?

These trifles! Can it be they make or mar
A human life?
Are souls as lightly waved as rushes are
By love or strife?

Yea, yea! a look the fainting heart may break
Or make it whole:
And just one word, if said for love's sweet sake,
May save a soul.

—*May Riley Smith.*

The Arrow and the Song

I shot an arrow into the air,
It fell to earth, I know not where;
For, so swiftly it flew, the sight
Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air,
It fell to earth, I know not where:
For who has sight so keen and strong
That it can follow the flight of song?

Long, long afterward, in an oak
I found the arrow, still unbroke:
And the song, from beginning to end,
I found again in the heart of a friend.

—*Henry W. Longfellow.*

Best Ways of Doing Things Around the Home

Polish mirrors with a soft flannel dampened with camphor.

Scald your sponges thoroughly every little while, as they collect germs.

Clean gold lace or embroidery by brushing it with a soft brush dipped in alcohol.

Never put dresses and coats away until they are thoroughly brushed and aired.

To brighten carpets wipe them with warm water in which has been poured a few drops of ammonia.

If brooms are soaked in strong, hot salt and water before using, the splints will not break in sweeping.

I use my cherry pitter to pulp grapes and find it a great help. MRS. JENNIE ODELL, South Lyon, Mich.

When the middle of the sheets wear out, make pillow cases of the sides. Pillow cases made this way will wear a long time.

MARGARET JOHNS, Sarasota, Fla.

Try cooking dried apples mixed with dried apricots, about two parts apple to one part apricots. This is much better than either fruit cooked alone. This is good to make sandwiches of when traveling, as it keeps well. We usually take some in a glass jar.

Pick your apples in the last quarter of the moon and the little bruises will dry down instead of rotting. Also when setting out a young orchard, set the trees in the first quarter of the moon and they will bear much earlier. This is not guesswork for it has been tested. I plant my garden "in the moon," it has never failed to get good results, if the season is any ways a good one.

MRS. BENJ. CLANIN, Siloam Springs, Ark.

Remedies

BURNS.—For carbolic acid burns or burns with lye, apply vinegar freely.

MRS. MAUDE HURST, Barling, Ark.

Honey mixed with a little black pepper is said to cure any cough, except consumption.

Honey is splendid used as a poultice on boils, cuts or raw sores. It is also good to give a person an appetite when they are "all run down" even if they can't eat much of it at first.

MRS. BENJ. CLANIN, Siloam Springs, Ark.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER.—Steep a tablespoon of whole flaxseed in a quart of boiling water until it is quite thick. Add the juice of half a lemon, and sugar to taste. Drink freely in place of other liquid. This is an old remedy given us many years ago by an old physician and is all we ever use for this trouble. M. V. H., California.

Requests

Mrs. Ethel K. Jones, Clayton, Gresham Route, N. Mex., would like song, "The Little Match Girl."

Mrs. A. Tsigaridis, Sheldon, R. R. 1, Box 56, N. Dak., would like words and music of song, "When I Lost You."

Georgia Lee Boyle, Hoods, Ky., would like songs, "I'll not be with you long dear mother," and "In that white city."

Will some sister send me about three hundred china berries. I will return the favor in any way I can. MRS. M. O. MONSON, Upland, R. R. 1, Nebr.

Can any reader send me the August and September COMFORT of the year 1915. I will return favor in any possible way.

MRS. JESSIE ROSENCRANTZ, Weldman, Mich.

Mrs. J. D. Sutphin, Cincinnati, 1508 Blue Rock St., Ohio, would like to hear from sisters living in Colorado who know of a small farm that can be homesteaded or bought. One near works of some kind.

Do any of the sisters know where I could get an old time song book called "The Sacred Melodion." It used the buckwheat or square notes. We used this book long ago when we went to singing school in Wisconsin. Would like so well to get one of the books.

MRS. BENJ. CLANIN, Siloam Springs, Ark.

Will some kind sister send me the poem entitled "Mabel." The opening lines are,

In a pleasant little village
Mabel lived, a simple child,
Her long curls were golden yellow
And her eyes were blue and mild.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Eva M. Randolph, Glassboro, N. J. Miss Lillian Holmes, 620 N, 4th St., Dekalb, Ill. Mrs. M. R. Weaver, Potomac, L. Box 263, Ill. Mrs. Mable Grace, 610 Garfield St., Bay City, Mich. Sadie Williams, Morris, R. R. 3, Box 33, Ill. Charlie C. Rogers, Pittsfield, R. R. 2, Box 69, N. H. John W. Murphy, 407 Main St., Barnhill, Ohio. Miss Erma Cantrell, Plainville, R. R. 2, Box 18, Ill. Miss Leslie Lascelle, Tombstone, Ariz.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Information of Auldon Clifford and Penenopla Smith, children or grandchildren, who lived near Lansing, Michigan, thirty years ago. Please notify Penenopla Smith, Graydon Springs, Mo.

The Way of a Woman

By Maud Mary Brown

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

PART II.

COULD it be the dainty, lissome stenographer she had smiled at in Norman's private office?

She dismissed that thought as soon as it was conceived. Norman was not the man to carry his shame into his business.

Suddenly a piercing thought drove itself into her brain there to become conviction.

Edith Thornton! Norman admired her extravagantly. Might not the feeling have become warmer? Her ideas were advanced and her instincts lenient toward guilt.

Or weren't they? Was she being uncharitable in her misery? At any rate, one knew almost nothing of her life before she had come to the city a few years earlier. She tried to shut out the throbbing thoughts.

Every minute was bringing her nearer to Norman—the bitter celebration of her natal day.

"We are almost there?"

Stanley nodded, his morose eyes on the stretch of smooth road.

"Stop!" she said imperatively. "I want to go down there a minute."

She pointed to a lovely cluster of trees by a little stream.

Already past it, Stanley reversed and drew out of the road.

"Lesbia, don't cut up rough with Norman," he said sharply as she opened the door of the car.

"You aren't blameless, you know. I've been thinking it over on the way up. At first I wanted to take his throat in my naked hands and tear the breath out of it, but I begin to see his point of view."

Lesbia, arrested, looked at her brother, stunned. Was the boy mad?

"Men want comrades in their wives, but you girls won't be that after you're married. You go off on lines of your own and your husbands can jolly well paddle their own pleasure craft. I can remember when you were crazy to get off alone with Norman. I tell you, women tire of propinquity a lot quicker than men do."

"But you seem to forget that we have——"

"Don't say you have *children!* You all presume on that. Children make convenient whips to lash your husbands' desires into the shape of your own. It's great to be a mother, but I'd rather a wife of mine qualified *as* a wife first. I've heard Norman beg you to go off on trips with him and you've refused. His wishes never seem to count with you now."

"But——"

"You seem to think just because you're married you can settle back and pick out the kind of life that suits your own selfish desire."

"You're brutal!" gasped Lesbia.

"I don't wonder men cut loose. You keep the letter of the decalogue but you take a pick-axe to its spirit and then you go up in the air when you can't get by with it. Go down to that bunch of trees if you want to, but take along what I've said."

Lesbia went, stumbling blindly. She was insensible to the trilling vespers of the mated birds, the fragrant country sweetness of the air, and the soft violet tints on land and river.

Without wishing it, she was analyzing herself. It was as if she had lost physical control of her mental processes. With her back against a tree, she groped for conclusions and grasped them.

When she went back to the car, Stanley shot her one quick, inquiring glance before throwing in the clutch, but he asked no question. He had no need. Her white face was serene. She had fought her beasts and triumphed.

A few minutes later they were at the hospital.

"I'll go to the hotel. It's better for me not to come till you send for me."

Lesbia nodded, grateful for Stanley's perception.

"Mr. Vaughan is conscious now. His injuries, while painful, are not serious," an interne said to Lesbia.

"Mrs. Vaughan is only nervously unstrung."

"There has been a mistake. *I* am Mrs. Vaughan," Lesbia explained quietly.

"I see. Mistakes frequently occur."

She was glad that a hospital staff is impervious to curiosity.

The young doctor left her at Norman's door. She paused to marshal her courage before stepping into the room.

He lay quite quiet, looking as helpless as a child in his bandages.

His eyes brightened at the sight of Lesbia.

The nurse left the room as Lesbia went over to the bed and knelt to touch him.

"Dearest girl, can you forgive me?" he asked in wistful eagerness.

She caressed the hand that lay on the white coverlet.

"They tell me she isn't badly injured. Is it true? Tell me. Have you seen her?"

His solicitude very nearly broke Lesbia's control.

"Do you want me to go to her now?"

"Oh, please. And come at once to tell me she is all right."

How she ever got to the other woman's door she never knew. But she found herself there, blinded, and deafened by the pounding in her ears.

She pulled herself together at a little cry from the high bed. She compelled herself to go over to where the woman lay, inert and very lovely, even in the plain white hospital robe.

Her eyes clearing at last, Lesbia gave a sobbing gasp as she gathered her into her strong arms.

"It's *you!* To think that it's *you*! Oh, Sylvia, darling, I'm so *glad* it's you!"

"So I gather," Sylvia said dryly. "If your gladness is in proportion to my injuries, I suppose you would have been transported if I'd been killed. I'll get smashed up again some day just to please you."

"You don't understand, dear," Lesbia was laughing as she wept. "The papers—I thought ——"

Sylvia looked at her shrewdly. "I believe I do understand," she guessed. "They have been calling me Mrs. Vaughan. Did it reach the papers that way?"

Lesbia nodded.

"And you thought—oh, Lesbia!"

"I know," Lesbia said, abased.

"And he did it because you were so disappointed that I couldn't get there for the dinner. He met me at the Lodge directly after the wedding. We were trying to get home for tea."

Lesbia got up from her knees. "I must go call Stanley. He thinks—the other thing."

But there was no need to telephone Stanley. On the broad stair she met him, leaping up noiselessly.

"It's all right, sis," he cried, his arm about her waist.

"That darn-fool clerk recognized Norman and thought he did you and registered that way. That's what comes of being as-alike-as-two-peas twins;

"Go to Sylvia, in there. I want Norman alone."

"I say, Lesbia, I talked like a sponge back there."

She went to Norman, smiling into his pathetically anxious eyes.

"Sylvia's as right as rain," she said. "You can both go home with Stanley and me in the big car tomorrow."

"Oh, Lesbia! What a mess of a birthday it has been!"

"Why, Norman, it has been a heavenly one! To know that you were hurt and to find you like this!"

"Lesbia," after a time, "I'm almost afraid of you. There's something new in your face—something blinding, like a too-bright sun."

There are times when, with bowed head and reverent knee, we enter the very presence of the Godhead. That Lesbia had passed through such a moment and that the radiance still lingered, Norman could not know.

"As soon as you're able, dear, let's go on a long trip together—just the two of us—a-gypsying," she said.

"*Will* you?"

He reached for the bell with his uninjured hand.

"Nurse," he said, when she had come, "when can I get my hands on a wheel again?"

The nurse smiled at Lesbia. "In a couple of weeks, I should think," she replied.

He turned to his wife. "In two weeks, dear," he said.

Subscription Rates Go Up As Other Prices Rise

250 publications in the U. S. have already raised their rates and others must follow. They can't help it, for the cost of paper has doubled, and all labor and material has gone up. Everything you buy is up and still rising—everything except COMFORT, and that can't remain an exception. As the cost of production increases COMFORT'S subscription rate must rise.

Our 30-Cent BARGAIN RATE for a Two-Year Renewal Can't Last. We can't promise it next month.

If you send 30 cents for your renewal or extension *at once* you are sure of COMFORT two full years from date of expiration.

Even if you are already paid in advance it is wise and prudent to send 30 cents now and get your subscription set ahead two years further.

FACTORY to RIDER



Saves you big money. Buy direct and save $10 to $20 on a bicycle.

RANGER BICYCLES in 94 styles, colors and sizes. Greatly improved; prices reduced. Other reliable models, $11.95 up.

WE DELIVER FREE to you *on approval* and *30 days trial* and riding test.

Our big FREE catalog shows everything new in bicycles and sundries. A cyclopedia of information which every person should have. Write for it.

TIRES, lamps, wheels, parts and supplies at *half usual prices*. A few good second-hand bicycles taken in trade $3 to $8 to clear.

Do not buy a bicycle, tires or sundries until you write and learn our *wonderful new offers*, low prices and liberal terms. A postal brings everything. *Write now.*

MEAD CYCLE CO. DEPT. C 3 CHICAGO

$5 TO $10 A DAY



AGENTS—BIG HIT

5-Piece Aluminum Set

Cheaper than enamel ware. Guaranteed 20 years. Retail value $5.00. You sell to housewives for only $1.83. Sure sale wherever shown. Answer quick for your territory.

AMERICAN ALUMINUM MFG. CO. Div. C5, Lemont, Illinois

New Ford Joke Book 1917

All the latest jokes on the Ford Auto. Hundreds of them and all good ones. Spring a new one on your neighbors. Large book with colored cover by mail. 10c

NEW ENGLAND PUBLISHING CO. Box 24 So. Norwalk, Conn.



FREE



POWERFUL AIR GUN

Big lever action rifle free for selling 20 Art and Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 825 CHICAGO

22-Inch Linen Centerpiece

Premium No. 7772.



Given For Two Subscriptions

LINEN is scare and high in price on account of the European war but that does not prevent us from making a very liberal offer on this **genuine white Irish linen** centerpiece. We knew some months ago that the linen market would be in very bad shape in the near future so we protected ourselves by purchasing a large supply at a price way below what it is at the present time. This artistic design is to be worked in solid and eyelet embroidery with buttonholed edge and it will look its very finest if embroidered all in white. We will send you this 22-inch white linen centerpiece, stamped with the handsome design shown in the above illustration free upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this 22-inch centerpiece free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7772.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN

Prem. No. 7342



Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Two

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome illustrated herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch **genuine rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the **rolled-gold plate own birthstone** and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond,** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald,** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are soljtaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or for one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7342.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Poultry Farming for Women

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15.)

acute indigestion, which frequently results in death. We don't grow it in this part of the country, so I can't speak from personal experience. As your birds seem to be affected only at a certain time of the year, I advise you to confine them to yards next year, when the danger period arrives.

P. E. C.—It is difficult to say which breed of fowl is really the best, care and feeding have so much to do with it. As you live in a part of the country where the winters are severe, I think you would find the White Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds more profitable than Leghorns or any other lighter breeds. You ask which is the most profitable, raising chickens, or eggs for market. It depends very much on how far you are away from a good local market, and how much time you intend to devote to poultry. Eggs are easier to ship any distance than chickens, and there is usually a steadier local demand for eggs than for chickens.

E. H. H.—The chickens had what is known as air puff (emphysema), which originates through some injury to the lungs. A mother hen stepping on the chickens, or chickens crowding into a corner when a hen first leaves them; young cockerels fighting, and such unavoidable accidents are all apt to be the seat of trouble. The injury to the lungs allows the air to get into the blood and inflate the tissues. Nature will effect a cure as the injury heals, but relief can be given by piercing the puffy surface with a clean needle and gently pressing out the air. The last bird of which you speak must have had very rough treatment, which also hurt her legs. As she is becoming a pet, and you are giving her special attention, she is pretty sure to recover and be none the worse for it.

M. F. W.—It is against our rules to publish addresses in this column. Look through our advertising columns and you will find the information you desire.

H. W.—We don't publish any book on poultry, and it would be quite impossible to tell you all about poultry raising in this column. Read the poultry department each month and you will find general instructions for all the different branches of the work. Ask me any specific questions and I shall be pleased to help you.

L. G.—Should say the trouble in the throat is something local. Possibly the bird has swallowed something. It may be a small tumor, the result of some injury in the past. There is no danger of inflammation in such a case, but as the bird will eventually suffer through inability to eat, it will be kinder to kill her at once.

B. P.—Want of space in the October and November numbers prevented my giving a description of the non-freezing water fountain which I referred to in September. It is quite simple to make. Thoroughly cleanse two wooden butter or lard tubs, which can be got from any grocer store, cut a circular hole about half way up on one side of the tub, just large enough to push a pound baking powder tin through, then saw off three inches all round the top of the second tub. Put three inches of sawdust in the bottom of the first tub, stand the second tub on it, mark where the hole in the first tub comes on the second tub, and cut out to correspond. Then take the bottom out of the baking powder can, and make eight cuts at equal distances around each edge; they should be about half an inch deep. Push the tin through the holes in both tubs, turn the cut edges back on the outside of the first tub and the inside of the second tub. Hammer down flat, and use a few small brads to hold them in place. Now fill in sawdust all round between the two tubs, packing very tight right up to the top edge. The tin can prevents the sawdust escaping through the holes or getting into the inside tub. Next, get a granite or tin pail with a top handle, that will fit comfortably into the inside tub, and deep enough to bring the top of it even with the bottom of the hole. The pail is, of course, to hold the water, and is easily taken out or in for cleaning. Use the top of the outer tub as a cover, to keep out dirt and cold air. Fowls never make any fuss about putting their heads through the small tunnel to drink, and the padding makes it a perfect frost resisting receptacle for water or milk.

A. L. K.—I fear the pullet has tuberculosis, as you say there were white spots on the spleen and liver. The peculiarity of bird tuberculosis is the fact that the droppings of the affected bird may spread the disease, so, as doctoring is seldom successful, the safest course is to kill any suspicious cases. The first noticeable symptoms are loss of weight, wasting of the muscles, paleness of the comb, and later, dullness, sleepiness and diarrhea, and sometimes inflammation or swelling of the joints of the shanks. In some cases, birds will gradually become lame. After getting rid of all suspicious birds, thoroughly cleanse and disinfect house and runs, and all feed and water dishes. This is a bad time of year to stop feeding grain; better go back to your old method of feeding.

S. J. B.—To raise geese successfully you must have breeders that are more than two years old. The geese from young stock seldom hatch well; and even what goslings you do get are usually wanting in vitality, and seldom mature. Geese are grazing creatures, and need the run of pasture, and should have a little grain mash for supper, and dry sleeping quarters. Goats are profitable, and splendid for clearing brush land, as they will devour all sprouts, and soon kill off all growth. They need the same care as sheep, and positively must have clean, dry sleeping quarters.

C. G.—Sometimes chickens from the very best stock will be found with a black feather. The Standard calls for yellow beak, shanks and feet, bright bay eyes; face and wattles, earlobes and comb, all bright red. Plumage, white throughout. Weight: cocks, eight and one half pounds, cockerels, seven and one half, hens, six and one half, pullets, five and one half Yes; sometimes the baby chicks which develop into the best and whitest birds are quite smudgy when first hatched. Your suggestion about breeding the cockerels and pullets from the same hatch is all right; also breeding back to sires next season.

J. C. H.—You will find the Wyandottes the most profitable egg producers as your winters are severe. Please look through the advertising columns. Yes; the method of grading up stock is the same for all kinds of poultry. Some people think one mating is sufficient for the whole season with turkeys, but we always remate after a hen has been broody.

W. R. T.—Mix equal parts of ground oats and corn, chopped Alfalfa or clover hay and half a portion of cotton seed meal; moisten one quart of the mixture with enough scalded milk to make it a crumbly mash; or, if you haven't milk, add one half portion of beef scraps and use boiling water. Scatter oats in the litter at 8:30; about a quart for the ten hens. Feed mash at 11:30, and any vegetables that you may have; cabbage, beets or sprouted oats. At 3:30 feed one quart of whole corn mixed with half a pint of oats and half a pint of cracked corn. Keep oyster shell, sharp grit and clean water before them all the time. The litter on the floor of the poultry-house should be clean and dry, and at least six inches deep, so that they will have to scratch for the grain when it is scattered. The exercise is necessary for health and egg production.

G. M. S.—The birds are suffering from roup, which, as you possibly know, is a contagious disease, and unless very rigid precautions are taken, is apt to spread through an entire flock. Clean, disinfect and whitewash the house and all the inside fixtures. Separate sickly looking birds from the rest of the flock, and put them in a dry, sheltered coop, far removed from the rest of the poultry. Better kill the bad cases and burn the carcases, and doctor only the lighter cases. Spray their throats, eyes and nostrils with a strong solution of permanganate of potassium or dioxogen, morning, noon and night for two weeks. Feed lightly on nourishing food.

B. H.—Another case of roup. Your treatment was good, and being administered at once, has probably checked the outbreak. As your neighbor's chickens are suffering in the same way, you had better keep yours confined to the house and yard for the rest of the winter, and be very careful to keep up a constant fight against infection. Read answer to G. M. S. in this number.



Only $1.00 and after trial!

YES, the New Edison — Mr. Edison's great new phonograph with the Diamond Stylus reproducer and your choice of all the brand new Diamond Amberol Records on **free trial without a penny down.** Now, on this offer, you can have the **finest,** the **best** that money can buy at a price very much less than that at which imitations of the genuine Edison are offered. Seize this opportunity. Send the coupon now.

Rock-Bottom Offer Direct Let us send the New Edison to your home on free trial. Entertain your family and friends with your favorite records — everything from Grand Opera to the latest city song hits, Comic Vaudeville and roaring Minstrel Shows — then if you choose send the outfit back to us at our expense. But if you wish to keep Mr. Edison's superb new instrument, send us only $1.00 after the free trial. Pay the balance on the easiest kind of monthly payments. Don't miss this wonderfully liberal offer.

Catalog FREE

Get our New Edison catalog. Your name and address on a post card or letter (or just this coupon) is enough. No obligations in asking for the catalog. Find out about this offer — **while this offer lasts.**

F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3041 Edison Block Chicago, Illinois
Canadian Office: 355 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

To F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3041 Edison Block .·. Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:—Please send me your New Edison Catalog and full particulars of your free trial offer on the new model Edison Phonograph.

Name.....

Address.....

COMFORT Readers Tell How They Succeeded With Their Incubators

With the prevailing high prices of eggs and dressed poultry the keeping of hens becomes a specially attractive proposition both as a source of income and as a means of economy in supplying the home table, and incidentally the incubator question assumes uncommon interest.

In a recently published interview Champ Clark, Speaker of the House of Representatives, after expressing his doubts as to the efficacy of the proposed legislation designed to reduce food prices, urged that everybody who possibly could should keep hens as an effective means of reducing the cost of living. We believe his advice is sound.

Those who keep hens or contemplate doing so will find profitable information in the experiences of some of our poultry-raising subscribers in the use of incubators as told by them in the following letters. These and other letters which we shall publish later were written in response to COMFORT'S offer of prizes, last June, for best articles on

"How I Succeeded With My Incubator"

Busy Farm Woman Found Incubator an Absolute Necessity

It wasn't because of not having enough to do at home that I went into the poultry business. I am the mother of six big, healthy children, from 12 months to 12 years of age and we live on an 80-acre farm. So I can generally keep busy.

Before I went into poultry raising I often used to wonder if I could make a good living for my large family if I should suddenly be left a widow. To answer the question I went into the poultry business. And now I know the answer is "Yes."

Why, during the month this is written (April, 1916), I sold 187¼ dozen eggs, besides some, (not many) we used, several settings I sold and a setting of 108 eggs for my own incubator.

And now, having told you why I started in the poultry business, I will tell you how. After picking up a little stock I bought an incubator—a standard, advertised make. As I had no place for it I set it in the house where the constant jiggle and jar were awful. The machine was hardly any care, cleaning the lamp and filling, turning the eggs by setting the tray on the incubator and turning them by hand.

The incubator did the rest and regulated itself to the dot. But often during the day I opened the machine gently moving the eggs with the palm of my hand, thus giving them lots of air and "mothering."

It hatched almost as many chicks as a hen does. I had 69 strong, lively chicks from 108 eggs. Many were dead in the shell, but it was hard to save the eggs in the cold weather and they probably were chilled. After this trial I set my incubator in a small cave or "root cellar" where I have successfully run it two hatches with about the same results.

I have found that an incubator is an absolute necessity to the busy farm woman who insists on her own money and who is training children. It makes children systematic to have a definite time to care for the incubator, it teaches cleanliness and patience and it's above all a machine and *all* children love to run machines. An incubator hatches every egg that a hen would. I have a friend with a better place for her machine, who has hatched 90 and 98 chicks from 108 eggs. It is a great labor saver for it regulates itself and if lamp and wick are clean and the lamp filled you will find it just to the dot six or ten hours later.

To compare my machine to a most reliable setting hen seems to me wrong. For setting hens are queer, like women, while an incubator is just what you make it. It is your fault if it smokes, your fault if it leaks, or whatever is the matter.

With a hen it is different. No matter what care you give the hen she may disappoint you the very last day.

I have had so many heart breaks over setting hens that I greatly prefer the incubator over the hens. This spring although I have 100 hens, I have had very few broody hens and without my incubator I would not have what I want.

As far as hatching strong, lively chicks at a time that you want them and also a large number at a time free from lice and mites the incubator is the thing.

MRS. EMMA THURLOW, South Dakota.

Likes Incubator and Tells Why

I have had success with my incubator and prefer it to hens, because:

First: You get earlier chickens. It is an exceptional hen that wants to set before March first.

Second: If you clean the coops thoroughly every day, you will have no trouble with lice on incubator chickens; while, no matter how much care is used with a hen, lice almost always get on them.

Third: The chicks are all small at once and grow up together, thus saving much time and many steps in taking care of them.

Fourth: They are ready for market earlier, by being hatched earlier and bring a better price.

And lastly: An incubator results in a larger per cent of chickens hatched, from the number of eggs set, than if a hen is used. At least this has been my experience.

I bought a 100-egg (hot water heat) incubator. I put it in the cellar even though the weather was extremely cold. It took three days for the machine to heat and the thermometer to reach 100 degrees, the right temperature for putting the eggs into the tray. I kept my heat to 102 degrees to 103 degrees the first week, from 103 degrees to 104 degrees the remaining time and at about 105 degrees while the hatch was coming off. I allowed no other person to go near the machine and attended to every detail myself, for we all know that what is everybody's business is no one's business, so there was never anything forgotten.

Every morning I trimmed and refilled the lamp and turned and aired the eggs. During the real cold weather I aired them about five minutes but as the weather grew warmer I increased the time up until almost half an hour. I sprinkled them twice and just before they started to hatch placed a wet cloth over them for about half an hour. I stopped turning them on the nineteenth day.

My three hatches last year brought me 240 chickens. I saved 215. My first, hatched March 7, sold June 30, weight two and one half pounds each.

Brought 35 cents a pound	$26.60
45 sold July 24 brought 25 cents a pound,	28.12
41 sold Aug. 28 brought 18 cents a pound,	18.45
I had 91 pullets left which I valued at 85 cents each,	77.35
Total,	$150.52

And they cost me:		
Eggs for hatching, $5 per hundred,	$15.00	
Kerosene for incubator and brooder,	3.60	
Oatmeal,	1.00	
Grit,	.75	
Chick feed,	10.00	
Incubator and brooder,	13.00	
	$43.35	$43.35
Profit,		$107.17

This year I had my own eggs, incubator and brooder. My hatches are as good and I live in a locality where the markets are much better so I expect to make much more.

I have found an incubator a paying investment, if you are willing, to work—not as hard as though you set hens—but nevertheless work.

But what do we accomplish in this world without work anyway? So I would advise every farmer to have an incubator.

EVA S. BRADLEY, Illinois.

Her Two Incubators Return a Handsome Profit

Three years ago my husband was working at the public works at insufficient wages so I was compelled to go out and work by the day or canvas, in order to keep up expenses. Then he got a job on a farm. I had only money enough to buy a few hens the first year but I managed to raise chickens enough for a nice start. The second year I sold enough to buy an incubator. I set it about the middle of March and as it was so easy to take care of I found it less trouble than hens. I set it three times last year, also a few hens and raised over 300 chickens. I sold over $100 worth of chickens, kept the family in eggs and chicken to eat. I clothed myself and children with my money I got for my chickens and saved enough to buy another incubator this year.

In running my incubator I experimented and found several valuable points that helped me very much.

In turning the eggs I found it difficult to tell when I had them all turned just half over and I wanted to be sure. So I took to marking "x" on one side of the eggs and I would turn the x up one time and down the next, so I was then sure they were all turned just right. Now I number them and I turn the numbers up one time and down the next. It makes it interesting to see what numbers are lucky enough to be fertile and what numbers are not.

I prefer home-made brooders for my incubator chicks for I make them so I can clean them thoroughly and often. I sew strips of wool goods, such as pieces of blankets cut in fringe, to a piece of cloth that will just cover my box. This when finished hangs down and serves the purpose of an old hen for the chicks to run under at night. This can be taken off the box and washed and replaced. In the box I cut a door, hinge it and fix a lid for my box and the brooder is complete. These boxes I carry in to a warm room during cold weather; and I do not fear overheating.

I think a 140-egg size incubator the best. I now have two 140-egg incubators.

I think all incubators have their good points and their bad points. But I think success can be attained with most any incubator if we are interested enough in them to do our very best; willing to work hard and study all the poultry departments of the different papers, and try to profit by the helpful hints that others have learned in their experience.

MRS. F. G. WHITE, Ill.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20.)

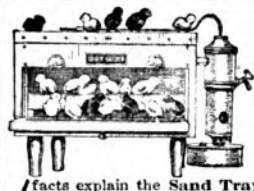
ber of inmates are one thousand and seventeen. It cost the state over three million dollars. It is located at South Stillwater, on a beautiful plateau overlooking the St. Croix river. Huge quantities of binding twine and farm machinery are manufactured by the prisoners. Your nephew, ALVIN HEDSTROM.

Alvin, I wish I could come out and spend a month with you. I would be just tickled to bits to help you gather in your hay and strawberries, and if you provide me with a stepladder I'll just be in my glory picking potatoes off the trees and digging tomatoes out of the deep, rich, loamy Minnesota soil. I'm ever so glad you have had sense enough to organize and through your organization now get a decent price for your produce. In union there is strength. United we stand, divided we fall. That magic word organization Alvin, which has been your salvation has brought about improved living conditions for tens of thousands of people the world over, and not a soul has been harmed. If all men and women, Alvin were like you, passionately fond of books, we should have a reading nation and that would mean a thinking nation, but, alas, the American people are not reading as much as they did a decade ago. The whole country today is pleasure mad. Pleasure is all right in its place but it does not get us anywhere. The money that once went into books and into artistic and beautiful things, pictures, statuary, ceramics and decorations, etc., now goes into the buzz wagon. People who spend every evening of their lives in their cars, and a goodly portion of the day, can't do much reading and have little time for serious thought. A few scan the headlines of the papers or occasionally doze over a magazine story, for all the world's on wheels and the motor car is king. If however the evening isn't favorable for a car ride then the whole family is off to the movies. One in every twenty-five of the inhabitants of this country has an automobile, and twenty-five in every one if you can figure that out have seats at the movies, and only one in five hundred is doing any studying, reading or thinking. Now I'm not knocking the automobile. It is the greatest wonder and benefactor of the age. It would take years to tell all that this annihilator of space has done and is going to do for humanity. But there is a time for everything and everything in its place, and too much mad, aimless rushing hither and thither is not good for anyone. When the silent dope drama of the movies displaces the spoken drama, the drama of Skakespeare, Ibsen, Hauptman, Shaw, and the delightful operas of Gilbert and Sullivan, Offenbach, Audran, and the buzz wagon turns us away from the world's greatest literature, turns us to mere aimless joy riding and junketing, then we have indeed lit upon evil days. Pleasure and the mere pursuit of enjoyment result in mental stagnation. It is useless to keep the body moving, if you don't keep the mind moving too. Pleasure madness scoffs at conventionalities, breaks down sex barriers and scorns our old-fashioned ideals of morality, delicacy and modesty. All work and no play make Jack a dull boy, and all play and no reading and studying, no rest, no spiritual life make Jack not only dull, but vicious, immoral and dangerous. It is mighty hard to live a well-balanced life. Few have the opportunity to live such lives, even if they had the desire, and all who have the ability and opportunity should try and live their lives rationally and sensibly. If you need health of the body you must have a well-balanced diet. You must have food that produces so much heat, fat and muscle, so many red blood corpuscles, so that the brain and nerves the blood and tissue, can all be stimulated and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 28.)



LIGHT YOUR HOME LIKE DAY—COST 1c
for 6 hours. Pure white 100 candle power light from common Kerosene.
The Beacon Lamp Makes and Burns Its Own Gas
Better, brighter, safer, cheaper, than Gas, Gasoline or Electricity. Every home interested. 600,000 satisfied users. Agents wanted. Write quick for selling plan, exclusive free territory and trial offer.
HOME SUPPLY CO., 17 Home Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.



Make More Money
Poultry and Incubator Book **Free**—Postpaid.
The Golden Hatcher
facts explain the **Sand Tray Moisture System** — Nature's way. Hatches healthy chicks, one-third larger—they live. State Agricultural College Recommendation Letters, with 32 years' study. Samples of materials Free. Shows a sure income and pleasant work. **Write today.**
BANNER INCUBATOR CO., 622 Blake St., BARABOO, WIS.

MONEY IN POULTRY AND SQUABS Start small. Grow BIG. Get winter eggs. Keep healthy fowls. Save your chicks. OUR BIG BOOK TELLS How. Shows fowls in natural colors. Thousands of prize winners, best layers, lowest prices. FREE.
Crescent Poultry Farms Box 2, Des Moines, Iowa



SMYTH'S 60 INCUBATOR
ALL STEEL
ON 30 $ DAYS' FREE TRIAL 3.92
HOLDS FULL 60 EGGS



To quickly popularize SMYTH'S All Steel 60 Egg Incubator, we will sell 6,000 at only $3.92 each. Guaranteed to hatch as large a per cent of strong, healthy chicks as any incubator made, regardless of name, make or price. Made of polished steel; with double walled air chamber, 1917 improved disc regulator, standard thermometer visible through glass damper, best safety metal lamp, **best distributing drum around outer edges,** water jacketed heat flue and automatic heat regulation insuring even temperature and moisture in every part of egg chamber, and **proper heat to eggs all the time.** Full directions with each incubator. **SEND $1.00** deposit and we will send you this high grade, latest improved SMYTH'S all steel 60 egg incubator by express, subject to examination. Pay balance $2.92 and express charges to agent after you find the incubator perfectly satisfactory and the greatest incubator bargain in the world, then take it home and **TRY IT 30 DAYS** at our risk and if you do not find it as good a hatcher as you ever saw or heard of, regardless of price or make, or if for any reason you are dissatisfied, return at our expense and we will refund your $1.00 and freight paid. **PARCEL POST $3.92** and charges. If you want incubator sent by and enough money extra to pay the parcel post postage and we'll send on same liberal trial offer as above. Shipping weight 19 lbs. We make very low prices on larger incubators, brooders, and poultry supplies of all kinds in our big free incubator Catalog sent you free upon request. Order incubator or catalog today.
JOHN M. SMYTH MDSE CO. 703-717 West Lake Blvd. **CHICAGO**

German Silver Mesh Purse

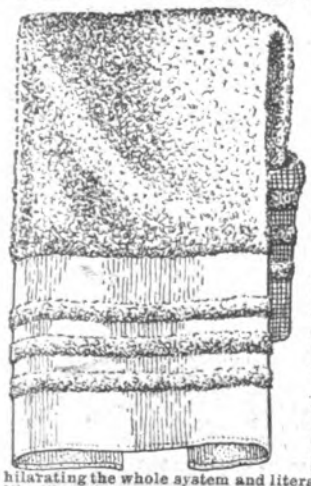


THIS is the new "Gate Top" mesh purse with a ten-inch wrist chain, made throughout of **German Silver**, handsome, stylish, and **perfectly safe for the carrying of money and other valuables.** A slight pull with the forefinger of each hand instantly opens the purse, a gentle pressure with thumb and finger closes it. Our illustration shows the purse closed. When open the top is as large as the bottom, or in other words, two inches in diameter. When closed it leaves an opening only three-fourths of an inch wide over which the brightly polished German silver cover snaps down tightly so that the contents of the purse cannot possibly become lost. This dainty **purse is now extremely fashionable so we have** purchased a quantity for the benefit of those of our lady and girl readers who like to be up-to-date in these little accessories. You can have one of them free by taking advantage of the following

CLUB OFFER. **For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this handsome and stylish German silver mesh purse free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 7362.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Pair Of Turkish Towels



Premium No. 7302

For Two Subscriptions

AFTER bathing there is nothing quite as fine as a good **rub down** with a **Turkish towel,** in fact it is the **best** towel for all purposes, whether for the bath, or guestroom or for everyday family use in the lavatory, kitchen or pantry. They absorb the water much more readily than other towels and the **thick, heavy fleece-like surface** imparts to the body a delightful feeling of warmth and well-being, exhilarating the whole system and literally making one feel like "jumping over a high board fence." These towels are also great for **baby's toilet** as they will not hurt the tender skin. The towels we offer here are **genuine Turkish** towels—not the imitation kind—and are **17 inches wide and 36 inches long** which is a good convenient size for all-round family use. They are of good weight, well made and finished and are **in every respect** equal to towels that you would willingly pay **$1.00 a pair** for in any store. We will make you a present of **one pair** of these fine Turkish towels upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. **For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you one pair (2) of these towels free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 7302.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Pocket Flashlight

Premium No. 7083



Given For A Club Of Three

THERE are so many occasions when a flashlight is a necessity it would be impossible to name them all but there is one thing sure—**it is the handiest and safest means of illuminating ever devised.** We offer here one of the best pocket flashlights made. It is known as the "Eveready," which is certainly an appropriate name as it **is** always ready when you want to use it. But the greatest feature of this flashlight is its **safety** around inflammable material. In the house it lights up the darkest rooms or clothes **closets,** dark corners in the basement, in the garret; it may be used around **gasoline, or powder,** in the stable, in the barn, even in the hay mow, and **there is not the slightest danger of fire.** It throws a shaft of steady brilliance right in the teeth of wind or rain. The mere pressure of your finger starts and stops the light at your will and it is so small and compact that you can carry it around **in your vest pocket** where it does not take up any more room than a cigarette box. The "Eveready" is beautifully finished in **polished nickel** with a hinged bottom which opens to replace the battery and is equipped with a push button as well as a sliding switch for a flash or continuous light. It is equipped with a Tungsten battery and bulb and gives a surprisingly powerful bright light and the battery with average use will last **from two to four months.** When one battery becomes exhausted you can easily buy another one anywhere as they are on sale in every city and town in the United States. Or, if you prefer, we will furnish you with additional batteries **free of cost** in return for a few subscriptions to COMFORT. We will send you this flashlight **with battery and bulb complete,** ready for business as soon as you receive it, upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. **For a club of only three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one "Eveready" flashlight as described above free by Parcel Post prepaid. (Premium No. 7083.) We can also supply you with extra batteries for the "Eveready" at the rate of one battery free for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each. (Premium No. 7092.)**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort's Home Lawyer



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

Mrs. F. K., West Virginia.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that it would first be necessary to proceed against the administratrix of your father's estate and exhaust the remedy against her before proceeding against her bondsmen in case she has not turned over the shares in the estate to the persons entitled; we are unable to form an opinion from the information you supply us as to whether your sister has released her claim against the estate or as to whether her claim has been barred by the statute of limitations.

Mrs. W. T. H., Virginia.—Under the laws of Oklahoma we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man leaving no will and leaving no child or descendant, and leaving as his only heirs at law and next of kin a widow and two sisters his estate would go one half to the surviving widow, and the other half in equal shares to the sisters; we think he could legally, by will, give the whole estate to his surviving widow absolutely and in such a manner that she could exercise all rights of absolute ownership over the property; we think that upon his death the will should be filed in the county where he resided at the time of his death, and would become a public record.

W. K., Kansas.—We think the best way to operate business under a company name is to form a corporation and transact business as a corporation.

G. H. A., Pennsylvania.—We think it would be difficult for you to collect damages from your neighbor for killing your dog while trespassing upon his property, provided you were in the habit of allowing the dog to do so; if however, you can substantiate that you were in the habit of keeping your dog confined to your own premises, and that your neighbor lured him upon his property and killed him, I think you would be entitled to damages; we do not think your neighbor would in any event be entitled to the dog's skin. We think his only possible claim against you would be one for such damages as he suffered by reason of the dog's trespassing upon his property, or for some act committed by the dog.

Mrs. H. S., Minnesota.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will and leaving a surviving widow and children, his widow would receive a life estate in the homestead property and a one third interest absolutely of all the other property in the estate, the remainder going in equal shares to his children, regardless of whether they were children of the surviving widow or by a former wife. We do not think the widow's child by a former marriage would have any intestacy rights in the stepfather's estate.

Mrs. A. H. S., Iowa.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man or woman, leaving no will and leaving no child or descendant the whole of the estate to the amount of seven thousand five hundred dollars after the payment of debts and administration expenses and one half of all the estate in excess of said amount shall go to the surviving spouse and the other one half of said excess shall go to the parents. We think that if you desire to leave a will you should employ some local lawyer or other competent person to draw and attend to the signing of same. We do not think there is any fixed charge for such a service.

Miss B. G., Missouri.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a married woman can hold real or personal property separate and apart from her husband and free from his debts, except that her real estate is liable for the necessaries of the family and for improvements thereon and that she can make same liable for her husband's debts by acts of her own. We think that both husband and wife must sign deed to convey good title of the real estate belonging to the wife.

C. B. H., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that a father can be compelled t support his minor children of tender years, who are unable to support themselves, and that a man can be compelled to support his wife unless she deserts or abandons him without just cause, or unless she has separate property adequate to provide for her own support.

Mrs. J. F., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a married woman cannot by will bar her husband from a life estate in her real estate, as tenant by the curtesy, in case he survives her.

Mrs. W. P., Hampshire, Ill.—Upon your statements, I am of the opinion, that after a lapse of fourteen years, it would probably be difficult for you to establish any rights in your father's estate, but a search of the records as to just what was done in the matter would be necessary to ascertain just exactly what rights you may have in the matter.

Mrs. J. G., Kimmswick, Mo.—Upon your statements, I am of the opinion that there has been a recent law passed increasing the pension of the widows of Civil War Veterans on the Union side, in some cases. I think you should communicate with the Pension Department for full information as to this. You do not supply me with enough information for me to form an opinion as to whether this increase would apply to your case.

Miss G., Springfield, Ohio. Upon your statements, I am of the opinion, that the parents are the natural guardians of their infant children. If the mother of the child you mention is dead, I think the father would be entitled to the child's custody and control. I think that upon the death of the father, the guardianship of the child would go to such person or persons as the parent might name in a last will and testament, provided such person is a fit person to have such guardianship. In the absence of such disposition, I think the appointment would be discretionary with the court who would select some person (relatives of the child having the preference), as would be for the child's best interest.

C. L. B., Waynesboro, Tenn.—I have no personal knowledge of any company or association in the United States that makes a specialty of locating "Unknown heirs," which I would care to recommend.

Mrs. L., Lynchburg, Va.—Upon your statements, I am of the opinion, that it is possible to have a deed of real estate drawn to the husband and wife as tenants by the entirety, so that upon the death of one, the whole property becomes the sole property of the survivor, without any administration of the decedent's estate. I think it is also possible to have bank accounts made and mortgages drawn in joint names, so that upon the death of one of the persons named therein, the whole property would become the sole property of the survivor. As to whether this has been done in your case, I am unable to form an opinion without an examination of the papers in connection therewith.

W. U. C., Ill.—Upon your statements, I am of the opinion that if the company who put the roof on your house did not comply with the terms of contract for roofing said house it would not be entitled to payment for such services until it had made the job conform to its contract, unless, of course, you have accepted the job and waived the defects in workmanship. Of course if your contract is defective and it has complied with the terms thereof, it would be entitled to its pay from you. I think that, if the paper you enclose is a copy of your contract, it would be bound to roof the house with the brand of roof specified as "Red D," so that the same would not leak through faulty material or workmanship before it would be entitled to its pay.



45c **5-Piece Library Suite** Send us only 45c. and we will ship you this handsome 5-piece fumed, solid oak library set. Then pay only $1.25 a month. If you do not like it, return it in 30 days, and we will refund your money together with any freight charges you paid.

A Room Full of Furniture

This superb five piece library suite is made of selected solid oak throughout, finished in rich, dull wax, brown fumed oak. Large arm rocker, and arm chair are 36 inches high. Seats are 19x18 1-2 inches, backs are 18 inches wide, arms are 6 inches wide, broad and comfortable. Library table has a 24x24 inch thick top, well finished, also roomy magazine shelf below, and prettily designed ends. Jardiniere stand measures 18 inches high, with 12x12 inch top. Foot stool is 12 inches long, 9 inches wide, 8 1-2 inches high. Arm chair, arm rocker, and foot stool are luxuriously and thickly padded. Upholstered in our best quality brown imitation Spanish leather. This is the best imitation of Genuine Spanish leather known. Soft, rich in color, and will give unusually good wear. Entire set knocked down shipped from Indiana factory weight about 135 pounds. **Order by No. S-2722A, only 45c. with order, $1.25 Monthly. Price entire five piece suite, $14.65.**

Easy Payments If you want anything in rockers, furniture, jewelry, carpets, rugs, curtains, washing machines, crockery, silverware, baby carriages, go-carts, Men's, Women's & Children's wearing apparel, stoves, ranges, or any article of home furnishing, don't fail to get our sensational easy terms. Only a small deposit—then pay the balance at the rate of a small amount per month.

Send Coupon along with 45c, to us now. Have this fine library set shipped on 30 days trial.

Free Bargain Catalogs Even if you do not order this set, write today for our big new catalog and list of special bargains. See the astounding values we are offering. Send now.

Straus & Schram, Inc. Dept. 3041 W. 35th St. **Chicago**

Straus & Schram, Inc.
Dept. 3041, 35th St. Chicago

Enclose find 45c. Ship the big special advertised 5-piece Library Set bargain B2722A. Sale price $14.65. I am to have 30 days free trial. If I keep the set, I will pay you $1.25 per month until the balance has been paid. If not satisfied, I will return set and you are to refund my 45c together with any freight charges I paid. Also send me your big catalog and bargain bulletin.

Name.....

Address.....

If you only want catalog, mark X in box [ ]

Mrs. C. C., Colo.—You do not furnish me with enough information for me to form an opinion as to the nature of the transaction you describe. If you sent some real estate broker a deed to your property for him to sell same and he has been unable to effect the sale, I think you are entitled to the return of your deed. If this deed has been recorded in his name and he has not paid you for the property, I think you should have him re-deed the property to you making sure that the property had in no way been encumbered during the time he held title to same. I think you could find out as to this through a search of the records where the deed was recorded, if same has been recorded. To deed property to a broker or other agent who is trying to make a sale is bad practise and risky.

SEND ONE DOLLAR for 100 ever-bearing Strawberry plants Guaranteed to fruit four months this year. **Big Catalog FREE. E. W. TOWNSEND, Jr., SALISBURY, MD.**

INVENT **SOMETHING. It May Bring Wealth.** Our Free Book tells What to invent and How to Obtain a Patent through OUR CREDIT SYSTEM. **WATERS & CO.** Succeeded by **TALBERT & PARKER, 4206 Warder Building, Washington, D. C.**

Driver Agents Wanted

Ride in a Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales, my agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back.



Five-Pass., 30 H. P. 32x3½ tires. Electric Starting. 114-in. Wheelbase.

Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. H. Bush, Pres. Dept. 404.

BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois

FREE **TALKING MACHINE AND RECORDS**



Reproduces both vocal & instrumental music Clear-toned. Plays *Columbia* or *Victor* Records. Machine & records *Free* for selling 20 pkgs. colored Post Cards at 10c.

When sold return $2.00 and machine and records are yours.

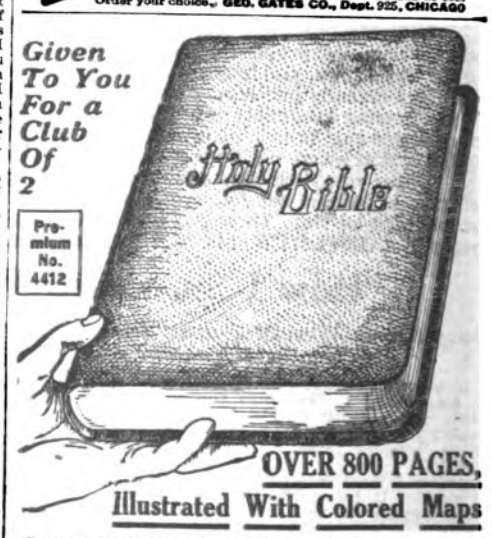
KEYSTONE POST CARD CO., Box 164 Greenville, Pa.

FRIENDSHIP LINKS 8¢ EACH INITIALS FREE 2 FOR 15¢ ENGRAVED



STERLING SILVER ROLLED GOLD
MONOGRAM JEWELRY CO 119 NASSAU ST DEPT 74, NEW YORK

FREE **BIG LEVER ACTION AIR RIFLE** free for selling 20 Art and Religious Pictures or 20 packages Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. **GEO. GATES CO., Dept. 925, CHICAGO**



Given To You For a Club Of 2

Premium No. 4412

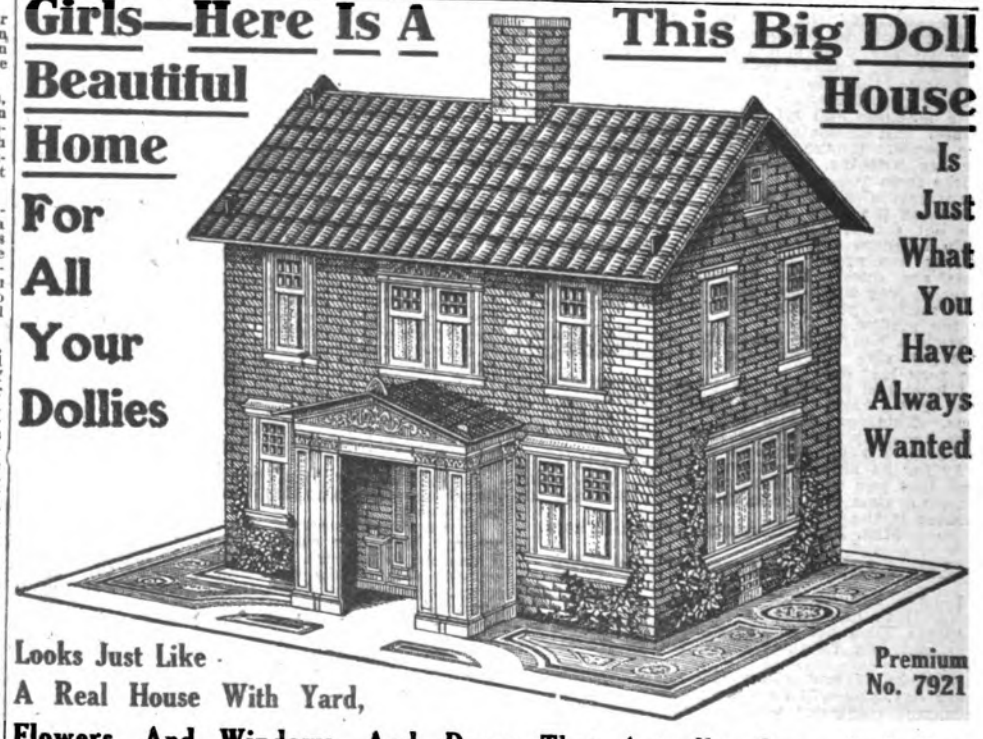
OVER 800 PAGES, Illustrated With Colored Maps

ALTHOUGH this elegant little Bible is small enough so that it can be carried conveniently in the hand or in the pocket or hand-bag, yet it is **complete and unabridged** containing full books of both the **Old and New Testaments** in the King James Version, and in addition there are several **colored maps** illustrating different interesting portions of **Palestine** and surrounding country. It is 5½ inches long, 3¾ inches wide and one inch thick, beautifully bound in flexible pebbled black leatherette and contains over **eight hundred pages,** with round corners and finished with red edges. The name "Holy Bible" is stamped **in gold** on the front cover. This is an unequalled opportunity for Sunday School workers, teachers, in fact **all Bible students** at home or in church to secure a small yet **complete** Bible without cost and we feel that among COMFORT'S readers there must be thousands who have been waiting for us to make just such an offer as this. Remember that you are not going to receive a small, cheap paper bound or cloth bound book, but a splendidly made Bible, finely printed, handsomely and durably bound, and, absolutely refined and perfect in every detail. We will send to any address this fine Bible exactly as illustrated and described upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. **For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this Bible free by mail postpaid. Premium 4412. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Girls—Here Is A Beautiful Home For All Your Dollies

This Big Doll House Is Just What You Have Always Wanted



Looks Just Like A Real House With Yard,

Premium No. 7921

Flowers And Windows And Doors That Actually Open And Shut

COMFORT loves little children and never loses an opportunity to please them, so when we had this large magnificent doll house offered us at a **special reduced price** you may be sure that we took up all that we could buy of them. You never saw a finer doll house than this one. It is not one of the small toy-like affairs that are not large enough to be of any account when you want to really and truly "play house." You will be surprised and delighted to see how much like a **real** house it looks and with the **large size** of it—over one foot high, a foot long, nearly ten inches wide, and of course the **dooryard** that extends clear around the house makes it still larger, and it looks like a real yard, too, with beautiful **flower beds laid out, walks** and handsome green **climbing vines** that come way up over the windows. It is built of very heavy folding cardboard in true **colonial** style just like the houses that rich people live in, with a **large porch,** plenty of windows that **open outward,** and doors that actually **open and shut.** The sides of the house and the chimney are painted a handsome **bright red,** the roof is light green while all the windows and doors are finished in white.

No little girlie ever had a larger or prettier doll house than this one and **all your dollies will certainly feel very proud of such a beautiful home to live in.** We are certainly pleased that we are able to make so many little ones happy with a present of one of these fine houses, and we are sure that every mother who sends for one will be as well pleased as the children. We will **give** you this doll house which comes all folded and ready to easily set up **all ready for housekeeping,** upon the terms of either of the following special offers.

Offer No. 7921A For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c, we will send you this large beautiful doll house free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7921B For your own subscription, or renewal, or extension of your present subscription, for one year at 25c and 10c additional, (35c in all) we will send you this doll house free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7921.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. T., Oak Mills, Kans.—There are in the neighborhood of three hundred periodicals of various kinds in the United States owned and published by colored people, a large part of them being religious. They are to be found in thirty-five states and the District of Columbia, with Mississippi leading with thirty-one and Alabama second with twenty-three,—our list, however, is not recent. Of the Western states Oklahoma leads with thirteen and of the Eastern states, Pennsylvania with eleven. The total negro population in the United States in 1910 was 9,827,763. Washington with a population of 331,069 contains the largest number of negroes, 94,446, while Lowell, Mass., with a population of 106,294 contains the smallest number only 133. Mississippi leading with 31 publications also leads in negro population with 1,009,487, or, say, about 33,333 people to each publication.

Mrs. J. R., Tibbee Station, Miss.—Mr. Henry Ford, the well-known pacifist, was born at Greenfield, Mich. July 30, 1863, and learned the machinist's trade. He has made more money at it than any man ever did before and in less time.

W. L., Whiteville, Tenn.—Few substances are magnetic in the sense of being attracted by a magnet, but magnetic attraction acts through any and all substances. A magnet on one side of a sheet of glass will attract iron on the other side as though the glass was not between. (2) The only licenses required to sell articles advertised in COMFORT are of a local character if they exist at all, which usually they do not. Ask your town officer if Whiteville requires a license.

Anxious, Sunnyfield, Ill.—Unless you have a reputation as a public speaker or lecturer, there is no chance for you to get such a position as you seek because there are hundreds of speakers and lecturers of experience who want something to do in their line. This is an age of efficiency and only efficients have the call.

J. Y., Ireland, Texas.—The popular interpretation of Mizpah is "The Lord watch between me and thee while we two are parted." Look it up in your Bible. Didn't you know it was a Bible word?

Bookworm, Wilton, Wis.—There have been thousands of pictures painted with Christ as the subject and some of them may bear the title "The Coming of Christ," but we do not now recall one that is "considered a magnificent creation." Some of the Christ pictures of the old masters were and are magnificent creations, but not under the title you give.

L. E. S., Silverton, Oregon.—The beginner who is so wholly lacking in literary information as you are is wasting time, paper, postage and all the rest of it trying to write salable stories. You might as well try to raise pumpkins on pine trees. The highest order of intelligence is required in such work with the added faculty that must be born in the writer. COMFORT readers with literary aspirations please take notice.

H. S., Farmer, S. Dak.—Encyclopedias range in price from a few dollars to two hundred dollars and up, and a cheap one is often all that the average man wants. We recommend buying as good as you can afford, but an expensive and extensive encyclopedia is too much of a good thing for persons of little reading time and small means. Latest editions of encyclopedias are always expensive, but to the ordinary reader earlier editions answer every purpose and they can be bought at second-hand stores at ridiculously low prices. There should be in every family of fair intelligence a cyclopedia of some sort and it should be in daily use by all members of the family. These books contain the world's information and nobody need be wholly ignorant who will read a little in them every day.

J. D. R., Lowry, S. Dak.—We have never heard of anything that would remove skunk odor from clothing or other articles except fire or burial in the earth. It will wear off of the hands or skin in time, and time is the only thing we know of that will kill it. If any COMFORT reader knows of a real deodorizer we wish he would write and tell us what it is.

S. L. D., DeKalb, Ill.—It is quite commendable to adopt a child and we think more people should do it than do, but do not go to the city for them, or any farther away from your own home than possible. Much depends upon what the child is in its breeding and you can learn more of the child's forbears if you get one somewhere near you. You run great risk in any event, but it is less if you will make an intelligent start. Many of the city children will be guaranteed by the organizations sending them out which lessens the risk materially, but more will not because they have no knowledge on which to base a guarantee.

Mary Jones, Wooster, Ohio.—Before trying to dispose of your old book take it to your city librarian and get an opinion on its value. There are millions of old books for sale and only the fewest of them are worth more than old paper. (2) Cats to have any large value, or any fancy value at all, must have a pedigree. Mere beauty might sell a cat for ten dollars while if a pedigree went with the beauty it might bring a hundred times as much. Persian cats at fifty thousand dollars per cat are few enough to be counted on the fingers of an armless person. (2) President Wilson's appointees are naturally favorable to his brand of politics, but he does not consider his religion at all in making them. Incidentally we may say to you that if you asked as many questions of Wooster people as you do of us, you would learn ten times as much because Wooster ranks high as a city of intelligence. Evidently you have not lived there long enough to avail yourself of its well-known advantages.

W. A. R., Richmond College, Va.—Authors do not use shorthand a great deal in their work, but very many of them wish they knew it well enough to do so. We would not advise you to study stenography as thoroughly as though you intended to follow it as a profession, but you will never regret acquiring it sufficiently to use it when needed and it will very often come in most handy when least expected. Besides it is fine mental training, not to mention its virtues as a language study.

Mrs. C. H., Clearfield, Pa.—We think you are right in wanting to raise your children on a farm and though you may be poor, if you will teach your children how to farm properly they will be independent, which is better than being rich. But if you let them plug along in the old-fashioned farming methods they will be poorer than you are. Read farm papers, get new ideas and when you have got them don't be afraid to work them to a finish; study not only how best to raise stuff to sell, but what stuff will sell best and learn how to market it at a profit. Send one, at least, of your children to an agricultural school where new things are taught and let him teach all the rest of the family. We know one farmer who makes money on twenty-five acres and two brothers who are positively getting rich on one hundred and fifty acres, but they are not old-fashioned farmers sticking to the plow from sun-up to sun-down. They have learned modern methods and are following them to success. Ask any of your local bankers about the Rural Credit system and get information direct. Keep in touch with the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. and don't hesitate a minute to write for any information you want. That's what the department is for and they are glad to help all they can.

Mex., Brighton, Ill.—Mexican bonds, 5s, 1899, are quoted from 45 to 50 cents on the dollar and 4s, 1954 are quoted from 35 to 40 cents. How long it will take for them to rise, if they ever rise in value no man can tell. They may become worthless. We would not advise you to buy any of them. Any Chicago broker can give you all the information you need. Ask your nearest bank for addresses.

H. A., Aden, Cal.—Just what the demand is at present for foreign missionaries we cannot inform you as COMFORT is not quite in that line, but if you will write to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., making inquiries covering all the information you seek you will be reliably informed on all points. This Board, now 116 years old, is the oldest foreign missionary society in the United States and it has sent out over 3,000 missionaries to all parts of the world. It has organized 673 churches numbering since the beginning, 229,373 members. Its receipts in all have been $45,488,439, $1,102,243 of which came in during 1915.

Ruby, Vinton, Iowa.—Whenever you want government assistance, such as in mail routes and other lines, your ever present help in every time of trouble is your Representative in Congress. He is called a Representative because he is there to represent his constituents and if he does not do that properly, his constituents have the power to remove him and substitute a more efficient representative. Don't write to Department officials, but bring all your force to bear on your Congressman and you will get results, if they are getable, as they sometimes are not. Of course, you don't need COMFORT to tell you who your Representative is.

Miss B., Vinton, N. Y.—If you think you have discovered some new property in any plant, communicate your discovery to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. and ask for information. If it should not be in the Department's line, your letter will be referred to the proper authorities, if you make the request.

S. J., Breese, Ill.—Goodness gracious, where have you been all this time? Of course, George Washington was married. Didn't you ever hear of George and Martha? His mother's name was Mary. Couldn't somebody in Breese have answered your question? (2) Lincoln was a Captain in a small war with the Blackfeet Indians. His real war record, however, began in 1861. You know what war that was, don't you?

J. S., Murrycross, Ala.—The next census will be taken in 1920.

Spring Trapping

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE coming of spring means the end of the trapper's work. All winter he has followed the trap line, sometimes pleased and again suffering disappointment, yet, after all, the occupation has been a healthful one, and profitable as well, if the trapper has been industrious and willing to work.

As winter breaks up in the northern latitudes, animals start to "shed," that is, lose their heavy, fine fur, and as the weather becomes warmer, soon nothing but coarse hair remains.

The muskrat, a water animal, is at its best during the spring months. Trappers turn their attention to trapping this rodent, and some years find that it pays.

The muskrat is found in all parts of the United States, Alaska and Canada. Its home is around the lakes, ponds, marshes, creeks and rivers or any swamp. They live in dens in the banks of the stream, with the entrance under water or close to the edge. In the ponds and marshes they build houses out in the water, where it is shallow and ofttimes quite a number occupy the same house.

The musk of the female muskrat makes a very good scent to catch the male. Vegetable foods are best bait for muskrat. Corn, beets, parsnips, apples and the like prove luring.

It is in the spring when meat bait fails. The trapper should be sure to purchase a prepared scent. If you try one firm's without success, keep trying until you run onto the right bait. As soon as you have found a scent that will decoy the muskrat to your trap, the battle is won.

A good way to fix a trap in a water-set so as to drown the muskrat is to take a piece of No. 9 wire, five or six feet long. Wire a small stone to one end, slip the ring of the trap over the other end so it will slide down to the rock, which should be placed in deep water, the other end being fastened to the bank by a stake. When the muskrat is caught, he will make a plunge for deep water, sliding the ring to the rock. Have a small loop in the wire close to the rock so the ring will go into it. This prevents him from pulling back to the bank.

In the South and Southwest, furs become very poor early in the spring. March furs show signs of shedding, and are as poor as April caught fur in the North.

The mink is the first animal to show effects of spring. In February, the mink loses the dark, long, silky fur, and becomes faded and coarse.

Fur-bearing animals start to run in the early spring. Skunks show up very poorly as soon as warm weather starts and snow is gone.

As soon as the trapper sees he is getting poor fur, that is the time to stop. Do not continue to slay the animals because it is only killing off the fur bearer that another winter may get in your own trap and make good money for you.

Many a trapper, who has kept on when he knew it was too late, felt very badly when he found a female in his trap, be it mink, otter or any other animal, and found she was carrying her young and he had not only slain the mother but had also taken the lives of the little ones.

The raccoon in the North retains its heavy coat of fur until far into the spring, and in those states, where the law permits, can be hunted and trapped with profit until very warm, spring weather.

In the far North, fur remains good until far into the spring.

Furs should all be shipped before warm weather comes. Some trappers hold back their furs until May and June. All fur exporters buy raw furs at any time of year, but prefer to get them before the weather gets warm as moths and flies get into them very quickly.

The trapper in the far South is up against the hardest part of the business. He has only a short month or two for trapping. Furs do not get prime in Florida, southern Alabama and southern Mississippi until the middle of December and by February, they are very poor again, due to the warm weather.

Do not forget that in spring trapping, meat bait is virtually worthless without a good scent.

In trapping, should you get hold of an animal, still alive, not injured by the trap, you may be able to dispose of the animal alive at a high price.

A great many people are starting farms for the raising of foxes, skunks and other animals. Indeed, in Canada, breeders of the black and silver gray foxes are receiving thousands of dollars for such live animals.

RECIPE FOR GRAY HAIR.

To half pint of water add 1 oz. Bay Rum, a small box of Barbo Compound, and ¼ oz. of glycerine. Apply to the hair twice a week until it becomes the desired shade. Any druggist can put this up or you can mix it at home at very little cost. Full directions for making and use come in each box of Barbo Compound. It will gradually darken streaked, faded gray hair, and removes dandruff. It is excellent for falling hair and will make harsh hair soft and glossy. It will not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy, and does not rub off.—Adv.



MAGNIFICENT DINNER SET FREE.

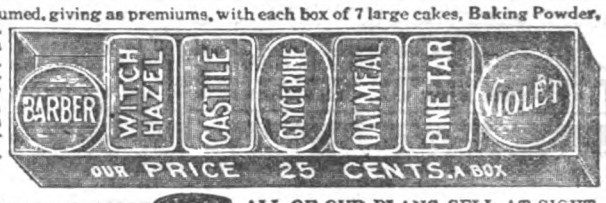
The Most Gigantic Offer Of The Century.

You Need No Money. We Trust You. We Pay Freight.

To gain a wider distribution for our strictly pure, high-grade groceries and family supplies, we now offer ABSOLUTELY FREE, a magnificently embossed, artistically floral decorated, full size

52-PC. DINNER SET for sale of 12 BOXES OF SOAP

of extra quality and finely perfumed, giving as premiums, with each box of 7 large cakes, Baking Powder, Perfume, Talcum Powder, Teaspoons, Shears and Needles (as per Plan 2351) here illustrated. QUALITY as well as QUANTITY are in this offer, as we buy in such large lots that we can afford to give more good goods for less money than any other concern in the entire country.





ALL OF OUR PLANS SELL AT SIGHT. One pleased customer brings another and with our other Baking Powder, Tea, Coffee, Spice, Extract, Perfume and Soap Offers, you will get duplicate orders and earn some of our many useful premiums such as Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Linen Sets, Silverware, Clocks, Lamps, Furniture, Graniteware, Rugs, Dry Goods, Wearing Apparel, in fact, anything you need. We also pay large cash commissions.

WE PAY THE FREIGHT

on Soap, Dinner Set and Premiums, allowing you plenty of time to examine, deliver and collect before paying us one cent. Write at once for **FREE SAMPLE OUTFIT** and other things. If, after receiving them, you decide not to get up an order, you may keep everything we send you FREE of charge for the trouble in answering this advertisement. No license needed. We protect you. Our methods are honest. Satisfaction guaranteed. Reference: First National Bank, Provident Bank, Postmaster.



SPECIAL FREE PRESENT.

We give a 26-Pc. Silverine Knife, Fork and Spoon Set, or 7-Pc. High-Grade Granite Kitchen Set, or Elegant 10-Pc. Decorated Toilet Set FREE of all cost or work of any kind. Simply send us your name and address and ask for this FREE PRESENT.

We also give Beautiful Presents for appointing one or more Agents to work for us. You advance no money. You have nothing to risk. Remember, the SPECIAL PREMIUM AND SAMPLE OUTFIT are both absolutely free. A 2-cent stamp or post card is your only expense. WRITE TODAY.

THE PURE FOOD CO., 861 W. PEARL ST., CINCINNATI, OHIO.

FURS

Highest spot cash prices for furs of all kinds, also hides and roots. NO commission charged. Honest grading. Square treatment. You get every single penny that's coming to you. Old established reliable fur house. Unlimited facilities.



TRAPPERS

If you have furs, ship them to us at once. Or get our free price list and shipping tags. But act quick.

ROGERS FUR CO.

Dept. 620 St. Louis, Mo.

FREE Beautiful Book About Taxidermy

Learn at home by mail to mount birds, animals, tan skins. Be a taxidermist. Delightful art easily learned by men and women. Decorate home and den. Make big profits. Wonderful new art. Write Today for this wonderful *Free Book* and our amazing offer.

N.W. Sch. of Taxidermy, 3041 Elwood Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

THIS FORD FREE



Send No Money

Just Your Name

You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars, absolutely free of charge. I have given away dozens of them. You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away and say: "I want one of your free Fords"—a postcard will do.

RHOADS AUTO CLUB,
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D.C. Advice and books free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best services.

CARDS Send 2c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Base Catcher and list of 2000 Songs given Free. OHIO CARD CO., B14 Cadiz, Ohio.

Money $ $ FOR WISE MEN $ $ KEY FREE. J. Warren Smith, Ottawa, Ill.

"LET ME" read your character from your handwriting. Mind you get a good reading that will help you in love, health, business and domestic affairs. Price 10c. Money back if dissatisfied. G. A. Beauchamp, 2563 8th Ave., New York.

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.

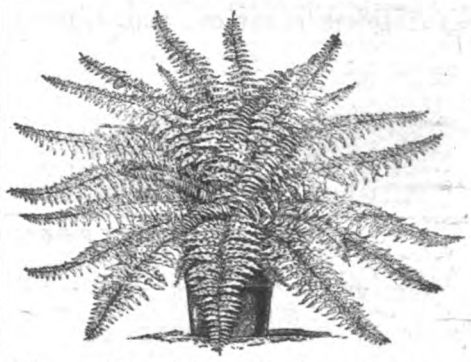
BE A DETECTIVE

Earn from $150.00 to $300.00 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. LUDWIG, 121 Westover Building, Kansas City, Mo.



FREE Fine Camera and complete outfit for selling 20 Large Colored Art & Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Beautiful Post Cards at 10cents each. Satisfaction Guaranteed or money returned. Order your choice today. GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 325 CHICAGO

Four Beautiful Ferns



Given For Two Subscriptions

PREMIUM NO. 6112

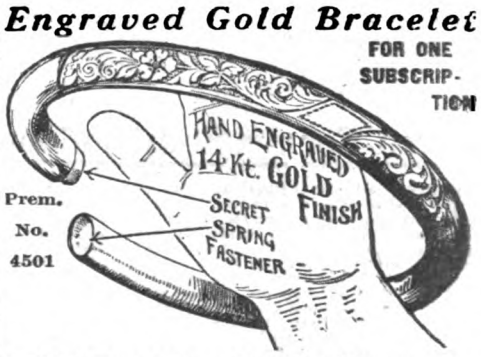
BEAUTIFUL charming **ferns make the home bright and cheerful.** They need but little care and live indefinately, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the handsomest, most popular varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt**, the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type, and they** will be packed carefully and mailed to you by **Parcel Post** so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Engraved Gold Bracelet

FOR ONE SUBSCRIPTION



THIS Round Bracelet with artistic engraving and unique **Spring Fastening** is the most attractive pattern we have seen this season. Not too large but large enough and as it is perfectly round, it fits well and becomes all ages. There is a demand for bracelets of enormous size, but this style is medium large and nearly **three inches in diameter;** we consider it a beautiful pattern. This bracelet is the very latest style so you will want one while fashionable, and as we guarantee fit and wear, you need not hesitate to order.

Offer No. 4501 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this handsome Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid.

Offer No. 4501 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4501.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



ALL THESE FREE

Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone, 22-inch chain, Handsome Watch, GUARANTEED TIMEKEEPER, one Nethersole Bracelet to fit any arm and these 2 gold plated Rings ALL GIVEN for selling only 24 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c each. Write for Jewelry today.



FREE

COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO., Dept. 265 East Boston, Mass.



Vapo Cresolene

ESTABLISHED 1879

for Whooping Cough, Spasmodic Croup, Asthma, Sore Throat, Coughs, Bronchitis, Colds, Catarrh.

Don't fail to use Cresolene for the distressing, and often fatal affections for which it is recommended.

It is a simple, safe, effective and drugless treatment.

Vaporized Cresolene stops the paroxysms of Whooping Cough and relieves Spasmodic Croup at once.

In Asthma it shortens the attack and insures comfortable repose.

The air carrying the antiseptic vapor inspired with every breath, makes breathing easy, soothes the sore throat, and stops the cough, assuring restful nights.

Cresolene relieves the bronchial complications of Scarlet Fever and Measles and is a valuable aid in the treatment of Diphtheria.

Cresolene's best recommendation is its 37 years of successful use. Send us postal for Descriptive Booklet.

For Sale by Druggists

Try Cresolene Antiseptic Throat Tablets for the irritated throat, composed of slippery elm bark, licorice, sugar and Cresolene. They can't harm you. Of your Druggist or from us 10c in stamps.

THE VAPO-CRESOLENE CO. 62 Cortlandt St., New York or Leeming-Miles Building, Montreal, Canada

NEU-TRO Makes Dress Shields Unnecessary, a snow white creme deodorant, reduces perspiration. Price 10 & 25c. Agents wanted, write today. **NEU-TRO MFG. CO., CLEVELAND, O.**

$25 TO $40 Week



Free Sample To Agents

Sells on sight. Instant hit in every home. Smith, Ohio, sold **38 one day. Profit $19.00. All metal bread and pastry board and rolling pin.** Can't rust, absorb dirt or disease germs. Lasts lifetime. Endorsed by Good Housekeeping Institute. **Agents** get good appointments. Make Big Money. **UNION MFG. CO.,** 188 Main St. Cambridge, O.

SILK WONDERFUL BARGAINS. 4-Pound Bundles of beautiful Silk Remnants for fancy work, quilts, portieres, pillows etc. SEND 10 CENTS for big package of large lovely pieces. Agents wanted to sell silk, velvet and other remnants. **UNION S. WORKS, 207 FACTORY ST., BOONVILLE, N. Y.**

New Feather Beds Only $5.40

6-Pound **Feather Pillows $1.00 per pair. Satisfaction guaranteed.** Write for free catalog and our wonderful free offer. **Agents wanted. Southern Feather & Pillow Co., Dept. 200, Greensboro, N. C.**



This pretty band **GIVEN** for five **WEDDING RING** names of your neighbors and ten cents to pay postage &c. **Gem City Supply Co., QUINCY, ILL.**

FEED YOUR FLOWERS FLOWER FOOD TABLETS—contain every element necessary to perfect plant life, 25c per doz. **FLOWER FOOD CO., 115 BWAY, N. Y.**

RESURRECTION PLANT FROM MEXICO.

Lives for Centuries. Dried out and stored, again becomes, when placed in water or moist soil for few hours, a living, green fern of rare beauty and Odor. Will bloom in snow. The Magic plant from mountains of Mexico! Sample sent for 10 cts. silver and a 2 cent stamp. **RESURRECTION PLANT CO., FINLAY, TEXAS.**

Kremola Cream. **Wonderful bleach.** Removes brown spots, etc. By mail $1. Booklet free. **Dr. C. H. Berry Co., 2975 Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.**



FREE WATCH AND RING Lady or Gent Thin Model **10 YEAR GUARANTEE** Many other valuable prizes for selling only 25 beautiful Art and Religious **PICTURES** at 10c each. Order pictures at once. **We give moving picture machines. GAIR MFG. CO. Dept. 301 CHICAGO, ILL.**



LOVERS' BUDGET FREE To get acquainted with you, we will send our great LOVERS' BUDGET, consisting of—12 Love Letters, 14 Flirtation Signals, 7 Fortune Telling Secrets, 10 Funny Readings, 1 New Gypsy Fortune Teller, 12 Flirtation Cards, 11 Parlor Pastimes, 250 Jokes & Riddles, 73 Toasts, 40 Amusing Experiments in Magic, 6 Comic Poetry, also bargain sheets of solid gold filled rings, for only 10c to help pay advertising. **THE AUCTION CO., DEPT. 16, ATTLEBORO, MASS.**



BIRTH STONE RINGS FREE 14K Gold filled, guaranteed to give satisfaction, with stone for any month, to introduce our catalogue. Send 12c to cover cost of advertising and mailing. Send size. **EagleJewelry Co.,** Dept. 51, **East Boston, Mass.**

MONEY Made quickly by smart men. T. ARTOL CO., 115 Nassau St., N. Y.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties, Catalog Free. **D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.**

Panne Satin Petticoat



Given For Six Subscriptions

THIS is one of the best bargains we have been able to offer this season. These handsome latest style **colored** petticoats are made of finest quality mercerized **panne satin** which has all the sheen and brilliancy of the highest grade satin. They are well made in every respect with finished seams and come in a variety of different flounces one of which is shown above, but all of them are popular, up-to-date styles and will surely please the most exacting taste. We have them in colors of **green, blue and black,** and in sizes **from 36 to 44. When ordering be sure to specify size and color wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three three-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these fashionable high-grade panne satin petticoats free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention what size and color you desire. Premium No. 7256.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A BEAU tiful neck, face and arms **Don't pay 50c. but send 10c. for sealed package which transforms instantly. Look your best in spite of moles, sallowness, blotches, freckles, wrinkles, blackheads, etc. If you want to be charming and attractive order at once. Warranted absolutely harmless. TOILET COMPOUND CO. Dept. A. Box 1927, Boston, Mass.**





Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

HAPPY New Year! ! And, listen, my dears, I simply shan't say a thing about any resolutions you are to make or break for 1917. I've been saying things like that for so long and I haven't noticed any difference one way or another, that I have resolved not to mention the subject again. At least, not until 1918, and goodness knows, where any of us will be by that time. All I have to say now is that I wish all of you a New Year so much happier than any previous new year of your experience that 1917 will be your banner year. Now watch me go to work as though the only resolution I knew was a labor resolution.

The first letter I take up is from "Only Tom's" of Ashburnham, Mass., and Tom is the hero of the story, I suppose, because it is about a girl and boy, now nineteen and twenty, and they have been loving each other in silence and school for five long years with nothing more definite than that. Now if it were Tom who were asking about it, it would be different, but it is the girl, and if she is only Tom's, I think Tom ought to realize it and claim her. Either Tom is too stupid for any sensible girl to want, or he doesn't care for the girl who thinks she is only his. It is for her to find out which is which for Tom. She might show him this answer to begin with.

Troubled, Raleigh, N. C.—Unless your father can give perfect reasons for objecting to a man with eight hundred acres of good land, and otherwise respectable, I think you would be justified in disregarding the paternal objections. Still, if you don't love the man, and you marry him, that eight-hundred acre farm will look smaller to you every day until it gets to be almost as small as you were for marrying him.

Ruby, St. Louis, Mo.—He may have been born in Greece, but fifteen years in St. Louis has made just as good an American of him, or should have, as you say you are, and if there is no objection to him except his nationality, you tell your objecting friends that they are very un-American and you will marry the Greek. At the same time don't be too sure of him, as Greeks from ancient times have had a reputation of being somewhat unreliable in love. But most men are so, anyway, so what odds is it?

Blue-eyes, Summerfield, Okla.—If all the wives, who listened to the promises of drinking men and married them thinking they would stop drinking and they did not, could take hands the circle would extend around the earth and lap over a whole lot. If you want to get into that circle disobey your father and marry this man who promises to quit drinking after he is married. If he will not quit drinking for your sake before he is married he never will after he gets you for his wife. They never, never do. That is too true.

R. R., Fayette, Ala.—The young man is old enough to be sensible and evidently he is. He has had every opportunity to meet you and to cultivate your closer acquaintance, but beyond the few friendly courtesies he has extended and you have properly appreciated, he has made no effort to see you, which is the very best evidence that you have not inspired in him any other than the ordinary friendly feeling of one human being for another. If you are wise you will accept the situation as it is and consider him only as any other acquaintance. So far you have acted as the lady and any advances beyond those you have already made will cause the man to lose even his friendly regard for you. He knows what he wants and if he doesn't want you, all you can do to change his mind and heart will be wasted effort. I don't believe two ordinarily intelligent people ever lost each other, unless one of them wanted to be lost. Take my advice and continue doing just what you have been doing.

Minlin, Massillon, Ohio.—When a girl of twenty really wants to love a man who wants to marry her, but she has her doubts, I think, as there is no one else she cares for, that she really loves the man, but doesn't know it. Such cases are not at all uncommon and I have known several very happy marriages which have taken place in just such doubt as troubles you. As you can very well wait a year, do so, or try to, for I think you will marry before the year is out. You have my blessing.

Anxious, Yarbro, Ark.—Being twenty years old and a schoolmarm ought to be a double source of knowledge, but it does not seem to be because you have not yet learned that the girl who thinks least of finding a young man the young men think most of finding. You have always been popular, isn't that enough? Why narrow down to one to command you, when you have them all to command?

A. F., Holland, N. Y.—Really, my dear, I didn't suppose there was a fifteen-year-old girl in the state of New York who could write a letter showing so few signs of the existence of a public school system. Forget the beaus and devote yourself to books for three years steady.

M. B. H., Post City, Texas.—There is no more harm in cousins kissing than there is in other people kissing, so long as it is not done to excess.

Four Girls, Osgood, Ind.—Four girls with but a single thought and that thought beaus, and yet all your letters are as well written as though you never heard of a beau. I congratulate the Hoosier school system.

Violet, Katemcy, Texas.—By all means do not encourage the young man to forget the girl he is engaged to because her father objects to their marrying. You can be his friend without trying to steal him from his proper owner, can't you? Besides, if you did coax him away, don't you know some other girl could coax him away from you just as easily?

Blue Eyes, Mapleton, Oregon.—If you do not love the man you have promised to marry, you had better break the engagement than break up a home after you have married and started one. As you are wholly unfitted to be anybody's wife now, I advise you to wait four years. Maybe by the time you are twenty-one you will measure more nearly up to marriage as it should be.

Lass, Willard, Ga.—Ordinarily I would not advise a girl of twenty to marry a man twenty years older, but there are so many marriages with that difference in ages, or even greater, which have turned out beautifully, that I have nothing to say in opposition when two people after a thorough understanding and with a sure faith in each other agree to marry and do marry. You have my blessing.

Idaba, Afton, Iowa.—As you quarrel with one about the other, throw him over and take up the other, then quarrel again and exchange again, and do this at intervals of varying frequency. It seems to me that you should obey your father and give up beaus until you can manage them better.

Pansy Bloom, Birmingham, Ala.—When a man is thirty he should not dilly-dally about marrying, but should either take the girl, or give her up. Your sweetheart, I think, is indifferent and would rather you found some one to take his place than not, and I am sure you would stop your worrying over the situation if you made up your mind to quit and actually did quit. You say you have plenty of attention and if you have, why bother about this man who wants you to lose him?

Anxious, Petersburg, Va.—Your condition is hopeless and nothing can save you but divine interposition. You are in love with this utterly unworthy young man and whatever he says or does is better in your sight than all the advice that can be given to you. You own a car, you say, but if that car gave you one hundredth part as much trouble by its defects as this young man does by his, you would throw it on the junk pile and sue the manufacturers for damages. It's a shame and a pity that you haven't as good man sense as you have car sense, because if you had you wouldn't pick up any old thing simply because you thought it was nicer than any other. I have no advice to give you, for advice is wasted on your kind, my dear. You have my sympathy, though.

D. B., Iola, Fla.—Thank you, Della, for your first letter, but why did you write "I would of asked," instead of writing it properly? Do Iola grammars sanction such a verb as "would of?"

Reader, Columbia, S. C.—I suppose every normal girl has some one star of hope somewhere in the unmeasured spaces of her heart's desire, just as you have, and I don't think she would be normal if she hadn't. As yours seems to hover over a pulpit and you feel called to become a clergyman's wife, I think you should listen to the call. It isn't every girl who is fitted to be the wife of a preacher and when one believes she is, she should be true to her belief. (2) You have the poetic sense, but you must read a great deal of good poetry and study it before trying to write it for print. You can only judge poor poetry by knowing the best. ,

There, my dears, your questions are answered and though I have had to be rather scoldy at times, you made me do it by the way some of you act when you ought to know better. Still, I am doing it all for the best and I want to give all of you a good start for the new year. By, by and may 1917 blessings follow you and catch up with you every day. COUSIN MARION.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

fur-trimmed skirts knocked against her ankles.

"You can lend me something, can't you?"

Kit looked with some anxiety at her pretty brown frock. She had wanted to look well tonight! And what had poor Agatha to lend her that was pretty?

"Poor Agatha," in very truth, had nothing.

She turned over her frocks in vain. They were big enough for three such people as Kit. Then she went in despair to the big cedar-lined chest wherein such dresses of her mother's reposed as had not been degraded into every-day garments. On the top lay what was formerly called pelisse, made of dark sapphire-blue satin, it was trimmed royally with ermine and lined with white fur.

Agatha seized it and returned from her chilly, barn-like chamber to the warm retreat of the guest. Truly, she and Nerine had spent a pound of their money in "things wanted," but wanted only for the comfort of Kit Belton.

"Here, my dear," she cried, holding the sumptuous garment to the fire till the smell of cedar came from its warm folds like incense.

The dead Mrs. Mayne had been, like her daughters, a woman of height and presence. Her tight-fitting outdoor garment was very loose and long for the girl who put it on. Its wide, fur-lined sleeves fell away from Kit's pretty arms, and its ermine collar had to be lapped over at the throat.

"Now shoes! Mine will fall off your feet, but I can't do any better," Agatha said, producing a well-worn pair of satin slippers long her "best."

Kit laughed as she shuffled past the cheval glass in her ancient garments. Her throat was whiter than the ermine, her deep eyes bluer than the satin of the pelisse. And her shoes could be hidden.

Agatha, the economical, extinguished the sinful luxury of wax candles and led the way once more through the tortuous passages back to the one room in Lispenard House where she and Nerine spent their waking lives.

The table was drawn up beside the fire. The cold chicken had a place of honor, while the smiling Jane took the cover off the mound of mashed potatoes browned to a turn. The brass tea kettle sung cheerily on the hob. In the lamplight the apricot jam and the clotted cream seemed begging to be eaten, and the royally-robed guest had a royal appetite after her long day in the train.

"We will wait on ourselves, Jane," Nerine said, graciously, ignoring with delightful calm the fact that Jane knew no more of waiting than of playing the violin, "and you must go down to the station and tell them to send up Miss Belton's boxes."

Jane, all eagerness to inform her "young man" that her master's absence would nullify for a month the decree of "no followers," dropped a courtesy and retired. The hostess and the guest applied themselves with the zest of youth to chicken and potatoes, to hot cakes and tea.

Mr. Mayne would have wrung his hands at seeing any human being so trifle with his digestion, but then Mr. Mayne was miles on his road to Dover.

There was a certain strangeness about the little group seated round the table in the corner by the fire. The room so bare, white walled, black beamed; the huge fireplace, the wide, white hearth, the ancient leather-covered chairs high in the back, low in the legs.

Kit surveyed the sisters over her last cup of tea in silence.

"You are more alike than ever," she said at last. "But you look so grand! So *old*, somehow!"

They really were a stately pair, black haired, gray eyed, creamy skinned, with small, round waists and long limbs. As like to the dead Lispenards as to each other.

"Old!" cried Nerine. "We are twenty, while Mr. Mayne is away. When he is here we are forty-six, if you like. Anxious, suspicious, nagged at, we get fresh wrinkles every day."

"We are a little more than a year older than you—and Maurice," Agatha said, in a matter-of-fact way. "You haven't ever asked about Maurice, Kit."

"No. How is he?" Very slowly into Kit's cheeks came a maddening color. She felt it deepening, burning. "I heard from him the other day," she added, hesitatingly, not looking at the sisters.

Heard from him! Read, instead, had stood in a country lane with him—had let the winter rain stream down on her unheeded. Mindful only of strong young arms about her, kisses from smooth, unmustached young lips on her cheeks.

"When? How was he?" the twins cried in a breath.

Maurice was their nursling, their all-in-all, and they had no letter from him for a fortnight.

"Last week." Today being Monday, Saturday the date of that secret tryst in the rain. "He didn't say how he was," truthfully, "but I fancy he was very well." Remembering the browned, strong face, so manly for his nineteen years, the masterful lips and words of that young lover who had walked fifteen miles each way to meet her.

"I wish he could come over," Agatha said, wistfully. "But it only means his losing time, and he hates it here. The old man's meannesses nearly kill Maurice. We"—laughing—"are much more tough!"

"*What* was that?" cried Kit.

She leaped from her seat at the table and stood trembling like a leaf.

Clang! Clang!

Two heavy strokes from a brazen-throated, iron-tongued bell struck, pulsed and echoed through the great empty house.

Kit's nerve was not at its best. She grew pale and cold.

Clang!

Nerine jumped from her chair.

"The old bell!" she cried. "Who can be ringing it? Who knows where it is but ourselves—and Mr. Mayne?"

In answer, the bell began to swing regularly to and fro.

"Come, Agatha—come and see!"

Nerine lighted a candle and hurried out of the room, shielding her feeble light as she ran. Agatha quickly followed her.

What if Mayne had returned?

As they vanished in the chilly passage, the bell, with one final reverberation, stopped.

It was as old as the house and unused for years. To get at its dust-clogged, spider-webbed bell rope you pushed back a tiny panel in the old porch. Kit had never known that it existed.

She stood a statue of fear, her eyes big and wide. For Kit was a coward, an arrant and hopeless one, and the three girls were alone in the house. Terrors of burglars and murderers appalled her; chill, supernatural stories crowded to her mind; ghostly thoughts turned her cold. If no one knew of that bell but the girls and Mr. Mayne, and he was on his way to France and they safely in this room, what mortal hand could have rung it?

She stopped her ears. At least if it rang she would not hear it.



Her yellow hair against the lamplight made a halo round her head. Her wide sleeves had fallen back from her upraised arms. She stared at the black void passage through the open door.

Some one hurried along it—a man's hasty, thick-shod feet drew nearer. Kit shut her eyes. This was not velvet-footed Clarence Mayne!

At the door the newcomer paused; he tried to speak; but only made an inarticulate sound of pure delight. But it was enough for Miss Belton.

"Maurice!" she shrieked.

She tried to run across the room to him in Agatha's shoes, which were so big for her little feet. They came off; the long gown tripped her. Maurice Lispenard made a spring and caught her to him.

"Dearest, dearest Kit!" he said.

She had really been horribly frightened, and there had been a strain on her nerves all day. What with getting away from a reluctant mother, evading Mr. Mayne, secretly expecting Maurice, whom, after all, she had never connected with that awful ghostly bell. She clung to him all unnerved. For one instant!

Agatha and Nerine's voices came before them up the passage. Kit pushed Maurice's eager hands and smooth, cool face away angrily—ungratefully.

"What on earth do you mean," she demanded, "by coming and frightening us all like this?"

"But you knew I was coming," he replied, rather staggered.

"I didn't know you were ringing that horrid bell," artfully clasping her hands over her joyful heart. "I nearly died of fright! I thought you were a burglar come to *murder* me!" she declared in that tragic voice in which we are wont to speak of our own death. "Why couldn't you have rung the ordinary door bell?"

"I did; but considering that there were no servants in the house, that you were all in here boxed up, and"—with a significant glance at the table—"gormandizing, old Mayne's electric tinkle didn't make much impression. I was about tired of cooling myself in the delightfully seasonable weather."

Agatha and Nerine came in at this instant, transfigured from the warlike Amazons who had gone to investigate the unseemly summons of the bell.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 31.)

Once This Beauty Had Pimples

Stuart's Calcium Wafers Proved That Beauty Comes from the Blood and from Nowhere Else.



Prove This With Free Trial Package.

Plaster your skin all over and you'll stop breathing in an hour. There is only one way to remove pimples, blackheads, eruptions and eczema with its rash and itch, and that is by the blood. In Stuart's Calcium Wafers, the wonderful calcium sulphide at meals serves to supply the blood with one of the most remarkable actions known to science. This is its activity in keeping firm the tiny fibres that compose even such minute muscles as those which control the slightest change of expression, such as the eyelids, lips, and so on. It is this substance which pervades the entire skin, keeps it healthy and drives away impurities. Get a 50 cent box of Stuart's Calcium Wafers at any drug store and learn the great secret of facial beauty.

A free trial package will be mailed on request to F. A. Stuart Co., 346 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich.



2 LACE CURTAINS PILLOW SHAMS FREE

Sell 6 boxes Rosebud at 25c per box return to us $1.50 and we will promptly send you postpaid 1 pair beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains, nearly 3 yds. long, and a handsome pair of Lace Pillow Shams FREE. Rosebud is a rapid seller. Write for it to-day; we trust you **ROSEBUD PERFUME CO., Dept. 161, Woodsboro, Md.**

3 1/3c a Day

now buys a dazzling Lachnite Gem. Their brilliance is eternal—they stand fire and acid tests and cut glass like diamonds. Cost but 1-30th as much. Set in solid gold. The newest designs. Sold on Free Trial.

Write for Big Jewelry Book

Your name and address is enough. No obligations whatever. Write today—now.

HAROLD LACHMAN CO. 12 N. Michigan Ave., Dept 3041 Chicago




J. J. HILL

HOW DID HE GET HIS?

You can get YOURS in the same way. Ask

THE ZENITH PUB., CO., DEPT. A
St. Paul, Minn.



GOLD TOOTH FREE. Not solid gold, of course, but looks like it. Fits over your own tooth. To get acquainted, we will send upon receipt of 10c to help pay advertising.
AUCTION CO., Dept. 25, Attleboro, Mass.



White Rose Face Bleach
Will make your Complexion as white as the virgin snow. 2-cent stamp for free particulars. Address
MME. BOGETT,
Box 499, Desk 4. BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Perfection Thin Model Watch $3.50
The popular 16 size for men and boys. Open face Solid Silveroid Case, dust proof, screw back and bezel, will wear a lifetime. Fitted with the Perfection Movement, American made, lever escapement, hard enamel dial, stem wind & pendent set, a reliable timekeeper & fully warranted 5 years.



C. O. D.
Send your name and address, we will send this Perfection Watch C. O. D. by parcel post. Pay your postman when you receive it $3.50 only and it is yours. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Watch may be returned after 10 Days Trial and your money refunded if not satisfactory. This offer for a short time only. Address
M. BYRNE & CO., A 41 115 S. Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.

FREE Boy's and Girl's **Talking Machine**



Plays All Kinds Disc Records

Dandy, Durable Talking Machine—FREE for selling only 20 handsome fruit, art and religious pictures. Sell pictures at 10c each—send us $2.00 from sale and this Wonderful Talking Machine is yours. If you send 30c cash extra or $2.30 in all, we will include one record, package of needles and prepay charges right to your door. Going like hot cakes. Send no money. Rush order for 20 pictures now while great offer is open.
ALTON MDSE. CO. Dept. 626 Chicago



FAT CAN BE REDUCED
by wearing a simple, invisible device, weighing scarcely an ounce. No Starving, Drugging, Sweating or Acrobatics. You can try this wonderful invention
40 DAYS FREE Without Deposit
When your girth begins to shrink you will wish to own it. TRY IT 40 DAYS AT MY EXPENCE FREE OF ALL CHARGES.
S. L. BURNS, 14 West 37th St., New York



Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 6 years, for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice.
GATES MFG. CO. Dept. 425 Chicago

Free To Every Little Girl!

Golden Locks And Her Lovely Twin Babies!

All Three Dollies Given To You Without Cost!



Premium No. 4631.

Mothers, Don't Fail To Read This Offer!

COMFORT wants to give **free** to **your** little girl and **every** little girl this handsome **doll Family** stamped in **beautiful colors** on strong cloth with **full directions** so that you can cut them out, stuff and sew them up **in less than ten minutes.** "Golden Locks" is almost as big as **a real baby,** for she stands **one and one half feet high** and her cute little twin babies which you see in the picture stand **over half a foot high. These dolls cannot be broken** no matter how much they are thrown around or dropped on the floor and you can make them **bend their arms and legs, stand up and sit down in a chair and assume all sorts of natural positions.** They have beautiful **golden hair** which hangs in the **dearest curls** you ever saw and fastened with a **bright red ribbon bow** that cannot get lost or become untied, **handsome red cheeks, rosy lips and lovely blue eyes** which smile at you in such a **life-like way** that you would almost think **they were ready to speak and say "Mama."** As shown in above illustration they are dressed in **dainty lace-trimmed underwear with bright red stockings and black buttoned boots.** The three dolls together—"Golden Locks" and the two sweet Baby Dolls—make the **cutest and prettiest** Doll Family any little girl ever had to play with. They are lots better for the little folks than the more expensive bisque and china dolls **because they will not break or snarl their pretty hair or lose their eyes.** There is no little girl who will not instantly **fall in love** with this beautiful Doll Family and spend many happy hours with it, so we hope that every mother who reads this offer will take advantage of it at once. We will send you **all three dolls free, by Parcel Post prepaid** on the terms of the following special offers.

Offer 4631 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **all three dolls** free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 4631 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you **all three dolls** free by Parcel Post prepaid. **(Premium No. 4631). Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

T. and T., Montrose, Colo.—If the young man who comes to see you needs to be entertained more than to be in your company and to talk with you, he is not any kind of a young man to go to see a girl. If you have no musical instruments in the house and both of you together can't entertain each other in conversation, you might try a game of checkers, or backgammon, or pingpong, or bridge, or some one of those pleasant parlor games which are used to pass the tedious time away. (2) When a couple returns from an entertainment that one which feels the more grateful for favors should thank the other. Really, though, the lady should thank the gentleman as the courtesy comes from him, but the thanks should not be formal as though he had passed her the pie at dinner. (3) Young ladies who are so sensitive, or so silly, as to feel embarrassed at a corset advertisement on the screen should only go to the movies with their parents. Newspaper and magazine reading young ladies see so much of that sort of advertising they never notice it at all, or if they do, they learn what they can from it to guide them in their next purchases. The average intelligent, decent young man, if he notices it at all, speaks of it merely as a business matter. (4) If the gentleman driving with the lady gives her a box of candy she should open it and offer it to him.

Juliana, Chicago, Ill.—You should, Miss Juliana, have more of the spirit of Pollyanna—Chicago knows Pollyanna by now, doesn't it?—and instead of waiting for others to bring joy to you, you should bring joy to them. You see, you are expecting people to do things for you, when the happy way is to do things for them. The big city is not the little town and city people are shy of each other unless they are encouraged not to be. Now if you want friends, don't stand back for them to come to you, but having chosen such as you feel you will like, seek them in a nice, friendly manner and you will nearly always find they will be glad enough to meet you half-way because generally they want friends just as you do. Never try to go where you are not wanted and you will never be rebuffed. Too many young people who go to the city want to start in at the top and that is no starting-place. That is the stopping place. The safest and sanest course is to identify yourself with some leading church organization and gain recognition among its members by your activity and usefulness in its work. You don't have to be goody-goody, but good.

Blue Eyes, Bristol, W. Va.—It would have been quite improper for you to have asked the young man you had just met to call. The mother of a fifteen-year-old girl is the proper person to invite young men to call at her house.

Jolly Kid, Arlington, Ohio.—If you are really good looking and the young man told you you were, you could do as you please about considering him a gentleman and accepting the compliment. But if you were not good looking and he told you you were, then by all means consider him a gentleman and accept the compliment with a grateful heart.

Broken-hearted, Attalla, Ala.—You are not the only wife whose domestic happiness has been wrecked by the interference of her husband's people and as he is too weak to go away with you to some place where you could be free of them, we think, as you have no children, that it would be better if you went alone and made your living at whatever you could do best. You love each other and when he had learned that he could not have you and his people too, he would leave his people and come to you. It is at least worth trying and no disgrace would attach to you if you remained true to him and made your life an example for him to follow.

E. M. D., Winchester, Ill.—As a matter of manners as well as of morals your duty to yourself and society is to have no more to do with the young man. He has proved himself unworthy in more ways than one and your self-respect should prompt you to recognize him no longer. You say you do not care for him, and we say you care more for him than you do for yourself or you would not be worrying over him.

Perplexed, Wenatchee, Wash.—The rule is that the gentleman walk on the outside of the sidewalk, because there he serves as a sort of protection to the lady from the street traffic. But the rule is not rigorous and unless there is actual necessity for him to take the outside he does not. "Changing gears"—as you aptly put it—at every change of sidewalk is annoying and should not be done. The best manners are not those made by stiff rules and regulations and the people who depend upon conventions to the exclusion of common sense have the least attractive manners. P. S. You ask us to use the name "Preplexed," but why not "Perplexed," as we have spelled it?

Mrs. B., Dubuque, Iowa.—You are over-conscientious and want to do ten times as much harm trying to do what you think is right than if you let the matter remain as it is. The old lady who found the ten dollars and turned it into Christmas gifts for the poor may have been over-zealous in good works and probably she should have hunted up the owner of the money and nobody would have got any good of it. As you and other needy persons knowing nothing of how she got the money, benefited by it and nobody was harmed, we think, any effort now, after years, to find the owner and restore what little you received is extremely foolish and can only do harm to the memory of the kind old lady. We almost feel like classing you with the undeserving poor and will, if you persist in your folly.

Two Chums, Asheville, N. C.—There is no set time for the giving of an engagement ring after the engagement has been made, and there should be no rushing hurry about it, but the man should be ready to give the girl the ring whenever she wants it. If he assumes a right that he is the one to say when the ring should be given he is making a mistake and the sooner it is shown to him the better. (2) An engaged girl should not accept the attentions of any other man, or men, except with the knowledge and consent of the man who has an established claim upon her. If he does not object, nobody else has a right to.

Blue Eyes, Berlin, Wis.—Judging from the grammar and spelling of your letter we should say it was the height of impropriety for you to quit school. We hope the music you are taking will not sound like your letter does. It is proper to go to dancing school, but we think your head rather than your heels needs educating.

E. C., Manes, Mo.—"Vura" sounds to us like a girl's name, but it is one of those genderless names which agrees with any nominative that gets it. Some good names for girls are Judith, Ruth, Malva, Dorothy, Content, Prudence, Beatrice, Beulah, Fairfax, Elizabeth, Ethel, Freda, and names made up of other names and places, thus giving originality as well as other attractive qualities. We know a girl named Edwa for an Uncle Edward, there being no boy in the family to take his name. And a boy named Wilmar, for his father, William, and the mother, Mary.

Two Brown Eyes, Coinjock, N. C.—Not one of the three things you ask us is "propper." Neither is the way you spell it. Try again.

Troubled Wife, Red Springs, Texas.—If as you say, you really love your husband as no woman ever loved her husband, it must be rather a peculiar love, or you would not be finding fault so seriously with him that you ask us if you should separate from him. Love like yours ought to find some other way to happiness than by giving up your husband. Think about your five month old baby and see if you can't do better than separation.

Rainbow, Sand Patch, Pa.—Every now and again in all parts of the country some nice young man becomes the object of adoration of some silly girl and life thereafter is a burden of joy to him. You are in that class and the girl will not give you a moment's peace unless you snub her outrageously, or pack up your duffle and move to parts unknown until she recovers her senses. Most people look upon it as a joke, but it is anything but that to the man, and to the girl it is a matter for the attention of alienists, or experts in mental disorders. The only answer to your other questions about silly girls is that the Lord made them that way. Young men are just as silly, but it doesn't seem to be quite so objectionable in them.

Chums, Shobuta, Miss.—As both of you distrust the young men who are courting you, why not discard them and get trustworthy ones as substitutes? There can be no lasting love unless there is perfect trust.

"I can earn $2 a day at home"

You may say that, too—if you want more income. Easy to learn. Steady work at home *the year round.* Send 2c stamp for information. Write today, to Auto-Knitter Hosiery Co., Inc., Desk 95-W, 147 Franklin Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

INITIAL Dinner Set 31 PIECES FREE



With a few hours easy work you can sell 12 boxes White Cloverine Salve at 25c. a box, giving an Art Picture FREE with each box. Return to us the $3.00 collected and this beautiful dinner set is yours. You can also earn watches, fine jewelry, bed spreads, blankets, musical instruments, silverware, etc. Large premium catalogue. Be first in your town—Write Now.
WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Dept. A-26, TYRONE, PA.



DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU?
Agents wanted to sell glasses. Send for catalog.
COULTER OPTICAL CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S
Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address
UNCLE CHARLIE,
care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers."
RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREE TRIAL BOTTLE



GRAY HAIR RESTORED TO ITS NATURAL COLOR

Not an experiment but an absolute success. **Rhodes' Hair Rejuvenator** will positively restore gray and faded hair to its original color, youthful beauty and rich lustre. It is a scalp and hair food that cures dandruff, and all scalp humors. Nourishes the roots of the hair and makes it grow luxuriantly. Harmless and undetectable. It is not a dye and will not stain the skin or linen. It cures itching and sore scalps.

MAKES HAIR GROW

Let us convince you. Send 5 cents in postage for free trial bottle, book on the Care of the Hair, etc. Large bottle $1.00, express prepaid. Address the hair and scalp specialists.
A. T. RHODES' & CO., LOWELL, MASS.



ALL THESE FREE



Gold plated Locket set with im. **Diamond** and 22-inch **Neckchain,** one Gold finished **Signet Extension** Bracelet, fits any arm, and these 4 beautiful **Rings ALL GIVEN FREE** for selling only 15 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. Write today.
COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO.
DEPT. 39, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

Genuine Gold-Filled Birthstone Rings

Each Ring Absolutely Guaranteed For Five Years!



You May Have Your Choice For A Club Of Two!

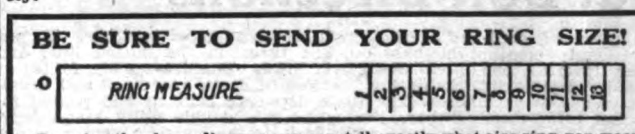
The most popular lady's rings worn today are these beautiful birthstone rings. Not only is it considered lucky to wear one of them but they are now and always will be exceedingly stylish. There is a different stone for each month of the year and of course you should wear the stone that is symbolical of the month you were born. The following is a list of the twelve rings, names of the stones, the month to which each one applies and its symbol.

January, The Garnet, Symbol of Power.
February, The Amethyst, Symbol of Pure Love.
March, The Bloodstone, Symbol of Courage.
April, The Diamond, Symbol of Purity.
May, The Emerald, Symbol of Immortality.
June, The Agate, Symbol of Health and Long Life.
July, The Ruby, Symbol of Charity.
August, The Sardonyx, Symbol of Happiness.
September, The Sapphire, Symbol of Constancy.
October, The Opal, Symbol of Hope.
November, The Topaz, Symbol of Friendship.
December, The Turquoise, Symbol of Prosperity.

Each ring is guaranteed genuine 12-Karat gold filled which looks exactly like solid gold and will wear for years. **In fact we absolutely guarantee each ring for at least five years.** The rings themselves are perfectly plain, the stones are solitaires and perfect imitations of the real gems. The setting of each ring is the ever popular "Tiffany". As a Christmas, Birthday or all-the-year-round gift for wife, mother, sweetheart or sister nothing could be more appropriate and acceptable than one of these beautiful guaranteed rings set with the birthstone of the person to whom it is given. And not only the women and girls but men and boys as well are now wearing them.

Please do not class these rings with the cheap "electro-plated" rings that turn brassy after they have been worn a month or two. Remember that every one of them is guaranteed to be 12-Karat gold-filled and positively warranted for five years. If you want a handsome birthstone ring for yourself or some dear friend or relative you will make no mistake in taking advantage of this offer at once. **When ordering be sure to specify the size and number of ring wanted.** You can easily tell just what size ring you wear by following the directions below.

BE SURE TO SEND YOUR RING SIZE!



By using the above diagram you can tell exactly what size ring you wear if you will follow these directions: Put a stiff piece of paper around the second joint on your ring finger. Cut the paper off so that when drawn tight around your finger the ends exactly meet. Then lay the paper flat on the diagram, one end at the line O and the other end will indicate correct size. By following these instructions your ring will be a perfect fit.

Club Offer!

FOR two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50c. we will send you one of these beautiful gold-filled birthstone rings by parcel post prepaid. **Please be sure to give size and number of ring wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

26-Piece Daisy SILVER SET

Premium No. 6806

Sent To You Prepaid For A Club Of Six



WE have in the past made many offers of table ware, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer a **complete set of 26 Pieces** in return for such a small club of subscriptions. And please don't think that because we **are** giving away this set on such liberal terms that it is plated on a brass base and consequently will change color and have that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. This Set which we offer you here is plated on a **white metal base** therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will not show signs of wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—**6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife.** Each piece is **full regulation size** for family use, the handles are handsomely **embossed and decorated** with the beautiful **Daisy design** which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and the bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and **bright polished.**

☞ WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS ☜

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to offer it as a premium for so few subscriptions. It is by far **the greatest value** we have ever offered, in fact we are so **sure** that it will please and satisfy all who accept this offer **we are going to guarantee every Set sent out for a period of five years.** We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Daisy Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this 26-Piece Daisy Table Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 6806.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Children's Happy Hour

Martha's Kitten

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE hair on Martha's kitten is so crumply and fluffy that it seems the name "Rags" fits it exactly. It likes to play in the clothes basket and climb up the curtains and sit on grandma's chair and do other naughty things but it has one trick that makes it liked by everyone. It can find lost articles, even in the dark. If you drop a needle or a pin or a coin on the floor, all you have to do is to put Rags searching and the first thing you know you will have it again. No wonder Martha likes her so well.

Once, when the whole family went on a picnic Martha cried because they would not let her take Rags along. Her mother was firm however, and the child had to give in.

Every summer Martha goes to visit her Aunt May who lives in another city. Last month Aunt May's only daughter was married and Martha went there for the wedding. She had two new dresses for the occasion and two hats to match as you can see by the picture.

How to take Rags with her, was a problem, for the railroad men do not allow kittens on a train. If the poor pussy stayed at home there would be no one to take care of her for the whole family was going to make the trip. The only scheme Martha could think of was to pack Rags in a basket and cover her up. They only had to ride three hours and surely a kitten could keep quiet for that long. She managed it all right but several times Rags meowed and Martha had to sing to drown out the sound. At last they arrived but the child was horrified to learn that her aunt had a bulldog that hated cats. You may be sure Martha locked her pet carefully in an up-stairs room and kept a good watch on the bulldog.

Everything was noise and excitement that day. Young and old romped on the lawn and played games but towards evening there was a sudden stop to the merrymaking and the word went round that the bride had lost her diamond ring. This was bad news indeed. With tense faces everyone began to search and not an inch of the whole big grounds was neglected. Alas, it was all in vain. The bride was trying to control her feelings but when darkness started to fall and the ring seemed lost beyond hope, she broke down and cried bitterly.

Martha felt very sorry for her and longed to be of some help. Like a flash, the thought came to her that perhaps Rags might be able to find the ring. Rushing up-stairs she carried the kitten down and set her loose in the long grass, explaining as best she could that she wanted her to search for something. Rags seemed to understand and began scratching around. Suddenly pussy arched her back and raced like fury for a tree. The bulldog was after her and she beat him only by inches to her perch in the fork of the limbs.

Martha screamed and told the older folks what she was trying to make the kitten do.

The dog was locked up and then a man held Martha up high while she coaxed Rags down. She was sitting there with something in her paws and our little friend yelled with joy when she saw what it was, for sure enough, it was the lost ring. Oh, how happy everyone was. Martha was proud of her kitten but it will never be known exactly how that ring got up in the tree. Maybe Rags carried it up, maybe the girl, in tossing a ball, threw it up there herself. The kitten is the only one that knows and she, alas, cannot tell.



Cut-Out Doll Directions

Paste the entire picture on a piece of cardboard (using boiled flour paste) and smooth, with the hands from the center towards the edges. Put it in a large book to dry and let it remain there at least three hours. Cut out each doll, dress and hat with scissors and color them with crayons, chalk or water colors. The front and back of the doll are pasted together to form one figure. The front and back views of each of the two hats are also pasted together. To put the hats on, slit them on the dotted line, and press down over head. The dresses are folded at the dotted line and fit down over head and shoulders. The little flaps are bent in and pasted together. To make this double dolly stand bend the base strip back at the ends to form a corner or angle. Tell Uncle John if you like this kind of a double doll the best.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.)

built up. I suppose you know if a baby is not properly nourished, its bones become soft and pliable, owing to the absence of lime in its food. It is just the same with the human brain. It has got to be fed properly or it becomes a tank of mush, and its possessor a menace to society. Now try and arrange your recreation and joy riding so that your brain and soul may receive attention, so that you may have so much outdoor exercise, so much pleasure and so much mental food, and mental feed of the right kind. Don't let anything conquer you. If you find you are getting too fond of any one thing, shut down on it. Keep a stiff grip on the help of your ship of life. Don't let the waves of pleasure run you on the rocks, or the winds of vice blow you to damnation. Develop character. It is the greatest thing in the world, it is the pendulum of the spirit and the anchor of the soul. It is the lack of it that sweeps millions of pleasure loving moths into the scorching flames of loose, aimless, senseless, godless living, flames which if they do not destroy, utterly and eternally mar. Be temperate and moderate, that is the only way to enjoy anything for excess soon palls, soon kills. Enough is as good as a feast. Two thousand years ago the Romans after gorging themselves with a score or so of courses at one of their sumptuous banquets, forced their fingers down their throats, so as to eject all they had eaten, and thus make room for more. Can you imagine what a revolting sight that was? And yet the nobles of Rome and their grand ladies indulged in those filthy practises and thought it perfectly correct. We are not quite as bad as that today, but we could very easily fall as low if we did not take a grip on ourselves. So once more don't neglect your church even for the best limousine on earth. Don't neglect your books, nor your work, nor those who have a claim on your time and attention for mere pleasure. There is more joy in the higher and loftier things of life than in the grosser and more sensual things. You may not realize this now, but some day you will, and realize it probably when it is too late. Take a leaf out of Alvin's book. Here is a boy who is apparently trying to live a well-regulated life. Go thou and do likewise.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for January

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

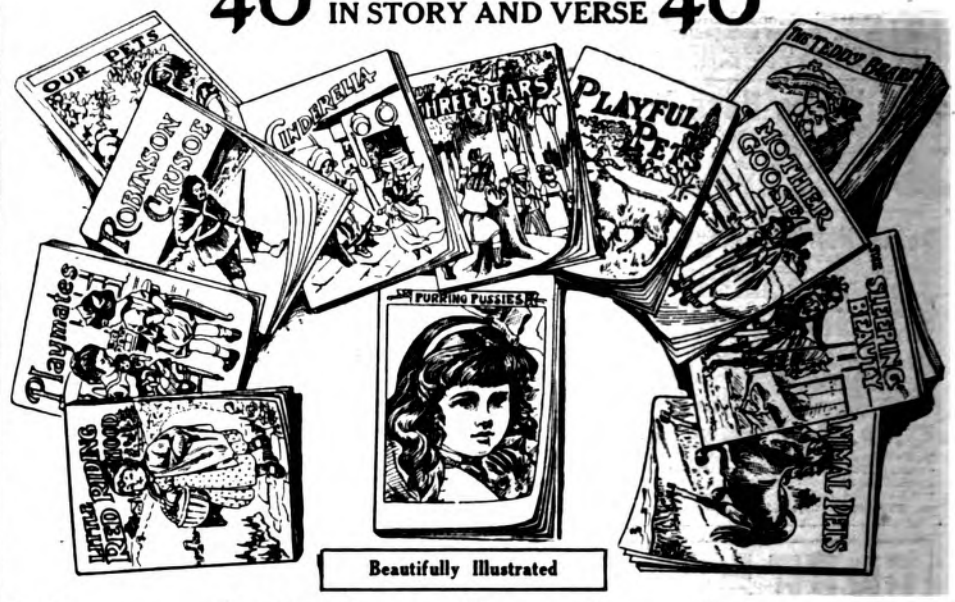
L. B. Tinsley, 1645 Washington Ave., Huntington, W. Va. Has broken back. Has wife and one child. His wife tries to earn sufficient for the family, but it is an impossible task. Very worthy and very sad case. Give them a helping hand. James Wortham, Beebe, Ark. Crippled for thirty-three years. Unable to work. Needy case. Send him a dime shower. Miss Amanda Hamner, Kingsville, R. R. 24, Mo. Has consumption. No means of support. Send this suffering soul some help. Mrs. Mary Stafford, Arkwright, Ala. Widow. Crippled with rheumatism, for nearly nine years. Would appreciate quilt pieces, of any kind, and any assistance you care to send her. Miss Fannie Singleton, Norwood, N. C., thirty-four years of age. Crippled from rheumatism for twenty-two years. Tries to support herself by sewing but finds the task beyond her. Highly recommended. Send her some cheer. Eli S. Caylor, Townsend, R. R. 1, Box 32, Tenn. Invalid for many years. Almost blind. Send him some of the sympathy that buys bread. Mrs. A. C. Hottinger, Thornville, R. R. 5, Ohio, Bedridden invalid. Helpless, poor and needy. Send her a greenback shower. Fulton R. Lowe,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33.)

Comfort's Bedtime Stories For Little Folks!

A Library of Cute Little Books

40 WONDERFUL TALES IN STORY AND VERSE 40



Beautifully Illustrated

Library of 12 Sent For One Subscription!

The stories of our childhood—how well we remember them. After all it seems but a short time since we listened with rapt attention to the adventures of **Robinson Crusoe** cast away on his lonely island—of beautiful **Cinderella**, the fairy and the prince—the tragic fate of poor little **Red Riding Hood**—these were only a few of the marvelous tales that thrilled our childish imagination and helped us spend many blissful hours.

The children of today are the same as they were fifty years ago. And these **good old-time stories** are just as popular with the young folks now as they were then. So we have decided to give our little boy and girl friends a fine big collection of these stories including some of the **old-time favorites** as well as a number of newer and later books equally as interesting. We have arranged **three different sets** or "libraries"—each library consisting of **twelve books,** no two alike, and you can have your choice of any one library, or two libraries, or all three libraries. **Library No. 7951** comprises the following twelve titles:

Robinson Crusoe, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Mother Goose, Animal Pets, Purring Pussies, Playmates, Our Pets, The Three Bears, The Sleeping Beauty, Playful Pets, The Teddy Bears.

Library No. 7991 has these twelve titles:

The Shepherd And His Sheep, Young America, The Deep Blue Sea, Land of Tulips, Rex and Rover, Our Farm Yard, Little Darlings, Childhood of Hiawatha, Faithful Friends, The Fancy Dress Party, Our Country, Happy Days.

Library No. 8001 consists of these twelve titles:

Little Sweethearts, The Story of Little Piggie Wig, In The Jungle, The Big League, Doggie Doings, Fred's Feathered Friends, Uncle Jerry's Farm, Chums, The Story of Santa Claus, Little Laddies, Pussy's Pranks, Faithful And True.

As these stories are intended for the younger children some of them have been "boiled down" to the fewest and simplest words so that they are not as complete as the original editions, but **all** of them are printed on fine paper in large clear type that is easy to see and read and have no less than **five beautiful full page illustrations in colors.**

Some of the titles named above of course need no introduction. The other titles are just the sort of stories that delight every child—stories of **childish sports, flowers, the sea, Indians, animal pets, horses, donkeys, dogs, bunnies, pussy cats, chickens, lambs, etc.,** wonderful romances in which there are old **Stone Castles, Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses, Good Fairies, and Wicked Fairies,** stories of the **Bear Family**—Pa Bear, old Ma Bear and little "Teddy" Bear, stories of little **Playmates,** the true tale of the **Teddy Bears**—in fact the finest collection of juvenile short stories ever published. Each book is nicely bound with a **handsomely illustrated cover in colors** and is 4 inches by 5¼ **inches** in size.

There is nothing you could get for the children that would make them any happier than one or more of these **cute libraries** and best of all it will **cost you nothing** as we are giving them away as a premium. We will send you free your choice of any one, two, or all three libraries—each library consisting of **twelve stories,** each story in a book by itself, **twelve different books in all**—on the terms of the following special offers:

Offer A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you any **one** library of twelve books by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention number of library wanted.**

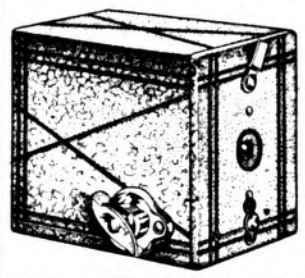
Offer B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you any **one** library by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention number of library wanted.**

Offer C. For two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you any **two** libraries, or for three one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each, we will send you **all three** libraries, parcel post prepaid. **Don't forget to give number or numbers of libraries wanted.**

Extra Gift For Promptness! If you will send **three** subscriptions and 75 cents for **all three** libraries **within 15 days** we will send you **four extra books** absolutely free. This will give you one **grand complete library of forty** of these splendid little books, all different titles, of uniform size and binding, handsomely printed and illustrated in colors. **Premium No. 7303**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7314

For a Club of Four!

We will also include free of charge **one Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known **"Premo"** camera, made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.,** therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in **broad daylight,** so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the **camera.** Anybody can make good pictures with this **camera.** Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book,** all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free by Parcel Post, prepaid,** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. **Premium No. 7314.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

COMB AND BRUSH SET



FOR LADY OR GENT

Premium No. 2622

THERE has been no Premium offer in years that has been so pleasing to our friends as this new **Comb and Brush Set.** The great beauty of this latest style dark green or Malachite finish on the back of brush with the SILVERINE shield for engraving initial or monogram has made this set one of the best as a present for birthday, wedding or any special occasion. The brush is **nine inches** long over **2 1-2 inches** wide with splendid firm white bristles well fastened and should last for years. **The Comb** is **black, seven inches** long and **one & one half inches** wide with **coarse and fine teeth.**

Club Offer: For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send this Set Free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 2622.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Crochet and Tatting Book

Given for One Subscription

Premium No. 7321



Containing Sixty-three Beautiful Half Tone Illustrations of New Fashionable Designs In Crochet And Tatting With Complete Instructions for Making.

EVERY woman who is interested in crocheting and tatting should have a copy of this new book written by Winifred Worth and containing many designs used by the nuns in convents **now published for the first time.** The book is of good size, measuring 8 inches by 10½ inches, printed on fine quality coated book paper and consists of 28 pages on which are shown **sixty-three,** large, clear half-tone **illustrations** with full and explicit **directions** for crocheting the prettiest edgings, beadings, insertions, towel ends, doilies, etc., besides a splendid variety of new, dainty designs in tatting with the necessary instructions. The art of combining Venetian crochet and tatting is fully explained.

This book also gives sizes of hooks best adapted for the different sizes of crochet threads, the abbreviations of all of the principal crochet stitches and terms used in tatting and tells how the different stitches are made such as the **chain stitch, double crochet, half treble, double treble, treble crochet, cluster** and **open mesh** stitches. Among the many crochet edgings, beadings, and insertions illustrated and described are the **clover leaf, Irish, picot, cross-bar, half-shell, half-wheel, K-stitch** and **filet** edgings: **festoon, Irish, fence-row, picot** and **shell** beadings; **mile-a-minute, half-shell, clover leaf, filet** and **monkey-face insertions; butterfly wings, Van Dyke Point, nuns' pattern** and many others. The tatting motifs are varied and beautiful, consisting of beadings, edgings and insertions for **table mats, bedspreads, curtains, guest towels, coin-purses, night-gown yokes, bath towels, sash curtains, ribbon holders, plate doilies,** etc., etc.

We will send you free and postpaid this book of the loveliest fashions in beautiful lace work with simple and complete directions which you can easily follow upon the terms of the following special offer.

Offer No. 7321A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this book of crocheting and tatting designs with directions free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7321B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this crocheting and tatting book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7321. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



PRICE ONLY $8.50 MADE TO ORDER EXPRESS PREPAID

Special Offer to advertise our swell clothes. This handsome, hand-tailored $15 Suit, in 18 different new styles, special price only $8.50. We offer you The Biggest Values in Tailoring, and please remember always: We Will Not Keep One Penny Of Your Money Unless you are WELL PLEASED.

Big Pay—Easy Work

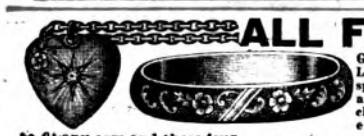
Agents! Make $35 to $65 a week right in your own town. Part time or all. We furnish Tailor Book with styles, samples, wholesale prices and all instructions FREE. Write for it Today.

THE CHICAGO TAILORS ASS'N. Dept 124 515 So. Franklin St., Chicago.

For strains and sprains

Sloan's Liniment KILLS PAIN

Penetrates without rubbing



ALL FREE

Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone and 22-inch chain, one Nethersole Bracelet



to fit any arm and these four gold plated Rings, **ALL GIVEN FREE** for selling only 12 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c each. Write for Jewelry today. Address

Eagle Watch Co. Dept 65 East Boston, Mass.

AUTOMATIC LIGHT FIBRE



Do Nature's Work. Easy Pay after Trial. State Stump Length, Above or Below Knee. Free Fibre Sample & Booklet. **WORMAN CO., 507 Andrus Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.**



FREE PHONOGRAPH

Wonderful, Clear Tone, plays all makes disc records. Machine and record free for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. postcards at 10c each. Order your choice.

GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 1225 CHICAGO



TYPEWRITERS

SOLD or RENTED anywhere at ¼ to ½ Manufacturers' Prices, allowing Rental to Apply on Price. FREE TRIAL. Installment payments if desired. Write for circular 29.

TYPEWRITER EMPORIUM, 34-36 W. Lake St., Chicago

You will be surprised how easy it is to get this fancy, embossed watch and stone set ring given for selling 20 jewelry articles at 10 cents each. Write to-day for the jewelry.



Arden Watch Co., Dept. 34 Chicago

FREE



Write today for 20 pkgs. Art Post Cards to sell at 10c per pkg. When sold send $2.00 and get your choice of presents.

PEERLESS WATCH CO., Dept. 420 Chicago, Ill.

MAKE BIG MONEY

Representing BIRCH Motor Cars

Drive a new 1917 Model Birch Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. Special offer now. Write quick for BIG FREE BOOK and full information. Address Ralph Birchard, Pres. Birch Motor Cars, Dept. 120, Michigan Ave. & Madison St., Chicago.



Elec. Starter 35 H. P.

Large Shaggy Teddy Bear

The Best Playmate A Boy or Girl Ever Had



10 Inches High And Full Jointed

FREE FOR A CLUB OF TWO!

EVERY little boy and girl wants a **Teddy Bear** and here is an opportunity for every father or mother who reads COMFORT to get one without expense. "Teddy" looks exactly as you see him in the picture above. He is a big shaggy fellow, over 10 inches **tall**, made of rich, handsome brown plush, paws lined with felt, carefully stitched and finished and his head, arms and legs are jointed in such a manner that you can place him in almost any position. He will **stand up**, sit up, stand on his head, go on all four feet, in fact, you can make him assume all **kinds of positions that are so comical and lifelike** that it makes the children scream with delight just to look at him. He also has a voice and **squeals right out good and loud** every time you squeeze his "tummy". "Teddy" is so well made that no matter how roughly he is handled he cannot become broken and with ordinary care should last for years. We will send you "Teddy" free if you will accept the following special

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this big shaggy Teddy Bear free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6992.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Irene, Springdale, Wash.—If the doctor, after examination, said you would have to go to a hospital for an operation, he certainly knew better than we do here in Maine, three thousand miles away. Wens and tumors are not exactly the same, but a wen may develop into a tumor, though a tumor will never develop into a wen. Some of the smaller wens may be removed, absorbed, without an operation, but when they are of larger size, only an operation will remove them, though many persons prefer the inconvenience, often the disfigurement, of a wen than risk an operation, which ordinarily is not at all serious. If you are not able to go to a hospital you might find a physician in your neighborhood who would be willing to operate if you were willing to permit him to do so.

Anxious Mother, Galion, Ohio.—We do not know of any human being who doesn't at times have backache and with some it is a serious matter. The ache may be due to numerous causes and the causes have much to do with the seriousness of the trouble. First then in treatment is to learn the cause and treat that. In many cases it can not be removed and relief is as much as can be expected. Usually this relief is found in hot applications, massaging, or in liniments, one of the best of these being chloroform liniment. Internal remedies must also be taken, but these vary so much that they can be prescribed only by a physician according to what is required in the treatment. Back-ache frequently comes from cold and is only temporary, a few applications of a mustard plaster, or liniment being all the treatment necessary. Lumbago and the other serious forms of backache require a physician's care. Your case seems to be in the serious class, though at your age you should be able to overcome it to a great extent, though you will always have touches of it, due partly to weather, to too much meat-eating, to carelessness in taking cold and almost innumerable other violations of nature's laws. Go to a physician, but do not take his advice or his medicine until he knows all you can tell him of the trouble and shows an intelligent appreciation of your condition. You pay him for what he does and you are entitled to intelligent and careful treatment. Most patients know so little about themselves that they are willing to believe anything a doctor tells them and the doctor knowing their ignorance tells them anything he pleases. At the same time, remember that disease in many instances is beyond the power of even the greatest physicians.

Mrs. E., Beatrice, Nebr.—How do you know the child has something the matter with his kidneys? Have you made a study of human kidneys and know the symptoms of disease? Judging from what you say, you do not, yet you are trying to do for your child what only a skilled physician should do. You are one of those COMFORT mothers who hazard the future health and happiness of their children by guessing at their ailments and applying home remedies. Take the baby to a doctor and have it examined and treated properly.

J. V., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.—Urinary troubles are common among men of fifty and past and are the result of age, but a man of thirty-nine should not be so troubled. That you are is due to some cause which only an examining physician can determine and whatever it is, the chances are that restoration to normal will be slow. Treatment unless you are examined is mere guesswork and valueless. As for the constipation, if you will exercise some care in your diet and will take with your meals a good, big handful of prepared bran, to be had at any grocery cheap, you will find within a week or two that your bowels will move as much as is needed and by continuing the bran, increasing or decreasing the quantity, as may be, you will in the course of a few months be practically rid of your constipation. With that removed, your bladder trouble will no doubt be relieved if not cured. The bran is harmless and is itself a healthful food. Bran rolls are delicious. But see a physician about your bladder trouble.

Ellen, Lebanon, Ind.—If pumpkin pie is injurious to kidneys millions of people in this broad land of ours are joyously injuring their kidneys every fall. If you have any serious fears about it, suppose you restrict yourself to about a pie and a half a day and two on Sunday. That won't hurt you. (2) The swelling of your finger joints indicates rheumatism and now is the time to see a doctor and begin a course of preventive treatment. You will have a fearful time and awful looking hands if you neglect it. Have the doctor prescribe a diet for you, which is more important now than any other treatment. (3) Don't worry about the flashes of light you think you see when the room is dark. Take a dose of calomel at long intervals to liven up your liver.

Mrs. L. N., Decatur, Ill.—The itching on the l gs and the powdery scruff may be relieved if not wholly cured by rubbing the skin night and morning with cocoa-butter, a most excellent and safe skin food for any part of the body, and very soothing to the nerves which cause the itching. Get it at any drug-store in a half pound cake.

Worried, Sunset, Texas.—If a woman has been suffering with nervous hysteria during pregnancy the child is likely to be similarly affected, but not necessarily so. Much depends upon the general mental and physical health of the mother. Any physical defect from that cause is hardly probable. A nervous predisposition might result, but if the child were otherwise strong, this would probably be outgrown under favorable conditions.

M. B., Covina, Cal.—Blood pressure can only be safely reduced by consulting a physician, and not always then. Blood pressure is the result of excessive heart action, or of contraction and clogging of the arteries and it is not a condition for the layman however intelligent to attempt to treat except under a physician's direction. If you are subject to disordered circulation it may not be necessary for you to see the doctor on all occasions, but you should have instructions from him as to what you can do for your own relief.

A. M., Riegelsville, Pa.—The red face and pimples are more the result of your youth than of any actual disorder and you will outgrow that before long. In the mean time eat very little greasy or sweet food and keep your face well massaged and thoroughly clean. The only medicine you need is a dose two or three times a week of Epsom salts before breakfast in a glass of hot water.

Flol, Bluefield, W. Va.—In the same space in no part of the body are there so many different muscles, tissues, nerves, organs and so forth to get out of order as in the throat, or the neck, rather. The choking pain you feel there may be ordinary sore throat, or tonsilitis, or laryngitis, or pharyngitis or bronchitis or some of the others and until you know which one to treat, you cannot treat any of them. Throat troubles are never trifling and they always have a meaning of their own which you will do well to talk to a doctor about and let him look down in there and see what is wrong.

J. V., Roll, Okla.—The disproportionate size of your calves is largely natural as your mother is similarly affected and very little, if anything, can be safely done to reduce their size. As long as they give you no trouble or inconvenience and your general health is all right, you shouldn't worry. Think how very much worse they would be if you had elephantiasis. Besides, ladies don't wear such short skirts in Oklahoma as they do in the East, do they?

Mrs. J. T., Dosiville, Miss.—In wearing Job's Tears as a charm against goiter, each person puts them on as she pleases and no arbitrary directions are to be followed. When you have charmed away a case of real goiter with Job's Tears, or anybody's else let us know with all details. Such treatment is a humbug. (2) We hope you are not like some of the COMFORT mothers we have to scold because they insist upon doctoring their babies when they have to guess what the matter is and then guess what is good for it.



45c 44-Piece Aluminum Kitchen Set

Shipped for only 45 cents down. Each piece is made of heavy gauge pressed sheet aluminum. Absolutely seamless. It will not crack, corrode, chip or peel. Heats quickly—no polish to wear off. Cooks and bakes foods more thoroughly than any other kitchen ware made.

Everything in the Kitchen of Pure Aluminum—44 Pieces One roaster consisting of 10 pieces. Measures 10 1-2 inches wide and 6 inches high. (These 10 pieces have dozens of uses—egg poaching, custard baking, rice and cereal cooking, etc.) One 6-quart preserving kettle; one jelly cake pan (2 pieces); two pie pans; two bread pans; one stew pan and cover (2 pieces); one lip stewer (2 quarts); one lip stewer (1 quart); one cake turner; one coffee strainer; one measuring cup; one salt shaker; 4-piece set consisting of salt, pepper and tooth-pick holder and stand; one combination funnel (6 pieces); 5 1-4 inch nutmeg grater; lemon juice squeezer; biscuit and doughnut cutter; 8 1-2 inch potato masher; 6 5-8 inch paring knife; and set of 4 measuring spoons. Order direct from this ad. **Order by No. B-2117-A. Send 45 cents with order, 75 cents monthly. Total price of entire 44-piece set, $8.99.**

Straus & Schram, Inc. Dept. 2011, 35th St., Chicago

Easy Payments If you want anything in rockers, furniture, jewelry, carpets, rugs, curtains, washing machines, crockery, silverware, baby carriages, go-carts, Men's, Women's and Children's apparel, stoves, ranges, or any article of home furnishing, don't fail to get our sensational easy terms. Only a small deposit—then pay the balance at the rate of a small amount per month.

Send Coupon along with 45c to us now. Have this fine kitchen set shipped on 30 days trial.

Free Bargain Catalogs Even if you do not order this set, write today for our big new catalog and list of special bargains. See the astounding values we are offering. Send now.

Straus & Schram, Inc. Dept. 2011 W. 35th St. **Chicago**

Enclosed find 45c. Ship the big special advertised Pure Aluminum 44-piece Kitchen Set. Sale price $8.99. I am to have 30 days free trial. If I keep the set, I will pay you 75c per month until the balance has been paid. If not satisfied, I will return set and you are to refund my 45c together with any freight charges I paid. Also send me your big catalog and bargain bulletins.

Name .....

Address .....

If you only want catalog, mark X in box ☐

If you want to know how to treat a teething child properly take it to a doctor and let him tell you as you should be told.

Erk, Baltimore, Md.—Malodorous feet are more or less natural and to cure is not wholly possible. The feet should be washed at least twice daily, with a few drops of ammonia in the water, thin stockings should be worn and shoes which let as much air as possible to the feet. Tan shoes are no worse than others, unless they are made of leather, or sizing used, which prevents ventilation. For that reason rubbers should not be worn, except when absolutely necessary. Air is the best disinfectant.

Mrs. J., Cazenovia, Wis.—Children frequently get foreign substances into their noses, throats or ears, and sometimes with disastrous results. The button your child got into its nose may have gone on into the throat and stomach and will cause no further troubles, but we are inclined to think it has found a lodgment back in the nasal passages somewhere and you should take the child to a physician who can examine it and remove it if it is still there, because it is sure to do injury. Why you did not go at once to a doctor passes our understanding.

J. E. J., Philadelphia, Pa.—If your skin is so tender you should not be so particular to have your face scraped to the quick, but give it a good once-over, shaving with the grain. You can get various depilatories at any drug-store, but their constant use will injure the skin. (2) Don't try to get your chalk and orris root to make suds in your mouth. That can only be done by chemical action which is more hurtful to the teeth than the plain dentifrices which do not suds.

Mrs. L. W., Humboldt, Kans.—Some cases of some kinds of eczema are incurable and though yours may not be one of those, you are only aggravating it by washing your hands so often. Soap and water are poison to eczema. Did you ever try wearing rubber gloves at your work? Don't be discouraged and every time you hear of a remedy you haven't tried, try it. Also keep your blood in good condition and make a study of the correct diet for eczematous patients. You may conquer it yet.



SHOEMAKER'S POULTRY BOOK AND ALMANAC FOR 1917 many colored plates of fowls true to life; tells about chickens, incubators, poultry houses, etc. Price 15c. Money back if not satisfied. C. C. Shoemaker, Box 936, Freeport, Ill.



WANTED—MEN

Prepare as Firemen, Brakemen, Electric Motormen, Train Porters (colored). Hundreds put to work—$65 to $150 a month. No experience necessary. More wanted in every state. Send stamp for Application Blank. State position wanted.

I. Railway C.I., Dept. C, Indianapolis, Ind.



Initials or date **Engraved Free** Friendship or Anniversary RING your size, for 12c., both for 23c. Warranted Sterling or Rolled GOLD.



Monogram Jewelry Co., 119 Nassau Street, Dept. 80, New York



FREE Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 8 years, for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice.

GEO. GATES CO. Dept. 225 Chicago



Nine Feet Long Thirty Inches Wide **Premium No. 4094** Given For A Club of Four

THESE Nottingham lace curtains are **thirty inches wide and three yards long** and are designed after the **latest up-to-date pattern, with handsome wide border and firm well-finished edge.** These beautiful curtains are suited to any room in your house whether it be parlor, sitting-room or chambers and there is an air of elegance and refinement about them which will dress up any home no matter how richly furnished it may be. We guarantee that every woman who accepts this offer will be proud of these curtains—proud of their real beauty and value and proud of the fact that she secured them without paying out one cent of money. We are now giving away these curtains free upon the terms of the following **CLUB OFFER.** For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one pair of these curtains free by Parcel Post prepaid. Or we will send you two pair for a club of seven one-year subscriptions, or three pair for a club of ten. **Premium No. 4094.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

500 New Songs, ELEGANT ASSORTMENT Recitations, Toasts, Parlor Pastimes, Etc. 10 Cts



It's a Long Way to Tipperary	Chinatown, My Chinatown	Choo Choo Leaves for Alabam'	California and You	Cubanola Glide
When Maple Leaves Are Falling	In Dreams of Yesterday	Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now	When I Lost You	Memories
Among the Sheltering Palms	I Love the Name of Dixie	Call Me Some Rainy Afternoon	Sweetheart Days	I'm the Guy
When the Roses Bloom Again	Mother -- A Word That	Alexander's Ragtime Band	On Moonlight Bay	Grizzly Bear
Tall Sands of Desert Grow Cold	Means the World To Me	When We Were Two Little Boys	Ragtime Violin	Rainbow
Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm	There's a Girl in the Heart	When I Get You Alone Tonight	My Hula Hula Love	Red Wing
Where the River Shannon Flows	of Maryland; Twilight	Waiting for the Robert E. Lee	On Mobile Bay	Hiawatha
When I Dream of Old Erin	Are You From Dixie?	Trail of the Lonesome Pine	Stop, Stop, Stop	Oh You Kid
I'm On My Way to Dublin Bay	When I Was a Dreamer	Let Me Call You Sweetheart	Just Next Door	My Pony Boy
Sailing Down Chesapeake Bay	Tulip Time in Holland	Will the Angels Let Me Play?	Oh Mr. Dream Man	School Days
Dawn of a Perfect Day	When You Wore a Tulip	Roses Bring Dreams of You	Mysterious Rag	Oceana Roll
When the Angelus Is Ringing	When You're a Long Way	Great Big Blue Eyed Baby	Oh You Little Bear	Red Rose Rag
I Love the Whole United States	From Home; Silver Bell	Silver Threads Among the Gold	Old Maid's Ball	Row, Row, Row

There's a Little Spark of Love Still Burning; I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier; If You Don't Like Your Uncle Sammy, etc.

ONLY 10 CENTS gets many of the above Latest Popular Songs, also many hundreds of other Charming Songs, Comic Recitations, Dialogues, Toasts, Funny Readings, etc. All in one Great Mammoth Book. Satisfaction assured.

100 PHOTOPLAYERS FREE To the first 1,000 persons ordering this immense collection we will send absolutely free, more than 100 photos of the most famous motion picture stars. This collection includes such artists as Francis X. Bushman, Anita Stewart, Mary Fuller, Bryant Washburn, Earle Williams, Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, etc. Don't fail to get this grand collection. You will be the envy of all the film fans in your town. Sent free with our great song album for only 10c. 3 complete outfits only 25c.

L. Republic Music Co., Lawndale & Lyndale, Chicago.

Box Of Initial Stationery, Envelopes And Complete Writing Outfit



Premium No. 3822

If, in place of this illustration, we could actually **show** you this splendid assortment of handsome high-grade **embossed monogram initial stationery with envelopes to match** and complete outfit of **everything you need to write with**, you would not believe it possible for us to make such an offer. However, that is just what we are doing and you will miss a **big bargain** if you don't take advantage of it at once. It is now the **height of fashion** and evidence of the **very best taste** to use stationery with **your own monogram initial or "crest"** on it, so in this big outfit we have arranged to give you **two dozen sheets pure white linen stationery** 10½x6¼ inches in size, **each sheet beautifully embossed in dainty colors with any monogram initial you desire, two dozen envelopes, one combination sheet guide lines and blotter,** same size as stationery, and a **complete outfit** of writing materials consisting of **combination pencil and penholder, one dozen best quality steel pens, one pencil and regular penholder.** The complete outfit being packed in a tasty box and sent to you by Parcel post prepaid. You would have to pay many visits to the stores to get together such a splendid assortment of writing material as this and **pay a big price for it in the bargain,** but COMFORT is always able to buy direct from the manufacturers at wholesale prices and this tells the story how we can afford to give you such **big value as a premium for a very small club to COMFORT.** Just think how nice it will be when writing to your friends to have your own **letter crest monogram initial embossed in colors** on this high-grade **fine quality stationery.** Remember you get **one full quire** of choice paper and **twenty-four envelopes** besides all the other articles in this complete writer's outfit so don't hesitate to send for this premium today because you will surely be delighted with it. It is **yours free** upon the terms of the following **Club Offer.** For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this splendid Writing Outfit free by Parcel Post prepaid. **When ordering be sure to specify what monogram initial you want. Premium No. 3822.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

November Prize Winners

The eighteen contestants whose names appear below have been paid the November Monthly Cash Prizes. All of them who win a December Cash Prize will be paid **double** the amount of that prize whatever it may be. The names of the December Prize Winners will be printed in February COMFORT.

Mrs. H. E. Logan, Texas,	**1st Prize**	**$30.00**
Mrs. T. S. Strong, Iowa,	**2nd** "	**20.00**
Mrs. G. N. Baillio, La.,	**3rd** "	**10.00**
Mrs. Lois Morris, Missouri,	**4th** "	**5.00**
Mrs. Anna Daniel, Tenn.	**5th** "	**5.00**
Mrs. Lawrence E. Gordon, Va.,	**6th** "	**5.00**
Mrs. A. F. Dennie, Tenn.,	**7th** "	**3.00**
Hanson L. Yates, Calif.,	**8th** "	**3.00**
Lewis F. Fults, Tenn.,	**9th** "	**3.00**
James R. McCready, Pa.	**10th** "	**3.00**
H. G. Christenson, Minn.,	**11th** "	**2.00**
Miss Eva Bayless, Tenn.,	**12th** "	**2.00**
Nannie Henson., Calif.,	**13th** "	**2.00**
Robert C. A. Parnoffe, Conn.,	**14th** "	**2.00**
Mrs. Wm. Hall, Ill.,	**15th** "	**2.00**
Agnes Wynia, Iowa.,	**16th** "	**2.00**
Mrs. Florence Tuell, N. Y.,	**17th** "	**2.00**
Mrs. Glenna Osborne, N. Y.,	**18th** "	**2.00**

Remember that each Monthly Cash Prize contest is separate and distinct from another and has a separate list of Cash Prizes which we pay promptly at the end of the month. Then at the close of the contest April 30, 1917, we shall also award the Grand Prizes, a complete list of which is given in our announcement printed on another page.

Every Monthly Cash Prize you win helps you win one of the Grand Prizes. The Monthly Cash Prizes and Grand Prizes are extra and in addition to your premiums. You are sure of a premium for every club or in place of a premium a cash commission of 40 per cent of all subscription money you collect.

Now is the time to start getting subscriptions for the January Cash Prizes. It costs you nothing to try and you are sure of being well paid for your work. Write for our latest Premium List from which you may select premiums for your clubs as fast as you get them up. And while you are waiting for the List, start a club to be placed to your credit on the January Prizes.

Daisy Tray Cloth



20X26 Inches — **Premium No. 7851** — For One Subscription

FOR the woman who wants an extra large tray-cloth of an unusual and attractive design we offer this beautiful new **daisy Design** which may be worked either in eyelet embroidery or solid and eyelet combined. It is **20 x 26 inches** in size and comes stamped on pure white "Butcher cloth" which in appearance and wearing qualities is equal to pure imported linen. You need not hesitate to put a lot of time and labor in embroidering this handsome table piece as you will certainly be delighted with it when it is finished and will have the added satisfaction of knowing that it will last a good many years. You can obtain this large, tray-cloth upon the terms of one of the following special offers.

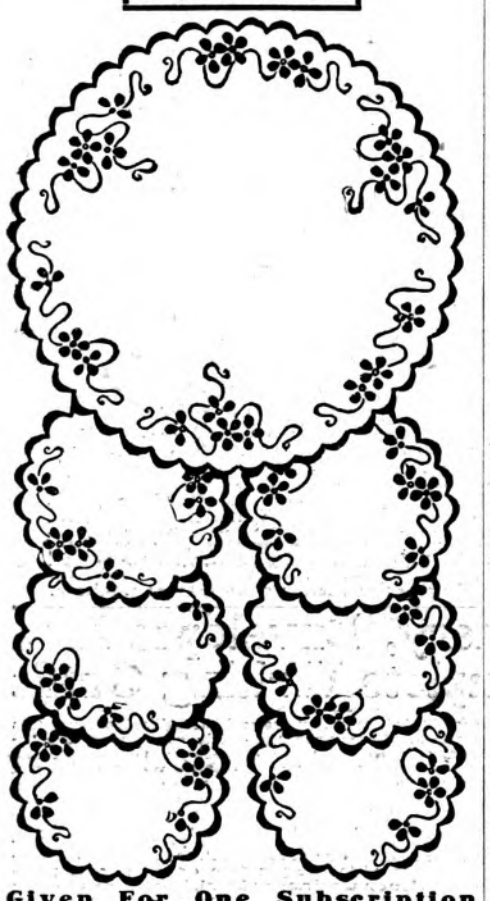
Offer 7851A. For one one-year subscription (not your own,) to COMFORT at 25c we will send you this tray-cloth, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7851B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 10c additional (35c in all) we will send you this tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7851.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Seven-Piece Water Set

Premium No. 7821.



Given For One Subscription

THIS very attractive water set consisting of one 10-inch centerpiece and six 5-inch doilies, comes stamped on white "butcher cloth" which has all the appearance of pure linen and will wear as long if not longer. The complete set of seven pieces comes on one piece of cloth and the design may be worked either in all eyelet or solid and eyelet embroidery combined with buttonholed edge. You can obtain this seven-piece doily set free upon the terms of one of the following special offers.

Offer 7821A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this handsome water set stamped on genuine white "butcher cloth" free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7821B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you this water set free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7821.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Books! Books! Books!

Here Is Your Opportunity To Secure Without Cost Enough Good Reading Matter To Last You All The Year. Stories Of Love And Romance—Detective Stories—Adventure Stories—Stories For Boys And Stories For Girls—

More Than 465 Titles to Select From!

BY special arrangement with one of the largest book publishers in the country we can now supply our subscribers with a splendid variety of the **very best reading** for every member of the family. You will find in the list of titles printed below more than **four hundred and sixty-five** of the finest stories ever written, all of them by **famous authors** whose names are known throughout the entire civilized world. Each title was carefully selected by us with the view of giving the greatest possible variety of subjects. There are love stories, detective stories, stories of school and athletic sports, of hunting and camping, of adventure on land, sea and in the air—in fact it would be hard to find a better collection of books to be read by everybody in the home, from the youngest to the oldest. Each book is **complete and unabridged,** 5 by 7½ inches in size, printed on good quality paper and strongly and durably bound in **handsome photogravure covers.**

Everybody needs a good supply of reading to help pass away these long winter evenings and here is an opportunity to get yours without the cost of a single cent. We will send you **free and prepaid** your choice of any book or books listed on this page upon the terms of the following

SPECIAL OFFERS! For one subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you any one book free and prepaid. For a club of two at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you any THREE books; for a club of three any FIVE books; for a club of six any TEN books; for a club of ten any FIFTEEN books. If you desire you may send your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents, and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and receive one book free. Be sure to order the books you want BY NUMBER and also GIVE AUTHOR'S NAME so that we will make no mistake in filling your order.

Give Number And Author's Name When Ordering

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Give Number And Author's Name When Ordering

Bertha M. Clay

502 All for Love's Sake.
424 At War With Fate.
454 A Bartered Birthright.
477 The Best She Could Give.
287 Beyond Atonement.
109 Bitter Reckoning.
488 A Breaker of Hearts.
147 The Broken Trust.
498 Condemned Unheard.
349 A Daughter of Eve.
481 Did He Love Her?
300 Enchained by Passion.
430 The Eyes of Jealousy.
497 The Fatal Lure.
448 Fate and the Girl.
310 For Better, for Worse.
135 For Love of Her.
126 The Gambler's Wife.
175 The Girl of His Heart.
420 The Girl Who Won.
416 Golden Fetters.
127 A Great Mistake.
255 A Happy Conquest.
401 A Heart Unclaimed.
358 He Dared to Love.
403 Her Cup of Sorrow.
108 Her First Love.
329 Her Heart's Surrender.
354 Her Love and His.
381 Her One Ambition.
423 Her One Mistake.
410 Her Only Choice.
450 Her Sad Blessing.
495 Her Sin of Silence.
296 Her Struggle With Love.
124 The Hidden Sin.
105 A Hidden Terror.
383 His Fault or Hers?
379 His Sweetheart's Promise.
112 His Wedded Wife.
294 The Hour of Temptation.
365 In a Siren's Web.
321 In Love's Bondage.
501 In Spite of Envy.
455 It Was Not To Be.
461 "I Will Be True."
123 Lady Muriel's Secret.
151 Lady Ona's Sin.
414 Led by Destiny.
490 The Life That Was Marred.
165 Lost for Love.
441 Love Against Hate.
445 Love Beyond Price.
265 Loved and Lost.
398 A Love Despised.
272 Love Finds a Way.
274 Love Grown Cold.
257 The Love He Spurned.
299 The Love of His Youth.

Laura Jean Libbey

138 A Fatal Wooing.
516 Florabel's Lover.
704 Had She Loved Him Less!
685 India's Punishment.
566 In Love's Springtime.
317 Ione.
534 Lotta the Cloak Model.
839 The Lovely Constance.
828 Love's Young Dream.
507 A Mad Betrothal.
326 Parted by Fate.
551 Pity—Not Love.
720 The Price of a Kiss.
820 The Pride of My Heart.
525 Sweet Kitty Clover.
543 The Veiled Bride.
335 We Parted at the Altar.

Emma Garrison Jones

890 Against Love's Rules.
868 All Lost But Love.
572 Amid Scarlet Roses.
696 The Bride's Opals.
942 The Face of His Dreams.
502 Fair Maid Marian.
959 For Jack's Sake.
722 A Freak of Fate.
751 The Gypsy's Warning.
612 Her Husband's Other Wife.
860 Her Twentieth Guest.
786 His Good Angel.
622 His Madcap Sweetheart.
544 In Love's Name.
909 Just for a Title.
308 Lady Ryhope's Lover.
899 Laurel, The Faithful.
929 Like a Leaf in the Wind.
631 A Love Concealed.
564 Love's First Kiss.
882 Margery, the Pearl.
509 A Penniless Princess.
761 A Reckless Promise.
813 Sorely Tried.
664 A Southern Princess.
849 Stronger Than Fate.
711 Taken by Storm.
532 True to His Bride.
744 A Useless Sacrifice.
922 When Man Proposes.
148 Will She Win?
932 With Beauty Beaming.
874 The Woman Without a Heart.

Nicholas Carter

468 Accident or Murder.
344 Against Desperate Odds.
508 An Amazing Scoundrel.
798 The Angel of Death.
260 At the Knife's Point.
757 Bandits of the Air.
494 The Brotherhood of Death.
788 The Buried Secret.
738 By an Unseen Hand.
786 A Call in the Night.
637 A Carnival of Crime.
936 The Case of Many Clues.
701 A Chase for Millions.
518 A Chase in the Dark.
238 The Claws of the Tiger.
804 The Clutch of Dread.
817 Cornered at Last.
785 The Crime of a Century.
498 A Cry for Help.
777 The Dead Accomplice.
496 The Demons of the Night.
726 The Devil's Son.
665 The Disappearing Princess.
478 Done in the Dark.
746 The Double Mystery.
123 The Elevated Railroad Mystery.
722 The Face in the Shadow.
270 The Fatal Prescription.
570 A Fight With a Fiend.
721 For a Madman's Millions.
544 From Peril to Peril.
550 The Girl in the Case.
296 The Guilty Governor.
614 Harrison Keith and the Phantom Heiress.
737 The House of Doom.
534 In Death's Grip.
778 In the Nick of Time.
540 Into Nick Carter's Web.
730 The Jeweled Mummy.
492 A Legacy of Hate.
199 The Man at the Window.
472 The Man Who was Cursed.
751 A Master Criminal.
298 A Masterpiece of Crime.
797 The Midnight Message.
790 A Moving-Picture Mystery.
783 The Mysterious Cavern.

Geraldine Fleming

737 At Her Father's Bidding.
698 The Battle of Hearts.
579 The Curse of Beauty.
804 A Dreadful Legacy.
781 Falsely Accused.
747 For a Flirt's Love.
656 Hearts of Stone.
691 Her Dearest Love.
597 Her Fatal Gift.
755 Her Priceless Love.
853 His Love for Her.
611 Is Love Worth While?
587 Katherine's Two Suitors.
623 Love at the Loom.
729 Loved at Last.
832 A Love Rejected—A Love Won.
719 Love's Earnest Prayer.
306 Love's Golden Rule.
634 Love's Golden Spell.
559 The Love That Was Cursed.
789 A Love Worth Winning.
680 Master of Her Fate.
604 Only a Working Girl.
643 The Power of Love.
770 A Queen of Song.
194 A Sinless Crime.
224 A Sister's Sacrifice.
708 Sold for Gold.
863 The Spell She Wove.
184 Sunlight and Gloom.
295 A Terrible Secret and Countess Isabel.
567 Trixie's Honor.
797 What Love Made Her.
249 What Love Will Do.
811 When Dark Clouds Gather.
842 When Hearts Beat True.
958 When Love Is Given.

Charlotte M. Stanley

962 As Light as Air.
799 Between Good and Evil.
823 Between Love and Conscience.
855 Could He Have Known!
714 Ethel's Secret.
693 For Another's Fault.
845 For Her Husband's Love.
459 A Golden Mask.
723 A Golden Sorrow.
812 Her Fateful Choice.
764 His Unbounded Faith.
706 In Love's Paradise.
756 Leola's Heart.
606 Mabel's Sacrifice.
734 Sylvia, The Forsaken.
835 When the Heart Hungers.

Oliver Optic

634 Always in Luck.
627 Among the Missing.
387 Brave Old Salt.
523 Building Himself Up.
589 The Cruise of the "Dandy."
565 Every Inch a Boy.
174 Haste and Waste.
571 His Own Helper.
577 Honest Kit Dunstable.
179 Hope and Have.
339 In School and Out.
160 Little by Little.
534 Louis Chiswick's Mission.
528 Lyon Hart's Heroism.
559 Making a Man of Himself.
615 The Prisoners of the Cave.
546 The Professor's Son.
333 Rich and Humble.
540 Royal Tarr's Pluck.
375 The Sailor Boy.
552 Striving for His Own.
595 Three Young Silver Kings.
315 Watch and Wait.
311 Work and Win.
382 The Yankee Middy.
603 The Young Hermit.
583 The Young Pilot.

Mrs. Georgie Sheldon

648 Gertrude Elliott's Crucible.
511 The "Golden Key."
520 Heatherford Fortune. Sequel to "The Magic Cameo."
512 Heritage of Love. Sequel to a "Golden Key."
730 John Hungerford's Redemption.
519 Magic Cameo.
676 My Lady Beth.
554 Step by Step.
399 Betsey's Transformation.
277 Brownie's Triumph.
351 The Churchyard Betrothal.
188 Dorothy Arnold's Escape.
144 Dorothy's Jewels.
476 Earle Wayne's Nobility.
407 Esther, the Fright.
111 Faithful Shirley.
282 The Forsaken Bride.
199 Geoffrey's Victory.
372 A Girl in a Thousand.
122 Grazia's Mistake.
451 Helen's Victory.
339 His Heart's Queen.
244 A Hoiden's Conquest.
222 The Lily of Mordaunt.
255 The Little Marplot.
299 Little Miss Whirlwind.
219 Lost: A Pearle.
391 Marguerite's Heritage.
166 The Masked Bridal.
133 Max.
382 Mona.
291 The Mysterious Wedding Ring.
155 Nameless Dell.
233 Nora.
288 Silby's Influence.
362 Stella Rosevelt.
373 A Thorne Among Roses.
415 Trixy.
177 A True Aristocrat.
311 Wedded by Fate.
266 The Wellfleet Mystery.
210 Wild Oats.
433 Winifred's Sacrifice.

Adelaide Fox Robinson

927 After She Promised.
918 All in Vain.
787 A Bartered Soul.
846 The Fatal Rose.
949 Forever Lost.
907 Hope's Winding Path.
937 If She Had Dared!
879 Life's Richest Jewel.
856 Loved in Vain.
836 Love Given in Vain.
801 Love is a Mystery.
769 Love's Harvest.
809 Through the Shadows.
817 When Fate Decrees.

Donald Grayson

673 Afloat in the Clouds.
711 Bob Steele's Last Flight.
693 Bob Steele's Motor Boat.
705 Bob Steele's New Aeroplane.
699 Bob Steele's Reverse.
667 From Auto to Airship.
687 In Strange Waters.
655 The Motor-cycle Boys.
661 On High Gear.
679 A Submarine Cruise.

Mrs. Mary J. Holmes

330 Aikenside.
946 Beauty that Faded.
972 The Cromptons.
332 Darkness and Daylight.
316 Edith Lyle's Secret.
352 Family Pride. Vol. I.
353 Family Pride. Vol. II.
925 Forrest House.
945 Gretchen.
926 He Loved Her Once.
973 Her Husband Was a Scamp.
325 The Leighton Homestead.
489 Lucy Harding.
954 Marguerite.
349 Marion Gray.
936 Mightier than Pride.
322 Mildred; or, The Child of Adoption.
310 Millbank.
334 Miss McDonald.
964 Paul Ralston's First Love.
935 Queenie Heatherton.
336 Rose Mather.
969 She Loved Another.
968 The Tracy Diamonds.
955 When Love Spurs Onward.
965 Where Love's Shadows Lie Deep.

Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth

133 Nearest and Dearest.
136 Only a Girl's Heart.
137 Gertrude's Sacrifice.
138 The Rejected Bride.
140 Gertrude Haddon.
141 Reunited, Sequel to "Gertrude Haddon."
142 Em.
143 Em's Husband.
144 An Unloved Wife.
145 Lilith.
146 The Bride's Ordeal.
147 Her Love or Her Life.
149 The Struggle of a Soul.
150 The Trail of the Serpent.
151 A Tortured Heart. Sequel to "The Trail of the Serpent."
152 The Test of Love. Sequel to "A Tortured Heart."
153 Gloria.
154 David Linsay. Sequel to "Gloria."
155 Why Did He Wed Her?
156 For Whose Sake? Sequel to "Why Did He Wed Her?"
157 A Skeleton in the Closet.
158 Brandon Coyle's Wife. Sequel to "A Skeleton in the Closet."
159 A Deed Without a Name.
161 To His Fate.
162 For Woman's Love.
163 Unrequited Love.
166 Fulfilling Her Destiny.
167 A Leap in the Dark.
168 The Mysterious Marriage.
169 Her Mother's Secret.
170 Love's Bitterest Cup.
172 Sweet Love's Atonement.

Bracebridge Hemyng

775 Bob Fairplay Adrift.
781 Bob Fairplay at Sea.
769 The Boys of St. Aldates.
347 Jack Harkaway Afloat and Ashore.
337 Jack Harkaway After Schooldays.
695 Jack Harkaway Among the Indians.
357 Jack Harkaway Among the Pirates.
759 Jack Harkaway and the Sacred Serpent.
378 Jack Harkaway at Oxford.
676 Jack Harkaway in New York.
713 Jack Harkaway in the Black Hills.
723 Jack Harkaway in the Toils.
743 Jack Harkaway, Missing.
685 Jack Harkaway Out West.
703 Jack Harkaway's Cadet Days.
327 Jack Harkaway's Friends.
317 Jack Harkaway's Schooldays.
733 Jack Harkaway's Secret of Wealth.
799 Rob Rollalong in the Wilds.
791 Rob Rollalong, Sailor.

Charles Garvice

599 At Love's Cost.
569 By Devious Ways.
635 A Coronet of Shame.
663 Creatures of Destiny.
650 Diana's Destiny.
741 The Fatal Ruby.
721 A Girl from the South.
640 A Girl of Spirit.
818 The Girl Who Was True.
679 Gold in the Gutter.
573 Heart for Heart.
749 The Heart of a Maid
591 A Heritage of Hate.
557 In Cupid's Chains.
700 In Wolf's Clothing.
826 The Irony of Love.
645 A Jest of Fate.
565 Just a Girl.
625 Kyra's Fate.
305 Led by Love.
655 Linked by Fate.
712 Love and a Lie.
280 Love's Dilemma.
774 Love in a Snare.
605 Love, The Tyrant.
615 Maida.
620 Marcia Drayton.
778 Miss Estcourt; or, Olive.

Edward C. Taylor

576 Across the Prairie.
504 Among the Cattlemen.
510 Black Mountain Ranch.
843 The Broncho Boys' Big Contract.
837 The Broncho Boys in Montana.
807 The Broncho Boys Mettle.
831 The Broncho Boys' Motor Car.
813 The Broncho Boys on Business.
795 The Broncho Boys' Prize Herd.
789 The Broncho Boys' Stowaway.
783 The Broncho Boys' Tenderfoot.
819 The Broncho Boys' Treasure Cave.
803 The Broncho Boys' Trouble.
825 The Broncho Boys' Vanishing Island.
777 The Broncho Boys' Wild Horse.
591 Captain Nemo's Challenge.
529 Fighting the Rustlers.
558 The Last of the Herd.
522 Lost in the Desert.
567 On a Mountain Trail.
636 On Prairie Trails.
582 Out for Big Game.
544 The Rival Miners.
672 Sunken Treasure.
498 Ted Strong, Cowboy.
660 Ted Strong in Colorado.
751 Ted Strong, Manager.
771 Ted Strong's Broncho Boys.
625 Ted Strong's Cattle Drive.
600 Ted Strong's Close Call.
654 Ted Strong's Crooked Trail.
739 Ted Strong's Diamond Mine.
765 Ted Strong's Gold Mine.
666 Ted Strong's Justice.
745 Ted Strong's Manful Task.
757 Ted Strong's Man Hunt.
618 Ted Strong's Nebraska Ranch.
609 Ted Strong's Passport.
678 Ted Strong's Search.
631 Ted Strong's Stampede.
642 Ted Strong's Surprise.
516 With Rifle and Lasso.
648 The Young Wolf Hunters.

Maxwell Stevens

438 Jack Lightfoot in Camp.
477 Jack Lightfoot's Blind.
444 Jack Lightfoot's Canoe Trip.
483 Jack Lightfoot's Capture.
411 Jack Lightfoot's Crack Nine.
463 Jack Lightfoot's Decision.
469 Jack Lightfoot's Gun Club.
490 Jack Lightfoot's Head Work.
456 Jack Lightfoot's Hoodoo.
450 Jack Lightfoot's Iron Arm.
426 Jack Lightfoot's Rival.
496 Jack Lightfoot's Wisdom.
399 Jack Lightfoot, The Athlete.
420 Jack Lightfoot Trapped.

A Corner for Boys

By Uncle John

WELL boys, the earth has revolved around the sun once more and our calendars tell us that a year has gone. May the new one be happy and prosperous for you. This department, as you know, treats largely on, "making things." In a certain sense, that is all there is to life, simply "making things." We make friends; we make plans; we make resolutions; we make journeys; we make a career. We must learn to like this business of making, if we are to be successful. No man is, of himself, greater than any other man, but his work or the thing he makes may be superior, whether it is a poem or a law or a chicken coop. We are judged by the things we do and our value to mankind is measured solely by what we create for the common good. Let this thought guide you during the twelvemonth now at hand. Consider the year a blank book and each day a spotless page upon which will be recorded only deeds of worth and merit, and make it your proud task to see that when the end is reached, it will not be still a blank book.

Simple Coaster

The rough-and-ready coaster is easily made. For runners you need two 24-inch lengths of sound scantling curved as shown in the picture. The cutting is done with a compass saw, the trimming with a wood chisel and the final smoothing with sandpaper. In Figs. 2 and 4 you can see how the runners are joined by means of two cross cleats or braces. The fastening should be with long screws and a hole should be bored for each screw before inserting it. The top platform is 22 inches by 30 inches and may consist of three 10-inch boards laid at right angles to the runners. Fasten them with countersunk screws. The holes bored for the rope handles are slightly larger in diameter than the rope used. The top of the sled may be padded with carpet or canvas. It takes some nerve to ride like the boys shown in the picture but of course you can ride sitting down if you wish to.



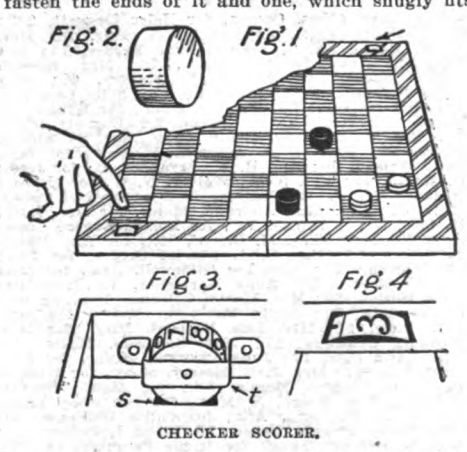
THE FEARLESS COASTERS.

Telling a Girl's Age

Young ladies, as a rule, do not like to tell how old they are, but you can find out a bashful girl's age by submitting to her the following arithmetical problem. Tell her to put down the number of the month in which she was born, then to multiply it by two, then to add five, then to multiply it by 50, then to add her age, then to substract 365, then to add 115, then ask her to tell you the amount she has left. The two figures to the right will tell you her age and the remaining one or more, the month of her birth. For example, if the amount is 822, she is 22 years of age and was born in the month of August. It will come out right every time, but, it is, of course, essential that the questions be answered truthfully and the calculation be accurately performed.

Checker Game Scorer

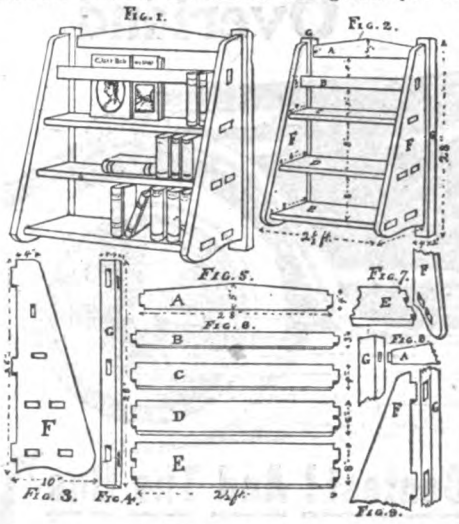
After you have played checkers for an hour or two with a friend who is about an equal match for you, you will be sure that you have won a majority of the games and he will be equally certain that he has. A good way to avoid such disputes is to equip your board with the simple scoring device shown in the accompanying sketch. It is pictured, in the rough form, in Fig. 2. A disk of wood one quarter inch thick and one inch in diameter will be about the right size or you might use a silk spool or an extra checker for the scorer. Figures are marked on the outer edge or curved surface and a gimlet hole bored in the center. Fig. 3 presents a view of a corner of the checker-board turned upside down. The letter "t" is a strip of tin or brass, upon which the wheel is mounted. Small screws are used to fasten the ends of it and one, which snugly fits the center hole, serves as an axle. A small oblong opening is made in the top of the board so that a portion of the wheel, bearing one number, may be seen. Fig. 4 makes this very clear. One of the scoring disks is placed at each of two diagonal corners. They will be found a genuine help and might be called peace makers. When you win a game push your disk around a notch and let your opponent, in like manner, keep track of his own victories.



CHECKER SCORER.

Book Shelf

This book shelf is constructed without the use of nails or screws. Mortise and tenon joints are used and glue holds them fast. First mark out and saw a side like Fig. 3. Fig. 2 shows the distance between the shelves and guides you in cutting the slots for the shelf ends. The slots are all the same size. They are cut by first boring one half inch holes and then squaring up same with a small wood chisel. Fig. 4 is two by four inches. The slots in it are one half inch deep. Figs. 7, 8 and 9 indicate how the parts are fitted together. Use white or yellow pine for the shelf and stain it a dark oak when complete. It is a very good plan for practise work. Extreme accuracy and neatness are essential. One way to vary the idea is not to cut the slots all the way through the sides. The drawings show the plan of construction more clearly by letting them come through but it is really not necessary and is a matter of individual taste. A shelf like this is nice for a boy's study corner and might hold stationery and much used reference books. The fine fitting is done with sandpaper. All parts are put together temporarily and when improvement seems impossible the liquid glue is used. First apply a thin coating and let it dry for a filler, then another is put on and the parts to be joined quickly brought together and clamped or weighted or tied until the glue has set. A whole day and night of the dryest weather is not too much time to allow for this.



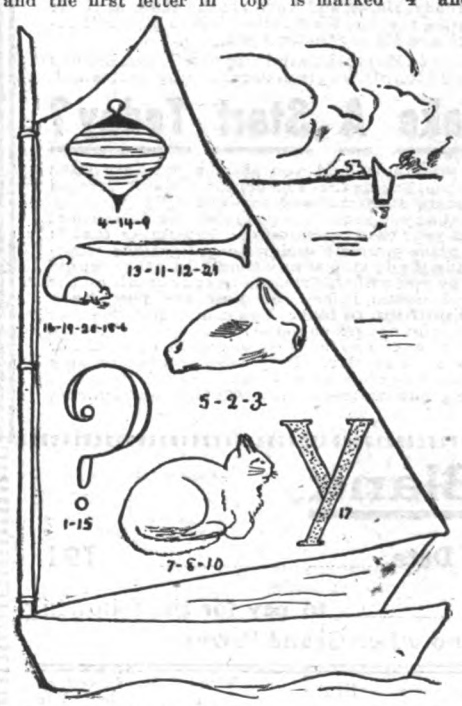
HANDY BOOK SHELF.

An Ice Mine

A glacier is an immence mass of ice which lodges between peaks in a mountain range and may be considered a valuable mine, if means are at hand to cut and transport it to cities. In Switzerland this was successfully tried a short time ago. The manner of working the deposit was much the same as the operation of quarrying out stone. Small holes were drilled in the top surface, and huge chunks then blasted out and poled through a down grade chute, a mile long, to waiting cars. The proximity of the railroad was the big factor in the success of the undertaking but considerable ingenuity was shown in the laying out of the work. Several degrees of grade were tried in the take away chute and at last it was perfected to such an extent that one man could move hundreds of tons of ice by exerting a pressure of only a few pounds on a specially made implement. As the glacier is continually growing at its uppper end and slowly working down the valley like a great river of solid ice it is an inexhaustible source of supply.

Puzzle

Write down the name of the seven objects, under which numerals appear, arrange the letters according to the order given by the numerals. For example, the first picture is a "top" and the first letter in "top" is marked "4" and is consequently the fourth in the sentence you are trying to build. The completed sentence contains twenty letters and expresses a thought suitable for boys at all times but particularly at this season of the year.



I am the captain of my soul.
Top, nail, mouse, ham, if, cat, y.

Riddles

Why does a baby walking on a broken sidewalk remind you of a musician?

Because he is a minor (A minor) and if he doesn't see sharp (C sharp) wil lsoon be flat (B flat).

Why should a besieged army prosper on a diet of sawdust?

Because it is fine board.

What should a drill master with a very rough voice do with it?

Smooth it on a file of soldiers.

Well, once more, I bid you a reluctant good by. If it were possible, I would like to have you with me in my workshop. But, my gracious, what an immense shop it would have to be. The biggest automobile factory in the world, with its 30,000 employes, would hardly be big enough to hold your lunch boxes, for, as I reckon it, there must be close to a half million COMFORT boys. Think what a clatter all the hammers would make and imagine the train loads of sawdust that would accumulate, to say nothing of chips and other rubbish; but enough, I will not think of that or may be the thought of some one's dropping a match will introude and burn up my pleasure dream. May your year be full of pleasant dreams and your dreams become realities.

UNCLE JOHN.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26.)

"Why didn't you knock at the window?" the latter demanded.

"Because Kit would have screamed!"

"But you didn't know she was here."

"I did." Maurice regarded the agonized Kit firmly. "I saw her boxes at the station."

"And never brought them!" cried Kit, ungratefully.

"I wasn't allowed to have anything to do with them. A cherry-cheeked damsel and a young man who appeared to be in the fishmonger way were just settling them on a barrow."

"A barrow! Some of them will fall off and be lost!"

Kit was still standing in the middle of the room, shoeless, with gathered-up raiment.

"How did you manage to time your visit so neatly?" inquired Nerine, subsiding into graceless ease on the hearth rug. "Did you know the old boy was going?"

"Of course. You wouldn't see me here if I didn't."

He spoke with magnificent carelessness which reached Kit's soul.

"*How* did you ever know? We didn't write," Nerine persisted.

Maurice grinned.

"Ask Kit. She was the last person who heard from me." He uttered this with such apparent candor that his sisters were completely deceived. "I thought I would just slip over without letting any of you know and see what you were up to. Come on, ladies, and consume jam while I take a turn at that chicken!"

TO BE CONTINUED.

We Will Give You This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling romance by Adelaide Sterling. It is a beautiful story having a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compels the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine. To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

We are sure our readers will enjoy this delightful story which will run as a serial in COMFORT through the remainder of the winter and the spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

ALL OF THESE FREE



This lovely Gold plated stone-set **Pendant** and 18-in. **Neck Chain** and this handsomely designed stone-set **Bracelet** which opens to fit wrist and these **3 valuable Gold plated Rings,** also this fine pair of sparkling **Pierceless Ear Drops ALL GIVEN FREE** for selling only 12 pieces of Jewelry at 10c each. We trust you and take back all not sold and we also give you a valuable extra gift.
R. D. DALE MFG. CO. Providence, R. I.



Myers "Lock Stitch" Sewing Awl. Sample complete $1.00. Low price to agents. **C. A. Myers Company, 6334 University Ave., Chicago, Ills., U. S. A.**

THE MONO X-RAY 10 cts



With this eye glass you can apparently see thro cloth or wood, see the bones in the body, makes the flesh look transparent. An optical illusion. **By mail 10 cts. stamps or coin.** The ARDEE CO. Box **242** Stamford Conn.



THIS GENUINE FRIENDSHIP RING FREE
Sterling Silver finish. To introduce our Jewelry catalogue, we will send this ring your size, your initials, hand engraved for 12 cts. **EAGLE JEWELRY CO., Dept. 38, EAST BOSTON, MASS.**

BUICK OR $1000.00 CASH FREE



Send me your name at once if you live in the country or town under 10,000, for my new easy plan for getting this New 1917 BUICK or $1000 in cash. It will surely appeal to you. No money needed. I have already given away 40 autos. Write today for full particulars.
C. F. ALDRICH, Dept. E, St. Paul, Minn.

10 Days Free Trial



Play on the violin of your choice—and test it for 10 days before you decide to buy. Send it back at our expense or pay for it at the rate of only a few cents a day.
Rare Old Violin Circular Free **WURLITZER** *We supply the U. S. Govt.*
100 years of instrument making
The products of the leading violin makers of the world are yours to choose from. See special circular.
Write Today for Special Circular. No obligations. Get full particulars of our offer and handsome illustrations of superb instruments. Write now.
The Rudolph Wurlitzer Company, Dept. 777
S. Wabash Ave., Chicago E. 4th St., Cincinnati, O.

GENUINE ROLL FILM **PREMO CAMERA FREE**



Or choice of Watch or Silverware or Electric Flashlight, or choice from our large list of premiums given for selling 20 pkgs. Post Cards or 20 Religious and Art Pictures at 10c each, your choice. Order today.
HERMAN & CO., 2310 Lincoln Ave., Dept. 600 CHICAGO

Help us remove this sign!



The Off-the-Street Club, where children living in the congested districts of Chicago can congregate, is overcrowded. The three-story building with its play rooms, its reading rooms and warm firesides are closed to newcomers. More room is needed. Will you help?

Those Outside

have no yard to play in, seldom a home for comfort. The dirty, noisy, crowded street is their yard and almost their home. Many a fine mind and many a sturdy character has been ruined in these surroundings.

Those Inside

are given a place to play during the day and evening, finding mentally, morally and physically, healthy companions. The children are not objects of a charity, but subjects for the making of opportunities. The Off the Street Club has thus developed a fine woman out of many a girl whose future was doubtful, and has built the manhood of hundreds and hundreds of boys.

It is heart-rending to exclude newcomers. But it is better to do this than further to overcrowd those within.

25c pays the expenses every day and evening for one child for 22 days

$1.00 takes care of 3 children for a month

$2.00 takes care of 6 children for a month

$5.00 takes care of 15 children for a month

$10.00 takes care of 30 children for a month

$25.00 takes care of 75 children for a month

$100.00 takes care of 300 children for a month

Send any subscription you wish (mailing check or money order payable direct to Corn Exchange National Bank, Chicago) or send first for booklet.

The Off the Street Club in Chicago is rendering such a **unique** service that everybody interested in social problems should investigate. The plan will appeal especially to self-made men and to women of strength—for this is not an ordinary "charity"—it is a movement for the making of opportunities.

The Off the Street Club is incorporated in Illinois, without profit. Open to all. No creed, no race distinctions. Practically no overhead. (The superintendent gets no salary.)

The men back of this organization are the publishing and advertising interests of the country. Practically every magazine and newspaper in the United States has a representative who contributes either in time or cash—generally both—to the Off the Street Club.

Stories of the Off-the-Street Club

By Edwin Balmer, the Noted Magazine Writer

We wish to send you free a little booklet called "Stories of the Off-the-Street Club." These stories, with many side lights and interesting tales from the congested districts of a metropolis have been written by Edwin Balmer. The tales are full of the deepest human interest. And they will open your eyes to the problems of the child whose home is the street. This booklet will be sent without obligation.



The boys of the Off-the-Street Club, having themselves been helped, are taught to help others. That, and that alone, makes for character. Here is a group of boy scouts from this club, taking Xmas bundles to poor families in the neighborhood. Would you like to send some extra money for a bundle?

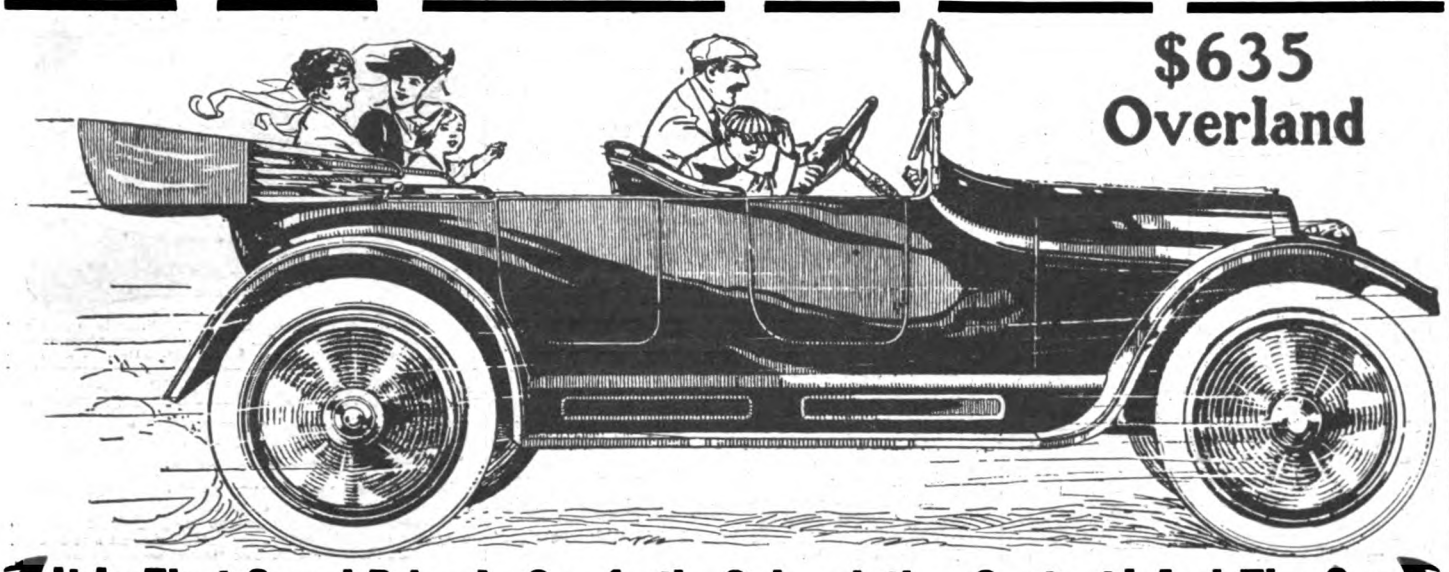
Off-the-Street Club
C. H. Porter, Treas.
c/o Corn Exchange Nat'l. Bank — Chicago, Ill.

I enclose my contribution of ..... 25c to $100.
for the Off-the-Street Club.
Please send me booklet of Off-the-Street Club with stories of the congested district.

Name .....

Address .....

This Fine Touring Car Given Away!



It Is First Grand Prize In Comfort's Subscription Contest! And The One Who Wins The Car Will Be Given The Money To Run It A Whole Season!

THINK of it! If **you** should come out the First Prize Winner in this free-for-all contest—and **your** chances are just as good as anybody's—you not only get this big, beautiful, powerful **1917 Five-Passenger "Overland"** but in the meantime you will have won enough **money** in Monthly Cash Prizes to **easily** pay for the expense of running it **all next summer**—and very likely **two** summers.

The man, woman, boy or girl who wins this car is absolutely **sure** of winning the cash also.

As explained below the Monthly Cash Prizes are entirely **extra** and **in addition** to the Auto and 61 other Grand Prizes. We are paying them to the contestants who send in the most subscriptions **each month**—up to and including April 1917. And as the Auto and other Grand Prizes will go to those who send in the most subscriptions **during the entire six months** (beginning November 1916) you will readily see why the winner of the Car—who has already won a large number of the Monthly Cash Prizes—will also have the money to pay for "gas" and other operating expenses for a long time to come.

Now is the time to make a start if you want a chance at this splendid $635 "Overland" and the other magnificent prizes named below. Remember—the Contest has been running only a few short weeks—and it is **not** too late for you to enter and **win** if you will start after your first Club **today.**

108 Monthly Cash Prizes And 61 Grand Prizes Besides The Auto!

This contest is open to all except our own employes, news agents or dealers and professional subscription solicitors. The Monthly Cash Prizes are awarded every month as explained further on. The 62 Grand Prizes, a list of which is given below, will be given in their order to the 62 contestants who send in the most subscriptions up to and including April 30, 1917. The $635 Overland Car will go to the one who sends in the **largest** number of subscriptions. The $200 in cash will go to the one who sends in the **second** largest number. The $150 in cash will go to the one who sends in the **third** largest number, and so on. Following is a list of the Grand Prizes:

First Grand Prize $635 Five-Passenger Overland Touring Car
Second Grand Prize $200 Cash
Third Grand Prize $150 Cash
Fourth Grand Prize $100 Cash
Fifth Grand Prize $75 Cash
Sixth Grand Prize $50 Cash
Seventh Grand Prize $25 Cash
Next Ten Grand Prizes each $15 Cash
Next Fifteen Grand Prizes each $10 Cash
Next Thirty Grand Prizes each $5 Cash

The Monthly Cash Prizes ranging from $180 to $2.00 a list of which follows, are awarded **and paid** each and every month—up to and including April 1917. They are given to the contestants who send in the most subscriptions **during each month.** So you see this gives you the opportunity to **win** one or more Monthly Cash Prizes—besides **one** Grand Prize—either the Auto or a Grand Cash Prize. Also notice that beginning with December the Monthly Prizes **double** and with January they **thribble,** thus giving you the opportunity to win **twice** and **three times** the amount of the original prize. In other words if you win a Monthly Cash Prize one month we pay you at once. If you win any Monthly Cash Prize the **next** month we will pay you **double** the amount of your second month's prize, and we will continue to pay double each **successive** month that you continue to win any Monthly Cash Prize. **Doubling begins with December.**

If you win the **same** Monthly Cash Prize **three months in succession** we will pay you **double** the amount of the prize the second month and **thribble** the amount the third month, and we will continue to pay you thribble the amount each **successive** month that you continue to win the same Monthly Cash Prize. To the contestant who wins the **First** Monthly Cash Prize **each** month for the **whole six months** we will pay **four** times the amount of that prize the **fourth** month, **five** times the amount the **fifth** month, and **six** times the amount the **sixth** month. **Thribbling begins with January.** Following is a list of the Monthly Cash Prizes. **The November Cash Prizes have already been paid and the names of the winners are published elsewhere in this issue.**

DECEMBER CASH PRIZES

First Prize	$30 or $60	Next 3 Prizes	$5 or $10 each
Second Prize	20 or 40	Next 4 Prizes	3 or 6 each
Third Prize	10 or 20	Next 8 Prizes	2 or 4 each

JANUARY CASH PRIZES

First Prize	$30 to $90	Next 3 Prizes	$5 to $15 each
Second Prize	20 to 60	Next 4 Prizes	3 to 9 each
Third Prize	10 to 30	Next 8 Prizes	2 to 6 each

The Cash Prizes for February, March and April are the same as those for January **with the exception** that the First Prize is $30 to $120 for February, $30 to $150 for March and $30 to $180 for April.

In case of a tie for any prize (a Monthly Cash Prize or a Grand Prize) a prize exactly like the one tied for will be given to each tying contestant.

You Are Sure Of Your Premiums!

Nobody loses in this contest. We are going to reward **every** contestant for **every** single subscription secured—either with premiums or a cash commission. Every club you send in will entitle you to a fine premium which you may select from our regular Premium List or any issue of COMFORT. And that very same club will be placed to your credit on the Monthly Cash Prizes and the Auto and other Grand Prizes. Your premiums will be sent to you promptly upon receipt of your clubs, or, if you prefer the cash commission, deduct and retain 40 per cent. of the subscription money collected and remit us the balance. In this way we liberally reward you for all of your subscriptions as fast as you secure them. The premiums or commission alone more than pay you for your trouble and you still have the opportunity to become the owner of the splendid $685 Overland Touring Car or one of the other Grand Prizes to be awarded, at the close of the contest, April 30, 1917.

Why Not Make A Start Today?

You are sure of your premiums, and you start a Monthly Cash Prize your way besides by mailing us the subscription blank printed below along with two or more subscriptions to COMFORT. We will send your premiums as fast as you send in your clubs. Or in place of premiums you may deduct your cash commission. Remember that in entering this contest you place yourself under no obligations whatever and you forfeit nothing if you stop at any time. In other words the subscriptions sent in by you will still remain to your credit on the Monthly Cash Prizes and Grand Prizes. **So you see you have everything to gain and nothing to lose.** You cannot possibly lose because you get your premiums or cash commission anyway. **Start a club today.** Get all your friends and acquaintances to subscribe or renew their subscriptions to COMFORT. They will be glad to help you out. Then mail us your first club as soon as possible, and have your name entered in this grand contest for the $635 Overland Touring Car and other Prizes.

Contest Subscription Blank

COMFORT, Prize Contest Dept., Augusta, Maine. **Date.....191**

Dear Sir: Please enter my name in the Contest. I enclose $.....to pay for the following subscriptions to be placed to my credit on the Monthly Cash Prizes, Auto and other Grand Prizes.

Subscriber's Name	Street and Number or R. F. D. Number	Box Number	Post Office	State	Write Below Length of Time Subscribed For

Send Me Premium No.....My Name is.....State.....

Post Office.....Street and No.....R. F. D. No.....Box No.....

COMFORT'S Subscription Price is 25 Cents a Year, 50 Cents for 3 Years, $1.00 for 6 Years. Two Years' Renewal (for old subscribers only) 30 Cents. Foreign Subscriptions Are Barred From This Contest.

7 Wheel Chairs in December

382 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

The seven wheel chairs in December bring our total for 1916 up to 72 and make it by far the best year's showing in the history of the Wheel-Chair Club. We have beaten our 1915 record by 21, which gives me hope that we may give this splendid mercy work a still bigger boost the coming year.

The seven December chairs go to the following applicants. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Miss Helen Daggett, Enterprise, Oregon, 202; Ona E. Catts, Paris, Ark., 171; Jesse D. Bryan, 303 Highland Ave., Winston-Salem, N. C., 135; Mallie F. B. Ferguson, Boston, Texas, 123; Wilhelmina Moore, Box 46, Vernon, Conn., 100; Mrs. Malinda Gillem, Courtois, Mo., 92; Herbert E. Walker, R. R. 1, Summerfield, N. C. 88.

Helen Daggett, age 18, had infantile paralysis ten years ago which left her crippled from her knees down. Mrs. Rosa Akers sent the entire 202 subscriptions for her, all in one club.

Little Ona Catts, age four, is another victim of infantile paralysis which has deprived her of the use of her lower limbs.

Jesse D. Bryan, age nine, crippled from birth, can not stand or walk. His mother writes that she is very desirous of the wheel chair so to take him out on the street.

Little Mallie Ferguson, age four, has been badly crippled since she had infantile paralysis two years ago and can only use her arms and hands a little. Her mother has five other children to care for.

Wilhelmina Moore, age seven, has been sick three months with infantile paralysis and has no use of her lower limbs.

Mrs. Gillem, aged 75, suffers severely from rheumatism which has made her a shut-in. She is a widow and dependent on her unmarried daughter with whom she lives.

Poor little Herbert Walker, age five, is entirely helpless, caused by spinal trouble which has been upon him from birth.



William Foster, Huntsville, Ala., In His COMFORT Wheel Chair.

These are all sad cases, but no more distressing than the needs of a hundred other applicants that are trying to earn COMFORT wheel chairs and need your help.

There is no space left for letters of thanks, but we have a fine Roll of Honor this month and the picture of William Foster seated in his COMFORT wheel chair will interest you.

Sincerely yours,
W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Subscription price is 25 cents, but if sent in clubs of five or more for the Wheel-Chair Club, I accept them at 20 cents each.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent

Mrs. Rosa Akers, Oregon, for Helen Daggett, 202; H. R. Smith, Colo., for own wheel chair, 78; Mrs. A. W. Barnes, N. C. for Catherine Barnes, 73; Eva Hickman, Ark., for Ona Catts, 70; Mrs. Rosetta Smith, Nevada, for Martha E. Harvey, 60; Miss Nellie Ferguson, Texas for Mallie Fay Belle Ferguson, 51; Miss Margaret La Chapelle, Conn., for Wilhelmina Moore, 50; Nellie Odell, Texas, for Emmett Odell, 50; Mrs. F. N. La Chapelle, Conn., for Wilhelmina Moore, 50; Mrs. G. L. Acheson, N. Dak., for Mrs. Della Wyman, 50; Mrs. R. W. Bryan, N. C., for Jessie D. Bryan, 49; Mrs. S. W. Walker, N. C., for Herbert Walker, 43; J. R. Claxton, Texas, for own wheel chair, 34; Mrs. Lena Andrews, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 30; A Friend, Va., for Roland Eugene Chewning, 25; Mrs. Thos. M. Blount, Mo., for Mrs. Malinda Gillem, 25; Mrs. S. A. Strong, Oregon, for Nada Pearl Strong, 23; Miss Lee Glidewell, Ark., for Miss Gerome Morris, 22; Anna Marsteller, Va., for Miss Anne Horton, 20; Mrs. Martin Coleman, Del., for own wheel chair, 20; Stella Robinson, Maine, for Mrs. Edith Cole, 17; Mrs. Lula Rutland, Miss., for Mrs. Amandia Summers, 17; May Robinson, Maine, for Mrs. Edith Cole, 17; Julia Packard, Maine, for Mrs. Edith Cole, 17; Mrs. J. E. Mossey, Mont., for general, 16; Miss Frances Morris, Va., for Maude Sparks, 16; Mrs. Nina Beach, N. Mex., for own wheel chair, 15; M. A. Williams, Ark., for Callie Williams, 15; Mrs. Rossie Propes, Texas, for Floyd Ledbetter, 15; Mrs. A. Earnest, Texas, for Mollie Ferguson, 14; Zoe L. Brown, Mo., for Mrs. Malinda Gillem, 14; Mrs. J. W. Dikeman, Colo., for Preston Morgan, 13; Mrs. George Osborne, Oregon, for Nada Pearl Strong, 11;

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33.)

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28.)

Sheppards, R. R. 1, Box 33, Va. Bedridden for thirty-one years. No means of support. Almost blind. Send him some of the sympathy that buys food, medicine and clothing. Myrta Eshbaugh, Tionesta, Pa. Invalid for fourteen years. Aged mother her only support, and she suffers from heart trouble. Sad case. Send these poor souls some cheer. Well recommended. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Adams, 26 St. Paul St., Bellingham, Wash. Aged couple. Poor, sick and needy. Remember them. Mrs Jean Neilson, Sagamon Poor Farm, Buffalo, Ill. Seventy-seven years of age. Alone in the world. Send some sunshine her way. Mrs. Clara Crawford, Hartford, Mich. Seventy years of age. Partially paralyzed. No means of support. Send her some of the sympathy that buys bread. Libbie Rangler, Continental, Ohio. Invalid for many years. Send her some cheer. Poor and needy. Mrs. Anna Teague, Nortonville, R. R. 2, Ky. Invalid for many years, send her some sunshine. T. A. Walker, Millboro, R. R. 1, N. C. Invalid. Unable to work. Has wife and four small children dependent on him. Give them a boost. Mrs. Nanie Craig, Critz, Va. Invalid. Alone in the world. No means of support. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Ulala Warden, Boonville, R. R. 2, N. C. Invalid. Would appreciate cheery letters and reading matter. Ruby Richey, Grove Oak, Ala. Little invalid girl, three years of age, would like cheery leters and reading matter. Julia B. Potter, Canon City, Colo. Shut-in. Would appreciate cheery letters.

Start the year right by doing something for these poor suffering creatures. Don't be a selfish tight wad all your life, don't leave all the giving to others. You can't start the New Year better than by trying to be human, trying to be Christ-like. Here's the opportunity to be both.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a 15-month subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

Uncle Charlie's Poems Will Help You Start the New Year Right!

No matter how gloomy the world is Uncle Charlie's Poems are sunnier than ever. They make you laugh, yell, scream and forget your troubles. They are the best medicine in the world. Uncle Charlie's Poems, a gorgeous, lilac silk cloth bound, 160-page volume of riotous fun. No home can be complete without this exercitatingly funny book. You will yell with delight as you peruse its entrancing pages. Among the laughs you will find a few tears and an absorbingly interesting sketch of Uncle Charlie and Maria preparing the monthly talks you enjoy so much. This superb volume free for four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. These subs. count toward our grand cash prize competitions.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book Contains 28 of the Dandiest Songs!

You can't beat Uncle Charlie's songs. Everyone is a hit and the book is a cracker jack of beauty, big and handsome with full music for voice and piano. Worth a hundred dollar bill to anyone who loves real, classy, melodious music, and entrancing words. Superb pictures of Uncle Charlie decorate the artistic cover. Free for a club of only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. Both books free for a club of six. Work for them today!

LONGEST TUNNEL COMPLETED.—Canada's new five-mile double track tunnel under the Selkirk Mountains has been named "Connaught Tunnel." It lowers the Canadian Pacific's mountain grade by 500 feet. It is the longest double-track tunnel in the Western Hemisphere, and was begun less than three years ago. It is a quarter of a mile longer than the Hoosac Tunnel.

A SMALLER POTATO CROP.—The estimated potato crop of the United States was about 318,000,000 bushels last year. This is hardly enough to supply the needs of the people until potatoes grow again. Unless housewives use care in making use only of what they actually need, they will have to pay excessively high prices and possibly go without them before spring.

7 Wheel Chairs in December

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32.)

Mrs. J. S. Dixon, N. C., for Herbert Everett Walker, 10; Mrs. Ovilla Empey, Utah, for Community Chair, 10; Mrs. F. A. Harrison, Texas, for J. R. Claxton, 10; Mrs. Naomi Moad, Okla., for own wheel chair, 10; Mollie Andrews, Okla., for Buel Hibbard, 10; Leithor D. Darter, Texas, for own wheel chair, 9; Mrs. Eugene Douglass, Fla., for Catherine Frazier, 8; Winnie Winters, Wash., for General, 8; Miss S. M. Day, Pa., for General, 7; Mrs. Lomi Hunt, Tenn., for Allie Ruth Scott, 7; Mrs. Artie Catts, Ark., for Ona Catts, 7; Mrs. L. Anderson, N. J., for General, 7; Minnie Ostrander, Okla., for General, 6; Lee Payton, Okla., for General, 6; Bertha Woods, Mo., for General, 6; Eva Bayless, Tenn., General Fund for Alice Scafe, 6; Ada Beck, Ky., for Annie Opal Beck, 5; Mrs. Jim Covin, Idaho, for Mrs. Arabella A. Sherrod, 5; Catherine Fraisure, Fla., for own wheel chair, 5; Miss Toka Henry, Ark., for Alva Sydney Price, 5; May Hutchings, Ark., Little Coffman boy, 5; Mrs. Jessie Joseph, Minn., for Mark Clark, 5; Mrs. James Mason, N. Dak., for General, 5; Eugene Mize, N. C., for John Calvin Shook, 5; Mrs. Della Purcell, Okla., for Alice Scafe, 5; Amy Roberts, Okla., for Ona Catts, 5; Mrs. Bettie E. Rucker, Va., for General, 5; Mrs. Edwin F. Tobey, Maine, for General, 5.

A Few Odd Breads of The World

By Edna Mary Colman

SCATTERED over the earth are many kinds of queer breads and some of them are odd to the extreme both as to the ingredients used and the methods of preparing them.

German ingenuity has devised a bread made from sawdust, that has been pronounced as nutritious for human beings though it was intended solely for horses. For this the sawdust is first put through a process of fermentation and various other chemical transformations, after which it is mixed with one third part of rye flour, formed into loaves and baked just like any other bread. "Pain de bois," the French call it, has been declared fit for men as well as their equine friends.

The Laplanders use the inner bark of the pine tree, which is well ground and mixed with oat flour and made into cakes which are cooked in a pan over the fire.

The Molucca Islanders use the starchy pith of the sago palm to make their little flat oblong loaves of bread which they bake in funny little cell-like ovens just large enough to hold the loaves. This pith gives a sort of a white floury meal.

Moss that grows on fir trees is converted into a bread for the Columbia River natives. After this moss is dried it is sprinkled with water, allowed to ferment, then rolled into big balls, large as a human head, and baked in pits through the use of hot stones. Freakish as this is, it is said to be not unpalatable.

In far-away Persia the natives sell their odd bread by the yard. Fancy buying a yard of bread!

It is made of the whole wheat ground up by the individual and made into a thin batter which is poured into a shallow pan and baked in hot gravel. Barring biting now and then into a bit of sand, this is a delicious bread that grows upon one. The bread man or vendor bakes it in sheets two feet to about three in length and a foot in width, while it is only about half an inch in thickness. When he is ready to start out he does not put this in a basket. He simply gathers up a pile of sheets of bread and sallies forth to sell it at about a nickel a sheet.

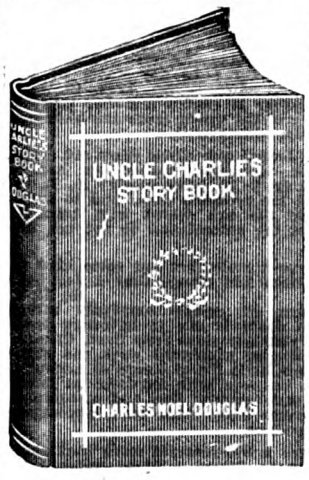
The California Indians collect the pollen of cat-tails in large quantities, by beating it off the plants and catching it on blankets. While this is used for making bread, their real luxury is bread made of "grasshopper flour."

The Sierra country Indians make their bread from a flour obtained from acorns. They shuck and grind a large quantity of acorn meat. A number of large bowl-like vats are dug out of the soil and into these are emptied the acorn pulp. Near by are kept clothes baskets filled with water, into which are dropped hot stones. Upon the mass of crushed acorn kernels, hot water is poured from time to time until the mass is about the color and consistency of cream. Not a speck is to be found for a squaw stands by each vat and with a small fir bough stirs the mass and removes any intruding speck that shows itself on the surface. The earth gradually absorbs the bitter waters leaving a firm white substance, which the Indians remove so quickly and skillfully that but little sticks to the soil. They spread this white substance upon the rocks to dry and afterward mix it with water, put it into thin little cakes and bake it before the fire.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his **famous chicken coop** and see **how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full** page, half-tone cuts **equal to photographs, that show** Uncle Charlie **and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat** in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most **delightful stories ever written.** You will laugh one minute and cry the next **as you read** these **entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read** how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in **heavy fancy blue paper covers for only two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. **Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.

Big Lot Of Beautiful Lace Valentines, Cards And Novelties!

All New Designs This Season

A Joyful Valentine Surprise For You

Premium No. 7291

Given To You If You Will Accept Special Offer Below



Large Handsome Lace Valentines, Dainty Novelty Cut Outs, Cupids, Hearts, Folders, Turnover Cards and a Splendid Assortment of Lovely Gold and Color Embossed Valentine Post Cards!

The Largest and Choicest Collection Of Up-to-date High-Grade Valentine Novelties Ever Offered For So Small An Effort!

WE realize that it is hard for most of our readers to secure the latest up-to-date Valentine novelties as generally they are found only in the stores of the large cities. So we have had made up for us **at a great bargain** by one of the big manufacturers a large special assortment of these **latest style** Valentines, Cards and Novelties including a number of **exclusive designs** which cannot be obtained in the stores or anywhere except from us. Best of all we will **give** you the whole collection entirely **free of expense** and as it is so large and contains so many different articles you will be able to sell quite a lot of them to your friends and still have enough left for your own use. Just see what this big assortment contains:

1 Large Lace Monitor Top Two Leaf Valentine Folder in a pretty heart and flower embossed Valentine envelope, 1 large Lace Periscope Heart Canopy Two Leaf Folder in envelope, 1 large Novelty Card Lace Pergola Valentine in envelope. 1 Magic Turnover Valentine, 2 Pretty Heart Folding Valentines, 4 Assorted Valentine Novelty Cut Outs, 2 Juvenile Valentine Hearts, 1 Handsome Embossed Valentine Folder, 1 Embossed Flower, Heart and Cupid Panel Valentine Bookmark, 5 Beautiful Gold And Color Embossed Valentine Post Cards.

February 14 is considered as St Valentine's Day although Valentines are sent all through the month It is a beautiful custom that appeals to all both young and old—the exchange of these sentiments of friendship, affection and love, these **tender Cupid dart missives** between husband and wife, sweethearts, near and dear friends and relatives, and of course, the school children like to exchange with their little friends these dainty love tokens beginning on the fourteenth of February, the month when birds are supposed to choose their mates. Most of the schools now have **Valentine Boxes** in which the children drop their Valentines to be distributed later in the day, an hour or more being set apart by the teacher for that purpose. And not only the children but the **older people** as well still are keeping alive the **spirit of youth** by sending on St. Valentine's Day some appropriate token of remembrance to husband, wife, sweetheart or friend

The befrilled and **lacy** cards with raised **cupids** and crimson **hearts** of which a fine assortment is included in this collection have been used much of late but the prettier and more original style of **full lace Valentines** are returning more in favor each year. We give you several special **exclusive** designs of the most beautiful **lace** Valentines obtainable, also the new **Novelty Cards** which are cut out by **a specially constructed die** of a very unique pattern

Our illustration gives you a very fair idea as to what you may expect as regards quantity but it falls far short of showing you the size and quality of the different cards, novelties, etc. The large beautiful lace Valentine is actually 6 inches long and nearly 5 inches wide, of the well-known **Monitor top** pattern of **pretty and fine lace work** raised two inches on an **accordion plaited standard** with a **heart and gold decorated base** and a charming illustrated sentiment of verse on the inside.

Two other handsome lace Valentines are also **exclusive designs made expressly for us**—one of them a dainty lace pattern on an embossed card over 6 inches long and nearly 3¼ inches wide, over the pretty face of a **young maiden** thus giving the **fine Pergola effect** so popular in the olden days. The other is a pretty **periscope heart-shaped canopy** of elevated **lace paper** on a background on which is shown standing a childish figure and on the inside you find an illustrated verse of proper sentiment. A most pleasing novelty is the **magic Turnover** Valentine which first appears to be an ordinary folder, then presto—a flip of the finger and **it unfolds** and shows a **smiling little girl** sitting on a stile and an **expectant youth** standing at a short distance, all of this being **handsomely printed in colors** with an appropriate verse underneath. This also makes a very handsome mantelpiece ornament as it is quite large and stands without support.

In addition to these very latest Novelty Valentines which we have taken pains to describe so that you will understand something of their **real beauty and attractiveness**, we also include in this remarkable collection **two very pretty embossed heart-shaped folders** with verse inside, **four choice assorted Valentine Novelty Cut Outs** of little children, **two red and gold illustrated and inscribed Valentine Hearts, one beautiful embossed Cupid and Heart Floral Bookmark,** printed in **bright colors** on a **tinted background** and **five handsome Valentine Post Cards embossed** in **gold and many bright colors** showing flowers and children at play each having the proper sentiment expressed by an appropriate verse underneath.

Thousands of our readers are going to send for this fine large Valentine assortment of **the latest and prettiest Valentine Cards and Novelties** and although we have a large supply yet we fear we have not enough to go around so take no chances of being disappointed **but send in your order at once.** You will be simply delighted with what you get and you will say that they are the prettiest, most original Valentine Novelties you ever saw. You may not be able to use all of them yourself but you can easily sell some of them or maybe you had rather give them to some member of your family, or to your friends or keep them until next year.

We will send you this big Valentine collection all packed in a neat tasty envelope **free and postpaid** if you will accept our special offer printed below. **Be sure to send in your order early so as to get it in time for St. Valentine's Day.**

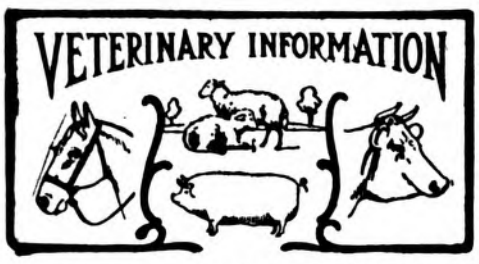
Will Cost You No Money!

Although a Valentine assortment not so good as this has been sold in city retail stores for over one dollar in the past yet by buying a large quantity **at a bargain price** from a leading manufacturer we are able to give them away among our friends and readers on the terms of the following liberal offers:

Offer No. 7291 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this big assortment of beautiful up-to-date Valentines, Valentine Cards and Novelties free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7291 B. For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and ten cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you this Valentine assortment free and postpaid. **Premium No. 7291.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta Maine.



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

No attention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

LUMP JAW.—On the left side of my cow's face is a large lump about the size of a person's fist. It does not seem to bother her. Any information on the above will be greatly appreciated. W. N. A.

A.—The bone tumor may be associated with the root of a diseased tooth which should be extracted or may be "lumpy jaw" (actinomycosis). If the latter you should have it *cut out* and the wound cauterized. If you cannot have that done paint it with tincture of iodine every other day.

GROWTHS IN TEATS.—My cow has a lump about as large around as a pea in both teats on left side. Last June she began to give bloody milk out of those two teats. Is there a cure? Is the cream fit for sale? MRS. C. A.

A.—It will be necessary to employ a skilled surgeon to remove the fibroid growths which cause the bleeding. Do not sell cream from bloody milk.

COUGH.—I have a Jersey cow three years old. Last spring she got ticks and since spring has had a hard cough. Is it likely to be tuberculosis? A. L. S.

A.—Tuberculosis is the probable cause and to make sure you should have the cow tested with tuberculin. Meanwhile isolate the animal and do not use the milk.

JACK SORES.—I have a mule that has some kind of a skin disease. It looks like mange that a dog has. G. B.

A.—This is a form of eczena commonly called "Jack sores" and no doubt is due to irritation from flies and infection of skin abrasions from dust. Cleanse each sore once and do not afterward wash the part, but once daily rub in a little bit of oleate of mercury. If flies are bad dust the sore with iodoform as found necessary. Shut the mule aginst flies and mosquitoes and spray exposed parts daily with some advertised or commercial fly repellant.

SLOBBERING.—I have a five-year-old mare that slobbers all the time she is driven. White water runs out of one nostril. C. E. K.

A.—Her teeth need attention as it is likely that milk tooth crowns (shells) of molars have lodged and should be removed by the veterinarian. For catarrh, causing discharge from the nose mix a dram of dried sulphate of iron in the feed night and morning for 10 days, then substitute a similar dose of powdered sulphate of copper for 10 days and then a like dose of iodide of potash for 10 days. Alternate these drugs for periods of 10 days until the discharge ceases. It would first be well to make sure by a veterinary examination that glanders is not present.

BLOOD IN MILK.—I have a cow that seems to be in good health. When we separate her milk, blood is left in the separator. Is there a cure? Should the milk be used? MRS. C. A.

A.—Keep a separate sample of milk from each quarter of the udder to determine which is affected. If all give bloody milk and the cow recently calved this may soon pass off but not otherwise. Very likely the blood comes from one teat in which there are growths which possibly might be removed by operation. Milk from an affected quarter should not be used.

LUMP ON ANKLE.—I have recently bought a five-year-old mule that has a lump on her right-hind leg, at the ankle joint. It is about the size of an egg and is hard. It doesn't seem to be stiff or bother her any way. I would like to know what treatment to use to reduce it. D. W. T.

A.—As the lump is doing no harm better let "well enough alone" as interference might set up irritation and do much more harm than good.

ITCHING SKIN. WORMS.—I have a fine horse four years old that has an itching skin. When he is turned out to pasture he hunts for a place to rub himself and sometimes cuts into the skin. There is no eruption and no hair comes off. The trouble seems to be along the back and rump. (2) My horses have pin worms. They have an unusual appetite, craving strange things to eat. MRS. W. B.

A.—Have the horse clipped and then wash itching places with a 1-100 solution of coal tar dip thickened with flowers of sulphur and repeat the applications as often as found necessary. Make it impossible for chicken lice to cause the irritation. (2) Pin worms inhabit the rectum and have to be destroyed by rectal injections of soapy warm water containing a cupful of tobacco decoction or tea to the one half gallon. Give them on three consecutive nights in one week. Also give the worm powders often prescribed here.

PARTIAL PARALYSIS.—I have a sow six months old that is losing the use of her hind legs. She has been fed on skim-milk all her life. When she lies on her side she makes a noise in breathing. Will she make good pork if I fatten her? MRS. D. P.

A.—Rickets commonly is present in such cases and after a time the sow will be likely to go down paralyzed. Stuffing hogs on corn and keeping them confined induces the trouble in a majority of instances. Allow her free range and fatten her for slaughter. The meat will be all right for use provided no serious disease, such as tuberculosis is found present.

RINGWORMS.—I have a Jersey cow that has hard circles under her skin on the hip and shoulder. The center of the circle is slightly raised, very hard, and feels like a scab under the skin. Please give a remedy. MRS. N. S. R.

A.—Scrub each spot clean and then rub in some iodine ointment daily. If this does not prove quickly effective cleanse again and paint once daily with tincture of iodine.

COUGH.—I have a calf seven months old that coughs as a horse does that has distemper. His throat is swollen, but doesn't appear to be sick. H. H.

A.—Once daily rub the throat from ear to ear with a mixture of one tablespoonful of turpentine in half a cup of melted lard. Twice daily give a tablespoonful of glyco-heroin and increase the dose if found necessary. This will help if the cough is not due to lung worms.

STOCKED LEGS.—I have a horse eighteen years old and a good worker. What I feed him does not do him any good. I feed on oats, corn and stock peas. J. M. C.

A.—The horse has indigestion. Have his teeth put in order by a veterinarian then feed from a very large box to prevent bolting of feed. Add wheat bran to the oats, also some old hard peas to encourage him to chew the oats. Allow him a box stall in the stable and each time he comes in hand rub his legs and then bandage snugly with flannel from feet to knees and hocks. Work or exercise the horse every day. Keep the bowels active. Do not give drugs of any kind.

LUMP ON LEG.—Can you tell me what to do for my two-year-old heifer? She has a lump about the size of a goose egg on her leg just above her knee. When she was a few hours old she run through a barb wire fence and scratched herself above the knee. As she grows older the lump gets larger. MRS. R. LAF.

A.—Do not cut the part. Clip off the hair and swab the lump with tincture of iodine once daily. Stop for a time if the skin becomes sore. After calving the lump may be opened if that appears necessary.

HEAVES.—Please give remedy for heaves, if there is any. E. O. R.

A.—As often advised here feed grass in summer and wet oat straw or bundles in winter instead of hay. Do not give any bulky feed at noon if the horse has to work and do not work him soon after a meal. Keep the bowels active by feeding carrots, bran or silage. Night and morning give one tablespoonful (half an ounce) of Fowler's solution of arsenic until no longer needed, then gradually discontinue the medicine taking a week or more to the work. This treatment will relieve distress but heaves is incurable when established.

The Goddess of Lonesome Ranch

By Hapsburg Liebe

Copyright, 1916, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

BILL SELFORD, cowman and ranch-owner, was in love with a picture; it was on a six-year-old calendar, and it was the picture of a young woman and a blonde. It is not so strange. That pictured face was the only blonde face Bill Selford had seen for five years, and Bill Selford was a young and stalwart and thoroughly natural specimen of the genus homo. He did not like brunettes; the Mexican girls and the half-caste girls and even the full-blooded Spanish girls, from across the border had but caused him to love the picture more. That blonde face had come to mean to Bill Selford all that was good and sweet and beautiful in womankind. It was not too serious, and not too gay; it seemed sympathetic behind its winsome smile, and sometimes it seemed a little mischievous and a little saucy too. The original, the owner of Lonesome Ranch had told himself hundreds of times, was a woman one might depend upon to get him something good to eat and know just where to find his house shoes, a woman who would bear a good man's name well.

Bill Selford stood before the picture now. It hung above his scarred desk, in the front room of his plain but comfortable ranch house. His broad-rimmed Stetson was off, as though in reverence to his paper goddess; his coal-black hair was rumpled and damp, at the temples, with perspiration, for the Texas day was warm. Always before he had eyed her wistfully, as one looks at some coveted thing that is hopelessly out of one's reach; but now he regarded her determinedly, somehow triumphantly, with his smooth, tanned cheeks pink toward their centers and his hazel-brown eyes unwontedly bright.

"I may not find you, myself," he said aloud, dropping to his desk a check for thirty thousand dollars, on which the ink was hardly dry; "but I'll find one o' your type, all right; I'll find one so near like you that I won't notice the difference!"

He drawled it in the musical drawl of the native Tennessean. Long years in the solitudes of the Southwest had taught him to talk to himself. He went on, in the same low tone:

"You look sassy—sassier than you've ever looked before! But that don't make no difference, honey. Not a particle. When I find you, I'll marry you. If I have to carry you off like a cave man, I'll marry you. I've got lots o' money now, and we'll have a planner, and heaps o' nice things and dishes in the house. You can have anything you want, honey, unless it's a poodle dawg. I could stand for a Gila monster, or a di'mo..d-back rattler, or a Tasmanian devil for a pet; but I couldn't stand for no poodle dawg!"

The sound of smothered laughing fell upon his ears; then the laughter reached a loud and unrestrained guffaw. Selford turned quickly and beheld, standing in the doorway, a tall, lean, tanned, youngish but bearded fellow in characteristic Western attire. It was "Pokerface" Allen, once more or less notorious as an artist in the old game of holdup.

"You—Pokerface!" Selford grinned sheepishly. "How long you been standin' there listenin' to my somnambulism?"

The newcomer's countenance suddenly became as blank as a board, and therein lies the secret of his nickname.

"Oh, 'bout an hour——"

"Nothin' like it!" Selford broke in.

Pokerface Allen drew his brows and jerked up his shoulders. "Oh, well!" he exclaimed—"let that pass. Say, do you mind tellin' me who was the big old skeezicks who just left here in the new buck?"

"Oil man from El Paso," Selford answered. "I sold him forty acres off o' the north end o' my ranch for thirty thousand. It was my oil prospect, you know. And now," with a grin, "I'm goin' to some big town and have a big time——"

"And look up the original o' that there paper goddess," interrupted Pokerface Allen. "And I'm goin' with you. I couldn't let my old side-kicker go off alone into the cruel world! I ain't got the money to pay my way, and I ain't goin' to sponge off o' you, so I'll go as your *valet*."

"My *valet!*" echoed the ranchman.

"Yes," said Allen, blandly. "You'll go in swell style, when you go out to make your social de*but* and look for a skirts, so you'll have to have a *valet*. I'll shave off all o' my hair but a pair o' good, long peninsulars, and I'll talk Englishly, and you'll address me as 'Harmsworth.' See? Believe me, I know how to do it. I've read mountains o' books about high life in England. Listen to me talk a little, as your man 'Harmsworth'——

"Hi s'y, Mister William, and 'ow are you this morning, sir?" without a change of countenance save for a twinkle in his clear gray eyes.

Selford was thoughtful. He much regretted to refuse to employ Allen as a valet. He liked the homeless man; Allen had lightened many heavy and lonesome hours for him, and several times Allen had rendered valuable service when Mexican cattle-rustlers came to Lonesome Ranch.

Pokerface fingered his young beard. "Look here, Bill," with great earnestness. "You're the only friend I've got on earth. I've done quit the gamble and the holdup, but it's hard—you know it is, Bill—to live down a bad name. I want to go with you, honest. I'll go for bare my expenses. You'll be lonesomer than ever without somebody you know."

Selford reconsidered. If he went in style, he *would* have to have a valet. Perhaps Allen would do as well as anyone else, since Allen knew so much about high life in England.

"All right, Harmsworth," he agreed. "You'll find a razor in there," pointing. "You can wear some of my clothes until we get to New Orleans, and then we'll outfit complete in some real glad stuff."

Two minutes later, Pokerface Allen was strapping a razor and singing:

> "I'm a goin' to live, anyhow, 'til I die—
> I'm a goin' to live, anyhow, 'til I die!
> Anyhow, anyhow, 'til I die—
> Anyhow, 'til I die!"

Which meant that, whatever happened, he would live until he died.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

Mr. William Selford and his valet reached New Orleans the day after Christmas. They had barely finished fitting themselves out in fine new clothing, which included broad-rimmed and dove-colored Stetson hats, when Selford caught sight of a young woman who very much resembled the paper goddess of Lonesome Ranch. She was on the street, and a big and florid elderly man was with her. Selford and his valet followed the couple to the railway station, where the elderly man bought two fares to Lesterville, which is a winter resort on the Gulf coast.

"Yankees, I'd say," muttered Pokerface, thoughtfully stroking his smoothly shaven chin.

"Southerners, is my bet," replied Selford—"look at that!"

Allen was already looking. He saw a dark, low-browed man in black accost the girl's father angrily; he saw the old fellow stare resentfully, turn, take his daughter by the arm and go with her toward the waiting train. The dark, low-browed man clenched his fists and jerked the corners of his mouth down savagely.

"Enter the sleek and oily villain!" grinned Pokerface.

"Correct—the first guess!" agreed Selford. "I never read of a villain that could outshine him. Pointed black mustache, bull neck—by cripes, if he ain't buyin' a ticket to Lesterville too! I guess we'd better go to Lesterville, hadn't we?"

"Sure. We'll wire back for our baggage—I mean our luggage."

So they went to Lesterville and wired back for their luggage.

Lesterville on the Gulf coast is only a village. There are two or three old business houses, a few old dwellings, a dozen cottages owned by wealthy Northerners, and a big, wooden hotel which sets in a grove of palms. The hotel's grounds run down to the bay, and there is a wharf for motor launches. Selford and Allen went to The Palms, and there demanded the best rooms available; they got them and paid for them in advance. Then they began to lay a plan by which they hoped to make a big impression on the couple they had followed from New Orleans.

And this is how it worked:

After breakfast the next morning, Selford ambled out to the broad front veranda and sat down not far from his heart's desire and her father. He paid no attention to them. A moment later, Allen walked up with a newspaper.

"'Ere is the morning paper, Mister William, sir," he said, bowing pompously. "And 'ow are you this morning, sir? Hi trust you like the haccommodations 'ere better than in New Horleans, sir?"

"Pretty fair, Harmsworth, pretty fair," Selford growled. "Oh, by the way, Harmsworth, you might buy us a couple of good horses, also wire Bellew to have the big car overhauled and shipped as soon as possible. I think I'll like this place. It's very quiet, you know."

"Yes, sir, Mister William," and Allen bowed, his countenance as blank as a board, and turned away.

Fate has a fashion of helping or hindering the plans of us poor little mortals at her will—or caprice. Fate stepped in now. The villainous-looking, low-browed bull-necked man appeared on the veranda; he walked hurriedly up to the girl's father, and said a few words in an angry tone. The old man and his daughter rose. The low-browed man drew back to strike. Selford sprang and seized his uplifted arm.

"No fighting before a lady," Selford growled menacingly. "You better clear out."

"What's it to you?" demanded the dark man. "What you got to do with it, anyway? I——"

Selford propelled him to the veranda steps and pushed him to the lawn.

"And if you come back here any more, I'll thrash you!" he promised.

The dark man went away grumbling, and Selford returned to the couple.

"I hope you wasn't badly scared," he said to the girl.

"Not very badly," she answered, smiling in a way that reminded the Westerner of the picture on the six-year-old calendar at Lonesome Ranch.

"The fellow worked for me and we had a falling out," said the girl's father. "I assure you I am obliged to you for your kindly and timely interference, sir. A fellow can't do much fighting when he is fifty. My name is Ward, sir—C. C. C. Ward, the broker—and this is my daughter, Beatrice."

After the introductions, the two men sat down and began to talk business. Ward was interested in copper. Selford said his line was oil. Oil was going a little slow. Copper was booming. Beatrice left them, as though she disliked business and went down through the grounds toward the bay shore. A minute later, Selford followed her. He spent the remainder of the morning with her, and he fell in love with her deeply.

"She's a throughbred," he told Pokerface Allen that afternoon. "No love makin' wouldn't go. She wouldn't stand for no slush, mush, gush nor no such stuff. Say, Pokerface, I'm goin' to take a flier in copper, a heavy flier. I'm goin' to make, or lose, a big bunch o' money."

A few weeks passed. They were not altogether without incident. Bill Selford had come to love Beatrice Ward so much that he dreamed of her every time he slept, and Bill Selford had lost all his money in copper. The——

Pokerface Allen went to his master early one morning, and said, in a low and excited tone:

"Simpson Caudle held up old C. C. C. Ward last night, took his watch and his money, and beat him considerable. It was after you'd went to bed. The police got Caudle, and locked him up, and I——" this in a whisper—"pried some bars loose and set him free!"

Simpson Caudle was the dark, low-browed, bull-necked man with the pointed black mustache.

"You set him free!" Selford exclaimed, unbelievingly. "Why did you do that, Pokerface?"

TO BE CONCLUDED IN FEBRUARY.

Blinded by his idolizing love of Beatrice, Selford can not see that it is her father who has swindled him out of a fortune and he is still an easy mark for Ward's further schemes. To this fine tangle of Selford's love and business affairs Pokerface butts in, without his master's knowledge, and proceeds to fight the devil with his own weapons. Pokerface's desperate expedient and its remarkable outcome make a thrilling conclusion of this interesting story. Renew your subscription today so to make sure not to miss it in February COMFORT.

New Illustrated Book FREE Write at once for your free copy of this Intensely interesting illustrated book showing how disease is successfully eradicated through advanced Drugless Healing.



CHIRO-PRACTIC Our direct, practical, profusely illustrated course surely and quickly prepares you at home, during spare time, to enter this amazingly profitable profession. Everything so clear and easy that if you can read and write, you can readily master it—splendid openings. Easy, pleasant and surprisingly lucrative. Chiropractors make as high as **$25 a Day** while yearly incomes of $5,000 and $6,000 are not uncommon.

Free Charts and Lessons For a short time only we offer 20 complete lesson sections of the Course and $15 set of 8 charts, absolutely free. This offer strictly limited. Send your name and address today for valuable free illustrated book on drugless healing and full particulars.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, Dept. 718, Masierre Building, Chicago



Wrestling Book FREE

"Here's your chance to be an expert wrestler. Learn easily at home by mail from world's champions Frank Gotch and Farmer Burns. Free book tells you how. Secret holds, blocks and tricks revealed. Don't delay. Be strong and healthy. Handle big men with ease. Write today. State your age. Farmer Burns, 3041 Ramge Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

$310 Harley-Davidson Motorcycle FREE

25 | 15 | 21
23 | 9 | 14

We will give away a $310 1917 model Harley-Davidson Motorcycle and Thousands of Dollars in Special Premiums, Prizes and Cash Rewards. Solve the puzzle. Each number represents a letter, 1 is A, 2 is B, etc. All letters make a sentence of two words. Sentence appears once in this ad. Send your answer with your name and address at once. If your answer is correct we will send you at once **1000 Free Votes** toward the Motorcycle and other Grand Prizes. In addition to the $310 Motorcycle and Other Grand Prizes and Cash Rewards, we will give away twelve 1917 model Coaster Brake $40 Bicycles. These will be given free and extra, regardless of who gets the motorcycle. Someone will win this $310 Motorcycle. YOU WIN. Send answer, name and address to FARM LIFE, BOX 151 SPENCER, INDIANA.

VETERINARY COURSE AT HOME



Taught in simplest English during spare time. Diploma granted. Cost within reach of all. Satisfaction guaranteed. Have been teaching by correspondence twenty years. Graduates assisted in many ways. Every person interested in stock should take it. Write for catalogue and full particulars - - - **FREE**

LondonVet.Correspondence School Dept. 8, London, Ontario, Can.

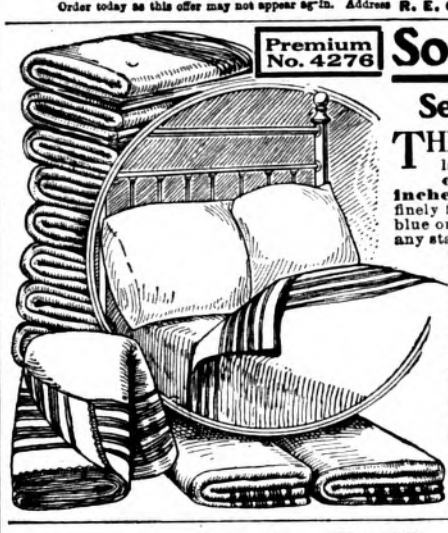
$1.50 Sample Watch Free



Genuine full standard size railroad style watch with locomotive on dial and locomotive handsomely engraved on back. Full nickel plated case, extra dust proof, Arabic numerals on dial, heavy R. R. style figures. Genuine American make, stem wind and set, fully GUARANTEED for 5 YEARS. To advertise our business and introduce this wonderful watch and our great catalogue of Elgin, Waltham and Hampden watches we will send this elegant watch to any address by mail postpaid for ONLY $1.50 and if you sell two of these watches we will give you ONE SAMPLE WATCH FREE for your trouble. Send this advertisement with $1.50 and watch will be sent by mail postpaid, or send $3.00 for two and we will send ONE EXTRA WATCH FREE. Order today as this offer may not appear again. Address R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 538 So. Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.

6 YEAR GUARANTEE

Premium No. 4276 Soft Warm Bed Blankets



Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Six

THIS IS an offer which no good housewife can afford to overlook. It is your opportunity to secure as many large comfortable bed blankets as you may need **without a cent of expense.** These fine double blankets are **72 inches long and 55 inches wide,** extremely well made and finely finished. They are pure white in color and come with either blue or pink borders. Please notice that they are large enough for any standard size bed being of sufficient length to come up well on the pillow and wide enough so that they may be snugly tucked in at the sides. This is in reality one of the best bargains in a premium we have ever offered on account of the fact that we have bought a large quantity of these blankets direct from the mill at a special low price and therefore are enabled to offer them to our readers for a very small club of subscriptions. When you think of this big warm blanket on your bed or lying on a closet shelf ready for use when wanted, we believe that you will want to start a club at once for the sake of securing one or more of them free of all cost to you. We will gladly send you one or more of these splendid blankets upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each; we will send you one of these large, double bed blankets free by Parcel Post prepaid. You may have your choice of either blue or pink border. **Prem. No. 4276.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Beautiful Silk Pieces

Premium No. 5561



Remnants of real silk, in all shapes, sizes and colors. They are **carefully trimmed and just what you need for making up beautiful quilts, tidies, pillow tops and all kinds of "crazy patchwork."** We will send you a **big package** containing **one hundred** of these beautiful **silk pieces** besides **a piece of plush and 5 skeins embroidery silk in different bright colors.** If you order **at once** we will also send you, **in addition** to everything else, an **Instruction Book with eight full-page illustrations** showing how to ornament seams of crazy patchwork and other work where fancy stitches are used. It tells you **how** to put pieces of patchwork together **to get the best effect,** how to **cover up seams** with fancy stitches, how to **join the edges,** etc. This book illustrates over **one hundred and fifty** of these besides containing full and explicit directions for working the **Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille embroidery, ribbon work, plush or tufted stitch** also directions for **Kensington painting.** Remember you get one big lot of these Silk Remnants (100 pieces), 5 skeins Embroidery Silk, one piece of Plush, and an Instruction Book, as above described, all sent to you **free by Parcel Post prepaid** if you will accept either one of the following offers.

Offer No. 5561A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you one package of these Silk Remnants, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 5561B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you one package of these Remnants free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5561.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents Make Big Money. The Best line of food flavors, perfumes, soaps and toilet preparations, etc. ever offered. Over 250 light weight, popular priced, quick selling necessities—in big demand—well advertised—easy sellers—big repeaters. Over 100% profit. Complete outfits furnished free to workers. Just a postal today. American Products Co., 9615 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 586 Broadway. New York City.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free. William Ragsdale, East Orange, N.J.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 231 N.2nd, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents; 100 to 300% Profit selling Duo Toilet articles, Perfumes, Spices, Soaps, Family Medicines and Specialties. Big Everyday Sellers. Exclusive Territory. Outfit Free. All or Spare Time. Big Chance. Duo Factories, Dept. C. 40, North Java, N. Y.

Agents—Steady Income. Large manufacturer of Handkerchiefs and Dress Goods, etc., wishes representative in each locality. Factory to consumer. Big profits, honest goods. Credit given. Send for particulars. Freeport Mfg. Co., 60 Main St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Every Home on Farm, In Small Town or suburb needs and will buy the wonderful Aladdin kerosene (coal-oil) mantle lamp; five times as bright as electric; tested and recommended by Government and 34 leading universities; awarded gold medal; one farmer cleared over $500 in 6 weeks; hundreds with rigs or autos earning $100 to $300 per month; no capital required; we furnish goods to reliable men; write quick for distributor's proposition, and lamp for free trial. Mantle Lamp Co., 610 Aladdin Bldg., Chicago.

Agents; Cooper made $314 last month, $91 last week selling "Kantleak" Raincoats. New proposition. We deliver and collect. Sample coat Free. Comer Mfg. Co., 14 Opal St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents—Get particulars of one of the best paying propositions ever put on the market; something no one else sells; make $4,000 yearly. Address E. M. Feltman, Sales Mgr., 9715 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Turn Spare Time Into Dollars. Something new. No canvassing or investment. Daydark Co., Desk 54, St. Louis, Mo.

We Pay $36 A Week and Expenses To men with rigs to introduce poultry compound. Year's contract. Imperial Mfg. Co., Dept. 9, Parsons, Kans.

Agent's—200% profit. Wonderful little article. Sells like wildfire. Can be carried in pocket. Write at once for free sample. H. Matthews, 419 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agents: Biggest selling household necessity. Huge profits; steady repeater. Write today. Peck Specialty Co., North Haven, Conn.

Agents! Quick Sales! Big Profits! Outfit Free! Cash or credit. Sales in every home for our beautiful Dress Goods, Hosiery, Underwear, etc. Write today. National Importing & Mfg. Co., Dept. DB, 425 Broadway, New York.

Women Make Money introducing Priscilla Fabrics, Hosiery, Underwear, Dresses, in spare time. Beautiful samples furnished free. Fitzcharles Co., Dept. 156, Trenton, N. J.

$150.00 Salary For 60 Days Work Paid Woman Or Man in each town to distribute Free circulars and take orders for White Ribbon Concentrated Flavoring. J. S. Ziegler Co., 7D., E. Harrison St., Chicago.

Agents: Get An Easy Seller. Sanitary All Metal Bread and Pastry Board and Rolling Pin is making big hit. Make $25 to $40 every week. Smith, Ohio, sold 38 one day. Profit $19.00. Sells at sight. No talking necessary. Free Sample to Agents. Write quick for appointment and territory. Union Mfg. Co., 182 Main St., Cambridge, O.

Earn $50 to $100 monthly distributing Parker Hosiery to regular repeat customers in your home town at mill prices. All or spare time. Protected territory. Credit given. G. Parker Mills, 2733 No. 12th St., Phila., Pa.

Would $150 Monthly as General Agent for $150,000 corporation and a Ford Auto of your own, introducing Stock and Poultry remedies, Dips, Disinfectants and sanitary products interest you? Then address Royoleum Co-Operative Mfg. Co., Dept. 2, Monticello, Ind.

Would $150 Monthly. Auto of your own to travel in, as General Agent, handling remarkable sellers, Lightning Patch Vulcanizer, Shock Absorber, and Anti-Thief Combination Auto-Switch Lock, thief proof, interest you? Then address Dept. 2, U. S. Manufacturing Co., Wolcott, Indiana.

Photo Pillow Tops, Portraits, Frames, Sheet Pictures, Photo Plates, Pennants, Paper Mache Frames. Rejects credited. Prompt shipments; samples & cat. free to agents. 30 days credit. Jas. C. Bailey Co., Desk A5, Chicago, Ill.

Agents—Fast selling household necessity. Big profits. Repeat orders. Every call a prospect. Particulars free. Sample 10c. Write immediately. Phillip Sills 212 Drake Blk., Oneida, N. Y.

Blaxit Safely While Hot. New stove polish, works without soiling the hands. Agents Wanted. Boss Mfg. Co., New London, Ct.

"Easy Steps" scientific foot-comforters; sponge rubber inside-cushions; doz. pair $2; sell $6; profit $4; Big clean-up. Samples 24c. Manhattan-C-Product, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Man To Wear Fine Suit, act as agent. Big pay, easy work. Banner Tailoring Co., Dept. 489, Chicago.

Newest Moneymaker! 11 piece toilet set selling like blazes at $1.00 with $1 carving set Free! Enormous Profits! Tremendous hit! Randall sold 30 one day. Success sure. Pierce Co., 505 Pierce Bldg., Chicago.

Paint And Roofing Salesman Wanted in each County to sell our guaranteed products direct to consumers. Reliable energetic men make money. No investment required. Highest commissions paid promptly. Write today. The Colorcraft Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

AGENTS WANTED

Man Or Woman To Travel for old-established firm. No canvassing; $1170 first year, payable weekly, pursuant to Contract; Expenses advanced. G. O. Nichols, Phila., Pa., Pepper Bldg.

Guaranteed Hosiery Selling From Mill earns $5 a day for our representatives. No Capital or experience needed. All or Spare Time. Weber Mills, Nicetown Station, Phila., Pa.

Sells Like Hot Cakes, new ironing wax, perfumes clothes, clamps ironing board, asbestos rest. Working outfit 5c. Waxnpad, Lynbrook, N.Y.

$1,000.00 For Your Next 100 Days. Spot Cash. New money-making invention for agents, general agents, managers. Recently invented. 1,000,000 already sold; 200 more salesmen wanted at once. Amazing automatic Compressed Air Washing Machine. Washes tub of clothes in six minutes. No cranks to turn or levers to push—no rubbing. Works like magic. Price only $1.50—makes sale at every house; 200% profit. L. Palmer, Glen Allen, Ala., put out on trial 108 machines, sold 107. Profit $107.00. Write now, Wendell Co., 1151 Oak St., Leipsic, O.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 116 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 98c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

$61.50 Weekly. Introducing and selling a new gas light burner for kerosene lamps. Beautiful light. No chimney. No mantle. Samples free. Luther Mfg. Co., Dept. 258, Cincinnati, O.

Sell California Rosebeads. Swell line. Big profits. Catalog free. Mission Bead Company, A2819 West Pico, Los Angeles, Calif.

Agents—A one-cent post card will put you in touch with an $80 a week proposition selling Aluminum Utensils and Specialties direct to the consumer. Don't let one cent stand between you and prosperity. Div. B.B.P., American Aluminum Mfg. Co., Lemont, Ill.

Agents, Crew Managers, Sure Winner, just out. Sells at sight, everywhere. 25c sample 10c. Particulars Free. Cook Supply Co., Albany, Ga.

Start In Business for yourself selling our guaranteed Hosiery and Underwear direct to Wearer. Others make $20 to $30 weekly to start. Write Today for particulars. The Cee & Dee Co., Grand Rapids, Mich.

Spiral Spring Curtain Rods; fit any window; put up in minute; sample 10c; circulars free. Moore Co., 4132 Jerome Ave., Cincinnati.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn big pay while you learn at home during spare time. Only eight weeks required. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of students we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 per month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Salesmen Wanted—Reliable Men That can furnish team and wagon to travel in the country and sell old established line of medicines, flavorings, spices, soaps, toilets, condition powder, etc. Permanent work. Pay Big. Write today for free copy of "Opportunity." It tells how. Seminole Medicine Co., Boone, Ia., Box 228.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Guaranteed Watch Or Gold Plated bracelet free to boys and girls for placing sample packet seeds with friends. Eckert Seed Co., B-71, Cly, Pa.

CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

The American School of Aviation announces a new Non-Resident Course in Aviation. A thorough training in Aeronautical Engineering. American School of Aviation, Dept. 3041, 431 So. Dearborn St., Chicago.

Stenographers Are Wanted. Shorthand in 30 lessons. Home study. Positions assured. Write for Free booklet C. American School Of Phonography, Station A, Cleveland, Ohio.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Dollars Yearly in your backyard; no get rich quick dope, something new, particulars free. Metz, 313½ East 89th, New York.

Free For Six Months—My special offer to introduce my magazine, "Investing for Profit." It is worth $10 a copy to any one who has not acquired sufficient money to provide necessities and comforts for self and loved ones. It shows how to become richer quickly and honestly. Investing for Profit is the only progressive financial journal and has the largest circulation in America. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200; write now and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 408, 26 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago.

POULTRY

Poultry Paper, 44-124 page periodical, up to date, tells all you want to know about care and management of poultry, for pleasure or profit; four months for 10 cents. Poultry Advocate, Dept. 112, Syracuse, N. Y.

$$$$ In Pigeons! Start raising squabs for market or breeding purposes. Make big profits with our Jumbo Pigeons. We teach you. Large, free, illustrated, instructive circulars. Providence Squab Co., Providence, R. I.

Egg-o-hatch applied to eggs during incubation strengthens the chick and weakens the shell. It supplies free oxygen, absorbs the carbon dioxide and rots the shell. Makes better hatches of stronger chicks. Booklet free, Sample, treats 100 eggs, 10 cents. Package, treats 600 eggs, 50 cents, postpaid. Geo. H. Lee Co., 509 Lee Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

2949 Cockerels, hens and pullets, 49 varities chickens, geese and ducks. Eggs in season. Seeds and Trees. Aye Bros., Blair, Nebr., Box 30. Free book.

S. C. White Leghorns. World's greatest laying stock bred from trap nested hens. Ill. circulars free. Ondawa Farms, Shushan, N. Y.

PHOTO FINISHING

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

Beautiful Enlargements, Art Mounts, 5x7, 25c; 8x10, 35c; send negative, satisfaction guaranteed. Quality Photo Finishing gives Better Results. Special Offer, samples free. Fox Studios, 59th & Hunter Sts., Philadelphia.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Do You Take Pictures? Write for free sample of our large magazine, showing how to make better pictures & earn money. American Photography, 838 Pope Bldg., Boston, Mass.

OKLAHOMA OIL LANDS

Why Stay Poor? $25.00 invested in Oil Land may make your fortune. Easy payments. Particulars Free. Address Frank P. Cleveland, 1114 Adams Express Building, Chicago.

REAL ESTATE

Small Missouri Farm $10 Cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes; Highly productive land; close to three big markets. Write for photographs and full information. Munger, D-104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Best Opportunities today are in the South for farm and other homeseekers. Low priced lands, largest profits per acre in grain, alfalfa and other crops, healthful home regions; openings for live stock, dairy, poultry, fruit and truck farmers. Write for literature. M. V. Richards, Ind. & Agr. Commr., Room 19 Southern Railway, Washington, D. C.

Fla.—Fruits, flowers, winter vegetables, rich lands, lots, bungalows, big profits, fine winter climate. Buy a farm, grove, lot, home. C. C. Ausherman & Co., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

Profitable Little Farms In Valley Of Virginia, 5 and 10 acre tracts $250 and up. Good fruit and farming country. Send for literature now. F. H. LaBaume, Agr. Agt., N. & W. Ry., 269 Arcade Bldg., Roanoke, Va.

Landless People! You can get a small or large piece of good land, suitable for poultry, vegetables, fruit, general crops; best county in Michigan. $15 to $25 an acre, $5 to $50 down, balance small monthly payments. Write for full information and booklet free. Swigard Land Co., A-1248, First National Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

FARM LANDS

Uncle Sam is watering a farm for you in Salt River Valley, Arizona, where you will live longer and better, and make more money with less work. Read our Roosevelt Dam folder free on request. C. L. Seagraves, Industrial Com'r AT&SF Ry., 1946 Ry. Exchange, Chicago.

Florida Poultry Farm with new 4-room house $750; city water; electric lights; overlooks lake; picture free. Geo. Colburn, Lake City, Fla.

Productive Lands. Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 197 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

FARMS FOR SALE

Money-Making Farms, 15 states. $10 to $50 an acre; stock, tools and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue, E. A. Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3027, 150 Nassau St., New York.

FARMS WANTED

Wanted. Hear from owner good farm for sale. Cash price, description. D. F. Bush, Minneapolis, Minn.

MALE HELP WANTED

Be A Detective—Earn $100 to $300 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 828 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

We Pay $80 Monthly Salary and furnish rig and expenses to introduce guaranteed poultry and stock powders. Bigler Company, X-314, Springfield, Ill.

Do You Want a sure job with big pay, easy hours and rapid advance? Write for my big Free book, DW1460 which tells you how you can get a good Government position. Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Become Chauffeurs. $25 week. Learn while earning. Sample lessons Free. Franklin Institute, Dep't S812, Rochester, N. Y.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

Be A Government Farmer. Good pay. Steady, interesting job. Fine locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8F, St. Louis.

Detectives—Earn big salaries. Easy work. Write National School of Detectives, 489 Fifth Ave., New York, Room 525.

Mr. Ambitious Man—Will you accept nice easy pleasant work in your spare time among acquaintances at good pay? If so write me quick for particulars. W. G. Critchlow, Manager Dept. 3, 729 Rookery Bldg., Chicago.

500 Men Wanted At Once 20-40 For Electric Railway Motormen and Conductors. All parts U. S. $60-$100 monthly. Experience unnecessary. Send stamp for application blank. National Railway, Dept. 154, Kansas City, Mo.

HELP WANTED

Men-Women Wanted. $75.00 Month. List Government Jobs open—Free. Franklin Institute, Dep't S12, Rochester, N. Y.

Men-Women Wanted, $100 month. Gov't jobs. Write immediately for list positions open. Franklin Institute, Dep't S9, Rochester, N. Y.

Wanted, representatives to report names, information and handle real estate. Dept. A, National Information Exchange, Omaha, Neb.

Representatives in towns over 5,000 population. Entirely home work, directing local business by letter. Absolutely no capital required; will pay up to $50 a week. Splendid opportunity. Write McLean Co., Stewart Bldg., Washington, D. C.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

Will Pay reliable Woman $25.00 to distribute Free (not to sell) 200 pkgs. Borax Soap Powder among friends. No money required. A. Ward Company, 732 N. Franklin St., Chicago.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Be A Government Matron. Good salary. Interesting work. Beautiful locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8M, St. Louis.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

A Prospect of Freedom



"Where do you intend to go this summer?"

"I'm going to stay at home," replied Mr. Dustin Stax. "My family's going away and I'm going to embrace the opportunity to sit in my shirt-sleeves and smoke cigars in the best rooms in the house."—Washington Star.

Keeping It Quiet

Little Margaret lived in a gossipy neighborhood and, being an observant child, she had got some ideas into her curly head. One day, having done something naughty, she was sent up-stairs to confess her transgression in prayer.

"Did you tell God all about it?" asked her mother when she came down again.

Margaret shook her head decidedly.

"'Deed I didn't," she declared. "Why, it would have been all over heaven in no time."—Boston Transcript.

Difference in Religion

The woolly-headed Uncle Rasmus was accused of disturbing the peace. Officer Mort Rudolph explained it as follows:

"Your honor, this man was running up and down the Mill River road waving his arms and yelling at the top of his voice, and otherwise raising the mischief, at half past one in the morning. The people of the district complained, and they had a perfect right to."

The Judge, says Case and Comment, frowned at Rasmus, who didn't seem to be particularly worried.

"What do you mean by such unbecoming conduct?" his honor demanded.

"Religion, Jedge," was the response.

"Religion! Are you a Holy Roller or something like that? I have religion, Rasmus, but I don't get up at midnight and tell everybody about it."

"Dat's des' de diffunce, Jedge. I ain't ershamed ob mine."

A Good Horse

Old Mr. Casewell was an inveterate horse trader, and also a good deal of a wag.



One day he swapped a decidedly disreputable looking nag, and after the deal was consummated he said:

"Now, sir, I'll tell yer fair and square. That horse has got two faults."

"Yes, and more too, I guess," assented the other. "But what are the two you mention?"

"Well," confided old Casewell, slowly, "If he gets out in th' field he's th' hardest horse to ketch ye ever see, an' when ye ketch him he ain't worth a cuss."—National Magazine.

Choosing the Lesser



"We sleep under double blankets every night out where I live."

"It must be delightfully cool out there."

"Cool? Who said anything about it being cool? It's hotter than blazes; but we need the blankets to keep the mosquitoes out."

So He Didn't Waste It

A little boy went to Sunday school for the first time. His mother gave him a nickel to put in the collection box. When he returned he had a sack of candy.

"Where did you get the candy?" asked his mother.

"From the stand around the corner."

"But what did you buy it with?"

"With the nickel you gave me."

"But that was for Sunday school."

"Well," replied the boy, "I didn't need it. The minister met me at the door and got me in free."—Christian Herald.

TYPEWRITERS

$2.50 A Month buys standard typewriter. Send for Special prices. Free trial. Guaranteed. H. A. Smith, 315-231 N. 5th Ave., Chicago.

Startling Values in Typewriters $10 to $15 up. Rebuilt as good as new. All makes. Shipped on trial. Write for our "Easy Ownership" offer No. 79F. Will save you money. Whitehead Typewriter Co., 186 N. LaSalle St., Chicago

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Learn Nursing At Home. Rates low. Easy terms. Catalog free. Philadelphia School for Nurses, 2227 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

Personal income easy had selling our beautiful Laces and Embroideries. No money needed. "Refinement," 16 Green St., Cincinnati, O.

Beautiful furs can be made up at home at small expense. A kind of fancy work you will like, simple yet extremely profitable and fascinating. Make money doing this for others. Fifty cents will bring book of directions for this delightful work. Home Fur Manufacturing Company, Box 369, Jackson, Mich.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct Free—sell on Commission. Big Rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31, Auburn, N. Y.

See Here! We want your ideas for photoplays and stories! Accepted in any form, and criticised Free. Sold on commission. Write Now! Ms. Sales Co., Dept. E., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles, poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1029 Washington, D. C.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

Will Pay $100.00 for Trade Dollar 1885; $7.00 for 1853 Quarter without arrows; $750.00 for certain $5.00 gold without motto. Cash premiums for rare coins to 1912. Get posted. Send 4c. Get our Large Coin Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

$4.25 Each Paid for U. S. Eagle Cents dated 1856. Keep all money dated before 1895, and send 10c at once for New Ills'td Coin Value Book, 4x7. It may mean a fortune. Clarke & Co., Coin Dealers, Box 20, LeRoy, N. Y.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1916 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel, 232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Three books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg., Wash., D. C.

BOOKS

Christwoundmarked A. C. Emmerich and Visions, Nativity, Flight, and Cana; 250 pages, bound, for 20c. Klein Co., Brandon, Minn.

MUSIC FOR SALE

If You Really Want good Sheet Music, try our Century Edition. Price per copy 10c. Write for free Catalog. New Jersey Sales Company, Box 243, Passaic, N. J.

MISCELLANEOUS

55 Formulas, Tricks, Household Hints in our interesting Magazine, two issues, 10c. The Cropper Mail Order House, Marysvale, Utah.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

$35.00 Profit Nightly. Small Capital Starts You. No experience needed. We teach you the business, Catalog free. Atlas Moving Picture Co., 407 Franklin Bldg., Chicago.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Write For Free Catalog of best books on writing and selling photoplays, short stories, poems. Atlas Publishing Co., 826, Cincinnati.

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

Write Photoplays! $75 each. Send for free booklet "How to Write Moving Picture Plays." Universal Pub. Co., 316 Fergus Falls, Minn.

ROSES

Roses: If you love them, send for descriptive price list. Best Grown. "Pinault" Dept. A, New Bedford, Mass.

ENTERTAINMENTS

Plays Speakers, dialogues and entertainments; catalogues free. Address Dept. A, Ames Pub. Co., Clyde, O.

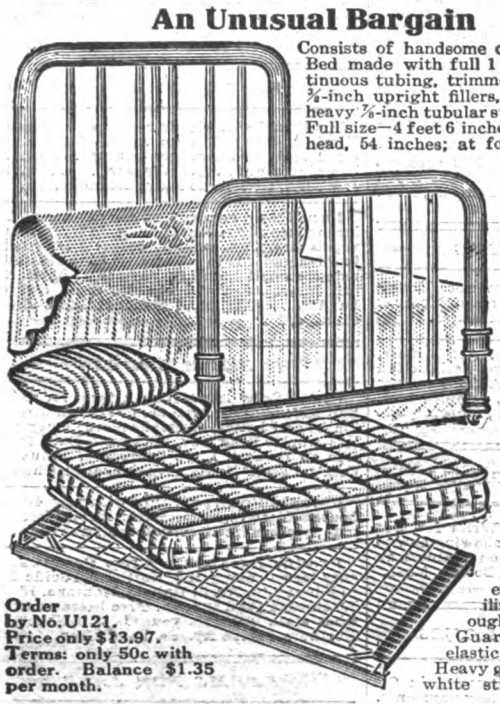
HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis, Mo.

Wonderful Bargains From the Great UNIVERSAL Catalog — Each Sent Direct Only 50¢

Sensational 5-Piece Bed Outfit

An Unusual Bargain



Consists of handsome chill-less Steel Bed made with full 1 1-16-inch continuous tubing, trimmed with seven ⅜-inch upright fillers, connected to heavy ⅞-inch tubular steel cross rods. Full size—4 feet 6 inches. Height at head, 54 inches; at foot, 34 inches. Choice of White or Vernis Martin. Mattress covered with durable striped ticking, filled with wood fibre and has soft sanitary cotton top. Springs made with heavy angle iron frame, tin wire fabric top connected at ends with steel helical springs. Pillow measure 18x25 in., weight 5 lbs. per pair. Filled with selected hen feathers properly cured, sterilized and thoroughly dedusted. Guaranteed soft, elastic and odorless. Heavy grade blue and white striped ticking.

Order by No. U121. Price only $13.97. Terms: only 50c with order. Balance $1.35 per month.

Sensational Sale of Rockers



An unusually massive overstuffed Rocker, covered in durable imitation leather, choice of black or brown Spanish. Nine heavy springs support seat, attached to frame and reinforced by steel channel bars. Extreme height about 37 inches, extreme width about 31 in. Height of seat from floor 17 in. Distance between arms 21 in. Size of seat 21x20 in. Size of arms 5x23 in. Height of back from seat 27 in. Mahogany finished frame. Securely packed in a manner to obtain the lowest possible freight rate. This is an exceptionally attractive rocker and, as will be seen from the ample dimensions, a most comfortable one. It is substantially built throughout, strong and durable. You will find this a wonderful bargain at our Special Low Price.

Merely send the coupon and 50c and rocker will be shipped promptly for 30 days free trial and then if you decide that you have a wonderful bargain, pay balance of our special low price in small monthly payments as per terms quoted. Otherwise, return it at our freight expense and every cent of your money will be refunded. The 30 days use will not cost you a cent.

Order by No. U129. Price only $9.68. Terms: 50c with order. Balance 95c per Month.

Order One of These Special Bargains

Here is a plan for beautifying the home that marks one of the most advanced steps ever taken in the history of merchandising. For only 50c we will send you any of the remarkable bargains shown on this page. If more than one is wanted, send 50c for each item. We will also send you, free, our big catalog from which you can order anything you want in the way of dependable home furnishings by sending **only 50c** for each article you order regardless of its cost. You may use what you order for 30 days at our risk. If you then decide to keep it, pay the balance in small monthly payments. If you decide not to keep it, return it at our expense and we will return your 50c—the 30 days use of the goods costs you nothing. No references asked, no guarantee, no red tape.

We ask for this small 50c deposit, not in any sense as placing any obligation upon you, but merely as an indication of good faith and to protect ourselves against irresponsible people, those who might send for our goods out of curiosity with no intention whatever of buying. You run absolutely no risk in sending in your order. Ours is a big, successful firm with over $5,000,000 capital and resources—a firm that is reputable, responsible and trustworthy in every way. And every article you order from us is backed by our legal binding guarantee which insures your absolute satisfaction. Send us your order today—only 50c and coupon for each item desired.

Special Bargain Book FREE!



Send for **Special Bargain Book** picturing and describing everything for the home—**at rock bottom prices**—and on the most wonderfully liberal terms imaginable. **We Trust You** for anything you want on our liberal, easy-to-pay plan.

UNIVERSAL
Mail Order Company
145-155 West 39th Street
Dept. 156 CHICAGO, ILL.

Kitchen Cabinet Special

This handy Kitchen Cabinet embodies every feature that can add to the convenience and lighten the housewife's kitchen duties. Made of kiln-dried solid oak with beautiful golden flat finish. Hardware is of copper, latest design. Height 63 in.; base top 42x26 in. Contains 1 cutlery drawer; 1 bread drawer; large cupboard space for cooking utensils; closet door contains rolling pin rack and pan rack; 1 bread board 18x20 in.; 40-lb. flour bin with sifter attached; 1 china closet with 2 panel and art glass doors; 7-lb. tilting sugar bin; 2 spice drawers. Equipment equal to many kitchen cabinets selling for more than we ask. Our liberal credit offer gives you the opportunity to learn what a kitchen cabinet saves you in labor, worry and hundreds of unnecessary extra steps every day. Try it once and you will never give it up! **Order by No. U126. Price only $14.85. Terms: 50c with order. Bal. $1.45 per month.**



Elegant Brussels Rug Bargain!

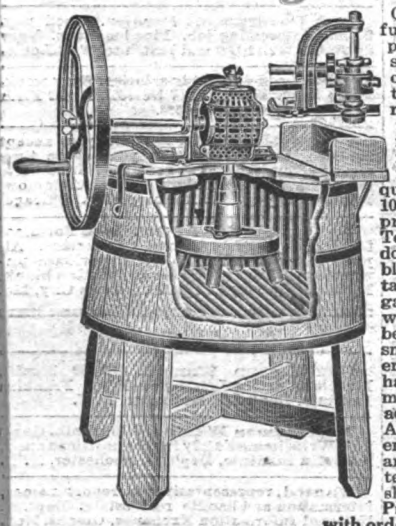


Here is a wonderful value in a fine Brussels Rug. Woven of high grade yarns in a beautiful medallion design. Colors harmonize beautifully with tans, browns, reds and greens predominating.

Send only 50c with your order for any size shown below. If you are not satisfied with your bargain after 30 days use, return it at our expense and your money will be refunded.

Order by No. U135. State Size Wanted. Size 6x9 ft. Price $12.65. Terms: 50c with order. Balance $1.25 per month. Size 8 ft. 3 in. x 10 ft. 6 in. Price $17.45. Terms 50c with order. Balance $1.70 per Month. Size 9x12 ft. Price $18.95. Terms: 50c with order. Balance $1.85 per Month. Size 11 ft. 3 in. x 12 ft. Price $26.85. Terms: 50c with order. Balance $2.65 per Month.

Wonderful Bargain In Washing Machines



Only by actual usage can you fully appreciate the many points of superiority in this strongly built, durable, thoroughly efficient Banner Rotary Washing Machine. Tub made of Louisiana Red Cypress, deeply corrugated on inside, making an effective rubbing surface; finished in natural wood with lasting quality varnish. Dasher block 10 in. in diameter, made of Cypress corrugated on under side. Telescope dasher post which does not project through dasher block and, therefore, cannot tangle or tear the most delicate garments. Gearing has few working parts and has roller bearings which make it work smooth and easy. Gearing covered with a shield. Machine has improved wringer attachment securely fastened to tub, admitting 12 in. roll wringer. All iron parts finished with enamel and, where necessary, are heavily galvanized to protect against rust. Capacity 8 shirts. **Order by No. U125. Price only $9.69. Terms: 50c with order. Balance 95c per Month.**

5-Piece Mission Library Set Bargain

All 5 pieces made to match, of seasoned solid oak, rich, fumed finish; correct Mission design. **Table** is a neat design typical of the Mission style. The rich, dark fumed finish beautifully brings out natural grain of the oak. Each end has 4 panels with attractive cut-out design. Top 34x24 in.; 8 in. book shelf; legs cut from 2-in. stock and fitted with slides. **Rocker** seat and back upholstered in imitation Spanish brown leather; seat supported by 6 heavy steel coil springs resting on steel channel bars. Width 26 in., height 38 in., back 24 in. above seat; seat 21x19 in. **Chair** has same upholstering and construction as Rocker. Width 26 in., height 38 in., back 24 in. above seat; seat 21x19 in. **Magazine Rack** has 4 shelves; 30 in. high, 17 in. wide, 8½ in. deep. **Tabourette** top 11x11 in. height 18 in.



Order by No. U123. Price (Complete set of 5 pieces as shown) $17.95. Terms: 50c with order. Balance $1.75 per Month.

Special 21-Piece Set Gray Enamel Ware

Made of material guaranteed to give splendid service. An extraordinary value. Every housewife will appreciate this practical set. Consists of following 21 pieces: 5½-quart Berlin Kettle and cover, 7-quart Teakettle and cover, 2½-quart Coffee Pot, 4-quart Preserving Kettle, 2 Pie Plates, Colander, Pail and Cover, 2 Pudding Pans, Wash Basin, Tea Pot, Sauce Pan, 12 qt. Dish Pan, Cup, Spoon, Dipper, Ladle. **Order by No. U130. Price $3.95. Terms: 50c with order. Balance 50c per Month.**



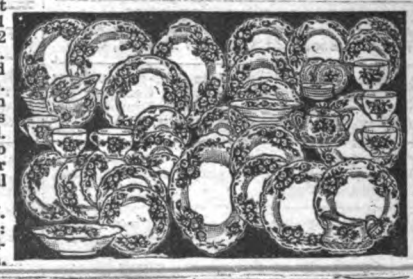
Remarkable Sale of Fine Dishes

48-Piece Floral Design Dinner Set—Complete for Family of Six

Beautiful, Complete 48-Piece Dining Set made of good quality pure white Porcelain, exquisitely decorated with latest rose floral pattern in many natural colors and gold. Six dinner plates, 9¼ inches; 6 breakfast plates, 7¼ inches; 6 cups; 6 saucers; 6 fruit dishes, 5¼ inches; 6 new style deep soup coupes; 6 butter plates; 1 deep open vegetable dish, 9¼ inches; 1 meat platter, 11½ inches; 1 sugar bowl and cover (2 pieces); 1 cream pitcher. Every piece guaranteed full size for family use.

Remember, you can have this set of dishes for 30 days free trial. If you do not wish to keep it, return it at our expense and you will not be out a cent.

Order by No. U127. Price $3.69. Terms: 50c with order. Balance 50c per Month.



Order Coupon

If only catalog is wanted, put an X in this square, fill in name and address on lines below and mail coupon.

UNIVERSAL MAIL ORDER CO.
145-155 West 39th Street, Dept. 156 Chicago, Ill.

Gentlemen:—Enclosed find 50c for each item checked below. If satisfactory after 30 days examination, I agree to pay the balance as per prices and terms quoted in this advertisement. If not satisfactory, I will return goods to you.

No. U123. 5-Piece Library Set.
No. U129. Rocker.
No. U130. 21-Piece Set Enamel Ware.
No. U121. Bed Outfit.
No. U127. 48-Piece Dinner Set.
No. U125. Banner Rotary Washer.
No. U126. Kitchen Cabinet.
No. U135. Rug—Size.....

Name.....

Street No.....

Town..... State.....

NOTE. Put line like this ═══ in front of item or items wanted.

UNIVERSAL MAIL ORDER CO
145-155 West 39TH St., Dept. 156 Chicago, U.S.A.

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

Vol. XXIX FEBRUARY 1917 No. 4



Published monthly at AUGUSTA, MAINE

Copyright 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 10.

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

Look for the First Symptoms of Pellagra in Spring and See to Your Diet

SAD to relate, that terrible scourge, pellagra, is still raging in certain sections of this country, although it is wholly and absolutely preventable, as has been proved beyond doubt by the investigations and tests made by the U. S. Public Health Service in conjunction with the Health Departments of certain States. Eight thousand people died of pellagra in the United States during the year 1915 besides the many thousands of sufferers from this disease who are dragging out a miserable existence and slowly sinking to fill an untimely grave—all needlessly.

Although we have twice before explained what causes, and how to prevent and cure pellagra, we are still receiving from our readers many requests for a remedy for this disease; therefore we are again giving space to this subject in the hope that the information given here may be the means of saving life and of restoring the health of many who are afflicted as well as contributing to prevent the spread of this malady, which can be nipped in the bud if these directions are faithfully followed.

First let it be understood that drugs and medicines are of no value in the treatment of pellagra; also that it is not a contagious disease.

The cause of pellagra is lack of proper nourishment resulting from an improper diet. Now this does not mean insufficient food or unwholesome food. You may eat an abundance of wholesome food but if your diet as a whole lacks certain necessary elements of nutriment you are likely to develop pellagra. The agricultural writers are teaching the farmers the importance of a "balanced ration" in the feeding of cattle, hogs and poultry and it is pretty thoroughly understood that these animals will not thrive unless they have a mixed diet containing the various necessary kinds of nutrients in about the right proportions.

The same rule applies in the feeding of human beings. They require a properly balanced ration and if they do not have it for any great length of time they get sick.

Foods are divided into two principal classes. One comprises the heat and energy producers such as sugar, starch and fats, and they include corn, potatoes, certain other vegetables, oils and fats and various forms of sugar; these serve as fuel, producing the animal heat, and are necessary as such, but they are not muscle builders and do not repair the waste and wear and tear of the body. The other class comprises the nitrogenous or proteid foods, as they are called, which are muscle builders and flesh producers and repair the wear and waste of the body, and they include lean meat, fish, eggs, milk, cheese, beans and peas. This explains why both these classes of food are necessary to health, and the lack of either causes trouble. Clover and alfalfa are rich in protein and are excellent nitrogenous foods for animals but human stomachs cannot digest them. The cow will turn alfalfa into milk, the hen into eggs, the growing pig into flesh and bone and when he is grown you feed him corn and he makes that into fat.

Pellagra is caused by a diet which consists mainly of starchy foods and lacks sufficient nitrogenous food. Pellagra is prevalent in southern Italy and in certain sections of our Southern States where the people live largely on corn. For this reason it was at first erroneously supposed that eating corn induced pellagra. Corn is wholesome but, being a starchy food, it is not a complete ration and needs a nitrogenous food such as fresh meat, eggs, or milk to go with it to make a balanced ration. No part of the country is exempt from this disease.

Many of our Southern farmers live too largely on corn, sweet potatoes and bacon and the consequence is pellagra. They should keep at least one good cow for each family and a good-sized flock of hens, and should raise enough peas and beans to last them through the year. With their tables abundantly supplied through the year with milk, eggs, poultry and dried peas and beans cooked in various ways to go with fruits and other vegetables there would be no more pellagra in the rural sections of this country. Where cows do not thrive, as in certain parts of Florida, condensed milk, as nourishing as the fresh article, can be bought at a moderate price.

A bulletin issued by the U. S. Public Health Service warns that, although the outbreak of pellagra in most cases does not appear until June or July, the condition invariably dates from a faulty diet of earlier months, and therefore urges the need of exercising due precautions through the winter and spring. This does not mean that the diet can safely be neglected at other seasons but rather that special care should be taken in early spring and a close watch kept for the first danger signals such as extreme nervousness, change of mental characteristics, weakness, debility, disinclination to undertake the ordinary daily work, or unaccountable digestive disturbance, likely to occur in the spring as premonitory signs of incipient pellagra. These symptoms do not necessarily mean the development of pellagra, but if they occur in connection with a one-sided, monotonous diet they serve as a definite warning of its possible onset which, even then, may be warded off in most cases by immediate change to a properly varied and balanced diet.

As a spring diet for those threatened with pellagra the bulletin recommends: for breakfast, oranges or grapefruit, oatmeal mush and cream (milk will do), without sugar, with ham or breakfast bacon and two eggs and not more than two slices of whole wheat bread and butter, and a glass of milk; for dinner, soup made from dried peas or beans with soup stock, also fresh meat of some kind and boiled or baked potatoes, some seasonable vegetable and lettuce, and for desert some stewed fruit, fresh or dried; with the dinner a glass of buttermilk (sour milk will answer) and not more than two slices of whole wheat bread and butter; for supper, pork and beans or baked beans. It is desirable to vary this diet from day to day in order to keep up the appetite, and for this purpose eggs cooked in various ways, or fish may be substituted occasionally for the meat.

Do not expect that a week or ten days of this diet will cure pellagra, but if you keep to it persistently and continuously it will surely protect you from the developement of the disease. The bulletin also explains that this particular bill of fare need not be rigidly adhered to. It is given as a sample or standard of a mixed diet containing the two classes of food in the proper relative proportions. It may be varied according to circumstances by using the fruits and vegetables in season at different times of year, but the main point is to avoid excessive use of starchy and sweet foods, and to be sure to eat a plenty of fresh meat, fish, eggs, milk, cheese, beans and peas. At present high prices an anti-pellagra diet may be somewhat of a problem for the small wage earner in the city but, as everything necessary for the prevention and cure of this disease can be grown on the farm, if the farmer suffers from this affliction it is his own fault.

Mighty Significance of Recent Purchase of Danish West Indies by U. S.

UNCLE Sam is still extending his dominions. His latest, though very small, is a very important expansion consisting of the annexation of the group of three little islands, Saint Thomas, Saint Croix and Saint John, which constitute the Danish West Indies. We have just bought them of Denmark for twenty-five million dollars, which seems a pretty steep price; but they are worth it to us because of their strategic importance to our plan of national defense although, as a holding proposition, they were worse than valueless to Denmark.

The entire area of these islands is only 138 square miles, about the size of four townships, and their total population numbers 33,000, mostly negroes employed on the sugar plantations. They have little value commercially, and as the maintenance of their government was a continual bill of expense to Denmark she has wanted for the last fifty years to dispose of them.

Because of their commanding position at the entrance of the Caribbean Sea, 50 miles east of Porto Rico, 1,200 from Panama and 1,600 from New York, they would be a menace to our commerce, our out-lying territorial possessions and our national safety if they passed into the control of one of the great European powers which have cast longing eyes on them for the establishment of a naval station at the spacious harbor of Saint Thomas which is perfectly adapted to the purpose. But with this harbor fortified and equipped as a base of operations for our navy the defense of our coast, of our interests in the West Indies and of the Panama Canal will be immensely facilitated and strengthened.

We are responsible for the protection of Cuba, Hayti and San Domingo; the rich island of Porto Rico with 1,200,000 inhabitants is ours and we own the Panama Canal worth $500,000,000 or more. Therefore these little Danish Islands are well worth the price to us because of their inestimable strategic importance. Our only mistake is that we did not buy them long ago when they were offered to us at one fifth the price. General Grant, with keen foresight of the destined growth of the United States to the magnitude of a world power, appreciated the necessity of our owning these islands and, when President, negotiated a treaty whereby Denmark agreed to let us have them for $5,000,000, but the trade fell through because Congress refused to pay the price. President Roosevelt made another effort to buy them, but the price had gone up; the conditions which President Grant foresaw as making them necessary to our safety had arrived and at the same time a great European power was intriguing to obtain possession of them. It is probable that we should have had trouble over the present trade if Europe was not engaged in war.

The Secretary of the Navy is arranging for a grand naval demonstration at Saint Thomas to add to the dignity of the ceremony of taking over these islands which are to be a stronghold for the defense not only of the United States but of all North, Central and South America under the protecting shield of the Monroe Doctrine which we are bound to maintain.

Another Temperance Victory

THE bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia has been given a passage by the U. S. Senate and if, as is confidently predicted, it meets with like favorable action in the House of Representatives, Washington will be dry after the last day of next October. Years ago the grog ration was abolished in the navy, later malt liquors were banished from the army canteen and recently our naval officers were forbidden the privilege of keeping liquors for their personal use, but to the disgrace of the country Congress still encourages the liquor traffic by licensing it in the national capital and in the territories. There is a bill before Congress to prohibit liquor selling in Alaska and another to make Hawaii dry. If, as is hoped, these three temperance measures are adopted by the present Congress it will give a strong impetus to the movement for nation-wide prohibition.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. ***We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.*** If you do not get your magazine by the 15th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we ***must*** have your ***former*** address, as well as your ***new*** address to make the change. Be sure to send ***both.*** We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second class mail matter. **Copyright, 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.**

Treasured Mementoes of Washington's Private Life and Masonic Activities.



By Edna Mary Colman

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

Picture copyright, 1908, by Alex. Washn. Lodge.

WITH the passing of the one hundred and eighteen years since death claimed the beloved Washington, historians, biographers, orators, preachers, poets, artists and prose writers have been ceaselessly and diligently plying the torch of investigation into the life of this great man until it would seem as though every act of his waking hours from infancy to the grave had been held up to the public gaze, and every tiny circumstance in his eventful career, analyzed and recounted until each incident had become common legend in every household. So also it would seem as though every trinket, letter, bit of furniture, military accoutrement, and intimate personal belonging had been described, and displayed until all of his possessions must verily be as familiar to the average American as his pictured features.

Yet there exists today a unique collection of articles, so carefully treasured and so thoroughly



Copyright by Alex. Washn. Loage.

FAMOUS WILLIAMS' PORTRAIT OF WASHINGTON IN MASONIC REGALIA.

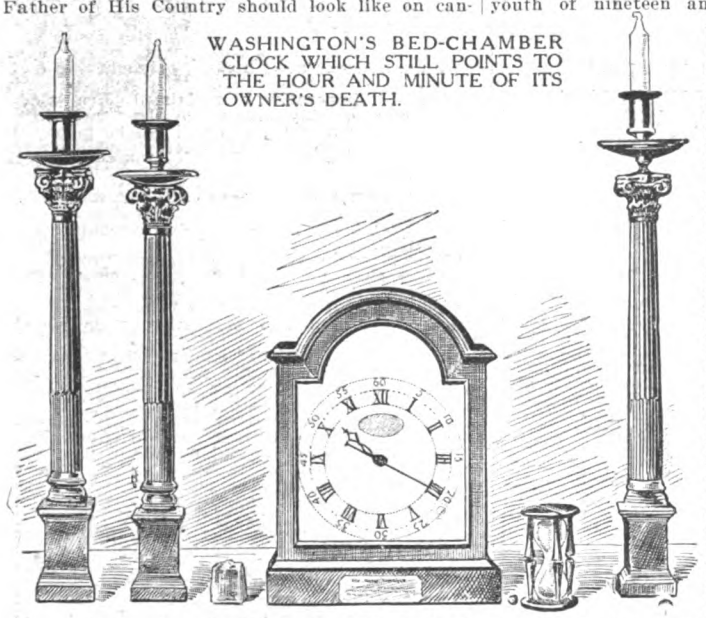
secluded that only a small proportion of the people of the land are aware of its existence. These articles are valued far above the power of wealth to borrow or purchase and are the property of the fraternity whose devotion to Washington has a different meaning from that of the popular homage of the public, and this devotion is soon to have expression in the erection of a magnificent memorial temple in Alexandria, Va., the town that knew him best as a church goer and as a Mason. Here too, is to be found the only portrait of Washington in existence that is an actual reproduction of his own features and not an artist's idealized conception of what the Father of His Country should look like on canvas. This is also absolutely the only portrait made of Washington as an old man. This famous Williams' painting, now of fabulous value, with many other priceless mementoes, because of their association with the Nation's first president, is the property of the Alexandria-Washington Lodge, No. 22 A. F. and A. M. at Alexandria, Va. They line the historic walls of the council chamber whose very atmosphere seems impregnated with the stately dignity of the great soldier and craftsman. For Lodge No. 22 boasts the proud distinction of having had George Washington for its first or charter master, which office he held in 1783, and after being elected to succeed himself served in all about twenty months.

In 1793, the lodge by resolution requested the General, then President and residing in Philadelphia, to sit for his portrait. After his consent had been obtained with Mrs. Washington's aid, the artist, William Williams, of that city was commissioned to do the work. This man had been a resident of Georgetown, D. C. and was presented to President Washington by Gen. Henry Lee (Light Horse Harry Lee), who was then the Representative from that district, by request of the lodge. The artist through the influence of the fraternity and General Lee, secured in all about thirteen sittings, most of which were given under more or less protest as the famous President did not relish the idea of deliberately posing.

After a year of work the painting was completed and accepted by Washington as a good, true likeness of himself. Then it was closely scrutinized by the committee of Masons, all of them lifelong friends and associates of the first President. After mature deliberation they attested to their satisfaction and then the most critical of all judges, the family, were called in to give the final proof of the quality of the likeness by their opinion, and when they too approved of the artist's handiwork, the portrait was formally accepted and framed and hung in the place of honor in the Masonic council chamber where it has been so jealously guarded all of these years.

The Williams' picture is an entirely different conception from all other portraits of Washington and without question the most faithful reproduction of his living features. It has the double distinction of being the only portrait ever made of him in the Masonic regalia and in old age. In cast and feature it is a little like the Houdon statue in Richmond, Va. It is a flesh colored pastelle which critics pronounce of most superior quality and for which the artist received from the Lodge about three hundred dollars. From time to time fabulous sums have been offered for it by art collectors, museums and even the United States Government has made a bid for it. Though it is now valued above $100,000, its Masonic character, and the sentiment of past association preclude the possibility of its ever being sold.

Despite his majestic stature and imposing manner, Washington was not handsome of feature and that portraiture has failed to show later generations his real likeness is the general opinion of writers who studied this remarkable man after he became the Nation's Chief. They contend that his habitual expression was one that no painter had ever been able to get. He is said to have admitted that he was asleep part of the time he posed for Peale, and while Gilbert Stuart was painting the most famous of his portraits, the one that is the best known and which appears on all literature, records, souvenirs, etc., Washington sat in manifest discomfort with his lips padded with cotton to hide the defects of his mouth and jaws due to a badly fitting set of false teeth. Stuart, in his writings, openly commented upon the defects of feature which his art had concealed. To still further mar his physiognomy, Washington contracted the smallpox when a youth of nineteen and carried the disfiguring pock marks to his death. His whole make up was of generous proportions and his features large and somewhat inclined to be coarse. Stuart says that his eye sockets were the largest he ever saw and the upper part of his nose the most broad.



WASHINGTON'S BED-CHAMBER CLOCK WHICH STILL POINTS TO THE HOUR AND MINUTE OF ITS OWNER'S DEATH.

Though the walls of this historic hall are liberally endowed with portraits of distinguished people, there is one other that merits the deferential attention of the visitor, because of the identity of the original and his many years of loyalty to the best interests of the young surveyor whose first important undertaking was the surveying of his vast estate. This was the wealthy and the mighty Lord Fairfax, who owned 5,500,000 acres of Virginia land which young Washington helped to subdivide. As a portrait alone, this is worthy of distinction as it is the famous Sir Joshua Reynolds' painting of Thomas, sixth Lord Fairfax, Baron of Cameron, the one man to whom more than any one else Washington owed his success in life, since from early boyhood until his death in 1781 Lord Fairfax was his patron and never failing friend. This wonderful old painting of one of the founders of the city of Alexandria, the only one of the famous baron in existence, is given even higher valuation than the Williams' portrait by the art critics.

But it is not in portraits alone that the lodge is so rich for there are other relics of Washington's public and private life, and here and there may be seen articles closely interwoven with the history of our nation. One of them, that which claims precedence in attention and before which even the most indifferent observer must pause in reverential awe, is the quaint little bed-chamber clock that told off the hours that marked the opening and the fulfillment of each day's schedule of duties and pastimes of the Master of the Mansion House of Mt. Vernon. It also kept toll as the sands of time counted off the last moments in the life of the great patriot and its silent hands still point to the hour and minute when the "greatest life in history" fulfilled its mortal span.



ORIGINAL LODGE ROOM, SHOWING WILLIAMS' PAINTING, ORIGINAL FURNITURE, LESSER LIGHTS, OLD ALTAR AND MASTER'S CHAIR OWNED AND USED BY WASHINGTON WHEN MASTER.

On the death of the General, Dr. Elisha Dick, one of the attending physicians and a lifetime friend, cut the weight cord and stopped the faithful old timepiece when the spirit took its flight at twenty minutes past ten P. M., December 14, 1799. Later on Mrs. Washington gave the clock to Dr. Dick for the Lodge, and for nearly one hundred and eighteen years, this little clock with the detached weight standing beside it has kept silent memorial vigil. As it happens, it is the only bit of furniture in existence that belonged to the bedroom at that time, which has not not since been restored to the Mt. Vernon mansion.

By it also stand the Lesser Lights, original lights of the Lodge, which played a part in the ceremonies attendant upon the laying of the corner stones of the District of Columbia in 1791, the National Capitol in 1793, the funeral of General Washington in 1799 and the laying of the corner stone of the Washington Monument in 1848. Another aged and highly prized relic of national importance that still participates both in the great national events of note and also in the annual fraternal memorial exercises of this venerable association, is the tiny silver



trowel with the ivory handle used by General Washington, then President of the United States, when laying the corner stone of the Capitol in 1793, on September 18. This important epoch making ceremony in American history, also marked an epoch in American Masonry as it was conducted by the Grand Lodge of Maryland which then and until 1811 held jurisdiction over the tract of land set apart as the District of Columbia, Right Worshipful Joseph Clarke, Grand Marshal protem, officiating. When the procession marched to the site selected for the corner stone, President Washington, with Doctor Elisha Dick on his right and the Grand Master pro tem on his left, marched behind his own lodge, No. "22" which served as an escort of honor to him. On arriving at the site(the column in front inclined two steps, one to the right and one to the left, and faced each other, forming a hollow, oblong square, through which the procession filed in reversed order. The President, the Grand Master pro tem, and the Worshipful Master of "22" taking their stand to the east of a large stone and all of the craft forming a circle westward, stood for a short time in solemn order. The Grand Marshal presented to the Commissioners a silver plate appropriately inscribed, which was read and delivered to Washington, who with the Grand Master pro tem, and the three Worshipful Masters descended to cavazion trench and laid it on the corner stone of the National Capitol of the United States. This trowel was made by a silversmith, John Duffey, and one of the most important of its latest services was when it was used by President Roosevelt to lay the corner stone of the new Masonic Temple of the District of Columbia.

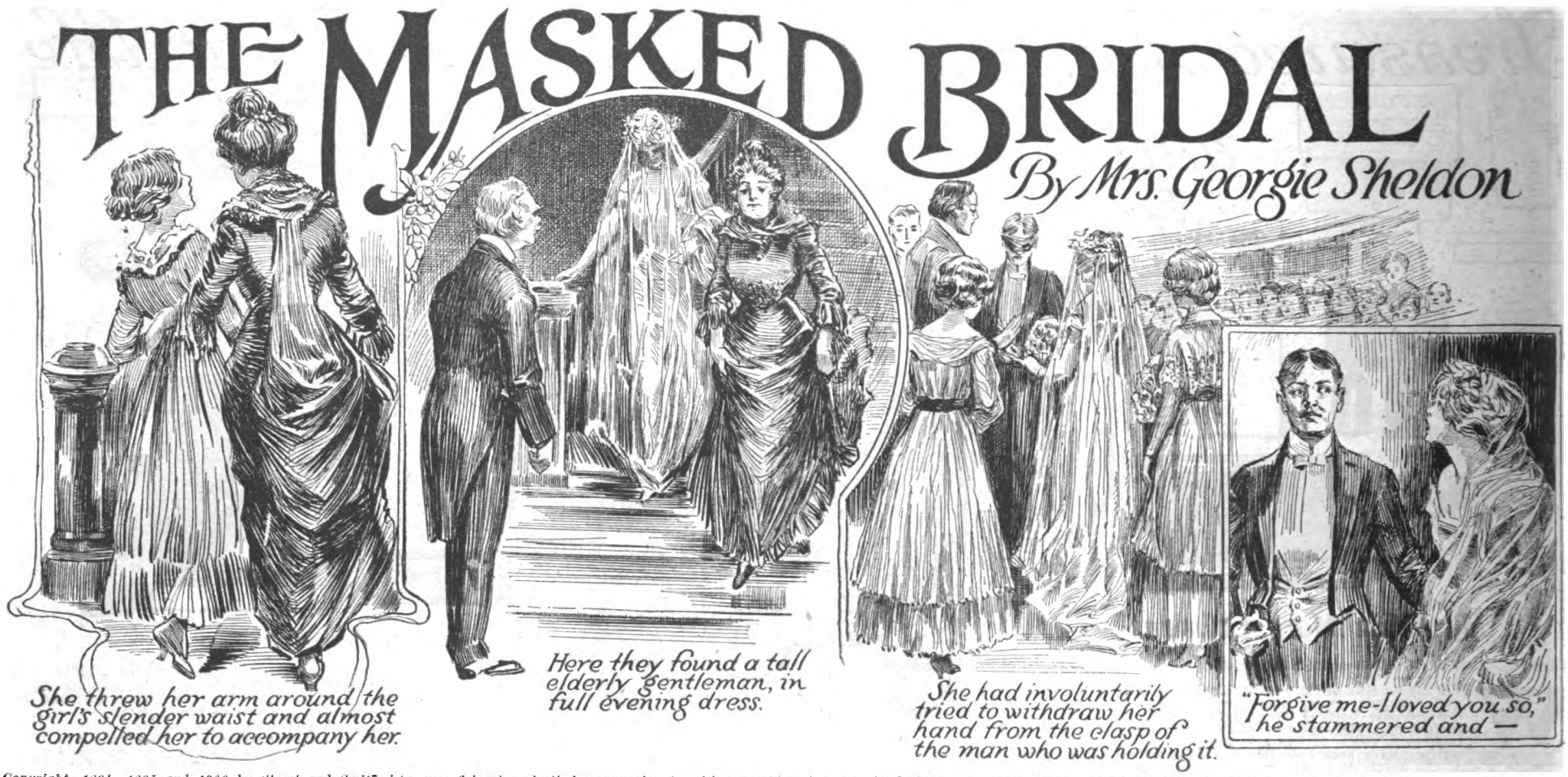
The huge chair which stands in a glass case in the lodge room, shows evidence of age and hard usage. It was originally the property of Washington at Mt. Vernon and when he was worshipful master of No. 22, he had it brought to the lodge for his own personal use. After all of these years and years of hard service, and continuous use in the hall the splendid old piece began to show signs of age. It has a frame of mahogany inlaid with white holly, and upholstered in leather of so sturdy a quality that it neither split nor ripped until the soulless curio seeking vandal came along to cut and slash it. Then it was incased in glass and brought forth only on Washington's birthday. During its lifetime of activity it has held many distinguished men, among whom may be numbered General Lafayette during his visit to this country in 1825. Among others who have shared this honor are Admiral Schley, Fairbanks when Vice President, President Taft and Speaker Cannon. This time-honored chair is not the only relic brought forth to participate in the Masonic Ceremonial each year. The Masonic apron owned and worn by Washington when Master and at the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Capitol was the gift of General Lafayette, and what further enhances the value of the apron is the fact that it is the handiwork of the French General's talented wife. On this Madame de Lafayette surely lavished her taste for it is still a gorgeous affair. It was of cream-colored satin heavily fringed and richly embroidered in gold with the French and American Flags entwined, their colors still retaining a remnant of their original brilliance. In the center may be seen a beehive and a group of fairies. This emblem was sent to General Washington with the handsome sash in a pearl inlaid ebony box with which it was presented to the Lodge in 1812 by Lawrence Lewis, nephew of Washington and husband of his adopted daughter, Nellie Custis. Only the most notable occasions have called the apron into use since the death of the man for whom it was made, but it and everything else pertaining to Washington was brought forth during Lafayette's visit when he was the guest of the lodge.

A simple, shallow, wall cabinet secluding what appears to be but insignificant trifles is teeming with interest. The romance, comedy and tragedy in the life history of this unusual man are linked

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

THE MASKED BRIDAL

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



She threw her arm around the girl's slender waist and almost compelled her to accompany her.

Here they found a tall elderly gentleman, in full evening dress.

She had involuntarily tried to withdraw her hand from the clasp of the man who was holding it.

"Forgive me—I loved you so," he stammered and —

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Edith Allandale, the only support of an invalid mother pawns a valuable watch. To redeem it she offers a five-dollar gold piece, paid to her by Royal Bryant, to the broker, who, dropping it into the drawer declares it a counterfeit and returns it. Going home her mother suggests it may be genuine and again Edith goes out to buy food and coal. While eating supper an officer enters, followed by the grocer who insists upon Edith's arrest for passing counterfeit money. She is hurried to the station house, leaving her mother in the care of Kate O'Brien. Edith writes to Royal Bryant explaining the situation. He redeems the watch, secures Edith's release and sends her home, where she finds her mother dying. After her death in reading letters, Edith learns she is an adopted daughter, the child of a dear friend, who believes she is legally a wife, until the father of her child admits his perfidy and deserts her. Edith writes Mr. Bryant, giving no address and goes to Boston, securing a position as companion with Mrs. Gerald Goddard. Edith discovers there is a skeleton in the family, when Mrs. Goddard accuses her of attempting to steal her husband's affections. Emil Correlli, Mrs. Goddard's brother is persistent in his attentions to Edith; she tries to avoid him and decides to leave. Mrs. Goddard begs her to stay. Edith, going to walk renders assistance to Mrs. Stewart, who is attracted to her and shows agitation when she learns she is a companion to Mrs. Goddard, and if she needs a friend to come to her. Edith is overtaken by Emil Correlli. Nearing Mrs. Goddard's house, a woman, unknown to Edith addresses Emil in a foreign tongue. Realizing that Edith thinks there is something mysterious in his relation to this woman he endeavors to set it right, renews his protestations of love, offers marriage and is staggered by her refusal. Mrs. Goddard unfolds a scheme which cannot fail to make Edith Allen his wife, but Emil must go away. Mrs. Goddard plans with Edith for a "mid-winter frolic," at their country home. The housekeeper, Mrs. Weld, overhears Mr. Goddard entreating his wife for a certain document. Mrs. Goddard proposes a theatrical performance entitled "The Masked Bridal." The guests arrive. Mrs. Weld takes a folded paper from Mrs. Goddard's jewel case; it vindicates her. Mrs. Goddard, having sent for Edith and seeing Mr. Weld in an adjoining room devises a scheme to get her from meeting Edith.

CHAPTER XII.

THE MASKED BRIDAL.

"OH, Mrs. Weld!" Mrs. Goddard exclaimed, in tones of well assumed eagerness, "I am so glad you are here! I fear I have taken cold and am going to have a chill; will you be so good as to go down and mix me a hot lemonade and send it out behind the stage to me? for I must go back directly, and I will drink it there."

The housekeeper arose at once and went out into the hall, where she saw that madam appeared excited and trembling, while her face was very pale, although her eyes were unusually bright.

Somehow, she did not believe her to be ill; but she cheerfully acceded to her request, and went directly below to attend to her commission.

As she passed down the back stairs, Edith came hurrying up the front way.

"What has happened?" she inquired.

"The most unfortunate thing that could occur," she nervously replied. "Miss Kerby and her brother, who had the leading parts in the play, have just been summoned home, by telegraph, on account of sickness in the family, and that leaves us without our hero and heroine."

"That is unfortunate, surely; the plan will have to be given up, I suppose?" Edith remarked.

"No, indeed! I should die of mortification!"

"But what can you do?" innocently inquired Edith.

The only thing to be done is to supply their places with others," was the ready answer. "I have a gentleman friend who will take Mr. Kerby's place, and I want you, Edith, to assume the part of the bride; you are just about the size of Alice Kerby, and the costume will fit you to perfection."

"But I am afraid I cannot—I never took part in a play in my life," objected Edith.

"Nonsense! there is but very little for you to do," said madam, "you have simply to walk into the church, upon the arm of the supposed bride's father. You will be masked, and no one will see your face until after all is over, and you have not a word to say, except to repeat the marriage service after the clergyman."

Edith shivered, and her face had grown very pale. She did not like the idea at all; it was exceedingly repugnant to her.

"I wish you could find someone else," she said.

"There is no time," said madam.

"Oh! but it seems almost like sacrilege to me, to stand before such an audience and repeat words so solemn and significant, when they will mean nothing, when the whole thing will be but a farce," Edith remarked.

"You are absurdly conscientious, Edith," madam coldly observed. "There is not another girl in the house upon whom I can call—they are all too large or too small, and the bridal costume would not fit one of them. Pray, pray, Miss Allen, pocket your scruples, for once, and help me out of this terrible predicament—the whole affair will be ruined by this awkward *contretemps* if you do not, and I, who have promised so much to my friends, shall become the laughing-stock of every one present."

Still the fair girl hesitated.

Some unaccountable influence seemed to be holding her back.

"Oh, Edith! say you will!" cried the woman, appealingly. "You must!" she added, imperatively. "Come to my room—the costume is there all ready, and we will soon have you dressed."

She threw her arm around the girl's slender waist and almost compelled her to accompany her.

The moment they were within Mrs. Goddard's chamber, the woman nervously began to unfasten the young girl's dress but her fingers trembled so with excitement, showing how wrought up she was, that Edith yielded without further demur, and assisted in removing her clothing.

"That is good of you, dear," said madam, smiling upon her, "for we must work very rapidly while the scenery is being changed—we have just fifteen minutes"—glancing at the clock. "How fortunate it is that I asked you to wear white this evening!" the crafty woman remarked, as Edith's dress was removed, thus revealing her dainty under garments, "for you are all ready for the wedding costume without any other change. Here, dear, just help me, please, with this skirt, for the train is so long it needs to be handled with care."

She lifted the beautiful satin skirt from the bed as she spoke, and together they carefully slipped it over the young girl's head.

The next moment it was fastened about her waist, and the lustrous material fell around her slender form in graceful and artistic folds.

The corsage was then put on and—wonderful to relate—it fitted her to perfection.

"How strange! one would almost think it was made for me!" she remarked, all unsuspicious that her measure had been accurately taken from a dress that had been left in the city.

"Ha! ha!" laughed madam, in musical exultation, "I should say that it was a very fortunate coincidence, and it shows that I made a wise choice when I selected you to take Miss Kerby's place. I did not know who else to call upon—of course I could not go out into the audience to find someone, and thus betray my predicament to everybody; neither could I take one of the housemaids, because she would have been sure to blunder and be so awkward. Oh! isn't this dress just lovely?"

Thus madam chattered, while she worked, wholly unlike herself, nervous, anxious, and covertly watching every expression of Edith's sensitive face.

When everything was done, madam stood back to look at her work, and uttered an exclamation of delight.

"Oh! you are simply perfect, Edith!" she said. "You are just too lovely for anything! Miss Kerby would not have made nearly so beautiful a bride, and—and—I could almost wish that you were really going to be married."

"Oh, no!" cried the fair girl, shrinking back from the strange gleam that shone from the woman's eyes, as she made this remark, while her thoughts flew, with the speed of light and with a yearning so intense that it turned her white as snow, to Royal Bryant, the man to whom, all unasked, she had given her heart.

"Ha! ha! not if you could marry the man of your choice?" queried madam.

"Oh! please do not jest about it in this light way—marriage is too sacred to be treated with levity," said Edith in a tremulous tone. "But where is the mask?" she added, glancing anxiously toward the bed. "You know you said the face of the bride was not to be seen."

"Here it is," responded madam, snatching the dainty thing from the bed. "See! it goes on under the veil, like this"—and she dextrously slipped the silver-fringed piece of gauze beneath the edge of the veil and fastened the chain under the orange-wreath behind.

The fringe fell just to Edith's chin, thus effectually concealing her features, while it was not thick enough to prevent her seeing, distinctly, everything about her.

A few other details were attended to, and then Mrs. Goddard hurriedly said:

"Come, now, we must hasten," and she gathered up the voluminous train and laid it carefully over Edith's arm. "We shall have to go the back way, through the billiard-room, because no one must see you until you appear upon the stage."

The carriage-house adjoined the mansion, and was connected with it by a door, at the end of a hall, that opened into a large room over it which had been devoted to billiards.

In the rear of this there was a stairway, which led down to the first floor and behind the stage; thus madam and Edith were enabled to reach the dressing-room without being seen by anyone, and just as the orchestra were playing the closing bars of the last selection before the raising of the curtain.

Here they found a tall, elderly gentleman, in full evening dress, who was to represent the supposed bride's father in giving his child away to the groom.

All the other actors were already grouped upon the stage or in their respective places behind the scenes awaiting the coming of the bride.

Outside, the audience were all upon the *qui vive*, for, not only was the closing act of the very clever play looked forward to with much interest, for its own sake, but the genuine surprise promised them was a matter for much curious conjecture and eager anticipation.

As Edith stepped upon the stage, leaning upon the arm of her escort, the bridesmaids and maid of honor filed into place before them from the wings and all were ready for the grand finale just as the signal was given for the curtain to go up.

A shiver ran over Edith, shaking her from head to foot as that sharp, incisive sound from the silver bell went ringing through the room.

For, as she had stepped upon the stage and Mrs. Goddard laid her hand upon the arm of the elderly gentleman, she had observed the two exchange meaning smiles, while the maids and ushers, as they had filed into place, had regarded her with marked and admiring curiosity.

The curtain was raised, revealing to the appreciative audience the interior of a beautiful little church.

It was perfect and complete in all its appointments, even to the stained glass windows, the altar, the chancel, the organ, and the exquisite floral decorations suitable for a wedding ceremony.

Simultaneously with this revelation there broke upon the ear and the breathless hush that prevailed throughout the rooms the sound of an organ playing the customary wedding-march.

Presently, at the rear of the church a door opened, and four ushers entered, "with stately tread and slow," followed by as many bridesmaids, dressed in exquisite costumes.

Then came the maid of honor, clad in pale blue satin, and carrying a huge bunch of pink roses that contrasted beautifully with her dainty toilet.

Next the veiled and masked bride appeared, leanin upon the arm of her attendant and clasping a costly bouquet of white orchids, which Mrs. Goddard had produced from some mysterious source, and thrust into her hands at the last moment.

A thrill of awe, mingled with intensest curiosity, pervaded the audience as the graceful figure of the beautiful girl came slowly into view.

The whole affair was so vividly real and impressive that every one watched the scene with breathless interest.

And now, at one side of the chancel another door was seen to open, when a spotlessly gowned clergyman, followed by the groom and best man, entered and proceeded slowly toward the altar.

The two men behind the minister were in full evening dress, the only peculiar thing noticeable being the mask of black gauze edged with silver fringe which the groom wore over his face.

They reached the altar at the same moment that the rest of the bridal party paused before it.

Then, as the clergyman turned his face toward the audience and the light from the chandelier above him fell full upon him, a flutter of excitement ran throughout the room, while many persons were seen to exchange glances of undisguised astonishment, for they had recognized a popular young divine—the pastor of a church, which many of those present, together with their hostess, were in the habit of attending.

What could it mean?

Suddenly, like a flash, it had seemed to burst upon every mind that there was to be a *bona fide* marriage—that this was to be the "Genine Surprise" that had been promised them!

CHAPTER XIII.

THE DASTARDLY PLOT IS REVEALED.

Every thought and feeling was now merged in intense interest and curiosity regarding the participants in the strange union, which was being consummated before them. Who was the beautiful bride, so perfect in form, so graceful in bearing, so elegantly and richly adorned?

Who the strange groom?

The parts of the plotting lovers of the play had hitherto been taken by the brother and sister—Walter and Alice Kerby, who were well known in society.

But of course every one reasoned that they could not both officiate as principals in the scene now being enacted before them.

The ceremony proceeded, according to the Episcopal form, although the young minister was known to be of another denomination, and when he reached the charge, calling for anyone "who could show just cause why the two before him should not be joined in lawful wedlock, to speak or forever hold his peace," those sitting nearest the stage were startled to see the bride shiver, from head to foot, while a deadly pallor seemed to settle over that portion of her face that was visible, and to even extend over her neck.

The service went on without any interruption, the groom making the responses in clear, unfaltering tones, although those of his companion were scarcely audible.

When the symbol of their union was called for, it was also noticed that Edith shrank from having the ring placed upon her finger, but it was only a momentary hesitation, and the service was soon completed with all due solemnity.

After the blessing, when the couple arose from their knees, the maid of honor stepped forward, and, lifting the mask of the bride, adjusted it above her forehead with the jeweled pin, while the audience sat spellbound, awaiting with breathless suspense the revelation that would ensue.

At the same moment the groom also removed the covering from his face, when those who could see him instantly recognized him as Emil Correlli, the handsome and wealthy brother of the hostess of the evening.

His countenance was white to ghastliness, betraying that he was laboring under great excitement and mental strain.

But the fair young bride! who was she?

Not one in that great company recognized her for the moment, for scarcely anyone had ever seen her before—excepting those, of course, who had been guests in the house during the week, and these failed to identify her in the exquisite costume which was so different from the simple black dresses which she had always worn, and enveloped, as she was, in that voluminous, mist-like veil.

The clergyman omitted nothing, and immediately, upon the lifting of the masks, greeted and congratulated the young couple with every appearance of cordiality and sincerity.

To poor, reluctant Edith the whole affair had been utterly distasteful and repulsive.

Indeed, she had felt as if she was almost guilty of a crime in allowing herself to participate lightly in anything of so sacred a nature, and, throughout the entire ceremony, she had shivered and trembled with mingled nervousness and repugnance.

When the ring—an unusually massive circlet of gold—had been slipped upon her finger, she had involuntarily tried to withdraw her hand from the clasp of the man who was holding it, a sensation of deadly faintness almost overpowering her for the moment.

But feeling that she must not fail madam and spoil everything at this last moment, she braced herself to go on with the farce (?) to the end.

She was so relieved when it was ended, so eager to get away from the place and have the dread ordeal over, that she scarcely heard a word the clergyman uttered while congratulating her. She was dimly conscious of the clasp of his hand and the sound of his voice, but did not even notice the hated name by which he addressed her.

Neither had she once glanced at the groom, though as he took her hand and laid it upon his arm, when they turned to go out, she wondered vaguely why he should continue to hold it clasped in his, and what made his clinging fingers tremble so.

But Emil Correlli, now that his scheme was accomplished, led her, with an air of mingled triumph and joy which sat well upon him, directly up to the ladies' dressing-room, where they found madam alone awaiting them.

She could not have been whiter if she had been dead, and her teeth were actually chattering with nervousness as the two came toward her. Edith still with bowed head and downcast eyes—her brother beaming with the exultation he could not conceal.

But she braced herself to meet them with a brave front.

"Dear child, you went through it beautifully," she said, in a caressing voice as she took Edith into her arms and kissed her upon the forehead. "Let me thank and congratulate you—and you also, Emil."

At the sound of this name, Edith uttered a cry of dismay and turned her glance, for the first time, upon the man at her side.

"You!" she gasped, starting away from him with a gesture of horror, and marble could not have been whiter, nor a statue more frozen than she for a moment after making this amazing discovery.

"Hush!" imperatively exclaimed Mrs. Goddard, who quickly arose to the emergency. "Do not make a scene, It could not be helped—some one had to take Mr. Kerby's place, and Emil, arriving at the last moment, was pressed into the service the same as yourself."

"How could you? It was cruel! it was wicked! I never would have consented had I suspected," cried the girl in a voice resonant with indignation.

"Hush!" again commanded madam, "you must not—you shall not spoil everything now. The actors are all to hold an informal reception in the parlors while this room is being cleared for dancing, and you two must take your places with them——"

"I will not! I will not lend myself to such a wretched farce for another moment!" Edith exclaimed, and never for an instant suspecting that it was anything but a farce.

The face of Mrs. Goddard was a study, as was also her brother's, as these resolute words fell upon her ears; but she had no intention of undeceiving the girl at present, for she knew that if she threw up the character which she had thus far been impersonating, their plot would be ruined and a fearful scandal follow.

If they could only trick her into standing with the others to receive the congratulations of her guests—to be publicly addressed as, and appear to assent to the name of Mrs. Correlli, she believed it would be comparatively easy later on to convince her of the truth and compel her to yield to the inevitable.

But just at this instant the bridesmaids came trooping into the room and created a blessed diversion.

"Here we are, dear Mrs. Goddard," a gay girl exclaimed. "Didn't it all go off beautifully, and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

MY LADY O'CRINOLINE

by Joseph F. Novak



"On paper curiously shaped
Scribblers today of every sort,
In verse Valentines y'clep'd,
To Venus chime their annual court.
I too will swell the motley throng,
And greet the all auspicious day,
Whose privilege permits my song,
My love thus secret to convey."
—*Bohn.*

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT was a beautiful tableau that the old Colonel gazed upon, old in theme but always new and beautiful when the participants are youthful and have the eagerness of life in their souls.

The man was young, tall and broad-shouldered, with features glorified with his honest love, the young woman was slender, petite and trustfully lovely in her girlish beauty. She leaned against him, his heart her haven.

The soft radiance of the electrolier fell upon them, and upon the tiny table on which lay a red, heart-shaped box of dainty sweets and a cluster of brilliant pansies.

The young couple were garbed in fashion of times long agone,—the style of the Sixties.

The whole spoke mutely the two greatest words: Love and Romance.

The Colonel smiled, and sighed too, for this dainty bit of femininity, his only grandchild, was very dear to him. He and his beautiful old wife, who still abode with him, thanks to a gracious Providence, had been both parents and grandparents to this living reminder of their departed son and daughter-in-law.

He stood for a moment or two, lost in the shadows of the silken drapes which hung before the drawing-room entrance, then as the young man's lips met those of his sweetheart, he waited a moment or two longer, then hemmed a little, and came into the room.

At his entrance, young Farnsworth flustered, then drew the girl more closely to his side, as she, with maiden modesty tried to draw from him, and stood in a proud, possessory manner, waiting for the Colonel to speak.

Colonel Dare looked upon him with kindly indulgence.

"As this is St. Valentine's Day, and this is your Valentine," and he touched the heart-shaped box of bon-bons, "I am going to ask you what kind of Valentine Virginia has given in return. The truth now, for I may have eavesdropped," and he smiled encouragingly.

"She has given me herself, Colonel, the very dearest and best Valentine I could want—that is, provided you consent."

"Why should I object?" he queried. "It is meet that Virginia should sometime find a mate, and go to a nest of her own, and I could not select a more fitting partner for her than she has done herself. Farnsworth, my boy, I admire and love you above all young men I know, and my blessing goes with Virginia—and latterly, my purse."

Young Farnsworth glowed at the praiseful words.

"I thank you sir. It is but a poor tribute to your words, but I can think of no other. I realize that I am almost a trespasser in coming and taking from you the joy of your life, but, believe me, I shall endeavor to show that you have not lost a granddaughter, but have gained a son, and a son's love and respect."

"I know that; that is why I welcome you. And whenever you are ready to wed, let me know in time, so that grandma and I may fashion our wedding clothes," and he kissed Virginia.

"Where are you young people going tonight?" he questioned, changing the subject.

"To the Clarendons' Fancy Dress Ball. I am representing a belle of the crinoline days, and Stewart is a beau of the times."

"You are quite in fashion, then, my dear. Those crinoline gowns! How I have always admired them, and how sorry I am that they are no longer in style. How many a beautiful belle did I see garbed in that kind of gown, and how my heart quickened at the sight of one. Somehow, they seemed to make even plain faces pretty! Oh, I was quite a romancer in those old war days! I wonder if you'd care to hear the story of a little romance in which I participated?"

"Indeed, grandfather, yes. We have plenty of time before we need go."

"All right," the old Colonel responded, and seating himself on a davenport near the fire which sparkled and snapped, and with Virginia on one side and Stewart Farnsworth on the other, and holding each gently by the wrist in such a manner that after a little it seemed quite proper for the small feminine hand to be lost in the bold, strong grasp of the masculine, the old Colonel commenced his story.

"Naturally all this happened during the war. I had been with Sherman on his march through Georgia, 'from Atlanta to the Sea,' and now we wended our way northward, our destination being Columbia, the capital of South Carolina.

"We had our orders. They were to forage freely, horses and mules were to be snapped up, but private dwellings were not to be entered unless there was any suspicion that Confederate soldiers might be concealed therein. But how easy a suspicion!

"Our march through the Carolinas was dreadful. The country was low and swampy, intersected by rivers; sometimes the swamps were almost impassible. It was in winter time, as a matter of fact it was two days after St. Valentine's Day, Feb. 16, when we reached the city of Columbia.

"As a recent historian so aptly put it, 'the feeling was that South Carolina had taken lead in the Rebellion; she should, therefore, be made to feel the scourge of the war' was uppermost during that march, and so whenever there was a chance for foraging, we weren't any too lenient.

"I, like most of the boys, from the first had been full of patriotic enthusiasm, and nothing would satisfy me but that I answer Lincoln's call for volunteers, and being ambitious, I worked hard, and received several promotions, so that at the time of the march on Columbia, I was a captain.

"We continued our march, and it happened that on February 14, we camped for the night on the outskirts of a small town. It was a pretty, pastoral sort of a place, with residences few and far between, each surrounded by a large, imposing estate. Not far from where we camped, perhaps half a mile, there stood one grand old mansion, one of those picturesque affairs which we now tenderly remark always brings back 'memories of the South before the War.' It was a red brick affair, with a huge white colonnade and veranda.

"While encamped news came to us that in this fine old house, a Valentine party was to be held, and that many of the Southern belles expected their soldier sweethearts. On hearing of our approach, however, warning was sent to their soldier friends not to come near. The place it seemed, was a gathering place for them, and their hatred of the North was of the kind that has become proverbial.

"The news in hand, I was ordered to take a squad of men and keep guard at the house and capture any Rebels I might und and bring them to headquarters. I thought it hardly possible that the Rebels would attempt to see their sweethearts, with our army in such close proximity, but love is a scorner of all things, you know, and when I recall the beauty of those young women, I wouldn't have been surprised had some of those hot-blooded chaps taken a chance.

"Well, I summoned a squad of privates, the best lads I could find, and we marched up to the house. Through the windows, we saw dainty feminine forms moving about, and light girlish laughter rippled like a faint breeze.

"I hated to disturb the house and the innocent joys of these much harrassed little Southerners, but duty was paramount always so I could do nothing less than go to the door and knock.

"It was opened by a black mammy who held a candle high above her head, and whose eyes popped forth looks of terror.

"'Hello, Aunty,' I greeted, 'I guess I'll have to disturb the party.'

"As I spoke, I noted the slender form of a girl behind her, a girl, whom, for want of a better phrase, I must use the much hackneyed one, a Southern beauty. She was dressed in a crinoline of some silky material, the many ruffles of which were embroidered with dainty pink roses and rose-buds. The bodice was sharp pointed, as was the fashion, and embroidered with the same dainty roses. About her shoulders she wore a fissue of soft white silk and lace, but she was utterly without jeweled ornament of any sort. Her eyes were perfect, her skin angel white, and set off with a tiny patch or two. Her hair, glorious, glistening brown which in the light of the candle threw off a vague halo, she wore in curls and several of these rested on her white shoulder.

"Her eyes dilated when she saw who her callers were, but instantly the momentary fear vanished. She held her candle a little distance from her face, which brought out the distracting beauty of her tender lips. I had seen many a Southern beauty, but at the sight of this girl, so dainty, so small, yet so determined in her inherent bravery, my heart quickened, my head seemed to spin, and for a moment I lost all command of myself. I could not understand the sensation that came upon me; then it dawned upon me! In a flash, at a glance, I had fallen in love with a daughter of the enemy!

"As I stood there gazing, I hardly knew what to say; I could see her dainty throat and breast heaving with the tumult she had difficulty in squelching, and which so rankled her heart.

"I stepped upon the threshold, and motioned the men to enter. They were kindly fellows, fellows whom I trusted, and who had, I knew, beloved womenkind at home, and who, while loyal to the core, would do their utmost ere they would, unnecessarily, frighten a woman, or destroy things out of sheer malice.

"My squad entered, and stood awaiting my orders. I, too, stood, very loath to begin. We were in a big, hospitable room, wherein a fire burned cheerfully in the grate. Everywhere about there was the appearance of recent depletion of wealth, yet there was still a maintenance of dignity about the house.

"Besides the beautiful young hostess, there were nine other young beauties, all clad in the fashion of my Lady o' Crinoline, and upon our entrance, they gathered into several little groups. In the center of one of these was a stately old woman whom I had no difficulty in recognizing as the mother of the object of my sudden adoration.

"I noted that the young ladies had been busy writing, and their epistles lay upon various small tables, stands and window-seats, while upon a writing desk lay a box of water colors, brushes and the like. I wondered what they were doing, but at the moment did not guess.

"The quiet of death came upon the room, while all the young women eyed us with varying degrees of terror, distrust, and only a faint sign of hope.

"'Madame,' I at length began, addressing the older woman, but with my eyes for the most part upon the young lady, 'we have been informed that the young ladies gathered here had planned a party and were expecting gentlemen of the Southern army. Much as we dislike to intrude, I fear we shall be obliged to search the house for any soldiers which you may have hidden here, if indeed you have.'

"The beautiful girl raised her eyes, and with cold formality responded:

"'Search. We have no voice in the matter.'

"'I am very sorry, my dear young lady——' but with proud scorn, she interrupted:

"'It is one of the privileges of war. Proceed.'

"'We will be as quick and quiet as possible,' I answered. 'Believe me, I am very sorry we must disturb you. If we find no one, my men will camp outside, though I fear you will be obliged to endure my presence. But you may go on with your party. I must keep the house watched, for,' and I had to smile for I couldn't help it any more than the compliment that was coming, 'knowing your soldiers as I do, appreciating their bravery, and seeing you young ladies, I wouldn't be a bit surprised if some of your lovers didn't risk meeting us just to see you.'

"She could not squelch her pride, I saw, when I praised the Rebels. I bade the men proceed with the search, and seated myself as far from the young women as possible. I felt all those pairs of eyes upon me, and, if you will pardon the conceit, I was a rather handsome chap, so even in spite of the fact that I was a villainous Yankee, I may have interested the young ladies nevertheless.

"Suddenly I heard a commotion up-stairs, a considerable stamping of feet, then a roar of laughter from my men. In a few moments, two of them, Sterling and Richards came down with their 'Rebel.' From all appearances, he had captured them, for he had them by their coat-sleeves and was dragging them into my presence. The lad was in his night-clothes, and his fair, curling hair was tousled. His eyes burned with indignation.

"'Say,' he began, addressing me, 'are you a Yank Captain?'

"'I believe I am, young sir,' I responded.

"'Well, your men here are looking for Rebels. And I'm a Rebel, sir!'

"'Are you?'

"'I reckon I am, and when I grow up, I'm going to fight you. I hope the war lasts long enough.'

"'Thank you, sonny. With your valiant spirit, I'm quite certain you'd kill me dead beyond a doubt,' and I patted his head, or rather, I attempted to, for in trying to draw the lovable little fellow to me, he jerked away.

"'I know I would,' he returned coolly. Then: 'Are you going to take me prisoner?' he continued.

"'Shall I?' I questioned. 'I believe I shall for we Yankees need a few little Rebel boys to black our boots. We'll set you to doing that.'

"'I'd never do it, no, I wouldn't, not even if you'd kill me!'

"'Well, sonny,' I answered him, 'I hardly think I'd take particular pleasure in killing so fine spirited a lad as you. Come, shake hands, and let's be friends. For we were once brothers. Do you realize that?'

"'I'll not touch your hand. It has killed too many Southerners.'

"'It has never killed a man outside of battle, my boy. In battle, by the dictates of stern duty, it has done many a thing which it would not otherwise do. Some day, little fellow, I hope I'll see you and be able to call you "brother."' I forgot, for a moment, the tender years of my young auditor, then recalling myself, I laughed off the whole matter and continued: 'But after all, why shouldn't you shake? You tell me I've killed Southerners, but didn't you say just now you'd like to fight me, and I've no doubt, kill me?'

"This rather took him aback, but undaunted however, he continued:

"'Anyhow, I hate and despise you, and mother hates and despises you, and all these young ladies hate and despise you, and my sister hates——'

"It was more than I could stand. To be told that I was hated by that glorious young woman, hurt. I gently put my hand upon his lips.

"'Don't say that, boy. God knows that I do not hate you all, as you hate me.'

"During this time, the young women had remained mute. Several times, indeed, the stately mother had intended stopping the prattle of the lad, but seeing that it amused me she said nothing. These last words of the boy, however, roused her fine sense of breeding.

"'Come, Hal,' she said quietly, 'you must not say that. Go with Aunt Dinah. She will put you to bed.'

"'I'll not go with that Yank in the house,' he objected.

"'The Yankee is a gentleman, Hal. Go.'

"The lad went off with Aunt Dinah, after making a cautious wry face at me, his eyes glowering in the light of the candle with which fat Dinah lighted the way.

"After the lad's departure, quiet fell upon the room.

"'Please do not mind me,' I spoke up. 'I do not want to interrupt your party. Pray go on as if I were not present.'

"They took me at my word. And gracious, how they knew how to ignore! Immediately they went to their unfinished work, and a girlish buzz hung over the room punctuated with merry laughs and scandalized little shrieks at something my Lady o' Crinoline was writing. I felt it had some reference to me though I pretended to be absorbed in my own thoughts, though in reality I was watching the bright faces, though enshrined in my mind was only the face of the young hostess.

"At length they finished their epistles which were. I now discovered, valentines and love-tokens to their lovers. The little verses, though obviously the products of amateurs, nevertheless held the strain of that undying love which they bore for the boys who were far away where the fighting was. They read them aloud, laughing now and then at some bright and humorous couplet, or with eyes dimming as some reference was made to the uncertainty of the future.

"The verses were embellished by the young lady of artistic ability, and finally were put up and sealed tenderly. Would they all reach their destination, I wondered? Perhaps some of the intended recipients were even then lying low.

"Nothing could induce the hostess to read her verses, however. She would read them latterly, she said, and just then, an old mammy announced supper.

"She threw open the large doors in the west wall of the room, revealing a table neatly, but plainly set. Where hospitality had once scintillated, now only glamours of it remained. The young ladies went into the dining-room, the doors were closed, and I was left to myself.

"Well tired of sitting, I was glad to get up and walk about the room. I crossed to where the young hostess had sat while writing, and having previously noted that she slipped her verses under a pad of paper, I raised the pad and secured the 'poem.'

"I snatched it up, then listened. But all I heard was the soft clatter of knives upon plates, and rippling laughter, and I could not help but admire the nonchalance these young women displayed in the face of what would have scared present-day young ladies into fits.

"Then I read the 'Valentine,' for it was mine! Mine, though I was not supposed to have it. In these days we would call it a 'comical' one, I expect. The verses as I remember them, were something like this:

"'If all the men I knew were Yanks,
And wore the Northern blue,
I'd rather rest 'neath mossy banks,
Than pay them homage true.

"'A vile and wretched set are they
Their hearts are all of flint,
They interrupt our parties gay,
And cannot take a hint.

"'There's one within our precincts now,
Who wears a suit of blue,
Come, girls we'll oust him now, I vow,
For he disgusts our view.'

"I conned over the verses, written on the spur of the moment, then I stuck the paper into my bosom. Even though the 'valentine' caricatured me, still it was dear for the awful words had been penned by the woman I loved.

"Suddenly I became aware of steps approaching, and I hurried back to my seat and sat down. The young hostess entered.

"She did not even glance at me, but crossed the room to her writing, while I watched her in amused silence. Her hands fluttered through the papers, a provoked little expression came to her eyes, then with a sudden raising of her brows, she looked at me. I gave forth no sign.

"Feeling obliged to say something because of her sudden, penetrating gaze, I suppose, she said in a cold, yet courteous voice:

"'If you are hungry, we shall be willing to share our meagre supplies with you.'

"'Thank you, my lady,' I replied, 'you have need of all you have, and I am not hungry. I thank you from the bottom of my heart, however, and appreciate your thoughtfulness.'

"She said nothing, but went again to looking among her papers, then finding her efforts to find what she sought fruitless, she turned away.

"'Stay a moment,' I said, rising, and going to her side. 'What were you looking for?'

"Jove, what a look she gave me! But paying no attention to it, I continued: 'Is it this? This valentine you left for me?'

"She laughed scornfully. That finished me. I crushed my hands, one in the other, lest they should catch those of the glorious woman laughing at me.

"'Ah, Lady o' Crinoline!' I cried. 'Am I so disagreeable? Do you hate and despise me? Can't you even respect me for honoring a cause which I believe is right though you do not?'

"I did not understand her look of terror, but

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26.)

Live Better At Less Cost

March COMFORT, the great Household Number, will tell many ways of economizing so to save expense without sacrificing enjoyment or lowering your standard of living. It all depends on knowing how to get the most for your money and making the most of what you have. Renew your subscription today two full years for 30 cents, and make sure of March COMFORT.

Nerine's Second Choice

by Adelaide Stirling



On the steps stood a tall man wrapped in a voluminous Inverness cloak.

"What? Aren't any of you down stairs? Then where on earth is Satterlee?



"Well, I'm dished!"



The book had been her mothers.

Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

John Lispenard, cousin to Kit Belton's mother, marries a Canadian girl. Dying he leaves a widow, two girls, Agatha and Nerine, and one son Maurice. Mrs. Lispenard marries Clarence Mayne, an interloper. At her decease she leaves Clarence Mayne an income until the girls are of age. Lispenard house and money go to the male heir in the direct line. Clarence Mayne goes on a trip to Monte Carlo, Kit Belton comes on a visit, while Maurice Lispenard, denied the education which is his by right, walks from Liverpool, where he is learning to be a mechanical engineer, to be with Kit Belton.

CHAPTER III.

"NO OTHER MAN SHALL HAVE YOU!"

THE three girls and Maurice sat at breakfast; Kit radiant in her fur-trimmed dress once more dry and wearable; Agatha and Nerine in the plainest of serges, which were their outdoor wear and only put on in honor of their brother.

"Maurice," said Agatha, "what are we going to do today?"

Out of doors the winter sun shone gloriously; the air was sharp but not frosty, though all the shrubs and flower beds in the garden glittered with impalpable atoms like diamonds.

"We must do something."

Maurice turned over the morning paper which Jane had been dispatched for with much grandeur. Mr. Mayne never had a local paper, and the London ones which he read were never seen by his stepchildren.

"There's a football match; we'll go to that," Maurice said, running his eyes down the columns. "It begins at three; that gives us just time to get there nicely after lunch."

"Where?" cried Agatha. "The Arlington ground?"

As Maurice nodded she added:

"My good boy, it's five miles! Much too far for Kit to walk, though we might"—thoughtfully—"go in an omnibus."

"We'll drive." The line of Maurice's young mouth suddenly hardened. "There are horses in the stable."

"Mr. Mayne left orders," Nerine said, dryly, "about those horses. If you care to be snubbed by Jones, go and say we will take them out."

"Jones is here?"

"Of course. On board wages."

"Good!" said Maurice, enigmatically.

"Who is the match between?" Nerine asked.

Of course they would end by going in an omnibus—in which case she would stay at home.

"The county and the garrison."

He read over the lists of the two elevens. All the county names he knew; their visiting cards reposed on the Lispenard hall table. Once a year the girls, sulky and silent, accompanied Mr. Mayne to leave theirs, written cards, which looked plebeian beside Mayne's neat copperplate.

Maurice skimmed over the names of the garrison eleven.

"Hello! Satterlee!" he exclaimed. "I didn't know he was here. I thought he was abroad."

"Who is he?" Nerine pricked up her ears.

"The brother of a fellow I know in Liverpool, and a very good chap, too. We'll have to go and see him play. At a quarter past two we'll start, eh?" looking at Kit.

"Too late. The omnibus takes so long," Agatha said.

"We're going in the T cart," the boy returned, rising, tall and broad-shouldered, to leave the room.

Lighting his pipe, he strolled through the brisk morning air down the garden to the back door of the stables. There was no one there. The pair of bay horses which Mr. Mayne was obliged to keep stood peacefully in their stalls; the stable cat dozed in the sunlight in the harness-room window.

Jones had been there and gone, for the horses had been fed and their feeds cleared away. Maurice stood and cogitated outside the door till his smoke was finished. Then he rapped his pipe smartly on the window sill.

Steps sounded on the lane in front of the stable as he did so. Jones was letting himself in by the front way and Maurice shouted to him.

Mr. Mayne's man of all work was a broken-down jockey. Jones was a conveniently common name, and his own at one time had been inconveniently well known. The man's wizened face blanched as Maurice called him by it loudly.

"Mr. Lispenard!"

His voice croaked always, but it was terribly husky now. He had been taking advantage of Clarence Mayne's absence the night before, and he had not got his nerve back so early in the day.

He shuffled out into the daylight, not old, but prematurely shriveled, shattered by a life of hard exercise and bad liquor.

"You're not looking well, Lister," Maurice said slowly, his piercing gaze full on him.

Jones put up his hand.

"For Heaven's sake, sir, don't call me that!"

"Why not?"—equably. "It's your name."

Jones swore volubly; it was not, never had been.

Maurice pulled him up with a stern word.

"Did you ever hear of Lord Satterlee?" he said. "Perhaps not. I am living at present with Mr. Vivian Satterlee, who gave me some valuable facts concerning you."

Jones was sober in one instant. The Satterlees could have him sentenced to penal servitude even now.

"Do they know where I am sir?" he asked, respectfully, with underlying cunning.

"That's neither here nor there," Maurice replied. "The point just now is that I will have the horses in the T cart at two o'clock. I am going to see Lord Satterlee play football. I shall not take you."

"Mr. Mayne's orders is that the horses is only to go for exercise," doggedly.

"Very well. My orders"—Maurice seemed suddenly to tower over the man, the Lispenard "black look" on his grim young face—"are what I've said. If you don't like them perhaps Lord Satterlee will help you to—another situation," significantly.

"All right, sir, all right," the man rejoined, angrily. He would have given worlds to disobey, but he dared not. "Mr. Mayne shall know of this," he blustered, weakly.

"Mr. Mayne," Maurice said, abruptly, "is in France. Lord Satterlee is stationed five miles off."

Jones touched his cap in sulky silence.

His lips were dry as he harnessed the horses. This cursed young cock sparrow had the upper hand of him, and no mistake. Had he dared he would have lamed the horses, but a sharp fellow like Mr. Lispenard would have seen through that.

Presently, therefore, the trap was at the hall door; the horses shining in the sun, the brass-mounted harness glittering; the varnish on the seldom-used T cart was perhaps a little ancient, but otherwise the Lispenard turnout was unexceptionable.

Agatha could not believe her eyes. She and Nerine got in the back seat in a kind of dumb amazement. Maurice had taken their going as a matter of course—yet never before had she known him anything but routed by Jones.

"How on earth did he manage it?" she inquired of Nerine, who shrugged her shoulders indifferently.

It was a perfect day, and she had not been for a drive for two years. Those annual visitations of their neighbors she did not call drives, accompanied as they were with Mr. Mayne in the brougham. She would not trouble her head about anything so small as Jones.

Kit, perched up in front beside Maurice, warm in her sealskin coat, her hat of golden pheasant feathers set lightly on her yellow curls, looked like a small tropical bird. Agatha and Nerine in their humble blue serge, their felt hats with plain ribbons, their woolen-backed, leather-palmed winter gloves, were simple enough beside her. It was as well that their clear-cut faces and smooth Greek heads had small need of fripperies.

It was a good five miles from Lispenard House to the Arlington Club ground, through the town and past the barracks. Nerine did not remember ever having been there since they had been used to go with Maurice, all Lobbledehoys together. This was a very different story.

They were early, and the twins occupied themselves in watching the gathering crowd. A few people bowed to them, with some surprise at seeing them anywhere but in church or rambling through the country lanes. Nerine's cheeks flushed rose pink as she returned those wondering recognitions with distant frigidity. The county rather approved of Clarence Mayne; it condemned unheard the Lispenards.

Kit and Maurice were true football lovers. The blankets had hardly been put on the horses before they were lost in the game. Nerine and Agatha were less earnest.

"That's a good-looking man near the goal post. I wonder who he is?" Nerine said, idly.

"Garrison," Agatha returned, looking at his jersey. "Perhaps he is Maurice's friend with the funny name!"

"Too good-looking."

Nerine pointed to a square red-faced little man playing quarter back.

"That is much more likely to be he," she declared.

Agatha gazed at the strong slim figure of the handsome man as he ran like lightning across the field. How his bare head shone in the sun. It was more golden than Kit's.

"Maurice, who's that fair man playing for the garrison?" she asked, pinching his arm vigorously to call his attention. "The one rushing now with the ball. Oh, look, he was nearly down."

"Not he," said Maurice. "Well played, Satterlee!"

"I told you that was Satterlee," Agatha said, quietly. "I've seen him before, Nerine."

"Where?" Nerine asked, incredulously.

"Three or four times in church," she answered, rather weakly.

Every Sunday for the past three months would have been more to the point. Nerine never went to church except sometimes to the gorgeous ceremonial of a festival. Her feelings for Mr. Mayne did not accord with church-going.

She said nothing, and they watched the game in silence, till half time was called and the players trooped thirstily over to the pavilion.

"Maurice," Agatha said, "is he Captain Satterlee or Mr. Satterlee?"

"He's a lieutenant, but he's a viscount, too. Surely you know that."

"We are not on intimate terms with the aristocracy. We leave that to Mr. Mayne," Nerine observed, dryly.

Over at the pavilion a man who had hurried into his coat was scanning through a field glass the faces of the twins. One of them was the tall girl he had fallen into the way of going to St. Jude's to see; but which one? They were so exactly alike. At the moment Maurice turned his head to answer his sister.

"Lispenard, by all that's lucky! Why, they must be his sisters!"

Lord Satterlee relinquished his glass and went over. He shook hands with Maurice, then the sun glanced on his yellow hair as he acknowledged Miss Belton's bow and was introduced to the Lispenard sisters.

But in spite of his scrutinizing glance at them, Satterlee was none the wiser as to which of them he already knew by sight.

"Didn't Vivian tell you I was here, Lispenard?" he inquired, wondering desperately at which of those demure people he had been accustomed to gaze during the sermon.

"I haven't seen him lately; he's been with your mother and I've been busy. It's luck, my coming across you this morning," returned the boy, joyfully.

"Agatha," Kit turned round to whisper to her, "do you know that we are the observed of all observers? I think"—laughing—"that we are being much admired!"

Agatha's smile died away on her lips.

Maurice's voice was rising loud and cheery in her very ear as he asked Satterlee to dine with them the next day. Almost before she had found her breath again Maurice's speaking hand was on her shoulder, forcing her into seconding the invitation, feebly and with eyes anywhere but on the object of it. And Satterleee—oh, horror!—would be delighted!

Miss Lispenard sat stunned. Who would cook? Worse still, who would wait? Who was bold enough to burst into the china and glass closet—and the wine cellar?

"You've done it," Kit observed to Maurice, as they drove away, the match over. "Done it really—thoroughly!"

"Maurice, how could you?" Nerine broke in. "Fancy asking even a well-to-do eat to come and dine with us! And what are we to do for servants?"

"We'll get servants!" said Maurice, unabashed. "My dear girl, if you knew how friendly Satterlee and his mother have been to me you'd know I had to ask him."

"Maurice," exclaimed Agatha, "where are we going to have dinner? Not in the morning room!"

Nerine, at the prospect of having a dinner party and defying the absent Mr. Mayne, laughed aloud.

"We'll break open the dining-room——" she began.

Maurice turned round on her.

"Do you mean to tell me Mayne has had the impertinence to lock the door of any room in the house but his own?" he demanded.

"I mean that every one of the down-stairs rooms but ours is locked," Nerine returned, composedly. "I suppose he is afraid of our pawning the drawing-room ornaments or the best spoons!"

"Well, I'm blowed if he shan't find them unlocked when he gets back. Thank goodness, we've only ten months more of him!"

The horses were going at a good pace, and they were passing a heavy cart, so that the two girls in the back seat did not hear Kitty Belton speaking softly to Maurice.

"Are you sure," she said, "that you have ten months more before the girls come of age?"

"What?" Maurice stared. "Of course I'm sure."

"How old are you?"

"Nineteen," he answered, gruffly, for he hated his youth, "but I dare say I look older."

"You do; much," thoughtfully.

"What do you mean, Kit?" the boy asked after a long pause; "or do you mean anything?"

"I can't tell you here. Nothing, perhaps"—her forehead clouded—"but I was wondering if mamma could be right and Mr. Mayne wrong. Well, don't bother now. I don't want to tell the girls till I tell you. Wait till we're alone."

It was not till very late that afternoon that they were alone, Agatha and Nerine having gone out for a stroll in the garden after tea. Up and down they walked and talked, as they did every evening. Tonight it was Nerine who had the floor, and she talked of nothing but Satterlee, a subject on which Agatha had not a word to say, though her tongue was wont to run nimbly.

Indoors, Kit and Maurice sat in more or less one-sided conclave.

It had grown chilly with evening, and they had drawn their chairs on the hearth rug. In her yellow tea gown, with her small feet outstretched to the heat and a lovely fire-burned color glowing in her face, Kit was a sight to delight Maurice's eyes. He had not seen such for many a long day, and it put the thought of what she might have to say to him quite out of his head.

"What do you think I am usually doing at this hour?" he said, turning to her.

"I don't know," absently.

"Standing a grimy, sweltering object in the machine shop!" and he laughed merrily. "Rather different from this, eh? Kit," reproachfully, "you're not listening."

"No; I'm thinking," she returned, slowly, her sweet little face very thoughtful. "Maurice, your father died when you were a baby, didn't he?"

"Yes. Why?"

"And your mother married again when you were—how old?"

"Two. Seventeen years ago. Tell me, why are you asking me all these things that you know as well as I do?"

"Because my mother says that you were four seventeen years ago. Hush; wait! You know how mother never destroys anything. Well the other day she found some old letters, and among them was one from your father, giving the date of his marriage with your mother, and one from your mother when she was going to be married to Mr. Mayne. In it she said it would be an advantage to her children now to have a father's care, for they were growing quite big, the twins being already five years old and Maurice a year younger."

"Did you bring the letter?" he eagerly asked.

"No, but mother has it quite safely. Listen, Maurice. You know mother scarcely saw you children before your mother died, and when she came to the funeral she thought you all wonderfully big and old looking for your ages, when Mr. Mayne said you were only four and three. But she did not pay much attention really and never thought of your mother's old letter till the other day, when she came across it by accident, Maurice!" impatiently, "why don't you say something? Don't you know that if mamma is right you are all two years older than you think?" with desperate emphasis.

Maurice got up and stood with his back to her, looking into the fire.

"If I find out that is really true I believe I'll kill him," he said, with impressive emphasis. "Kit, Kit, if it isn't, why have you told me?"

"It is—it must be true. Mamma is always accurate," she said, firmly. "And if that letter, dated seventeen years ago, says you were four at that time, and your father died when you were a little baby, why, don't you see that all you have to do is to get the exact date of his death or the registration of your birth to find out how old you really are. And then you could act at once!"

Maurice did not turn round.

"My darling Kit," he said, softly, "you forget that my father was killed in a mine and that his body was never found; and in Nova Scotia until the last five years there has not been any registration of births or deaths. I wrote once when I was sixteen or so to an address I found in a book of my mother's to ask if anything were known as to the death of my father, and I had an answer from the son of the man I wrote to—he himself was dead—saying that a Mr. Lispenard had been killed at the mines, but that he could not get any information regarding the date. Neither birth nor deaths were registered officially, and there was no one at the mines now who remembered any people called Lispenard. So that door is shut."

"You must have been baptized, and your mother must have had a copy of the baptismal certificate."

"Mr. Mayne has all her papers—if there are any. And as for the church I was christened in—why, Kit, it may have been anywhere from British Columbia to Nova Scotia. I don't know where I was born and neither do the girls! The only evidence we have to go on is that old letter of my mother's, and I don't know whether that is of any use or not."

"We have your looks—and the girls," said Kit, doggedly, in the midst of her disappointment. "And I believe them. Do you look only nineteen?" shrewdly.

But Maurice could not rise to the bait of his detested youth.

"I can't believe it," he said, sitting down beside her rather dreamily. "And if I did believe it, I can't go on a wild-goose chase to America trying to find out where I was born. It would use up all the ten months that are left, in any case," and he laughed rather grimly, "even if I had the money to go on."

Kit turned scarlet. She rose rather stiffly and stood looking at him.

"All right," she said. "I'm sorry I said anything, since you seem to care so little. I told you because I knew if you were of age and had your money, mamma would let us be engaged and everything would be right. As it is it may interest you to know that another man has proposed to me, though, of course, I shall never be forced to marry him!"

She moved toward the door with some dignity after that suggestive threat.

Maurice sprung after her.

"Kit, you torture me," he said as she pushed him away from her. "It would be bad for Mr. Mayne if I lost you through any work of his. Only I don't honestly see what we are to do."

Kit eyed him for one instant where he towered above her, but before speaking she had the grace to hide her head.

"Mr. Mayne is away," she remarked from the depths of Maurice's arms. "Let you and me go and rummage all through his papers. That is one of the things I came for."

"We can't," stoutly. "Here are the girls. Don't tell them, Kit. I couldn't bear to talk of it, and Agatha would never speak of anything else. Write to your mother for the letter."

He kissed her with sudden passion.

"I adore you!" he said. "And whether I am of age or not, I swear no other man shall have you. But I don't think I could bring myself to wade through the dirty waters of Mayne's affairs in the way you suggest, even for you, my dearest."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27.)

How to Rid Your Housework of Drudgery

will be explained in our big 48-page Household Number for March which will tell innumerable better ways of doing things so to save the busy housewife's time and strength for needed rest, recreation, social enjoyment and mental improvement. It is needless drudgery that is breaking down the health of farm women or driving them from the farms. It can be avoided, though most women submit to it because they don't know the short cuts and best methods of getting through their work. Renew your subscription today so not to miss March COMFORT.

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or stitches each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through both loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Terms Used in Knitting

K. knit plain; o. over; o. 2, over twice; n. narrow 2 stitches together; p. purl, meaning an inversion of stitches; sl. slip a stitch; tog. together; sl. and b., slip and bind; k. p. knit plain; stars and parenthesis indicate repetition.

Crocheted Sweater

THIS handsome sweater is wholly crocheted in blocks of plain and crossed double crochet. The body of the sweater shown was of greenish blue wool trimmed with cuffs and collar of white.

Materials required. From five to seven, skeins of Germantown according to how one works, and the size of the garment made, one and one half skeins of white, one medium-size bone hook.

The work should be firm and close but not tight; however it is almost better to err in this direction, than to work too loosely. An even stitch or tension one should try to maintain throughout for if stitches here and there are large and loose the weight of the finished garment, will cause these loose stitches to pull out and become holes.

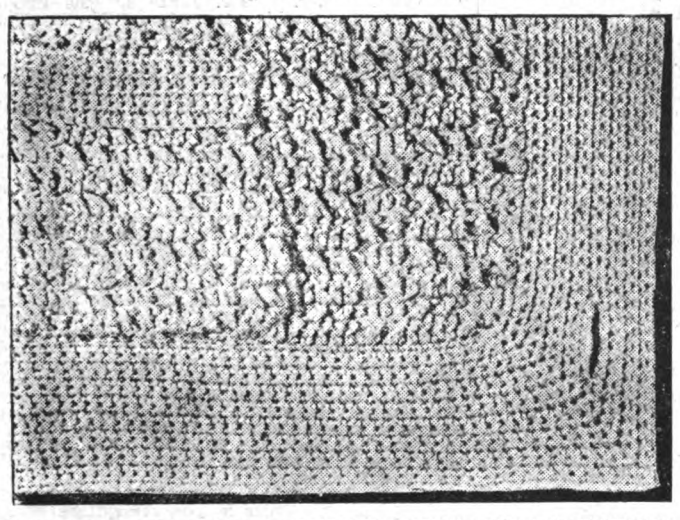
Directions for Sweater

For 36-inch sweater begin by making chain 95 stitches. This chain is the bottom of the back of the sweater.

1st row.—1 d. c. in 4th st. from hook, 1 d. c., in each of the next 3 sts., then 1 d. c. in second st. from last double, now holding the work down between thumb and finger, make 1 d. c. behind last d. c. in the chain st., which was skipped. These 2 doubles make 1 crossed double. Skip next st., 1 d. c. in next, then 1 d. c. behind this d. c. in the st. skipped. Now look at the work closely, for one block of 4 d. c. and 1 block of 2 crossed doubles have been completed and the whole garment is made of these two different blocks. In next 4 sts. work 4 d. c., then 2 crossed doubles, repeat to end of chain, making 30 blocks in all. ch. 3, turn.

2nd row.—2 crossed doubles over the 4 d. c., work these through nearest loop of each st., next 4 d. c., worked through further loops of each st., next 1 x d. blk. worked as before then 1 d. c. blk. In making these blocks extreme care should be used in working each in the right 4 stitches or in placing each block directly over the one below it. Also notice that the x doubles are always worked on nearer loops and plain doubles on further loops. Finish each row with ch. 3, before turning.

A striped rather than a blocked effect may be obtained by working blocks of x ds. over x ds. and plain d. c. on plain d. c.; if one finds it confusing to place the blocks alternately or even a simpler and yet effective pattern may be worked out by blocks all of doubles, in this way; 4 d. c. on nearer loops, 4 d. c. on further loops, 4 d. c. on nearer etc., next row alternate the blocks, for instance if last 4 d. c. come on nearest loops make first block on next row on nearest loops, then 4 d. c. on further loops, 4 d. c. on nearer loops. Before beginning the sweater it would be well for one to make a small sample of these different patterns, then a choice can be made and by so doing one will also become familiar with the work. As the directions for this sweater are given in blocks,



DETAIL OF LOWER CORNER SHOWING POCKET AND BUTTONHOLES.

either of the patterns mentioned can be used in following them.

Back of Sweater

Of any pattern of stitches used make 21 rows of 30 blks. following directions for first two rows.

22nd row.—Drop one half blk., that is turn without working over last 2 sts., either a x d. of 2 d. c. in the previous row, ch. 3, turn. (29½ blks.)

23rd row.—Drop one half blk. (29 blks.)

24th row.—Drop one half blk. (28½ blks.)

Now by dropping one half block at a time make the rows as follows:

25th row.—28 blks.
26th row.—27½
27th and 28th rows.—27 blks.
29th row.—26½ blks.
30th row.—26 blks.
31st row.—25½ blks.
32nd row.—25 blks.
33rd row.—24½ blks.
34th row.—24 blks.
35th row.—23½ blks.
36th and 37th row.—23 blks.
38th row.—22½ blks.
39th row.—22 blks.
40th row.—Drop 1 blk. each end leaving 20 blks.



CROCHETED COAT SWEATER.

17 more rows of 20 blks. each.

This completes the back, break wool.

For each front start at the bottom with 14 blocks.

20th row.—14 blks.
21st row.—13½ blks.
22nd to 30th rows.—13 blks.
31st row.—12½ blks.
32nd to 34th rows.—12 blks.
35th row.—11½ blks.
36th and 37th rows.—11 blks.
38th row.—10½ blks.
39th row.—10 blks.

Now tie a white thread into the edge of the work on which one has decreased or dropped stitches. Next 10 rows 10 blks each, next or

50th row.—Drop one half blk. on the edge opposite white thread. (9½ blks.)

51st row.—Drop one half blk. (9 blks.)

52nd row.—8½ blks.
53rd row.—8 blks.
54th row.—7½ blks.

55th, 56th, 57th rows.—7 blks. each. Break thread.

After both fronts are finished, join 7 blks. on each shoulder, to 7 blks. on the back, leaving 6 blks. in center back for neck. The seams are stronger if done on the wrong side, slip stitching through each stitch. To do this hold edges even, right sides together, run hook under both loops of a st. of each edge, draw a loop through and through the loop on the hook also, in joining seams under the arms slip st. in same way excepting where half blks. are dropped, by working a few stitches of single crochet here, the line can be evened up a little. Care should be taken on this seam to join row to row as nearly as possible.

After joining shoulders, single crochet from end of 2nd row from seam on one front, across back of neck to 3rd row on opposite front, turn s. c. back to 4th row, turn s. c. back to 5th row. Break thread, and s. c. from edge of one front where work begins to slant off to opposite side. All of these rows of singles should be done closely to draw up and hold in the neck of the sweater. Now continue working down the front edge as the border is of single crochet.

Border

In making the first row of the border work at least 3 singles in end of each rows, more if necessary, the work should not be at all tight or when the border is finished the body of the sweater will be puckered. One should also be careful not to work this first row simply over the end doubles of the rows, but into different stitches, drawing in different loops here and there to fill any holes. S. c. completely around to the opposite side, around the bottom working under the 2 threads, 1 s. c. in each st., 3 s. c. in each corner st., ch. 1, turn at top of opposite front.



CROCHETED WING. FIG. 1.

2nd row.—Skip 2 s. c., 1 s. c. in each st., working through both loops, 3 s. c. in center st. in corners, skip next to last st., 1 s. c. in last, ch. 1, turn.

3rd row.—Skip 2 s. c., 1 s. c. in each st. 3 s. c. in corners. The slant of the border on each front should be a continuation of the line from the shoulder. To get this 1, 2 or 3 stitches may have to be skipped in each row according to how one works. Make 8 rows. In 9th row mark places and number of buttonholes, for these simply ch. 7, skip 7 leaving the same number of stitches between each button. 9 more rows complete border.

Sleeves

These should be made to fit a pattern the size and length of sleeve needed. Begin at top with 20 or more blocks and graduate down to 12 blocks at wrist, make rather short to allow for stretching. Border with white wool in single crochet turning at end of each row and then seaming up. Make 18 rows deep, if one desires a turn back-cuff as shown.

Collar

This is also of white and should be made to fit a pattern.

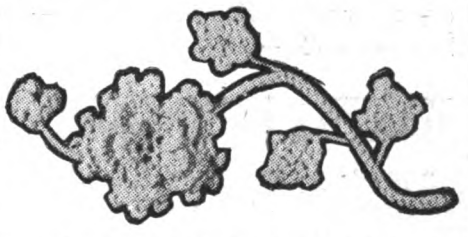
For collar shown begin with ch. 71 sts., turn, 70 s. c.

Make 44 rows in all, then the fronts are graduated off to fit the neck of the sweater on the inside each and rows kept even on the outside, by always turning with ch. 1. Exact directions can not be given but the following will be somewhat of a guide and more stitches can be added, if the work does not fit.

45th row.—30 sts. from outside edge, turn, skip 1, 29 sts., turn, skip 1, 26 sts., 23 sts., 21, 19, 17, graduating down to 9 or 10 sts., as one nears the point of the collar. S. c. around neck of collar before slip stitching or sewing to sweater.

Belt and Buttons

The belt is of 14 rows s. c. to match border. Wooden button molds covered with crochet



CROCHETED WOOL ROSE SPRAY. FIG. 2.

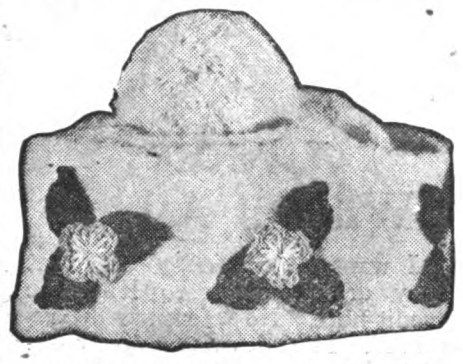
have centers to match sweater with edge and under side of white, ch. 4 join in ring, s. c. round and round until size of mold is most covered, join in white and finish.

Pockets

Seven blocks wide or a good size is 5 x 6 inches, finished with 1½ border, s. c. all around these, before sewing in place.

Angora Muffler and Cap

Materials required. For muffler, 12 half ounce balls angora wool. Bone knitting needles No. 3. Cast on 50 stitches and knit in plain



EIDER-DOWN CAP TRIMMED WITH CROCHETED ROSES AND LEAVES.

garter stitch until scarf is yard and a half long. Finish the ends with a tied-in fringe of wool.

Skating Cap

For this one will need 9 half ounce balls angora wool, No. 3 needles cast on 160 stitches, knit plain until work is about 12 inches long. Sew the side edges of the knitting together to form cap, gather the top stitches up close and finish with a large full pompom of the wool.

The left side is trimmed with a crocheted wing of white zephyr edged with old rose wool and finished off at the base of the wing with a smaller pompom of the angora wool.

Directions for Wool Wing

The wool wing which decorates the side of the cap is shown in detail (Fig 1).

It can be made of either the double eider-down Germantown or heavier wool.

Begin with ch. 18, turn, 16 s. c., ch. 1, turn, 7 s. c., 3 s. c. in next st., 8 s. c., worked through only the further loop of each st. to give the ribbed effect.

Ch. 7, turn. 6 s. c. on ch., 1 s. c. on each s. c., 3 s. c. in center, 7 s. c., ch. 8, turn, 7 s. c. on ch., s. c. on s. c. always making 3 s. c. in center st., ch. 8, turn, s. c. to end, ch. 7, turn, s. c. to end, ch. 8, turn, s. c. to end ch. 1, s. c. to end, ch. 9, turn, s. c. to within 6 stitches of end, ch. 1, turn, s. c., ch. 6, turn, s. c. to within 5 stitches of end. The two extreme points of the wing now having been completed, continue to work in this way, decreasing only a couple of stitches on the short side of wing, on long side graduate off by only working to within 5 or 6 sts. of previous row, every second row. Work back and forth until about 24 rows are complete. Then outline with colored wool by slip stitch and making 1 s. c. into second row of work every 5th st. Two wings of equal size are also used on caps, for a front trimming fastened in place with 3 crochet covered buttons to match edge of wings.

Crocheted Flowers

Wool flowers of the most brilliant hues, combined with foliage in natural colors, are the latest development in artificial flower making. Wool, velvet, felt and fur hats are all equally fascinating trimmed in this way. The work is not tedious, as wool works up quickly into the conventional designs, such as buckles, bands and rosettes, and even a running design of flowers and leaves such as is here shown can be fashioned very readily by any worker who is somewhat experienced.

Applique wool flowers such as decorate the



EIDER-DOWN SCARF TRIMMED TO MATCH CAP.

eider-down cap and scarf set are very effective. The flowers and leaves, if leaves are used, are made separately and then sewed in place.

In this set the roses were of dull pink and leaves a dark bottle green.

To Make Roses

Ch. 4, join in ring, 1 s. c., 1 d. c., 2 tr. c., 1 d. c., 1 s. c., 1 d. c., 2 tr. c., 1 d. c., 1 s. c., 1 d. c., 2 tr. c., 1 d. c., 1 s. c., 1 d. c., 2 tr. c., 1 d. c., all in ring. Fasten off and break thread.

The leaves of green wool ch. 7, 1 d. c. in 6th st., 1 d. c. in each next 2 sts., 2 d. c. in next st., 2 d. c., ch. 3 for picot, 2 d. c. in the end st. of ch., 2 d. c. in next st., 3 d. c. in next 3 sts., 1 s. c., draw up closely and break thread.

Sew leaves in place, putting rose in center, then thread coarse needle with white wool and from the center out make three long stitches on each petal.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

1000 Prizes Offered



(c) 1917 M. L. A.

By Martha Lane Adams for the Styles Shown in Her $110,000 Spring Style Book

All Summer to Pay

Credit Without Asking

I want all women to feel that they are welcome to long-time credit here. No references are required. I do not write your friends. Nobody even asks for credit.

I will send your Credit Card with my Style Book. Your account will be already opened. Order whatever you want.

Don't Send Cash

Don't send cash beyond the first payment. I want my terms to all alike. Over 420,000 women now have accounts with me. They trust me to please them, and I trust them to pay.

Take All Summer

I divide each bill into seven payments, coming 30 days apart. That gives you all summer to pay for spring clothes.

It means simply saving from 3 to 10 cents a day, and paying for things while you wear them. That may not be an aid to you. But it helps thousands of women to dress better.

All Prize Styles

Each season I offer prizes to designers for the best styles they create. Then 17 experts help me select the 1000 best styles presented. Thus I get each season 1000 stunning styles—the best styles that come out.

My Spring Style Book pictures those for spring. It has cost me $110,000. Nowhere else can you see so many fine creations, all sold at modest prices. It pictures

Suits—Coats—Dresses—Waists
Skirts—Hats—Shoes—Lingerie
Underwear—Children's Wear, etc.
Also 300 kinds of Piece Goods

Send the coupon for your copy. I will gladly mail it free.

Amazing Prices

This Style Book quotes amazing prices. I save about one-third by selling direct. Then I buy for a half-million women.

I have spent a lifetime in learning how and where to buy. Thus I save my customers millions of dollars. You will hardly believe that such styles and such fabrics can cost you so little as I charge.

But I send all goods on approval, subject to return. I prepay the charges. I fit garments to measure, and guarantee the fit. I give to each customer my personal service to insure full satisfaction. I ask you to try me this season.



$1.00

Brings Silk Taffeta Dress
$1.60 Monthly If You Keep It

You can order this pretty model right from this paper by sending $1.00; or send for my Style Book showing all the latest fashions.

This charming dress is made of all-silk taffeta with a satin stripe running through. Very popular for spring and summer wear. The pretty waist is made in blouse design; has a large cape collar of all-silk Crepe de Chine, edged with cluny lace. Cuffs match collar. The loose cross-over strap effect ends in a sash at the side. The skirt is plain circular model, gathered around the waist-line and exceptionally full.

Comes in Navy Blue, Copenhagen Blue, Black or Green. Sizes to fit misses 14, 16 and 18 years; ladies' sizes 32 to 44 bust measure—no larger. Be sure to give color and measurement.

No. E4L8100. Shipped on approval, all charges prepaid. Price..... **$11.98**

Also 5000 Home Things

Your account with me is also good with a mammoth Housefurnishing concern. If you ask, I will also send you their Bargain Book, picturing 5000 home things sold on a year's credit—a $1.50 book free.

A Surprise

When you send for my Style Book you will also get a surprise—something to delight you. This offer I cannot print.

This coupon will bring you my $110,000 style book. It will bring you countless new ideas. It will bring you the surprise I offer. It will bring your Credit Card. It will open the way to a new era in dress for you. Send no money—just the coupon. Send it now.

MARTHA LANE ADAMS

3653 Mosprat Street, Chicago

Spring Style Book

MARTHA LANE ADAMS (1200)
3653 Mosprat Street, Chicago

Mail me your Spring and Summer Style Book.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Shall I also send Furniture Catalog? Answer Yes or No......

Lincoln As a Trial Lawyer

President Lincoln was very clever at catching an adversary. One time in court he asked gravely: "I want to know if I may ask the honorable gentleman a question?"

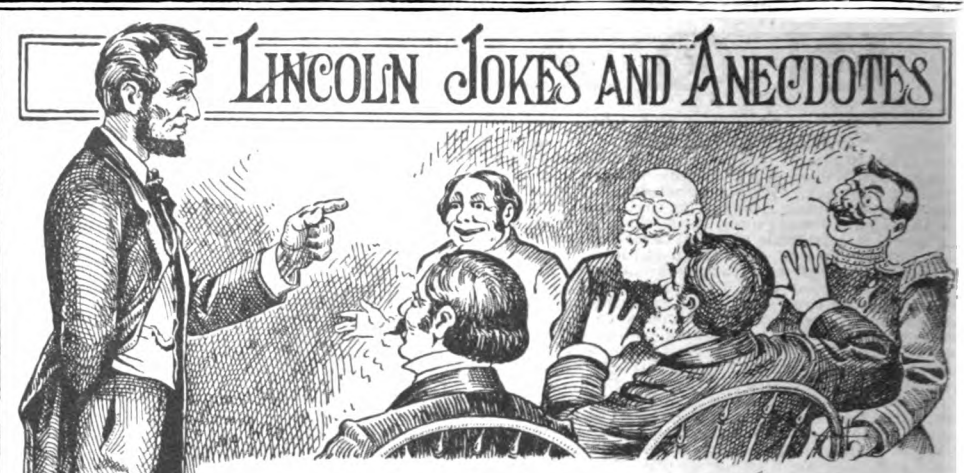
Permission being given, he asked the attorney for the prosecution:

"If three chickens were sitting on a rail fence, and you shot one off that rail, how many would remain?"

The lawyer with a grin replied:

"Two of course."

"No, there wouldn't, for the noise made by your gun would frighten the other two away, and so it is with your case against my client. The noise of your argument has driven away all proof of his guilt." Mr. Lincoln's client was acquitted.



LINCOLN JOKES AND ANECDOTES

Tells of Making Lincoln's Wedding Shirts

A HISTORIC event occurred very recently for the woman who made Abraham Lincoln's wedding shirts celebrated her ninety-second birthday. And part of the celebration was the telling of this important episode of the shirts.

"Eighty years ago there were no sewing machines. We sewed by hand by the light of a sputtering candle," said Mrs. Anna Seaman. "My mother was Mrs. Elizabeth McDaniel. Abraham Lincoln called her Aunty McDaniel. One day he came to our house with a large bundle of muslin. He sat by the fireside and watched the log blaze.

"'Aunty McDaniel,' he said, 'I want you to make me a half dozen day shirts and four night shirts.'

"'Why, are you going to marry, Abe?' my mother inquired.

"'Well, one can't tell what a young man might do,' he said.

"So I helped my mother make the shirts. We sewed three weeks on the shirts and two weeks on the night shirts. Some of the shirts had as many as forty plaits down the bosom, but Abraham Lincoln was very plain. We charged a dollar apiece for making the shirts, which were for Lincoln's wedding to Miss Mary Todd."

Rescues a Mired Pig

Lincoln could not stand to see an animal in pain or distress. Once while riding along on the eighty circuit of Illinois, he and his companions were highly amused at the plight of a pig which was stuck in the mud and squealing loudly. Though they all were hilarious at its antics, Lincoln could not stand to go off and leave the the animal helpless, and in spite of the jeers and protests of his companions he went to the pig's rescue and pulled it out, saying:



"If that farmer lost his pig, the poor little children might have to go barefoot all winter."

Lincoln and His Stepmother

Uncle Joe Cannon's memories of Lincoln are replete with incidents. The last time he saw Mr. Lincoln was on a train just before his inauguration. He heard a man in the crowd ask the question:

"Abe be you going down to see your mother?"

The answer came quickly:

"I am going to spend a day visiting her before I go to Washington to take the oath of office."

Mr. Lincoln referred to his stepmother to whom he was devoted. This was the last time he ever saw her.

Only Cut Her Own Finger

General Horace Porter says of Lincoln he did not tell a story for the sake of anecdote, but to point a moral, or to drive home a fact. In discussing England's assistance to the South and how after the collapse of the Confederacy, England would find she had aided but little and only injured herself, he said:

"'That reminds me of a barber in Sangamon county. He had just gone to bed when a stranger roused him, announcing that he must be shaved, that he had a four-day-old beard, was going to a ball and that he must have it removed. Well, the barber got up reluctantly, dressed and fixed the man in his chair with a back so low that every time he bore down on him he came near dislocating his neck. He lathered the man's face, nose, eyes and ears, stropped his razor on his boot and dived at the man's face as if he were about to mow a stubble field. He made a bold swath across the right cheek, carrying away the beard, a pimple and two warts. The man's cheeks were so hollow that the barber conceived the idea of sticking his finger into the man's mouth to press out the cheeks. Finally he cut



through the cheek and into his own finger. He pulled out the finger, flipped off the blood and glared at his victim and said: "There, you lantern-jawed cuss you've made me cut my finger.'"

"'Now,' said Mr. Lincoln, 'England will find that she got the South into a pretty bad scrape by trying to administer to her and in the end she will find she has only cut her own finger.'"

Lincoln Autograph

In the Library of Congress there is a very small collection of Lincoln autographs but among them are two interesting papers in President Lincoln's own handwriting. One of them is part of his last message to Congress which was certified to by the late John Defrees, who was the Public Printer at that time. It reads as follows:

"If the people should, by whatever mode or means, make it an Executive duty to re-enslave such persons, another, not I must be their instrument.

"In stating a single condition of peace, I mean simply to say that the war will cease on the part of the government whenever it shall have ceased on the part of those who began it."

Courtesy to an Old Woman

After his election to the Presidency, an old woman whom he called "Aunt Sally" came from New Salem to say good by to "Abe" before he started for Washington to be President. He was standing in the room placed at his disposal in the old state capitol talking with a couple of men of national renown when the old woman entered, visibly embarrassed. He saw her at once and walked across the room to meet her. Taking both her hands in his he led her to the seat of honor and presented his distinguished visitors to her, putting her quite at ease by saying:



"Gentlemen this is a good old friend of mine. She can make the best flapjacks you ever tasted, for she has baked them for me many a time."

A Lincoln Story

During the Civil War, Colonel Archibald Alexander of Kentucky, went on to Washington, to consult Lincoln, about getting up a regiment of Union soldiers from Kentucky. There had been none up to that time.

Reaching Washington, he went up to the President's office, and took his seat among the large crowd waiting in the ante-room, to be heard for one cause or another. When his turn came to go in to see the President, he said to Mr. Lincoln:

"I don't think you have as easy a job here, as some people might think. It reminds me of the story of an Irishman.

"The Irishman had moved into a new village, and soon made himself very obnoxious to the people, and they determined to get rid of him, and so rode him out of town on a rail.

"Some one meeting Tim, asked him how he liked his ride.

"He replied, 'Begorra, if it wasn't for the *honor* of the thing, I'd rather go a fut.'"

Mr. Lincoln burst into a loud laugh, and said: "Come into the other room, and tell the story, to Stanton."

He retold the story, and Stanton seemed to enjoy it as much as Lincoln. The Colonel got his commission, returned to Kentucky, and raised a regiment, the first from that state, as the records show.

Misapplied Philanthropy

President Lincoln often went to Judiciary Square to visit the big hospital there. Upon one occasion he and his party noticed a lady just ahead of them going through the wards, passing out tracts from a large bundle which she carried. She seemed to hand them out without looking at them. A wounded soldier received one and as he read its title he burst out laughing. The President mildly reproved him, saying:



"I wouldn't do that, when I was a boy, I received a tract that has helped me through life."

The soldier held up the leaflet and said, "But you would laugh at this one, Mr. Lincoln, it is called 'The Sin of Dancing,' and both my legs have been cut off at the knees."

The President then joined heartily in the soldier's laughter. "Mr. Johnson," the President remarked to his companion, "this is good evidence of misapplied philanthrophy."

To the Mother of Five Soldier Boys

Cleveland boasts of a family that holds revered memories of the martyred President Lincoln. There were five brothers, all of them young men, in the Federal army during the war, and one of them, a youth of nineteen, after a particularly fierce campaign found himself laid up in a Washington military hospital.

As he was in a pretty bad way his mother came on from her home in Cleveland to look after him. After he had managed to pass the crisis of his illness and when he was able to be moved, his mother went to the White House to see the President to ask his discharge from the army. She had no letters of introduction, no one to use influence to aid her, but she did not need them. Her simple story was sufficient. She saw the President, and in his kindly way he questioned her. She told him all about her five soldier boys and when she had finished her story, Mr. Lincoln stepped to his desk and wrote an order for the young soldier's discharge.

"Take that madam," he said, "and get your boy. Then bring him here to me. I want to talk with him."

But Mr. Lincoln had not finished with his visitor. He gave an order to a secretary, the White House carriage was sent for and the young man's mother was driven to the hospital. Then she and the convalescent soldier rode back to the White House where they dined. Later on the President handed the mother two railroad tickets to Cleveland and a document stating that it was his (Abraham Lincoln's wish that the young soldier be given a position in the government service whenever he desired it. Later on the young man got a position in the United States Treasury department at Washington which he held for more than a quarter of a century.



The COMFORT Sisters' Corner

This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

WE have often heard the remark, "If only I had my life to live over I would live it so differently." But since that is impossible why waste breath on such idle speeches when you can't undo the things you have done in the past. But you can start now and live the remaining years of your life so that you will never again want to say that you would live your life differently if you could only live it over again. If you have only a few years, or even a few days, to stay on this earth, you can make someone happy, you can cheer some sad soul. If you make them happy for only a few minutes you will have made life's burden lighter for them. You don't need to make a man or woman rich to make them happy for riches do not bring happiness. You can make mistakes in about everything else but in making someone happy so if you are really sorry for your past, start now and make good.—Constant Moore.

The above letter from an Arkansas sister impressed me so much and seemed so helpful and encouraging that I am glad to share it with you, and particularly do I hope its message will reach some discouraged sister or brother and bid her or him "Start Now."—Ed.

MICHIGAN.

DEAR COMFORT READERS:

I am sending in a list of subscribers of which one half is to be applied on the Uncle Charlie Home Fund.

I see by the November COMFORT that of COMFORT's family of six million readers, two hundred of them have sent in $230.00 in subs. and donations. That nearly took my breath away.

November fifth, Billy Sunday finished eight weeks' meetings in Detroit and on the last day the collections amounted to over $46,000, and before that the people of Detroit had given him an $8,000 automobile. And they also gave over $45,000 in other collections to pay the expenses of the meetings, so in all, they gave about $100,000 for eight weeks' work. I am not saying that Mr. Sunday did not earn his share of the money but he certainly got it anyway and the people of Detroit gave it to him gladly of their own free will.

Now if one city will give all that money to one man for eight weeks' work, why cannot six millions of the best people on earth raise enough to buy Uncle Charlie a modest but comfortable home to show their appreciation for his fourteen years' work for us, and with him lying on a bed of suffering all that time. Not one in a million in his condition would think they could do anything.

I have read hundreds of letters in COMFORT, many, many of them lovely Christian letters and most of them telling how much the writers loved and admired Uncle Charlie for his untiring work in the behalf of sick, sinful and ignorant humanity.

Now, sisters, cousins, brothers all, I motion that we make less flowery speeches and do more real work that we may prove our words by our deeds.

If all who are perfectly able to do so would only give him ten cents (of course the more the better) or get one or two subs. to COMFORT, Uncle Charlie could have his home in a hurry and none of us would ever feel the little we had done.

Now I make another motion, that we who are able to do and don't do, hold our tongues forevermore and never tell or write how we admire Uncle Charlie.

So, let's get busy and do something at once while Uncle Charlie is still with us. Post-mortem flowers are no good. They cast no fragrance backward over the life of the one who is forever still. So let's give out flowers to Uncle Charlie now while he can enjoy them. Let's show him that the hearts of COMFORT's millions are in the right place and that we can do as much for him for fourteen years' work as Detroit did for Billy Sunday for eight weeks' work. If we won't do this we don't deserve to be called sisters, brothers, cousins or Christians.

Now let's do our part or hereafter hang our heads in shame and keep still.

I want to thank Mr. Gannett for his interest and the liberal commission he is giving on all subs. to help the Home Fund. MRS. C. S.

Mrs. C. S. You must have heard the far-famed Billy Sunday preach for you seem to have acquired his method of dealing solar plexus blows at unrelenting and, worse still, unremitting, sisters, brothers and cousins who profess to admire Uncle Charlie very much but who fail to make substantial proof of their admiration. We thank you.—Ed.

DEER ISLAND, OREGON.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS, ONE AND ALL:

In reading the October number of COMFORT I feel impelled to answer some of the sisters' letters.

A. B. has my heartfelt sympathy though I never experienced her feelings as my mother was and is one of the best.

I think Mrs. C. Smith is mistaken when she says no one not having gone through the horror of an unhappy marriage can realize it. I have not, but I have known so many cases of the kind and moreover my childhood was spent in a home of trouble and therefore I realize it too well. I think that a woman who lives with a man as his wife when she is unloved and unloving, is a prostitute in the sight of God. I disagree with her and agree with Mrs. Clyde Jones that there are as many happy marriages contracted in youth as in middle age. I was married when but seventeen years old and there are few more happy unions than ours. I agree with Mrs. Clyde Jones in that a woman should never let a man know she is "a fool over him," but, on the other hand, I know a man who was married to a woman who did not believe in letting him know she loved him and consequently he neglected her in turn. They lived together but a few months and then were divorced. He is married now to a woman who believes in letting him know she married him for love and while he is not a demonstrative man he enjoys being petted, though married to No. 2 nearly ten years.

What do the sisters think about the difference in the age of husband and wife? I know of cases where there are as many as eighteen years' difference and they are perfectly happy though in one case I know of, the man cares only to stay at home and the wife likes to enjoy life among people, so often he goes just to please her. My husband is ten years my senior but as young in spirit as I am.

Sister Pearl Whitt, will you please send in "The Devil's Soliloquy" in full? I think it fine.

As for suffrage; I have lived the greater part of my life where many men are employed, men of the laboring and business class, and have known doctors, lawyers, teachers, etc., and among them are only two or three who thought "women were too *good* to vote." The majority of men are afraid to have women vote because they know they will have to give up much of their licentious pleasures, such as white slave dens, gambling and drinking and women will surely abolish them though it will take years and years because people in general are so corrupt. For instance, look at Oregon and Washington (I speak of them especially because I have lived there and know.) Adherents of the "drys" and the "wets" had fought for years, but not until the women got the vote did the "drys" win and then liquor was gone. Of course there is bootlegging, but a woman can now pass along the street without flushing with shame at overhearing profane and vile remarks and insults cast in all directions by drunkards. A few years back she had to stand all these things and so did her children. Is it any wonder the present generation is degraded generally when it had to live in such an atmosphere? Who brought about this change? Women, of course, and where liquor is abolished the white slave dens and gambling dens cannot flourish so well and in their turn will also be abolished. Some women, I'll admit, would be as bad at grafting and greed as the present conditions show the men to be. But, dear Miss Whitt, there is one weak place in your argument: If you feel that women are so good and so far above the men, why need you ask if Universal Suffrage would abolish graft, greed, selfishness and the mighty evils that do indeed shake the foundations of our Nation, and cause so many to be non-patriotic? Though it is true that some women invite insults by their immodest dress, is that any reason why the laws protecting real women should be repealed? I am a firm advocate of Suffrage but not the militant kind and I agree with you when you say no real woman will countenance that. You quote Uncle Charlie so much. Allow me to suggest that you read some of his sermons in back numbers of COMFORT on the Suffrage question. Many women are moral cowards and therefore afraid to express their convictions by voting for fear of condemnation from those who do not believe as they do.

I also believe motherhood is a duty and a blessed privilege but I also believe in birth control as two, three or four children are all that the average working man can support, to say nothing of education, and where there are so many children the mother cannot properly train them and educate them for some work, for work most of them must or starve. Another thing, two thirds of the half million women and girls in dens of vice in this country, and New York especially, are recruited from families of nine or more for the reason they either know no better or cannot support themselves because of the above reasons. Few of our great men of history came from large families. Women with small children cannot hold office and be fair to their children but those whose children are grown or who have not been blessed with any, are as capable as

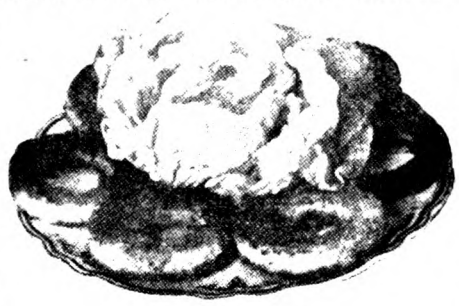
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

SO many times in the making of croquettes the mixture is not firm enough to handle and to remedy this and make it mold easily, soak a tablespoonful of granulated gelatine in a little cold water and dissolve in boiling water, using as small a quantity of water as possible. Stir this into the croquette mixture and set in a cool place till the gelatine has had time to harden. Then shape and fry in the usual manner. The heat of frying melts the gelatine so that it cannot be detected, unless perhaps the croquettes are a little better than usual.—Ed.

SQUASH SOUP.—One half cup cooked squash, one pint milk, two slices of onion, one tablespoon of butter, two tablespoons of flour, salt and pepper to taste. Rub the squash through a sieve. Scald the milk with the onion and add to squash. Season and blend with flour and butter.—Ed.

HARLEQUIN SALAD.—Peel and chop fine cold boiled potatoes, add to them finely chopped boiled chicken, the proportions being equal. Sprinkle them with salt and pepper, and place them in a head of lettuce where



HARLEQUIN SALAD.

the heart has been taken out. Pour over them a salad dressing made of one teaspoon of mustard, a tiny pinch of salt, the beaten yolks of two eggs, melted butter the size of an egg, one can of condensed milk, two thirds of a cup of vinegar, adding lastly the beaten whites of the egg. Serve it with rings of toast arranged around the outside of the lettuce.

MARY H. NORTHEND, Salem, Mass.

TOMATO AND CELERY SALAD.—One can solid tomatoes, one cup chopped celery, one large chopped onion, two hard-boiled eggs, one half teaspoon mustard, salt, pepper, paprika and vinegar to taste. Mix the tomatoes, celery, onion, and chopped egg whites together. Rub the mustard and egg-yolks until smooth with a little vinegar and add to the salad. Then add other ingredients to taste. This should be kept in a cold place for several hours before using, so the various flavors blend. It is better the next day after making.

MRS. X. Y. Z., Idaho.

HOMINY.—Shell a gallon of large grained, white corn; put in an enameled dinner pot, cover with water in which three tablespoons of baking soda has been dissolved. Let this soak over night; in the morning put on a hot fire and let boil two and one half or three hours, or until the husks are all loose and will slip easily from the grain. Now drain off all soda water. Put corn in a large dishpan and wash in several waters until the husks are all washed out. Then put back on the stove and boil a few minutes each in three or four waters. Drain all water from it, mix in a little salt and put away in a stone jar. Use when preferred.

MISS MARY BROWN, Branon, Texas.

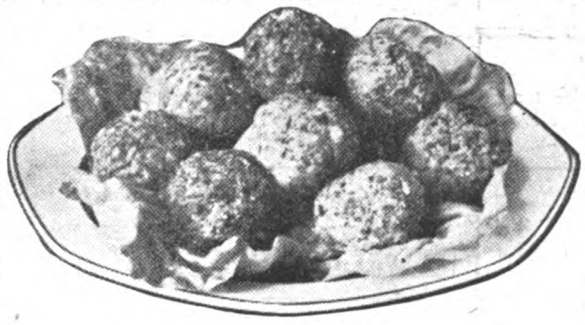
CREAMED TURNIPS.—Pare the turnips, cut in small pieces and boil in plenty of hot salted water. When done drain in a colander and put into a pan or dish. Put one teaspoon of butter in a small saucepan, and when hot add a level teaspoon of flour; stir till smooth, but not brown; add half a pint of milk and stir until it boils; add half a teaspoon of salt and pour over the turnips.

MISS MARY BROWN, Branon, Texas.

BAKED SALMON.—Clean the fish, rinse it and wipe dry, rubbing well inside and out with pepper and salt and fill with a stuffing made of bread, a small amount of butter and season with sage or thyme; tie a thread around the fish to keep the stuffing from coming out and place in pan to bake. Sprinkle first with pieces of butter and dredge with flour, and put a pint of hot water in the pan to baste with. Bake one hour, or till the fish is done. This will depend on the size of the fish and the heat of the oven. Serve with mashed potatoes, with slices of lemon placed on fish.—Ed.

SALMON CUTLETS.—Mix leftover salmon with white sauce and set away to cool. When cool, cut into strips and shape into oval, chop-shaped pieces and roll in cracker crumbs. Let dry and fry in hot fat till a golden brown. Serve with peas.—Ed.

SALMON FISH BALLS.—Use an equal amount of freshly steamed salmon and freshly boiled potatoes. If the salmon must be boiled, boil salmon and potatoes together in just enough water to cover and very slowly. Mash the potato and pick up the fish with a fork.



SALMON FISH BALLS.

Mix together with pepper; salt and butter enough to season, and hot milk or cream to shape into balls. Try out slices of salt fat pork and fry balls in the fat, using it very hot. Serve balls on lettuce leaves with the slices of salt pork.

BAKED SQUASH.—Cut medium-sized squash through center, scrape out all seeds, then fill squash with fried sausage, seasoned. Fasten the two halves together with small pieces of wood and bake for two hours in hot oven, turning squash occasionally.

MRS. J. W. DIKEMAN, Ft. Morgan, Colo.

SOUR MILK BISCUIT.—Thoroughly sift one quart of flour and rub into it a piece of butter the size of an egg, add a teaspoon of salt and stir in a pint of sour-milk in which one teaspoon of soda has been dissolved. Get it in shape quickly, kneading as little as possible, roll about half an inch thick, cut with a biscuit cutter and bake in a quick oven.

MRS. WILLIAM GARDINIER, Youngstown, Ohio.

CANNED PEACHES SERVED WITH RICE.—Cook a quarter of a pound of rice in three cups of milk, with a pinch of salt. When tender and while very moist add a tablespoon of Granulated Sparkling Gelatine dissolved in two tablespoons of boiling water, and three tablespoons of sugar. When cooked and beginning to stiffen, stir in a cup of whipped cream. Serve in ring form with peaches in center.

MRS. E. L. B., Norwich, N. Dak.

SPIDER CORN CAKE.—Stir one half teaspoon of soda into one half cup thick, sour cream; sift together three quarters cup of corn-meal, one quarter cup of white flour, two level teaspoons baking powder and one half teaspoon of salt. Beat one egg light, add one half cup sweet milk, then sour milk and soda and stir in all dry ingredients. Melt two tablespoons butter in a small frying pan, shaking it to get the butter distributed evenly over the surface, turn in the mixture, then pour in one half cup sweet milk but do not stir it in. Bake twenty-five minutes and cut in triangles.

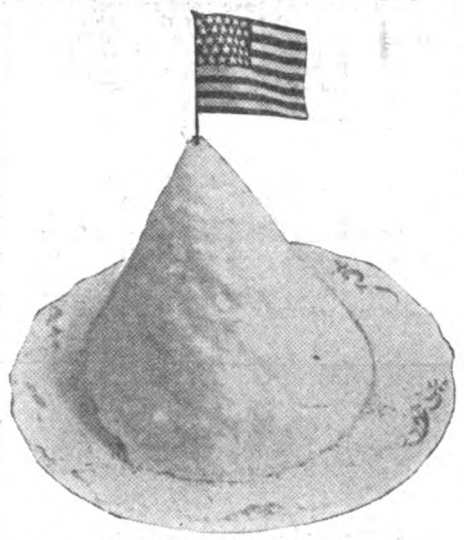
MISS BLANCHE LAWYER, Birmingham, Box 14, Ill.

APPLE RAISIN CAKE.—Mix one cup of bread sponge with one half cup of warm water, one quarter teaspoon salt, three tablespoons each of sugar and lard, one beaten egg and one cup of raisins. Stir in one and one half cups flour, let rise in a warm place and be t down. Turn into a deep pie pan. Pare, core and cut three apples into eighths and press on the cake round side up. Sprinkle over a scant half cup of sugar mixed with one teaspoon cinnamon and dash of nutmeg. Dot with butter, let rise an hour and bake slowly in moderate oven. Take from oven and sprinkle with sugar. MRS. FRANCES MCGORY, Woodhull, N. Y.

BANANA CREAM.—Peel and mash six large bananas, add six teaspoons of sugar and rub to a smooth paste, then add one cup of cream, beaten to a stiff froth. Dissolve one package of lemon Granulated Sparkling Gelatine in three quarters pint of boiling water; when cold, stir in the cream and banana mixture. Pour into a mould and set in a cold place to harden. Serve with whipped cream.

EDNA DORAIMUS, Perth, Kans.

PYRAMID POTATO.—Peel, boil, mash and season, a few potatoes, put them into a colander, pressing them



MASHED POTATO PYRAMID.

through to make them smooth; form into a pyramid and top them with an American flag.

PORK CAKE.—One pound of fat salt pork, one pint boiling coffee, one cup molasses, two cups brown sugar, one teaspoon each cinnamon, cloves, allspice, ginger and one half teaspoon nutmeg; one pound of seeded raisins, one pound of currants and one tablespoon of soda sifted in with enough flour to make thick dough. Bake two hours.

SILVER CAKE.—Cream one quarter cup of butter with one cup white sugar; add one eighth cup of milk, one and one half cups flour sifted with one teaspoon baking powder. With flavoring extract add the beaten whites of four eggs.

MRS. MINNIE BLACKBURN, Friendship, Tenn.

CHOCOLATE MARBLE CAKE. — White part: One half cup of white sugar, one quarter cup of butter, whites of two eggs, one quarter cup of sweet milk, one large cup of flour, one half cup cocoanut and one heaping teaspoon baking-powder. Dark Part: One half cup brown sugar, one quarter cup of molasses, one quarter cup of butter, yolks of two eggs, one quarter cup of sour milk, one scant teaspoon soda, one cup flour and one half cup grated chocolate. Vanilla. Put a layer of white batter in the pan, drop the chocolate batter in places and then pour on rest of white batter.

CHOCOLATE PIE.—One half cup of sugar, one cup of milk, one teaspoon butter; scald together; add two tablespoons grated chocolate, yolks of two eggs and three teaspoons corn-starch dissolved in a little cold milk. Stir into the hot milk and sugar until thick and smooth. Flavor with half a teaspoon of vanilla. Line a pie plate with a rich crust, fill with this mixture and bake. Whip the whites of the eggs with sugar, to a stiff froth. Spread on pie and put back in oven to brown lightly.



Won't Mamma be S'prised?

This isn't a fancy picture Mamma has gone down town shopping Nan, Betty and Bobbie are afraid she will not be back in time to make the promised Jell-O dessert for dinner, so they are making it themselves

As has already been explained in COMFORT, Jell-O is so easily made up that a child can do it.

JELL-O

makes up into the most delicious desserts and salads, and, as it costs only ten cents, is coming to be as generally used in small-town and farm homes as in the city, where it is immensely popular.

In every Jell-O package there is a little folder containing rules, suggestions and recipes for making up Jell-O in all possible forms

There are seven flavors of Jell-O: Strawberry, Raspberry, Lemon, Orange, Cherry, Peach, Chocolate Each 10 cents at any grocer's or any general store

The flavors are pure fruit flavors and the full strength of the flavors is preserved by the air-tight and moisture-proof waxed-paper Safety Bags enclosing the Jell-O inside the cartons.

The price has never changed. It is ten cents to-day just as it has been from the beginning.

The 1917 Jell-O Book is the most beautiful ever issued and it contains more useful information for housewives than any other. Send us your name and address and we will mail you one of the books



This is the package

THE GENESEE PURE FOOD COMPANY, Le Roy, N. Y., and Bridgeburg, Ont.



Fashion's final word

—Mandel's Magazine for Spring is ready

Send for your free copy. Direct from State Street's distinctive store of style comes this book of style information. It shows the pretty things to wear you so desire.

Sent free Tell us now—today—to forward your copy. It offers information difficult to secure in any other way; more than a catalog or price list. Shows garments of accepted, metropolitan design that do not cost more because of style. Many garments are shown in color.

In women's wear, styles are entirely different. Late word from overseas brings new fashions not found in Spring catalogs printed last Fall. Surely you want what is new and modish, so send for this book.

Mandel Brothers

Dept. C *Established 62 years* Chicago

Treasured Mementoes of Washington's Private Life and Masonic Activities

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3.)

closely together by the association of these trinkets. Scarcely a stage of his life or an event in his career with its early hardships, privations and disappointments but is recalled by some homely little memento. From childhood to old age, as son, lover, husband, citizen, soldier, statesman and friend, his life is intimately revealed by these aged, time-worn, battle-scarred relics.

Here may be seen his white wedding gloves, on either side of the apron, and beneath his farm spurs, to the right his pruning knife and a black glove worn at his mother's funeral, his compass, bleeding and cupping instruments, a piece of sealing wax taken from his desk after death, and the last used by him before his death; a boot strap or garter worn by him at Braddock's defeat, a button cut from the coat worn at his first inauguration, also a button and piece of canvas from his army tent used during the Revolutionary War; a medallion given to him as the founder of the free schools in Alexandria, Va., by D. Eggleston Lancaster, Esq., the founder of the free schools in England his medicine scales and several other minor articles. But of them all the chief interest centers around the little pearl handled pocket-knife, which was a gift from his mother, when he was a mere boy, and which he carried constantly for fifty-six years, for this tiny boyish trinket is given credit for having kept him in the tortuous road to duty when his mind had been definitely set upon his stepping out of military life into more profitable and comfortable tasks. This same circumstance is claimed to have literally changed the map of the world.

Washington was obliged to relinquish his boyhood dream of being a midshipman in the British navy after his mother had already given her permission and his commission had been obtained. He gave up this hope that had been fraught with so much anticipation, with respectful and unquestioned obedience, but he returned to his studies of surveying with the deepest of despair. She apparently expected nothing less and merely considered his obedience to her decision as a matter of course and in keeping with her idea of filial duty. Yet she appreciated his disappointment and when her next order went to England for household supplies, the list included a good penkife. Upon its arrival she presented it to her young son with this injunction: "Always obey your superiors."

All through life he carried the little pocket-knife and upon one occasion he showed it to General Knox, relating the story and his mother's command. Years afterward at Valley Forge, when discouraged and desperate over the attitude of Congress and the pitiable plight of his soldiers, he wrote his resignation and summoned the members of his staff to notify them of his action. Among the officers of the council was General Knox who labored earnestly to dissuade the General, but failed utterly to move him until the story of the penknife came to his mind and, regarding it as an inspiration, reminded the disheartened commander of his mother's injunction, repeating her words: "Always obey your superiors," and adding, so tradition claims, "You were commanded to lead this army and no one has ordered you to cease leading it." The words had the effect of making Washington pause and after a time he tore up the resignation and determined to fight on to the end. Upon the associations of the little humble penknife with its far-reaching influence of early discipline hung for a brief moment, the fate of the starving, shivering army and likewise the future of this nation.

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss March will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1917 by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE sign of the Zodiac, Pisces, influences persons born between February 19th and March 22nd, and the study of mental philosophy is of great interest to them. A strong sense of independence makes them desire to earn what they possess, and to make themselves appreciated through persistency and fidelity to the trusts confided in them. They seek knowledge from every



MISS FEBRUARY.

available source and have good memories. Study of self is their great need, for they are often endowed with marked ability in some particular direction, but are slow to recognize and improve opportunity from lack of self-confidence, which may prevent them from pressing forward when the height of their ambition is nearly reached, for they will be anxious and fearful of failure, and imagine that fate is against them, but when once they are aware of their power, they will succeed in all they undertake. Men born between these dates should choose self-reliant people as their friends and business associates. To these persons, giving is a delight, and their charities are many and to outsiders unknown. They are keenly sensitive to the feelings of others, and their manner of giving shows their true character. They should marry women of kind, even disposition, who will reason well, but not be too self-assertive.

In childhood they must have the right start in life, for they are very likely to stick to whatever they embark on. Punctuality and the necessity of keeping promises should early be taught. Parents must never break faith with them through acts inconsistent with their teachings.

Women born under this sign have a fine, artistic nature, an unusual quickness of perception, and will succeed in any line that interests their mentality. They will be of good disposition and kind to the poor. Love of luxury and self-indulgence are liable to prove their undoing, unless controlled by their innate conscientiousness and thoughtful tendencies. A prodigal use of time may result in unpleasant domestic conditions.

May all who read, value every word of the following quotation:

"Lost, yesterday, somewhere between sunrise and sunset, two golden hours, each set with sixty diamond minutes. No reward is offered, for they are gone forever!"

The Magic Influence Imputed to the Amethyst, the February Birth-Stone

In steps Miss February to hail the return of Saint Valentine, whose deeds of love and charity have endeared him to all the world, and caused his birthday, February 14th, to be set apart as sacred to his memory.

The legend of Saint Valentine's life is beautiful, marked by self sacrifice and fidelity to duty. Called the Patron Saint of Lovers, he suffered martyrdom for marrying love-lorn couples secretly, in defiance of the Imperial Edict.

Symbolic of pure love is the amethyst, and men and women born in February will do well to wear this stone as a continual reminder of its significance, and thus make their lives more purposeful. Sarah Bernhardt, now called "The Immortal," gives the following recipe for keeping off old age: "Love people, love life, love work and you will never grow old. I love, and am loved. I work incessantly, and therefore I am young at seventy-two years of age."

How to Make Miss February

Those celebrating Saint Valentine's day may find a description of Miss February useful. Use a store doll or make one by putting a stuffed head and arms on top of bottle. Use water colors for the face and tint the arms pink. Make dress of red crepe paper, using white for the skirt and waist trimming. Cut white paper hearts and decorate skirt, using crossed hearts with an arrow interwoven at center-front. Also use a large heart across front of waist. Make a cocked red crepe paper hat, and on the front paste two white hearts with a white arrow piercing them. Cut a cupid from stiff cardboard and attach to stick which is held across the right arm.

Alexandria and No. 22 fall in line with Mt. Vernon as a mecca for touring Masons. Though the original lodge room was destroyed by fire many years ago quite a goodly number of the valuable relics were saved and a few pieces of the original furniture. When the city hall was built the exact spot was reserved for the use of the lodge upon which had been located the original council chamber. The old treasures were restored, more added and the room has gradually taken on the very aspect that has been the aim and hope of the devotees of the craft. It does not impress the visitor other than as a memorial hall, which is as it should be in view of the fact that the Masonic fraternity of the United States is deep in the plans for erecting upon this very site a memorial to Washington the Mason, which shall be a National affair and which shall endure to the end of time. In it it is proposed to have deposited in a fireproof respository, a hall of fame, the treasured relics and time-honored souvenirs of the life of the Father of His Country which have been safeguarded so reverently throughout the last hundred years. There they will be safe from the touch of the vandal and secure from the ravages of time and the elements to remain for the benefit of posterity and for the adulation of generations of Masons yet to come.

While the majority of people know that General Washington died at Mt. Vernon at twenty minutes after ten on the night of Saturday, December 14, 1799 and that his body was deposited in the Old Tomb at a few minutes past three o'clock on Wednesday, December 18th, there are many who do not know that he was interred with Masonic ceremonies.

The old minutes of Lodge No. "22" has an account of this historic event.

In attendance at the bedside of the General during his last illness and when he expired were three physicians, Doctors Dick, Craik and Brown, the first two of whom were Masons and members of Washington's own lodge, No. "22." Doctor Dick being Master. On Monday, Dec. 16th, 1799, a funeral lodge was called with Doctor Dick presiding. Colonel George Deneale, senior warden pro tem, and Colonel Dennis Ramsey, junior warden protem. At this meeting the plan of the services was arranged and early on the morning of Wednesday, December 18th, the lodge and visiting brethren, under escort of the militia and citizens of Alexandria, started for Mount Vernon, where they arrived about 1 P. M.

The funeral procession moved in the following order: First the troops, horse and foot; next the clergy, Reverends James Muir, Thomas Davis, William Maffit and William Addison, the first three of these being members of No. "22," the General's horse with saddle, holsters and pistols, led by two grooms, Cyrus and Wilson; music; guard of honor; then the bier, borne by four young lieutenants of the 106th Regiment Virginia Militia, namely Lawrence Hooff, Jr., James Turner, George Wise and William Moss; pall bearers, Colonels Charles Simms, Dennis Ramsey, William Payne, George Gilpin, Charles Little, and Philip Marstella, all Revolutionary officers, Masons and all members of No. "22" except Colonel Marstella, who was not, but whose son, Philip was, and was present with the Lodge. Next came the mourners and then the Masons, in all seventy-nine. Colonel George Deneale, junior warden, commanding the troops, Captain Percey, senior warden, commanding his company, the "Alexandria Blues," Captain Young, a member, commanding the cavalry and Captain William Harper, also a member, the artillery. On arriving at the tomb, the services of the Episcopal church were performed by the Reverend Thomas Davis, Rector of Christ church, and member of the lodge, and the Masonic service by Doctor Elisha C. Dick, Worshipful Master of "22" assisted by Rev. James, Muir, Chaplain.

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
Treasured Mementoes of Washington's Private Life and Masonic Activities *Edna Mary Colman*	3
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	4
My Lady o' Crinoline *Joseph F. Novak*	5
Nerine's Second Choice (continued) *Adelaide Stirling*	6
In and Around the Home *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	7
Lincoln's Jokes and Anecdotes	8
Comfort Sisters' Corner	9
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	9
The Kingdom of Our Birthright	10
Crumbs of Comfort	10
Valentine Luncheon Party	11
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	12
Washington's Birthday Luncheon Party *Ella Gordon*	13
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	14
Jack London's Genius *C. L. Cheever*	14
Useful Valentines that Children Can Make *Jane Arnold*	16
The Heart Auction *Leslie Gordon*	17
Everbearing Strawberries in the Editor's Garden	18
Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	19
Modern Farmer	20
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	21
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	22
The Cost of Opera	22
Toughey's Travels and Adventures Abroad *Adele Steiner Burleson*	23
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps	26
Uncle Charlie's Home Fund Nearly Doubles in December	28
Granny's Old Piano *Florence Briney Reed*	29
The Lincoln-Shields Duel *A. G. Morrill*	30
The Goddess of Lonesome Ranch *Hapsburg Liebe*	31
How Oysters Produce Pearls *C. L. Cheever*	32
Veterinary Information	33
How I Succeeded With My Incubator	33
Information Bureau	34
December Prize Winners	34
The Wrong Way Out *Lou E. Sweeney*	35
Manners and Looks	36
Cultivation of Golden Seal *C. B. Irvine*	36
A Corner for Boys *Uncle John*	37
Talks with Girls	41
Family Doctor	42
Children's Happy Hour	43
Whiskey's Increasing Tax on Thrift	43
Home Lawyer	45
When Thomas Haines Understood *Ellen Gray*	46
Six Wheel Chairs in January	46
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	47

March Comfort

will be the big 48-page Household Number that every home-maker needs in her business. Its helpful instructions will solve many of your troublesome housekeeping problems. Following are a few of the many

Special Features for March

"Efficiency in the Kitchen" An illustrated article showing how to fit up and arrange the kitchen for convenience and ease and saving of steps.	**"The Wizard's Charm"** A delightful and amusing tale of how artfully a slighted sweetheart handled her faithless lover.—By Joseph F. Novak.
"A Woman's Intuition" A strong story in which the heroine turns detective to prove the innocence of her lover unjustly accused of murder.	**Two Pages of Needlework** with illustrations showing new designs in tatting, new patterns in sofa pillows, bureau covers, doilies and other fancy work.
"A Sweet Pea Venture" Tells an easy and interesting way in which a woman made money by raising and selling flowers. A good suggestion.	**"Short Cuts in House Cleaning"** Tells many ways of lightening the labor and getting better results and how to improve the home in the spring house cleaning.
"How to Feed Your Children" An illustrated article based on recent researches and bulletins by the Children's Bureau of U. S. Government—a help to mothers.	**"Decorative Furnishings"** with illustrations showing and telling how to make the home more comfortable and attractive with home-made articles.

Special, Low Rate for February Renewals

As an inducement to renew your subscription promptly this month we offer the special, low rate of 30 cents for a 2-year renewal. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album.

If the number over your name on the wrapper in which this paper comes is 341, or any less number, it means that your subscription should be renewed at once. Send in your renewal today, if you don't want to miss March COMFORT. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.
I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name*.....

Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....

R. F. D. No. ..... *Box No.*..... *State* .....

February, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

Black cows give white milk.

Truth is the sun of intelligence.

A good life keeps away wrinkles.

One foot is better than two crutches.

Man's extremity is God's opportunity.

Lean liberty is better than fat slavery.

Crows flock together; eagles fly alone.

Good sense is the master of human life.

Rum has drowned more men than the sea.

To give happiness is to deserve happiness.

Deserve success and you may command it.

It is a joy to think the best of human kind.

He is armed without who is innocent within.

Pride in prosperity turns to misery in adversity.

He is a wise man who can wear poverty decently.

A promise is a debt which we too often forget to pay.

A blush on the face is better than a blot on the heart.

Ignore small injuries and they will become none at all.

We easily forget our faults when nobody knows them.

What is money good for if it cannot buy contentment?

More have repented of talking too much than too little.

Hope, deceitful as it is, carries us agreeably through life.

Fortune is a divinity in whom there are no disbelievers.

It were better to be of no church, than to be bitter for any.

If there were no God, it would be necessary to invent one.

Thay may hope for the best who are prepared for the worst.

Don't make a promise until you know it will not be broken.

If you leap into a well, Providence is not bound to help you out.

We have lynx eyes for our neighbors and moles' eyes for ourselves.

Every man holds in his hand a stone to throw at us in adversity.

Small minds usually condemn what is beyond their understanding.

Nature takes as much pains in forming a beggar as in forming a prince.

If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him.

There are more men who have missed opportunity than who have lacked it.

A man cannot leave a better legacy to the world than a well educated family.

To resort to drink for the ease of one's mind is to cure melancholy by madness.

No one ever did an intentional injury to another without doing a greater to himself.

A mother's a mother all the days of her life; a father's a father till he gets a new wife.

That happiness may enter the soul, we must first sweep it clean of all imaginary evils.

Our lives should be as pure as the snow fields where our footsteps leave a mark, but no stain.

It is a great misfortune not to have wit enough to speak well, or not enough judgment to keep silent.

The error of certain women is to imagine that to acquire distinction they must imitate the manners of men.

Though jealousy be produced by love, as ashes by fire, yet jealousy extinguishes love as ashes extinguish fire.

We drink at the spring of happiness from a broken pitcher—when it reaches our lips there is very little in it.

Every person has three characters; that which he exhibits, that which he has and that which he thinks he has.

An inquisitive person is a creature naturally vacant of thought and therefore compelled to seek outside assistance.

VALENTINE LUNCHEON PARTY



Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

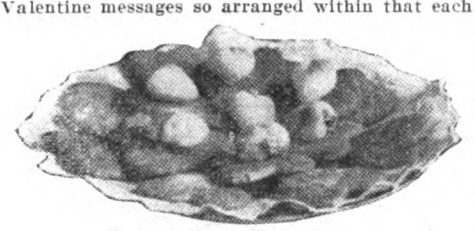
YOUTH loves Saint Valentine, and old age recalls with a backward glance, that somewhere there is treasured a bold confession of adoration, told on a home-made valentine.

Saint Valentine lived many years ago, and because of his love and charity, February fourteenth was set aside as a festival day in his honor, and the custom has never diminished in popularity.

Shakespeare alludes to this day as being sacred to Saint Valentine, because it was then the birds began to mate, and thus arose, perhaps, the custom of sending sweet messages of love and affection on February fourteenth.

A valentine luncheon seems an ideal way to celebrate the occasion and the following ideas may be carried out with much merriment and small amount of labor.

Make a centerpiece of flowers or twine a heart-shaped piece of cardboard with green. On either side, stand a doll dressed in tissue paper holding an oblong box which is decorated with hearts and tiny envelopes, either done in water colors or cut out and pasted on. The cover of the box should be opened back against doll, and Valentine messages so arranged within that each



GINGER HEARTS.

will have a place by itself, thus avoiding any tangling when they are drawn out. To each message, attach a ribbon which is connected at the other end to a place card, which has the name of guest to be seated there written upon it. So when all are seated, each one will pull the ribbon attached to his or her place card, and out of the box will come a Valentine.

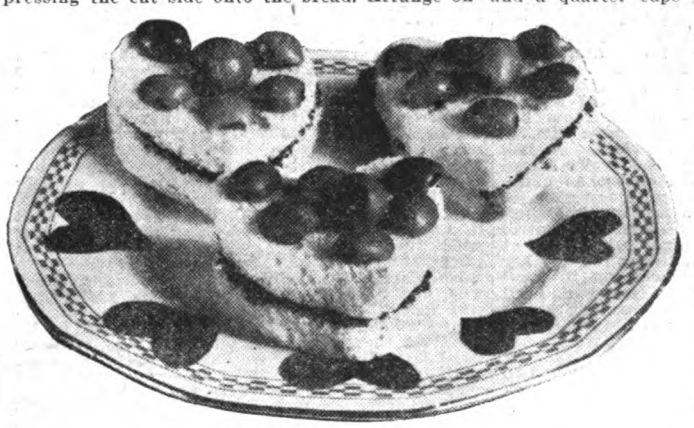
At intervals around centerpiece, place hearts with cupids peering over the tops, and keep them upright by pasting on an angle of cardboard. The wit and genius of Youth will be displayed on these cards in

"* * * jewels five words long
That on the stretch'd forefinger of all Time
Sparkle forever."

Serve Valentine Sandwiches, Cupid's Well, Heart's Desires, and Ginger Hearts, as described below, with a cold drink of equal parts of lemonade and ginger ale, also hot coffee and cocoa. A salad, plain bread and butter sandwiches and fruit will make the luncheon more elaborate.

Valentine Sandwiches

Season finely chopped chicken with salt, paprika and a little onion juice; add enough boiled salad dressing to moisten. Use for filling between buttered slices of white bread, and after sandwiches are made, cut into heart shapes. Garnish with stuffed olives cut in halves, lightly pressing the cut side onto the bread. Arrange on



VALENTINE SANDWICHES.

plate and decorate the edge with red paper hearts.

Cupid's Well

Cut four heart-shaped pieces from rich paste in graduating sizes, using the largest for the bottom—which should measure eight inches across. Cut the heart-shaped centers from the other three, leaving a rim one inch wide. Put all onto the whole bottom, the smallest at the top, and between each rub a very little white of egg so they will hold together, being careful that it does not run onto the edges. Chill and bake in a very hot oven twenty-five minutes, decreasing the



CUPID'S WELL.

heat the last ten minutes. Bake at the same time one of the heart centers.

PASTE.—Sift two cups of flour with one scant teaspoonful of salt, having mixing bowl and flour very cold. Chop into flour with a knife four tablespoonfuls of lard and five of butter, first chilling both. The flour and shortening should be of the consistency of dry meal. Wet with enough ice water to make a stiff dough, adding a little at a time and mixing with a knife. Butter must not be melted by using hands for mixing. Roll into three-cornered shape, bring corner toward center, fold once and roll out.

FILLING.—Boil two thirds cup of thin cream with two cups of granulated sugar until it threads. In a fine stream pour this onto the beaten whites of three eggs and beat till creamy. Add two cups of chopped dates and one third cup of chopped nuts. Let cool and fill just before serving. Cover the well with baked center



HEART'S DESIRES.

and remove before serving. A few canned cherries or strawberry preserve over the filling gives a valentine appearance, and in the center of well cover, a red paper heart again carries out the idea.

Heart's Desires

Cream one scant cup of butter and slowly add two cups of sugar. When well mixed add two well-beaten eggs, one cup of rich milk and about four and a quarter cups of flour to which has been added three teaspoons of baking powder. Flavor with vanilla. Roll one quarter of an inch thick, cut in heart shapes and bake in a hot oven. Frost with boiled frosting and decorate edges with small candies while frosting is soft, alternating candies in two colors. Make candies into diamond shapes in centers.

Ginger Hearts

Boil hard for one minute one cup of molasses and one third cup of chicken fat. Partly cool, add one slightly rounded tablespoonful of ginger, one and one half teaspoons of salt, one half teaspoonful of soda and flour enough to handle. The best results are obtained by mixing and sifting the dry ingredients together and then beating hard into the molasses and shortening. Set away to get very cold. Roll thin, sprinkle with sugar and bake in a quick oven. Serve with cheese cut into heart shapes, inserting toothpick with which the cheese can be handled.

Better Cake and Biscuits

In all recipes calling for baking powder you will get better and finer food and insure its healthfulness by using baking powder made from cream of tartar, such as Royal Baking Powder.

Cream of tartar is derived from grapes—a natural food, as contrasted with phosphate or alum, derived from mineral acids, and used because of their cheapness in the manufacture of some baking powders.

Housewives are sometimes led to use inferior baking powders because of apparent lower cost, but there is little difference in cost in practical use—about one cent for a whole cake or pan of biscuits, which is very little when you consider the difference in quality and healthfulness.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

their brothers and perhaps more so for I think when a woman is interested at all, she is more deeply interested than a man.

Like you, May Day, I think we should endeavor to please after marriage the same as before but I think husband and children should share equally in our regard. We should not think more of him because he was first any more than we should care more for our first-born child simply because it was first. But where a mother has a house full of little ones and is not strong enough to keep them all and herself neat, I believe most people, husbands included, would rather see the mother neglect herself a little than neglect the children.

Miss Rose, have you thought of trying a correspondence school? There you can take any special course or a common school course.

If Mrs. Million and Miss Shafer will write me enclosing stamp, I will tell them how my mother cured herself of lung trouble.

Grace Wenberg, you must be a veritable sunbeam and I wonder why those who are able to get about do not follow your example when they are more fortunate than you.

I'm sorry I've taken up so much space but I haven't the gift of saying much in few words.

Hoping to see more of the sisters' opinions on some of the above subjects, I am,

A COMFORT sister, MRS. J. H. MORVEE.

ILLINOIS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Will you please sit over a bit to make room for a new sister? I have read COMFORT three years and like it, especially the letters and recipes, but I cannot send in any new ones for mine are all taken from COMFORT. I save every number of our dear paper.

I enjoyed Mrs. Robert Golden's letter, in the November number.

I would like to hear from some of the sisters who have adopted children as their own. My husband and I are thinking of adopting a little child. Some of my friends advise me to take one from seven to ten years old and others think a little baby the best. We would like a baby.

I am twenty-nine years old and have been married nine years, to a dear husband. We live on a farm. I raise poultry of all kinds and attend to a large garden, as well as my flowers. I have about thirty house plants. I also do a lot of crocheting, so you see I am busy all the time.

With love to the sisters and Mrs. Wilkinson.

A New Sister.

New Sister. Are you sure you really want to adopt a baby? Long before this reaches you I hope you will have arrived at a decision as to the most desirable age of adoption and that some little girl or boy is settled in your home "for keeps," for by your indecision you are wasting precious time. In years to come when you have grown to love the child as your own you will regret the years you existed without her, or him. Since you and your husband are the ones most concerned, I say go ahead and suit yourselves and if you prefer a tiny baby to an older child, by all means take the baby no matter if all your friends disapprove of your choice. You won't be sorry, and I wish you good luck and happiness. —Ed.

OAKDALE, Brookcroft Bungalow, TENN.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Here comes an interested reader from the mountains of Morgan county, East Tennessee. It is a section belonging to the Cumberland Mountains and is just on the border of the Cumberland tableland. Fruit and Irish potatoes do well here. Coal mining is also carried on extensively. Oakdale is located on the Cincinnati Southern Railway, eighty-four miles north of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Brookcroft Bungalow is about ten minutes' walk from the depot and is located in a mountain ravine. Holly and hemlock, seemingly providentially planted about "Brookcroft," cheats winter of its dreariness and throws in a semblance of green summer on a mantle of snow. Happy Hollow Creek, which almost encircles the bungalow, is lined with rhododendron, ferns, hemlock, laurel and ivy. Rhododendron Falls, on this creek, is named after the flower which grows here. In the fall of the year the happy voices of children and young people are heard as they climb the mountains gathering hickory nuts and chestnuts. Nutting expeditions are quite numerous. Squirrels of the forest vie with the youngsters in search of nuts.

"Brookcroft" is just outside the town limits of Oakdale and here, morning and evening, the cattle belonging to the townsmen pass back and forth on the pike through the ravine to the mountain forests where they roam at large. Cattle run at large in Morgan county and find pasturage in the forests. The tinkling of cowbells can be heard for miles around. The bells are strapped about the necks of the cows with leather straps. The hills and valley echo with the sound of cowbells. It is a babel of confusion to a stranger, but not so to an owner of a cow. He can tell by listening for a moment whether or not his cow is in a group some distance away. When a cow fails to come home at night the owner gets out on the mountain and listens for his cow's bell. He calls and the cow recognizing her master's voice, turns homeward. It reminds me of the Man of Galilee who said, "I am the Good Shepherd and know my sheep and am known of mine."

It is a pleasing sight of a Sunday morning when the Oakdale church bells are echoing through the ravine, to behold our mountain neighbors, with ruddy faces and cheerful dispositions, thronging tranquilly along the roadway to Sunday school and church. Many stop to get a drink of water out of the roadside spring at "Brookcroft." A rustic footbridge has been constructed across Happy Hollow Creek at this point, connecting "Brookcroft" with this spring. Christian Endeavor and Sunday school picnics are quite frequent on the "Brookcroft" premises during the summer months. Basket dinners are spread at Rhododendron Falls. Swimming, picture making and mountain climbing are some of the features of these picnics. At one of these gatherings there were young people present from six different towns.

The grandeur of the cliffs, as they lend themselves to the beauty of the ravine, makes one feel as Napoleon once said to his army in the presence of the Pyraminds, "Men, here is where centuries look down upon you."

I send you greetings from Sunny Tennessee.

Very truly yours, MRS. J. D. BURTON.

OKLAHOMA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been reading your good advice and have decided to come to you for help.

I am a girl twenty-two years old. I work for my living but am respected and enjoy life single but I detest the name of "old maid" and my friends say I will be one, for I have never met anyone I cared for. I have had chances to marry but have refused them. Do you think I will ever be sorry? Sometimes I think I had better marry someone I merely respect, and not think about loving anyone. Would that be right? I am looking to you for advice.

Your friend, MARY.

Mary. I am inclined to think you meant your letter for Cousin Marion's department but since it was addressed plainly to me, I'm giving it space in our department to get the ideas of the good sisters as to what you had better do. Were any of you ever in similar circumstances and what did you do?—Ed.

NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I am coming for a chat with you on the divorce question. I am not in favor of it but still there are some people, men and women both, whom you cannot please, no matter what you may do and if you find you are tied to one of that kind or one who persists in drinking, you are better off to get a divorce for I believe that once they start drinking they will never stop. They may make promises but few stick to them.

I enjoyed May Day's letter very much and think if there were more such homes the divorce courts would have little to do. I have a good husband and try to do all I can to be a good wife. It is never too much trouble for him to help me and I try to do the same by him. He never leaves the house without saying "good by," no matter how short a time he intends to be gone, and I think that a good idea for we never know when it may be the last.

Now girls, whatever you do, don't think of getting married if you don't know how to do anything but crochet a yard of lace or embroider a rose on a pillow. Just stop and consider how far that knowledge goes toward making a home, keeping a man's love, and making one dollar do the work of two.

I advise you to read carefully Uncle Charlie's talks on the vice question. Some of you who are ignorant may think lightly of these talks but they are all true. Mothers, I think you make a great mistake to read such articles and then burn the book or papers lest your daughters see it, for most girls are ruined through ignorance. I am preserving these talks for my children to read when they are old enough.

Good by, BETSEY.

BARLING, ARK.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND ALL COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a reader of your very interesting corner for some time. I belonged to the C. L. O. C. when I was a little girl. I am married and a mother now. All letters about the training of children are of real interest to me.

I haven't the courage to write to Uncle Charlie for my spelling and grammar are too bad. I have, or had, a common school education but in the practical everydayness of our lives we let such things get away from us.

I think we should try to avoid becoming personal in our replies to letters on questions such as equal suffrage, religion or divorce. I believe in equal suffrage, yes, indeed. The men have had the vote all to themselves long enough to have accomplished more good than they have. So I say, give us "a finger in the pie" and see what we will do.

As for the divorce question, or evil, as it is called, I do not know. I have thought it not right to marry again with a living (divorced) husband or wife but it would seem hard to miss all wedded happiness on account of a mistake early in life. We can only have an opinion but would have to meet with the real experience to be able to decide positively.

Circumstances alter cases. I am sure if I did not love my husband and we did not agree that I would not punish myself or him by living together and raising a family under such unhappy circumstances. It is not fair to the children. A child's nature is much too sensitive and impressionable to live and be healthful in such an atmosphere of discord.

I believe there is room for argument in Mrs. Clyde Jones' letter about managing a husband. You can't treat them all alike. But instead of being too devoted and too good, why not make him do a little of the devotion "stunt?" If he doesn't or will not, try finding something more interesting than a mere man. Live in a comprehensive way for humanity in general, and Hubby will wake up and find you really are interesting. Nothing makes a man care quite so much for his wife as the thought that other men admire her for her real worth. I don't mean that any woman should try to attract any man's notice or win his admiration, but to be really worth while as a wife, mother, club worker or whatever niche she fills. Do it well, and do not make your husband your only aim. I have in mind a wife who thinks only of her husband's pleasure, his comfort above all else, and if she doesn't bore him now I expect she will some day. I would try a little neglect and see if he didn't think of my pleasure.

Dear Steppy, don't let it discourage you because your girls are unruly. If all the mothers would speak that have girls of their own who are not the most obedient, I am sure you would feel relieved. They are just normal girls and have been interfered with by well-meaning (?) friends.

I have a boy aged six years and a girl aged two. I want them to be obedient first of all. I have to make my boy mind but if I say "do" he must if it takes real force.

Mrs. Walter Alverson, I have met a few people who could give us real rules for bringing up our children. They usually have none of their own and don't know the first thing about them, because who but a mother can know the petty irritations and nerve-racking worries that these little ones cause us every day. You spell your last name the same as my maiden name. I have never met anyone of the same name outside of our family.

My husband works in the coal mines. He does what is called "company work" now. He used to dig coal.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17.)

The Housekeeper's problem is to serve the most people at the least cost. Here is a delicious dessert that will do it.

Mrs. Charles B. Knox.
President

KNOX IVORY JELLY

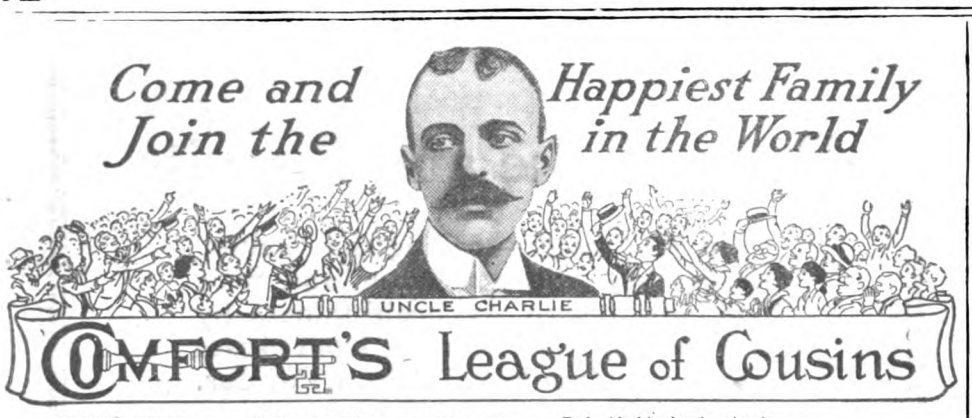
Soak 1 envelope Knox Sparkling Gelatine in ½ cup milk 5 minutes. Scald 8 cups milk with ¾ cup sugar, and add soaked gelatine. Strain, cool slightly, add 1 teaspoonful vanilla and turn into a mold first dipped in cold water and chill. Serve with a boiled custard, preserves, melted currant or other jelly or canned fruit.

KNOX SPARKLING GELATINE

Recipe Book FREE

We will send you this book, "Dainty Desserts for Dainty People," on receipt of your grocer's name. If you have never used Knox Gelatine, enclose 4c in stamps if you wish a pint sample.

KNOX GELATINE CO., Inc.
425 Knox Ave. Johnstown, N. Y.



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

THERE is a beautiful little verse written by that wonderful genius Ella Wheeler Wilcox, that I have quoted more than once in these columns. It goes like this:

"So many gods, so many creeds,
So many ways that wind and wind,
While just the art of being kind
Is all this sad world needs."

On the 3rd of February, 1897, I said good by to the busy world, the life of physical activity, and took to my bed and here I have remained for twenty years. I would not refer to this matter at all—I would rather not—except that I want to make this month the occasion for a plea on behalf of those who suffer. The art of being kind is all this sad world needs but if you want to know how rare kindness and thoughtfulness are in the world break half-a-dozen legs and three or four wings and retire to your couch utterly helpless and see how little the world will do for you if you cannot pay liberally for every service rendered.

In the main human nature is much the same the world over, and there is plenty of kindness and goodness deep down in the hearts of most people, but the trouble is they let it stay there and never give it a chance to get out. Life too is such a ferocious struggle that it develops not the best, but the worst in us. Man is a creature of habit and a victim of environment, and social conditions develop wrong habits instead of good ones, and as the lash of necessity is constantly urging us on, it is the selfish habits that grow like weeds and choke up all the beautiful flowers in the garden of the soul love, pity, mercy, kindness, truth, sincerity and brotherhood. What a wonderful world this would be if you would all get the habit of just being kind. Kindness costs nothing and yet we use it as grudgingly as though we were dispensing twenty dollar bills. If we had learned the art of being kind instead of selfish there would be no war in the world, no poverty, no booze, no white slavery, no exploitation, no ignorance. Instead we should have peace, health, happiness, prosperity, a world beautiful, a heaven on earth.

Life is a growth and all worth-while growth is a growth to goodness, a growth towards God. We grow up like flowers of the field, we bud, we bloom and then the reaper touches us, the petals of our life drop one by one, and we are gathered to his breast and taken home.

What a pity as life is so short that we should fill it with so much misery, wretchedness, meanness, hate, uncharitableness, cruelty, viciousness and unkindness. Here we are chained for a little while to the good ship earth, rushing through endless space, fretting our little hour upon life's stage, and then disappearing to be seen no more. Oh, the pity of it, that with our days but a span, and with everything necessary for our happiness, we should insist on making such poor use of our opportunities and our time. Oh, the pity of it that the art of being cruel and unjust which makes for hell should have replaced the art of being kind and just, which makes for heaven.

There are tens of thousands of churches, tens of thousands of societies, tens of thousands of books, all striving to make men learn the art of being kind, and the results of all this endeavor is pitifully small. In lands where men are savage and ignorant and have been brought but recently under the white man's civilization, cruelty and indifference to suffering, naturally or unnaturally prevail. In this favored country however, there is no reason why all might not be kind, especially to those who have fallen by the wayside of life, crushed by trouble and sickness. Those who have lived long and blameless lives, but who through economic stress, low wages or misfortune, have been unable to provide for old age, we reward with the poorhouse, usually a miserable den, more suitable for animals than humans and vastly inferior as a rule to the splendid buildings in which the horses of the rich are stabled.

If this country were at war tomorrow, it would spend twenty-five million dollars a day for killing and maiming, month after month, year after year, and think nothing of it. But when you ask it to inquire into the social and economic welfare of the masses of this country it grudgingly appropriates a few dollars for an investigation, and later when the investigators hand in their report its findings are ignored and publication is refused until forced by public clamor.

The money that is being spent by any one of the leading powers of Europe for a month's war, if devoted to welfare, would place all the crippled, the sick and the helpless in this country, and there are thousands of such, beyond the reach of want and worry for the remainder of their days. But, alas! no government will learn the art of being kind until the masses of the people *learn the art of being sensible* and until the art of being sensible and kind is learned, there will be no worth-while civilization, in fact no civilization at all, for civilization cannot come until the golden rule is made the rule of life.

Recently an investigation was made of institutions caring for dependent children (most of them in control of religious sects) in and around the city of New York. In a number of institutions the investigators found conditions vile, heart rending and revolting. Now it is bad enough to ill treat grown ups, but people who under the guise of charity, plentifully soused with religion, make the lives of children unbearable, well it were better that a millstone were tied about their necks, and they were cast into the sea. Here is what was reported of one "home" not far from where I reside, by a New York daily.

"Conditions most distressing. Children weak, pale and anæmic. Close cropped hair, but vermin in shocking quantities. Ringworm, head and scalp diseases and ear trouble. Eighteen to twenty-five children bathing together at one time in six inches of water. Eczema and ringworm prevalence spread by roller towels. Bed and bedsteads dirty and alive with vermin. Dining-room bleak, bare and forbidding and grim silence preserved during meals."

Here's another: "Four combs serve four hundred children. Boys use their clothing for pillows as none were provided. Food very poor, served in dirty, greasy pails. Boys lap soup from plates because there were but sixty spoons for one hundred and twenty boys.

This particular institution got over fifty thousand dollars a year from the city. One child in a dirty bed was found suffering from pneumonia, while nine other sick children, one with chicken pox, were found hidden away in the sewing-room of the institution so as to avoid the inspectors. The dormitories in this institution were so cold the investigators had to wear their overcoats.

In another institution, in the hospital of which I spent ten months, and which has a home for children attached, the inspectors described the scenes in the dining-room as most distressing. The children were found hungrily licking their plates after the meal was gone. *Bread was served only twice a week.*

This is what the investigators found in another institution, conducted by women who are supposed to be giving their lives to God. If they would only devote their lives to the poor little tots in their care how much more satisfied God would be. In one room that was absolutely barren save for filthy, broken-down beds, one of the windows was broken and left unrepaired for three days, although the weather was freezing. The cold was intensified by a cross draught from open doors. Here on the floor, shivering from cold and all alone, was found a three-year-old boy who was taking off his clothes to crawl into his little bed, a bed dirty almost to blackness and supplied with damp covers. In this institution there were three hundred and ten children needing medical treatment. One boy who was found wearing an old sweater, was found suffering from pneumonia. He had high fever and needed attention, but his temperature could not be taken as there was no thermometer in the building. (Thermometers by the way only cost from sixty-five cents to a dollar.) This institution had one hundred and eighty-seven acres of splendid grounds where the children might have had glorious times. Instead however, the good religious souls in charge of this vile place, had the children herded together in a fenced yard, so crowded together they could not play; and it is of these little ones that Christ said: "Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Here is what the Commissioner of Charities of New York City found in one of the Metropolitan hospitals:

"The sick poor were found sleeping on the bare floor, on benches and even sitting or half reclining on two chairs, with no covering but a single thin blanket. In the morgue bodies of babies were stacked like cord wood along the wall. Adult bodies were lying on the floor in open boxes and in some cases were not even shrouded. In the tuberculosis hospital three persons were crowded into tiny rooms intended for one."

In one of the institutions, a home for aged which was examined recently, an orderly murdered eight of the most feeble and sick of the old people as they annoyed him.

There is a regular scramble by the way among the various institutions to get the city's orphans.

"Is there a profit in the children?" asked the Commissioner who conducted the investigation, of a witness. "Well they get so much a child from the city," the witness replied. "How is that profit used?" again asked the Commissioner. "It might be used to extend or maintain a religious order," said the witness smiling broadly. This witness who is a well-known expert on institutional and social conditions, said that the making of wills leaving millions to orphanages, without any study of social conditions, should be stopped, or at least controlled. "Why in Philadelphia," he added, "there are nine million dollars in two bequests to build institutions for orphan girls. There are not enough orphan girls in all Pennsylvania, by the way, to fill them."

People are continually dying and leaving vast sums for charitable purposes. They take it for granted that the money they leave will be well spent, but probably not one dollar in five is ever used for the purpose for which it was willed. If people who have money to leave to charity would only do some quiet investigating before making their wills, those who always have their claws extended for public and private doles would be more careful how they run the "homes" of which they have charge. Better still people should distribute their money during their lifetime and superintend its expenditure. If they did this they would frustrate the designs of hordes of grasping, parasitical officials, who do practically nothing for the money that is poured into institutions except half starve and neglect those committed to their care, while living on the fat of the land themselves. They also would win the plaudits of the world, and in the smiles and love of the happy little ones they had benefited they would reap a measureless reward. Money that is dragged to the grave and then willed haphazard to the leeches, cormorants, vultures and cold-hearted vampires who usually control and dominate so many institutions the world over, merely perpetuates a bad system and does but little good except to those who handle it. The money willed to institutions and various religious denominations for charitable purposes reaches enormous sums, and yet the inmates of these places are usually starved and neglected and though millions are left to various hospitals there is scarcely a free bed to be had. Right here I stopped and had Maria ring up the richest hospital in New York City, a hospital that receives millions in legacies. Just as I expected it had no free beds and the lowest charge was a dollar and a half a day. Such is charity, it suffereth long and is ever kind. Yes the same old kind—cold, hard, cruel and pitiless. Just the art of being kind you see is the art that is lacking. I have spent six years in institutions and I know what they are, even the best of them. In one institution in which I spent three and a half years, though terribly emaciated, I never saw or tasted a glass of milk, though I craved and needed milk in the worst possible way. There was the same diet for all, sick or well, and if you could not eat it you starved.

In another institution, when patients were dying their friends were never sent for. Only in one instance was a relative allowed to stay with a dying patient and for this privilege the party was soaked five dollars. When I entered that institution it was a bitter cold day and I was chilled through. I pleaded for a glass of hot milk. Finding I could not get it I begged for a glass of hot water. The nurse looked scared. There was a hot water tap in the room but nothing warm came from it. The nurse excused herself and disappeared for a while. A few minutes later I heard a high pitched voice raised in anger and the sudden crash of broken glass. In ascending from the kitchen with my glass of hot water, the nurse had been met by the superintendent—one of the typical terrors who control such places. The nurse explained what the hot water was for. The virago snatched it from her hands, and screamed: "I'll teach you to spoil my patients," and hurled glass, water and all down a flight of stairs. How does that strike you? On one occasion I spent an entire night in a small room with a corpse! Nice, kind well-meaning ladies left preserves and comforts for the sick. Their gifts were tabulated and published in a little magazine, which told of the good work this institution was doing. None of these gifts ever reached the patients. They were immediately confiscated and devoured by the individual in charge of the place. On Sunday a religious service was held in the parlor of this institution, but those who prattled of the Christ never once went up-stairs to see the sick, and the good, well-meaning ladies who were "interested" in this institution, never once investigated it or visited the inmates, but salved their conscience by donating the usual pot of jam. If, as we believe, there is a day when all will have to give an accounting for their deeds done here on earth before the bar of divine justice you will find millions of good, self-satisfied, complacent, matter-of-fact Christians, mechanically reaching out for the inevitable pot of jam or jar of preserves. If Billy Sunday were more concerned with the things of this world and less with hell and heaven I would give him a hint to yell daily at the crowds who come to hear him, good people who though having a chance to do practical, Christ-like work, usually close their eyes to the wonderful opportunities presented them for loving service and devotion and care only about saving their pleayune souls: "You can't square yourselves with God with a pot of jam. The only way to square yourselves with God is to practise the art of being kind." You who are up and around, healthy and well, think you know something of the world, but you don't. To know the world actually as it is and the people in it, you must become sick, helpless and penniless—then you will know the world and the horror of it. Then you will know that those who need and should have the tenderest care and kindest treatment, are usually treated like wild animals.

My object in writing this article is to awaken the interest of those who have prospered in those who have not and also to remind those who think that church and prayers constitute all that is necessary and essential for Christian living, and also all that is necessary to gain eternal life, that neither church nor prayers, though good in their way, will get one anywhere unless one lives a life of deeds, a life of sacrifice, service and devotion, a life of thoughtfulness, generosity and kindness. The world has had church and prayers for two thousand years and you've only got to look over in Europe, down in Mexico or round the hospitals and institutions of this and other cities to see how little churches and prayers have lifted the human animal above his savage self, how little he is being lifted from beasthood to manhood and godhood. If you would know what real Christianity, as distinct from sham Christianity is, what real kindness is, listen to this: There is a helpless woman in the South who has been an invalid for many years, and who has all she can do to barely exist. This afflicted woman has unaided, raised sufficient, by interesting those who have money and by securing COMFORT subscriptions, to buy a number of wheel chairs for helpless people whose sad and pitiful condition has been drawn to her attention. This poor creature lately become so helpless that she found it necessary to get an invalid lifter, an expensive contrivance which lifts a helpless person and places him or her in a wheel chair or any other position desired. She could not get the money to secure this invalid lifter, but her indomitable spirit was not to be conquered. She got two or three hundred subscriptions for the COMFORT magazine which entitled her to this all necessary contraption which she so sadly needed. The majority of people would not have done a single thing they would have made their wants known and waited for "George" to do it. But let me finish my story. Just as this noble soul was about to get her invalid lifter, she heard of someone who was sadly in need of a wheel chair. That settled it. The lifter was forgotten and she let all the subscriptions she had collected go to get a wheel chair for someone else, remaining patiently the while on her bed of suffering, happy in the thought that she had made someone else happy. Don't pity her. She is happier than any of you will ever be. She can walk with God and soar with the angels. She has reached heights sublime to which few of you will ever climb. How selfish, crude, savage and mean seem the lives of the average person in comparison with this sanctified spirit. I could tell you of other and similar deeds, for I am in touch with the great brotherhood and sisterhood of suffering, but this will suffice. It is the poor who minister to the poor, the purse proud pass by. All our mercy work for shut-ins and wheel-chair distribution is made possible by the devoted efforts of less than four hundred Christ-like people. Another case of let George do it. I trust this little incident will touch your heart and touch your pocketbooks and enlist the services of those who love in the cause of those who suffer. The average well person has no idea of the cruel wrongs that are practised by the strong and unscrupulous on the poor, the weak and the helpless.

During my twenty years of invalidism I've been the victim of the most hideous wrongs, the most pitiless cruelty. Helplessness instead of affording protection has only stimulated the ferocity of those whose duty it was to show me kindness and consideration. Christ enjoined us to visit the sick. Here's a little idea of how His

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.)

Just to Prove that "Spear charges Less"



50c with order and 50c a month pays for this Complete Bed Outfit. Consists of a handsome, strongly constructed Iron Bed, in 4 ft. 6 in. width only, and in blue, green or plain white enamel; rust-proof steel link fabric spring fastened to angle steel ends with full helical springs; well made 50-lb. cotton top mattress and a pair of select, sanitary, well covered feather pillows. This bed is a great big value, and will be shipped on 30 days' trial. Return it at our expense if not satisfactory, and your first payment as well as freight charges will be refunded. You get everything for $11.95.

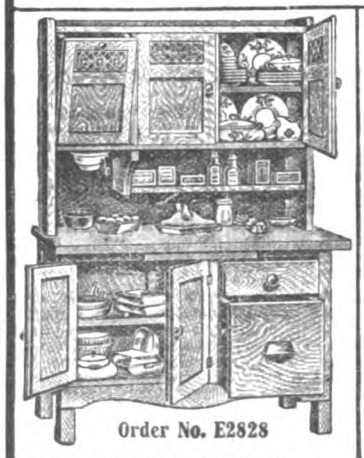
Order No. E386

Bed, Spring, Mattress, Pillows COMPLETE OUTFIT

Shipment will be made immediately upon receipt of the small first payment of 50 cents. This Big Bargain is offered to prove that I Save you Money wherever you live. But you don't have to buy from pictures. Like everything else I sell, this Bed Outfit is sent on

30 Days' Home Trial and Use

If your satisfaction is not complete you can return the outfit after a month's trial. Your first payment and all freight charges will be refunded. **Order No. E386.** **Terms: 50c cash with order, balance 50c per month. Total price** **$11.95**



Order No. E2828

Try This Kitchen Cabinet 30 Days

50c Monthly

This is an ideal value in a fine, low-priced kitchen cabinet. Is made of select solid oak finished golden. Material and workmanship guaranteed. The hardwood base top measures 41 x 26 inches. Has 45 pound capacity flour bin with sifter, roomy china closet and plenty of drawer and utensil space. Cupboard doors are fitted with attractive art glass, and all the trimmings are of the neatest design. This cabinet will give the utmost of satisfaction, and will be shipped on 30 days' trial. Return it at our expense if not satisfactory and your money will be refunded.

Order No. E2828. Terms, 50c cash with order balance 50c monthly. Price **$11.95**

Send for My New FREE Book Today



You should have my fine, big, complete catalog of everything for the home. It shows bargain after bargain. Every article is illustrated (many in beautiful colors) and fully described as to construction, materials and finish down to the smallest detail.

It will introduce you to

A Thousand Bargains

in Everything for the Home. Furniture, Carpets, Portieres, Rugs, Clocks, Stoves, Dishes, Go-Carts, Guns, Linoleum, Silverware, Lace Curtains, Bedding, Springs, Mattresses, Sewing Machines, Washing Machines, Ranges.

"I Will Trust You Gladly" *Spear, of Pittsburgh*



Open Account Easy Terms To All

I will open your charge account as soon as I have your name and address. I give the longest time to pay and guarantee fair, square and liberal treatment. Everything I sell is sent on

30 Days' Home Trial

and use. There are no strings to this offer. If your satisfaction is not complete we want you to return the goods; we will refund your money.

Nathaniel Spear, Pres.

Spear & Company

Dept. E Pittsburgh, Pa.

SPEAR & CO, Dept. E Pittsburgh, Pa.

I would like to know all about the Spear Open Account, Easy Payment Plan for home furnishing. Please send me, free, your complete Bargain Catalog with Prices, Terms and Information, without the slightest obligation on my part.

Name.....

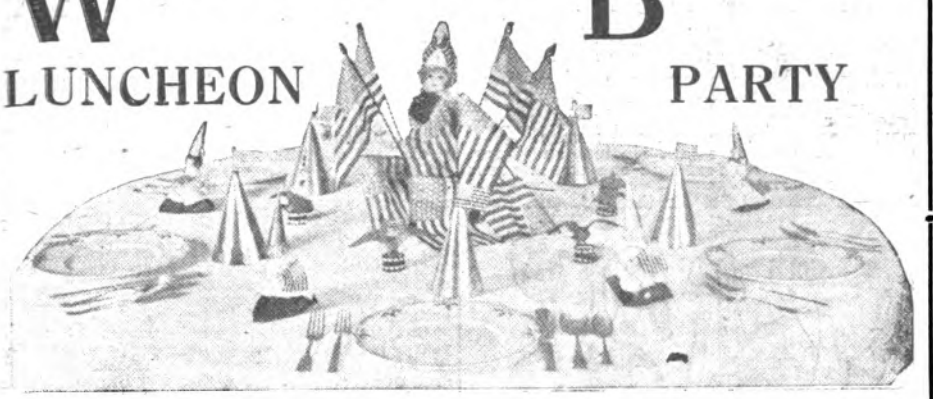
Town.....

State.....

Don't Miss This Chance to Profit by Our Prize Offer

Enter now for the March cash prizes and also make a try for the $635 Overland touring car. Only two months of the contest left and yet anyone entering now has a chance to win the automobile besides big March and April monthly cash prizes. Read prize offer on page 45 and make a start immediately.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON PARTY



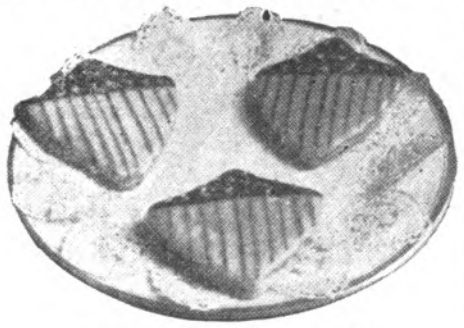
By Ella Gordon

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, the father of our country, was born in the year 1732, on the twenty-second day of February, and so long as our country lives, shall we do homage to his memory and derive inspiration from his exalted character by a fitting celebration of the anniversary of his birthday.

No form of decoration could be used with more appropriateness for a social celebration of Washington's birthday than the national flag with drum and eagle.

For a centerpiece take a blonde doll, dressing it in red, white and blue paper. Make a hat of two American flags. Set doll in center of round piece of wood, and around the edge bore tiny holes in which flags may be held upright. Around the centerpiece at regular intervals, place toy drums on which are perched small American eagles. Make three-cornered bonbon boxes of red stiff paper, the shape being suggestive of the three-cornered cocked hat characteristic of the Continental army. For covers, use a doll holding a small flag and wearing a silver cap.



WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY SHIELDS.

The place cards are made of paper, shaped like ice-cream cones and covered with silver paper. Put a tiny flag in the top of each.

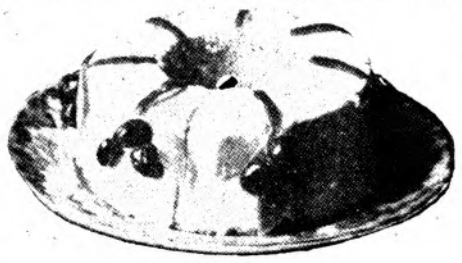
The following recipes are offered as suggestions for a Washington birthday luncheon.

Washington Birthday Shields

Cream with a spoon half a cupful of butter with one tablespoonful of lard and add, very gradually, one cupful of sugar, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, a pinch of ginger and a saltspoonful of salt and two squares of melted chocolate. Add two well-beaten eggs and three tablespoonfuls of milk in which half a teaspoonful of soda has been dissolved. Stir in just enough sifted flour to handle. Roll quarter of an inch thick, cut in the shape of shields and bake in a quick oven. Frost with boiled frosting and cover the upper third with a thin layer of chocolate frosting. Make ten verticle stripes of the chocolate frosting and thirteen stars of the white frosting on the chocolate covered upper part.

Washington Cherry Cake

Cream one third cup of butter, add one and one half cups of sugar, a little at a time, and cream all together. Measure two and one quarter cups of sifted flour, and sift again with one quarter of a teaspoonful of soda and a scant three quarters of a teaspoonful of cream of tartar. Have measured half a cup of milk. Add milk and flour alternately and beat smooth, and lastly add the whites of five eggs that have been beaten stiff. Pour into a round tin that has a hole or funnel in the center. Bake in moderate oven till the cake shrinks from pan—about forty-



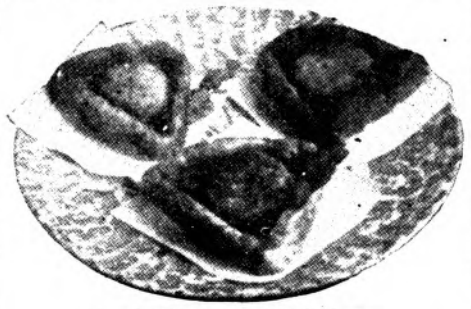
CHERRY CAKE.

five minutes. Cover the bottom of a large plate or agate pan with rose geranium leaves, and place the hot cake on them, and it will give a delicious rose flavoring. When cold, cover with white frosting. Cut even narrow strips of citron and press into frosting before it is quite set, marking the cake into even sections. Decorate with clusters of fresh cherries, or if they cannot be obtained, use candied cherries, pressing them slightly into frosting before it is set.

Washington Birthday Hats

Make rich paste by sifting two cups of flour with one scant teaspoon of salt, having mixing bowl and flour very cold. Chop into flour with a knife four tablespoons of lard and five of butter, first chilling both. The flour and shortening should be the consistency of dry meal. Wet with enough ice water to make a stiff dough, adding a little at a time and mixing with a knife. Don't melt the butter by mixing with the hands. Roll into three-cornered shape, bring corners toward center, fold once and roll thin. Cut into three-cornered pieces, then cut the corner off about one inch. Moisten corners, fold edges over and press corners together so the corners will be sharp and the folded edges form an upturned hat brim.

HAT CROWNS.—Mash two cups of cranberries, add one quarter of a cup of water and boil fifteen



WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY HATS.

minutes. Stir frequently. Press through a fine sieve, add two cups of sugar and cook four minutes. Pour just enough into cups to make desired height to hat crowns. Put jelly into pastry just before serving.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

isn't it time we were in our places for the reception?"

"Yes, yes; run along, all of you. Lead the way, Nellie, please—you know how to go up through the billiard-room," said Mrs. Goddard, nervously, as she gently pushed the girl toward the stairway. Then bending toward Edith she whispered, imploringly:

"I beg, I entreat you, Edith, not to spoil everything—everybody will wonder why you are not with the others, and I cannot explain why you refused to stand with my brother. Go! go! you must not keep my guests waiting. Emil, take her," and with an imperative gesture to her brother, she swept on toward the stairway after the others to arrange them effectively in the drawing-room.

Emil Correlli shot a searching look into the face of the girl beside him.

It was cold and proud the beautiful eyes still glowing with indignation.

"Pardon me just this once," he said, humbly, "and let me add my entreaties to my sister's," and he tried gently to force her toward the stairway.

"Go on," she said, haughtily, "and I will follow. Since I have been tricked into this affair so far, a little more of the same folly cannot matter, and rather than subject Mrs. Goddard to a public mortification, I will yield the point."

She made a gesture for him to proceed, and he turned to obey, a gleam of triumph leaping into his eyes at her concession.

Without a word they swiftly made their way back into the house and down to the elegant parlors where, at the upper end the first object to greet their eyes was a beautiful floral arch with an exquisite marriage bell suspended from it.

On either side of this the bridesmaids and ushers had taken their places, and into the center of it Emil Correlli now led his companion.

And now ensued the last and most fiendish act in the dastardly plot.

Hardly were they in their places when the guests came pouring into the room, and the ushers began their duties of presentation, while Edith, with a sinking heart, but growing every moment more indignant and disgusted with what appeared to her only a horrible and senseless mockery was obliged to respond to hundreds of congratulations and bear in silence being addressed as Mrs. Correlli.

Once, when there was a little pause, she turned haughtily upon the man at her side.

"Why am I addressed thus?" she demanded. "Why do you allow it? Why do you not correct these people and tell them to use the name that was used in the play rather than yours?"

"Perhaps they forget—I—I suppose it seems more natural to address me by my name," he faltered.

"I do not like it—I will not submit to it a moment longer," Edith indignantly returned.

"Hush! it is almost over," said her companion, in a swift whisper, as others came forward just then, and she was obliged, though rebellious and heart-sick, to submit to the ordeal.

But it was over at last, for, as the introductions were made, the guests passed back to the carriage-house, which had been cleared for dancing, and where the musicians were discoursing alluring strains in rhythmic measure.

Even the bridesmaids and ushers, tempted by the sounds, at last deserted their posts, and Emil Correlli and his victim were finally left alone, the sole occupants of the drawing-room.

"Will you come and dance?" he inquired, as he turned a pleading look upon her. Just once, to show that you forgive me for what I have done tonight."

"No, I cannot," said Edith, coldly and wearily. "I am going directly up-stairs to divest myself of this mocking finery as soon as possible."

A swift, hot flush suffused Emil Correlli's face, at these words.

"Pray do not speak so bitterly and slightly of what has made you, in my eyes at least, the most beautiful woman in this house tonight," he said.

"Flattery from you, sir, after what has occurred, is, to speak mildly, exceedingly unbecoming," Edith haughtily responded, and turned proudly away from him as if about to leave the room.

But, at that moment, Mr. Goddard, who had not presented himself before, came hurriedly forward and confronted them. His face was very pale, but there was an angry light in his eyes and a bitter sneer upon his lips.

"Well, Correlli, I am bound to confess that you have stolen a march upon us tonight, in fine style," he remarked, in a mocking tone, "and madam—Mrs. Correlli, I should say—allow me to observe that you have outshone yourself this evening, both as an actress and a beauty! Really, the surprise the *denouement*, to which you have treated us surpasses anything in my experience; it was certainly worthy of a Dumas! Permit me to offer you my heartiest congratulations."

"Let this wretched farce end here and now," said Edith, straightening herself and lifting her flashing eyes to his face. "I am heartily sick of it, and I trust you will never again presume to address me by the name that you have just used."

"Indeed! and are you so soon weary of your new title? Not yet an hour a bride, and sick of your bargain!" retorted Gerald Goddard, with a mocking laugh.

"I am no 'bride,' as you very well know, sir," spiritedly returned Edith.

"No bride?" he repeated, skeptically.

"No, sir. I told you it was simply a farce. I was merely appealed to to take the place, in the play, of Miss Kerby, who was called home by telegram," Edith explained.

Mr. Goddard glanced from her to his brother-in-law in unfeigned perplexity.

"What are you saying?" he demanded. "Do you mean to tell me that you believe that last act was a farce?—that you do not know that you have been really and lawfully married to the man beside you?"

"Certainly I have not! What do you mean, sir, by such an unwarrantable assertion?" spiritedly retorted the young girl, but losing every atom of color, as a suspicion of the terrible truth flashed through her mind.

Gerald Goddard turned fiercely upon his brother-in-law at this, for he also now began to suspect treachery.

"What does she mean?" he cried, sternly. "Has she been led into this thing blindfolded?"

"I think it would be injudicious to make a scene here," Emil Correlli replied, in a low tone, but with white lips, as he realized that the moment which he had so dreaded had come at last.

"What do you mean? Why do you act and speak as if you believed that mockery to be a reality?" exclaimed Edith, looking from one face to the other.

"Edith," began Mr. Goddard, in an impressive tone, "do you not know that you are this man's wife?—that the ceremony on yonder stage was, in every essential a legal one, and performed by an ordained minister of Boston?"

"No! never! I do not believe it. They never would have dared do such a dastardly deed!"

Then drawing her perfect form erect, she turned with a withering glance to the craven at her side.

"Speak!" she commanded. "Have you dared to play this miserable trick upon me?"

Emil Correlli quailed beneath the righteous indignation expressed in her flashing glance; his eyes dropped and conscious guilt was shown in his very attitude.

"Forgive me—I loved you so," he stammered, and—she was answered.

She threw out her hands in a gesture of repudiation and horror; she flashed one withering, horrified look into his face, then, with a moan of anguish, she swayed like a reed broken by the tempest, and would have fallen to the floor in her spotless robes had not Gerald Goddard caught her senseless form in his arms, and, lifting her by main strength, he bore her from the room and up-stairs to her own chamber.

CHAPTER XIV.

"YOUR FAITHLESSNESS TURNED ME INTO A DEMON."

Emil Correlli followed Mr. Goddard and his unconscious burden, looking like anything but a happy bridegroom.

When Mr. Goddard reached the girl's room he laid her upon her bed, and then sent one of the servants for the housekeeper. But Mrs. Weld could not be found, so another maid was called, and Edith was gradually restored to consciousness.

But the moment her glance fell upon Emil Correlli, who insisted upon remaining in the room, and she realized what had occurred, she relapsed into another swoon, so deathlike and prolonged that a physician, who happened to be among the guests, was summoned from the ballroom to attend her.

He excluded everyone but the maids from the room, when he ordered his patient to be undressed and put into bed, and after long and unwearied efforts, she was again revived, when she became so unnerved and hysterical that the physician, becoming alarmed, was about to give her a powerful opiate, when she sank into a third fainting fit.

Meanwhile, in the ballroom below, gayety was at its height. There had been a little stir and commotion when it was learned that Edith had fainted; but the matter was passed over with a few well-bred comments of regret, and then forgotten for the time. But as soon as she could do so without being observed, madam stole from the place and went into the house to ascertain how the girl was.

She was, of course, aware of the cause of the swoon, and, as may be readily imagined, was in no comfortable frame of mind. She was met at the head of the second flight of stairs by her husband, whose face was grave and stern.

"How is she?" madam inquired.

"In a very critical condition; Dr. Arthur says she is liable to have brain fever," he tersely replied.

"Brain fever!" exclaimed his wife, in a startled tone. "Surely, she cannot be as bad as that!"

"Woman, what have you done?" the man demanded. "How have you dared to plot and carry out the dastardly deed that you have perpetrated this night?"

"That is neither the tone nor the manner you should employ in addressing me, Gerald, as you very well know," she retorted, with colorless lips.

"Have done with your tragic airs, madam," he cried. "I have had enough of them. I ask you again, how have you dared to commit this crime?"

"Crime?" she repeated, with a start, but flashing him a glance that made him wince. "You use a harsh term, Gerald; but if you desire a reason for what has occurred tonight, I can give you two."

"Name them," her companion curtly demanded.

"First and foremost, then—to protect myself."

"To protect yourself—from what?"

"From treachery and desertion."

"Anna!"

"You know how to do it very well, Gerald,"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 32.)

In and Around the Home

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

This adds considerable to the effectiveness of the design, as well as making the work secure.

Wool Rose Spray

In the pictured rose spray (Fig 2) the flowers, leaves and running vine are also each made separately.

Rose

Ch. 4, join in ring, ch. 3, 1 s. c. in ring, repeat making 5 ch. 3, in all.

2nd round.—1 s. c., 4 d. c., 1 s. c. under each ch. 3, join.

3rd round.—Ch. 5, 1 d. c., work under single between chs. 3, repeat making 5 chs. 5.

4th round.—1 s. c., 7 d. c., 1 s. c. all under a ch. 5, repeat on each ch.

5th round.—5 chs. 6, 1 d. c. under double between chs. 5, on each of these chains make, 1 s. c., 2 d. c., ch. 3, for p., 2 d. c., 1 p., 2 d. c., 1 p., 2 d. c., 1 s. c.

Bud

Same as first 2 rows of rows. Double together and finish by chaining about 3 inches. This can be shaped when it is sewed in place.

Leaves

Same as for green leaves adding an extra picot to each side. A running design such as this is used on the brims of large hats. It is also very pretty on the bands of the popular corduroy and velvet tam-o'-shanters.

Will any COMFORT reader who has quilt design known as Double Irish Chain please send pattern to Mrs. Lilian C. Ross, Almo, Idaho, favor will be returned.

Mrs Vernon Castle invites you to send for Philipsborn Spring Style Book free

Photos by Ira L. Hill Studios



This Edition DeLuxe Style Book Endorsed by Mrs. Castle FREE

Coupon Brings It

Best Dressed Woman in America Recommends Philipsborn Styles

Mrs. Vernon Castle herself — America's recognized Queen of Fashion—the one woman to whom all style leaders bow—the greatest dress authority in the country, endorses the Philipsborn Style Book. Are you going to have a copy? It is yours—free—for the asking. All you have to do is to mail a postal or the coupon below. Do it today—right now—while you are reading this!



This Lovely Silk Poplin Dress $2.98 Only

This is one of our Double-Dollar Values. You never saw a prettier dress at any price. The material is a soft, shimmery, brilliant silk faille poplin. Exquisitely made and trimmed with the newest gold braid embroidery. Very rich and handsome—A dress that is beautiful enough for "dress-up" occasions yet so low in price that it can be worn for every day purposes. It comes in beautiful shades of Navy Blue, Plum or Black. Sizes for Ladies and Misses—Bust 32 to 44 inches, waist 23 to 30 inches, skirt length 39 to 41 inches. Price prepaid.

$2.98 1x518

Hosiery Bargain Look! Only 19c



4-X 43610 SILK BOOT HOSE

6 For 19c

Unusual Handkerchief Value

4-x-34040—Regular 35c quality, nicely hemstitched and initialed. (State initial wanted) color, all white. Price prepaid 6 for 19c.

Rich, lustrous, Silk Hose with high spliced heels, seamless double soles and heels and reinforced toes. Deep, strong garter tops. Black or white. Sizes 8½-10. Price prepaid - - 19c

Bargains our catalog shows—waists 49c up; dresses 98c up; skirts 79c up; Coats $1.98 up; Suits $5.98 up; Hats 49c up, etc., etc.

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY

PHILIPSBORN The Outer Garment House Dept. 752 CHICAGO

Please send me FREE the Philipsborn Spring Style Book for 1917.

Name .....

Address .....

Postoffice .....

ORDER HERE I enclose $ ..... for following articles shown here:

☐ No. ..... Size ..... Color .....

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Mid-Winter Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



CLOTHES that are pretty, comfortable and attractive will delight young folks as well as "grown ups."

Over-blouse styles in quaint lines are so becoming to girls in their teens. They are nice for combinations of material; for serge, garbardine, and for wash fabrics, to wear with underwaists or guimpes of lawn or batiste.

Pockets and pocket trimmings still hold their own.

There are new Russian blouses, with long shouldered yokes and straight gathered peplums. They are nice in crepe de chine, satin and taffeta, worn with a three- ar four-piece skirt.

Empire styles are shown in afternoon as well as in evening frocks.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

1924—Child's Dress in Empire style and with long or short sleeve. This model is nice for wash fabrics and equally attractive for serge, gabardine, voile, taffeta, challie and cashmere.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires three and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for a six-year size.

1542—Boys' Blouse with Convertible Collar. The model here shown is good for percale, madras, drill, khaki, flannel, soisette, or cheviot. It has a neat pocket, and the sleeve may have a straight cuff, so nice for "starching," or a French cuff, turned back, and good for soft finished blouses.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires two yards of 36-inch material for a 10-year size.

1645—A Dainty Night Dress. This pretty model is nice for lawn, dimity, nainsook, crepe, mull or flannelette. The gown may be made in loose kimono effect, or shirred at Empire waistline.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires five and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1947—Ladies' House Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. This model is good for serge, gabardine, flannelette, gingham, percale, linene and linen.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and seven eighths yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1929—Ladies' Kimono or Lounging Robe. Silk crepe in blue and white, with trimming of blue satin was used for this model. Cotton crepe is equally attractive, as are also lawn, dimity, dotted Swiss, flannel, flannelette, cashmere or albatross. The fronts fall in graceful folds below the deep collar. The fullness may be confined by the belt, or shirred to fit an inside band.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires seven and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

1899—Ladies' Waist, with bodice belt. Dotted silk crepe with trimming of messaline in a contrasting color would be nice for this. The belt could be of the same contrasting material. The waist fronts are crossed in surplice style, and the bodice may be made adjustable.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires two and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1652—A Smart Frock for Mother's Girl. As here shown, brown and white gingham was used, with trimming of white linen. The sleeve may be in wrist length, finished with a band cuff, or with the turnback cuff in short length. The skirt is a three-gored model.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires two and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a six-year size.

1543—Boys' Trousers with closing in front or at the sides. This style is good for serge, cheviot, broadcloth, velvet, corduroy, khaki, galatea, gingham, seersucker, linen, pique or drill. The back is fitted with neat pockets, and the fronts have deep "real boy's" pockets.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires one and three quarters yards of 27-inch material for a 12-year size.

1932—A Simple, Attractive style for home or porch wear. This model has a vest finished with coat closing. The skirt fronts have added pockets.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires seven yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1831—A Popular Middy Suit for Juniors. This smart blouse is made to slip over the head. The skirt has shaped yoke sections which may be omitted.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires five and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 14-year size.

1955—Ladies' Overall Apron with sleeve portion in either of two lengths. Percale, seersucker, gingham, chambray, lawn, alpaca or brilliantine could be used for this design.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

1939—Girls' Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Serge, gabardine, satin, voile, nun's veiling and all wash fabrics are nice for this style. Corduroy and velvet may also be used. Size 12 requires four and three eighths yards of 44-inch material.

1925—Girls' Slip. This model is practical and comfortable, and has added fullness over the back, in the skirt, which is joined to the waist portions. The ruffle may be omitted. Lawn, nainsook, batiste, flannelette, and crepe are nice for this model.

Cut in five sizes; two, four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires for size six, two yards of 36-inch material.

1471—A Simple, Serviceable Model. The model is good for gingham, lawn, percale, cambric, denim, cretonne or sateen. The fullness may be held over the back by the belt.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires five and one half yards of 36-inch material for the medium size.

1807—Ladies' Shirt-waist, with sleeve in either of two lengths. White handkerchief linen was used in this instance, with frills of pink batiste for trimming. This design is good also for taffeta, tub silk, crepe, batiste, pique, madras and lawn. The fronts are closed in coat style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three and one quarter yards of 27-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1957—A Practical, Attractive Skating Set for ladies, misses and girls. The designs here portrayed are nice for fur, plush, velvet, corduroy and other pile fabrics, also for silk, serge, zibeline, cheviot and broadcloth.

The pattern is cut in one size for ladies, one size for misses, and one size for girls. The ladies' size requires seven eighths yard for the cap, of 24-inch material, one yard for the inside of muff, and one and one eighth yard for the outside, of 27-inch material; three quarters yard for the scarf of 24-inch material, and seven eighths yard for the bag, of 24-inch material.

1507—An Attractive Model for home or business wear. The model is good for taffeta, dotted or figured voile, checked or novelty suiting, serge, gingham, chambrey, linen or percale. The waist is cut low and outlined with shaped revers that form a rolled collar over the back. The chemisette has a standing collar which may be omitted. The sleeve is in wrist or short length. The skirt has plaited fullness in back and front, which may be stitched in tuck effect.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires seven and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1948—Girls' Overblouse Dress, with guimpe having sleeve in either of two styles. The guimpe may be of lawn, cambric, cashmere, flannel or challie, and the overdress of plaid or checked woolen, of serge, gingham or galatea.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires one and three quarters yard of 27-inch material for the guimpe and three and three eighths yards for the dress, for an eight-year size.

1915—A Popular Ladies' Apron. This model is good for drill, denim, sateen, lawn, batiste, cambric, seersucker, gingham and muslin.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. Medium size requires four and one eighth yards of 36-inch material.

1945—A Practical Set for the little one. Cambric, lawn, and muslin are good for the slip. For the dress, batiste, lawn, cambric, percale, flannelette, challie or cashmere could be used.

Cut in five sizes; six months, one year, two years, three years and four years. It will require for the dress two and five eighths yards of 36-inch material. For the drawers, three quarters yard. For the slip, one and one half yard, for a two-year size.

1651—Ladies' Dress. This model is nice for taffeta and tub silk, for serge, nun's veiling, gabardine, poplin, linen, gingham and other wash fabrics. The shaping of the sleeve is new and attractive. The skirt fits smoothly over the hips, with fullness gathered at the sides.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1946—Girl's Gymnasium Suit. Comprising a smart Middy blouse which may be finished to the waistline only, and a pair of comfortable, neat bloomers, cut with ample fullness. For the blouse, one could use madras, linene, linen, serge or flannel. For the bloomers, serge, cashmere, brilliantine, or sateen is desirable.

Cut in five sizes; eight, 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 27-inch material for the blouse, and three and three eighths yards for the bloomers, for a 12-year size.

1916—A Smart Skirt Model. This stylish model is good for serge, broadcloth, satin, corduroy, velvet, taffeta, gabardine, wool, poplin, velour and checked or plaid suitings. The skirt is a four-gored model. The tab trimming may be omitted.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

1923—Coat Dress for misses and small women. Serge, gabardine, voile, taffeta, satin, velvet, velour and corduroy are nice for this style. The fronts are finished with slot plaid closing and are cut in "V" neck outline.

Cut in four sizes; 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 16-year size.

1960—A Simple, but Pretty Gown for dancing or other dress occasions, for misses and small women. Crepe net, mull, chiffon, satin, charmeuse, messaline, tulle, nun's veiling and cashmere are all lovely for this style. The lines are simple. The design is easy to develop. Embroidered voile or flouncing could be used.

Cut in four sizes; 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires four and one half yards of 44-inch material for an 18-year size.

1919—Waist. 1928—Skirt. A Smart Dress for business or general wear. In checked black and white suiting brown toned plaid, in serge, velvet, taffeta or satin, this style will be very appropriate. The skirt is a three-piece style.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure.

The waist in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a medium size for the entire dress. *Two* separate patterns, 10c *for each* pattern.

1914—Ladies' Tunic Skirt, with slightly raised waistline. Gabardine, taffeta, serge, satin, velvet, corduroy, broadcloth, velour, faille and other seasonable fabrics are fine for this model.

Cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires for size 24, three yards of 44-inch material for the skirt and four and one eighth yards for the tunic.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated



☞USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash, (or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me

Patterns No. _____ Size _____ (or Age) No. _____ Size _____ (or Age) No. _____ Size _____ (or Age)

Name _____ State _____

Post Office _____ R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

Jack London's Genius

By C. L. Cheever

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

JACK LONDON, novelist, Socialist, reformer and anthropologist, has expired.

His tempestuous career was begun in San Francisco in January, 1876. He was the son of John and Flora London, both very poor and the boy was allowed to run the streets in his childhood, spending his pennies for beer instead of candy, because he thought it more manly. In later life he became a strong prohibitionist.

At eight years of age he was a ranch boy, working long hours, delving into such books as Washington Irving's "Alhambra," though he never could recall just how he knew how to read or write, having no recollection of having been taught either. In no way could he persuade the cowboys to be interested in what was such entertainment to him. He gloated over dime novels, stale newspapers and other usual ranch literature. At eleven he went to Oakland; there he spent hours in the public library.

From now on a great spirit of adventure swept over him and he decided to become an oyster pirate, shipping as a sailor on a schooner, later he became a salmon fisher. Turning from fisherman to fish patrolman he had many wild adventures in those lawless waters. Then he shipped before the mast on a seal hunting expedition to the Japanese coast and Behring Sea. Then he returned to California to find work as a day laborer coal shoveling, longshoring and making jute.

While London was doing thirteen hours a day in the jute mill he won the first prize in a competition of a San Francisco newspaper with a description of a typhoon off the coast of Japan. This he wrote after midnight.

Then he became a tramp, wandering all over the United States and Canada serving a term in jail for vagrancy. At nineteen he went back to Oakland, attending high school for a year and doing work as a janitor to support himself.

He spent three months cramming after his year in the high school, and entered the University of California, for which a four-years' preparatory course is usually required. To support himself he worked in a laundry, and after a brave struggle to make ends meet, was obliged to give up study at the University in his freshman year. Then London began writing, decided he was a failure, and went to the Klondike. While he was there his father died and, London, upon his return took up the burden of supporting the family. He wrote copiously but met with rejection after rejection. Finally a story was accepted and he received five dollars for it. Soon after that he received forty dollars for a story. It was like a fortune to him.

From that time on success was his and with it world-wide recognition. With his increased popularity came wealth and his beautiful home at Glen Ellen among the California mountains is one of the most elaborately equipped ranches in that wonderful country.

London traveled much, his "Cruise of the Snark" being the result of an adventurous journey. He went as a war correspondent in the Russo-Japanese war and when trouble with Mexico became acute he went to Vera Cruz to gain material for writing. He recently returned from several months spent in the Hawaiian Islands in search of health; his health having been undermined by his trip through the South Pacific in the Snark.

Jack London would have been forty-one years old on the twelfth of January.

One of the best known authors in the world, his books have been translated into numerous languages. In Sweden he is the most popular foreign writer.

Among his books are:

"The Son of the Wolf," 1900; "The God of His Fathers," 1901; "The Children of the Forest," 1902; "A Daughter of the Snows," 1902; "The Call of the Wild," 1903; "The Sea Wolf," 1904; "The Faith of Men," 1904; "Before Adam," 1908; "When God Laughs," 1910; "The Cruise of the Snark," 1911; "John Barleycorn," 1913; "The Valley of the Moon," 1913 and many others.

We Prepay Mail and Express Charges

FREE This New Spring Fashion Book—

direct from Fifth Avenue—the World's greatest fashion center, is brimming full with the smartest, newest styles for Spring.

Send Us a Trial Order Today

Send For This Book Today—

Your Copy will be Mailed to You on Receipt of a Postal



The Fifth Avenue woman is famed the world over for her perfect taste in dress. You too, with this book for your guide, may choose from the same correct, new fashions as you would find in the most exclusive Fifth Avenue shops. At our wonderfully low prices any woman can afford to be well dressed. Remember, we pay express or parcel post charges, and guarantee to please you absolutely, or to refund your money at once.

Crepe de Chine $6.98

F52—Dainty and becoming is this handsome party dress of soft, lustrous Crepe-de-Chine. It is a perfect marvel of prettiness and you will wonder at the value represented in this dress. The blouse in bodice design, has upper portion of sheer, Shadow Lace. Soft marabout finishes the V-shaped neck. Full, gathered skirt is finished at waist with narrow heading. Colors: white, pink, light blue or yellow. Sizes: 32 to 44-in bust. Also Misses: 14 to 18 yrs. Postpaid.

Serge $5.98

F51.—Smart tailored dress of excellent Wool Serge. The genteel waist, made over a Lawn lining has stunning white Serge collar, lapels and turn-back cuffs. Pearl buttons and Silk loops trim the front where the waist fastens. The skirt is in charming box plaited design assuring desired fullness. Sash of self material ties in front in dashing style. Colors: black, navy blue, green or brown. Sizes: 32 to 44-in. bust. Also Misses: 14 to 18 yrs. Postpaid.

Take Advantage of These Big Bargains

Send Us a Trial Order From This Page

Shepherd Check $2.98

F54.—Smart, street frock of black-and-white Shepherd Check. The youthful blouse has deep yoke above gathered fronts trimmed with box-plaits and Bone Buttons. Black Silk braid trims the sailor collar, waist front, flaring peplum, pockets and neat cuffs. Modish, flare skirt has deep lapped front seam. Black-and-white only. Sizes: 32 to 44-in. bust. Also Misses: 14 to 18 yrs. Postpaid.

Kimono $1.25

F63.—A style that will delight you. This is a comfortable, soft, clinging kimono, made of hand embroidered Tokio Crepe. The neck and sleeves are finished with embroidered scalloping. The full accordian-plaited skirt is shirred on an elastic at waist. Sizes: 34 to 44 bust. Colors: rose or lavander. Postpaid.

Stunning Fifth Avenue Styles at Bargain Prices

Persian Voile 98c

F56.—Fifth Avenue's latest importation is exquisite Persian colored Voile. A unique model designed with a narrow yoke heading gathered fronts, trimmed and fastened with Pearl buttons. Handsome sailor collar of hemstitched and embroidered Organdie. Assorted colorings. Sizes: 32 to 44-in. bust. Postpaid.

Remember—We Prepay all Parcel Post and Express Charges

We Guarantee to Please You, Absolutely or Refund Your Money at Once

All-Over Embroidery 98c

F64.—This Summer blouse is a most becoming style. It is made of sheer, all-over embroidered French Voile. A charming feature is the pretty sailor collar edged with Val. lace. Hemstitched, Organdie cuffs finish the full-length sleeves. Clusters of Pearl buttons trim the front and form the visible waist fastening. White only. Sizes: 32 to 44-in. bust. Postpaid.

Smocked Middy 98c

F69.—New style Middy Blouse of durable, white Galatea, finished below yoke with fancy, colored, hand-smocking. Collar, cuffs and pocket flaps of colored Galatea. Detachable belt. Silk lacing. Colors: white-with-rose or Copenhagen. Sizes: 14 to 20 yrs. Postpaid.

Voile 98c

F55.—Handsome Lingerie waist in exquisitely dainty design of fine, French Voile. Clusters of pin tucks, dainty Val. lace and embroidery elaborately trim front. Lace to match edges becoming large collar. White only. Sizes: 32 to 44-in. bust. Postpaid. 98c.

Plaid Voile 98c

F65.—Stunning blouse in smart, distinctive style made of the fashionable sheer Plaid Voile. Designed in simple style with becoming large round Organdie collar prettily hemstitched and edged with fine Net to match cuffs. Black Silk bow at neck adds chic touch. Colors: blue-and-white or pink-and-white. Sizes: 32 to 44-in. bust. Postpaid.

Jap Silk 98c

F58.—Exceedingly dainty blouse of soft, lustrous, Jap Silk designed in simple style with visible front fastening and becoming flare collar edged with Thread Lace in Baby Irish design. Tailored cuffs and back of collar of sheer Organdie. White only. Sizes: 32 to 44-in. bust. Postpaid..... 98c.

Serge Skirt $1.25

F59.—Tailored skirt made of excellent hair line, striped Serge. A perfect fitting, flare model with girdle top and deep lapped front seam. Button trimmed, patch pocket. Colors: black or navy blue with white stripes. Sizes: 22 to 30-inch waist measure, 36 to 44-inch front length. Postpaid.

Corduroy Sport Hat 59c

F61.—A snappy little Sport Hat of excellent, soft, rich Velvet Corduroy. Medium round crown and rolling brim which can be arranged to suit the wearer. Gros-Grain ribbon ties in bow on left side. Colors: rose, Copenhagen blue, Green, navy blue, gold or white. Postpaid.

Boudoir Slippers 69c

F60.—Dainty, comfy, boudoir slippers made of soft, rich, Lambskin Leather with thin, flexible soles. Chenille pompoms in self-color. Colors: black, tan, light blue, green or lavander. Sizes: 3 to 8. Postpaid.

Embroidered Dress 98c

F70.—Unusually becoming morning dress of good quality Chambray. The style is appropriate for street wear as well as a morning house dress. The waist has pointed yoke finished with fancy Silk cord. The front is prettily embroidered. White Pique collar and cuffs. Colors: Cadet blue or tan. Sizes: 32 to 44-in. bust: 14 to 18 yrs. Postpaid.

Hundreds of Big Bargains in our New Spring Catalog all Equal to or better than those shown here. Send for this book today.

KNICKERBOCKER
MAIL ORDER CO. INC.

Send for Free Catalog Today

Dept. F 5—142 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Send for Catalog Today

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

instructions are carried out. I was induced to become a member of a church in the city in which I reside, by the pastor, a splendid fellow whose name is known from coast to coast and whom many of you have heard on the lecture platform. His church has a membership of six thousand most of them wealthly people. My anthems and musical numbers have been sung in this church. The pastor often refers to me in his sermons, and as I am written up once or twice every year by one or more of the big New York newspapers, there is not a member of that congregation that does not know about me, and yet in eight years that my name has been on the books of that church not a single member of that congregation has ever knocked at my door, or dropped me a card, though the pastor and his assistant often visit me. So much for their brand of Christianity.

It is amusing and pitiful too to see scores of ministers pleading with Billy Sunday to come to this, that or the other city to save the sinners with slang and vaudeville stunts and scare the backsliders into their church pews by reviving the old-time fear of hell fire. When the churches are ready to preach the humanities, the art of being kind and give their congregations practical Christian tasks to do, making them realize that their obligations to their weaker brothers cannot be liquidated by the handing out of a pot of jam, or the grudging giving of dollars many of which have been skinned from the poor during the week, the churches will be full and we won't need sensation or the language of the gutter to fill them. Just preach the art of being kind and live the golden rule which is kindness in action and above all else visit the sick and the afflicted, for it is by the way we measure the value of human life, and the tenderness, love and mercy we show to our weaker brothers and sisters and especially to the sick and afflicted, that God and the world can measure us and gauge the standard of our civilization and our right to exist as a nation. All that the world needs is kindness and it is so easy to be kind. If you are kind you will be generous in thought and in deed and you will be living a real life of service, walking with God. This is my message to you on the twentieth anniversary of my invalidism. Bear what I have said in mind. Memorize and daily repeat the little verse with which this article begins and memorize too that more beautiful verse which was spoken by the Christ: "This commandment I give unto you that ye love one another." Kindness and love! That is all the world needs to heal its wounds, for of them justice is born. Kindness and love would bring heaven on earth. Do your part in this glorious work and do it at once that we may have heaven here and now as well as beyond.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

PRYORSBURG, KY.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am twelve years old, have black hair, brown eyes, am dark complected and am not at all good looking. This isn't a very pretty town. I should hardly call it a town at all it is so small. I go to school and am in the seventh grade. I like to read good books and I don't want to work much when I have one. I have a twin sister and we both can play a little bit on our organ. We milk and have the best gentle cow. I milk on one side and Lorene, my sister, milks on the other side. The cow's name is Lily. I think COMFORT is a very good paper and I read it every month, and it is a cheap paper too.

Well, I must pick peas and I hope Billy the Goat won't eat this. Your loving niece, ALYNE GIBSON.

Alyne, will you kindly give our best love to Lily. In these quarrelsome days when human "beans" are making beasts of themselves by killing one another in the old world, and by starving one another in the United States, it is such an intense relief to turn from savage humanity to dear, sweet, ladylike, refined, gentle, docile Lily, chewing the cud of content and giving sustenance and strength, life and vigor to a bunch of snarling humans, utterly unworthy her devotion and keen sense of duty. We take everything for granted in this world, scarcely ever counting our blessings, and we have so many of them, Lily probably being chief among them all. Just think what we owe to that kindly Providence that gave us Lily and all Lily's sisters and ancestors for millions of years back. There never was a time when Lily and her kin were not working overtime for our benefit, and there never was a time when we superior "beans," the lords of creation, weren't filling Lily's milk with water, and figuring how much she'd fetch a pound, when we decided her life of usefulness, gentleness and sweetness should be ended by a smash gently applied to Lily's cocoanut with an axe or a safety razor. If I were asked to rear a monument today to the greatest benefactor of the human race I would have a sculptor make a nice bronze model of Lily, and I'd put her on a pedestal a thousand miles high, where the butcher couldn't reach her, and the flies couldn't worry her. On a statue beside Lily, I would put a hen—good old Biddy. I owe my life to Lily and Biddy. Without them I would not be alive today, without them I could not continue to live. They give us eggs, milk, butter and cheese. They give us life, health and strength, and both Lily and the hen are always perfect ladies and are always on the job. How infinitely more useful are Lily and Biddy than Mr. Bull and Mr. Rooster. The rooster does the crowing while the hen makes the showing. He dresses up in gaudy clothes while she wears the plainest attire possible. Mr. Bull too, parades around like a political boss at election time. I'll wager if there was any voting being done in the animal world, Mr. Bull and Mr. Rooster would be sitting on the ballot box all day without allowing the ladies to even have a look in. How much more useful are the lives of Lily and Biddy than a lot of two-legged humans that I know who spend their lives in idleness and pleasure. Dear old Lily, bless her heart. She does not wear a cholera belt for a dress, a flower pot for a hat, nor squeeze her internal organs all out of shape with a steel bird cage. Neither does Lily paint her face, powder her nose, put soot on her eyelids, and daub her lips like a brazen drab. Above all else Lily and Biddy are producers, and that in the last analysis, is the one essential, fundamental standard by which all humans and animals must be judged. The producer is an asset, the none producer a liability. The non producer also is a menace, a parasite. Soon there will be no room for them on the face of the earth. At present the non producers are in the saddle and have the best of it, but their day is doomed and they will soon be in the discard. So once more I take off my hat to Lily and Biddy and to you dear Alyne, who have introduced us to Lily the best, gentle, ladylike cow in the world.

USEFUL VALENTINES THAT CHILDREN CAN MAKE



By Jane Arnold

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

CHILDREN love to make their own valentines and if instead of the usual hearts and darts and amorous nonsense, they can make something really useful as well as ornamental, it will interest them far more and give much greater pleasure to the recipient.

Let the child learn, first of all, to cut out a heart, for the heart in all colors and sizes is the foundation of the valentine. Take a piece of thin paper—newspaper will do—and fold it together. Then cut a lobe, so that the fold will come in the center. When opened out the two lobes will at least be the same shape, and a little practise in trimming will make them satisfactory.

A valentine photograph frame will be most acceptable. The foundation is a heart-shaped piece of heavy white mat board measuring at least six inches across. Next cut a slightly smaller heart from water color paper with a heart-shaped opening in the center. This paper is to be purchased at a stationer's store for a few cents a sheet. Gild or paint this smaller heart crimson and fasten it over the blotter hearts by tying ribbons matching it in color through holes made with a punch or the ends of scissors. Slip an attractive kodak picture between the two hearts so that it will show through the opening and fasten it by drops of photographic paste at the corners.



VALENTINE PHOTO FRAME.

A dainty valentine needlebook will delight the girl friend who is clever with her fingers in the art of sewing.

The foundation is a large heart cut out of pasteboard, and covered with silk. This has a lighter lining, also cut from pasteboard and covered with silk. The two are overhanded together and the edges are covered with cord. Two or three smaller hearts cut from flannel hold the needles and may be fastened to the inside by a ribbon drawn through the heart and tied in a bow on the outside. Use bright scarlet or yellow gold silk for this with ribbons to match and it will add to the color scheme if the flannel patches that hold the needles are finished at the edges with a buttonhole stitch or with feather stitching of a matching color in heavy silk.

When the heart needlebook is finished, it may be bent together in book shape and slipped into an envelope for mailing.

Another dainty and useful valentine is a pin case in heart shape. Two hearts cut out of light cardboard; are covered with silk. The silk should be securely pasted down with library paste on the wrong side of the cardboard, and the two hearts are overhanded together and finished with a ribbon bow and loop at the top. Use red silk for this or white silk with tiny red dots or some other small figures. A very attractive color scheme is to use white or golden yellow silk or satin and on it paint very small red hearts in water colors. It is possible to find pins with yellow or red glass heads and these may be alternated with white-headed pins stuck about the edge of the pin case.

A heart sachet will carry the perfume of friendship to a friend and keep it throughout an entire year.

To make it, cut out two thin pasteboard hearts and cover them on one side with sheet wadding. The wadding may be pasted down on the other side after the space between it and the cardboard has been liberally dusted with sachet powder.

The hearts should then be covered with colored silk above the wadding, and this, too, should be pasted down with library paste. The two wrong sides should be placed together and the hearts overhanded round the edges.

Choose the daintiest possible flowered silk for this, a white or cream ground with little bunches of flowers in gay colors. The frill of lace that finishes the edge gives it the appearance of a real valentine. Make a dozen of these dainty little heart sachets. They will be most acceptable and are easily mailed.

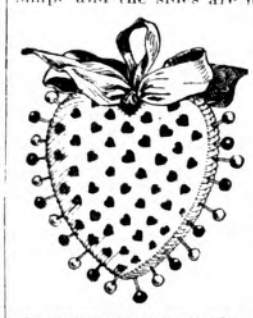


VALENTINE BLOTTER.

Equally as attractive and easier to make is an envelope valentine sachet.

A kodak picture may be effectively used in making this sachet. A heart that will just cover the picture should be outlined at the side of an envelope and cut out. The edge of this opening may be outlined in gold paint or India ink. The picture should be pasted on the inside of the envelope so that it will show through, and below it the words, "To My Valentine," are lettered in the gold paint, or simply written in ink in the hand-writing of the picture's original. The sachet-powder should be wrapped in tissue paper, and slipped into the envelope, and the flap securely pasted down to preserve the scent as long as possible. It is possible to use other small photographs or to paint a little design in water colors in place of using the kodak picture.

Home-made bonbons or cream peppermint drops moulded in heart shape may be sent in a valentine bonbon box. Stiff paper is used for the foundation of the box, modelled in square shape and the sides are bent up and tied in place with bows of very narrow red ribbon. A large red heart is pasted to the top. This can be made of red cardboard or, still more attractive, may be of red satin glued over a cardboard foundation. Fill the box with candies, and tie a ribbon around the sides. A little cupid painted in water colors or clipped from a magazine adds an attractive finish.



VALENTINE PINCUSHION.

A valentine blotter will prove quite as useful as any of these other valentine gifts.

The single sheet of white water-color paper which yielded one heart for the photograph frame will provide another to hold the heart-shaped pieces of blotting paper.

The hearts are cut out, and fastened together at the top with ribbon. Use red blotting paper. The cover should be outlined in gold and some verse or a single line, such as "For My Lady Fair" is lettered in gold on the cover.

HAWTHORNE, N. J.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE AND COMFORT COUSINS:

This is the second time I venture to write. I am a girl of seventeen years. I have been lame since four years of age. I had hip disease on both sides which left me very stiff. I first used crutches, but now walk with the aid of a cane. After my legs were cured I had a dose of rheumatism, which bothers me every spring.

What would you advise for a lame girl to do to make a living. I did not go to school very much. I do not have to work now, but if my parents die I will have to support myself, but how?

Well, Uncle, I have never been in New York City, but if I do get there I am sure coming to see you. Not until you sent me my membership card did I know you lived so near us.

Uncle, what do you think of this infantile paralysis plague? I think it is the hand of God. The Bible tells us that there shall come wars and plagues. We have the great war in Europe, the fish problem (I mean about the sharks which were by the coast for a while) and now this plague.

Hearty congratulations for your birthday and I hope that God may spare you many more years. I would like to hear from any of the cousins. Hoping the Goat don't eat this, I remain your niece,

ANNA VANDERVALK, (League No. 41,312).

Anna, your physical disabilities have handicapped you in the struggle for existence. Don't however be discouraged. You have your hands, your brain and good eyesight. If you were blind you would be right in thinking you were up against a tough proposition, though there are lots of blind people making a fairly good living today. Your spelling is poor but that is a fault that can be overcome. I think you are bright enough to learn stenography. You ought to be able to keep accounts if you took a course in bookkeeping. You could also hold down a cashier's job in a restaurant or store. You could do manicure work. These are all sedentary positions. From the waist up you are as well off as anyone, and the world is full of waist up jobs. Your condition should excite the sympathy and arouse the interest of the good and influential people of your village. There are a few good people in the world and I know they will use their influence to get you a position, if you will only fit yourself first to do some one thing well. It is wonderful what cripples have done and are doing in this world. The thing that counts even more than ability is will power. If you sit down and pity yourself and keep thinking how badly the world is using you you will get nowhere and accomplish little if anything. Stay in your home town and when people learn you are making a brave effort to overcome the handicap of disease, they will talk about you. It won't be long before you will have one or two staunch and helpful friends. There are people in this world who admire those who surmount all kinds of difficulties and face cruel fate with high courage and a brave heart. Let nothing discourage you and you will win out. I don't think God had anything to do with the infantile paralysis plague. If I thought He was responsible for it, life would change altogether for me as I would have no God. My God is a God of love. Not a mushy God but one who can correct and punish when necessary. It is inconceivable and preposterous to think that a Divine Power would suddenly throw off the divine, the merciful, the loving, and forgiving, and become a brutal murderer of innocent children and little babies, torturing them horribly in their last hours, or maiming them for life. A brute and a monster might do that, but to connect God with such a hideous crime to my mind is unspeakably awful. We shall find out after a while what causes infantile paralysis. It is strange, but almost the last thing I read in one of the many daily papers I take, was an account of the discovery of the polyiomyletis germ, by one of the medical staff of the Johns Hopkins Hospital of Baltimore. In spite of the large number of deaths from plague in New York City, the death rate even among children this summer was much lower than it was ten years ago. Not a single case of paralysis occurred amongst the thousands of children whose mothers daily receive free gifts of pasteurized milk from Nathan Straus the philanthropist. That would tend to prove that some germ in the milk is responsible for the trouble. Time and science will solve this problem. God has given us the necessary equipment to solve all our problems. If we don't use the equipment that is not God's fault. God does not go around putting deadly germs in milk. Dirt, filth and ignorance cause disease, and poverty and injustice cause dirt, filth and ignorance. Man's injustice to man is at the root of nearly all the world's ills, and not until that injustice causes disease that slays rich and poor alike, does thoughtless, stupid humanity wake up, take action and clean house. As long as we have injustice we shall have poverty, and as long as we have poverty we shall have ignorance, and as long as we have ignorance we shall have filth and dirt, and filth and dirt fill the world with disease, and all sorts of deadly germs which have no respect for age, sex or station. Love, justice, and science, will conquer disease and all the rest of our ills. We do our own killing, murdering and slaying and God has no hand in it—at least my God hasn't.

ARCOLA, IND.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a girl thirteen years old, have brown hair, blue eyes, height five feet two inches, weight ninety pounds. I will graduate from the eighth grade this year. Do you advise me to go to high school? I like to go to school but it isn't very convenient because the nearest high school is ten miles away at Fort Wayne. I live near the little town of Arcola on a farm of two hundred and forty acres.

Twelve girls including myself have organized a Camp Fire Girls' Club and have planned to do lots of good work this summer. We intend to give entertainments and such to pay our expenses. Do you think it a good organization Uncle Charlie?

My sister takes COMFORT and I enjoy reading it very much. I hope to see this letter in print so don't let Billy the Goat get it.

Your loving niece, MARY FELGER.

Mary, you ask me if I think the Camp Fire Girls' Club a good organization. Yes dear, I think it is an excellent organization. Anything that brings you girls together and gets you all working harmoniously along lines that promote health and helpfulness, is good for you and good for the community, good for the state, good for the nation and good for the race. Out of little acorns big oaks grow, but nothing grows worth while while people remain apart. Individual thinking, excellent though it is, seldom gets us anywhere. It is collective thought and the collective action that collective thought inspires that moves the world. I have not looked very deeply into the Camp Fire Girls' organization, but if the idea behind it was only to get you girls out under canvas every year for a week or two, get you an entirely new environment where you can rub noses with old Dame Nature and get those abominations called corsets off your bodies, so that your internal machinery can get a chance to work normally, the camp-fire idea would be promoting a glorious work. Two weeks of wholesome, care-free recreation under the blue skies of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)



Vaseline
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.
Carbolated
Petroleum Jelly

A safe, convenient antiseptic for home use in dressing cuts and sores. Also good for corns.

Sold at Drug and General Stores everywhere.

Avoid substitutes.

Write for illustrated booklet describing the various "Vaseline" Preparations and their many uses. Mailed free on request.

CHESEBROUGH MFG. CO.
(Consolidated)
State Street New York City

Four Weeks' Trial



Choice of 38 Styles of the Superb Wing

One of 38 Styles

No Money Down Nothing on arrival; no freight either way; no deposit.

Yes, we will ship you on four weeks' absolutely free trial, all charges prepaid, direct from our own factory, any highest-grade Wing Piano, or Player Piano.

Use it and enjoy it four full weeks; then, if you wish, ship it back at our expense. You alone are the judge. You will be amazed at our rock-bottom direct price on the Wing, guaranteed 40 years. Easy monthly payments or cash.

Valuable Book—FREE "The Book of Complete Information About Pianos" sent free and postpaid. Valuable 140-page book. Tells how to judge pianos. Beautiful catalog of new art styles also sent and particulars of great Free Shipment Offer. Write today—now.

Wing & Son (Est. 1868), 9th Ave. & 13th St., Dept. 3042, New York

Rider Agents Wanted



Everywhere to ride and exhibit the new Ranger "Moterbike" completely equipped with electric light and horn, carrier, stand, tool tank, coaster-brake, mud guards and anti-skid tires. Choice of 44 other styles, colors and sizes in the famous "Ranger" line of bicycles.

DELIVERED FREE on approval and 30 DAYS TRIAL. Send for big free catalog and particulars of our Factory-direct-to-Rider marvelous offers and terms.

TIRES Lamps, Horns, Wheels, Sundries, and parts for all bicycles—at half usual prices.

SEND NO MONEY but tell us exactly what you need. Do not buy until you get our prices, terms and the big FREE catalog.

MEAD CYCLE COMPANY Dept. C-3, CHICAGO

"I can earn $2 a day at home"

You may say that, too—if you want more income. Easy to learn. Steady work at home the year round. Send 2c stamp for information. Write today, to Auto-Knitter Hosiery Co., Inc., Desk 95-W, 147 Franklin Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

BIRCH Car FREE To You!



Yes, it's a fact. You can get this superb 28 h. p. 5-passenger BIRCH Motor Car with electric lights and starter, absolutely Free, and the agency for your territory, if your name reaches me soon enough. Make $3,000 to $10,000 a year in the automobile business. I will show you how. Get full information at once. Write quick—before too late. Ralph Birchard, Pres., BIRCH MOTOR COLLEGE Inc., Dept. 220, 81 E. Madison St., Chicago.



WANTED—MEN

Prepare as Firemen, Brakemen, Electric Motormen, Train Porters (colored). Hundreds put to work—$65 to $150 a month. No experience necessary. More wanted in every state. Send stamp for Application Blank. State position wanted.

I. Railway C.I., Dept. C, Indianapolis, Ind.



Agents Wanted MAKE BIG MONEY

selling guaranteed waterproof Kitchen Aprons. Three styles and colors. WRITE AND LEARN HOW TO OBTAIN SAMPLES WITHOUT COST.

Moss Apron Company, 753 PILOT BLDG. Rochester, N. Y.



10 Cents a Day Pays for This Cornet

An astounding offer! Only 10c a day buys this superb Triple Silver Plated Lyric Cornet. Free Trial before you decide to buy. Write for big offer.

WURLITZER 90 years of instrument making

Free Band Catalog Write for big 250-page Band Catalog. Rock-bottom, direct-from-manufacturer's prices on all kinds of instruments. Pay at rate of a few cents a day. Generous allowance for old instruments. Free trial. We supply the U. S. Gov't. Write today.

Carrying Case Free with this superb triple silverplated Lyric Cornet.

The Rudolph Wurlitzer Co., Dept 3042 4th St. Cincinnati, O. S. Wabash Av., Chicago

The Heart Auction



By Leslie Gordon

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THIS is a new sort of entertainment sure to make a great deal of fun for a party of young people. It is also easy to give and does not require the hostess to go to much expense. The novelty begins with the form of the invitations which are like the bill heads used to advertise a country auction. They are more effective typewritten or printed, but they can also be written on note paper with good effect. They should read something like this:

AUCTION AUCTION AUCTION

On the evening of February 14th beginning at eight o'clock sharp there will be a gigantic auction of Hearts at the home of Miss Cornelia Lewis on Maple Ave.

Fresh Hearts, Sweet Hearts, Damaged Hearts, Hard Hearts, Soft Hearts, Broken Hearts, Patched Hearts, and Unfeeling Hearts—

Positively the Finest Collection in this country

Will all be sold unreservely to the highest bidder (no restrictions or reserved prices)

The Best Bid Takes the Heart.

Valentine Party. Answer if you please.

It is best to put "Valentine Party" on the last line of the invitation otherwise your would-be guests might not understand just what the invitation signified and might be puzzled about what it was they were asked to attend. But if these words are added to the invitation they know at once that it is some new sort of a Valentine frolic that they are to honor with their company and are not being requested to spend their money at any kind of a sale.

The most important person at a Valentine Auction is naturally the auctioneer. If the hostess is blessed with a good measure of what is sometimes called the "gift of gab" there is no reason why she should not take this part herself, but if she is not such a ready talker or feels shy about making herself so prominent, some other person, either a man or a woman, must be asked. It is well to make arrangements in advance so that when the person chosen for this office arrives at the party he or she will know exactly what to do and then when the guests have all arrived there will be no delay in commencing operations, but everything will start off briskly without any weary waiting for the fun to begin.

Each man on entering is given a small pink bag on which a red paper heart has been pasted. This contains beans or small discs of gilt paper stuck on cardboard to represent gold dollars. There should be fifteen in some bags and twenty in others so as to make the financial resources of the bidders unequal. The bags however should be all alike on the outside and purposely mixed up by the hostess so that she does not know to whom the larger amounts have been given and thus cannot be accused of favoritism.

In one corner of the parlor an auctioneer's stand made of grocery boxes covered with bright pink silesia and decorated with hearts cut from bright red paper has been placed and in front of this, chairs are arranged in rows as at an auction.

When everybody is seated the auctioneer mounts the platform and begins to praise up his wares. Now what he is really selling are the hearts or at least the "company" for that evening of the various ladies present. But the fun is caused by the fact that no one knows to whom he is alluding not even the fair damsels themselves whose "affections" are being knocked down to the highest bidder. This is the way in which it is managed. For days before the party the hostess has been preparing cards to represent each girl who is to be present. Each of these is numbered and the hostess keeps a private list of names corresponding to the numbers. On each card should be written two or three lines either in verse or prose.

The auctioneer holds up a card for all to see and then with great unction reads the sentiment inscribed upon it.

For example something like this:

"Here's the heart of the sweetest girl in town,
But whether her eyes are blue or brown,
Skin brunette or fair like snow—
Don't ask me, for I don't know."

"Gentlemen what am I bid for this peerless paragon? Positively the sweetest heart in the state. Did I hear a gentleman over there bid three dollars? Three I am bid. Going, going. Four dollars. Thank you. Four dollars, only four dollars for this life's treasure? Five——"

He keeps this up until the bidding stops and the card is sold to the highest bidder.

Other cards are simple prose. One for instance can say: "This heart is the best of company. In her society there is not a dull moment. And her chocolate fudge is the finest ever." Anything which gives a slight description of the girl but does not indicate her so plainly that she is easily identified is permissible. For the fun comes of bidding "in the dark" as it were. In all probability the auction will last for an hour to an hour and one half. If there are more girls than there are men at the party, then the man who has not squandered all his money on the first bid can bid again, on the principle of safety in numbers. If he does not care for his first bid he may get something more to his taste a second time. This doubling up of partners often creates great amusement.

When all the cards have been disposed of, the hostess consulting her secret list pins the correct number on each girl and her partner has to identify her from the number on the card he has purchased. She then becomes his "Valentine" and is obliged by the rules of the game to do her best to entertain him, while he on his part must take her in to supper if refreshments are served in the dining-room or bring them to her if they are passed in the living-room or parlor, and he must also take her home.

Much of the fun of the affair lies in the fact that the girls have no idea whose description is being read by the auctioneer and not until the cards have been purchased and the numbers pinned on their shoulders do they discover to what swains they belong for the evening.

If any would-be buyer finds himself with too little money for the purchase he wishes to make he can borrow from a neighbor willing to lend or can go in debt to his hostess to the amount of five dollars by undertaking to perform afterwards such duties as she may impose. For example he might be asked to write and read aloud a comic Valentine; if he has a singing voice, to sing a love song for the enjoyment of the whole company or do any other "stunt" of which he is capable.

When the auction is over if there is time before supper there might be dancing, or the company can play cards. Hearts of course being the game, and the prize can be candy in a heart-shaped box. Or if none of these pastimes appeal to the hostess she might fill up the time before refreshments with music or general conversation.

The supper can be as simple or as elaborate as desired. It is a pretty idea to have heart-shaped sandwiches. Cut the slices of bread with a heart-shaped cooky cutter and then fill some with minced ham and others with a mixture of cream cheese and chopped English walnuts. Pass with these creamed oysters or chicken salad or salmon or tuna fish salad whichever dish is most convenient for you to serve. The last course can be ice-cream with little heart-shaped cakes, baked in heart-shaped patty pans or cut from slices of loaf cake with a sharp cooky cutter and frosted with icing colored a bright pink with cranberry juice. These can be diversified with hearts frosted with yellow icing, colored with orange juice and also chocolate hearts. Small cups of coffee can be passed or glasses of lemonade or grape juice punch.

In leap year the women should bid for the men. Even this year you might diversify the party by allowing mixed bidding. That is have cards describing some of the girls and some of the men and then giving both women and men whose names are not on the list little bags of beans or imitation gold and allowing them to bid. The people whose cards are being sold can offer all the suggestions and guesses they want to but they cannot bid.



45c DOWN

6-Piece Fumed Oak Suite

A Room Full of Furniture

Our most sensational bargain. Get in now while the chance lasts. Yours for only 45 cents down. Send the coupon below.

Massive Arm Rocker with thickly padded 19 1-2x18 in. seat. Beautifully designed. Back 22 1-2 in. high. **Sewing Rocker,** to match arm rocker. Luxuriously padded. Seat 16 1-2x16 1-2 in. Back 23 1-2 in. high. **Stately Arm Chair,** very solid. Broad and comfortable arms. Thickly padded 19 1-2x18 in. seat. Back 22 1-2 in. high. **Reception Chair,** extra solid. Large seating capacity. Thickly padded 16 1-2x16 1-2 in. seat. Back 22 1-2 in. **Elegant Library Table,** splendid design. Legs cut from 2 in. stock. Top 23x34 in. Roomy magazine shelf. **Jardiniere Stand,** matches other pieces. 17 1-2 in. high. Top 12x12 in. Chairs upholstered in superb Brown Imitation Spanish Leather. The 6 pieces finished in richest brown fumed oak. Match this suite with any at $22.50. Shipped K. D., saving on freight. Weight about 150 pounds. Sent on 30 days' trial. **Order by No. B2026A. Send 45 cents cash, $1.35 monthly. Total price, $15.90.**

Easy Payments
If you want anything in rockers, furniture, jewelry, carpets, rugs, curtains, washing machines, crockery, silverware, baby carriages, go-carts, Men's, Women's and Children's apparel, stoves, ranges, or any article of home-furnishing, don't fail to get our **Big Free Catalog** Showing thousands of staggering home furnishing bargains on easy monthly payments.

Send Coupon
along with 45c to us today. Get this remarkable offer while it lasts. Have this suite shipped—take a year to pay. And we will send you at the same time our big catalog and special bargain bulletin. Prices never approached before. Don't wait. Send the coupon today—do it right now—at once.

STRAUS & SCHRAM, (Inc.)
Dept. 3042 35th Street Chicago

Straus & Schram, Inc.
Dept. 3042 35th St., Chicago

Enclosed find 45c. Please ship me at once the special advertised six-piece Library Set bargain No. B2026A. Special price, $15.90. I am to have 30 days' free trial. If I keep this set, I will pay you $1.35 per month until the balance has been paid. If not satisfied, I will return set and you are to refund my 45c together with any freight charges I paid.

Name.....
Address.....
If you only want catalog, check here ☐

reason I lived so long without getting a divorce was because I considered it my duty to try every means possible to reform my husband. It is no use. Sisters, don't ever make such an attempt. I think divorce should be only a last resort.

I have lived in Idaho for nine years and have been married for the past five years to a good, unselfish man. We are very happy and congenial and though we have no children, we hope to adopt some soon. When I read the letters of sisters who object to equal suffrage it seems pitiable that any woman should be so far behind the times as to want to be of the "clinging vine" variety. That style of a woman does not want to do any thinking for herself. The world will only advance when individual thinking occupies first place. I taught school in different places in Idaho, and have been in this town for five years. I have observed the woman voters. I cannot see that going to the polls has made any of them masculine or "loud" as one sister states. Candidates call upon the ladies and they know they must lead a fairly blameless life in order to obtain the votes of the good women, who are in the majority, I am sure. The husbands of the Idaho women do not appear to show any more neglect because their wives are interested in politics. My husband and I often vote for different candidates for the same office. He feels that I have brains enough and have studied conditions well enough to know my own mind. I do not dictate to him how he shall vote. We discuss and read political affairs same as we would other affairs. It is absurd to say that equal suffrage will despoil the home. Thousands of women are not married and have no homes. Should they have nothing to say about political affairs?

Mrs. Waneta Brownell says no woman can hold office and care for her children. This may be true in most cases, but the child-bearing period does not last during the whole lifetime. Also statistics show that one married woman in ten cannot have children. A woman of forty or fifty who has kept her brain in an active condition should be ready to take part in some of the worth-while work of the world. By the time she is forty if she has not been compelled to bear too many children, she should be free to take up interests outside of her home and children. The chimney corner grandmother is also out of date. Too many women sink into nothingness, as it were, as soon as all their children have flown the home nest. This is a mistake.

The family life as a rule is a very selfish life. Most parents care more for the advancement of their own children than they do for their neighbors. This is natural, but is it in line with the universal brotherhood of man? The selfishness of family, and of nation must be overcome. We are all one family and God is our Father. Why not act as if this were true?

I could write on many subjects connected with this section but I feel that my letter is too long already.

MRS. X. Y. Z.

FLEMING, OHIO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I wonder if Mrs. Wilkinson keeps a goat in her office? If she does know my letter will never reach its destination, but I am going to run the risk anyway. I haven't anything important to talk about, but as it is such a cozy little corner I can't resist the temptation to write.

I live ten miles from Marietta, Ohio, the oldest town on the Ohio river. The Indians were the first to make that city their home, and there is one of their mounds still standing. It is in such a lovely place that a square of land around this mound has been taken for a cemetery; it is called the Mound Cemetery. There are steps up the side of the mound and seats around the top.

There is also an old house that was the first built in Marietta over a century ago. If any of the sisters that live in foreign lands would like to see this quaint old house or the mound, would write, I will send a post-card picture of them.

I am the mother of four children, three girls and a baby boy, three months old.

I see where so many of the sisters are against marrying young. I was married when but fifteen years young and am happy to say I have never regretted it. I have been married over eleven years; each year we seem nearer and dearer to each other. I am like Mrs. Wilkinson in what she said about people living fifty years without having their little family quarrels; there may be some that don't have their disputes. I believe we could easily count ours. The longer a man and wife live together, the more alike they become, and less disputes they have. We women folks have to show our spunk once in a while, or our husbands wouldn't like us half as much.

I wonder if any of the sisters have trouble with sick babies that are artificially fed? My children were all, so-called, "bottle babies" and their little stomachs couldn't stand the cow's milk, and baby's food didn't agree with them. My first baby took sick just as warm weather began, and never got well till it got cool in the fall. We tried everything and nothing did any good until I used rolled oats, cooked and strained. Then I boil the milk and mix equal parts of milk and strained oats, and add a little sugar. Do not salt the oats, and start them cooking in cold water. I have raised my last three children on this and find it excellent and not a bit expensive. I began feeding this to my last baby when he was but three weeks old. I began with two teaspoonfuls of the strained oats to one teaspoonful of pure milk and increased the amount as he got older.

I would like for the sister who wrote telling us about Job's tears to also tell us where we could get a few seeds of them. I would like to raise some as I have heard they were very good for a child to wear while cutting teeth.

I haven't taken COMFORT very long but I think I couldn't live without it. I am getting up a club to get Uncle Charlie's books and I hope to get all I can to go towards Uncle Charlie's Home, but this is a small place, and now that our railroad has stopped so it doesn't look very encouraging at present, but I am going to do my best.

Mrs. Wilkinson, I think so much of your writings I have named my little boy Wheeler. He is just three months old. I had his name waiting for him when he came.

Yours for friendship, MRS. H. L. CARPENTER.

Mrs. Carpenter. Your postscript 'most took my breath away for I did not realize my humble efforts had been appreciated to such an extent. I'd like very much to see little Wheeler but even if that pleasure is denied me, the fact that you have paid me such a high compliment will help me in my daily work and act as an incentive for doing better and nobler things.—Ed.

CALIFORNIA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been reading my October COMFORT and note what Mrs. C. Smith said in regard to divorce. I do not believe in divorce unless it is *absolutely* necessary. Oftentimes divorce could be avoided if couples would only *try*. I am going to tell our case. Several years ago we were married. We were both nearly thirty, thought we loved each other and after a very brief courtship, a hasty marriage. It wasn't long before we found we had made an awful mistake and home was anything but pleasant. A trouble-making "in-law" also added to my troubles. Finally *I* decided I would leave but not secure a divorce. I told my husband what I had decided on and we talked it over. He did not want me to leave so I gave him his choice between the "trouble-maker" and me. He decided in my favor and we finally concluded that as we had promised for "better or for worse" we would try it at least another year. At the end of two years we had a darling baby girl, that both loved dearly. After a long time another one came and I tell you *they* are the "tie that binds." Twice since our first trouble we have had to talk matters over but we are still living together and although trials come, we both have found that we need each other. He has always been good to me and he loves his two girls dearly. After trying *hard*, I have come to the conclusion that life would be lots harder without him than it is with him and *he* will not listen to even a separation.

If this reaches print, I trust it will help some other couple as it has two that we know right near us.

Some states are so easy with their divorce laws, and this one is, that a couple can secure a divorce for almost no cause and some take their "little" troubles to the court instead of trying to find a "better way." I am glad *we* found the better way.

With best of wishes for one and all, I am,
A well-wishing COMFORT Sister.

MISSOURI.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

The subjects of Woman Suffrage and large families interest me. I am of the same mind regarding large families as Mrs. K. of West Virginia. Our children are very dear to us, therefore we should not bring more of them into the world than we can properly care for or impart strength and health to. We should cooperate with God and nature for the good of our children.

I am in favor of Woman Suffrage because women should help make the laws they are governed by, also I think they would understand laws for the betterment of our children more than the men do because the mothers associate with their children more than their fathers do. As for standing in line with the women of the Red Light districts, I don't think Christ would have minded standing in line with them. Remember what he said to Magdalen. I don't think all of them would vote for the bad for I think most of them would be glad of a chance to vote for the good in order to protect other women; for even if they were "fallen women" it may have been caused by lack of the necessaries of life or through the treachery of our social system. A large number of them would make just as good, true wives and mothers as you or I, if they were only given a chance, so let's not condemn them but lend a strengthening hand.

Love to all, MRS. P.

WISCONSIN.

DEAR READERS:

I will add my mite by telling Mrs. Aldridge to procure a Bible with pictures, or, better still, a book telling Bible stories by means of pictures, and let your boy look at it and tell him the stories. Get him interested first and let the prayers come later. Don't hire him to do anything. I am sixty-six years old and have raised three boys. My youngest is now a minister. I live in the extreme northern part of Wisconsin, in the woods. MRS. C. A. P.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 29.)

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

that is, he mined it and loaded it on a car, but hasn't for a year or more. I am sure a coal mine would be a novelty to lots of the sisters.

We live in our own house in the country. I am twenty-four years old, five feet five inches tall and weigh one hundred and thirty-eight pounds. Have brown eyes and hair and dark complexion. My husband is away at present working. Just the little ones and I are here tonight. I feel lonely but know there are many kind hearts and sympathetic friends in the world and lots are more lonely than I.

My mother has heart trouble. Her limbs swell and she can't rest lying down. If anyone knows of a sure or good remedy I would be glad to hear of it.

I would appreciate letters from any who care to write to me.

Your COMFORT sister, MRS. MAUDE HURST.

TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I think COMFORT is a grand paper and rightly named.

Sisters, I am asking your advice. I am twenty-four years old, have been married over seven years to as good a man as could be found anywhere. We are renters and have a good living. Our home is happy, but yet I feel it isn't complete for we have no children and we both love them. But when I think of all it means to bring a child into the world it worries me till I lose control of my nerves. I feel that I never could stand the long months I would have to wait. I want to take an orphan child to raise but my husband objects to that. I am strong enough to give a child good care and we could give one a good and comfortable home and I feel it my duty, if we don't have one of our own, to take one, that has no one to care for it, and give it a mother's love. I want so much to have a little one call me mother. Then it seems that my life would be complete. I want one of my own but it seems before the necessary time elapsed I would be insane. Please advise me what to do.

Waiting your advice. I am, Lonely One.

Lonely One. Like Topsy I'll "fess up" and admit that on reading your letter my first comment was, "She deserves to be lonely," but I'm glad to say I saw immediately the unfairness and injustice of such a remark and I'm quite properly ashamed of myself for it. Even if I knew more about you I would not be justified in judging, and especialy so harshly. You say you are "strong enough to give a child good care," so if your health is good there doesn't seem to be so much cause for you to dread motherhood, but your physician is the one to advise you about that. Consult him and follow his advice, though the sisters may be able to send some cheerful thoughts to you.—Ed.

IDAHO.

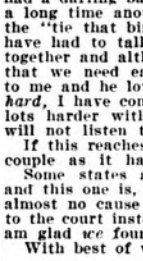
DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

For several years I have enjoyed reading the COMFORT sisters' letters and I will now add my mite. The questions of divorce, equal suffrage and large families are subjects that I am qualified to speak on for I am the second of ten children, have been married, divorced and remarried. I have also lived in the Eastern part of the United States, as well as this Western section.

In regard to large families, I am emphatically opposed to them, unless the parents are physically and financially able to give their children at least food, clothing and the privilege of getting all the education they want. At fifteen years of age, I had to go to work to support myself and help support the rest of the family. The same was true of the first five or six of us. We were sacrificed in order to keep the wolf from the door. My father was swamped in the undertaking of supplying the needs of his enormous family long before they were all born. Naturally I was glad to give up the struggle to which there appeared to be no end, and married the first man I thought I was in love with. Home was not a very nice place in which to bring my friends and I married the wrong man.

To make a long story short I lived nine miserable years with a man of drinking habits, a moral degenerate. I could not influence him to change his ways, and no one was benefited by my remaining in such degradation. There were no children, and after trying my best to raise him from the depths into which he was determined to sink, I left him to his own devices and got a divorce. One of the witnesses swore that the man had not been strictly sober for more than a year. Anyone who thinks a woman of refinement and culture should continue such a life, doesn't know what it means to live in such mental misery. The only

YOKE BOOK GIVEN



Contains newest designs in Yokes for Corset Covers, Night Gowns, Combination Suits, etc. To introduce Japzilk—our Best Hard twisted mercerized Crochet Cotton, we will mail Yoke Book FREE and postpaid to any lady sending only 10c in silver or stamps for sample ball.

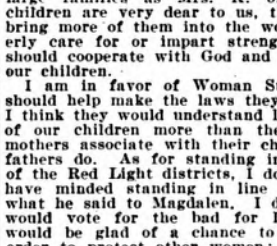
JAPZILK

comes in White and Ecru—sizes 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 100. Also in all leading colors—sizes 5, 30 and 50. All designs in this book are shown in full page illustrations—easy to copy. Send for this free book TODAY!

COLLINGBOURNE MILLS, Dept. 3756 ELGIN, ILLINOIS (37)

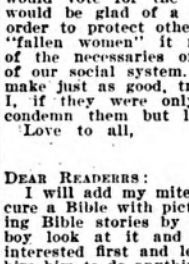
Sew Your Seams With Collingbourne's Byssine

Work at Home

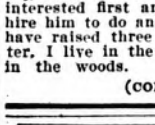


Weaving Rugs and Carpet
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
$4 a Day
Easily Made
We start men and women in a profitable business on a small investment. *Write quick for prices and Loom Book.*
REED MFG. CO.
Box 5 Springfield, Ohio

$25 TO $40 Week



Sells on sight. Instant hit in every home. Smith, Ohio, sold 38 one day. Profit $19.00. All metal bread and pastry board and rolling pin. Can't rust, absorb dirt or disease germs. Lasts lifetime. Endorsed by Good Housekeeping Institute. Agents get good appointments. Make Big Money.
UNION MFG. CO.
188 Main St. Cambridge, O.



Make Any Range A Gas Stove
Wonderful new device—fits any range or heating stove—burns coal oil like gas. Safe, clean, odorless. Stop carrying coal and ashes. Free literature. Agents wanted.
COSMIC PRODUCTS CO., 403 S. 4th St., St. Louis, Mo.



20 DAYS FROM SEED TO TABLE —that is the record of Maule's "Just So" Radish—crisp, tender and sweet. Send 10c. today for enough "Just So" Radish Seed to make a big planting.

Maule's seeds are your best insurance against a poor garden, because Maule's seeds are tested for vigor and growing power.

The Maule Seed Book
Send now for this 176 page catalog full of gardening information Free

Buying direct from us means both economy and *fresh* seeds.

WM. HENRY MAULE, Inc.
2140 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pa.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16.)

heaven ought to put years on the lives of many a tired, overworked girl. To get away from the artificialities and restrictions of every-day life, to get away from the mushy talk of pesky boys, and to get away (and I hope that is one of the rules of the club) from the eternal mirror, the powder puff, the rouge pot and the cold cream can, to get away from the primping and the fussing and the fixing, the worrying and the stewing, as to how you look and how you don't look, ought to do you girls all the good in the world. About ninety per cent of you spend all your time worrying about your looks, and all the worrying and all the fussing and the primping, if you are homely only makes you worse, and if you are good looking, tends to make you homely. When you girls get away by the side of a stream in a forest glade, and you don't have to worry whether your nose is too big or too little, and you can smile from ear to ear, without fearing that the paint will crack or the store teeth show, and your hair can hang like a bunch of dead rats' tails, without you flying to that infernal abomination called the curling iron, and your nails can grow any old fashion, without your getting out a bunch of tools and a dozen flatirons to polish them, then my dears you are beginning to live. By the way if you girls spent half the time polishing your brains that you do polishing your nails, you'd be intellectual companions, charming chums delightful mates, for even a college professor. While you girls are polishing your nails and cheeks, neglecting your brains the while, the boys are polishing their teeth with cigarette smoke and their stomachs with alcohol. That's a fine combination, the painted girl and the pickled man. Do you wonder that such a combination floods the world with nuts, boobs and boneheads, inefficients, incompetents and imbeciles. How could it be otherwise? It is to counteract these degenerate tendencies of our race that a few thinking men and women have started such organizations as the Boy Scouts and the Camp Fire Girls' Clubs, not forgetting the Boy Pioneers. Organization and cooperation are the most tremendous and forceful wonder working words in the dictionary of civilization. It is justice that will solve humanity's ills, but only as men and women organize and cooperate will we be able to secure justice from those who grow fat on privilege and oppression. If you girls get healthy bodies you will be in a fair way to get healthy minds. With organization and healthy minds and strong bodies you ought to start cleaning up the world and making it a worth-while place to live in. The men ought to do it, but they never will until you shame them into doing it. Here are three cheers for the Camp Fire Girls' Club. Go to high school no matter what the distance may be.

HEISKELL, TENN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I will write you to let you know that I got my button and membership certificate. I am very much pleased with them. I go to school every day. I went to school every day the last two years. I am in the sixth grade. I study the folling books: Arithmetic, Tennessee History, grammer, Georgraphy, U. S. History, Physiology, and Spelling.

Uncle Charlie, you got my name and another boy's name mixed up. I was thirteen years old the 26th day of August. I live thirteen miles from Knoxville, Tenn.

Yours truly,
H. MCDONALD. (League No. 42,248).

Herbert, I am sorry I got your name mixed up with that of some other boy. I'm willing to bear a part of the blame for that wicked deed, but most of you boys and girls write so atrociously we have to guess half the time just what your names are, and sometimes we don't guess right. It is time the educational authorities did one of two things, supplied typewriters, or taught children how to use a pen. If you could see Maria, the Goat and myself, all standing on our heads trying to decipher some of the names and addresses that are sent to us, honestly you would pity us. It is not so easy for me to stand on my head as it used to be thirty years ago. I had a good head of hair until I suddenly found myself uncle to several millions of America's best young people. Now my head is as devoid of hair as a duck's egg is devoid of whiskers. So you study the "folling" books do you? Won't you tell us what "folling" books are, Herbert? I just live for books and by books, and anything new in the book line is of profound interest to me, so I do hope you will tell us what "folling" books are. What's that Billy the Goat? Herbert means following books? Thank you William, old socks, I'm so glad you explationed matters, for I honestly did not know what Herbert was getting at. One can't be too careful about spelling, Herbert. A poor woman the other day wrote me that she and her four daughters needed clothes, and incidentally she added that "They all had *bear* feet," and would like some shoes. Just imagine four young ladies with *bear* feet. What a sensation they'd cause. People with bear feet couldn't wear shoes anyway, and what is more would not need them. Nature has provided the bear with excellent foot gear, and anybody who has bear feet isn't liable to get cold feet or chilblains. The lady of course meant to write "bare" feet. It is not much use your studying grammar, if you don't even know how to spell the subject you are going to study. You have got to swallow that tired feeling Herbert when you are writing and spelling. You only wrote half the letter n. Anything that is worth doing is worth doing well. Boys and girls who write for publication should do their best instead of being so utterly indifferent that they succeed only in doing their worst. You have a fine name Herbert. Great things have been accomplished by men who bore your name. Try my dear boy and see that it stands for something better than carelessness.

TACOMA, WASH.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

This is the first time that I have written and I hope that when you receive this letter, Billy the Goat will not be hungry.

Now Uncle, what do you think about this. A short time ago I read, in a daily paper, an article about a man who said that the children of today have to study too hard. The idea of boys and girls of fifteen and sixteen being compelled to laboriously murder thirty or forty undeserving lines of Cicero or Cæsar every day and to have command of two or three other languages. Don't you think he is right, Uncle? I do.

Uncle, if it doesn't take too long won't you please write a poem about a Tacoma girl?

I think I have already stayed too long so I must go. Your niece, ELVA WILLIAMS.

Why didn't you give your street number child? Never cause government officials or anyone else for that matter unnecessary trouble. Your address is doubtless on the outside of your envelope, but as I haven't your envelope, those who feel prompted to write will probably have their letters returned. Yes, the idea of boys and girls being compelled to stand an hour or so daily murdering thirty or forty lines of Cicero or Cæsar is absurd. Children who know little or nothing of their own language trying to master a dead language is preposterous. If we could all stay at school until we were thirty years of age, and could live until we were a hundred and fifty, we could afford to waste a little time on Greek and Latin, but when one thinks how brief are the days of youth and especially one's school days, it seems a crime they should be wasted in acquiring a useless smattering of dead languages. This monkeying with Latin and Greek, algebra, euclid, etc., is excused on the ground that it develops the intellect and sets the machinery of thought and reason in action, just as gymnastics develop the muscles of the body. That is all true, but if the mind has to be stropped and honed before it can have an intellectual edge, let it be rubbed against the facts and realities and problems of present-day life, instead of the musty past. What children want and what grown ups need most of all and what they don't get is a thorough knowledge of the body and how to take care of it; a knowledge of their duty toward God, their neighbor, the state, society and all mankind. When you come to think that there are millions of people who cast a vote for president every four years without knowing what they are voting for, you can see that there is something wrong with our education. What is the good of living in a world at all if you don't know anything about the world you are living in, and few do know anything about it. Did you ever stop to think that there are tens of thousands of children born into this world every year, ready in every way to accommodate themselves to a civilization five thousand years in advance of the sham civilization we have today? We are trying to prepare children for the world, but that is the wrong way to do business. *We should prepare the world for the children.* All that the modern school attempts is to fit children for business careers, and what pray is a business career? Putting sand in sugar, poison in food, adulteration, misrepresentation, doing your

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 28.)

Everbearing Strawberries In the Editor's Garden

The many inquiries we have received about the everbearing strawberries suggested the idea that COMFORT readers might be interested in the editor's experience in raising these berries in his own garden. As the writer, who is not of the agricultural staff which conducts our "Modern Farmer" department, has very little knowledge of gardening he does not pretend to teach the correct method of cultivating these berries, but merely describes the results obtained by his somewhat crude treatment which ought to be equalled or surpassed under ordinary conditions of the home garden.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

A YEAR ago last spring, having decided to start a strawberry bed, I ordered 200 plants of a standard summer variety, and the nurseryman who furnished them talked me into buying 50 plants of an everbearing variety at one dollar a dozen. Although I knew him to be reliable, I was somewhat skeptical of the claims he put forth in favor of the everbearing strawberries, but they have certainly made good. They are frequently called "fall-bearing," but that is only another name for the same thing.

I set the plants of both varieties in the ground early in May, as soon as the land was fit to work. Suitable compost not being obtainable I used phosphate and wood ashes for fertilizer the first season.

Nearly every plant lived, and by the first of June both varieties were in bloom. I picked all the blossoms, as instructed by the nurseryman. And right here begins the difference between the summer and the everbearing varieties.

The blossoms have to be picked because the newly rooted plants would be injured if their vitality were permitted to go into fruit. As the summer varieties blossom only once a year, by picking the blossoms the first season you get no fruit from these plants until the second summer.

But as soon as the blossoms on my everbearers were picked another set of buds started and shortly they were full of blossoms again, which in turn had to be picked and were followed by more blossoms. From then until the first of August picking strawberry blossoms was a daily diversion. It was like picking pansies; the more blooms I picked the more they blossomed. And all the while the plants were making a splendid growth.

By the first of August my everbearers had become so strong and sturdy—some of them had begun to send out runners—that I thought it safe to let them bear, and so I stopped the blossom picking on that day. At the same time I sprinkled a little phosphate and wood ashes around each plant and worked it into the top soil, taking care not to scratch deep enough to disturb the strawberry roots. I also kept the bed clear of weeds, which is absolutely essential to success with any kind of strawberries.

The latter part of August I began picking ripe strawberries, smooth, round, dark red, delicious fruit of good size; and from that on until the ground froze that little everbearing bed was in continual performance. At the same time and always there were berries ripening, green berries maturing, blossoms opening and new buds forming.

Frosts come early in Maine; a light frost is not uncommon early in September and it is rare that we escape a heavy frost in the latter part of that month; although we have some warm, sunny weather in October the nights are cold and late in the month the surface of the ground is likely to be stiffened with frost in the early mornings to thaw again as the sun gets up. These climatic conditions are mentioned to show what my everbearers had to contend with.

October 31, 1915, the day I closed my summer home where I had my garden, I picked ripe strawberries; the plants were still blossoming and held green fruit in various stages of development, but what they did after that I can't say for I did not see them again until the next spring.

This seemed wonderful as there had been light frosts in September, heavy frosts in October and several times the green berries had frozen and thawed, yet kept on growing and ripening.

The facts I have stated are the literal truth but, like most facts, require an explanation to convey a true idea of the actual effective results.

Through September the weather for the most part was fairly warm and despite a few frosts the plants bore well and the berries grew with normal rapidity and maintained the full flavor and delicacy that characterized the August fruiting. But in October, as the weather became colder the growth and ripening of the fruit was slower and the yield lessened proportionately, although the individual berries attained about the same size as ever. The berries ripened in the cold weather had less flavor and were not so mellow but, strange to say, were fully as sweet as in summer. The late berries even when green seemed to be almost totally lacking acidity.

Thus closed my first season's experiment. Late in November I had both beds covered with a light mulching of second crop hay which contained no seed. When the covering—what was left of it—was taken off in April every plant was alive and thrifty, although other strawberry beds in the vicinity that were more heavily covered suffered severely by winter-killing. Some stray cattle ate up the greater part of my mulching and the rest of it nearly all blew off, leaving the plants with little if any protection until the snow came in February. It was an unfavorable winter, the snow not coming until so late, and previous to that much rain and freezing and thawing. My exemption from winter-killing probably was due to the perfectly graded slope of the land which prevented any water standing or ice forming over either bed.

I was so well satisfied with the behavior of my everbearers that last spring I bought 300 more of the same variety and 300 of another everbearing variety. Although these plants came in good condition they got a bad set-back through not being set out for nearly two weeks because of a long rainy spell which kept the ground too muddy to work. About a quarter of them died and those that lived had a poor start.

My summer cottage is at the seaside where barn manure is not obtainable, so I drew on the resources of old Ocean for a substitute. The fall before I had rockweed stripped from the ledges at low tide, hauled to the garden and stacked. By spring this was pretty well rotted and had shrunken to less than half its original bulk.

For my new strawberries I had furrows run about three feet apart and put into them about four inches of the rotted rockweed; then covered it with about four inches of earth which filled the furrows even with the surface of the ground. The plants were set eighteen inches apart in the rows, and a little phosphate, wood ashes and bone meal sprinkled close around each plant and scratched into the top soil.

These plants began blossoming before I could get them set, which, as explained, was delayed by wet weather, and the blossom picking process of the previous summer was repeated on the new ones until about the first of August. At that time I sprinkled a little phosphate, wood ashes and nitrate of soda close to the plants and hilled the earth up about them with a hoe. Most of them had grown well and were making runners which I trained to keep in the rows by putting a little earth on them near their ends. The fruiting results were a repetition of those of the previous season only on a proportionately larger scale.

Now about the second season's behavior of my two old beds. I kept the blossoms picked from my old everbearers until June 20 for the purpose of having them follow on the heels of the crop from my bed of summer berries which were late because of the late, cold spring. My summer berries were in bearing a little over two weeks beginning with the fourth of July, and before they were gone I picked the first ripe fruit from the everbearers, though the latter had not come into full bearing at that time because I had kept up the blossom picking too long; next season I shall stop it two weeks earlier. But that little old everbearing bed certainly did well after it got going. It bore abundantly through August and well in September, but by October it was becoming choked by the growth of the hundreds of young plants it had produced, so I dug it up, using the young plants and some of the old ones to make a larger bed. I had made the mistake the year previous of setting these plants too closely, a foot apart in rows two feet apart, which did not allow space for the growth of the runners. Thus ended the career of the first bed of everbearers, but the two new beds were still yielding as previously described.

Last season I had strawberries in my garden continually from the fourth of July until the twelfth day of November, when I picked the last ripe berries—only a few and they did not have much flavor then—and there were many green berries and blossoms on the plants. The wonder is that there could be any ripe berries considering that the ground froze hard the night before and had frozen and thawed several times not to mention the heavy frosts during the previous three weeks. The same day, a few hours after I picked my last ripe strawberries, a snow-storm set in which left a good six inches of snow on the ground.

I have seen pictures of people brushing the snow from a bed of everbearers and picking ripe strawberries. Had I postponed my last picking twenty-four hours I could have performed that trick myself.

From my experience of two seasons I have no hesitation in recommending the everbearing, otherwise called the fall-bearing, strawberry as a valuable addition to the home garden and I see no reason why it should not be profitable to grow it for the market. Until its cultivation becomes common this fruit should command a fancy price as it can be made to come when other strawberries are out of season.

The everbearing strawberries have enough good and strong points without making any extravagant claims in their favor. I would not advise anybody to expect to dig many ripe berries from under the snow or to rely on much of a yield after the heavy frosts begin to strip the trees of leaves, though it is a fact that we had fresh berries on the table all through October and a surplus to can every week in the month. Another peculiarity was that although the berries grown in cold weather lacked flavor when eaten raw, if cooked they developed quite as much flavor as those produced in warm weather and we thought they made even better preserves. I also found that if picked when fully grown and just beginning to change color they ripened pretty well in the house.

I believe they have another limitation which it is fair to consider. They will blossom and, if permitted, will bear as early as the ordinary strawberries and will keep on bearing for some months—how long I do not know because I have not tested the limit of their capacity—but it is unreasonable to believe that they can keep on bearing indefinitely without exhausting the strength of the plants although they make longer roots than the ordinary varieties. Therefore it is advisable to pick the early blossoms so not to let them fruit until after the ordinary strawberries are gone. The object is to save their strength to produce heavily when there are no other strawberries in the market.

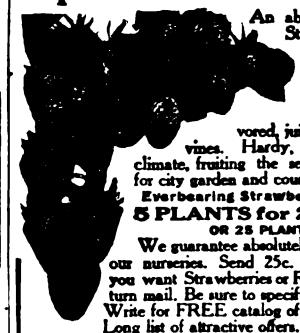
However, in sections subject to late spring frosts likely to kill the blossoms of the ordinary strawberries and prevent them from fruiting, it would seem advisable to substitute the everbearing and thus make sure of a good crop regardless of weather; for if the first blossoms are killed the everbearers will immediately start a new set.

I omitted to say that early last spring I gave my old everbearing bed a light top dressing of phosphate, bone meal and wood ashes, and in midsummer I gave it an application of phosphate, wood ashes and nitrate of soda. It stands to reason that plants which bear so abundantly and so long must require more feeding than those which produce but one crop a year. Other fertilizers might do as well and perhaps better; I used these because they were available and others were not.

I know very little about strawberry culture and my only excuse for writing is to give our readers the results of my limited experience with the everbearing which is attracting so much attention at present. Authoritative advice as to best methods of cultivation can be had from those who have made a specialty of propagating these plants. A little book on strawberry culture that I bought last spring for twenty-five cents contained much valuable information and proved a good investment.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

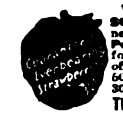
Ripe Fruit Till Snow Flies



An abundance of ripe, luscious Strawberries and Raspberries from early summer to late fall. When others have begun to eat canned fruit you can be serving fine flavored, juicy berries fresh from the vines. Hardy, prolific in any soil and climate, fruiting the season planted; unrivalled for city garden and country berry patch.
Everbearing Strawberries and Raspberries
5 PLANTS for 25c. POSTPAID
OR 25 PLANTS FOR $1.00
We guarantee absolutely every plant that leaves our nurseries. Send 25c. today telling us whether you want Strawberries or Raspberries—plants by return mail. Be sure to specify which plants you want. Write for FREE catalog of fruit trees, roses, shrubs. Long list of attractive offers.
F. W. BROW NURSERY CO., INC., Box 10, Rose Hill, N. Y.

Strawberries
EVERBEARING AND OTHER KINDS

Also Headquarters for Raspberries, Blackberries, Currants, Gooseberries, Grapes, Asparagus, Fruit Trees, Roses, Shrubs, Seed Potatoes, Eggs for Hatching, Crates, Baskets, etc. 34 years experience. Catalog free. Write today, address
L. J. Farmer, Box 799, Pulaski, N. Y.


Write today for a pair of Mated Everbearing Strawberry plants, one large packet each of the new Cereal Feterita, Sudan Grass and Silk Leaf Pussy Willow, all Free for Testing. Send 10 cents for mailing expense, or not, as you please. We offer genuine Progressive Everbearing plants at 60c per dozen; 90c for 50; $1.75 for 100; $5.00 for 300, all postpaid. CATALOGUE FREE.
The Gardner Nursery Co., Box 423, Osage, Iowa

BUY THE BEST, direct from Ernst, all kinds of Trees, Shrubs, Vines, Roses, Seeds, Everbearing Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Etc. Catalog free.
ERNST NURSERIES, Box 40, EATON, OHIO

Strawberry Plants $1.50 per 1000. Catalog of 109 varieties including the Fall-Bearers, Free. L. G. Tingle, Box 5, Pittsville, Md.

Strawberry Plants, Fall and Spring varieties. Peach trees, Seeds, Illustrated true catalog tells all, Free. MAYER'S PLANT NURSERY, MARSHALL, MICH. BOX 303.

10 Sample Pkts. of Flower SEEDS FREE

1 Pkt. Asters, McGregor's Mixed
1 Pkt. Fancy Pansies, Gorgeous
1 Pkt. Sum. Cypress, Burn'g Bush
1 Pkt. Fancy Poppies, Double
1 Pkt. Snapdragon, Giant Fl'd
1 Pkt. Clove Pinks, Spicy Sweet
1 Pkt. Alyssum, Always Blooms
1 Pkt. Mignonette, Old Favorite
1 Pkt. Candytuft, All Colors
1 Pkt. Petunia, Free Flowering
Send 10c to pay packing, postage, etc., and we will mail these 10 pkts. selected seeds with full instructions, in a 25c premium envelope which gives you more than the seed FREE
OUR GREAT SPECIAL BARGAIN CATALOGUE
SENT FREE—OVER 100 FLOWERS SHOWN IN COLORS
McGregor Bros. Co., Box 531, Springfield, Ohio

CONDON'S NEW PROSPERITY CABBAGE

Quick as lightning. Heard on planet. One of the earliest in existence. To introduce our Northern Grown "Sure Crop" Live Seeds we will mail you a Big Package of Condon's New Prosperity Cabbage and Mammoth 1917 GARDEN and FARM GUIDE FREE
Write today sure.
CONDON BROS., SEEDSMEN,
Rock River Valley Seed Farm
Box 742. ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

SEEDS FREE
CHOICE, new sorts, with every order. Package "JACK ROSE," earliest TOMATO, free, with beautiful illustrated Catalogue. Everything for the Garden. Fresh, northern seeds, strong vitality. Flower seeds true to name. LOW DIRECT PRICES on everything. Farm seeds. Write promptly for FREE SEED and Catalogue, enclosing 2c stamp for postage.
J. W. JUNG SEED CO., Order W, RANDOLPH, WIS.

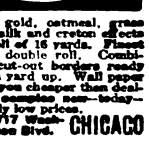
BARGAINS IN SEEDS
Hundreds of special offers in seeds and plants at bargain prices. Don't buy until you have seen our beautiful new catalog and special liberal offer, mailed free if you mention this paper.
Iowa Seed Co., Dept. A, Des Moines, Iowa

FEED YOUR FLOWERS FLOWER FOOD TABLETS—contain every element necessary to perfect plant life. 25c per doz.
FLOWER FOOD CO., 115 BWAY, N. Y.

ELECTRIC HOME, FARM, THEATRE, HOTEL, SCHOOL & STORE LIGHT PLANTS. Economical. Safe. Clean. Power Motors. Auto Storage Batteries. Dynamos. Engines. Belts. Railways. Motion Picture Machines. Xmas Lights. Catalog. 3 cts. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, O.

$10 PER DAY EASILY EARNED AS A PIANO TUNER
The TUNE-A-PHONE Gives You an ideal profession for making money. We teach tuning by an infallibly accurate method at your own home in spare time. Guaranteed. Illustrated booklet FREE.

NILES BRYANT SCHOOL OF TUNING
19 B St., Battle Creek, Mich.

57¢ PAPERS A BIG ROOM
Just think—only 57c for enough beautiful 4 color bronzed side wall, ceiling and border to paper a big room. Write today for our Free Book of over 100 big samples of wall paper and see this dandy paper. Also, our exquisite 1917 papers, consisting of plain and rich, heavily embossed gold, oatmeal, grass cloth, leather, tiffany, silk and creton effects at 6c to 40c a double roll of 16 yards. Flocked varnished tiles, 35c a double roll. Combination matched with cut-out borders ready for hanging at 1 1-2c a yard up. Wall paper for all rooms direct to you cheaper than dealers buy at in carload lots. Don't wait. Get complete sam—today—and see our beautiful art paper and marvelously low prices.


PAINT On Free Trial
All kinds for everything; try it at home; if it suits keep it, if not return at our expense. Lowest prices you ever saw; 124 colors. Write for Paint Book and see.
JOHN M. SMYTH MDSE CO. 703-717 Wabash Blvd. CHICAGO

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Something About Blackheads

SO many of my girls write me complaining of blackheads, asking how to get rid of them, what causes them, and why *they* have blackheads when Annabelle and Polly and Blanche have such good smooth skins.

You'll all be tremendously surprised at my answer, and I'm hesitating just a bit before giving it, because you're going to be horrified as well!

However, here it is. A blackhead is nothing but a little speck of dirt which has lodged in a pore and has not been sufficiently coaxed to come out! Look in the mirror and see if you can discover any of these disfiguring specks on your own face, then let me tell you how to get rid of them.

First of all, you need a complexion brush—not only need, but must have it. It should be of camel's hair, which is soft and so will cleanse without scratching the skin. A stiff brush will do damage to the delicate cuticle.

Then you must provide yourself with the purest and simplest of soaps.

Every night before going to bed, scrub the face—as I have many times advised—with hot soapy water and your brush, being sure to cleanse the little creases at each side of the nose, the corners of the mouth, the chin—all, places where dirt is apt to lodge in the pores.

If you let your treatment go at this, you will still have blackheads, for the soap in the water will itself clog the pores—therefore, you must rinse and rinse and rinse the face many times in warm water, then in cool, and finally in very cold water dashed on, which helps to close the pores.

Never use hot water, then very cold water immediately after, as this cracks the skin, but make the transition gradually, hot, very warm, warm, tepid, cool, cold.

After your facial bath, massage in cold cream thoroughly, and slap the face all over lightly with flattened fingers, until the blood tingles beneath the skin. In the morning, wash in tepid water (no soap), and finally in cold water.

After massaging in the cream at night, try gently to squeeze out any prominent blackheads. You can use a comedone extractor—a little instrument like half a pair of tweezers with a tiny hole in one end. Place hole over blackhead and press gently. In buying an extractor, be sure the edges of the little hole are rounded and smooth, not sharp, so they will not break the skin.

For obstinate blackheads, which do not yield to the above treatment in a week's time, massage into the skin (after the complexion scrub at night), a little boric powder, applying a tiny bit of cold cream afterward. Every seventh night, steam the face over a basin of boiling water—covering the head with a Turkish towel held out in front over the basin to keep the steam under it. Do this for ten minutes, rinse in hot water, then cover skin with a blackhead jelly made by paring one small cake of Castle soap into three cups of water to which a teaspoonful of powdered borax has been added, the whole boiled and let stand until jellied. This jelly should remain on the face for ten minutes, then be washed off and cold cream massaged into the skin. Keep up this treatment only until the skin is free from blackheads.

Answers to Questions

Miss E. G.—There is nothing I can do to help about your broken nose. You should go to a physician, although I do not believe there is any way, now, of straightening it. I am sorry not to be of use.

Lena.—If your height is five feet five inches, and your hip measure thirty-three, you can still increase your hip measurement a little more than five inches before you will be in any danger of even starting on being overgrown. For your age—fourteen—however, it is better not to have attained the full measurement for your height—that belongs with twenty or more. Your waist measure, twenty-seven, is about right—you might even add another inch without going over the correct measurements, so you see you are not in the slightest danger of getting too large. Your height is all right—be thankful! Probably you could weigh quite a little more, and as you grow older the pounds will begin to come as they should. At fourteen, it is foolish to worry about one's weight, height, size, or anything else, for all these things are in process of change, and you—just like the rest of us—will have to wait a little time until the changes take place. No, you are not too large to let your curls hang. Why not tie the front half of the hair at the crown of the head, then let the ends of this part join the back half, and fasten all together just below the head—at the nape of the neck—with a ribbon bow or a large shell pin, letting the curls hang straight down from this? For your freckles, wear broadbrimmed hats when spring comes round again, rub cold cream on the face and wipe off carefully before going outdoors, and dab lemon juice at night on the offending spots. Probably your freckles are not so very obstinate and



A COMPLEXION BRUSH IS A NECESSITY.

will go away with this treatment, especially after a rest all winter, during which you can use lemon juice on the face occasionally, letting it dry on at night.

Worried.—I don't wonder you are distressed about your hair, but from what you tell me about using many tonics, brushing it, massaging the scalp, etc., I am inclined to believe that your big trouble lies with the condition of your body. Unless the blood is rich and pure, you cannot have healthy hair, for it does not get proper nourishment. I suggest, therefore, that, while keeping up the gentle brushing—one hundred strokes a night—and shampooing once in two weeks (not oftener, and with dry hair you may go three weeks), and massaging the scalp, you spend a good deal of time getting your body into better shape. Make it a point to eat very nourishing food, to drink eight or ten glasses of water a day, to sleep eight or nine hours at least, to walk in the open air when you can. The milk diet for six weeks or two months would more than likely put your hair back in shape by toning your whole body up, adding flesh, purifying the blood. The two formulas you suggest will not be of any great help, I fear—neither could do you any injury. The massage and brushing, plus attention to the diet, to the eliminative functions, to sleep and exercise, will do a thousand times more.

Betty.—Indeed, you can make your finger nails look pretty, even if you have neglected them until you are twenty. Invest in a good nail brush, a small blunt orange-wood stick, a pair of manicure scissors, a cuticle knife, and a very thin flexible nail file. Scrub your nails thoroughly on going to bed, and every time you wash your hands, and clean them always immediately after, using your orange-wood stick. At night rub vaseline around the nail where it goes into the flesh. In the morning, during your first free time, sit down with a bowl of warm soapy water (very soapy). First, use your nail file and file the edge of the nail, shaping it into an oval. If you have worn your nails even with the finger, never mind, for they will grow out and then you can shape them. In



USING A COMEDONE EXTRACTOR.

such case, merely use the file to make the edges even, and round the ends a trifle. Next dip your orange-wood stick in the soapy water and carefully cleanse under the nail. Do the same with the right hand. Then soak the left hand in the bowl for five minutes, dry lightly, and using the cuticle knife gently loosen any skin which may have grown to the nail. Sometimes inside of the real scarf-skin at the base of the nail, will be little extra layers of skin which you can scrape off with the cuticle knife, but be careful not to break the scarf-skin. Use the blunt end of your orange-wood stick to press the scarf-skin gently back from the nail at its base. To begin with, your efforts will not seem to be very successful, but after you have done this daily for a week or more, you will be surprised to observe the real improvement that has taken place. Do not cut the cuticle at the base of the nail, if you can possibly avoid it—try pushing it back for a week or more before you resort to cutting it: as, once cut, it must be kept cut, and it is quite likely that by daily treatment of the nails in the manner directed, the skin will finally stay back of itself disclosing a half moon at the base of the nails. File the nails only about twice a week, as they will not need it oftener. If you are inclined to hangnails, invest in a pumice stone, and rub the sides of the finger gently, when a hangnail appears. You can use your manicure scissors first to remove it, then rub with the pumice stone to rid your finger of any remaining bit of the hangnail. Be careful to use your nail brush on your nails every time you wash your hands, and to clean them while still damp, with the orange-wood stick. This is a very simple way to treat the nails, but still make yours very good looking in a short time. As to your blackheads, read what I have to say this month in my little chat with my girls, and follow the directions. You will not be troubled again, if you are faithful in well doing.

Lottie H.—Do not attempt to dye your own hair switch. An amateur invariably makes a wreck of the hair. You will merely spoil your switch, and need a new one. Send it to a professional hair dyer—you can get addresses from the advertising pages of the magazines. How has the switch turned "almost red?" Probably you have washed it in soapy water, or done something of that kind. Ask the dyer to whom you send your hair how you should wash it, after it has been redyed.

V. P. C.—If your forehead begins to look flabby, and the skin is losing its firmness, I think your body needs building up. See answer to "Discouraged." In the meantime, while you are thus giving the skin the elements it needs to rejuvenate it, and are perhaps building up the tissues beneath it to prevent wrinkling, massage the forehead nightly with cold cream, after cleansing thoroughly. When through massaging, lay hot cloths over it, changing as fast as they get cool, and keep up for five minutes. Then place a cold wet cloth over the forehead and replace as it warms up. This closes the pores and firms the skin.

Discouraged, T. F. M.—I am sorry you cannot continue to get the milk you need, as the milk diet is exactly the thing to make you gain in weight. That one week, you see, did wonders for your complexion. I am glad you are drinking the amount of water you state—nine glasses a day. Keep this up. To gain on solid food, you must be careful to choose fat-building foods. You see, some foods just give you muscle, and others contain mineral salts and water—what you need are the ones which make fat. These are potatoes (baked, preferably—never fried), rice, macaroni, all cereals, milk, cream, butter, fat meat, sugar. You must be sure to take plenty of fruits, also, although they are not fat-building. I suggest that, for breakfast, you have some fruit—grape-fruit, pineapple, an orange, a baked apple, some stewed prunes (soak twelve hours, then simmer gently until thoroughly soft), apple sauce, stewed dried apricots (prepare as you do the prunes), sliced banana and orange, baked pear. The grapefruit and oranges are probably the best for you. Next, eat a big heaping dish of cereal which has been cooked for a long time in a double boiler, or in one small kettle set inside another full of boiling water. With this eat cream and sugar, and hot buttered toast. Eat plenty of the cereal. Follow with two soft-boiled eggs (two and one half or three minutes), or two soft-poached eggs, or some soft scrambled eggs—the former is preferable. For lunch you could have creamed chipped beef, and baked potato and some other vegetable, stewed celery, spinach, canned tomato, canned corn in milk, etc., etc. And for dessert you could have canned fruit (not too sweet preserves, however), or some blanc mange with cream, or a baked custard. For dinner have meat in some form, or fish. Salt meats are not to be desired, although palatable once in a while. I do not know whether you are where you can get good steaks or roasts. Rare roast beef, roast lamb or mutton, a lamb or mutton chop (not too well done), rare broiled steak (never eat any fried meat), chicken fricasseed or roasted or in any form, fish broiled or baked, are all good for you. With this eat potatoes or rice, and some other vegetable. Soup would be excellent to begin your meal, and indeed soup makes one very good dish for lunch, and could be used in place of the creamed chipped beef in the above menu. Stick to simple desserts, and avoid pie and cake. As to beverages, it is better not to drink with your meals, but if you feel the need of something confine yourself to one cup thereof. Try to get a certain amount of exercise every day—outdoors if you can, but, if not, in your bedroom. In four weeks, on this diet, you should gain considerably, although never as rapidly as on the milk diet.

O. O. D.—You speak of "large dark pores under your eyes." Do you mean dark circles, or do you actually mean the little pores full of blackheads? If the former, your health is at fault, and you should

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 31.)

Given To You WITHOUT EXPENSE

Mail the Coupon and see for yourself



You can obtain this handsomely upholstered Fireside Furniture or the beautifully designed Dining-room pieces with your regular household expense money. THE ONLY CHANGE NECESSARY IS YOUR BUYING YOUR DAILY HOME SUPPLIES FROM LARKIN CO.

The saving you make by dealing from

Factory-to-Family

is given you in the form of this Furniture or a thousand and one other useful things of your selection.



We carry such Premiums as Crex and Congoleum Rugs, Rogers 1847 Silverware, Oneida Community Service Plate, Elgin Watches, Seth Thomas Clocks, Etc.

LARKIN PRODUCTS

number over 600 and consist of Foods, Soaps, Toilet and Pharmacal preparations, Cutlery, Hardware and Stationery, Dry Goods, Notions, etc., all conforming to your highest standards.

SEND FOR NEW CATALOG

Brimful of splendid offers like these many Nationally advertised lines. Everything Clearly explained including our Money Back Guarantee. Ours is the solution of the high cost of good living.

MAIL COUPON TODAY

SEND COUPON TO NEAREST ADDRESS.

Larkin Co. *Buffalo* *Chicago* *Peoria*

Please send me your new Catalog No. 76

Name _____

Address _____

G. P. 336 _____



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Expert Handling of Seeds

THE business of collecting, grading, testing and preserving seeds is a science and an art. Science is knowledge classified and systematized. Art is the application of such knowledge to practise and the combination requires long years of study and experience, large capital, expert, efficient help, elaborate and costly buildings, special machinery and a modern storage equipment.

The average farmer would be astounded, interested, instructed and entertained by a tour of inspection through a great up-to-date city seed warehouse. He would not have to walk a step, but would be given a comfortable seat in an electric run-about and quickly taken up and down long aisles among stacked sacks and bins of seed of all sorts, where busy workmen may be seen sorti , weighing, sacking, moving and shipping orders or handling stored seeds. Every possible mechanical contrivance is here for dealing with seeds. Millet, for example, is being handled in one section of a great floor, for much corn has failed to germinate this cold, wet, backward season, when unreliable, badly cured, low germination seed too commonly was planted, and now a late seeded forage crop must be sown. The millet, in lots of 100 pounds, automatically measured and weighed is shot into sacks which sweep away as if by magic to be stitched shut by machinery and again picked up and carried by trolley to other departments. The work is done perfectly, in record time, and it is evident that the customer is not going to be kept waiting in this rush season when a delay might spell failure. Away goes our runabout again, curving in and out, expertly steered and never striking a sack or measure and when one floor has been inspected it enters an elevator and soon is repeating, one by one, the process on the floors above. A book might well be written on the myriad phases of this great business, tracing each of the thousands of varieties of seeds from the producer through many hands to the great wholesale seed warehouse. Think of the monumental task necessitated by the correct naming, grading, classifying, testing, storing and distributing of all of these seeds and remember that the reputation of a great firm is at stake in every item of the work from start to finish. That reputation takes many years to attain. It is slowly and gradually earned, but unfortunately can be lost in a year and so it is safeguarded by every possible means and added to at every opportunity.

It is because of this expertness based upon knowledge and long experience and made certain and constant by a deserved and treasured reputation that the user of seeds of any kind will conserve his best interests and be surest of succeeding by giving the established reputable seed firm his patronage. The truth of this assertion becomes evident many times each year as we talk with farmers or read their letters. Often they confess their failures and ask advice that success may attend their efforts another year. For instance, one man told us a few days ago that some of his corn matured sufficiently last fall to be serviceable for seed and he counted on receiving five dollars or more a bushel for the thirty bushels he selected and hung up in the buggy shed to dry. But his hopes were blasted in spring and that selected seed corn was fed to the hogs; for the man had no facilities for kiln drying the corn and it froze and thawed out and froze again in the shed and so lost its germinating powers. He offered it for sale and the first would-be purchaser asked "What percentage of purity and germination do you guarantee?" The owner had to answer that the corn was just a good kind of yellow dent that he had grown for years, but he could not say anything about its germinating powers. Then the buyer balked, but advised the farmer to have the corn tested for germination at the state agricultural experiment station. He did so and soon learned that three tests showed an average germination of 84 per cent. That was far too low and being an honest man he stopped trying to sell the corn for seed, and being also a sensible man he brought a named variety of pedigreed yellow dent corn, from a reliable seedsman in a neighboring town, on a guaranty of 99 per cent purity and 97 per cent germination. We passed his field of corn the other day and the stand was fine and a beautiful thing to see in comparison with fields of corn on neighboring farms where home grown, imperfectly cured and consequently low germinating corn was planted. On these farms many fields had to be replanted with sound seed and on some of them some variety of millet, or "billion dollar grass," or rape, or rutabagas was put in as a catch crop, where corn had failed to make a profitable stand.

Too often the farmer, truck gardener or kitchen gardener becomes self-satisfied with home grown and saved seeds, because he knows no difference. We once ran across an old man who was raising old-fashioned, deeply grooved tomatoes and who knew nothing about the modern smooth, plump, round, meaty sort, the seed of which he could have bought from any seedsman. It would be well for every farmer to get out of this rut of content with the old varieties of farm and garden seeds, and flowers and trees and shrubs that satisfied his father and grandfather, patronize the expert seedsman and enjoy and reap profit from the wonderful new and better varieties that science has originated, perfected and then kept safe, sound and pure in the seed stores and nurseries of the trained and experienced experts whose advertisements bring them and their wares to the attention of farm folk in every section of the country and whose instructive catalogues can be had free for the asking.

Better Potatoes

Plant Best Northern Grown Seed

In the chief potato producing districts a move is becoming general to improve the quality of the annual crop of tubers. It has been found that there was no uniformity as to variety or type of potatoes raised in certain communities. When each farm delivered its surplus stock of tubers to the dealer at the railroad station he found himself possessed of potatoes of every possible kind, mixture, size, quality and shape and had to sell the crop as "mixed stock." Such stock has to be laboriously and expensively hand-sorted before it is marketed in the city and the expense of this work eventually falls upon the producer. The buyer has to discriminate against mixed stocks and all diseased and damaged tubers.

Recognizing these facts, after having them pointed out and "rubbed in" by experts of the state agricultural experiment stations and federal department of agriculture, producers of potatoes are organizing community and state associations for the improvement of their product. The first step has been to decide upon a few standard sorts of potatoes especially adapted for the particular district in which they are to be grown and make th se the specialty of the association or community. Each farmer then has a standard variety of tubers to sell to the dealer and if he is wise he offers sorted stock, freed of diseased and damaged tubers and alike in shape, size and trueness of type. The result has been a great increase in demand for potatoes raised in such districts, much of the stock going elsewhere for seed, and naturally there has been a proportionate increase in the price paid for the improved product.

While such work is best done by community organization, its principle should apply with equal force and profit on every farm where potatoes are raised for market and, indeed, the same fundamental principles underlie the successful production and sale of any farm commodity.

In seeking to improve the potato the following objects should be kept in view: 1. Suitability of the variety chosen for the soil and climate of the district in which it is to be grown. 2. Purity, hardiness and healthiness of seed tubers. 3. Cooking quality. 4. Keeping qualities. 5. Roundness, smoothness, white skin and shallowness of eyes.

A frequent change of seed is necessary in some districts as potatoes tend to "run out" in quality and trueness to type and also may become diseased when long grown in the same locality. Rotation of crops also is necessary to lessen these tendencies. Disease is sure to prove a scourge if potatoes are grown year after year on the same field. As a general rule it is well to buy Northern grown seed tubers for planting on Southern soil and all seed should be free from scab, well ripened and free from black or hollow hearts.

The cooking quality is of supreme importance and too little considered. A good potato should be white, mealy and dry when cooked and should stay white in color. Poor varieties darken in color when boiled and also are wet and lumpy. The best quality of cooking potato usually is grown upon friable, sandy loams and in a cool climate.

The rough, deep-eyed potato is objectionable as there is much loss in peeling to say nothing of the additional work and trouble of preparing such tubers for the pot. The round, smooth white potato also is more attractive to the eye and so sells better on the market.

Start New Crops on a Small Scale

A lady reader wrote us the other day that having seen a good deal about sunflower growing for seed she had decided to put in a field of fifteen acres to this crop as her first attempt. She did not even know for sure that her soil or district was adapted for the growing of sunflowers, although that might well be the case as she lived in a semi-arid country where sunshine is plentiful almost every day and where crops grow well when irrigated. We sincerely hope that she will make an entire success of the project. *But!* hers is the wrong way to start.

On general principles we have to advise that it is unwise and unsafe to start a new crop on a large scale. Better far to put in a couple of rows of sunflowers, or a patch of any other new crop the first year, then give it first-class attention and see how it "pans out." If it proves to be successful in the particular district where it is tried and the person growing it likes the work and did not find it too irksome then a bigger patch or a whole field may be planted the following year.

Last summer we paid a visit to the fine farm at an Indian school and were first shown the standard crops in the big fields and then taken to an enclosure filled with experimental plots on which we found growing several varieties of millet, soy beans, Alfalfa, Soudan grass and other novelties. The superintendent told us that by using that plot year after year he had been able to introduce some very profitable crops without loss from experimentation. He said: "I soon find out by this method what is good and what is worthless and then I stick to that which is good."

A sensible plan surely and one that may well be followed upon every large farm, or public institution farm; but remember that if one wants to know at once whether or not to seed land to a new crop and has no time to experiment for himself he can quickly obtain the necessary information and advice by writing to the director of the agricultural experiment station of his State.

Cold Weather Care of Dairy Cattle

It has been frequently said that the dairy cow is a machine that takes the raw products of the farm and converts them into milk from which are derived various manufactured products, all of which are fit for human consumption. It has also been pointed out that, on the above basis, the dairy cow is the *one* most economical producer of human food. It is easily shown that the dairy cow converts about thirty-five per cent of the digestible nutrients in her feed into milk solids, all of which are available for the nutrition of the human body. When the same feeds are fed to other animals less than ten per cent of the nutrients are converted into meat, which, with the single exception of eggs, is the only other form of animal food. Or, to put it in other words, there are three forms of animal food,—meat, milk and eggs,—and the dairy cow is capable of producing this food in the form of milk at the least cost.

But the dairy cow cannot do this without the best of care. It is only under proper care that this high ratio of utilization of feed can be maintained. We have said that it is possible for a cow to convert thirty-five per cent of the nutrients found in her feed into human food. By this we mean that if the digestible protein, fat, sugar and starch in the feed which she eats during a week be calculated, it is possible to recover thirty-five per cent of the total amount of these nutrients in the form of protein, butter fat and milk sugar in the milk, produced during the same period of time.

In order to do this, however, she must be intelligently fed, carefully watered, properly housed and given the best of care and attention. A sudden chill, such as may be caused by drinking too cold water or being turned out in the barnyard on a raw and windy day, may cause a drop in this high efficiency to twenty per cent. Insufficient or improper feed will immediately cause a big drop. This high efficiency is wholly impossible if the cows are housed in a cold or otherwise uncomfortable stable. It is quite probable that on the average American farm during the winter months less than five per cent of the nutrients fed to dairy cattle are converted into human food.

1. The first thing to do is to *keep the cows comfortable*. This means good, warm, light, dry, clean and well ventilated stables. Nothing else will do. The stables need not be expensive but they must be *warm, light, dry, clean* and *well ventilated*.

2. The second thing to do is to *feed liberally*. Cows should be fed according to the amount of milk they are capable of producing; hence no two cows should receive the same amount of feed. Each cow should be watched and fed according to production.

3. The third consideration is to *feed the right kind of feed*. A large amount of timothy hay, no matter how well cured, is a poor ration for a dairy cow. Clover hay is much better, and clover hay and silage is still better. Alfalfa and silage beats clover hay and silage, but Alfalfa, bran and silage combined in the right proportion is better still. Where silage is not available, roots may be substituted. But this is too big a problem to discuss adequately here.

4. The fourth rule to follow is this: *Feed dairy cattle in the barn*. They must not be fed outside during the winter, no matter how good the ration. Running to a straw stack is the worst possible practise.

5. *Warm the water for dairy cows and give them plenty of it*. The best temperature is about sixty degrees. Ice cold water chills them, hence during winter a tank heater must be used or the water must be pumped while the cows are drinking. Too warm water is insiped and distasteful and the cows will not drink enough of it. They should be given all they will drink at least twice a day. This will give highest milk production.

6. The sixth large factor in high milk production is to *treat the cows kindly*. They should never be worried by dogs or other live stock. Swearing and loud talking or other boisterous conduct around the dairy barn is never permitted on our best dairy farms. These things among the cows make them nervous and excitable and cause a loss in milk production.

It has been often pointed out that milk production is a "mother instinct;" hence anything that is harmful to a mother or which annoys her or makes her nervous will surely affect the flow of milk. We should never lose sight of this fact in all our feeding, care and management of dairy cattle.

To Keep the Silo from Freezing

Keep the doors closed as much as possible. Silage is continually giving off heat. This heat is caused by the fermentation of the silage and is known as the "heat of fermentation." It is important to keep this heat of fermentation in the silo. This heat is usually sufficient to prevent freezing of the silage except in the coldest weather. Silage is warmest in the center of the silo since the air surrounding the walls on the outside conducts off the heat. This sometimes causes the silage to freeze to the walls. The remedy is to keep the silage fed down around the outside walls. Always have the silage highest in the center when feeding, if possible. Should it freeze to the walls during a long cold spell, it will loosen readily when the weather moderates. The chunks of frozen silage that are thus loosened from the wall should be piled up in the center of the silo where the heat of fermentation will soon thaw them. Under no circumstances should frozen silage be fed to stock, or any other frozen food, for that matter.

Saving the Heifer Calves

We read in the papers the other day of a novel institution started in a certain agricultural community and to be managed, maintained and operated by country school children. It is a calf raising plant and for the saving and rearing of the heifer calves, of dairy cows, which at present are being sold for veal or even killed rather than give them the needed milk to drink.

Now there is not the slightest doubt that thousands of good calves are marketed each year that might have proved a wonderful help to many a starting farmer or settler and which indeed would have proved profitable to the breeder himself; but it as true that other thousands of young calves are not worth raising and we trust that the children will not be allowed to waste their time and feed on such worthless "critters."

It is a fact that many dairy farmers buy springers just as soon as the cows they own dry up and are sold as canners or fattened off, and never raise a heifer calf to the cow estate. As many more, perhaps, use "any old kind of bull" merely to bring the cows into the milking state, the calves counting for nothing and never being raised. It will be poor business for the children or for anyone to buy and raise such heifer calves.

We have come to the conclusion, from long experience and observation, that there is only one sort of heifer calf worth raising and that is the one that on both sire and dam side has a promise for milk and butter fat. The dam and grand dam on both sides should have been a profitable milk and butter fat producer. If not the calf should not be raised. Feed and labor are terribly high and the profit from dairying comparatively small under the best of conditions and circumstances and for that reason more care than ever should be taken to raise only the most promising calves.

If any reader of COMFORT is trying to get a start let him not waste time in trying to grade up from scrub cows and a grade or scrub bull. Far better would it be for him to start with one or two high grade cows, if he can find such, and even if they cost $100 or $125 dollars a head, than to start with a bunch of scrub cows. For mating with these cows should be kept a pure bred dairy breed bull of the same breed as that used for the grading up of the cows and the heifer calves from these animals should be raised just as well as can possibly be done that they may make a maximum growth and development from the start. In addition to this small breeding operation the dairyman should be constantly on the watch to buy the heifer calf of any neighboring cow that he knows to be a big producer. He may have to pay up to $20 each for such calves but there is profit even at that figure. Figuring that it costs as high as $35 to raise such a heifer it is a certainty that $50

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 34.)

$16.95 Upward ON TRIAL
American
FULLY GUARANTEED
CREAM SEPARATOR



A Solid Proposition to send new, well made, easy running, perfect skimming separator for $16.95. Skims warm or cold milk; heavy or light cream. Different from picture, which shows larger capacity machines. See our plan of

MONTHLY PAYMENTS

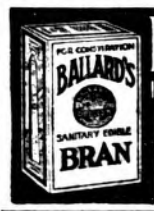
Bowl a *sanitary marvel* easily cleaned. Whether dairy is large or small, write for free catalog and monthly payment plan. *Western orders filled from western points.*

AMERICAN SEPARATOR CO.
Box 4135 Bainbridge, N. Y.

9 CORDS IN 10 HOURS



BY ONE MAN. It's KING OF THE WOODS. Saves money and backache. Send for **FREE** catalog No. B 8 showing low price and latest improvements. First order gets agency.
Folding Sawing Machine Co., 161 West Harrison St., Chicago, Ill.



Ballard's Bran
IDEAL DRUGLESS LAXATIVE

At your Grocer's. If he does not have it, send us his name and address with 35c (West of Denver 40c) in stamps for trial package.
BALLARD & BALLARD CO.
Station C Louisville, Ky.

RAISE GUINEA PIGS

We buy all you raise. Splendid money making opportunity. Big demand—thousands needed weekly. Easy to raise—inexpensive to house, feed, keep. Pay better than poultry or squabs. Particulars, contract, booklet how to raise **free.**
CAVIES DISTRIBUTING CO., 725 W. 74th St., Kansas City, Mo.

Disease Free Seed Potatoes

Inspected and passed by the Maine Dept. of Agriculture.
A list of growers can be obtained on request to
F. L. HUTCHINSON, - - Dexter, Maine,
Chief of Bureau of Markets, Maine Department of Agriculture.

Farmers or Farmers' Sons
Great Money Making Opportunity



Sell Lange's Extracts, Spices, Toilet Articles, Teas, Coffees, Remedies and Veterinary Specialties, direct from wagon to home. Long-established well-known big line, fine profits. Steady work in business all your own. You furnish horse or team, we supply rig on easy terms. Previous experience unnecessary—we train you in salesmanship. Make big money. Our contract beats all others. Exclusive territory near your home. Write us quick.
THE LANGE, CO., Dept. W, DePere, Wis.

SEEDS Grand Trial Offer
$2.50 Samples only 10c.

We will mail the following **25 Packets** choicest Fresh, Reliable Vegetable and Flower Seeds for 10c. Money returned if not satisfactory.

BEET, Crosby's Egyptian, best, sweetest early sort.
CABBAGE, Now Glory, early, sure header.
CABBAGE, Danish Ball-head, best, solidest winter.
CARROT, Perfect, Half-long, best table sort.
CELERY, Brittle winter, best, crispest.
CUCUMBER, Emerald white spine, great favorite.
LETTUCE, Cream Butter, tender, popular heads.
MUSKMELON, Sweetest Gem, best garden melon.
WATERMELON, Deposit Early, earliest, sweetest.
ONION, Prizetaker, weight 3 lbs., 1000 bus. per acre.
PARSLEY, Triple Curled, best, most ornamental.
PARSNIP, Improved Guernsey, smooth, sweet.
PEPPER, Crimson King, early, large, sweet.
RADISH, White Icicle, best, early, long, tender.
TOMATO, Greater Baltimore, best, large, smooth.
TURNIP, White Globe, large, fine flavor.
ASTERS, Show mixed. **WAVES OF GOLD,** fine.
ALYSSUM, Little Gem. **PINKS,** 50 Grand Sorts.
COSMOS, Early Giant. **POPPIES,** Showy Sorts.
KOCHIA, Grand foliage. **ANNUALS,** 500 Sorts.
MIGNONETTE, Sweet. Catalog and 10c check free.

DEPOSIT SEED CO., Deposit, N. Y.
☞20 packets Grand Large Flowering Sweet Peas, 10 cts.



BUCKBEE'S "Full of Life" Seeds are of Highest Quality. None better at any price. World Beating **Prize Winners** at all County and State Fairs.

BUMPER CROP COLLECTION Made to Build New Business

Radish—Earliest of All,	worth 10c	Lettuce—Sensation,	worth 10c
Watermelon—All Heart,	worth 10c	Onion—Golden West,	worth 10c
Sweet Corn—Early Bird,	worth 15c	Tomato—Everbearing,	worth 10c
Cucumber—Table Queen,	worth 10c	Beet—Red King.	worth 10c
Celery—Long Keeper,	worth 15c		
Musk Melon—Delicious,	worth 10c		
Cabbage—Perfection,	worth 15c		

This Collection of World Beaters worth $1.25

Guaranteed to please. Write to-day; mention this paper

SEND 10c to help pay postage and packing and receive this valuable Collection of Seeds, postpaid, together with my big, instructive, beautiful Seed and Plant Book. Tells all about Buckbee's Famous "Full of Life" Seeds, Plants, etc.

H. W. BUCKBEE ROCKFORD SEED FARMS FARM 402 **ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS**

Big Poultry Profits Are Yours
If you will send today for My Big Free New Poultry Book



"Hatching Facts"
It tells everything and shows hundreds of actual photographs of high per cent hatches—and letters from satisfied users who have made big cash profits,—won many prizes—and the Silver "Tycos" Cup with my

World's Champion Belle City Incubator

Exact duplicates of which I now offer to you.—Sales to date over 524,000 — all bought under my



10-Year Money-Back Guarantee
1-2-3 Months' Home Test Plan
Low Price—Freight Prepaid

Small in cost, big in results. Used by Uncle Sam, leading Agrl. Colleges and America's most successful chicken raisers. My big free poultry book, "Hatching Facts" tells what you need to know. With it comes

My $1000 Gold Offers

—the chance of a lifetime to make extra money with a hatching outfit. Write me for the big book and full particulars today. — Jim Rohan, Pres.

Belle City Incubator Co., Box 135 Racine, Wis.

RESULTS A CHICK FROM EVERY HATCHABLE EGG. STRONG, HEALTHY, ROBUST CHICKS THAT LIVE! MAKES POULTRY BUSINESS PAY -- MATCHES NEAREST OF ALL THE NATURAL PROCESS OF THE SETTING HEN.

THE SECRET OF PROGRESSIVE BIG HATCHING RECORDS

BUILT OF GENUINE CALIFORNIA REDWOOD. Egg chambers surrounded with special insulator having hundreds of air cells, guard against temperature change. Corrugated copper hot-water heater, automatic ventilation and regulation. No dry, hot blasts to kill chicks in shell. Machines complete. Money back guarantee if not satisfied. Big Free Book explains all Special deals.



Progressive Incubator Co.
Box 169 Racine, Wis.

$9.85 FOR BOTH

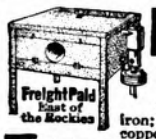


POULTRY FOLKS Get My New 1917 Special Offer

Just a straight business offer which will help you get a Rayo at little or no cost to you. No soliciting or canvassing. When you send for our new Rayo Catalog we will tell you all about it. Chuck full of incubator and poultry raising facts. Get your free copy now. Get started on the road to bigger profits.

RAYO Center Heated **INCUBATORS**
Give Bigger Hatches At Less Cost

Only 1 gallon of oil, 1 filling of tank to a hatch. Saves time, money, labor. Double panel glass top makes it easier to cool eggs, easier to air and clean, easier to operate. Automatic heat control, special moisture and ventilation features. Get free catalog and special offer. RAYO INC. CO., U.D.Sta. 8207 Omaha, Neb.



150 EGG INCUBATOR CHICK BROODER Both for **$11**

Both are made of Calif. Redwood. Incubator is covered with asbestos and galvanized iron; has triple walls, copper tank, nursery, egg tester, thermometer, ready to use. 30 DAYS' TRIAL—money back if not O.K. Write for FREE Catalog Now.



IRONCLAD INCUBATOR CO., Dept. 21 Racine, Wis. (2)



GREIDER'S FINE CATALOGUE
of fine bred poultry for 1917; 67 breeds illustrated and described; information on poultry, how to make hens lay, grow chicks—all facts. Low price on stock and hatching eggs. Incubators and brooders. 25 years in business. This book only 10 cts. Send today.
B. H. GREIDER, Box 63 , Rheems, Pa.

MONEY IN POULTRY AND SQUABS Start small. Grow BIG. Get winter eggs. Keep healthy fowls. Save your chicks. OUR BIG BOOK TELLS How. Shows fowls in natural colors. Thousands of prize winners, best layers, lowest prices. FREE.



Crescent Poultry Farms Box 2, Des Moines, Iowa

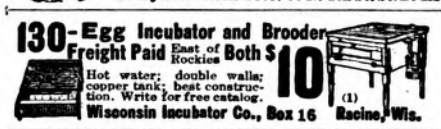


62 BREEDS, Pure-bred Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys. Hardy northern raised, vigorous, beautiful. Fowls, eggs, incubators at low prices. AMERICA'S PIONEER POULTRY FARM; 23 years exp. Large fine Annual Poultry Book and Catalog FREE.
F. A. NEUBERT, Box 642, Mankato, Minn.



"EVERY FOWL A MONEY MAKER"—STEINMESCH.
The Chicken business is bigger than ever, and growing. The secret of success is making every Chicken earn money. **My Big Free Book** tells you how. Write for Copy today.
Henry Steinmesch-Pres. 60 N. 4th St. St. Louis

130-Egg Incubator and Brooder Freight Paid East of Rockies Both $10



Hot water; double walls; copper tank; best construction. Write for free catalog.
Wisconsin Incubator Co., Box 16 Racine, Wis. (1)

140 Egg Incubator $7.25
The **Pioneer Hatcher of Quality** made by experts of 23 years' exp. None better at any price. Double redwood walls, dead air space, copper tank, self regulator, safety lamp, high nursery. Most simple and durable; set up ready to use. Guarantee. Big catalog free.



F. A. Neubert Incubator Factory, No. Mankato, Minn.



50 Varieties Chickens, Bronze, White Holland, Bourbon Red turkeys; Toulouse, Embden, African, China Geese; Pekin, Rouen, Indian Runner, Muscovy ducks. Guineas, Incubators and Brooders. Catalog two cents.
THEODORE FRANZ, Box 97, Mankato, Minn.



64 BREEDS Valuable New Poultry Book Free—108 pages. Fine pure-bred chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. Choice, hardy, Northern raised. Fowls, eggs and incubators at low prices. America's greatest poultry farm. 24th year in business. Write today for Free Book.
R. F. NEUBERT CO., Box 871, Mankato, Minn.



Poultry Book Latest and best yet; 144 pages, 215 beautiful pictures, hatching, rearing, feeding and disease information. Describes busy Poultry Farm handling 53 pure-bred varieties. Tells how to choose fowls, eggs, incubators, sprouters. This book worth dollars mailed for 10 cents.
Berry's Poultry Farm, Box 31, Clarinda, Iowa

POULTRY and SQUABS for PROFIT



Write for Foy's Big Book FREE—an encyclopedia of poultry information—written by a man who knows. Leading varieties of poultry and pigeons in natural colors. Low prices on fowls and eggs. **FRANK FOY, Box 5, Clinton, Iowa.**



PFILE'S 66 VARIETIES farm-raised Land and Water-Fowls. Eggs in season. Incubators. Illus. Catalog and "Grower's Guide," 2c. **An honest deal.** Write today. **HENRY PFILE, Farmer-Poultryman, Box 644, Freeport, Ill.**



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Pigeons for Profit

PROBABLY pigeons are the most neglected—or rather the most mismanaged—of all poultry on the general farm, yet they are most profitable if well cared for, and especially appropriate for the man who has to be away at work most of the day, or the woman with heavy household duties to occupy most of her time, because they won't overeat; food can be left before them all the time, and the parent birds take all the care of the young ones, so that an hour in the morning is about all that anyone need devote to pigeons every day in the week, with a few extra hours on Saturday to clean up.

There is really money in the business, if you are prepared to earn it. The people must understand that raising pigeons is a business requiring industry and management to make it a success. Unfortunately, a lot of nonsense has been written about pigeons and squab-raising. Lots of people have run away with the idea that all they have to do is to buy a few birds, throw in a little corn night and morning, and make a fortune. True, there is no heavy work to be done, and a good income can be made on a fair-sized flock of homers which are given intelligent care. For our selection must be homers, because they are the best variety for squab-raising, and squabs are what we must depend on for steady market returns.

Squabs from common mixed pigeons only weigh some six ounces when about four weeks old, are dark skinned, scrawny, and difficult to market; but homer squabs weigh from twelve to twenty ounces when four weeks of age; are plump, attractive in appearance, and sell readily at four dollars a dozen in the wholesale market. Private customers will readily give forty cents a pair all through the winter. Every pair of good birds, well cared for, produce from ten to twelve squabs a year, which are ready to market when four weeks old; so they have not to be fed for long, and returns are quickly realized.

Mature homers will cost about two dollars a pair from any of the recognized lofts, but it is no use buying elsewhere, for unless birds are mated pairs you may have another season wasted. Pigeons are faithful creatures which may remain in pairs for years, and if an accident happens to one of them it will frequently refuse to mate a second time the same season. Young birds which are only paired at the time of sale are likely to object to the mates which have been chosen for them, and proceed to exercise personal choice when liberated among a flock of strange birds. So be wise, and buy only from reliable, experienced breeders.

A comfortable house is essential, and the best plan for a small flock is to build a regular chicken-house and cover it all over with tar paper or any one of the good roofing papers. The yard must be enclosed, of course, and should extend over the roof, and five or six feet above it, so the birds can alight on it when flying from end to end, and sun themselves (which they love to do) on a high, dry place. Put up two or three long perches at the end of the yard; a stand about three feet high in the center for a bath tub. Let the stand be a foot larger all round than the bath, so the birds can light on it. The size of the house must depend, of course, on the quantity of birds you intend to keep. Just remember that each pair of old pigeons must have two nest boxes eleven inches square, with an earthenware pan in each. Nest boxes can cover the wall from floor to ceiling, so after it is fitted, it is easy to tell just how many birds a house can accommodate. The earthenware pans are called nappies, and are manufactured on purpose for pigeons. They can be bought at any supply store for five or ten cents each. There is a brown crockery dish about seven inches across and two deep, which is to be found in most five and ten cent stores, that answers very well if you can't get the real things in your immediate vicinity.

Now about feeding. Just throwing down cracked corn won't do. Variety in diet is necessary for birds' health as well as for man and beasts. It is wise to give the food question a little thought. Kafir corn, red wheat, cracked corn, Canadian field peas, German millet, and hemp are all staple grains. Use whichever can be had cheapest in your vicinity, and alternate them whenever you can. We follow the rule recommendel by W. E. Rice, a very successful pigeon raiser: Morning: Equal parts of cracked corn, Kafir corn, and wheat. Evening: Cracked corn and Canadian peas. These regular meals are put into feed boxes in quantity sufficient to insure the birds having a constant supply. Treats, which we feed at odd times, such as millet, hemp and rice, are thrown on the ground; for, as they are only fed in comparatively small quantities, they are eaten up at once, and so there is no danger of their being soiled. Remember always to buy red, not white, wheat, for the latter is very apt to cause diarrhea.

Regular feeds are always placed in a self-feeder, so that the birds may help themselves. Peas, millet, hemp and rice are good only as treats once or twice a week. They are fed in small quantities, and alone, because we found out that if mixed with other grains, the birds would pick out the dainties and throw out the grain or wheat.

Unless starved to it, pigeons will not eat grain that has been defiled by lying on the floor, so to prevent waste it is best to have a self-feeder, or at least some contrivance which prevents birds getting their head or feet into the supply and scattering it. The treats we feed by hand, and scatter on the floor, but if the birds are naturally eager for a novelty, it is picked up at once. Remember that white wheat is very likely to produce diarrhea, so always order red, and don't be tempted to use new grain of any sort, or corn exclusively, for if you do, your birds will surely be troubled with canker. During the year, and especially in the early winter, I always receive letters asking why pigeons are afflicted with a strange disease of the throat and mouth, which looks like a cheesy growth; and it is for that reason that I caution you against the exclusive corn diet, for that is what caused the trouble, and often spoils the whole breeding season.

Once a week we give them a meal of stale bread which has been steeped in skim-milk and squeezed almost dry again, for we have lots of skim-milk, and the bread we get from a baker in town for twenty-five cents a barrel. Freight costs another twenty-five cents, but even at fifty cents a barrel we find it an economical feed when there are a lot of squabs to be fattened for the market.

The Parents Take Care of the Young

The parent birds take all the trouble and responsibility of feeding and raising the young right up to the time when they are ready for market. The hen bird lays two eggs with one day intervening which takes eighteen days to incubate. After the eggs are hatched, both birds devote their entire energies to feeding the youngsters for about two weeks, for both have the power to secrete the predigested substance often called pigeons' milk, on which nestlings are exclusively fed for the first few days. At the end of two weeks the hen has usually laid two more eggs in the second nest, so that by the time her squabs in the first nest are ready for the market, the second eggs are ready to hatch. It is this double family which necessitates two nests for each pair of birds.

Cleanliness is even more imperative in the pigeon-house than in the henhouse. Never neglect to scald out the earthenware nest, and whitewash the compartment it stands in, every time squabs are removed for market, for it is only by such rigid system that the place can be kept in sanitary condition. Pigeons must have shell, salt and charcoal to be healthy, so there should be a self feeder with three compartments in each house. When ordering, specify that the oyster shell is for pigeons, as it is to be broken up smaller than for the hens. The rock salt and charcoal should be ground to about the size of rice. During the heavy breeding season we crush most of the grain, and always peas, for when the parents are rushed for time between their nests they are very liable to pick up whole grain and feed it to their young birds before they are able to digest it. Until we discovered this carelessness, we very often found dead squabs in the nest. The feed boxes can be kept filled up, as pigeons never overeat, and must have access to food at all times when they have young ones to feed.

Increasing the Flock

If you start with a few pairs of birds, the best way to increase the number is to sell the squabs and use the money to buy mature birds, for it takes six months for pigeons to reach maturity, and it is necessary to have two extra houses in which to keep the growing birds, as they should not be allowed to remain in the regular brood pen. If, however, you have specially mated birds and desire to raise their progeny, you must watch the nests, and as soon as the young ones get out on the floor (the old ones generally push them out as soon as the eggs in the second nest hatch), they can fend for themselves, and should be removed to a nursery house, where all feed must be cracked to the size of rice for several weeks.

When the young ones in the nurseries are between six and seven months old we take a bird from each and put them into a mating cage, which is really a coop, four feet long, two and one half feet deep, and two feet high, which is fastened up in a corner of the feedhouse. The coop is divided into two compartments by a wire netting door. A bird is put into each compartment. If they are male and female, they will commence within a week or two to coo and talk to each other through the wire, at which time the compartment is fastened up to the top of the cage, and they are allowed to have the run of the coop for three or four days, after which they are put into a regular breeding house, where they will soon take possession of a nest. If, however, the birds chosen simply ignore each other after they are put into the mating cage, one of them is removed to another two-compartment cage, and two more birds are taken from the nursery house and put into the two compartments. In this way we go through the nests until we have them all paired.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

L. G.—Rations composed entirely of corn and table scraps are too concentrated and fattening for ducks. They may lay well and appear to thrive on such food for a time, but before long the bad effect is sure to show. They will probably lose the use of their legs, or die suddenly. Better change your method of feeding at once. At least one half their food should be vegetable. Cook small potatoes, turnips, carrots, or any cull vegetables, partly mash them, and to every two quarts add one pint of ground corn and oats or middlings, and the same quantity of wheat bran. If you have no vegetables to spare, chop up clover or Alfalfa hay, pour scalding water over it, cover tightly, let it steam for several hours, then mix in the grain. After the grass springs up in the early spring, feed just a little bran and middlings made into a mash. Keep grit and clean water before them all the time. The troubles you have experienced at hatching time have come principally from your mistake in feeding the breeding stock. When ducks, or any kind of poultry, are fed exclusively on fattening food, their eggs never hatch well, and what youngsters do manage to kick out are always weak and short lived. Another cause for the condition you describe is want of moisture. Ducks' eggs require much more moisture during incubation than hens' eggs. If an incubator is used, keep pans of moist sand or wet sponges at the bottom of the machine all through the hatch, and when hens or ducks are doing the incubating, make them nests on the ground, and if the weather is very dry, sprinkle the eggs with warm water every few days.

P. K.—Commercial beef or meat scraps, sold specially for poultry, are dry, and so keep almost indefinitely if they are kept in a dry, cool place, but if allowed to get moist or warm, they will spoil rapidly. Ground green bone will only keep about a week, and must be spread out thinly to avoid heating. Commercial meat meal or scraps of some kind can usually be bought at every large feed store. You will find information about running an incubator in the next issue of COMFORT. None of the personal experiences received contain enough original or helpful information to make them valuable.

B. P.—The description of the home-made, non-freezing water fountain was given last month.

O. D. K.—As corn is scarce and expensive in your vicinity, use wheat, and during very cold weather add one half pint of buckwheat, barley, or sunflower seed to each quart. If none of these are available, use wheat alone, and give plenty of milk to drink.

J. E. M. N.—Staggers, dizziness, and kindred symptoms, all suggest apoplexy or paralysis, caused by blood pressure on the brain, which affects the nervous system. Excessive fat, overeating of new grain, intestinal worms, stoppage in the egg passage, or, in the case of old, fat hens, being made to rush around in an unaccustomed way, are all causes for such a condition. The best treatment is to open one of the veins inside the wing and allow about two teaspoonfuls of blood to escape. Keep the bird quiet for a few days, and feed lightly. Give five grains of potassium twice a day for about a week. Birds which have shown any such symptoms should never be used in the breeding pen.

J. D.—I cannot print your request and address in these columns, but if I hear from any of our readers who have turkeys for sale, I will forward their letters to you. Meantime, I advise you to write to Mr. E. F. Pullins, secretary of the National Bronze Turkey Club, Rennselaer, Indiana, and to Miss Minnie B. Brown, secretary of the Bourbon Red Turkey Club, Appleton City, Missouri, asking them for the addresses of members in your vicinity.

M. M. W. B.—The hens have got cold. Look for cracks or other causes for drafts in the chicken-houses. Put a teaspoonful of kerosene oil in the drinking water for a week.

E. S.—The yellow spots in the mouth and the offensive breath, are unmistakable symptoms of roup. The spots in the mouth or throat might be a cankerous cold only, and the sores on the comb and wattles merely retarded circulation. But the bad odor with breath is an unmistakable sign of roup, which is a most contagious disease, and may affect the whole flock, unless great care is taken to prevent the contagion spreading. As this is the time of the year when colds and roup are prevalent, I am going to repeat some of the advice I have given in this column before, as prevention is much easier than cure when things are taken in time. I want you to understand that every ordinary cold may develop into roup if not checked at once. I beg of you to watch your fowls at the first sign of watery eyes, sneezing, coughing or heavy breathing, to remove the afflicted birds to a clean coop in some sheltered outhouse far removed from the other poultry, and keep them in strict quarantine while doctoring. As all forms of cold may be roup, treat them for that disease without waiting to diagnose the case. Spray the bird's nostrils, eyes, mouth and throat three times a day with a strong solution of permanganate of potassium, dioxogen or peroxide. For the first, dilute one teaspoonful of permanganate of potassium in a quart of water, and for use, dilute one teaspoonful of that mixture with three of water. If dioxogen or peroxide is used, one half teaspoonful to every half cup of water. If you have no atomizer or syringe, strip a wing feather to within an inch of the tip, dip it into the solution, and swab out the bird's throat and mouth, and bathe the nostrils and eyes with a clean, soft cloth saturated with the lotion. Cover the bottom of the coop with plenty of clean, chopped hay. Clean out every day. Feed on light nourishing food. Stale bread steeped in milk and squeezed dry, or a little breakfast oatmeal. If colds have developed into roup before the birds have been removed from the regular chicken-house, all the feed and water dishes must be scalded and disinfected. The house also must be cleaned and disinfected if weather will permit, and every precaution taken to kill the contagion before it becomes epidemic.

B. G. T.—The hens have what is called limberneck, which is usually caused by the birds eating mouldy grain or putrid meat. If any more should be affected in the same way, give a teaspoonful of Castor oil to thoroughly clean out the intestines and stop the irritation, and follow a few hours later with the same quantity of sweet oil.

E. H.—Please read answer to J. D. in this issue.

C. W. W.—A three-year-old rooster, if a strong, healthy bird, should be in his prime, and certainly cannot be the cause of so many blind chickens. You don't say if they are incubator or hen hatched. If the former, irregularities in the heat of the machine

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 41.)

Golden Jubilee BARGAIN BOOK & STYLE GUIDE



FREE This, the 50th issue of our Bargain Book and Style Guide, is by far the largest and most handsomely illustrated we have ever issued. A fairyland of New Styles and Big Bargains never before approached in our fifty seasons' history. Beautiful color plates showing latest fashion designs and actual colors to be worn this Spring and Summer.

To celebrate our Golden Jubilee, we offer startling bargains. If you wish to dress in the **very latest fashion** and at the **lowest possible cost,** send for our big free Bargain Book and Style Guide. Thousands of Golden Jubilee Bargains equal to those pictured here. Do not fail to get our Style Guide. Send postal today—sure. It will save you money.

Golden Jubilee BARGAIN 98 CENTS

Fine Washable House Dress



We save you 50c or more on this unusually attractive and serviceable house dress of finest quality washable checked gingham. Never before have you been offered a dress of this splendid quality for so low a price. Has square collar of soft material edged with chambray and trimmed with Swiss embroidery. Two large useful pockets on the skirt neatly trimmed to match. The sleeves are finished with cuffs piped with chambray. A piping of chambray also defines the belt. Closed with pearl buttons. Colors, blue and white, black and white or heliotrope and white checked ginghams. Sizes 32 to 46 inches bust measure. Average length 40 inches. Be sure to state color and size.
No. M75. Price 98c.

We Sell Everything to Wear for Men, Women and Children.

We Deliver All Orders FREE

NOTE If for any reason at all you are not satisfied with any purchase made from The Chicago Mail Order Company, your money will be refunded, including return postage. They positively guarantee satisfaction.

CHICAGO MAIL ORDER CO. CHICAGO Dept. M

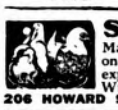
BABY CHICKS
NOW IS THE TIME TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS FOR EARLY 1917 DELIVERIES. CATALOG AND PRICE LIST FREE.
J. W. OSSEGE HATCHERY, DEPT. 2, GLANDORF, OHIO

57 Varieties Chickens, Ducks, Geese and Turkeys. Prize-winning, pure-bred, hardy, northern raised Fowls, eggs and incubators; low prices. Most successful farm; 18th year. Large fine catalog free. **Larkin & Herzberg, Box 35 Mankato, Minn.**





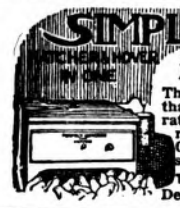
SHOEMAKER'S POULTRY BOOK AND ALMANAC FOR 1917
Has many colored plates of fowls true to life; tells all about chickens, incubators, poultry houses, etc. Price 15 cents. Money back if not satisfied.
C. C. Shoemaker, Box 936 , Freeport, Ill.



SQUAB BOOK FREE
Make money breeding PR squabs. 1917 prices highest on record. Squab book free, telling money-making experiences. How to sell by parcel post. $6 to $8 doz. Write at once. **PLYMOUTH ROCK SQUAB CO., 206 HOWARD ST., MELROSE HIGHLANDS, MASSACHUSETTS.**

IF you want plenty of large chalk-white eggs winter and summer, at 1-3 less cost of feeding, and America's greatest prize-winning strain of fowl, write at once for our liberal guarantee.
The Martling Silver Campine Farm
P. O. Box C. Ridgefield, N. J.

SIMPLY PERFECT INCUBATOR AND BROODER IN ONE



Perfect Combination Hatcher and Hover..... $6.90

These two machines in one cost less than you would pay for either separately. Hatches all fertile eggs—then raises the chicks. Rigid guarantee. Get into poultry raising—an easy start on a bank account. Send For Book.
THE PERFECT HATCHER CO., Department 1 Leesville, Ohio.

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!

$24 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Light running, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.



30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free cat. alog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money

ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12) 2182 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO 100,000 now in use

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1916, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

EXPLANATORY.—This story tells the strange things that happen to five-year-old Simmie-Sammie Smith and his sister Pittysing, nearly two years older, through the sly pranks of Nattie, the "Smallest Dapperling of All." The Dapperlings are kind-hearted, gay little elflike beings who ride on rabbits and never let themselves be seen by human eyes because of their belief that, if seen, it would bring some terrible calamity upon them. For this reason their queer little houses are always built into the hillside, and are so made, with doors and windows in front and grass growing on the backs, that they can be turned around to face out when the Dapperlings are by themselves; but as soon as anybody comes in sight the houses are whirled around so that only the grass-covered backs are seen and, as these look like the rest of the hill, you would never know the houses were there. They also have an underground assembly hall with an opening in the top covered with moss and concealed in a clump of thistles.



NATTIE CARRIED IT HOME SO ALL THE DAPPERLINGS COULD SEE AND ADMIRE IT.

CHAPTER V.

A BASKET OF FLOWERS

NATTIE didn't like Sarah-Grace-Josephine. Sarah-Grace-Josephine, you remember, was Pittysing's big doll.

Not that she had ever done anything unkind to Nattie—dolls can't DO anything—but you see, it was this way. Nattie loved Pittysing. She loved her kindness to her little brother. She loved her bright brisk ways. She loved her brown eyes, and her thick brown hair, and her pink cheeks. She wanted to play with her, and talk with her—but she couldn't! And when she had to hide, and watch that Sarah-Grace-Josephine, made of pulp and sawdust, or some unbreakable, senseless stuff, with painted face and glued-on hair—I say, when she had to watch Sarah-Grace-Josephine being petted, and hugged, and kissed, and played with, it was almost more than she could bear.

She grew a little reckless, and almost wished that Pittysing would see her some day, quite by accident. She wondered what would really happen then. She asked Lulie Wye about it one day, but Lulie Wye looked horrified and said, "Mercy, child! Don't ask me! I don't know, but don't you ever dare to try it!"

Then Nattie went out to where Niddy-Nod Dapperling was trying to balance three sticks on the end of another stick, and asked him.

He was so surprised he dropped all four sticks on the ground. He looked at her very solemnly for two whole minutes before he stooped to pick up the sticks. Then he said:

"Once upon a time, long, long ago, so long that nobody remembers it now, there was a young and foolish Dapperling who wanted to play with a little boy. He was told not to do it, and was told what would happen if he did. But he didn't believe it. So—" Niddy-Nod looked fearfully around, and then whispered, "So, one day, he said good by to all his friends, and went and played with the boy."

"Oh, really?" cried Nattie breathlessly. And what DID happen to him?"

"How do you expect ME to know?" asked Niddy-Nod crossly. "Haven't I told you nobody remembers?" Then he went on balancing his sticks, and would say no more.

Nattie spent most of her time, now, near the Mill Brook. One day when she was sent for checkerberries, of which the Dapperlings are very fond, she found a beautiful little vine, with tiny leaves and waxy white berries. Carrying it carefully, she laid it on the children's barrel-top table, as an offering to Pittysing. Then, after she had taken the checkerberries home, she went back to the Mill Brook. But, though she watched most of the day, Pittysing did not come.

The next day it was the same. Simmie-Sammie, alone, splashed about in the brook a while, but didn't seem to enjoy it, and soon went home.

When the third day passed and Pittysing had not been near, the Smallest Dapperling of All grew worried, and determined on a bold step.

In the early morning, before anyone was about, she went to the house where the children lived, and hid in the big rose bush that grew close beside the doorstep. And there she stayed.

She heard someone say that Pittysing was sick. Nattie didn't know what that might mean, for Dapperlings are never sick.

Pittysing was in bed.

She didn't play with Simmie-Sammie.

She had to drink things she didn't like.

And the red had gone out of her cheeks.

So much Nattie learned by peeping through doors and windows, and listening. She wondered what she could do to please Pittysing, and decided she would give her some flowers. Not any common flowers, mind you, that grew around where anyone could find them, but a kind that Pittysing had never seen.

There was a little flower that only the Dapperlings knew about, and which they called the Dapperose. It grew in the woods, under a certain kind of yellow-capped moss, and only then when gold-thread grew among the moss. So you see even the Dapperlings couldn't find it very often.

But Niddy-Nod said he had found such a place, and thought some of the flowers might be growing there, though he hadn't looked. Nattie coaxed him to show her the place. It was up near where he was building a little house for his rabbit to stay in when the weather was cold, and he said she might come along if she liked.

Nattie took a little basket to carry the flowers in if she found them, a graceful, dainty basket, woven by the skillful fingers of Lulie Wye, from the dark, slender stems of maiden-hair ferns. "When you give, give of your best. A gift that costs no sacrifice is of little worth," was a Dapperling motto. It had taken Nattie hours to find enough of the stems, and Lulie Wye, when she had finished the basket, pronounced it quite the prettiest she had ever made.

When Nattie and Niddy-Nod reached the place where the yellow-capped moss and gold-thread were growing, Nattie knelt down, and with careful little fingers pulled away the roots. There, in a warm little hollow, safe and sheltered, was the Dapperose, all in bloom.

"Oh, oh," she cried; "how beautiful!"

Even Niddy-Nod was interested, and looked while she gently lifted the Dapperose, with its pale green, transparent leaves and tiny pink and white flowers, from its little bed. In the Dapperling basket, it was almost too dainty and pretty to be anything but a fairy flower.

Nattie carried it home, so all the Dapperlings could see and admire it, and then started for Pittysing's house.

She looked sharply about her, and had to hide several times on the way, but at last crawled under the big rose bush by the doorstep without having been seen by anybody. Maybe she couldn't ever get into the house, and into Pittysing's room, but she was going to try.

Hours passed, she grew tired and hungry, and the sun went down.

Then Simmie-Sammie, starting tor Grandma Brown's house with a bright tin can full of milk, which the children carried over there every night, left the door open. Only a little way, but Nattie slipped inside.

Wasn't she afraid? Oh, yes, indeed! For she didn't know where the folks were, or what minute they would see her. And Cattie Puss, with her great, green eyes, might be there, too.

She ran across the kitchen, not making a bit of noise, and peeped around the sitting-room door. No one was there, but she heard voices in the next room, which was Pittysing's.

Chippie Chatter was there, in the old bird cage, and began scolding at her, but Chippie Chatter often scolded, so nobody minded.

The Smallest Dapperling of all lifted the couch cover, and hid under the couch. She sat down on the floor, with her basket of flowers in her lap, to wait some more.

Simmie-Sammie, on the way home from Grandma Brown's, fell on a rock and cried so loud the little spotted toad who lived on Lone Cedar Knoll heard him plainly.

His father and mother ran out to see if he was killed, though they might have known better by the noise he made, and that was Nattie's chance.

She looked in through the bedroom door. Pittysing's eyes were closed.

Nattie tiptoed carefully across the room, set the flower basket on a low stool by the bed, and was tiptoeing out again. Just as she was passing around the door, Pittysing's brown eyes opened wide.

The Smallest Dapperling of All hid under the couch again.

"Mamma!" called Pittysing. "Mamma! Come here, this minute!"

Then her father and mother, leaving their son still crying, hurried into the house to see to their daughter.

"Where'd that little girl go to?" asked Pittysing wildly.

"There, there; hush, dear!" soothed her mother. "There wasn't any little girl here."

"Oh, yes, there was," said Pittysing. "A little, teeny, mite o' girl, not so big as Sarah-Grace-Josephine. I saw her."

"Maybe you dreamed it. Lie down, dear, and mamma'll smooth your head. Papa, you better go and tell the doctor to come up again this evening."

"Why, see here!" said her father. What's this?" And he awkwardly lifted the tiny Dapperling basket of flowers in his big hands.

"Give 'em here!" cried Pittysing. "They're mine! The sweet, lovely things! I just about know they're fairy flowers. Just tell me where they came from, will you, if there wasn't any little girl? I'm not dreaming flowers, am I?"

And her mother and father just stared at each other, and didn't have a word to say.

Simmie-Sammie came in then, and in all the confusion, the Smallest Dapperling of All crept softly out of the house, ran home, and climbed into her own llttle bed.

Don't miss next month's Dapperling story which tells how Nattie did Pittysing a good turn.

The Cost of Opera

"New York city is the only place in this country big enough and rich enough to have opera as a steady diet all winter," said a man with a musical cast of countenance, "and no wonder when we come to think of what it costs to run a music show like the opera is. Other cities in the world have opera regularly, but the government pays part of the expenses. The Paris opera, for instance, pulls $160,000 a year from the national coffers; Berlin, $225,000; Dresden, $120,000, Prague,, $100,000, Vienna, $120,000, and so on in smaller amounts in smaller cities, but New York's opera is paid for out of private pockets and the sum is a big one. New York has two opera houses, the Metropolitan and the Manhattan, this latter for only a couple of years, while the former has been in operation for many years and is the leading opera house in America. One week of its expenses are about as follows: new scenery, $10,000; orchestra, $6,500; chorus, $4,000; traveling expenses and advertising, $5,500; singing, about $40,000, Caruso getting about $6,000 of this, and four sopranos about $7,000. The total is about $80,000 a week, or say $13,000 a day. Caruso the great tenor, is said to receive $2,000 every time he sings; sopranos are paid from $750 to $1,000 for each performance and contraltos from $500 to $800; baritones and basses get from $600 to $1,000. The Metropolitan Opera House has a seating capacity of about 60,000 a week and outside performances in other cities, make up some additional returns, but it is of record that a big deficit has been shown at the close of a number of seasons, and the stockholders, if they were not millionaires and wanted the opera as a fashionable advertisement and a great place to show off their elegant jewelry and glad rags, would call for a settlement and go out of the business. But they have the money and they are willing to spend it for the sake of making their city one of the leading opera centers of the world."

$2,500 FOR 8-INCH LOT.—The Charles F. Noyes Co. of New York sold to another firm a strip of land eight inches wide adjoining 49 Walker St. for $2,500. The strip perfects title to the building, which may be a reason for the great cost of the small strip of land.

PAYSON'S INDELIBLE INK

ready for use with a *common pen.* It makes a clear mark and will not spread or wash out and will protect cotton, linens and heavier fabrics from confusion or loss. A household necessity for eighty-two years. Stationers and Druggists sell it in the old-fashioned red and yellow wrappers, or it will be sent prepaid for 25 cents by **R. L. Williston, Northampton, Mass., Dept. C.**

Home Weaving PAYS

$50 TO $150 A MONTH in your own home making new Carpets, Rugs, etc., from old carpets, rags, old clothing, etc., on DEEN STEEL BUILT AUTOMATIC AND UNIVERSAL LOOMS. Even beginners make money from start. Business plentiful among neighbors and friends—prices good. Write for free book. Tells what is needed, how to start, how to grow, how to buy looms from $15 to $160. Send for it today. Get on the road to independence and prosperity.
Address, DEEN LOOM CO.
755 Seventh St., HARLAN, IOWA

LE PAGE'S GLUE 10¢
STRONGER THAN NAILS

Genuine Hawaiian Ukulele
At the Rock-Bottom Price Here is an astounding offer on a genuine Hawaiian Ukulele—just like the dusky Hawaiians use on the beach at Wai-kiki. Made of genuine Koa Wood—superbly inlaid. 10 days free trial. Rock-bottom, direct-from-the-manufacturer price.
WURLITZER
200 years of instrument making
Write for Catalog Our new catalog of 200 pages is free. Yours for the asking. Write now and get catalog and special offer.
The Rudolph Wurlitzer Co., Dept. 5502
E. 4th St., Cincinnati, O. S. Wabash Ave., Chicago

LEARN MUSIC FREE! IN YOUR OWN HOME NEW, EASY METHOD

At last you can have your dearest wish. Right in your own home you can learn to play your favorite musical instrument and bring into your own life and the lives of others endless pleasure and happiness through your music. By our new plan more than 200,000 gentlemen, ladies and children in all parts of the world have learned to play successfully and skilfully. Let us prove to you how easily and quickly you can learn to play any instrument BY NOTE in your own home, without a teacher, by our New Improved Home Study Method, and without paying a cent for instruction.

PLAY BY NOTE: Piano, Violin, Mandolin, Banjo, Organ, Cornet, Harp, Sight Singing, Guitar, Cello, Clarinet, Trombone, Piccolo, Flute

LESSONS FREE



What Our People Say:

"Since I've been taking your lessons I've made over $60 with my violin."
MELVIN FREELAND,
Macopin, N. J.

"When I started your lessons I knew nothing about the cornet or music, but now I can play almost any piece of music."
KASSON SWAN,
Denmar, Nova Scotia.

"Your method is splendid and far beyond my expectation. I will only be too glad to recommend your school to all my friends."
S. WEARMONTH,
Esquimalt, Canada.

We want to enroll one pupil in each locality to help advertise our simplified system of teaching. For a short time only we are making this wonderful offer to teach you our full Conservatory Course—in your own home. Your only expense is for the Sheet Music used for lessons. Send the coupon and learn for yourself how interesting and fascinating they are—how easy to learn.

MAIL COUPON NOW

Let us send you our new 32-page book, which describes the secret principles of our wonderful New System of Music Teaching from beginning to end, and contains scores of letters from pupils who have become expert players as a result of the Course. We cannot explain this great plan here—you must see the book. Clip the coupon and mail it today or send a postal card before you turn this page and forget.

U. S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Box 12, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York.

U. S. School of Music, Box 12, 225 Fifth Ave., New York.
Please send me your free book. "Music Lessons by Mail," explaining how I can learn to play. I would like to learn to play the.....
Name .....
Address .....

Toughey's Travels and Adventures Abroad

By Adele Steiner Burleson

Mrs. Burleson, through her frequent and charming contributions to COMFORT, has won the hearts of our readers and they will hail with delight the appearance of this new series of "Toughey" stories from the pen of this talented and versatile writer.

It is the more interesting because it is a true story of the experiences of the author and the adventures of her children about twelve years ago, although in the narrative she modestly conceals her identity by calling her husband and herself Mr. and Mrs. Deering.

"Toughey" is the pet name of their eldest daughter Laura, a prim little miss just budding into young womanhood. The childish pranks of Nan and Bess, the two younger girls usually spoken of as "the children," are a source of worriment and some annoyance to the sedate Toughey who is several years their senior.

Mr. Burleson is our present Postmaster General, and Grandma is the author's mother.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1915, by Adele S. Burleson.

CHAPTER XI.

ADVENTURES IN CANADA.

A WIDE sweep of lawn, velvety green with the fullness of summer, extended from the shade of the giant, century-old willows to the edge of the fruit fields. Across its smooth surface, ranged bright-eyed robins, industriously seeking earthworms.

"I can't understand the temperament of a robin."

"What's the mystery?"

"How can it love worms and yet have an insatiable taste for cherries?"

"Don't you like peaches and didn't I hear you growling at dinner because you were not served with dead calf?"

"Don't!"

Toughey was startled and routed.

"Is that what you've been taught to call respectable roast veal?"

"I did not learn it in a college course," admitted Roger.

"I suppose that will come when you are a senior," teased Toughey.

"I'm already a senior, my lady."

"That is, you ceased to be a junior last month."

"Define me then please; no longer a junior, not yet a senior, what am I?"

"We'll classify you after our swim," said Toughey laugning, "we're late now," she added glancing at the little wrist watch, Roger Hewett's father had sent her the Christmas before.

"Where are the children?"

"Just where they should be, of course, doing some unexpected, but wholly righteous thing," replied the young fellow rising from the garden seat and gazing about for the missing children.

"They always disappear at the bathing hour, but they feel terribly mistreated if we went without them," explained Toughey.

"Where are they likely to be?"

"Heaven knows; we'll have to look for them."

They went to the barn where the fruit pickers gathered at this hour with the morning's harvest of raspberries, this year so plentiful as to require the work of all hands on the farm to save a large portion from rotting on the bushes. Here they found Indians of all ages waiting for their baskets to be weighed, checked off and loaded on the farm dray.

"The fruit is shipped to Toronto by the noon train and when there is room, the children drive down to the station," explained Toughey.

"Gee! I shouldn't mind spending the summer on a fruit farm, myself," said Roger gazing at the tempting display of beautiful cherries.

"We like it," said Toughey, "but where, where are those brats?"

"They may be picking berries," suggested Roger.

"Impossible! They picked yesterday and their industry never lasts two days together."

Nevertheless, they made a hurried search of the berry bushes, the cherry trees and the peach orchard and headed back to their starting place. Rounding the brick cottage where the Deerings were housed for the summer, they discovered the children, clad in bathing suits and caps seated on the steps looking like a pair of small, patient angels.

The young people looked at each other and laughed.

"Aren't they the limit! we've been looking creation over for you," declared Toughey.

"You thed 'leven 'clock," lisped Bess with the air of an injured cherub.

"Deed you did," supplemented Nan. "You said, 'Children the lake at eleven o'clock.'"

"But who'd have thought," began Toughey, "Oh, well let's hurry and get ready."

A few minutes later the entire party including Mrs. Deering and Grandmother filed down to the lake which was only a hundred yards behind the house. A fallen tree on the beach dry and gray from long death, washed there by the heavy waves of Lake Ontario during a storm period afforded a comfortable seat for Grandmother who feared the shock of the cold water.

"I didn't know you kept a tropical sun up here in Canada," remarked Roger assisting Grandmother to the willow-shaded end of the log.

"You'll need it before you get done with this water," warned Toughey slipping from the little dock into the melted ice of the big lake. He joined her and after a vigorous swim, declared that no polar bear could like it better than he did.

Both the getting in and out of the water was a long and intricate process for the little girls, accompanied by many shrieks and false starts but ending with the cold dip and then the inevitable argument against coming out. The bathing ended, there was a race up hill and up into the cherry trees where the fruit was beginning to ripen. Grandmother and Mrs. Deering stood underneath humbly eating the cherries that were tossed down to them. But the gong for the early dinner in the big house of their hosts shortened this foraging.

Over a hundred years before the bricks of which it was built had been brought from England. The ground where it stood and the surrounding farm had been part of a land grant to an immigrant American whose loyalty to the King kept him from joining the Revolutionary movement then in progress. Although the fine old house was still possessed by descendants of the original owners, the once princely domain had dwindled to comparatively few acres, out of which scientific knowledge and unremitting labor combined to extract only a respectable living.

Immediately behind the house, on the brow of the hill rising from the lake were shacks erected for the use of the fruit pickers during the season.

"Yes, they depend entirely upon Indian labor and they make an interesting colony," said Mrs. Deering to Roger Hewitt, as they walked to the village that afternoon, where Roger was to take the train back to the states. Toughey was leading the way with the children ranging disconnectedly along the narrow asphalt walk and its grassy borders. Behind came a stout Indian with Roger's bags and suit case.

"I must get a view of this boy," said Roger unslinging his kodak.

"He may not submit to it," Mrs. Deering warned, "the old ones think there is witchcraft in a kodak."

Roger laughed and drew some money from his pocket. "Perhaps an Indian is like a gypsy, you must cross his palm with silver," and he held out a shining quarter to the boy. The young Indian hesitated a moment between the prideful teachings of his race and the lure of the paleface. Then he grinned and as the little shutter clicked, he slipped the money in his pocket.

"I wish I could stay longer, but I've only time to make my engagements in St. Louis," Roger spoke to Mrs. Deering but he looked at Toughey.

It was almost a year since he had said good by to her in Brighton.

She seemed more womanly and had the delightful dignity of sixteen. His father had always called her a rose.

"A *wild* rose, father," modified Roger, laughing.

The village was small and the express stopped only a few seconds. The good byes were over in a flash and a moment later, the train was swallowed up in a curve and Roger was gone.

"Leth go to the poth-offith," suggeseted Bess, who had recently acquired a lisp from a small playmate in Washington.

"Say that again," said Toughey severely, "and don't lisp." To her, this readiness to acquire the peculiarities of one's associates evidenced a total lack of character and today she felt unaccountably irritated by the child's speech.

Bess looked indignant but said nothing.

"Let's go to the post-office," seconded Nan.

"What for," asked Toughey, still irritably and starting back toward the farm. There were no letters for her, she knew.

"Letters from papa," exclaimed the children, indignantly. Toughey flushed, her mother smiled.

"We heard from your father this morning, there will be nothing from him."

As they walked back, Toughey kept her head turned until her color was normal and she could think of something to say that was a thousand miles away from her thoughts.

Reaching the flower walks leading to the mansion, they passed two of the girls employed upon the place, one had the heavy brows and dark coloring of the Indian race—the other was a pure blonde.

Grandmother looked at her curiously.

"They say she's an Indian," Mrs. Deering remarked answering her mother's unspoken question.

"Ah," breathed Grandmother, "she never came out of an Indian lodge."

A few days later, following a proconceived plan, Mrs. Deering engaged the blonde girl to follow up Nan and Bess in their various excursions about the place.

"Poor girl! What are her crimes that she should be so punished? And so young, too!"

The children glanced suspiciously at Toughey as she spoke.

"They are going to be polite and kind to Norma, and she will be good to them," said Mrs. Deering quickly.

The little girls looked at Toughey mildly triumphant, the dawn of righteousness shining on their little faces, as though their record had already been made and approved.

"Remember Mabel in England!" continued Toughey. "Once she was a happy little girl too, until she met some particular little American villians and——" with small snorts Nan and Bess jumped upon her.

"Don't, Toughey, you're discouraging them," said Mrs. Deering coming to the children's rescue.

"All right, time will show," Toughey persisted, laughing and defending herself against the children's indignant attack.

At the beginning of their association with Norma, Nan and Bess were so gentle and obedient that Toughey and Grandmother had many a secret laugh at their attitude. This plan gave Toughey more freedom for her necessary reading for college in the autumn and also more chance to join in the tennis parties and dances and other frolics with the young people of the house.

"We want to go to the 'vival," said Nan one morning. Mrs. Deering looked puzzled.

"She means the revival meeting at the Park," explained Toughey "Let them go mamma; Mr. Brooke has offered to take us on the farm dray and it's only a little way."

Mrs. Deering hesitated. She did not favor excursions of any kind for the children.

"Norma wants to go and we'll be back for supper," Toughey urged. Mrs. Deering finally consented with the understanding that it was to be the children's only outing.

The little party consisting of the younger members of the household with Mr. Brooke, their host, reached the lakeside resort early and at once sought seats in the pavilion where a famous revivalist had been engaged to hold services.

After half an hour of yawns, the children, with Norma and her little Indian sister of three years, who was only permitted to come at the children's urging, slipped away to the high bluff skirting the lake and down the steep path to the beach, to the smooth white sand in which they so loved to dig. Norma had brought along the same buckets and shovels they had used in Brighton, England, the summer previous. While they were gleefully burying the Indian child, thoughtfully pausing at the neck, Norma heard a whistle and glancing upward, she saw the Indian, "Rainy Day," commonly called John, beckoning to her, from the edge of the cliff. He wanted to talk with her. Seeing the children still busy in the sand, she reluctantly yielded to his entreaty and began the ascent of the steep path, where he met her half way.

The interment on the beach proceeded gaily until the child discovering herself to be too firmly rooted to even wiggle, began to whimper. A speedy disinterment followed but not quickly enough to appease the child. Anxious to pacify her themselves the children began to run with her, but she would not be comforted.

Arriving at the pier, they discovered a row boat drawn up on the beach so that only half of it remained in the water.

"Leth put her in the boat."

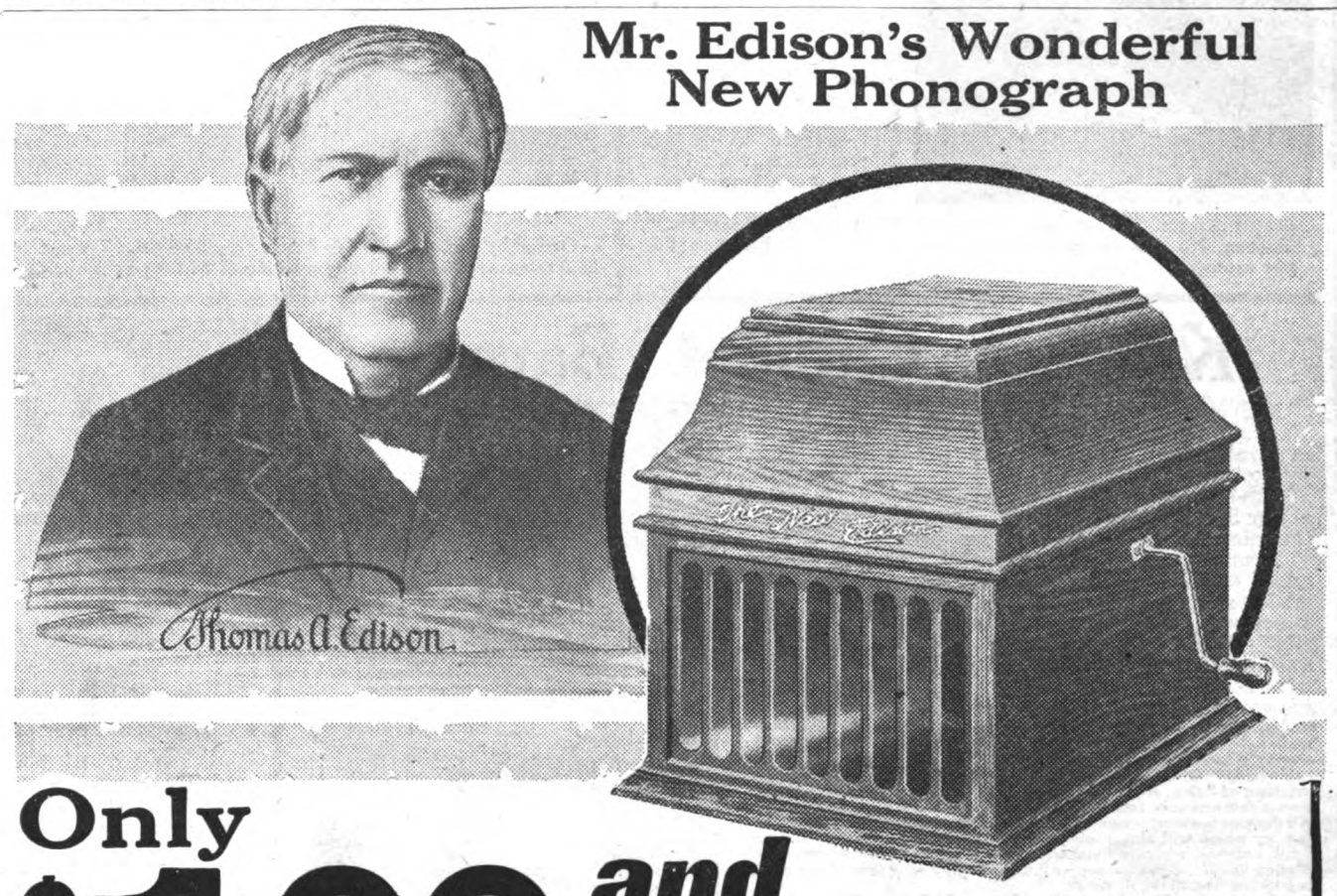
Nan looked doubtful until she noticed that the boat was tied to the dock. Then she agreed.

"Go to sleep," commanded Nan, "and you'll wake up in the moon." Making a pillow of their coats which Norma had placed on the boat, Nan coaxed the little creature to lie down and close her eyes. Rocking the boat gently she sang a cradle song.

"You theep too," said the child, opening her eyes. The children crouched down, half closed their eyes and continued their lullaby. Presently Nan ceased. "She's gone to sleep," she whispered. Bess leaned over. "Don't move yet, you'll wake her," cautioned Nan and they kept still for a

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 38.)

Mr. Edison's Wonderful New Phonograph



Only $1.00 and After Trial!

Edison's Favorite Invention

For years, the world's greatest inventor worked night and day to make the music of the phonograph true to life. At last his efforts have been crowned with success. Just as he was the first to invent the phonograph, so is he the only one who has made phonograph music life-like. Now read our great offer.

Get the New Edison in Your Home on Free Trial.

Entertain your family and friends with the latest song hits, with your favorite, old-time melodies — with everything from grand opera to comic vaudeville. Roar with laughter at the side-splitting minstrel shows. Then, after the trial, send it back if you choose.

Yes, we will send you the New Edison, the product of the world's greatest inventor's genius, the phonograph with the wonderful diamond stylus reproducer and your choice of the latest Diamond Amberol Records *on free trial without a penny down.* On this offer you can now have the genuine Edison, the instrument which gives you real, life-like music, the finest and best of all phonographs at a small fraction of the price asked for imitations of Mr. Edison's great instrument. *Seize this opportunity.* Send the coupon now for free catalog.

Rock-Bottom Offer Direct!

If, after the free trial, you decide to keep Mr. Edison's superb new instrument, send us only $1.00. Pay the balance on the easiest kind of monthly payments. Think of it—a $1 payment, and a few dollars a month to get this wonderful new style outfit—Mr. Edison's great phonograph with the Diamond Stylus reproducer, all musical results of the highest priced outfits—the same Diamond Amberol Records—yes, the greatest value for $1 down, balance on easiest monthly terms. Convince yourself—free trial first! No money down, no C. O. D., not one cent to pay unless you choose to keep instrument.

New Edison Catalog FREE!

Your name and address on a postal or letter (or just the coupon) is enough. No obligations in asking for the catalog. Find out about Mr. Edison's great new phonograph. Get the details of this offer—*while this offer lasts.* Write now.

F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Distributors 3042 Edison Block **Chicago, Ill.**

Canadian Office: 355 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

To F. K. BABSON
Edison Phonograph Distributors
3042 Edison Block, Chicago

Gentlemen: Please send me your New Edison Catalog and full particulars of your free trial offer on the new model Edison Phonograph.

*Name*_____

*Address*_____

No Money

Powerlight Table Lamp Wonderful Bargain



Electricity's successful competitor. Safest, most economical medium of illumination. Has no wires, no pipes. Produces no smoke, no smell. Has no chimney, no wicks. Simple to light, easy to regulate. Especially recommended for homes where there are children. Lamp can be tipped over, turned upside down—no danger whatever. Wonderful construction. Burns either kerosene or gasoline—about 80 hours on one gallon. Height of lamp 22½ in. Diam. of base 8½ in. Is graceful and artistic in design. Nickel finish, with 12 in. amber art dome shade, trimmed with heavy metal ornamental work. **Order by No. MA 263. Price $8.95. Terms: No Money in Advance; 50c in 10 days; Balance 75c per month.**

Chifforobe Special

Here is an excellent bargain in a handy, useful Chifforobe. Durably built with solid oak front and top, golden gloss finish. Panels and sides built of 3-ply lumber which will absolutely prevent warping. Wardrobe section is fitted with steel bar for hangers and is equipped with two combination coat and trouser hangers. Convenient serpentine pants rack which is attached to door. Handy hat compartment with five roomy drawers below. Top measures 20x38 in. Stands 62 inches high; mounted on easy rolling casters. Shipped set up securely packed in wooden crate.



Order by No. MA 274—Price only $14.65. Terms: No Money in Advance; 50c in 10 days; Balance $1.00 per month.

Special Lawn Swi Bargain Offer

A well made four-passenger Lawn Swing at a lo Made of fine hard wood. Derrick finished red seats natural varnish. Shaped seats and high back adjustable into different positions. Thoroughly and reinforced. Seats are 35 inches between arms 30 inches high; Stands 8 ft. high with 8 ft. 3 feet spread. Eqipped with frictionless notched at platform and noiseless edge hanger bl Send for it 10 day a offer. nothing you it.



Order MA 26 only $4. Terms: M in Adva in ten ance, month Equip can be fit. No. MA Pri $8

Terms: No Money in Advance; 50 ten days; Balance 75c per mont

Kitchen Cabinet Bargain

Mail coupon below and let us send you this famous Hartman Solid Oak Kitchen Cabinet without one cent in advance, no C. O. D. or references like others ask, just to prove what a wonderful bargain it really is. We know you will find this Cabinet a wonderful value at our Special Bargain Price. Note the many up-to-the-minute time and labor-saving features.

Removable tilting metal flour bin with sifter attachment, 40 lb. capacity. 2 partitioned spice drawers, made to represent 6 small drawers, each divided into 3 sections. Swinging sugar container, 7 pound capacity. Wire rolling pin rack. Removable sliding kneading board. Handy cupboard for utensils in base, with convenient wire rack on door. Large utensil drawer and convenient bread and cake box with ventilated sliding metal top. Upper section of cabinet is beautifully trimmed with chipped glass doors. Has roomy handy cupboard with shelf. White wood top measures 42x26 inches. Extreme height of cabinet 65 inches. Base is mounted on invisible slides to prevent marring of floor. Attention is called to the continuous top construction, a feature only found on high priced and high grade Cabinets. All drawer bottoms, cupboard bottom and panels are made of 3-ply lumber which will absolutely prevent warping or splitting. Drawer pulls, catches, etc., are finished in bright copper. Entire case Gloss Golden finish. Send coupon—send no money—for free trial according to our liberal credit terms

Order by No. MA258. Price $16.85. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c in 10 Days. Balance $1.25 Per Month.



Solid Oak Kitchen Cabinet

Sensational Sale of Rockers



Seat Supported by Six Steel Springs

Send coupon for this big, roomy Rocker and let it prove for itself what a wonderful bargain it really is. An unusually attractive, sturdily built rocker, made with artistic solid oak frame, neatly finished gloss golden. Has embossed front post, measuring full 3¾ in. in width; shapely arms measuring 23 in. long by 3¾ in. wide. Back is divided into two sections, the uppermost section trimmed with straps and large buttons. Seat measures full 19⅜ in. in width by 18 in. deep and is supported by 6 heavy steel coil springs fully covered with wood fibre and jute. Upholstering is of durable imitation Spanish brown leather. Remember, we don't ask you to send one cent in advance. We will send you this grand rocker for free trial. After it arrives, you can use it for 10 days as your own. Compare it with other rockers selling at anywhere near this low price. Then if you want to keep it, you can pay balance in small monthly payments—otherwise return at our expense and you are not out a cent.

Order by No. MA268. Price only $4.85. Terms: No Money in Advance. 50c in 10 days. Balance 50c per Month.

Free Book Coupon

HARTMAN FURNITURE AND CARPET CO.,
3964 Wentworth Avenue, Dept. 404 Chicago, Ill.

Without any obligation on my part please send me Catalog or Catalogs I have checked below.

General Catalog. Paint and Roofing Catalog.

(Place line like this —— in front of Catalog or Catalogs wanted.)

My Name is .....

R. F. D. or Street Address.....

Town or City.....State.....

Only 50¢

Sensati

The proof of the quality of any article is in the using of it. Th is why we invite you to take your pick from these two pages of wond ful bargains. We will send you the bargain of your choice without a cent of adva payment, no deposit, no C. O. D., no references asked like others do, no mortga security or red tape of any kind.

We want you to judge our merchandise, not by the descriptio and illustrations shown here—which cannot begin to do it justice—b by **actual use in your own home.** We assume the entire responsibility. No obligati of any kind whatever rests upon you.

HARTMAN'S Low Price

The House of Hartman is the gigantic home furnishing institution organi solely for the purpose of selling dependable home furnishings exclusively on easy cred Hartman's is the largest concern of its kind in the world. We have over $12,000,0 capital and resources—a buying power so vast that we can buy merchandise of ev kind in stupendous quantities. We control the entire outputs of some of the larg factories and mills in the United States. Our tremendous volume of business enab us to quote lowest rock-bottom prices and to extend the most liberal credit terms e devised.

Get Hartman's Mammoth Money-Saving Bargain Book FREE

Be sure to mail Coupon in left hand corner for your free copy of our Mamm Bargain Book. Contains thousands of wonderful bargains in practically everything beautifying the home. Pages 17 to 53 are filled with the most beautiful assortment Rugs, Carpets, Table and Couch Covers, Portiers, etc., you can imagine, all ha somely illustrated in natural colors. Pages 53 to 67, a wonderful display of exqui Table Sets and Lace Curtains. Then on up to page 260, you will imagine you are w ing through an immense furniture store with an endless array of luxuriously upholst Rockers, Easy Chairs, Couches, and Davenports, Beauti Beds, richly carved Dining and Library Sets, Dress Chiffoniers, Dressing Tables, Writing Desks, Ch Closets, etc. Then comes 32 pages of Kitchen Cabine Sewing Machines, Sewing Tables, Mirrors, Lam Clocks, Phonographs and other household articles, m pages beautifully printed in colors. Our Silverware s tion, pages, 293 to 306, shows practically everything can think of in elegant guaranteed Silverware. Pages to 330 are devoted to Traveling Bags, Suit Cases, Trunks, Porch Furni Lawn Swings, Glass and China Ware, Go-Carts, Baby Carriages, Refrigerators. The Stove and Range section—347 to 391—will supply every need. Then there are pages devoted to Washing Machines, Wring etc., and two full and complete Paint and Roofing and Jewelry sections.



And you can order anything you want from this book at lowe bed-rock prices and on the easiest credit terms ever devised. You ne this book as your reliable shopping guide. Write a postal or send co for it today.

HARTMAN FURNIT 3964 We

HARTMAN

In Advance

Full Collapsible Go-Cart Special Bargain

Here is a splendid value in a high wood side, full collapsible Go-Cart. Body made of 3-ply veneers, securely fastened by tinned ferrules; neatly enameled and trimmed with gold stripes. Has full tubular pushers, nickeled trimmed handle, sensitive spring, positive foot brake, padded seat, three position back, adjustable 3-bow hood, nickel hub caps and many other features found only on higher priced Go-Carts. Has 10 inch wheels; ¼-inch tires; 16 by 28 inch frame; back 11½ by 15 ins.; seat 10 by 13 inches. Just mail the coupon Send no money.



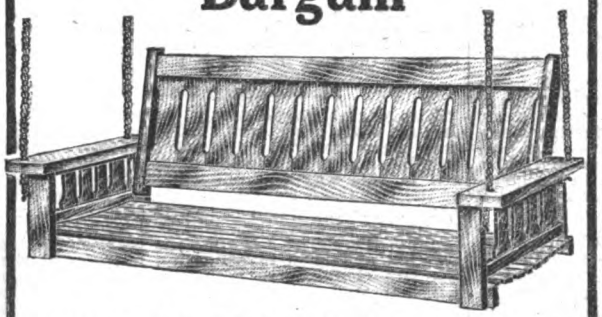
Has ½-in. Solid Rubber Tires

Nickel Hub Caps

Positive Foot Brake

Order by No. MA 273. Price only $10.65—Terms: No Money in Advance; 50c in ten days; Bal. $1.00 per month.

Fine Porch Swing Bargain



Here is a full 48-inch Porch Swing, strongly constructed of solid oak, equipped with non-rustable galvanized chains and ceiling hooks. Has attractive panel ends and back. The full shaped comfortable seat is strongly braced underneath by four strong stretchers. This Porch Swing comes in the popular fumed finish, treated with an extra coat of shellac which renders it weather resisting. Measurements are as follows: length 48 inches; height of back, 22 inches; arms are 23 inches long by 3 inches wide; seat is 17 inches deep. Comes securely packed in wooden crate.

Order by No. MA 272—Price only $2.98. Terms; No Money In Advance; 50c in ten days; Balance 50c per month.

5-Piece Bed Combination Outfit

This elegant 5-piece Bed Outfit is a striking example of the wonderful value you get in a Hartman bargain. Outfit consists of handsome chill-less Steel Bed made with full 1 1-16-inch continuous tubing, trimmed with 8 5-16-inch upright fillers, connected at top and bottom to heavy ⅞-in. tubular steel cross rods. Full size only—4 feet 6 inches. Height at head, 54 inches; at foot, 34 inches. Choice of White or Vernis Martin. Mattress covered with durable striped ticking, filled with wood fibre and has soft sanitary cotton top. Springs made with heavy angle iron frame, tin wire fabric top connected at ends with steel helical springs. Pillows measure full 18x25 inches, weight 5 lbs. per pair. Filled with selected hen feathers, properly cured, sterilized and thoroughly dedusted. Guaranteed soft, elastic and odorless. Heavy grade blue and white striped ticking.

We feel so sure that you will be delighted with this wonderful bargain that we're willing to send it out to you with out a cent in advance, without any C.O.D.'s or other restrictions. Just the coupon below brings it. If you are pleased with it, keep the outfit and pay according to our easy credit terms. Otherwise, return at our expense. **Order by No. MA 266. Price only $13.98. Terms: No Money in Advance; 50c in ten days; Balance $1 per Month.**



In 10 Days

Final Sale

We make this offer because we want you to see the tremendous values we offer.

The articles shown in this advertisement are merely an illustration of the wonderful bargains shown in our mammoth catalog.

Put us to the test. Let our merchandise speak for itself. If the quality stands the test of actual use, and you decide to keep what you order, pay only 50c in 10 days after arrival and the balance in small monthly payments according to prices and terms quoted under each item. If for any reason you do not wish to keep it, return shipment at our expense.

and Liberal Credit Terms

Send no money—just the coupon—for any one of the big money-saving bargains shown on these two pages. Then when it arrives, you can decide at your leisure as to whether or not you wish to keep it.

Only one of these bargains will be sent to a family on these amazing terms; but when you receive our mammoth Bargain Catalog you can order as much as you like—all at bed-rock prices and on our easy credit terms.

Remarkable Bargains In Paint and Roofing



Order all the paint and roofing you need without sending a cent in advance. We'll send it to you on 10 days' approval, and, not until you are positively convinced that it is of fine quality and a great value at our special bargain prices, do we even expect you to keep it. If you decide to keep it, you may make a first small payment 10 days after it arrives, and pay the balance in small monthly payments on our easy, long-time credit terms. No mortgage, no C. O. D., no references asked like others do. If for any reason you are not entirely satisfied, return goods at our expense. You run no risk whatever.



Paint & Roofing Bargain Book FREE

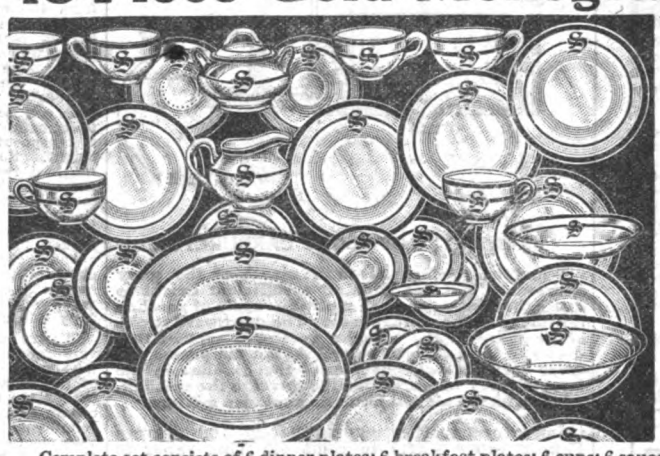


Send name and address on postal or coupon for Free catalog containing all paint colors. Also free samples of roofing prepaid and full details of Hartman's Easy Credit Plan.

URE AND CARPET COMPANY,
-worth Ave., Dept. 404 Chicago, Ill.

Will Trust You

48-Piece Gold Monogram Dinner Set



Just mail coupon and we will at once ship you the complete set with your monogram initial in gold on every piece. Be sure to state initial wanted. If you think this the biggest dinner set bargain you ever heard of and wish to keep it, just pay 50c in 10 days after dishes arrive and then 50c a month until our special get-acquainted bargain price of $3.98 is paid. If you do not wish to keep them, return at our freight expense. Here is your opportunity to gratify your wish to set your table with as exquisite a set of dishes as the heart of any woman could desire. They are of splendid quality pure white Porcelain, decorated with gold bands and your own initial in gold on every piece.

Complete set consists of 6 dinner plates; 6 breakfast plates; 6 cups; 6 saucers; 6 fruit dishes; 6 new style soup coupes; 6 butter plates; 1 deep open vegetable dish; 2 meat platters; 1 sugar bowl and cover (2 pieces); 1 cream pitcher. Each dish is full size for family use and guaranteed perfect.

Order by No. MA271. Price only $3.98. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c in 10 days. Balance 50c per Month.

Be sure to state the initial you wish on your set.



Exact Size and Style of Initial on Every Piece

Sensational 42-Piece Aluminum Ware Set

Here's your chance to get a wonderful 42-piece set of Aluminum Ware at a most remarkable bargain price. Don't send any money—just the coupon and we will immediately ship you the set for free trial. Each piece fully guaranteed—is seamless—will not scald, chip or crack. Complete set consists of—9-piece Combination Outfit consisting of 2-piece self-basting roaster, pierced tray with 5 egg poachers or custard cups and dairy pan; 7-cup Coffee Percolator with inset (two pieces); 6-qt. Preserving Kettle; 2 Bread Pans; 2 Pie Plates; 1-qt. Lipped Sauce Pan; 2-qt. Lipped Sauce Pan; 1 Ladle; 2 Jelly Cake Pans, with loose bottoms (4 pieces); 1 Castor Set consisting of Salt Shaker, Pepper Shaker, Toothpick Holder and Frame (4 pieces); 1 measuring Cup; 1 Combination Funnel (6 pieces); 3 Measuring Spoons; 1 Tea and Coffee Strainer; 1 Sugar Shaker; 1 Grater; 1 Cake Turner; 1 Lemon Juice Extractor.



Order by No. MA261. Price $9.95. Terms: No Money In Advance. 50c in 10 Days. Balance 75c per Month.

Order Coupon

HARTMAN FURNITURE & CARPET CO.,
3964 Wentworth Avenue, Dept. 404 Chicago, Ill.

Without any money in advance, please send me article named below. If I keep it, I will pay 50c in 10 days after arrival of shipment, and balance in monthly payments as per prices and terms quoted in this advertisement. If I decide not to keep it, I will return it to you at your expense.

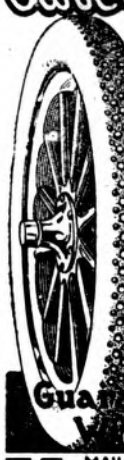
Name of article wanted..... No.....

My Name is.....

R. F. D. or Street Address.....

Town or City..... State.....

Save Your Worn Tires



Get 5,000 Miles More Service by "half-soling" them with Steel Studded Treads the same as European Motorists have been doing for over 3 years. 30,000 American Motorists have done this in the last 8 months and are saving $50 to $200 a year in tire expense. **5,000 Miles** without puncture is the signed guarantee you get with every Durable Steel Studded Tread. **We Deliver Free** without a cent deposit, prepay the express and allow you to judge. **Special Discount** offered to motorists in new territory on first shipment direct from the factory. Stop throwing away your worn tires—mail the coupon below for details—be sure and put in your tire sizes.

Guaranteed 5000 Miles without Puncture

MAIL TODAY—SAVE THE DISCOUNT

The Colorado Tire & Leather Co.
290 Tread Bldg., Denver, Colo.
B-90 Transportation Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
720-902 Woolworth Bldg., New York City

Without obligation send me free catalog, copy of guarantee, sample and booklet "10,000 Miles on One Set of Tires."

Name .....
Address .....
My Tire Sizes are .....

"DON'T SHOUT"



"I hear you. I can hear now as well as anybody. 'How?' With the **MORLEY PHONE.** I've a pair in my ears now, but they are invisible. I would not know I had them in, myself, only that I hear all right. "The **Morley Phone** for the

DEAF

is to the ears what glasses are to the eyes. Invisible, comfortable, weightless and harmless. Anyone can adjust it." Over one hundred thousand sold. Write for booklet and testimonials.

THE MORLEY CO., Dept. 766, Perry Bldg., Phila.

Violin Music for Names of Three Violin Players

ALOHA OE

We give you a 50 cent Music Book of 23 select pieces for Violin in easy arrangement, printed on fine paper. Send us names and addresses of three violin players. We want every violin player to have our musical magazine, "The Musicians' Mouthpiece." Easy orchestra Books and Music. Strings for all instruments, etc. **Enclose 10c for mailing this Music Book.**

E. T. ROOT & SONS, 1521 E. 55th St., Chicago

KEROSENE ENGINES
OTTAWA LATEST DESIGN



Durable, Powerful, Reliable, Massive. Built to last; to do hard, heavy work. Uses Cheapest Fuel. Pull ¼ to ⅓ horse-power more than rated ***3 Months Trial. Easy Terms.*** Sizes 1½ to 22 H-P. Easy to start. No Cranking. No batteries. **10 Year Guarantee.** Most practical engine ever built. Engine book free. A Postal brings it.

THE OTTAWA MANUFACTURING CO.,
1271 King Street, OTTAWA, KANSAS.



Free Law Book

EVERY ambitious man in America should have our free book on law. It tells you why law trained men are natural leaders and how you, too, can fit yourself for a high place.

Write Today Learn about the opportunities that await you. No obligations. The book is free. Write today—now.

American School of Correspondence
Dept. L. 3042 Chicago, U. S. A.

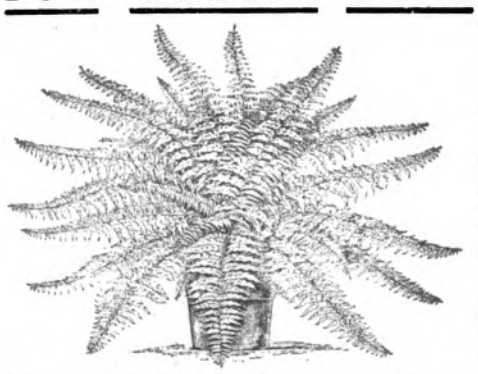
ATCO AUTOS $135 TO $835 ON EASY TERMS
$50 DOWN LITERATURE FREE ASK FOR AGENCY PLAN
AUTO TRADING CO. 5901 CENTER AV. PITTSBURG PA

MEN WANTED



We positively teach you at home by mail to earn $25 to $50 weekly as Chauffeur or Repairman. Students assisted to positions. Best system, lowest price. MODELS FURNISHED. Write for Free Book. PRACTICAL AUTO SCHOOL, 70-F, Beaver St., New York.

Four Beautiful Ferns



Given For Two Subscriptions

PREMIUM NO. 6112

BEAUTIFUL, charming **ferns** make the home **bright and cheerful.** They need but little care and live indefinately, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the handsomest, most popular varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt,** the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) **at 50 cents,** we will send you you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

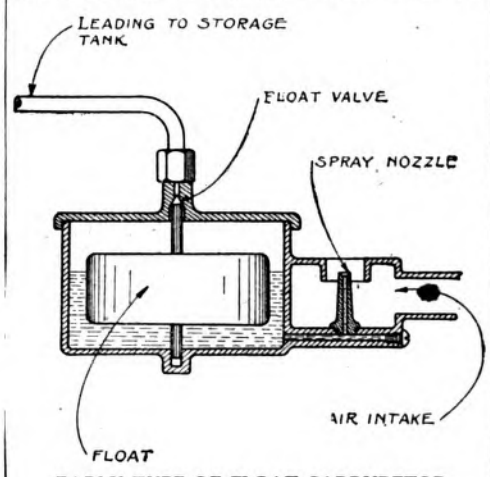
Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

The Carburetor

THE carburetor might rightfully be termed the lungs of the engine as upon its proper performance depend the power, service and efficient action. It is that instrument which brings gasoline and air together and causes to be formed a vapor of the proper proportions to be highly explosive. In other words the operating principle of the automobile engine is based upon the fact that a fine spray of gasoline mixed with air in the correct proportion forms a highly inflammable gas or mixture of air and gasoline vapor, which when compressed in a small air-tight chamber and ignited by an electric spark will generate the necessary power to force the piston in the cylinder down and thus impart the power impulse to the crank shaft. As is well known, gasoline is the most generally used fuel for motor vehicles. However all mixtures of gasoline vapor and air do not burn with the same degree of rapidity. A mixture which is too lean or too rich when ignited will not result in maximum power. This fact is appreciated by every carburetor designer and is the reason why specific directions accompany every carburetor sold.

In Europe gasoline is sold under the name of petrol, it taking this name from petroleum from which it is derived. Benzol is the name of anothed fuel much used in some foreign countries. This is derived from coal tar and is produced in the manufacture of coal tar and coke. Benzol cannot be satisfactorily used in carburetors designed for handling gasoline but requires a specially constructed carburetting apparatus.

Before going too deep into the subject of carburetization it will no doubt be well to give the reader some idea as to how gasoline is obtained. Petroleum commonly termed crude oil is found in natural deposits several hundred feet below the surface of the ground. Crude oils may be classified into two general grades, one having the asphalt base and the other the paraffin base. The former in the United States is found in Oklahoma, Texas and California while petroleum having the paraffin base comes mostly from Pennsylvania and Ohio. It was formerly supposed that crude oil of a paraffin base was of a higher grade but authorities advise that the modern methods of refining place both kinds on a par. The petroleum as taken from the ground is placed in large retorts and heated. When the



EARLY TYPE OF FLOAT CARBURETOR

When the gasoline rises to the mouth of the spray nozzle the float has risen to a sufficient height to cause the float valve to shut off the supply of gasoline flowing from the storage tank. The downward stroke of the piston in the cylinder creates a suction that draws air through carburetor. As the air passes the spray nozzle it sucks out some of the gasoline in the form of spray which, during the travel to the cylinder, mixes with the air and forms an explosive mixture.

temperature reaches approximately 100 degrees Fah. a vapor starts to come off. This vapor is caught at the top of the retort and conducted to a condenser where, by the application of cold, it is condensed to a liquid. As the temperature is raised heavier vapors start to come off and when condensed form the heavier or less volatile fuels. On a general average crude oil is said to be composed of from 10 to 15 per cent highly volatile oils; 65 to 75 per cent kerosene and light lubricating oils and from 15 per cent to 20 per cent heavy oils, paraffin wax, etc. Highly volatile oils such as gasoline, benzine and naphtha come off at a temperature ranging between 100 and 125 degrees Fah.; kerosene and light lubricating oils at 125 to 250 degrees Fah., and heavy oils, etc., at a temperature above 250 degrees Fah.

Everyone knows that heat is required to vaporize water. For instance a pan of water may be left outside in cold weather for a long time before the water will be evaporated while on the other hand if water be boiled, 212 degrees Fah. being the boiling point of water, it will soon disappear.

The same principle applies to gasoline. If this fuel be heated it will vaporize quicker. To insure quick action in complete vaporization a stove is usually placed around the hot exhaust manifold and a flexible metal tube run to the intake air opening of the carburetor. As can naturally be expected the air passing around the hot exhaust manifold is rapidly heated and therefore when admitted to the carburetor is warm.

Carbureting devices may be divided into three general classifications, spraying, surface and bubbling. The sprayer is the type now in nearly universal use and will therefore be the one taken into consideration. In this type the gasoline is first reduced to a fine spray and then mixed with air so that the two unite into a perfectly combustible mixture during their travel from the carburetor to the combustion chamber in the cylinder.

The float feed type of carburetor is the one in general use. By this is meant that the amount of gasoline taken into the carburetor at one time is controlled by float action. The float is so set that when the fuel rises to a certain level a valve is brought into play which shuts off the gasoline supply from the main storage tank. This type of carburetor really has two chambers, one for the float and the other for the spraying jet, the latter being in direct communication with the engine. An early type carburetor which is nevertheless a good one for the reader to obtain the elementary principles involved, is shown in the accompanying illustration. In the coming installments the different types of present day carburetors will be discussed

Some Helpful Hints

Patching Oil Wicks

More than one motorist has had much of the pleasure taken out of night driving through one or more of the oil lamps used on the car suddenly failing to burn. Upon investigation it is often found that there is oil in the lamp but the wick is too short to reach the fuel. If a new wick or one of suitable length is not at hand the emergency may be met by patching the old wick. This can be done by binding a piece of waste by means of a rubber band or string to the end of the wick. The waste reaching into the kerosene readily takes up the fuel and thus passes it on to the wick.

Inflating Tires

Tire pressure gauges are inexpensive and should form part of each car's equipment. If tire expense is to be kept as low as possible it is necessary that the tires be properly inflated. However in the absence of a gauge a tire manufacturer has suggested a method which if closely followed will result in the tires receiving the proper inflation.

When the car is fully loaded start to pump up the tires. With a pair of calipers or other suitable tool measure the top of the tire, that is, the widest part of the tire which is located under the mudguard. Next measure the tire at the bottom or in other words the widest part of the tire which is contacting with the road. When the part contacting with the road measures approximately nine per cent greater than the part measured at the top, the tire is properly inflated.

Maintaining Traction

Tire chains should always be used for winter driving. Particular care should be taken to adjust them properly. A chain properly adjusted will be able to constantly shift around the tire and in this way will not subject any one point of the tire tread to excessive wear. On the other hand if the tire chain is tightly adjusted, it will be unable to move and will cut into the tread rapidly. Should at any time the rear wheels lose traction and upon investigation it is found that the tire chains have been left at home a rope will act well as a substitute. Wind the rope around the wheel between spokes and securely tie the ends.

Cleaning with Alcohol

Wood alcohol is said to be highly recommended as a cleansing agent for cloth, leather upholstery, etc. Apply with a sponge or soft cloth.

Keep Springs Lubricated

The riding quality of any car will be greatly improved by keeping the springs properly lubricated. This does not mean only the spring shackle bolts but also the friction surfaces of each spring leaf. At least once a season spread the leaves apart with a screw-driver or some similar wedge-shaped tool and spread a little graphite grease over the surface of each leaf.

Questions Answered

REMOVING CARBON.—I run my own car and am interested in COMFORT'S Auto Department. Can you give me the recipe for carbon remover to be run into the cylinders through the petcocks or through the spark plug holes? J. W. J., Terre Haute, Ind.

A.—There are several preparations that can be purchased at a very low price for removing carbon from the cylinders by chemical action. Although the writer is a firm believer of scraping and also the oxygen method for removing carbon, yet there are many who advocate the injection of denatured alcohol or kerosene into the cylinders. To use either of these liquids the motor should be allowed to run until thoroughly warmed up after which the alcohol or kerosene can be introduced into each cylinder, allowing it to remain there for about six or eight hours. About a teaspoonful placed in each cylinder will be sufficient. Some advocates of this method advise that the best results can be obtained by treating one cylinder at a time. Turn the motor over until the piston is brought to the height of its upward stroke and then pour in the fluid which is said to gradually loosen the hard carbon accumulation so that it is broken up in small pieces and carried out with the exhaust gases when the motor is started. One of the chief objections to this method is that a piece of carbon is apt to become trapped between the exhaust valve and its seat thus preventing the valve from fully closing.

WANTS A MORE POWERFUL ENGINE.—I live in a very rough country and I find my * * * * 20 has not the power I need. I met with a little accident; one of the connecting rods got loose and punched the head out of the cylinder. For about what it would cost to repair this damage I can get a 25 or 30 horse-power rebuilt motor and install it in my car. Do you advise me to do this? Would my frame and chasis stand the extra power? W. W. D., Granton, Okla.

A.—The question you ask is a difficult one to intelligently answer. The writer has never conducted an experiment such as you wish to try and it is therefore a debatable point whether or not the same would turn out to be a success. As a general thing the designer of a car frame takes into consideration the type of motor which the frame is intended to carry. If it is possible for you to find a motor of greater horse-power which can be installed in your car and connected up without considerable expense and redesigning it will be nothing more or less than a piece of unusual good fortune. The company which makes your car is a reputable one and we therefore believe that before purchasing the new motor you take this matter up with them. It may be that your motor is out of adjustment, and if it were repaired and given a good tuning up by the factory mechanics perhaps its performance might meet your requirements. If such is not the case the manufacturer may be in position to furnish gears of a lower ratio for the rear axle. While such a change might slightly decrease the speed of the machine the power developed by the engine would be materially increased.

My Lady O'Crinoline

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

following her eyes, I noted a thin line of smoke coming down the big staircase, which increased momentarily.

"'Oh, you heartless wretches!' she screamed in terror, 'you have set the house on fire!'

"'It's not true!' I cried in turn. 'It's not true! Those boys are faithful and decent! They have sisters and womenfolk at home. They would not do it out of mere wantonness, I swear it!'

"The servants had discovered the conflagration and came in howling and screaming. The young women issued from the dining-room with pale, scared faces. The girl's mother screamed out:

"'Merciful heaven! Hal is up-stairs, asleep!'

"'Where is his room?' I cried, 'tell me, young lady!'

"'I'll show you!' she cried. 'Up—at the head of the stairs.'

"'No, no, remain here. You cannot take a chance. I'll go!' I thrust her back, and sprang up the stairs, through stifling smoke to the door indicated. I threw it open, it was already weakened by the fire and fell to pieces, throwing up a deflagration of sparks, while a blast of flame shot forth, through which it seemed sheer folly to spring. But with a disregard for that, and thinking only of those terrorized scornful eyes below, I made the spring and to the little bed in the corner. The smoke had stupefied the lad, so I grabbed him up, in one hand, and with the other picked up a chair which I crashed through the second window, for the fire was blazing about the window nearest the door. I staggered through the smoke, to the window and sat upon the ledge and shouted out to my men below. They threw up a rope which I fastened about the lad and let him down then I crawled out upon the window ledge, hung for a moment, then dropped. The men below held a blanket, and into this I fell without any worse effects than a nasty jolt.

"Then we set to work to put out the fire, but it was futile. We did what we could, but the building burned merrily, and soon only the walls were standing.

"My Lady o' Crinoline had stood by all the time, from the moment I let down the boy, until I dropped myself. A dozen willing hands took care of the lad, but the girl stayed near me, and as I stood by watching the smouldering ruin, she cried:

"'Look at your handiwork! You have made the home of a widow a blazing pyre. Admire it! Is it not an act worthy of gentlemen?'

"I could not blame her in her despair, but I knew we were guiltless.

"'You wrong us,' I cried, 'I swear you are wrong. My men were stationed below. How could they have started the fire?'

"At that moment the old colored mammy came up to her young mistress's side.

"'Oh, Miss Virginia,' she wailed, 'Marster Hal am all right, but I done ought to tear an' beat myself to pieces. I put de lighted candle on de table near de window. Marster Hal, he wanted a light to watch fo' de Yanks, an' so I left de candle lit, meanin' by an' by to put it out. I guess de wind done blowed de curtin into de light, an' started de fire!'

"The truth and probability of the negress's statement flashed to us. The fire *had* raged in that corner of the room where that window was. It was my vindication.

"'Go, Dinah,' the girl said, and we were alone. For some moments we stood gazing at each other in the flaring light of the fire. Then in proud humility, the girl extended her hand.

"'I am not so proud that I cannot admit a mistake; nor can I leave you without an apology I am sorry; I ask your forgiveness. But remember always that I—that I——'

"Her voice trailed off, but I knew what she would say.

"My hand trembled as I took her outstretched one. Its soft touch thrilled, yea, unbalanced me.

"'My Lady, my Lady o' Crinoline!' I cried. 'Don't hate me! For tonight I have begun to live and I—I—Oh, dare I say the word that you will consider an insult?—I love you! When this war is over, I shall return; I shall find you, and you shall love me. The time will come when you will reverse your opinion of me which you set forth in my Valentine. Valentine, precious message, even though it was intended to be insulting.'

"'Go, I do not wish to listen to you,' she said, but I saw signs which even her fine control could not hide.

"'I shall obey,' I answered, 'but my love will ever be in mind, and so beget yours. Think of me, my lady, and believe I am honest in my love. If neither bullet nor disease claim me, I shall come again. For I love you, my lady, love you as it is every man's privilege to love when love is honest and sincere. You shall find in me a true heart, which will serve you as honestly as it does the cause you now so hate.'

"A carriage drove up then, and a girl friend sprang out and took the beautiful creature away. And that night, I dreamed of her."

The Colonel stopped. "You were named after that lady, my dear," he said, turning to Virginia.

"Named after her? Why, I was named after grandmother!"

"Well that's merely another way of saying it, I suppose," the Colonel smiled teasingly.

"Then the lady was grandmother?"

"Do you think I'd dare tell this story, if it hadn't been—grandmother?" he queried.



BUY A WITTE High-Grade Engine

I can ship immediately—any size or style—WITTE Kerosene or Gasoline Engine—2 to 22 H-P., Stationary, Portable or Saw-rig—all ready to run on arrival. Why wait 6 to 8 weeks, or longer, when I can ship you a better engine Now! Today!!—so that it will be earning a part of its cost. Cash or Easy Payments. Immediate shipment proves superior factory service. My Free Book, **"How To Judge Engines,"** tells why I save you $25 to $100, and sell you a better engine. Yours for a post card. ED. H. WITTE.

E. H. WITTE.

WITTE ENGINE WORKS,
3640 Oakland Av., Kansas City, Mo.
3640 Empire Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.



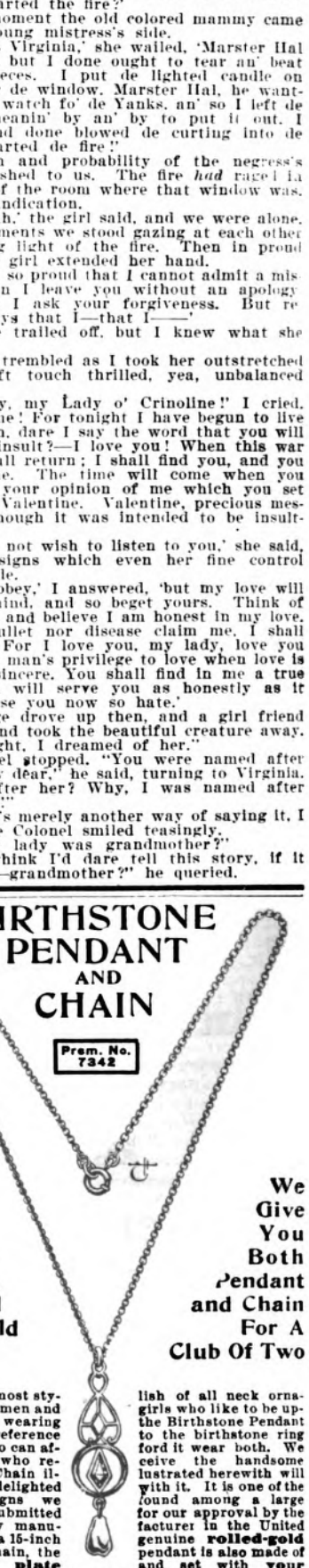
REVERSIBLE **"Linene"** TRADE MARK



Send 2 Cents in U. S. stamps to pay postage and we will send you **FREE** a **SAMPLE COLLAR** of our New Style **"Copley."** State size wanted. REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. E, Boston, Mass.

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN

Prem. No. 7342



Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Two

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome lustrated herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch genuine **rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the **rolled-gold plate** pendant is also made of and set with **your own birthstone** and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond.** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald.** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are solitaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or for one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7342.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

CHAPTER IV.

A PERPLEXED GENTLEMAN.

"There," said Agatha, triumphant but exhausted, waving the towel with which she had been polishing glasses and retiring to a distance to survey their glittering ranks where they stood on the handsome old sideboard in readiness for the man who was coming from Highbury to act as waiter. "No one would ever know all those had not been used for years!"

The three girls stood and surveyed the scene of their labors in silence. The great dining-room, hung with Spanish leather, in which forty people could have dined, was cut off by high gilded screens to a quarter of its size, making a cozy corner in front of the fire, where the table was to be laid for the little party of five.

"If Clarence Mayne could only see us!" Nerine cried, with that rare fresh laugh of hers which was the very spirit of mirth. "How he would put his glass in his eye and survey the scene!" she added, with an appreciative glance at the antique silver and the bunches of pink chrysanthemums which adorned the table.

"Well, he can't see us," returned Agatha, practically, "so we need not think about him. Let us go and have some tea and take our ease till it's time to dress. Nerine, you might go and find Maurice——"

"Not much need," interrupted that person, appearing with a large basket containing champagne, burgundy and sherry. "I am about choked with cobwebs and straw, and half frozen besides in that beastly cellar. I say, girls, Mr. Mayne has made a pretty good hole in our wine!"

"Don't leave it here, Maurice. Give it to Jane," said Agatha. "The man who is coming to wait might drink it all before dinner."

It was well on to half-past seven when the expectant host and hostesses went up-stairs to dress. The waiter had arrived and was laying the table. Jane was bustling round her kitchen in a state of great excitement, and Ellen, her sister, a girl of sixteen, who had opportunely called on a visit and had been pressed to remain for the important occasion, as her services might be needed, was meekly and mildly doing whatever she was bidden, while her mouth watered at the savory smells pervading the kitchen. As the clock struck eight the door bell rang rather faintly. Mr. Mayne had long ago abolished the knocker which lacerated his nerves.

"You run up, Ellen, and tell Hall you'll go to the door. He's a-making the salad for me in the pantry. This ain't anybody yet—it's too early. Dinner ain't till half-past eight."

Ellen departed, giving her message to Hall, the waiter, as she passed through the pantry.

The great hall was quite dark as she reached it. (Maurice in lighting the dining-room and the drawing-room having quite forgotten it), and the various fastenings of the hall door responded but slowly therefore in her unaccustomed fingers.

On the steps stood a tall man wrapped in a voluminous inverness cloak. Satterlee had dressed at the club and walked the few steps between it and Lispenard House. Eight o'clock, he supposed was the dinner hour, though neither Lispenard nor his sister had mentioned one.

He walked into the dark hall accordingly like one who is expected. The maid who had answered the door closed it after him and moved on in the dark toward the interior of the house. Satterlee could just distinguish her figure in the gloom, and followed her quickly, not to lose sight of her. Never having been in the house before, he had not the vaguest idea where to go.

Ellen, hurrying on in front, looked over her shoulder to see the large and silent figure striding rapidly after her. She meant to turn into the pantry to ask Hall what she was to do, and missed the turning; before she knew what she was doing she found herself mounting the pitch-dark back stairs. Suddenly she began to run.

What if she had admitted a robber or a burglar like she had read about in the newspapers, and he was coming after her to kill her! Jane had said it was too early for the gentleman, and any one else would have given some message, or at least asked if anyone were in. Ellen's stout country legs fairly flew up the dark and twisting stairs. Behind her came Satterlee, three steps at a time, completely bewildered, but determined not to lose sight of the only guide he had in this peculiar house.

Ellen's overwrought sensibilities gave way; already she could feel a burglarious hand clutching the skirt of her dress.

"Go down, mister, go down!" she shrieked. "You've made a mistake!" And as her pursuer stopped in wild surprise, at this form of address, she whisked round a corner and after some false starts found her way to Jane's bedroom, where she crouched trembling with fright, unable to move.

"Well, upon my word!" thought Satterlee, brought to a dead stop on the dark stair. "This is the most remarkable house to come to dinner in. What got into that girl, I wonder? I'd have done better to have sat on the doorsteps till Lispenard came down."

He made a cautious step or two upward, and found himself apparently on a landing from which two passages branched in opposite directions. Should he try one of them or should he go back? Whichever he did, it was very awkward in a strange house. And at the awful thought that an incautiously opened door might bring him into the female apartment of Miss Lispenard or her sister, Lord Satterlee quailed.

He turned to retrace his steps through the perfect silence of the dark house back to the front hall and the door. But though he descended a staircase, it was not the one he had come up, and it led him into a baize-covered passage in which his feet made no sound.

With an abruptness with which inclination had nothing to do, Satterlee's handsome face brought up against a baize-covered door, which, luckily for his nose, gave way before his involuntary onslaught; then as he made a step forward with a hearty exclamation it swung to behind him.

"Confound this place!" he said aloud. "And confound my nose. I believe I've broken it!" feeling that feature crossly. The darkness in the room was almost palpable. After a little ineffectual groping to try and discover some furniture, a mantelpiece or table where there might be matches, Lord Satterlee found he had completely lost his bearings. Furniture there was in plenty, judging from the various things he had violently bumped against, but it seemed to be stowed anywhere and everywhere in confusion. When he had stubbed his toes for the fifth time he sat down in the dark on the last object which had assaulted him. It was a small table, which upset under him; and after this last downfall he sat where he was, utterly bewildered.

It was of no use to ransack his evening clothes for matches; he had none. Presently he spoke softly to himself in the black darkness:

"Well, I'm dished!"

CHAPTER V.

THE LOST GUEST.

Up-stairs the toilets of the ladies were slowly progressing. Kit, gazing at the glory of a white crape frock made over shimmering peach-colored satin, was rather mournfully wondering if she ought not to put on something not quite so fine because of the forlorn condition of the wardrobe of her hostesses.

"I must look nice, but I mustn't look too nice!" she remarked to those ladies. "It would be too horrid of me."

Nerine laughed where she stood behind Agatha, deftly coiling her sister's smooth, fine hair. The three were dressing in Kit's room, for the sake of the fire and the Lispenard festal garments lay on a chair in a heap, with a great want of respect for their age and sobriety.

"Make yourself as fine as you can, my dear!" Nerine said, gayly. "Agatha and I are so much handsomer, to begin with, that your efforts will all be required to outshine us!"

"And it's high necked!" Agatha chimed in, rather vaguely referring to the exquisite garment on the bed. "Oh, Nerine, that pin punctured me!" with a muffled shriek. "Give me the glass. I'll finish for myself."

"You are finished," returned the executioner, calmly running another large pin into the hair of her victim, which grazed the skin with some energy. "You may suffer, but your hair is done with divine elegance!"

As she spoke she gave a hasty glance at her own hair, and she twisted it up with as little care as though she were going to dine with Mr. Mayne. It was not so smooth as Agatha's, perhaps not so fine, and it rippled a little when it was brushed back from her low Greek forehead. Without another look at the careless classic coil, the girl slipped on her gown.

"If only I wrote for the *Lady's Pictorial*, I should say that 'the gowns of green velvet worn by the Misses Lispenard owed their charm to the antique simplicity of their style,'" she remarked as she buttoned the worn old dress, whose only trimming was a ruff of heavy yellow lace about the throat, a far more fashionable one, somehow, than Agatha's, though it was made of the selfsame duchesse point. Nerine's slim, round throat rose out of it like a stately flower stem; her hands were white and fine against the worn pile of the dull-green velvet, whose long, clinging skirt trailed unheeded after her.

"How slow you two are!" she said, leaning an idle elbow against the mantel while she warmed her shabby shoe on the fender. She was delighted at the flavor of forbidden fruit which hung about this dinner party: doubly delicious was it to contravene the orders of the absent Mr. Mayne and to have so young and good looking a guest. She fairly bubbled over with laughter and nonsense as the other girls dressed.

Agatha, on the contrary, was very silent. A vague feeling of worry and trouble oppressed her. Something might go wrong about the dinner, and she was sure Lord Satterlee was very particular. And then the many Sundays when at afternoon service at St. Jude's she had felt his eyes upon her as she sat devoutly listening to the sermon were too fresh in her mind to make her anything but nervous. How dreadful it would be if he thought she had suggested his being asked to dinner!

"Agatha is a typical hostess isn't she, Kit? Look at her knitted brow of anxiety about her repast. She might be having ten lords instead of one. By the way, he ought to be here; we ought to be down-stairs," with a look at Kit's little gold watch lying on the mantelpiece. "Do you know, my good girls, that it is nearly half-past eight?"

A bang at the door interrupted her.

"Girls, where are you?" shouted Maurice, and without ceremony he burst into the room. "What? Aren't any of you down-stairs? Then where on earth is Satterlee?"

"He hasn't come yet," Agatha returned, calmly. "Where should he be?"

"He came half an hour ago!" replied Maurice, wrathfully. "And that idiot of a sister of Jane's thought he was a burglar or something and ran away and hid in the attic. Jane's just told me; but neither she nor I can find Satterlee, and I suppose he must have followed that ninny of a girl up-stairs and can't find his way down."

"How do you know it was he?" Agatha stood aghast with horror. None of her forebodings had come up to this.

"Who else could it be? Give me one of those candles and I'll go and look for him in the garret."

Kitty Belton sat down weakly and went into fits of laughter. She had finished dressing, as had Nerine, while Agatha still stood with her gown half-fastened, too terrified to proceed.

"Fancy him up in the garret in the dark!" Kit exclaimed. "What do you keep in the garret, Agatha? There are old mouse traps, I suppose, and chairs without any legs, and——"

"Why did he go up there?" interrupted Nerine as Kit became speechless with mirth.

"He followed Ellen, of course. What else could he do?" But Agatha got no answer to her indignant question.

A sudden flash of inspiration had checked Nerine's laughter. Like Maurice, she seized a bedroom candle and flew out of the room. If Lord Satterlee was not down-stairs and Maurice did not find him in the garret could he have possibly found his way into Mr. Mayne's part of the house? If so, he could never find his way back again in the dark.

Down the stairs the girl hurried as Maurice was striding up them, and along the baize-covered passage to the door which was the back entrance to the very palatial suit of rooms of which her stepfather had possessed himself.

But when she reached the door there was no sign of Satterlee. Nerine stopped short. Surely Mr. Mayne could never have forgotten to lock that door when he departed. If so, perhaps the last guest had found his way into the sacred chamber!

She gave the swinging door a vigorous push. It had no handle, only a peculiar catch on the inside, from which it only could be unfastened. It was hard and fast.

Nerine gave it a shake, more from impatience at the impossibility of her brilliant idea than from anything else.

"Then he must be in the garret," she said aloud. "He can't have got in here."

She was turning away, when a sound of rapidly displaced furniture inside the locked door startled her.

"Good heavens! Could Maurice have been mistaken and it had been Mr. Mayne who had entered the house so strangely, and not Lord Satterlee at all?"

Nerine knocked angrily at the door. If it were Mr. Mayne she would make him declare himself. He should not dare enter their house like a thief to spy upon them!

"Who is there?" she cried in her young, fresh voice, grasping her heavy silver candlestick hard the while. Suppose it was neither Clarence Mayne nor Satterlee she had heard, and in another minute she had to defend herself from a burglar?

"Answer me at once!" she commanded. "Is it you, Mr. Mayne?"

A strong and pleasant voice, assuredly not Mr. Mayne's, came rather ruefully from the other side of the door.

"It is I—Satterlee. And I can't manage to get out."

"How did you get in?" she demanded, with a total want of manners.

Lord Satterlee in the dark relapsed into helpless laughter. Who had ever gone out to dinner and been locked up and interrogated like this by his hostess? For he knew it was his hostess—he could recognize Miss Lispenard's voice.

"I—I followed the servant—and—managed to lose my way in the passage." He worded it as respectfully as he could, but for his life he could not help laughing as he remembered the flying maiden who had shrieked at him to go down.

Nerine did not laugh.

"Was the door open?" she inquired.

"It was—luckily for me. I brought up against it and it swung open. But it seems to have catched now."

"It has?" Nerine remembered the only time she had ever entered that room. Wild with anger at some order of Mayne's, she had run down that passage—a hot-headed hoiden of fifteen—and burst in unbidden, through that very door. She remembered how, five minutes after she had turned to go out again, tears of useless wrath and futile passion at the failure of her errand blinding her, Even now she heard the bland tones of her stepfather's hated voice as he directed her, with calm politeness, to press a certain spot in the baize-covered surface of the door.

"Put your hand on the crack of the door," she ordered Satterlee. "Now feel about an inch inside the edge, rather high up. Can you feel anything hard?"

There was silence. Nerine could hear her own heart beat. Could Mr. Mayne have altered the fastening?

"Can't you find it?" she impatiently asked.

"No. I'm very stupid. Wait a minute. I think—I do," fumbling doubtfully.

"You do; you must!" the girl cried. "Push it; up, I think—any way it will go."

Almost as she spoke the door swung forward. As she moved quickly out of the way the light of her candle fell on the imprisoned guest as he towered in the low doorway.

It fell, too on Nerine herself in her velvet gown, with her head thrown back a little and her graceful, milk-white throat rising from the yellow old lace she wore. Satterlee thought he had never seen a lovelier sight than this tall, black-haired girl, holding her candle. But he thought, also, that it was Agatha!

"You will never ask such an unfortunate duffer to your house again, will you?" he said, holding out his hand. "I do not see how I managed to make such a consummate ass of myself!" his blue eyes full of mirth.

"It was not your fault; it was Ellen's," Nerine explained. "As for coming here again," laughing, too, "it is you who will probably never want to do that."

As she spoke her eyes fell on the table which Lord Satterlee had knocked over and on the disordered furniture. That must be put straight, and if once the door were shut she might not be able to get it open again.

"Hold the door," she said, abruptly, "if you don't mind. I must pick up that table."

As she spoke she crossed the threshold which she had never meant to cross until Mr. Mayne had left the house forever. Satterlee would have followed and repaired the havoc he had wrought, but she would not let him leave the door.

As Nerine picked up the fallen table a small drawer in it caught her eye. It was open from the fall, being apparently a secret receptacle, and a small book had fallen out of it. The little book was covered in Russia leather, and on it in letters of raised silver was a monogram, one of whose corners was loose and pricked her finger.

Nerine looked down quickly. The letters were E. L., Esther Lispenard, that meant. The book had been her mother's.

Without a word and without the faintest compunction, the daughter slipped the book into her pocket. Clarence Mayne had enough of her goods without it! She snapped the drawer to.

"Come," she said, turning to Satterlee, who had not seen her action. "Do you know that Maurice is nearly distraught about you? I left him hunting wildly for you in the attic."

They both laughed as they hastened through the house to the drawing-room, where Kit and Agatha were waiting.

"Then it was you," Satterlee demanded, "who thought where I might be?"

"I never really thought, though, that my stepfather would have left that door open. I suspected only that you had got into that passage."

Nerine opened the drawing-room door noiselessly. There were Kit, Agatha, and Maurice, all agitated; Kit hilarious, the others wrathfully despairing.

"I wish that confounded girl had been drowned in the Tyne before she came here!" Maurice was saying. "I've looked everywhere but in the coal cellar, and——"

He stopped short at the welcome vision of Satterlee, whose attire bore no traces of a sojourn in that grimy retreat.

"Well, I'm blessed!" he remarked. "Where *have* you been?"

Agatha, with wild relief in her heart, came forward quickly, holding out her hand with a kind of gracious shyness.

"What must you think of us?" she said.

Satterlee glanced at her then back at her sister, as he shook hands. Honestly, he was not sure, even now, which of the two sisters he had seen so often in church.

No one noticed his silence, for Nerine was recounting how and where she had discovered him, and Maurice, somewhat impatiently, was desiring to give Agatha his arm and take her in to dinner.

"You must be starving," he remarked as he followed him with Nerine and Kit. "And if the dinner's burned to ashes we'll all go in a body and execute Ellen—eh, Agatha?"

"She deserves it certainly," said the girl whose hand lay on Satterlee's sleeve. He looked at her lovely profile quickly. Agatha, he knew, was the Christian name of *his* Miss Lispenard! He had heard some one say how strange it was that Agatha Lispenard's sister never went with her to St. Jude's.

Perfectly irrationally, Lord Satterleee felt the least bit disappointed that it had not, after all, been Agatha who had divined his whereabout.

CHAPTER VI.

NERINE MAKES A DISCOVERY.

"Nerine!" called Agatha suddenly from her bed.

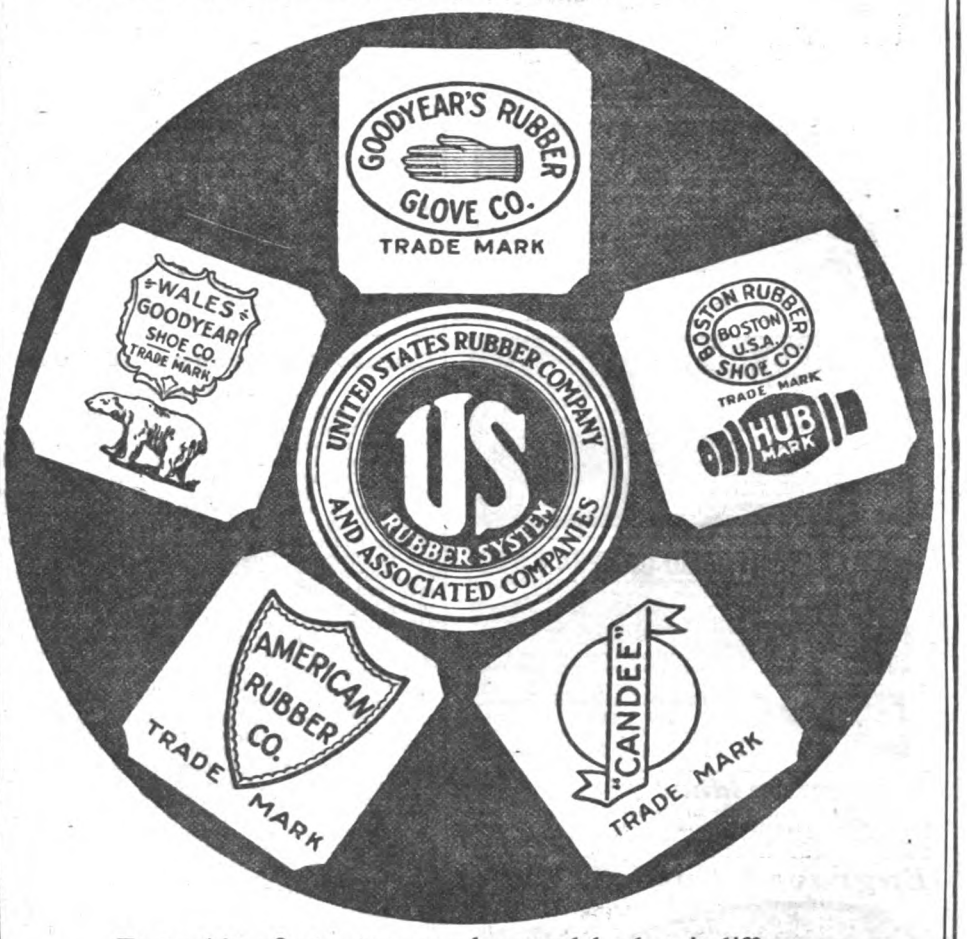
"What?" Nerine started where she sat bolt upright in her somewhat chilly couch, scrutinizing by the light of a candle a small object which at the sound of her sister's voice she hastily covered with the sheet.

It was late—after one, for Satterlee had not

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 40.)

Rubber Footwear *Holds up Colds*

RUBBER footwear is the "Stop! Look! Listen!" preventive to the possible cold. It insulates the foot, keeping out cold and moisture, both of which are frequent causes of "snuffles." Many a cold in the head has traveled all the way up from "cold feet!"



But rubber footwear may be good, bad or indifferent—and only an expert can tell, by observation alone, which is which. So the leading makers put their brands on all their products to protect *you*. Almost from the very beginning of the rubber industry, these trade-marks have pointed the way to rubber footwear of supreme quality, style, fit and workmanship.

Seventy-four years of successful manufacturing and the experience of forty-seven great factories are back of every pair of rubber shoes, overshoes, arctics, boots, etc., produced by the United States Rubber Company, the largest rubber manufacturer in the world.

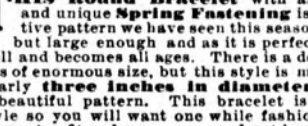
Rubbers that fit wear twice as long as rubbers that do not fit.

United States Rubber Company



Driver Agents Wanted

Ride in a Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales, my agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back.



Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. H. Bush, Pres. Dept. 204.

BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois

Pay as You Wish

Wear a genuine Lachnite for 10 full days. Put it to every diamond test. If you can tell it from a diamond send it back at our expense. If you decide to buy pay only a few cents a month. Write for catalog.



Set In Solid-Gold

Lachnite Gems keep their dazzling fire forever. Cut by diamond cutters. Stand diamond tests—fire—acid and cut glass. Write today for new jewelry book—free.

HAROLD LACHMAN CO.
Dept. 3043, 12 N. Michigan Av., Chicago





Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers."
RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Engraved Gold Bracelet

FOR ONE SUBSCRIPTION



THIS Round Bracelet with artistic engraving and unique **Spring Fastening** is the most attractive pattern we have seen this season. Not too large but large enough and as it is perfectly round, it fits well and becomes all ages. There is a demand for bracelets of enormous size, but this style is medium large and nearly **three inches in diameter;** we consider it a beautiful pattern. This bracelet is the very latest style so you will want one while fashionable, and as we guarantee fit and wear, you need not hesitate to order.

Offer No. 4501 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this handsome Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid.

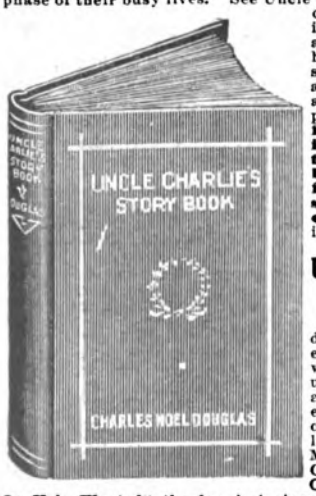
Offer No. 4501 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4501.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, half-tone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.

Uncle Charlie's Home Fund Nearly Doubles in December

UNCLE CHARLIE'S friends will be pleased to learn that the fund, which COMFORT readers are raising for his benefit, to secure him a home and help provide for the necessities of his declining years, nearly doubled in December. On the first of January he reported that during the month previous he had received $351.00, contributed by 536 people. This, added to what he had previously received, brings the total up to $740.00 contributed by 918 individuals.

As the contributions are still coming there is a good prospect that the fund will reach respectable proportions by the third day of February which is the twentieth anniversary of the day on which he was stricken down to linger on a helpless shut-in.

When I say "respectable proportions" I mean that if it doubles again in January, or even grows at the December rate, it will be a respectable beginning, a perceptible help, by the third of February though far from sufficient to buy him a home. But I believe our readers, who started this movement themselves, will keep boosting until they make the fund large enough to be a worthy testimonial of their love and admiration and a substantial help to him.

Now that it has just got in full swing don't let this worthy project fail; don't let your enthusiasm cool; don't slacken your efforts now that success is in sight. Now is the time to work with renewed energy with the assurance that if each does his or her share, together you can put it over in good shape. But it will not do to leave it all to be done by a few—not one in a thousand of COMFORT'S great army of subscribers has contributed thus far. Every little helps, but the total will not be much of a help if 999 out of every thousand leave it to the other fellow to do all the helping.

Remember that I did not start this project, neither did Uncle Charlie; and I was at first reluctant to give it publicity in COMFORT for fear it might not succeed to a degree that would be creditable to its promoters. Now that it is fairly launched it must be pushed to a satisfactory result, which all depends on our readers. Uncle Charlie is in the hands of his friends, and it remains to be seen how many and who they are.

Again let me remind you how you can help:

1. By cash donations.

2. By purchasing Uncle Charlie's books (see advertisement.)

3. Those who cannot spare the money for a cash donation or for purchase of his books can contribute by getting subscriptions to COMFORT in aid of the "Uncle Charlie Benefit Fund" and instead of taking the club premium or cash commission themselves direct that it be credited to the fund. In such cases I will pay over to Uncle Charlie one half of the subscription price of all subscriptions sent for this purpose. The regular cash commission on COMFORT subscriptions is 40 per cent, but for Uncle Charlie's Benefit Fund I will allow 50 per cent. Another way to help him and benefit yourself is to get up a subscription club and take one of his books as your premium.

In one or other of these ways every COMFORT reader who wishes to do so can help swell the fund for Uncle Charlie which has my hearty approval and will have my assistance.

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.)

neighbor before he gets a chance to do you, exploiting women and children, and boosting a hold up game of polite piracy. Look across at Europe, and see what education has done there. Look at our own country, the home of the brave and the land of the free with its tens of thousands of youn,, girls herded in vice dens, and its devilish liquor traffic. And what's the cause of it all? Wrong education or no education at all. Give me the children of this or any other land for half an hour a day for two or three months and I'll give you a different world, a world worth living in and a world with something to live for. It is almost wasted effort to tackle the grown ups, but it breaks my heart to think what could be done with young people if somebody would only do it. But there I could take a whole edition of COMFORT and not say half I would like to say on this subject. Andrew S. Draper, State Commissioner of Education of New York, in his annual report says: "I confess that it startles me to find that certainly not more than two fifths and undoubtedly not more than one third of the children who enter our elementary schools ever finish them, and not one half of them go beyond the fifth grade. It is hardly less surprising to find that only about one third of the pupils that go to the high schools remain beyond the second year and that only about one sixth of those who enter remain to graduate. It all indicates that the lives of children are being wasted, that there is a sad lack of definite aim and purpose about it all, and that our educational plans do not rationally meet our conditions." The war is teaching them a good many things in Europe. In England they have discovered that their educational system is all wrong and they have started in to alter it. About a hundred years hence we shall probably do as England is doing. Why not do it now? Alva here is a verse about Tacoma taken from the Goat's joke book.

If you have thoughts of marriage,
And love gets your brain in a whirl,
Just hike off to far Tacoma
And take-home-a Tacoma girl.

WAVERLY, NEBR.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am twelve years old. I go to the Pleasant Valley School, Lancaster county, Nebr. I live a little over a mile and a half from school. We had examinations last week and my grades are as follows: Geography, 100; Spelling, 96; language, 92; Physiology, 95; Mental Arithmetic, 80; Arithmetic, 89; which made my average 92, the highest in the school. My teacher's name is Miss Bessie Malone. I will be in the sixth grade next year. I have fifteen chickens and eleven ducks of my own. I was born on a homestead in Elpaso county, Colorado. I have went to many schools in my live and lived in three states and been in four. We live now thirteen miles northeast of Lincoln, Nebr. I have no brothers or sisters. I have a Scotch collie dog, his name is Woodrow. I have also a cat named Teddy. I always read COMFORT and like it very much. We have taken COMFORT for ten years, but missed it two years moving around.

Your friend,
MATILDA KIEL.

Matilda, I am delighted at the splendid average you got for school work. Waverly, Nebraska, ought to be very proud of you, and believe me I am quite proud of you myself. In mentioning the subjects in which you excel, you give them all capital letters except language. From this I infer you do not think language is as important as geography and arithmetic. I am a little surprised, Matilda, that you were graded so high in language, as I note you say: "I have went to many schools in my life." I have went is a most atrocious vulgarism of speech, a ferocious assault on our language. It is in class with "I seen" and "I done." It is strange your teacher didn't detect you in the act of perpetrating this awful break. Once more let me repeat that bright little story of the boy, whose teacher was determined to break him of the habit of saying "I have went" instead of "I have gone." She made him stay after school hours and write "I have gone" one hundred times. When the teacher returned to school she found the young gentleman had written "I have gone" a hundred times, and after completing he left this little note for the teacher: "Dear teacher: I have written I have gone a hundred times, and now I have went." In a cemetery out West a stone mason chisled these words on a tombstone at the request of a customer whose English he did not dare to correct: "She has went to join the angels." As you are a language expert Matilda, I think you had better write, "I have attended many schools in my life." That is better than "I have gone" or "I have been" to many schools. So Matilda you have a Scotch collie named Woodrow and a cat named Teddy. All you need now is a parrot named Bryan, then you will have a fine political menagerie. Billy the Goat says one thing still is necessary, you should have a monkey called Uncle Charlie. Excellent idea Matilda, look out for me when the walking is good. I'll leave a little note behind for Maria and the Goat, so they will know I have went, I mean I have gone.

KENNA, W. VA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a girl sixteen years old, have light hair and brown eyes.

I enjoy school work. I go to school winter and summer and will pass the examinations as soon as I am old enough. We can't hold a certificate here until we are eighteen. I have read the COMFORT for several years and enjoy your letters best. I live in a beautiful country, among the West Virginia hills. We have no wild animals here, except the rabbit, fox and squirrels. We have lovely flowers, both wild and tame. And Uncle Charlie I am a lover of flowers. Wouldn't you like me to send you a bouquet?

I like to do most all kinds of housework. I can crochet and do most any kind of fancy work. And the best of all I believe in woman suffrage, and hope the day will come when the women of my state can vote.

I like music very much, and now Uncle, here comes the question. Do you think the girls of sixteen are too young to except the company of boy friends?

This being my first letter to COMFORT, will close, with best wishes to Uncle Charlie and all the cousins.

Your new niece, GERTRUDE MILLER.

So you have no wild animals in West Virginia. If you want to see wild animals in all their hideous glory come to New York. We have more wild animals here to the square inch than in the rest of the world put together. There is a place in Fourteenth Street, New York, called Tammany Hall, that contains the most ferocious specimens of wild animals ever known to the zoologist. You simply can't beat this collection. Talk about the mastodon, the dinasaurus and the pterodactyl that roamed the earth hundreds of thousands of years ago, they are not in the same hemisphere with the Tammany Hall tigers. There are likewise a choice collection of wild animals in Wall Street, the saloons, movies and many of the theaters, and even in the churches—wild animals (more or less dangerous) crawling around, seeking whom they may devour. Don't go to the forests, mountains or jungles for wild animals. You are wasting your time if you do; don't even go to the zoological gardens or the circuses, for the wild animals you find in these are but a poor lot of four-legged pikers. Come to our big cities if you wish to see the most dangerous wild animals that have ever infested or cursed this earth. Food dopers, rum sellers, price boosters, white slavers, black handers, stock waterers, crooks, thieves, murderers. They are all here. Some day we are going to shoot up these wild animals and get rid of them. Life won't be worth while until we do. We are an awful lot of boobs to tolerate the presence of these two-legged animal pests. Some day we will get sensible and clean them out. It is the wild animal kings and emperors, nobles, aristocrats and junkers who are responsible for the war in Europe. A lot of them have been killed off but there are still a few hundred thousand we'd be well rid of. This will be a nice old world to live in when we get rid of all the wild animals, the ferocious human squirrels that prey upon the docile bone-headed nuts. I would love to have some of your flowers Gertrude, but it is waste of money sending flowers by parcel post as they are dead by the time they reach me. The trailing arbutus however, my favorite flower, that dainty, modest, exquisitely fragrant harbinger of spring, seems alone able to endure the journey. The arbutus seems to have the ability to survive a boxed up journey, but all other flowers succumb. Three cheers for the girl who can do housework, and who believes in woman suffrage. Gertrude you ask me if girls of sixteen are too young to "except" the company of boy friends. Girls of sixteen my dear, are just at the right age to "except" that company of boys, and just at the wrong age to *accept*. Before young ladies think about boys they ought to know the difference between except and accept. Except means to leave out, to omit, to object; accept means to take when offered, to agree to, to receive. So many people get these words mixed and often at times with grotesque and ludicrous results. You write a dandy hand, Gertrude, and I just can't understand how you have reached the age of sixteen and have gone to school summer and winter, and expect soon to have a certificate without noting the difference between accept and except, and they differ so widely and completely. Leave the boys alone for two or three years and make them leave you alone. Accept their friendship but when they spring the mush talk, close down the lid and leave them. You'll be happier and have a more contented mind if you do. You will probably get more than a sufficiency of them in later years. Let your girlhood be carefree and happy. Boys often have a habit of making girls anything but happy and at times they make them tragically and terribly unhappy. Am so glad Gertrude, that you are strong for suffrage. Keep pegging away and don't lose heart because your cause lost out at the last election. Agitate and educate and you will eventually tame those two-legged wild animals who refused the women of your state a right they possess even in far-away Finland, a Russian possession. Too bad the men of West Virginia, living on the free soil of this wonderful America, should lag painfully behind Finland in granting to women the right to have a voice in choosing men who make the laws under which they must live. The male workers of West Virginia have at times been shamefully maltreated by big, exploiting industrial corporation. The votes of women intelligently used would quickly make the more acute forms of this exploitation impossible. Men who cannot see this must be blind indeed. But there most men are blind to their best interests anyway. People who suffer from political and economic blindness ought to be mighty glad to have women help them to open their eyes.

BRASELTON, GA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Is there room on your knee for a "Georgia Cracker?" age fifteen, five feet tall, weighs one hundred and fifteen pounds, blue eyes, fair complexion and brown hair. Most everybody has an occupation, mine is crocheting, which does my eyes no good. Don't you think I must take up something else? I am almost blind. My pet is a little hen which has but one foot. Wouldn't you like to see her? She follows me everywhere I go. I have four sisters, two of them are married, and five brothers, one married and one in Heaven. I go to school at Thompson Mills, a dandy little town, population about two hundred. I go to Sunday school every Sunday, P. M.



I very often go out in the woods to crack hickory nuts and walnuts, they sure do eat well. Love to all COMFORT readers and Uncle Charlie.

Your niece, EVA JANE LANCASTER.

Eva you ought to be proud of that last name of yours. It is some swell name. You are very foolish to be ruining your eyes with crocheting. Maria and the Goat (and they are both excellent judges) and some other lady friends of mine regard crocheting as a horrible waste of time. If I volplane down the ages on the wings of memory, I can glimpse my two sisters in far-away boyhood, making atrocious, hideous, abominable things they called antimacassars. They took an interminable time to make and it required quite some skill and dexterity I believe to turn them out. They were hideous things however, and they were generally used to cover up some perfectly handsome good-looking chair, utterly spoiling its appearance. I used to gather these abominations up in a heap and hide them, as they violated my canons of taste, and fractured my sense of the artistic and æsthetic. Oriental people have a wonderfully developed sense of the artistic. We occidentals unfortunately have not. The antimacassar craze didn't last long, but it was very deadly while it did last. There are so many pretty and useful things a woman's nimble, skillful dexterous fingers can make with out fooling around with crazy quilts or crochet work. I know an invalid lady who supports herself by making wonderful sweaters and woolen baby wear and she sells what she makes. If your eyes are bad Eva, why make them worse? What the world needs at all times is food. Just now I am paying eighty cents a dozen for new laid eggs, and they are not so extra new laid either, and half of them at least had whiskers when Columbus landed. Some bear the imprint of Noah's typewriter. If you are anywhere near a patch of land, and I guess you are, all you would need to do to become richer than Rockefeller would be to raise one potato and one egg, then you could have a touring car for the one-legged hen and a limousine for yourself. Raising poultry won't hurt your eyes. Nearly all the food in Europe is being raised by women. They don't say to a woman in England or France now, "your place is in the home." Instead they say "your place is out in the wheat field or the cabbage patch." It is wonderful how quickly man can find a different place for woman as soon as he gets in a tight spot and wants help. Bathe your eyes in a solution of boric acid water. You can get an eye cup for five cents, and all the boric acid you want for another five cents. Now invest a dollar in a magnifying glass, and you will be able to read the finest print. Those foolish people who write me that they can't read portions of COMFORT because of its small print, make me very weary. A magnifying glass big enough to take in a whole line at a time will make the smallest COMFORT print nearly as big as a house. I don't need a magnifying glass to read by, though the faint pencil scratchings of you boys and girls, have almost ruined the best pair of eyes in the world. It is absolutely necessary however to keep a magnifying glass handy, so as to decipher some of the names and addresses of those who write me. I've been unable to thank some of the big-hearted souls who contributed so generously to the Uncle Charlie Home fund because their names and addresses were written so carelessly, that all the magnifying glasses in the world could not aid me in deciphering them. Lots of people who live on Long Island (and Long Island is not a state but only a portion of New York State) write L I without any period after the L and I, and they make the I look exactly like an A, with the result that all their books and papers go hiking off to Louisiana. Then they write us letters, call us thieves and want to murder us because they have not got what they paid for. They don't realize that they have wasted time, broken our hearts and forced us to pay a lot of extra postage through their carelessness. What we need in this world is a school for careless people. If we had such a school about nine out of every ten of us would be found in the front row. Never be careless when writing your name and address and don't crochet when your eyes are weak, and don't crochet at all if you can read. The time that has been given by women to what I may call useless needlework, if it had been used for study and brain development would long ere this have given them a vote, banished drink, poverty and war from the face of the earth. Now Eva, rest those eyes and start a chicken, duck, turkey, pheasant and squab ranch, and oh, yes, do raise one potato. Potatoes and eggs are dearer than houses in this section of the world, and if you country people are not all millionaires by now it is your own fault.

YUKON, OKLA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

As I have never seen a letter from this part of the dear state of Oklahoma, I thought I'd venture so far as to write a few words.

As I like to read letters that the descriptions are given, I'll describe myself. I am a girl thirteen years old, have blue eyes, brown hair, a freckled face, a big mouth and am not a bit good looking. I will be in the seventh grade next year.

I live on a large farm. We have some small chickens and several large ones. We have a dog and three kittens, and a number of horses and cattle. We live in a two-story house with six rooms.

I can milk and play the organ sew crochet and bake cakes biscuits, light bread, pies, corn bread and many other things as good as any ordinary person. I live one mile from church and Sunday school and go every Sunday.

Your loving niece, OPAL MCCALLON.

Opal, I congratulate you on not being good looking and having the courage to tell us so. There is an old story which says: "My face is

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 30.)





Vapo Cresolene
ESTABLISHED 1879

for Whooping Cough, Spasmodic Croup, Asthma, Sore Throat, Coughs, Bronchitis, Colds, Catarrh.

Don't fail to use Cresolene for the distressing, and often fatal affections for which it is recommended.

It is a simple, safe, effective and drugless treatment.

Vaporized Cresolene stops the paroxysms of Whooping Cough and relieves Spasmodic Croup at once.

In Asthma it shortens the attack and insures comfortable repose.

The air carrying the antiseptic vapor inspired with every breath, makes breathing easy, soothes the sore throat, and stops the cough, assuring restful nights.

Cresolene relieves the bronchial complications of Scarlet Fever and Measles and is a valuable aid in the treatment of Diphtheria.

Cresolene's best recommendation is its 37 years of successful use. Send us postal for Descriptive Booklet.

For Sale by Druggists

Try Cresolene Antiseptic Throat Tablets for the irritated throat, composed of slippery elm bark, licorice, sugar and Cresolene. They can't harm you. Of your Druggist or from us 10c in stamps.

THE VAPO-CRESOLENE CO. 62 Cortlandt St., New York or Leeming-Miles Building, Montreal, Canada

AGENTS
Get Next to This!



A Big Money Maker

The biggest, fastest, snappiest sellers in the world. A big box of the finest Toilet Soaps, and give a pair of Patented Tension Shears *free* with each sale. Hundreds of other Big Snaps. Makes selling easy. Beginners cleaning up $5 to $6 a day. Start while new. Outfit furnished free. Write today.

A WORLD BEATER

AMERICAN PRODUCTS CO., 7715 3rd St., CINCINNATI, O.

$40 A WEEK, SURE



AGENT'S SAMPLE FREE

300 candle power outdoor Lamp and Safety Lantern. Storm and Weather Proof. For house, barn, camp, anywhere. No smoke. No odor. Absolutely safe. Burns Kerosene. Guaranteed. Burns 98% air, only 2% fuel. Price low. Sells fast, 100% profit. Year round sales plan. Save your territory now. Write quick for free sample offer.

Foote Mfg. Co., Box 1512, DAYTON, OHIO.



NEW SANITARY
FEATHER BEDS $8.25 NOW ONLY

FULL WEIGHT 40 POUNDS. 1 pair 6-lb. Pillows to match, $1.15. Selected, New, Live, Clean, Sanitary Feathers. Best Featherproof Ticking. Sold on money back guarantee. DO NOT BUY from anyone at any price, until you get the BOOK OF TRUTH, our big new catalog mailed FREE. Write a postal card TODAY. Agents wanted.

American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk, 208 Nashville, Tenn



FREE DIAMOND RING OFFER

Just to advertise our famous Hawaiian im. diamonds—the greatest discovery the world has ever known. We will send absolutely free this 14k gold f. ring set with a 1-2 k Hawaiian im. diamond—in beautiful ring box postage paid. If this is satisfactory pay postmaster $1.25 to cover postage, boxing, advertising, handling, etc. If not satisfactory return at our expense and money refunded. Only 10,000 rings given away. Send no money. Answer quick. Send size of finger.

KRAUTH & REED, DEPT. 24.
MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO

Crochet and Tatting Book

Given for One Subscription

Premium No. 7321



Containing Sixty-three Beautiful Half Tone Illustrations of New Fashionable Designs In Crochet And Tatting With Complete Instructions for Making.

EVERY woman who is interested in crocheting and tatting should have a copy of this new book written by Winifred Worth and containing many designs used by the nuns in convents **now published for the first time.** The book is of good size, measuring 8 inches by 10½ inches, printed on fine quality coated book paper and consists of 28 pages on which are shown **sixty-three,** large, clear half-tone **illustrations** with full and explicit **directions** for crocheting the prettiest edgings, beadings, insertions, towel ends, doilies, etc., besides a splendid variety of new, dainty designs in tatting with the necessary instructions. The art of combining Venetian crochet and tatting is fully explained.

This book also gives sizes of hooks best adapted for the different sizes of crochet threads, the abbreviations of all of the principal crochet stitches and terms used in tatting and tells how the different stitches are made such as the **chain stitch, double crochet, half treble, double treble, treble crochet, cluster** and **open mesh** stitches. Among the many crochet edgings, beadings, and insertions illustrated and described are the **clover leaf, Irish, picot, cross-bar, half-shell, half-wheel, K-stitch** and **filet** edgings; **featoon, Irish, fence-row, picot** and **shell** beadings; **mile-a-minute, half-shell, clover leaf, filet** and **monkey-face insertions; butterfly wings, Van Dyke Point, nuns' pattern** and many others. The tatting motifs are varied and beautiful, consisting of beadings, edgings and insertions for **table mats, bedspreads, curtains, guest towels, coin-purses, night-gown yokes, bath towels, sash curtains, ribbon holders, plate doilies,** etc., etc.

We will send you free and postpaid this book of the loveliest fashions in beautiful lace work with simple and complete directions which you can easily follow upon the terms of the following special offer.

Offer No. 7321A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this book of crocheting and tatting designs with directions free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7321B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this crocheting and tatting book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7321. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Granny's Old Piano

How It Plays Spirit Music at Night

By Florence Briney Reed

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

WHEN Elsie Brand returned from a visit to town, and described the fine library tables people were making out of their old-fashioned, square pianos, the Brands rejoiced that theirs had been saved, for Granny's sake, when the new one was purchased.

There, in the dim little parlor, the old piano had rested for years, in silent company with the haircloth chairs, the walnut bureau and other relics of a bygone time. When the Brands built their new house, they left the old log dwelling, their first home, to serve as a wing of the new building. It was used chiefly to house odds and ends of cast-off furniture.

The great old-fashioned kitchen had not been abandoned. Next to it was Dora's bedroom, Dora the orphan, whose willing hands served zealously in gratitude for a home.

The Brand homestead was one of the oldest buildings in the county, and there had been odd tales about it, such as come to be whispered of every old country house. In truth it was dark and lonely looking, with a heavy vine overhanging it, and lilac bushes almost hiding the small-paned windows. And, here it was that the old piano was stored—the piano which could be fashioned into such a fine table, with its carved trimmings and rosewood case. It was just the thing to do, they all agreed, that is, all but Granny. Granny protested.

Granny's protest was not peremptory, but it was an unusual thing for Granny to oppose anything, and the family was amazed. But as Anson's wife said, Granny must not be allowed to interfere, and if she began to insist upon her foolish notions, they must be firm with her. So it was settled, and Brown, the cabinet maker, promised to take the matter in hand as soon as he finished the pulpit of the new church.

Dora's sympathy for Granny, induced her to follow the old lady one afternoon to the long disused old parlor where she found her seated on the haircloth stool before the closed instrument, resting her head on its faded cover of maroon felt. Hearing Dora's step she looked up guiltily.

"It's only me," said the girl, in her soft voice.

"Oh, Dorry," Granny cried, "they're going to chop it up. Going to take out its keys and wires and tear out its heart, so they can make a library table!"

"I call it a shame," Dora exclaimed hotly. "Mr. Brand, surely won't do it if you tell him it's your piano."

"Oh, they don't mean any harm. They just don't understand. I'm an old woman now, anyway, and I shan't be here much longer. Maybe it's all for the best. But, Dorry, it was the first piano in the county, and it's stood right here ever since Pa brought it home for us children. Sundays we played hymns on it, and when there were weddings, we'd play the wedding march on it. And often the babies were carried in here by mother to keep them quiet. How still they'd be, as she fingered the keys! Then, when there was a funeral, we'd close it up, just like it is now. Pa would tiptoe in here and shut down the lid and pull the cover straight and we'd set the flower pieces on it. When it was father's turn to go, I had to close it. It all came over me just now! Oh, it's got my whole life in it, this old piano, and it seems as if it would kill me when they take it away to be cut up!"

Dora was smoothing out the faded cover, and for a minute she was silent; then, as the little old lady wiped her eyes and bravely tucked her handkerchief away, she said, gently:

"Did you play much, Granny?"

No, only hymn tunes. Pa took us over to Dover for our lessons, six miles each way, once a week, but they had no easy ways to teach folks then, and unless you were a born musician, you couldn't hope to be much of a player. But Sister Lucy, my youngest sister, was a fine performer. She learned the 'Evergreen Waltz,' the 'Battle of Prague' and the 'Maiden's Prayer.' I remember in war time, when we got word that her sweetheart was missing, after a big battle, she never wept a tear, but just held her head high and seated herself at the piano and began to play the 'Maiden's Prayer,' and she played it like her heart was broken. How we all cried! Mother beckoned to us to leave her and she stayed in here all by herself until clear dark, playing softly. It was summer-time and the windows were open, and I remember how the frogs down by the pond croaked and the katydids sang while the music ran on like a little wind through a weeping willow tree. Here's some of Lucy's songs." Crossing to the old-fashioned bureau, Granny opened a drawer crowded with yellow sheets of music.

"She didn't live long after her lover, did she?" Dora breathed compassionately.

"No," Granny replied. "She went into a decline the spring after the war ended, and she died before Thanksgiving. She was Pa's favorite, and the piano was really hers. Poor Lucy! She wouldn't rest in her grave if she knew what was coming to it. But I must hurry child; they'll be missing me."

Even as she spoke, the figure of her daughter-in-law appeared in the low doorway.

"Mercy, Gran, what are you poking around in here for? It's like a tomb. You wouldn't catch me putting a foot inside this door, if I didn't have to. Dorry, I must say you keep it beautifully. The dust would be mountain high before I would come in here to dust the old furniture. Come, mother, you'll catch your death of cold in this musty air."

That night, at about midnight, the Brands awoke with a start. Dreamily tender strains of music from the old piano were sounding through the house! With white faces, the family talked over the event at breakfast, recalling to mind the stories they had all heard about the old wing. In early days an Indian had once been killed there, right on the doorstep, and there was a tradition about a child having been found in the snow one cold night not far from the door—a little girl who had afterward died of cold and exposure. Granny listened without a comment. Then she broke in sharply:

"Could any of those ghosts play the piano? I tell you it was the old piano I heard."

"Did you hear it, Dorry?" Mrs. Brand questioned. Dora nodded.

"There, you see!" Granny said in triumph.

From that time on the music was heard as often as twice or three times during the week.

"They played the 'Maiden's Prayer' last night," Granny announced one morning, "as plain as I ever heard anything, the runs going up and the octaves coming down, and the cross-hand part, too." The family stared at her in shocked surprise, as she added solemnly: "That was Sister Lucy's favorite piece."

"Goodness, Granny," cried her daughter-in-law, "who ever heard of such a thing?"

"Lucy's buried over there, across the field, in the old Talbut burying ground," Granny added. "It's not five minutes' walk from here."

At this unanswerable statement, the family exchanged startled glances and the meal ended in silence. The old-fashioned music tinkled through the quiet house at unearthly hours, and when the neighbors learned about it, they nodded their heads declaring that there had always been "stories" about the old Brand place. That the spirit of sweet Lucy, dead and buried fifty years ago, had come back to revisit her old haunts, no one doubted, but why she should return after resting quietly all these years, to terrify the family with her ghostly music, no one knew.

And then Talbut Brand came home. Talbut was a young man of whom great things were prophesied, and his visits were eagerly looked forward to, elaborate preparations being made for his entertainment. At the strange tale of the midnight music, he just laughed, and declared he must hear it before he could say anything. For a few nights it seemed as if his coming had frightened away the gentle ghost. Then the soft strains awoke again and Talbut, roused from a troubled dream, heard them. There could be no fancy about it. The music certainly came from the old piano in the west wing. He dressed hastily and, followed by the thoroughly frightened women, descended the front stairway, and passed through the kitchen to the closed door of the parlor. Knocking sharply on the panel he called Dora. At his command, Dora opened the door, holding her blue kimono about her with one hand and blinking in the lamplight.

"Was it the music again?" she said sleepily. "I've listened to it so much I guess I've kind of grown used to it." Talbut started for the parlor door.

"Let me by, Dora! I'm going into that room!" he cried.

"I always keep the door locked," she explained, as she turned the key.

"You can carry the lamp," Talbut said. "Are the rest of you coming?"

"Mercy no!" cried his mother. "I haven't been near the old parlor since the music first started, and neither have the girls. You go in, if you're bound to. We'll wait outside."

So only Talbut and Dora stepped over the worn threshold into the quiet room. The air seemed to vibrate yet with the music. The heavy felt cover fell in mysterious lines over the rosewood case of the old-fashioned instrument. The girl held the lamp high while Talbut's keen eyes searched every nook and corner.

"This *is* uncanny," he said, at last. "I certainly heard something like music. It was not imagination. Could a mouse have been running across the strings? Hold the light a little more this way, Dora. Ah, what's this?" He stopped and picked up something which lay in the circle of the lamplight—a spring of faded vine with tender leaves and fine white blossoms. Dora leaned forward and cried in a frightened tone: "Why—it's—it's myrtle, graveyard myrtle! Oh, where could it have come from?"

With a frown, Talbut thrust the sprig into his pocket, and taking the lamp from the girl's trembling hands, replied, "We'll let the matter rest for tonight." Locking the door, the two passed out.

TO BE CONCLUDED IN MARCH.



Join the LARKIN
Easy-Payment League

Thousands of homes are happier since accepting our easy payment offers. In organizing the Larkin Easy-Payment League we plan to now extend to an even greater number of worthy buyers such benefits as "special" Introductory Factory-to-Family Prices, Convenient Monthly Payments and Liberal Rewards where friends are induced to accept our offers and order

Symphonic Pianos
Symphonic Player Pianos
Symphonolas

Which one of these three superb instruments would you like to own? Decide now, then we will promptly tell you about the plans of the Larkin Easy-Payment League which permit you to soon have in your home the instrument of your choice. Symphonic Pianos are played by hand. Symphonic Player Pianos by hand or with music rolls, and Symphonolas are playable with Victor or Columbia records. My, what enjoyable times you'll soon have with the help of a Symphonic or Symphonola! Please check your choice on the coupon. Send it today. You'll promptly receive the details and our beautiful illustrated Symphonic or Symphonola Catalog.



Send COUPON for Catalog

Larkin Co. Dept. Ct. 217, Buffalo, New York

I am interested in the instrument here checked and also in the plans of the Larkin Easy-Payment League.

Piano☐ Player☐ Symphonola☐

Name .....
P. O. .....
State .....
St. or R. D. Address .....

quit. Lots of things can happen in a short time and the hasty bride gets her eyes open too late. Girls, think and be sure before it is too late.

This leads up to the question of large families which I believe in and still I do not believe in. Let us look at the mother in some of these large families. In a few cases we will find her a good-natured, loving woman, having fairly good health. In cases of this sort, the children usually have a good education or at least good enough to enable them to make their way in the world. How was all this accomplished? In some cases the father and mother loved and understood each other and worked side by side and with good luck accomplished the end. In other cases they were not poor to start with or they never would have gotten there. But look again, look at most of the large families you know. Usually the mother has lost her health and strength, her good looks and generally even neatness. The children are not as well educated and they cannot have as many pleasures because they have no fit clothes to wear. I believe that married people should have children. The woman has to have them and she should be the one to say when and how many. If each family would have what could be cared for properly and no more, we would have a different and better world.

I won't talk politics for if I get started this would land in the waste-basket. I merely say votes for women should be granted to all the states and will be in time and I hope that time is not far distant. Let the Antis stay at home and attend to their own business if they want to but I think that after a few times no one could keep them from voting. Some of them anyway.

Best wishes to all, MRS. G.

SOLDIER'S GROVE, WIS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT READERS:

You asked for the experience of women whose homes were happy and how they maintained them in this way. I have been married over six years and I have often wondered to myself why we get along so well as neither my husband nor myself are anything extraordinary; in fact, I am considered (by my relatives, at least) as rather difficult to get along with. Be that as it may, we are a very happy couple with an adopted son almost five years old, who is as dear to us as a child of our own could possibly be. As I have said, I often wondered what the reason was for our getting along so well and last night I read in the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 35.)

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

LAKE MILLS, IOWA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been reading your department in COMFORT for some years and thought you could send me suggestions for organizing a club. There are about fifteen girls and young women in the neighborhood and we would like to organize a social club, something that will benefit each one.

If you can help us in any way we would be very grateful. Sincerely yours, ELIZABETH OTTO.

Miss Otto. Possibly you didn't want your letter and request published, but I feel that you will receive more help from the sisters' letters than I could give you in a personal letter (and I haven't time for very many of them), and more original ideas too. Here is a chance for club members to tell us about their particular club and the good accomplished by it.—Ed.

FINDLAY, 337 East Lincoln St., OHIO.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

After reading so many nice letters from the sisters I want to add my "mite."

I live in a thriving little city of twenty thousands (last estimate). We have good school and churches, and no saloons. Findley was voted dry eight years ago, and has grown steadily, since.

How many of the sisters, I wonder, that live in a city, crave for the country life? Although I have never lived in the country, it has always been my desire to have a home there.

Isn't it wonderful what a real home-like place the Sisters' Corner is? I have made several dear friends through COMFORT, and am always more than anxious to get my paper to read the sisters' letters. We may gather a great deal of knowledge from them.

I am greatly interested in crocheting, so you can see I enjoy other parts of COMFORT also.

Can any of the sisters tell me what will keep a fern healthy through the winter? As soon as there is the least cold weather my fern begins to fail.

I would like to hear from those interested in crocheting, and all others who care to write.

Best wishes to all COMFORT readers.

MRS. C. L. KRING.

Mrs. Kring. A friend of mine whose plants, and ferns particularly, are the envy of all, told me that the only additional treatment she gave her ferns during the winter months was an occasional dose of Castor oil, about a tablespoonful once a week, poured around the roots of the plant. You might try that with your plant.—Ed.

SAN FRANCISCO, 1370 Sanchez St., CAL.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Seeing the door ajar I decided to come in for a chat. I'll sit by Mrs. C. E. Martin and Mrs. C. Smith, as I'm going to give my opinion on the divorce question. In the olden days divorce was not known but now it is an every-day occurrence? The histories of the old Italian cities state that when no divorce was possible, murder by poisoning was committed. Alarming as it may seem, divorce is a better solution of doing away with misery than ground glass, etc.

I think when two people find life together unhappy the only moral course to pursue is separation. It is not fair that either should live a life of misery because someone else thinks divorce a crime. One had better live by one's self and be happy than waste their life by living with someone who is unkind. Some men cannot be pleased no matter how one tries. I heard of one man who made it a point to quarrel with his wife on Saturday so he wouldn't have to share the contents of his pay envelope with her. One Saturday he came home and picked the dust from the cracks in the floor, telling his wife she didn't keep the house clean. Unreasonable? Yes? No?

I agree with May Day in keeping up one's personal appearance after marriage as well as before. Some women forget this important fact. When a woman becomes untidy in her appearance after marriage it looks as though she had been striving for a certain goal—marriage—and after she had reached that goal she didn't care about appearances or anything else.

Crochet cords last much longer than ribbons in corsets and can be laundered without being spoiled.

Will answer all letters enclosing stamp.

Best wishes to COMFORT and all the sisters,

Sincerely, ELVA WALTON.

NEBRASKA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Every time I read the Sisters' Corner I feel that I want to write. It is not only interesting but educational. We will all admit that everyone has a right to their own ideas yet I believe many (if not most of us) think that if the other person doesn't agree with us they are wrong.

Certainly A. B.'s letter on Mother Love in the October number is true and should be remembered by all. Some wish to hear opinions on the divorce question. I agree with Mrs. C. Smith that when people cannot get along together they should get a divorce and go their own ways. I don't mean that after one or even several little quarrels they should quit but after they have tried different ways and means of living peacefully together and then nothing but quarrels and misery follow, then it is certainly better for both parties to

101 Wall Paper Samples FREE



Send your name now for this big FREE book. Over 100 new, beautiful Wall Paper designs to choose from. Every sample is cut from the paper itself. Show the exact colors and designs; prices on back of each. Prices are low—

65 CTS. Papers a Room 12 x 14 x 9 Feet!

All prices less than ½ ordinary prices—6 cents to 50 cents per *double* roll. And satisfaction guaranteed *always* or money back. Send for a copy today, study the designs and prices. You will be surprised to see how much you can save buying wall paper and paints from us.

Write house most convenient. Montgomery Ward & Co. Dept. A35

NEW YORK CHICAGO KANSAS CITY FORT WORTH, TEXAS PORTLAND, ORE.

JAPANESE ROSE BUSHES



Five for 10cts.

The Wonder of the World Rose Bushes with roses on them in 8 weeks from the time the seed was planted. It may not seem possible but we Guarantee it to be so. They will BLOOM EVERY TEN WEEKS Winter or Summer, and when 3 years old will have 5 or 6 hundred roses on each bush. Will grow in the house in the winter as well as in the ground in summer. Roses All The Year Around. Package of seed with our guarantee by mail, only Ten Cents.

JAPAN SEED CO., Box 267, South Norwalk, Conn.

Get Wholesale Stove Prices

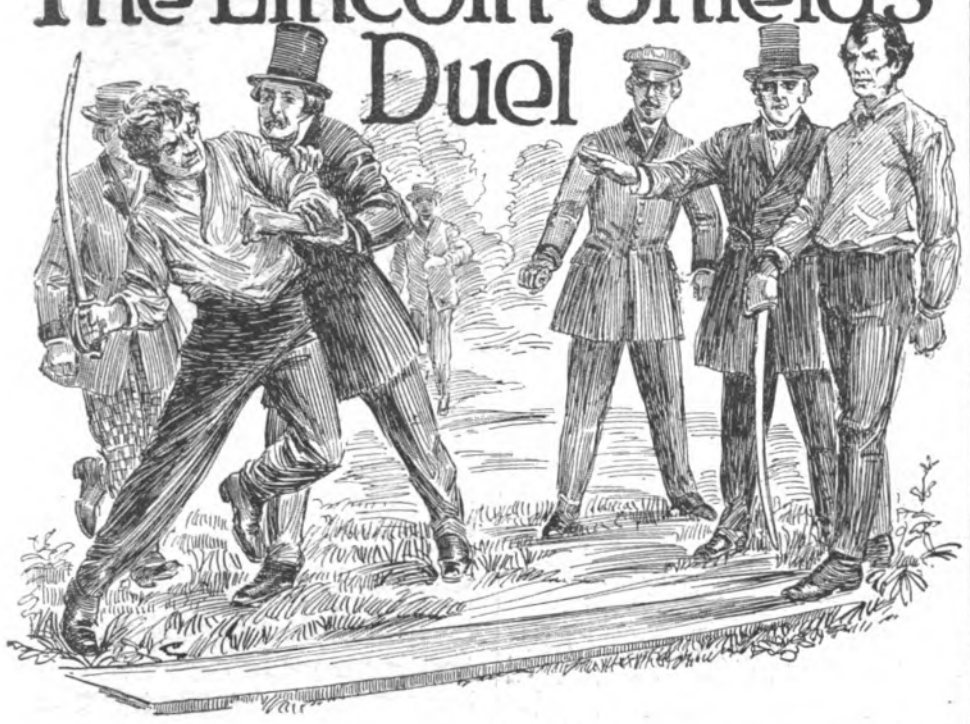
Direct from manufacturers. Save money—Quick shipment—We pay the freight—30 days' trial. We make stoves, gas ranges, furnaces, kitchen kabinets and tables.

Write for Catalog No. 501 and mention article wanted.

KALAMAZOO STOVE CO., Kalamazoo, - - - Mich.

Kalamazoo Direct to You

The Lincoln-Shields Duel



By A. G. Morrill

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

FOR a man so much in the fore front of the bitter political strife that made memorable his time and generation Abraham Lincoln had remarkably few personal quarrels. As an outspoken, fearless, aggressive leader he made enemies, but his fairness, magnanimity and imperturbable good humor made it difficult to pick a quarrel with him. A unique exception was his personal difficulty with James Shields in which he became involved through no fault of his own and which brought him to the verge of fighting a duel to save a lady's name from being dragged through the mire of political animadversion.

Shields was an aspiring young politician and held the office of State Auditor of Illinois. The finances of the state were in disastrous condition which called forth severe criticism from the political opponents of the party in control of the state government. The treasury was empty and a harsh measure to enforce collection of taxes was promulgated, of which the most oppressive feature was a refusal to accept payment in State bank bills which constituted the bulk of the money in current circulation among the people. This action was very unpopular and the blame for it in large measure fell upon Shields who was accused of distressing the people in his anxiety to provide the means for the prompt payment of the salaries, his own included, of the State officials, and that too in money that was scarse and of higher value than the kind commonly in circulation.

Shields was vain, pompous, boastful, arrogant, intollerant, quick tempered, quarrelsome and revengeful, which nat rally made him the butt of much ridicule and the target for many witty gibes.

Among the published criticisms that attracted most attention was one in the form of a letter dated "The Lost Townships," and purporting to be written by a poor widow, in the back country, who complained of the hardship of the new tax collection order and contrasted her distressing circumstances with the ease and luxury enjoyed by Shields and the other State officials. It was written by Lincoln, then a rising young lawyer and getting to be somewhat of a figure in



THE FAIR JOKERS CAUSE TROUBLE.

politics, and was printed, without his name, in a Springfield paper. It was a telling political thrust but, though it provoked some merriment over Shields' attitude, the personal allusions were not of an obnoxious character to arouse his anger. However, it inspired other wits less considerate of Shields' feelings to be funny at his expense, which soon got Lincoln into trouble.

Some joker published in the same paper a letter purporting to be from the same widow ridiculing the State Auditor unmercifully and winding up by proposing that he square the grievance by marrying her. Shields was wrathy, but even this might have passed without serious consequences had it not been followed by a poem which heaped yet more scathing ridicule on him.

This satirical rhyme was the joint product of two witty, aristocratic young ladies who could not resist this tempting opportunity to exercise their talents in the line of comic verse. One was destined to marry a U. S. Senator; the other, the leader in this fun, was Miss Mary Todd, soon to become Mrs. Lincoln.

Shields was in a furious rage and, believing all the letters and the poem to have emanated from the same source, demanded of the editor the author's name under threat of dire vengeance in case of a refusal. The terrified editor, having obtained a concession of twenty-four hours in which to consider the matter, immediately applied to Lincoln for instructions.

Lincoln's reply was: "If Shields repeats his inquiry tell him that I accept the responsibility for the poem."

On learning this Shields sent his friend, Gen. Whitesides (who was also a State Treasury official), to demand satisfaction of Lincoln, who refused to make any explanation, as none was possible without involving the young ladies whose identity he was determined to conceal at any cost. The General urged Lincoln to return a satisfactory answer in order to avoid serious trouble as he believed Shields to be in a bloodthirsty frame of mind. But his efforts were unavailing and the result was, as expected, that Shields challenged Lincoln to a duel.

Although the law prohibited dueling and Lincoln hated the barbarous practise, he felt constrained to accept the challenge because the sentiment of the community at that time regarded a refusal as an act of cowardice. As the challenged party he had the choice of weapons, and he wisely selected cavalry broadswords of the largest size which, because of his large stature and great strength, would give him an advantage over his adversary. As he told his friends, he did not intend to harm Shields in the coming fray and believed that with his long arms he could keep him off so not to get hurt himself.

To avoid the penalty of the law a little island in the Mississippi river, a "no man's land" which was not within the jurisdiction of any state, was selected as the place for the encounter. Here, at the appointed time the principals, accompanied by their respective seconds and a few friends met. A board was laid on the ground, and across this the combatants were to fight, each keeping always on his own side.



SHIELDS THREATENS THE EDITOR.

Everything was in readiness and the fight was about to begin, but just before the starting signal two mutual friends of the would-be duelists reached the island in a canoe and intervened just in time to prevent the opening of hostilities. Their efforts were successful in persuading the hot-headed State Auditor to listen to reason and accept Lincoln's statement that he had written only the first letter and had not intended any personal indignity. And so a reconciliation was effected without exposing the young ladies to unpleasant notoriety.

Here the matter should have dropped, but Shields and Whitesides were not satisfied to let it rest with such a tame ending, and so the latter in a spirit of braggadocio wrote and published a highly colored account of the affair in which he drew a halo of glory about his friend and himself and cast obloquy on Lincoln. That this was a disastrous blunder they must have realized with mortification and regret when Dr. Merryman's caustic reply appeared in print a few days later. The doctor, who had acted as one of Lincoln's advisers from the beginning of the difficulty and had witnessed its finish on the island, had a genius for dramatic narrative and a remarkable gift of pungent wit and cutting sarscasm so that his version left the Shields partizans utterly discomfited.

Lincoln always regarded the affair as a regretable incident which he would like to forget, yet he held himself not blamable as the quarrel was thrust upon him and there appeared no honorable way to avoid accepting the challenge; and such must have been the verdict of public opinion, for his enemies never deemed it expedient to try to use the incident to his discredit.

Shortly after this episode Lincoln married Miss Todd, and any man base enough to have taunted him for his gallantry in defending, in the cus-



LINCOLN TAKES THE BLAME ON HIMSELF IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE LADIES.

tomary manner of the time, the honor of his intended wife would have incurred the contempt of the community.

That he held no ill will toward the man who had challenged him to mortal combat appears from the fact that years later, as President, Lincoln appointed Shields a brigadier-general of volunteers. The latter proved his bravery on the field of battle and afterwards was elected to the U. S. Senate.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28.)

my fortune." A pretty face might have been a fortune once on a time, but believe me it is more of a misfortune today than anything else. The trouble usually with a girl who is pretty is that she knows she is pretty and becomes so thoroughly conscious of that fact, that whatever charm her beauty might create is utterly spoiled by her egotism and conceit. There is another strange thing about the pretty girl. You will invariably find that she is married off to a homely, cock-eyed, dog-faced guy of a man. The five prettiest girls that I have known during the last ten years, and three of them were great beauties, are married to the homeliest ginks of men that ever came up the pike. And by the way you will rarely find a beautful girl and a handsome man linked together. The handsome man makes a dead set for the beautiful girl, but as beauty and brains seldom go together (except in my case of course) she makes no effort to please him, and as he is accustomed to hero worship he makes no particular effort to please her. What the average woman falls for is not so much good looks, as attention, devotion and a little flattery. These are the breath of her life, and the handsome man is too busy posing and throwing bouquets at himself to hand out much of this line of dope. The homely guy is all determination and persistency, and he can dish out the salve in buckets and will pawn his back teeth to get money to spend on the idol of his heart. He simply dogs the pretty girl's steps, chokes her with candy, and smothers her with flowers, and harasses the life out of her, until there is nothing left for her to do but to marry him in order to get rid of him. The average girl uses a few of the same tactics in stalking down the handsome man, and she generally succeeds in putting the dog collar of matrimony on him at the finish. It sometimes happens that the beautiful girl is jollied into believing that she can make a fortune on the stage or in the movies, but unless she has a bunch of money and somebody to keep a check rein on her, she finds she can't make a fortune at anything unless she *pays the price*. It is a price that is paid in honor, decency and virtue, not in gold. In the city the pretty girl finds there are a lot of other pretty girls all striving for the same goal as herself. A bunch of swift male hawks are on the trail of each one of them. They flatter her, jolly her, dine her in garish restaurants and finally induce her to drink. She sees all the other girls of her class doing the same thing and what everyone does of course must be all right. After a few months of that kind of life, the bloom vanishes from her cheeks and the paint is slapped on thicker and faster. With her freshness and bloom gone, her admirers go too. Then she begins to think and count up the cost. Her thoughts are not pleasant. Then she takes an extra drink to make her forget, and finally she becomes so homely and haggard that she does not care and when you cease to care that is the beginning of the end. Don't envy the pretty girl. Facial beauty is shortlived. A beautiful mind a lovely disposition, a strong and blameless character, these are the things which live forever. These are the things, if you have them not you should cultivate, and they can be cultivated if you try. Ruth I'm sorry we can't see you when you milk and play the organ. I should awfully like to taste some of that musical milk. You might send us a picture of yourself when you are milking the organ. I should also like to see you crochet sew and bake cakes. That must be even more fun than milking the organ. Doesn't it get awfully tiresome and lonesome? Opal, living in a house with six rooms? I hope the six rooms are all nice well behaved rooms, and trust they are temperate in their habits and not quarrelsome. I think if I were you I would rather live in a two-story house with my folks, instead of six rooms. I'd try it anyway if I were you.

BRASHEARN, MO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Please inform me what is the present correct way for a young man to wear mourning for his father who has been dead about three months. Should a man wear mourning the same for any relative and how long?

Resp't'y yours,
CHAS. E. STROUD.

Charlie, if you have not already worn mourning for your father, I don't think I would do it now. I believe it is customary to wear full mourning for a year for one's parents, and a shorter period for relatives who are less near and dear. A band of crepe round the left arm on week days and black clothes on Sundays I believe would suffice to show your respect for the departed. I am glad to note that people are not adhering as strictly to external forms of grief and mournful habiliments of sorrow as they did twenty-five or forty years ago. In the olden days it was quite depressing when the death rate was almost treble what it is now to find so many people dressed in somber black. This was especially noticeable on Sundays when one went to church and found half the congregation in mourning. Black at the best is an exceedingly depressing color, and when the heart is torn with grief the whole nervous system is under a severe strain, quite often a dangerous strain. When the body is frail and the heart weak, overwhelming grief is liable to be exceedingly dangerous. The wearing of mourning never allows us for a moment to escape from our sorrows. It is desirable and at times absolutely necessary that one's thoughts should be diverted from the dark channels of sorrow and despair into brighter and more cheerful avenues. If death were annihilation we might well drape the world in black, but it is only a "beautiful adventure" a stepping stone to higher things. We should not allow grief to make us morbid or indulge too much in black raiment and black-edged stationery, and other outward and visible signs of an inward sorrow. There are many people who carry their griefs on their backs and none in their hearts. Let us lovingly remember those who have passed on. Let us give them at least one tender thought every day of our lives, for every day brings us nearer to the time when we shall meet them again. Those whose hearts are raw with the jagged wounds of grief should memorize the following beautiful and inspiring lines:

Yet 'twill only be a sleep;
When, with songs and dewey light,
Morning blossoms out of night,
They will open wide their eyes
'Neath the palms of Paradise,
While we foolish mortals weep.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 40.)

If I Send You this Suit



made to your measure, in the latest style, would you be willing to keep and wear it, show it to your friends and let them see our beautiful samples and dashing new styles?

Could you use $5.00 a day for a little spare time? Perhaps I can offer you a steady job. If you will write me a letter or a postal at once and say: *"Send me your special offer,"* I will send you samples and styles to pick from and my **surprising liberal offer.**

Address: L. E. ASHER, President
BANNER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 524 Chicago, Ill.



ACORN UNI-LITE FREE

Turns night into day. 300 candle power. Carry as a lantern; use anywhere as a lamp. Weather proof. For house, barn, garage, camp and around the farm. Write for *big, free offer. Special opportunity to farmers, storekeepers and motorists. Agents make big money.* **Write tonight** for new 1916-1917 offer. ACORN BRASS MFG. CO., 812 Uni-Lite Bldg., Chicago

FRIENDSHIP LINKS 8¢ EACH INITIALS 2 FOR 15¢ ENGRAVED FREE
COMPLETE BRACELET 59¢
START A ROSE MAID LINK BRACELET with FREE VELVET RIBBON AND SAMPLE LINK AT 8¢ - 2 FOR 15¢ - on READY TO WEAR COMPLETE BRACELET 59¢
STERLING SILVER ROLLED GOLD
MONOGRAM JEWELRY CO 119 NASSAU ST DEPT 74, NEW YORK



FREE TALKING MACHINE and record; marvelous clear tone; plays any disc record. Free for introducing Mentho Nova (wonder healer) to 8 of your friends at 25¢. Order today. U. S. Supply Co., Dept. 330 Greenville, Pa.

SHEET MUSIC
Sent Without Cost To COMFORT Readers!

Special Short Time Offer To Our Own Subscribers Only. Superb Collection Of Seven Illustrated Old-Time Songs Sent Free If You Accept This Offer Within 15 Days!

Through a fortunate business deal we have secured a few thousand fine **Favorite Song Collections** consisting of **seven good old-time songs**—each song beautifully illustrated with an appropriate and **richly colored picture**, handsome enough to frame and hang in any room in the home.

The pictures embellish the backs of the songs they represent which are printed **full sheet music size** with **all** the verses and **complete score** on smooth heavy paper 10½x14 inches in size. The first lines of the song **in an artistic panel** appear underneath the title at the bottom of each picture, as shown here:

"Home Sweet Home"

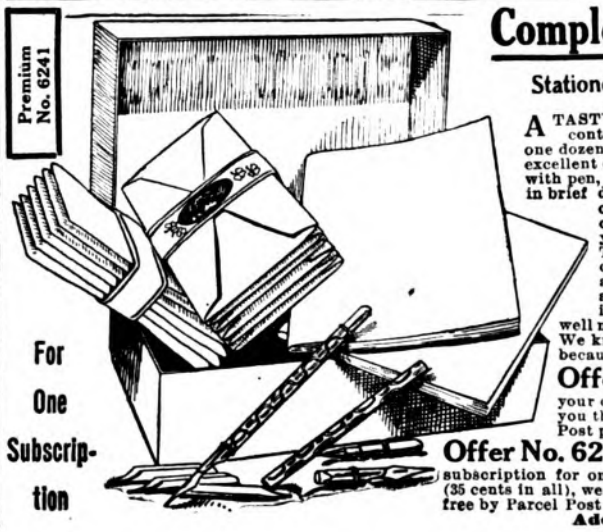
"Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home!"

The other six songs are all familiar old-time favorites—**"Lead Kindly Light," "Cottage by The Sea," "Rock of Ages," "Sweet and Low," "Old Oaken Bucket," "In the Gloaming"**—and every song is **complete** and illustrated just as described above.

We did not attempt to illustrate this fine Song Collection because no illustration could do it justice—you must see it to appreciate it. Although originally made to sell at a fixed price, this collection fell in our hands at a greatly reduced price, and as the quantity is small we are compelled to limit this offer **to our own subscribers** and furthermore we can hold it open **for 15 days only** as our supply certainly will not last any longer than that.

You can obtain **free and prepaid** one of these valuable Illustrated Song Collections by sending us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents. Or if you prefer you can send your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all.) Remember that this offer is good for 15 days only, so be sure to send in your order **at once.** When writing please mention you want **Song Collection No. 3441. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Premium No. 6241



For One Subscription

Complete Writing Outfit

Stationery—Envelopes—Pencil—Pens

A TASTY **embossed** box 6½x4¾x1 inch in size, containing one dozen sheets fine **stationery**, one dozen **envelopes** to match, 3 steel **pens** and an excellent **combination pen and pencil holder** with pen, pencil and rubber eraser **complete**—this in brief describes the above writing outfit and it is certainly **a big value** when you stop to consider that we give it for only **one one-year subscription to COMFORT.** There is enough paper and envelopes in this outfit to last you **a long while,** the pens are the very **best** you could get anywhere and the combination pen and pencil holder is good for nearly a **lifetime,** as it is so well made that it is practically **indestructible.** We know this outfit will please all who receive it because everything in it is of **good quality.**

Offer No. 6241 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this complete Writing Outfit free by Parcel Post prepaid.

Offer No. 6241 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this complete Writing Outfit free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6241.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Goddess of Lonesome Ranch

By Hapsburg Liebe

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

PART II.

"WELL, he won't bother around here any more. He'll leave here—fact is," said Allen, "he's done gone."

"But why did you set him free?" demanded Selford.

"Because."

"Woman's reason, and you ain't no woman, Pokerface, by a blamed sight! Say," suddenly, "what are we goin' to do about our bills? We owe—or, rather, *I* owe—some fierce bills here. It would take a month to write to Lonesome Ranch and have some cattle sold."

Allen rubbed his chin and frowned. "I'm wonderin' if old Ward didn't do you, Bill. Don't you reckon he did?"

"*Do* me!" flared Selford, resentfully. "Why, he's broke too. He's borrowing money from his friends. No, I don't blame Ward, not in the least, for my bustup. There must ha' been a chance for loss where there was a chance for gain, old pal. No, Ward is on the square and level; you couldn't make me believe nothin' else, if you was to talk to me until you was as blue as ink in the face."

"Well," frowned Allen. "All right. About them there bills you and me owes, you leave that to me. I ain't exhausted none o' my resources yet."

The following morning, Selford was sitting with Miss Ward on the hotel's bayshore veranda, when Allen walked up and bowed stiffly. In one hand Allen held a newspaper and a small package.

"'Ere is the paper, Mister William, sir," he said, "and 'ere is the package from your New Horleans bank, sir. And Bellow, 'e 'as just wired, sir, that there was a' haccident in loading the big car, w'ich is the reason hit 'asn't been shipped; and 'e says, sir, that hit will take a week longer to make the necessary repairs. Hi would like to hask you, Mister William, sir; may Hi 'ave the day hoff to go down to Lester's Point a fishing, sir?"

Selford's jaw dropped. He had been prepared for none of this. But Miss Ward, doubtless, was watching, so he recovered himself.

"Certainly, you may have the day off, Harmsworth, my man," he said evenly. "And I hope you enjoy yourself!"

"Thank you very much, indeed, Mr. William, sir," said Pokerface Allen, and he bowed and left hastily.

Selford's curiosity was at a high pitch. He opened the package as carelessly as he could, and peeped inside. In it there yas a roll of banknotes, most of them of a two-figure denomination, big enough to choke a government mule!

Where had Allen got the money? Had Allen been gambling again? He looked absently out across the bay, and wondered. The answer was not long in coming. Old Ward brought the answer.

"Good morning, Selford," he smiled floridly. "Have you heard the news? No? Simpson Caudle came back and robbed four of the hotel's guests—new guests—last night. He robbed them between the railway station and the hotel. Held them up at the point of a big, blue gun, and took their money in the good old-fashioned way. He had a black mask on his face, too. He got something like six hundred dollars, I understand."

"Is that—a fact!" muttered Selford.

Now Bill Selford knew where his roll of banknotes had come from, and he knew now why Pokerface Allen had liberated Simpson Caudle—Caudle would be blamed for Allen's holdup!

"Have they caught Caudle?" he asked.

"I think not."

Selford rose and went to look for his resourceful valet. Allen had already departed for Lester's Point. Selford returned to his rooms, and there he fell into his old habit of talking to himself:

"It was for me that you done it, Pokerface," he drawled. "You done it so I could stay here and court the goddess. But you oughtn't done it, old pal. It was bad. It was thievery, rotten thievery. And you left as soon as you'd handed me the money, to keep me from giving it back to you. You knowed I wouldn't have it. That is, you thought I wouldn't. You figured that if I had it in my possession long enough, I'd yield to the temptation o' payin' up my scores here. And you figured right, Pokerface. I'll pay our scores here, and some ahead. I can't leave here now, on account o' her. But some day I'll pay them fellows all back, every cent of it, if I have to sell every longhorn and jackrabbit on Lonesome Ranch to do it!"

He went down to the bayshore veranda, and called old C. C. C. Ward aside.

"I've made a raise; if you're still pretty hard pushed, I could let you have a hundred or so," he said in a half apologetic manner.

Ward glanced quickly toward his daughter. Her blue eyes were turned out across the sunlit and shimmering bay. Then Ward looked back to Selford.

"I'll be mighty glad to get it," he whispered eagerly. "Heaven knows I need it!"

And he slipped the money into a trousers-pocket.

Allen came back a little after nighfall. He received no word of chiding from his master, and he appeared to be in high spirits.

Selford did not sleep well that night. He rose early, and dressed himself. He had just finished giving his coalblack hair a careful combing, when there came to his ears the sound of Allen's voice:

"Why, hit's Miss Ward!" Allen was at the door that opened upon the main hallway. "Bless my soul hif hit hain't! And 'ow are you this fine morning, Miss Ward, ma'am?"

"May I see Mr. Selford?" came in feminine tones.

"Certainly, Miss Ward, ma'am!" Allen almost shouted. "Oh, Mister William! Mister William!"

Bill Selford found the girl in tears. There was some difficulty, he knew, and he was glad that she had come to him with it. That augured well.

"Father has disappeared," she told Selford. "I can't find him anywhere. It isn't at all like him to go off without first telling me where he is going. Have you seen him?"

"Not since yesterday."

Neither had the other guests seen C. C. C. Ward since the day before. A search of the old copper man's bedroom revealed only the fact that the bed had not been disturbed; but a little later they found, on the ground near the front veranda steps, the unmistakable marks of a struggle, a few drops of dried blood, and a notebook with Ward's name in it.

"Simpson Caudle again; he took the old man from the veranda, sometime in the night," frowned Selford, speaking to himself. He turned to the anxious-faced girl. "I don't like to inquire into your father's affairs," he said, "but if I'm to do much of anything toward finding your father, it's best that I should know something of the nature of his quarrel with this villain Caudle."

"I can't tell you anyhing about it," replied Miss Ward, hopelessness in her voice. "Father never discussed his affairs with me."

Again they hunted for the missing man. They searched, not only the hotel and its grounds, but all of Lesterville, and the authorities helped. They found nothing more.

When Beatrice went to her rooms at noontime, her maid gave her a note. "Somebody threw it through the transome," she said.

The note was anonymous. It stated that Ward was entirely safe from all harm, and begged his daughter not to worry! The blood on the ground at the veranda steps, the note said, had come from the abductor's nose, and not from any wound of Ward's. Beatrice took the mysterious communication straight to Selford, and again Selford gloried in the fact that she had come to him first—it augured well. He eyed the note carefully, and later compared it with the handwriting of Simpson Caudle on the hotel's register. It was not in the least like Caudle's small, cramped chirography, nor was it in the least like any other signature on the register. But Caudle, Selford told himself, might easily have disguised his handwriting.

"Anyway, he's safe," Selford assured the girl.

She took hope quickly, and then she gave him a smile that reminded him once more of the smile that was on the face of the six-year-old calendar out at Lonesome Ranch.

But she soon grew restless again. Late that afternoon she walked through the grounds with him, and when they had reached an isolated spot she said to him this very pointedly:

"You have declared, a hundred times, your willingness to die for me; to go through fire and water and seas upon seas of blood for me; to endure centuries and centuries of torment for me; to move the entire universe into new quarters for me—and many other impossible things. I don't want you to do anything like that for me. But—I *do* want you to find my father for me! You seem to me the biggest and the strongest and the most capable man here—and I want you to find him, Mr. Selford!"

She leaned forward her face aglow and her blue eyes shining, and kissed him on one of his sunburned cheeks. There was no one to see; perhaps it would have made little difference if there had been a multitude present. Bill Selford took her into his arms.

"And you love me?" he whispered.

"I do," she admitted. "You're rough, as rough as a cliff but you're as beautiful, under your roughness——"

"And you'll marry me?" Selford interrupted, eagerly. "And go away out West with me, to live on a big ranch that is so lonesome that I named it Lonesome Ranch?"

"Yes. But it won't be lonesome to us. Now go and find my father, will you, my sunburned giant?"

"If he's on earth!" declared Bill Selford.

He went rapidly toward the hotel. Allen met him on the veranda, where a score of guests sat talking over the mysterious disappearance of Mr. C. C. C. Ward.

"Hi s'y, Mister William," began Allen, his countenance as blank as a board, "Hi 'ave a telegram ere from Bellew about the big car, and another one about the big boom in the hoil market. 'Ere they are——"

"Cut it out, Pokerface—saw it off right where you're *at!*" interrupted Selford. "Hike yourself up-stairs and get into clothes you can ride in! We're goin' to scour the surface o' this mundane sphere until we find C. C. C. Ward, if it takes the rest of our lives—now get that!"

Forgotten forgotten, was everything but Beatrice, Beatrice who had kissed him of her own free will, Beatrice who had promised to marry him. He swept Allen before him, and they dashed into their rooms like a pair of embryonic cyclones. There they dressed themselves in the good old familiar garb of the plains, then they hurried to a liveryman and hired a pair of saddled horses.

"You mean to ride the whole blessed night?" asked Allen, as they entered a broad stretch of jungle.

"Sure. Day and night until we find C. C. C. Ward. He's tied out in some such a place as this, and he may be starvin'. Oh, but I won't do a thing to that villain Caudle!"

"Then I guess I'll save you a lot o' hard ridin,' Bill," muttered Allen, frowning heavily. "Just turn into that there pigpath there at your left, will you?"

Selford obeyed. Twenty minutes later, they drew up before a slender pine, and, sitting at the base of it, with his arms bound tightly around it, was Beatrice Ward's father!

"You done that, Pokerface!" accused Selford, as he dismounted. He quickly cut the ropes, and Ward rose and stretched his cramped limbs.

"I ain't denyin' I done it," replied Allen. "I thought you wasn't goin' to get the girl, and I knowed I couldn't never tell *you* that Ward was buncoin' you! Why, *you* loaned him money! If ever I seen a man done gone bust-headed, it was you. I wasn't doin' nothin' but only tryin' to make him give you your money back, you old cayuse!"

"Get my girl!" cried Ward, weakly. "What does he mean—who's going to get my girl?"

"Me," said Selford. "I'm going to marry her. She's promised me she would."

Old Ward went to pieces. He loved his daughter. She was all he had to love. Yes, his copper dealings were a fake. He had dealt honestly in copper until he had become almost penniless—and he had had a considerable fortune to begin with. The girl didn't know; he didn't want her ever to know. Selford could have all his money back, and so could Simpson Caudle—Simpson Caudle, in spite of his villainous appearance, was merely an honest up-country grocer who had been duped just as Selford himself had been duped!

So Beatrice Ward married Bill Selford and became the flesh-and-blood goddess of Lonesome Ranch, but the ranch is not lonesome any more. and Pokerface Allen—he wanders, and wanders, through the vast and silent reaches, and now and then he sings to himself as he wanders:

"I'm a goin' to live, anyhow, 'til I die—
I'm a goin' to live, anyhow, 'til I die!
Anyhow, anyhow, 'til I die—
Anyhow, 'til I die!"

Pretty Girls' Club

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19.)

diet, and exercise, and sleep, and pay particular attention to taking care of yourself, especially if you are not feeling well. Keep your ankles warm and do not indulge in much exercise—and be careful not to get chilled or over-tired. Lie down when you can, and let Nature have as much rest as possible. If the "dark pores" are really blackheads, follow the directions in this month's talk of mine. For the brown neck, try the following bleach:

For a Brown Neck

Into one ounce of strained honey stir one teaspoonful of lemon juice, six drops of oil of bitter almonds and the whites of two eggs (without beating). Now add enough fine oatmeal to make a paste which you can spread thinly. Cut a piece of cotton cloth long enough to go about the throat and about three inches in width. Wrap around the throat, and keep in place with several wrappings of surgical gauze or cheese-cloth. You can fasten it firmly with strips of adhesive plaster if you have some in the house. Keep on over night. In the morning wash off. Do this four or five times. Oil of bitter almonds is a poison and you should be careful not to leave it within the reach of children; for this reason, also, do not use this bleach on the face.

G., Hagerstown.—The complexion brush is your remedy for the red, oily nose with enlarged pores. Use nightly. A red nose, and an oily one, frequently comes from an impaired digestion, so be careful what and how you eat. I am inclined to think that your trouble lies here. Also see that the eliminative functions of the body are in free, working order daily, and I believe your nose will improve.

Ethel.—Yes, peroxide and ammonia, applied as I have directed, will remove superfluous hair. As to how long it will take, this varies with different persons, but it is a very slow process. Hair once killed will not return, but other hairs in the neighborhood often spring up. There is no way of keeping the face free from hair, except by constant attention to it.

Mrs. C. S.—I am sorry that the rules of this department prevent my answering letters by mail. As to your questions about your hair, read what I have to say to "Worried."

Blue-eyed, Genoa, Wis.—All yellow hair is "blonde," whatever its shade, so it is evident that you are a blonde. To make it grow heavier and longer, keep it well brushed nightly, shampoo once in two weeks (since your hair is oily), massage the scalp, and look to your general bodily health. See answer to "Worried." As to your hair turning darker, it is quite likely it will as you grow older. For your freckles, if they are not very old it is probable that they can be removed by the following:

Simple Freckle Eradicator

One teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of new milk.

Dissolve the salt in the milk, apply to face and arms (if freckled), let dry, then rub off all the salt that is on the surface. Go to bed, and in the morning wash off as usual. Keep this up until the skin peels.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Have You Confidence in the Publisher of "COMFORT"?



Watch the Woman!

Do you think she is really working? Not a bit of it! Yet she is doing a big week's washing. The **real work** is done by the 1900 Gravity Washer, which makes most of its own motion. The thing that helps to make it go is under the tub.

If women knew what a wonderful help the 1900 Gravity Washer is, not one would be without it. It saves work and worry and doctor's bills. Takes away all the dread and drudgery of wash day. It saves soap, saves wear and tear on the clothes. Never breaks buttons or injures the most delicate fabrics. It certainly does beautiful work.

Send No Money!

The Washer Pays for Itself

We ask no cash in advance—no deposit—no notes. The trial is absolutely free. If you keep it, simply pay us a little each week, or each month, out of what it saves for you.

If, after a full month's free trial, you decide not to keep it, simply notify us to send for it. We will take it back without a word of complaint. The trial will not cost you a penny and will not place you under the slightest obligation.

Of course you have. For W. H. Gannett, Publisher of COMFORT, not only holds the key to over a million and a quarter of homes, but to the hearts of his readers as well.

The fact that you have such a high regard for the publisher of your favorite paper is all the more reason why you will be doubly interested in a letter we have recently received from his wife. Mr. Gannett himself says that the helpfulness and good cheer that radiate from the pages of COMFORT have much of their inspiration from her.

Here is her letter, word for word, just as we received it:

Mrs. W. H. Gannett, Wife of the Publisher of COMFORT,

Writes that She Would Not Take $1,000 for Her 1900 Washer

AUGUSTA, MAINE, Nov. 9, 1908.

The 1900 Washer Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

GENTLEMEN:—I tell my friends I would not part with the 1900 Washer for a thousand dollars. It works to perfection; washing my clothes as white and as clean as possible and doing my washing very easily and quickly. It happened the machine came one of the hottest days of the year, and as my wash woman was late that day I thought it was a nice time for me to give it a good trial. I was certainly very happily surprised to find how quickly and easily a large washing could be done without my getting so very tired. Thus I was able to do my washing, hang out my clothes and visit my friends out of the City all in the forenoon. At another time I arrived home at ten o'clock Monday morning and as the woman I had engaged to help me was ill at home, the 1900 Washer again came to my rescue and I was able to get the washing all done before noon. The more my servants use it the better they like it, and we could not keep house without the 1900 Washer. It has saved the price of the machine many times and there is no wear and tear on the clothes washed in this way.

I am voluntarily writing you this letter hoping it will be the means of helping other housekeepers to overcome some of the difficulties and drudgery of wash day, for if they will only TRY the 1900 Washer I know they will always use it, as I find it works just as well washing small linens as it does for heavy wool blankets or bed spreads and table cloths. Hoping you will be able to place a 1900 Washer in every home in the land, I am,

Yours very truly, (Signed) MRS. W. H. GANNETT.

How to Wash Without Work

Write for Free Book About the Wonderful Washer That Almost Runs Itself

This Washer has a whirling motion and moves up and down as it whirls. No paddles or machinery inside. Yet it takes the dirt out so quickly that a tubful is washed in **six minutes!** Washes anything, from rugs to daintiest laces. Does it better than is done by hand or with any other washer. And actually pays for itself.

Women who have used the Washboard all their lives just rub their eyes in amazement the first time they see a 1900 Washer at work. They exclaim—"Can it be true that it washes clothes **clean in six minutes!**" They take out the clothes when the six minutes are up, and sure enough—**they're white and clean**, exactly as Mrs. Gannett says. You just ought to write and get one on Free Trial, so you can see for yourself.

Four Weeks' Washings Done FREE! Washers Shipped Everywhere on Trial

We pay the freight. We give you a genuine Free Trial. We don't ask for cash or notes. You get the Gravity Washer just by asking for it. An entire month's use of it (four weekly washings) FREE. This free trial will tell you more than we could in a page of this paper. How it saves backache and armache and perspiring over a steaming tub, rubbing the skin off your fingers. Thousands of women are now using the 1900 Gravity Washer. They tried it first—at our risk. We simply sent the Washer and let it **sell itself.** Send for the beautiful free book, **"Washing a Tubful in 6 Minutes."** This story of the 1900 Washer is of fascinating interest. You should read it. Address, The 1900 Washer Co., 1824 Court St., Binghamton, N. Y. Or, if you live in Canada, send to The Canadian 1900 Washer Co., 355 Yonge St., Toronto, Can.

Electric Candy Shops

Electric confectionery shops are to be found in St. Paul and Minneapolis. The owner of these shops is a great believer in electricity, and he has equipped his tables with candle lamps and desk telephone sets. A customer seats himself at the table, looks at a handy table directory or menu, finds the particular number of the dainty he desires, and gives his order by telephone. A minute later the order is placed on his table by a waiter.

The system says the owner, saves a great deal of time because the waiters do not have to make a trip to the table to find out what the customer wants, nor do they have to wait while the customer is deliberating over his choice.

GRANT WOMEN RIGHT TO PREACH.—The New England Southern Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church went on record, at their annual session, as favoring the licensing of women to preach. A memorial to the General Conference was adopted in which it was urged that "the right to competent women to enter the pastorate be not denied."



MAGNIFICENT DINNER SET FREE.

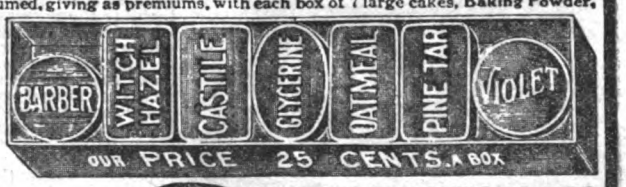
The Most Gigantic Offer Of The Century.

You Need No Money. We Trust You. We Pay Freight.

To gain a wider distribution for our strictly pure, high-grade groceries and family supplies, we now offer ABSOLUTELY FREE, a magnificently embossed, artistically floral decorated, full size

52-PC. DINNER SET for sale of 12 BOXES OF SOAP

of extra quality and finely perfumed, giving as premiums, with each box of 7 large cakes, Baking Powder, Perfume, Talcum Powder, Teaspoons, Shears and Needles (as per Plan 2351) here illustrated. QUALITY as well as QUANTITY are in this offer, as we buy in such large lots that we can afford to give more good goods for less money than any other concern in the entire country.





ALL OF OUR PLANS SELL AT SIGHT. One pleased customer brings another and with our other Baking Powder, Tea, Coffee, Spice, Extract, Perfume and Soap Offers, you will get duplicate orders and earn some of our many useful premiums such as Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Linen Sets, Silverware, Clocks, Lamps, Furniture, Graniteware, Rugs, Dry Goods, Wearing Apparel, in fact, anything you need. We also pay large cash commissions.

WE PAY THE FREIGHT

on Soap, Dinner Set and Premiums, allowing you plenty of time to examine, deliver and collect before paying us one cent. Write at once for **FREE SAMPLE OUTFIT** and other things. If, after receiving them, you decide not to get up an order, you may keep everything we send you FREE of charge for the trouble in answering this advertisement. No license needed. We protect you. Our methods are honest. Satisfaction guaranteed. Reference: First National Bank, Provident Bank, Postmaster.

SPECIAL FREE PRESENT.

We give a 26-Pc. Silverine Knife, Fork and Spoon Set, or 7-Pc. High-Grade Granite Kitchen Set, or Elegant 10-Pc. Decorated Toilet Set FREE of all cost or work of any kind. Simply send us your name and address and ask for this FREE PRESENT.



We also give Beautiful Presents for appointing one or more Agents to work for us.

You advance no money. You have nothing to risk. Remember, the SPECIAL PREMIUM AND SAMPLE OUTFIT are both **absolutely free.** A 2-cent stamp or post card is your only expense. WRITE TODAY.

THE PURE FOOD CO., 168 W. PEARL ST., CINCINNATI, OHIO.



PLENTY OF LIGHT
FOR EVERY HOME
Brighter Than Gas or Electricity
300 CANDLE POWER
Try It FREE



For your own satisfaction you should investigate this wonderful new light. Try it in your own home. See for yourself how brilliant it is. Take advantage of our Free Trial Offer. "Seeing is believing."

80 Hours on a Gallon

Think of it, a 300 candle power light—brighter than 13 acetylene gas jets, 19 electric light bulbs, or 30 common oil lamps. All for a cost of one tenth of a cent an hour—less than a cent a night.

Burns Kerosene (Coal Oil)

Absolutely safe—can't explode. The Kero Safe is the only lamp on the market that perfectly burns kerosene. Safe in any position. Don't use dangerous gasoline or old style oil lamps. Safety First—Buy the Kero Safe.

300 Candle Power Lantern

For farmers, teamsters, hucksters, plumbers, dairymen, campers, etc. For work about the house and barn at night, the Kero Safe Lantern is the only light. Mica shade makes it wind, rain and bug proof. Can't set fire to anything. Gives a 300 candle power light. Makes night work as easy as day—brightens everything.



AGENTS
$10 TO $30 A DAY and Auto Furnished

Agents making unheard of sales and profit. Tice and Hollman give sworn statements of $80 daily profit. Hart averaging $300 a month. Jennings made over $12 in one evening. Geo. Klenk of Idaho, made $80 first day. King of W. Va., averaging $20 a day. Cuyler of Iowa, making $250 a month. Enders of Pa., averaging over $2 an hour. ALL Kero Safe agents making big money. Sell on sight. A demonstration means a sale.

FREE TRIAL OFFER

Send at once for your sample Kero Safe on 10-day FREE TRIAL. Write today before some one else gets ahead of you.

Thomas Mfg. Co., 8530 East St., Dayton, Ohio



FREE WATCH AND RING
Lady or Gent Thin Model
10 YEAR GUARANTEE
Many other valuable prizes for selling only 25 beautiful Art and Religious PICTURES at 10c each. Order pictures at once. We give moving picture machines. GAIR MFG. CO. Dept. 301 CHICAGO, ILL.



THIS GENUINE FRIENDSHIP RING FREE
Sterling Silver finish. To introduce our Jewelry catalogue, we will send this ring your size, your initials, hand engraved for 12 cts. EAGLE JEWELRY CO., Dept. 36, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

SILK WONDERFUL BARGAINS. 4-Pound Bundles of beautiful Silk Remnants for fancy work, quilts, portieres, pillows etc. SEND 10 CENTS for big package of large lovely pieces. Agents wanted to sell silk, velvet and other remnants. UNION S. WORKS, 207 FACTORY ST., BOONVILLE, N. Y.

Hudson Silk Underskirt

"Fit-Top" Model

Prem. No. 7246



Your Choice Of Green, Blue Or Black

Given For A Club Of Six

THE stylish petticoat pictured above is one of the new exclusive "fit-top" models having a patent adjustable top that will fit **without alteration** the various waist sizes resulting in a **snug and perfect fit over the hips.** It is the latest "flaring" style, extremely well made of a splendid good wearing quality of "Hudson" silk having a beautiful **soft lustrous finish.** The deep flounce is trimmed with four pinch tucks and two narrow ruffles which give just the desired finish to this smartly styled petticoat. All seams are double stitched. It comes in sizes **34 to 44 inclusive** and three of the season's most popular colors—**green, blue and black. When ordering be sure to mention size and color wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each or three three-year subscriptions at 50c each we will send you one of these fashionable "fit-top" Hudson silk petticoats free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention size and color wanted. Premium No. 7246.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

she tauntingly returned. "That air of injured innocence is vastly becoming to you, and would be very effective, if I did not know you so well; but it has disarmed me for the last time. Pray never assume it again, for you will never blind me by it in the future."

"Explain yourself, Anna. I fail to understand you."

"Very well; I will do so in a very few words; I was a witness of your interview with the girl just after dinner tonight."

"You?" ejaculated the man. "Well, what of it?"

"What of it indeed? Do you imagine a wife is going to stand quietly by and see her husband make love to her companion?"

"What nonsense you are talking, Anna! I went in search of one of the housemaids to button my gloves for me, met Miss Allen instead, and she was kind enough to oblige me."

"Bah! Gerald, I was too near you at the time to swallow such a very lame vindication," sneered his wife. "You were making love to her, I tell you—you were telling her something which you had no business to reveal, and I swore then that her fate should be sealed this very night."

Gerald Goddard realized that there was no use arguing with his wife in that mood, while he also felt that his case was rather weak, and so he shifted his ground.

"But you must have plotted this thing long ago, for your play was written, and your characters chosen before we left the city," he remarked.

"Well?"

"But you said you had two reasons; what was the other?"

"Emil's love for the girl. He became infatuated with her from the moment of his coming to us, as you must have noticed."

"Yes."

"Well he tried to win her—he even asked her to marry him, but she refused him. Think of it—that little nobody rejecting a man like Emil, with his wealth and position!"

"Well, if she did not love him, she had a right to refuse him."

"Oh, of course," sneered madam, irritably. "But you know what he is when he once gets his heart set upon anything, and her obstinacy only made him the more determined to carry his point. He appealed to me to help him; and, as I have never refused him anything he wanted, if I could possibly give it to him——"

"But this was such a wicked—such a heartless, cowardly thing to do!" interposed Mr. Goddard.

"I know it," madam retorted, "but you may thank yourself for it, after all; for, almost at the last moment, I repented—I was on the point of giving the whole thing up and letting the play go on without any change of characters, when your faithlessness turned me into a demon, and doomed the girl."

"I believe you are a 'demon'—your jealousy has been the bane of your whole life and mine; and now you have ruined the future of as beautiful and pure a girl as ever walked the earth," said Gerald Goddard.

"Pshaw! don't be so tragic," she said, after a moment, and assuming an air of lightness, "the affair will end all right—when Edith comes fully to herself and realizes the situation, I am sure she will make up her mind to submit gracefully to the inevitable."

"She shall not—I will help her to break the tie that binds her to him."

"Will you?" mockingly questioned his wife. "How pray?"

"By claiming that she was tricked into the marriage."

"How will you prove that, Gerald?"

The man was dumb. He knew he could not prove it.

"Did she not go willingly enough to the altar?" pursued madam. "Did she not repeat the responses freely and unhesitatingly? Was she not married by a regularly ordained minister? and was she not introduced afterward to hundreds of people as the wife of my brother, and did she not respond as such to the name of Mrs. Correlli? I hardly think you could make out a case, Gerald."

"But the fact that the Kerbys were called away by telegram, and that some one was needed to supply their places, would prove that Edith had no knowledge of the affair—at least until the last moment," said Mr. Goddard.

Madam broke into a musical little laugh as he ceased.

"Do you imagine that I would leave such a ragged end as that in my plot?" she mockingly questioned. "The Kerbys were not called away by telegram, and no one can prove that either was ever told they were. The Kerbys are still here, dancing away as heartily as any one below, and they have known, from the first, that they would not appear in the last act—they and they only, were let into the secret that the play was to end with a real marriage."

"It is the most devilish plot I ever heard of," said he. "Your insane jealousy and suspicion, during the years we have lived together, have shriveled whatever affection I hitherto possessed for you!"

"Gerald!"

The name came hoarsely from the woman's white lips.

It was as if some one had stabbed her, and her heart had died with the utterance of that loved name.

He left her abruptly and descended the stairs, never once looking back, while she watched him with an expression in her eyes that had something of the fire of madness in it, as well as that of a breaking heart.

When he reached the lower hall, she dashed down to the second floor and into her own room, locking herself in.

Fifteen minutes later she came out again, but in place of the usual glow of health upon her cheeks, she had applied rouge to conceal the ghastliness she could not otherwise overcome, while there was a look of recklessness and defiance in her dark eyes that bespoke a nature driven to the verge of despair.

Making her way back to the ballroom, she was soon mingling with the merry dancers, and with a forced gayety that deceived every one save her husband.

To all inquiries for the bride, she replied that she had recovered consciousness, but it was doubtful if she would be able to make her appearance again that night.

Then as her glance fell upon a tall, magnificently framed woman, who was standing near, and the center of an admiring group, she inquired, in a tone of surprise:

"Why! who is that lady in garnet velvet and point lace?"

"That is a Mrs. Stewart, a very wealthy woman, who resides at the Copley Square Hotel," was the reply.

"Oh, is that Mrs. Stewart?" said madam.

"Yes; but are you not acquainted with her?" questioned her guest, with a look of well-bred astonishment.

"No; and no wonder you think it strange that she should be here by invitation, and I have no personal acquaintance with her," the hostess remarked, with a smile; "but such is the case, nevertheless; a card was sent to her at the request of my brother, who has met her several times, and who admires her very much. What magnificent diamonds she wears!"

"Yes; she is said to be worth a great deal of money."

"She must have come in while I was upstairs, inquiring about Edith," madam observed. "I must find my brother, and be presented to her. Excuse me—I will see you later."

With a graceful obeisance, madam turned away and went in search of Emil Correlli.

But, as she went, she wondered if she could ever have seen Mrs. Stewart before.

The woman's face seemed strangely familiar to her, and yet she could not remember ever having met her.

She met her brother near the door, he having just come in from the house, to excuse himself to his sister, after having been to Edith's door for the sixth time to inquire for her.

His face was pale, his eyes heavy with anxiety.

"Well, how is she now?" questioned his sister.

"She has fallen into her third swoon, and the doctor thinks she is in a very critical state. He says her condition must have been induced by a tremendous shock of some kind."

"Ah!" exclaimed Mrs. Goddard, looking relieved. "Judging from that, I should say that the girl has not yet revealed the true state of affairs."

"No; Dr. Arthur did not appear to know how to account for her condition, and asked me if I knew anything that could have caused it."

"Of course, you did not?" said madam, meaningly.

"No; except the excitement, etc., of the occasion."

"Well, don't worry," Mrs. Goddard returned; "everything will come out all right in time. It is a great piece of luck that she did not wail and rave and let out the whole story before the doctor and the maids. Your Mrs. Stewart is here—you must come and greet her and introduce me," she concluded, glancing toward her guest as she spoke.

"I was coming to tell you that I am going to my room and to bed—I have no heart for any gayety tonight."

"Nonsense! Don't be so absurdly foolish."

"Indeed! I think it would be improper for me to remain when my wife is so ill," he objected.

"Well perhaps; do as you choose. But come and introduce me to Mrs. Stewart before you go; she must feel rather awkward to be a guest here and not know her hostess."

TO BE CONTINUED.

How Oysters Produce Pearls

By C. L. Cheever

IN Japan there is a great oyster farm where the bivales are taught to make pearls. A well-known scientist conceived the idea that oysters might be educated and made to work for man. After many years of costly experimentation Dr. Mikimoto discovered the method in use today.

The farm has an area of about fifty square miles and the water varies in depth from five to fifteen fathoms. The farmer selects the spots where the larva of oysters are most numerous and then he plants small rocks and stones. These are soon covered with oyster spat. They are then removed and placed in special beds, where they lie undisturbed until the third year.

It is said that an oyster will not produce a pearl unless it be irritated by some foreign substance. As soon as it feels this it proceeds to cover it with nacre, layer on layer, until after a few years it has made a pearl. When large enough the oysters are taken from their beds and carefully opened; a tiny speck of some foreign substance is introduced into their bodies, and they are replaced in the sea. By the end of from three to five years the oyster has coated the foreign substance with nacre and this has become a pearl.

All the work on this oyster farm is done by women, who look most picturesque in their diving suits of pure white.

Great fortunes have been made by cultured pearls. The largest cultural banks are located along the shore of the Bay of Ago and operated by a special grant of the Japanese government.

YEAR'S "CONSCIENCE FUND."—Contributions to the treasury's "conscience fund" for the fiscal year recently ended amounted to $54,923.15, making a total of $498,763.54 returned by persons whose consciences were uneasy over frauds against the Government. Figures at the Department show returns were larger during last year than ever before. In 1811 the first $5 came with a letter saying the writer had taken that amount from the Government, and hence wished to return same.

BACHELORS' CARE FOR BABIES.—An order was recently put into effect in Memphis, Tenn., requiring every unmarried man in the city to undertake to provide for the maintenance of at least one baby whose parents are unable to properly care for it. The plan is said to be proving a great success; little ones are provided with many advantages which were formerly denied them. The bachelors seem to enjoy this.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Oh! the Charm of Beauty

Let Stuart's Calcium Wafers Restore the Color to Your Cheeks and Remove the Cause of Pimples Blackheads, Etc.



"Life to Me Now Is a Beauteous Thing, for I Have Made All Skin Troubles a Thing of the Past."

Every one envies a beautiful skin, just as every one envies a healthy person. Unsightly faces filled with pimples, discolorations, blackheads, etc., are nothing but unhealthy faces due to blood impurities. Cleanse the blood and the facial blemishes disappear.

You must not believe that drugs and salves will stop facial blemishes. The cause is impure blood filled with all manner of refuse matter.

Stuart's Calcium Wafers cleanse and clear the blood, driving out all poisons and impurities. And you'll never have a good complexion until the blood is clean.

No matter how bad your complexion is, Stuart's Calcium Wafers will work wonders with it. You can get these little wonder-workers at your druggist's for 50 cents a package.

Try them free by writing the F. A. Stuart Co., Dept. 38, 352 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich. for a free trial package.



2 LACE CURTAINS PILLOW SHAMS FREE
Sell 6 boxes Rosebud at 25c per box return to us $1.50 and we will promptly send you postpaid 1 pair beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains, nearly 3 yds. long, and a hand-some pair of Lace Pillow Shams FREE. Rosebud is a rapid seller. Write for it to-day; we trust you
ROSEBUD PERFUME CO., Dept. 161, Woodsboro, Md.



LOVERS' BUDGET FREE
To get acquainted with you, we will send our great LOVERS' BUDGET, consisting of—12 Love Letters, 14 Flirtation Signals, 7 Fortune Telling Secrets, 10 Funny Readings, 1 New Gypsy Fortune Teller, 12 Flirtation Cards, 11 Parlor Pastimes, 250 Jokes & Riddles, 72 Toasts, 40 Amusing Experiments in Magic, 6 Comic Poetry, also bargain sheets of solid gold filled rings, for only 10c to help pay advertising.
THE AUCTION CO., DEPT. 66. ATTLEBORO, MASS.



CARDS Send 2c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Beau Catcher and list of 2000 Songs given Free. OHIO CARD CO., B14 Cadiz, Ohio.

SILK MUSLIN SCARF

Premium No. 3312



A dainty shoulder throw and head covering for Summer, or for evening wear the year round. For trimming Summer Hats there is nothing so practical or so easily and attractively arranged. Each Scarf is two yards long and 24 inches wide, with deep hemstitched edge, and we have them in white, black, light blue and light pink.

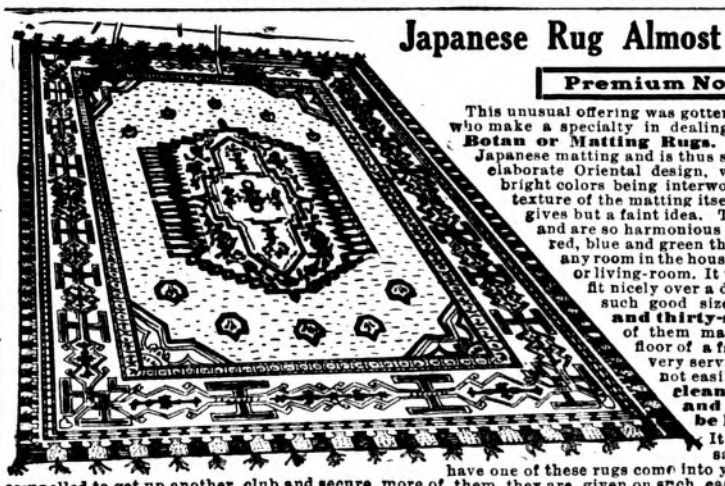
For every-day use such a scarf is indispensable and for car or boat riding, pleasure or otherwise one or more of these scarfs will be found useful. Being ready to wear, the saving of time in hemstitching is worth something to every woman, and the busy Mothers will find them so convenient for a quick method of trimming the children's hats. **When ordering be sure to mention color wanted.**

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Silk Scarf free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 3312.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Japanese Rug Almost Six Feet Long

Premium No. 4204



This unusual offering was gotten of a large importing house who make a specialty in dealing in big quantities of these **Botan or Matting Rugs.** It is closely woven of fine Japanese matting and is thus strong and durable. It has an elaborate Oriental design, which is brought out by the bright colors being interwoven with the finely shaded texture of the matting itself, of which our illustration gives but a faint idea. The colors are of such a blend and are so harmonious in the variegated shades of red, blue and green that it is appropriate to use in any room in the house, especially for the chambers or living-room. It will lay closely to the floor or fit nicely over a defaced carpet. They are of such good size, about **72 inches long and thirty-six inches wide,** that two of them make a good covering for the floor of a fair sized room. They are a very serviceable rug to use as they do not easily soil and **can be readily cleaned with a damp cloth and the color design thus be kept fresh and bright.** It is guaranteed to give entire satisfaction and if you once have one of these rugs come into your home you will almost be compelled to get up another club and secure more of them, they are given on such easy terms and are so entirely wearable and give such a fine appearance.

Club Offer. For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these Rugs free by Parcel Post prepaid **Premium No. 4204.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

VETERINARY INFORMATION



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

GARGET.—I have a Shorthorn cow, six years old, in good condition. She freshened last June and through careless milking the entire right side of her udder has become badly caked, while the other side is perfectly good. I can only get one half pint of milk from both right teats. The calf is still sucking. B. W.

A.—We consider the condition hopeless and the cow should therefore be fattened for slaughter as soon as the calf is weaned. If you prefer to experiment, wean the calf now, milk three times daily, massaging the udder thoroughly each time and each night rubbing the affected quarters with a mixture of one part of mercurial ointment and three parts of lard or lanolin.

INDIGESTION.—I have a fine young mare with foal that is strangely affected at times and has been for something like a year or eighteen months at intervals, and I desire some advice as to treatment. She will after coming from work, refuse to eat sometimes, and will lie down, and will turn up her upper lip repeatedly. She doesn't seem to swell to amount to anything, and doesn't hold her head at the side much as in colic. She will just seem to be in a stupor for some hours. I do not work her hard at all, but on the other hand am exceptionally easy with her on this account. W. B. L.

A.—Formation of gas in the stomach, due to indigestion causes the symptoms described. Work the mare every day and when there is no work for her to do let her run out and have no grain feed. Do not feed her when hot and tired. Give the drinking water from a very large box to prevent bolting. Keep her bowels active. If the trouble continues mix together two parts of powdered wood charcoal and one part of bicarbonate of soda and of this mix a tablespoonful in each meal.

TUBERCULOSIS.—I butchered two hogs and their livers were three or four times larger than a year-old hog's liver should be. They were hard and when cut with a knife one could hardly cut it. I could break it, and it was full of hard lumps and was light brown in color. Their lungs were about one quarter as large as a hog of that age should be and they had hard white lumps in them. They were fed on meal and skim-milk to fatten them. When cut open their fat turned yellow. A piece of meat taken into the house had a decayed odor after a few hours. We did not use the meat. Would it have been fit to use? F. S. B.

A.—The postmortem lesions appear to be those of tuberculosis and the meat therefore would be unfit for use. The disease is contracted from milk or manure of affected cattle. Factory skim-milk often is to blame. Have your cows tested with tuberculin if that has not been done.

WARTS.—I had a sucking colt with about a peck of warts on him. Both ears hung down by the weight of them; his sheath had a bunch as big as a gallon pot. Finally I used common yellow axle grease, putting it on once a day. It cured him. C. F. A. K.

A.—As often advised here Castor oil, or goose grease freely applied will remove masses of small warts and we can well believe that axle grease might have a like effect.

MILK FEVER.—Please tell me what killed my two cows. One, a ten-year-old Jersey in perfect health, came fresh with her sixth calf. The birth was perfect and natural in every way and the cow all right. The second day I noticed that the cow refused food and seemed sick, became weak and could not walk or get up. She bloated and died a lingering death. Her bowels did not move after the calf was born. Her food consisted of pasturage and some Alfalfa hay with apple and potato peelings and beets. My other cow died in same manner when she came fresh with twin calves. MRS. A. P.

A.—The cows died of milk fever and might have been saved by simply milking clean and then inflating each quarter of the udder pumped in by means of a milking tube attached to a small rubber tube and bulb syringe. Milk fever may usually be prevented by cutting down the rich feed, keeping the bowels active and enforcing daily exercise for six weeks before calving.

LAMENESS.—I have a mare that is lame in her left hind leg. There is a knot below the joint that is as hard as bone. It seems to hurt her when she trots. Is it bone spavin and can you give a remedy? O. F.

A.—Lameness due to a bone spavin disappears temporarily when the horse is trotted for a short treatment. The best treatment would be to have the spavin and entire hock joint fired and blistered by a competent veterinarian, then keep the mare tied up short for six weeks. If you cannot have this done clip off the hair and blister the parts repeatedly while the mare is kept tied up.

SHRUNK IN MILK.—Three months ago I bought a cow two and one half years old. She was giving three quarts of milk per day. She freshened two weeks ago. At first did not give any milk. She gives three quarts now and eats heartily. She has a slight discharge from nose. The udder did not increase in size before the calf came. MRS. A. J. R.

A.—The cow should have been dried off for at least six weeks before calving. She may gradually increase in milk flow if you milk three times a day, massaging the udder thoroughly each time, and feed her generously on milk-making feed. She may have caught cold, but that should pass off soon.

INDIGESTION.—I have a horse that is twelve years old. He eats as much hay as would feed two, and seems eager to eat anything that he can reach. For grain he has mixed feed. He is very thin and anything he eats does not seem to do him any good. F. W. D.

A.—Bed the horse with shavings or sawdust and if necessary muzzle him between meals. Do not feed him over one pound of hay for each one hundred pounds of body weight as a day's ration if he works and only allow him a trifle more than that when idle. Feed a similar amount of whole oats. Make him work or exercise daily. Have his teeth put in order by a veterinarian; also have him clipped if he has a long, coarse coat of hair.

WARTS.—I have a calf six months old that has warts on the front shoulders and sides of its neck. What can I do to remove them? J. A. S.

A.—Twist off the large warts. Small ones will disappear after a time if rubbed daily with Castor oil, fresh goose grease, or axle grease.

ECZEMA.—I have a mare that has had eczema for four months. Can you give me a quick and simple remedy? W. W. S.

A.—We cannot prescribe unless you furnish a detailed description of the symptoms or condition present.

GARGET.—My cow is seven years old. Her fourth calf is two months old. She is a thoroughbred Black Jersey and has been giving four gallons of milk a day and making two pounds of butter. There are times when the udder is caked and appears to be sore. Her milk is lumpy or "ropy" and can hardly be strained. M. N.

A.—Garget is present and it is a disease of the udder for which the breed is in no way to blame. Milk three times a day and each night, where the udder is affected, rub in a mixture of one part each of turpentine and fluid extracts of belladonna leaves and pokeroot and five parts of lard or sweet oil. At such times also give a tablespoonful each of powdered saltpeter and pokeroot in the feed once daily.

PERIODIC OPHTHALMIA.—I have a seven-year-old mare, that, on four or five occasions has become partially blind in one eye. The eye becomes somewhat inflamed, runs a little, and has a milky color. The mare does not work, runs out a couple of hours each day. She has two teeth on her lower jaw, one on each side about an inch ahead of the grinders. I supposed they were the cause of the trouble. C. R. G.

A.—The veterinarian is right, the disease being periodic ophthalmia (moon blindness) and incurable, but the disease is not caused by "wolf" teeth, nor do such teeth ever affect the eyes in any way. The teeth described are not wolf teeth. We suspect that they are small tusks sometimes seen in mares, and always present in the mouth of a stallion or gelding. Blindness may be retarded by bathing the eyes daily and at time of attacks putting a few drops of a 15 per cent solution of argerol between the eyelids once a day.

RINGWORM.—I have a calf six months old, that eats heartily and appears in good health. The calf has scab spots back of his head and ears and around his eyes. Please give a remedy. F. H. W.

A.—Scrub each spot clean with soap and hot water for removal of all scabs or crusts. When dry rub in a little iodine ointment and repeat the application once daily for three or four days, then every other day.

WATERING EYE.—My year-old filly colt has one eye that runs water and pus. It seems to come up from the nose, when she throws up her head. She has wind in hock joints, though not as large as they were. W. M. A.

A.—The tear duct is blocked and it will be necessary to have a trained veterinarian open it by way of the opening in the nostril. The puffs in the hocks should be well hand-rubbed twice daily and after one month of such treatment should be lessened in size. then cover the joints with pine tar and turn the colt out daily for exercise.

FOUNDER.—I have a twelve-year-old mare that is lame in her hips. She eats heartily and runs on a pasture in summer and in a stalk pasture in the fall. She was all right until last spring. Her hind feet point in nearer her front feet. Her back humps up. Her front ankles swell. She can get up and down all right. L. C.

A.—The symptoms apparently indicate founder affecting both fore feet. If you cannot employ a veterinarian to make an examination, clip the hair from the hoof heads of both fore feet and blister them repeatedly, one at a time, until the lameness subsides or is greatly lessened.

ABNORMAL MILK.—I have a cow six years old that goes dry three or four weeks. Two months before she freshens the butter comes like coarse meal and will not gather. MRS. E. H. M.

A.—It will be neccessary to dry the cow off for six weeks or more before calving by putting her on a hay ration and gradually stopping the milking process. It is quite common for the milk to be strong or to have churning troubles in such cases.

STUNTED CALF.—I want your advice about a yearling that has something wrong with him. When he was seven or eight days old he got out of the lot and took a run of a mile or two and didn't come back for four or five days. When I.e came back he had sores where the brush had scratched him. They have healed. The calf isn't as large as an ordinary calf—is bony and doesn't take on flesh. Its hair is scanty. M. M. H.

A.—It will not pay you to expend money, time or food on this stunted yearling, nor can we tell you any certain method of making it develop normally. Very likely it is affected with tuberculosis which is incurable.



Send Only 45c

For this Colonial Solid Comfort

Fireside Rocker

Yes, send only 45 cents and we will ship you this big roomy fireside rocker. **Never before such a bargain as this.** Clip and send the coupon today—right now. We will ship rocker on 30 days free trial.

COLONIAL FIRESIDE DESIGN. This rocker is built in unusually broad porportions, giving you ample room to spread, thus affording the fullest measure of back comfort. It is made in rich, plain Colonial fireside design, with very massively upholstered side wings, thickly padded sides and broad comfortable arms.

STEEL COIL SPRING SEAT AND BACK. Never before has a rocker at this price been offered that contained steel coil springs in both back and seat. The padding is laid in even layers for luxurious thickness. The covering is either in our best grade of black Delavan imitation leather, or brown imitation Spanish leather. No matter which upholstering you order we absolutely guarantee that you will be pleased or you don't have to keep the rocker. Back 26 in. high, full width 28 in., seat 20x19 in. Order right from this ad. Weight about 75 pounds.

Order Right From This Ad

No. B-3554-A Upholstered in black Delavan imitation leather. 45 cents cash, 75 cents monthly. Special price, only .. **$8.40**

No. B-3555-A Upholstered in brown imitation Spanish leather 45 cents cash, 75 cents monthly. Special price, only **$8.65**

Straus & Schram, Inc.
Dept. 1062, 35th St., Chicago

Easy Payments

If you want anything in rockers, furniture, jewelry, carpets, rugs, curtains, washing machines, crockery, silverware, baby carriages, go-carts, Men's, Women's and Children's apparel, stoves, ranges, or any article of home furnishing, don't fail to get our sensational easy terms. Only a small deposit—then pay the balance at the rate of a small amount per month.

Send Coupon

along with 45c to us now. Have this fine Rocker shipped on 30 days trial.

Free Bargain Catalogs

Even if you do not order this set, write today for our big new catalog and list of special bargains. See the astounding values we are offering. Send now.

Enclosed find 45 cents. Please ship me at once the big special advertised Rocker. I am to have 30 days free trial. If I keep the Rocker I will pay 75 cents monthly until the balance is paid. If not satisfied, I will return Rocker and you are to refund my 45 cents together with any freight charges I paid.
If you only want catalog, check here ☐

Name.....

Address.....

☐ B-3554-A. Check which rocker is wanted ☐ B-3555-A

Straus & Schram, Inc. Dept. 1062 W. 35th St. **Chicago**

How I Succeeded With My Incubator

Those who keep hens or contemplate doing so will find profitable information in the experiences of some of our poultry-raising subscribers in the use of incubators as told by them in the following letters. These and other letters which we shall publish later were written in response to COMFORT'S offer of prizes, last June, for best articles on "How I Succeeded With My Incubator."

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

Incubator Put Her in Business

I purchased an incubator about twelve years ago. I had tried for three years prior to this time hatching chicks with hens and had had many trying experiences, some of which were: Losses of chicks from lice and mites hatched by the hens, spoiled eggs by biddies not staying on their nests just as they should and too often they would not set until too late in season for chicks to mature and feather good before cold weather came on.

My incubator did away with all of these troubles because I run it myself.

I have always had good hatches when eggs were fertile.

One time, about five years ago, I had a few more eggs incubating than I could think out places to take care of chicks so put a small ad. in a farm paper, because I really believed they would stand shipping if boxed just right better than eggs do. My surplus chicks were soon all sold and I refilled the incubators and these sold just as quickly as before. This seemed one way open for me to make a living for myself and two children so I mean to advertise more and buy more incubators until in 1915 I hatched and sold $3,500 worth and this year, 1916, I have sold $2,200 worth since the first of March.

My children and I do all but the heaviest work, that we hire done. We have 40 incubators and, as I wrote, 20 of them have eggs incubating and I have a fine flock of 400 Single Comb White Leghorn hens and 1,400 growing chicks from six weeks to three and one half months old. I think the incubator has been a great help to us, and I believe others will find *good* incubators just as great a help. I underscore the word good because to succeed you must have a good incubator that regulates perfectly.

CLARA COLWELL, Kansas.

A Good Incubator Is a Boon

We find a good incubator is one great factor in getting a profit from the farm flock. It requires a good brooder for best results yet with these two machines the number of chicks which can be hatched and successfully reared on the average farm is limited only by the time and desires of the owner.

The incubator enables one to set the very first eggs of the spring laying season where desirable. It enables us to get the bigger price in the earlier markets for the cockerels and puts the pullets in just right to make good all-winter layers. With the machine ready we need not wait for setting hens and can keep them laying right when the eggs are needed most.

We find it doesn't require nearly so much time to attend to a good incubator of two hundred and fifty egg capacity as is required to look after the number of hens on that number of eggs. That would be practically seventeen smaller size hens. Unruly hens will become dissatisfied and quit. Nests will be broken up and numbers of eggs broken. We may keep the sitters in a special room and keep each hen shut to herself only letting one or two off at a time into the feeding and watering pen yet this requires a great amount of time and needless bother in view of the labor-saving-machine method.

It doesn't take more than fifteen or twenty minutes each day to properly turn and air the eggs and fill the lamp. With a good self-regulating incubator this temperature item is a small concern.

We find a good incubator when properly regulated will hatch fully as big a percentage of eggs as the hen. The main point for early spring hatches we find is to get the eggs from the flock that starts laying in the spring on good range and feed. The hen that has been forced to lay all winter produces only mediocre chicks of questionable vitality.

The incubator chick is notably free from lice and mites since they have small chance for infection. We take the chicks direct from the machine to a brooder in a closed park away from the older flock where the mites have very small show. If any lice should show up they are easily killed by a spraying and dusting with some good louse destroyer.

Experience has shown us it is generally the best policy to follow closely the directions laid out by the manufacturer in operating any machine. Yet there are some points upon which all good and reliable machines must agree. Eggs should lie flat in the trays at all times and in all machines. We had a machine so constructed that the eggs remained tilted on their small ends throughout the period of incubation. We worked the trays over till the eggs could lie flat and the chicks were much stronger. Better hatches were secured.

By comparison of thermometers one can judge as to the working order of their register. When the old thermometer does not come up to specifications a new one is in order. One cannot afford to risk a good hatch for the price of a new register.

A good incubator is a boon to the farm poultry raiser as well as the professional.

W. L. HAISLEY, Ind.

Cleared $62.60 with Incubator

My first attempt with an incubator yielded 85 chicks from 100 eggs. Of these I raised 71. I took good care of them, always being sure they were not overcrowded or overheated. I feed four times daily for three weeks, afterwards three times. At the age of four months I sold 30 of them at 27½ cents, total $9.60. I had 41 pullets that began laying in November and continued throughout the entire winter almost from November 5 to February 2nd. I had gathered and sold 205 dozen at 30 cents, $61.50.

My expenses from first to last are as follows: Machine, $10; Brown Leghorn eggs, $2.50; oil about $1., feed, $2.50, $26 cost. Received $9.60 for young chickens sold, $61.50 for eggs and $17.50 for hens, total, $88.60, less $26.00 expense, leaving clear profit, $62.60.

Later hatches have been a little more successful due to experience. Chicks hatched by incubator are strong and vigorous, free from vermin, are less trouble to feed and tend, as they are all in one bunch, in short the incubator is a labor saver.

Directions must be followed to the letter, but it pays, as you can keep your hens laying and at the same time have fryers or early laying pullets when desired.

This is a mighty good thing about an incubator, it will set any time desired.

GERTRUDE ROBERTSON, La.

Wouldn't Take $100 for Incubator

I am living on a little farm of 54 acres, and for the past ten years had used hens for incubation. Last year my husband bought an old incubator for $6.00 and I would not take $100 for it if I could not get one in its place.

The incubator can be set any time in the year (I set mine the first of March). The incubator never gets lousy, never breaks the eggs, never leaves the nest after it has set for two weeks, never dies on the nest, and never eats the chicks just before they are hatched, like the old hens sometimes do.

If we follow the directions for the incubator we will have just as many chicks from an incubator as from that many good eggs set under hens. (I got 120 chicks from 125 good eggs).

Early hatched chicks bring better prices than late hatched chicks. This year I hatched and raised 360 chicks.

For brooder I used the lower part of old apple barrels as I find round brooders better than square ones. The round brooders have no corners where the chicks crowd and smother. I did not lose any chicks this year.

My figures this year are:

Eggs for hatching,	$12.50
Oil,	2.50
Feed,	19.40
Total cost,	$34.40
Sold 48 broilers,	$27.68
Sold 60 broilers,	29.10
107 chicks on hand, worth now,	40.00
125 chicks on hand, worth now,	35.00
	$131.78
Expense,	34.40
Clear,	97.38

I forgot to state what I feed my little chicks and how I keep them warm.

I place the brooder on top of the incubator, over the lamp. I have found if the little chicks are warm on their feet they are all right with only a thin covering. I never feed soaked feed, always dry. The first two days they get bread crumbled fine and water to drink. After two days old they get chick starter and boiled potatoes mashed fine and all the sour milk they will drink, after that they do not get any water before they are three or four weeks old.

I have taken COMFORT for eight years and it is the best paper I have, and I think I owe my "success with the incubator," to COMFORT.

MRS. EDDIE ERICKSON, Wis.

SMYTH'S 60 INCUBATOR

ALL STEEL



ON 30 DAYS' FREE TRIAL $3.92

HOLDS FULL 60 EGGS

To quickly popularize SMYTH'S All Steel 60 Egg Incubator, we will sell 5,000 at only $3.92 each. Guaranteed to hatch as large a per cent of strong, healthy chicks as any incubator made, regardless of name, make or price. Made of polished steel; with double walled air chamber, 1917 improved disc regulator, standard thermometer visible through glass damper, best safety metal lamp, heat distributing drum around outer edges, water jacketed heat flue and automatic heat regulation insuring even temperature and moisture in every part of egg chamber, and proper heat to eggs all the time. Full directions with each incubator. **SEND $1.00** deposit and we will send you this high-grade, latest improved SMYTH'S all steel 60 egg incubator by express, subject to examination. Pay balance $2.92 and express charges to agent after you find the incubator perfectly satisfactory and the greatest incubator bargain in the world, then take it home and **TRY IT 30 DAYS** at our risk and if you do not find it as good a hatcher as you ever saw or heard of, regardless of price or make, or if for any reason you are dissatisfied, return at our expense and we will refund your $1.00 and freight you paid, send charges. If you want incubator sent by **PARCEL POST** $3.92 and enough money extra to pay the parcel post postage and we'll send on same liberal trial offer as above. Shipping weight 19 lbs. We make very low prices on larger incubators, brooders, and poultry supplies of all kinds in our big free Incubator Catalog sent you free upon request. Order incubator or catalog today.

JOHN M. SMYTH MDSE CO. 703-717 Wash-ington Blvd. **CHICAGO**



Make More Money

Poultry and Incubator Book **Free**—Postpaid.

The Golden Hatcher

facts explain the **Sand Tray Moisture System**—Nature's way. **Hatches** healthy chicks, one-third larger—they live. **State Agricultural College Recommendation Letters**, with 32 years' study. Samples of materials **Free**. Shows a sure income and pleasant work. **Write today.**

BANNER INCUBATOR CO., 622 Blake St., BARABOO, WIS.

VETERINARY COURSE AT HOME



Taught in simplest English during spare time. Diploma granted. Cost within reach of all. Satisfaction guaranteed. Have been teaching by correspondence twenty years. Graduates assisted in many ways. Every person interested in stock should take it. Write for catalogue and full particulars . . . **FREE**

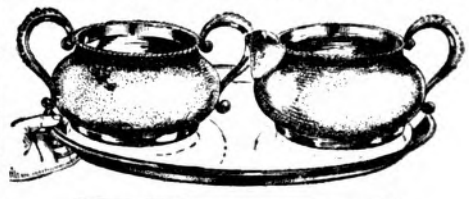
LondonVet.Correspondence School
Dept. 8, London, Ontario, Can.

For stiff muscles

Sloan's Liniment KILLS PAIN

Penetrates without rubbing

Quadruple Silver Plated SUGAR, CREAMER & TRAY



Premium No. 6204

This handsome silver set of three pieces consists of a **Sugar, Creamer and Tray**, each piece **quadruple plated with pure coin silver, gold lined, and warranted to wear for years. The Creamer** is of the elegant design shown in above illustration nearly two inches high and 21-4 inches in diameter at top, with a beautiful **floral decoration engraved on the side** which does not show in the picture. The bottom is **plain and bright polished** the sides and handle are finished with the **frosted effect** which is so much admired by everybody and top and handle are **heavily beaded.** This same description also applies to the **Sugar** which is of the same good size and fitted with **two beautiful beaded handles** instead of one. **The large and handsome Tray** is 61-2 inches in diameter **quadruple plated** with pure silver, **plain and bright polished.** Remember, this is **not** a cheap "electro plated" set but one which will last you **for years.** The heavy quadruple plate being sufficiently thick to withstand **constant use** without showing any signs of tarnish or wear. We know that every lady or girl who receives this set from us will be simply delighted with it for aside from its **usefulness it is certainly a beautiful ornament for dining table or sideboard.** Better order one of these sets right away for yourself or to give **as a present** to mother, sweetheart, wife or sister. **She will most assuredly appreciate it.** We will send you this beautiful set consisting of **Sugar, Creamer and Tray exactly as**

Club Offer. For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this elegant quadruple plated Sugar, Creamer and Tray free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6204.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Last Chance



PRICES are going up! You may have to *pay $5 to $10 more for your clothing* if you do not act quickly. Most things are costing again as much today as they did a year ago. Raw wool has gone up so high that almost all the clothing manufacturers have put their prices way up! And they expect to raise prices still more.

Act Quick!

Get your name on our preferred customers' list at once. We have not doubled our prices **BECAUSE WE BOUGHT 'WAY AHEAD,** *but* we can't hold this offer open for more than a few weeks. Prices are going Up! UP! *Up!* We admit we have been compelled to raise our price—but—only —**A Little! Only $1 more, that's all.**

$15.50

Our record-breaking $14.50 line —see Catalog

Genuine All Wool Serge

Tailored to your measure. Think of it!—only $15.50—only $1 more — while others have raised prices way up! Last season's $17.50 now $15.50, and so on. All wool. We are making a big sacrifice in profits for the benefit of our preferred customers.

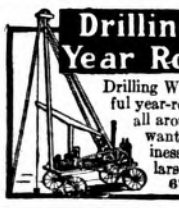
3 Months to Pay!

Yes — and what's more, you can compare this suit with other high grade clothing before you decide to buy. Then pay a little at a time — like you pay a tailor.

SPRING Style Book and Samples of Our Latest Fabrics—FREE!

This is your last chance! Don't delay a minute in sending for this book showing all the latest New York styles. We'll also send 44 generous samples of real cloth showing the exact fabrics you have to choose from. Get your name on our preferred customer's list by sending for this book today—Now.

BABSON BROS., Dept. 3042 19th Street, CHICAGO



Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business

Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars. **Star Drilling Machine Co.** 675 Washington St., Akron, Ohio

AGENTS If you make less than $1200 a year, you should get in touch with us, the largest manufacturers of transparent handled Knives and Razors in U.S. and we will show you how to make more. Special outfit offer.



$100 a Month Sure

NOVELTY CUTLERY CO., 76 Bar St., CANTON, OHIO

1000 WOMEN WANTED TO SELL NATIONAL DRESS GOODS

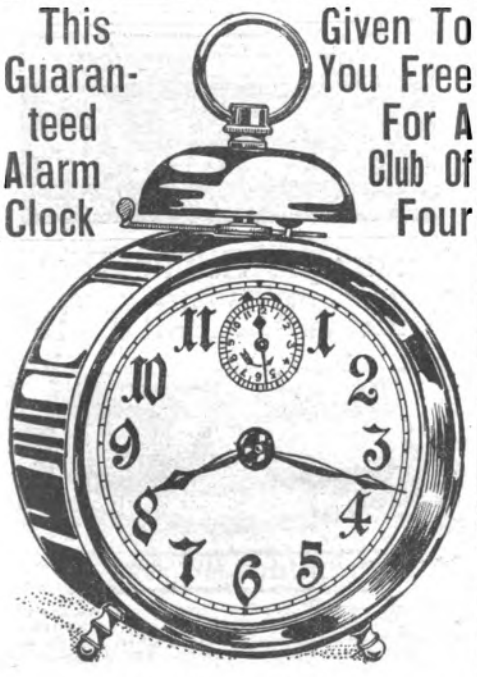
Silks, Waistings, etc. Steady income. The "NATIONAL" line is the best. Newest goods—big assortment—prompt deliveries. Our plan will appeal to you. WRITE TODAY.
National Dress Goods Co., Dept. V, 8 Beach St., N. Y.

December Prize Winners

The eighteen contestants whose names appear below have been paid the December Monthly Cash Prizes. The names of the January Prize Winners will be printed in March COMFORT.

Mrs. G. N. Baillio, La.,	1st Prize (Doubled)	$60.00
Mrs. T. S. Strong, Iowa,	2nd Prize (Doubled)	40.00
Mrs. H. E. Logan, Texas,	3rd Prize (Doubled)	20.00
A. L. Allen, Texas,	4th Prize (Doubled)	5.00
Nannie Henson, Calif.,	5th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
James McCready, Pa.,	6th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
M. G. Christensen, Minn.,	7th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Agnes Wynia	8th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Mrs. Alice Warner, Minn.,	9th Prize	3.00
Otis Rather, Okla.,	10th Prize	3.00
Robert C. A. Parnoffe, Connecticut,	11th Prize (Doubled)	4.00
Mrs. Wm. Hall, Ill.,	12th Prize (Doubled)	4.00
Miss Susie E. Hamock, Ala.,	13th Prize	2.00
Mrs. Florence Tuell, N. Y.,	14th Prize (Doubled)	4.00
John S. Stephens, Ky.,	15th Prize	2.00
Mrs. Effie Lind, Nebraska,	16th Prize	2.00
Mrs. Robert Ashentelter, W. Va.,	17th Prize	2.00
Mrs. W. P. Kimball, Maine.	18th Prize	2.00

This Guaranteed Alarm Clock Given To You Free For A Club Of Four



Premium No. 4574

HERE IS an Alarm Clock that you can really depend upon—a clock that will keep perfect time **all the time** and having a patent shut-off alarm which will never fail to ring **when you want it to ring** if you will set the indicator on the hour and minute you desire to rise in the morning. This is not a cheap "imported" clock but is made right here in this country by the Western Clock Co., of Illinois, the same company which manufactures the famous "Big Ben" which is advertised and sold throughout the entire civilized world. It stands over 6 inches high, is beautifully nickel plated, has a 4-inch dial with large Arabic numerals and will run twenty-four hours on one winding. The movement is the best American made, including frictionless pivots, self-centered wheels and hard steel pallet escapement. This is an alarm clock which we can heartily recommend, in fact, we would not offer it as a premium if we were not positive that it would give the best of satisfaction. You can have one of these guaranteed Alarm Clocks and it will not cost you one cent by accepting the following special

Club Offer. For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this Alarm Clock exactly as described free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4574. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

E. R., Versailles, Ind.—You are like a great many other COMFORT readers who want to sell things in their own neighborhoods and don't know whether they should have a license or not—instead of asking your own local officials the simple question you write to an outsider a thousand miles or so away to learn what nobody knows but your own people. Ask your local officials.

Mrs. H. J. W., Catasauqua, Pa.—Match statistics for the whole world and separate countries are not to be had. We suppose about 437 billion matches are made in the United States, but we suggest that you write to the Sup't of U. S. Census, Washington, D. C., for details.

Mrs. G. W. S., Cordele, Ga.—Address letters to Sup't City Hospital, in any town or city that you want to know about and they will be delivered either to City or leading hospitals, where they exist. Put your address in corner of your envelopes for return if not delivered. We may say that not nearly as many towns in this country have hospitals as should have them. (2) Before going into raising sunflower seed write to Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for information on the subject, including addresses of possible purchasers of your crop. What you need more than anything just now is knowledge.

Mrs. G. M. B., Ray, Okla.—We would not give you the address of an astrologer, no matter how many we had. The U. S. Post-office Department has put the ban on astrology and it cannot get through the mails. This is the 20th century, not the Dark Ages. (2) We have no personal knowledge of the manufacturing firms you mention.

Mrs. J. A., Norfolk, Va.—Easter Sunday, 1887, fell on April 10th.

A, Elkhorn, Iowa.—The Danish Consul at New York City is George Bech, 8 Bridge St.; at Omaha, Nebr., Otto Wolff. (2) May we suggest to you and to other COMFORT readers that the way to get in touch with great manufacturers who want agents is not to write to them for agencies without any knowledge or experience, but to take hold of such agencies as you already know about and work at them until you have acquired such knowledge and experience as will put you in touch. The big concerns want experienced agents and until you can go to them with experience you might write to their addresses forever and get nothing. Begin with the small concerns and work up to the big ones gradually. Long before you get to them you will have learned their addresses and all about them, if you have the stuff in you to make a successful agent. Inexperience is practically ignorance, and the ignorant have no show among the many well informed, or experienced.

L. M. M., Keewaydin, Pa.—For information about the position of government matrons and what are the necessary qualifications write to Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. Most emphatically, respectable ladies fill such places and no others need apply.

U. S. S., Joplin, Mo.—The laws in the various states regulate carrying weapons, especially concealed weapons and firearms. In New York no one can have in his possession arms of any kind without a permit. Ask your city officials about local licenses of any kind.

B. C. D., Johnson City, Tenn.—Don't try to write photo-plays until you know enough about the business to know who are buying scenarios and what kind they want. You cannot expect to sell turnips to people who want only strawberries, can you?

Mrs. B. H. M., Tinsman, Ark.—The Knights and Ladies of Honor was founded in 1877 and had a membership last year of 65,855. Headquarters, Indianapolis, Ind. Secretary, Walter W. Connel, Indianapolis.

C. M., Mellen, Wis.—Before making corn whiskey, or studying how to make it, you will have to get several hundred dollars together to buy the necessary still and machinery, and apply to Uncle Sam for permit and payment of special tax. Maine, which is constitutionally opposed to corn and all other whiskey, is the last place where you should apply for information. Write to Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Washington, D. C. and get official information on the subject.

N. M., Doninphan, Mo.—For information about soldiers write to Secretary of War, Washington, D. C., giving full names, regiments, companies, etc. The Department keeps a record of all enlisted men and their movements.

Miss E. M., Minden City, Mich.—Though Thomas Jefferson is recognized as the founder of the Democratic party, the party did not take the name until Jackson was elected in 1824, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe being known as Republicans. The Democratic Presidents who followed Jackson are Van Buren, Polk, Pierce, Buchanan, Cleveland and Wilson. Since Jackson, Wilson is the only one to be reelected. (2) Ask home people about Michigan home rule.

Anxious, Netawaka, Kans.—For information about raising navy beans in large quantities and also for farm herbs, barks, roots and burrs, write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. No place in the world is equal to that for getting reliable information about just such matters as you want to know. (2) In localities where pedagogic talent is very scarce examinations are much more lax than in those where it is abundant, but we cannot direct you to the localities where it is scarce. You are more likely to find them in the South than in the West. Eastern Kentucky, for instance, might accommodate you. (3) We haven't the faintest idea what is the best coming occupation for young women who are not high school graduates. Efficiency is the cry nowadays and those who are not efficient must give way to those who are. In our opinion farming along special lines offers the best opportunities to young women not equipped with high school education. There are hundreds of women in this country on small farms doing beautifully with fruit, flowers, fancy vegetables, or poultry and along many other special lines. But these young women didn't have to be told what to do. They read farm papers, heard talks on farming, got government information on the subject and made their choice of what they felt they could best do and did it. We have too many people, young and old, who have to be shown. They lack initiative and unless they have that they never will amount to much more than hired hands always needing to be told what to do and how to do it.

W. M. H., Pineville, Fla.—Why write all the way from Florida to Maine to learn about things in your own neighborhood? Any teacher, or preacher, or other intelligent person in your town can tell you where your nearest circulating libraries are. We cannot, but we congratulate you upon your desire to get books to read. You will find them all right, if you want them enough.

Mrs. G. W. S., High Rock, Pa.—Both glass and aluminum may be melted.

H., Kirkland, Ill.—Regular colleges do not confer degrees for work done in correspondence schools unless the student has in addition to that or without it, such learning as would entitle him to a degree.

Carnation, Marion, Utah.—Beeswax may be bleached by machinery, but the simple plan is to cut into thin slices and expose it on a coarse cloth, fixed above the ground on posts, to the sun and weather, dampening it occasionally with soft water, if there is no dew or rain. It should be turned over frequently and will be bleached in four or five weeks. If it does not bleach through in that time, it should be melted and again exposed in thin slices to the sun and weather until it is as white as wanted.

Police, Newburg, N. Y.—If a young man in his own city doesn't know enough about how to get on the police force and must send five hundred miles away for information where there isn't any, he hasn't the stuff in him of which good policemen are made. Ask the Chief of the Newburg police what he thinks about it.

G. W. B., Island Pond, Vt.—For information about your state offices and officials write to Secretary of State, at the state capital. Other COMFORT inquirers please note.

Pauline, Albany, Ala.—Nay, nay, Pauline, you should not seek to become a screen actress. There are already as many of them looking for the same job as there are writers writing photo-plays and the market is disastrously overstocked. You may think you are a "movie star," but you are not. Really, you are not.

Mrs. L., Tolstoy, N. Dak.—To become a flour tester, or blender, requires not books of instruction, but actual practise in the mill and such positions are filled by persons who have been working in the mills along other lines until they have become conversant with that branch. In addition they have a special faculty, as tea and wine tasters have.

Broken-hearted, Etna, Nebr.—Red ink writing in a letter means that the writer has no other ink, or has very bad taste. It has nothing to do with broken hearts.

J. B., Hillsboro, Ill.—A boy born in this country and living here until he is twenty-one years of age becomes a citizen whether his father is a citizen or not. (2) In those states where women vote the voting age is twenty-one for them as it is for men.

F. W. S., Hereford, Texas.—There is no federal law against a man voting who has not paid his taxes in the state where he wishes to vote. State laws control in such matters.

Lulu, Boonton, N. J.—The word "Aloha" is Hawaiian and means "Love," but it is very generally used in salutation, greeting or parting.

J. J., Long Bottom, Ohio.—You are taking too glommy a view of the public school situation in Ohio. There may be individuals, or even remote sections, which are not getting full benefits, but taking the schools by the large, we may say that if every state in the Union had as good schools as Ohio, they would have reason to be thankful.

The Modern Farmer

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20.)

or more will not buy such a heifer as that kind of calf may be made to develop into when old enough to breed or when springing.

The effort everywhere is to have cows produce a pound of butter fat a day as the minimum and such a minimum is going to be necessary where land, feed and help are high. Only by right breeding and judicious selection and feeding can such cows be produced and lucky is the man who manages to build up such a herd, keep it healthy and hand it down to posterity. Make it the invariable rule never to raise any animal that is not known to be from perfectly profitable stock on both sides of its pedigree or breeding.

Stimulating Milk Flow

We recently received a letter from a farmer who asks this peculiar question: "Is it true that the feeding of too early cut hay that has been heavily salted will fill the gutters with urine and at the same time increase the milk flow?"

To this we must answer that there is much truth in the allegation. The too early cut hay is liable to be moldy and moldy hay will be sure to increase the flow of urine. Salt has a like effect, first loosening the bowels. Such feed will even cause dangerous diabetes in the horse and also is objectionable and even dangerous for cows.

We must strongly object to the stimulation of milk flow by purposely irritating the excretory organs. The mammary glands (udder glands) are intended for milk secretion, not for excretion; but they are liable, in a measure, to join with the excretory glands when these are irritated so that diarrhea and diuresis (profuse flow of urine) may mean a like profuse flow of milk. Such milk cannot be considered wholesome. It will tend to cause summer complaint or other derangement of the bowels of infants drinking it and when mothers blame the stomach teeth for these often deadly ailments they should be looking into the source of the child's milk and may find the cause of disease there.

It is for this reason that condenseries refuse to accept milk from cows fed on wet distillery or brewery grains. They also reject milk from cows fed the refuse of vinegar factories, beet sugar plants or any feed, including sour or acid silage, which greatly influences excretion from the bowels and kidneys and incidentally the udder.

Let every man who feeds cows make it a ruling principle that the milk he markets shall be fit and wholesome food for his own little ones, then he will not be willing to stimulate manure and urine production with the hope of increasing milk flow. The idea is disgusting, revolting and deserving of general condemnation, and we believe the practise is contrary to the pure food laws.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

SAWDUST AS FERTILIZER.—Please tell me whether sawdust is a good fertilizer. Some say it sours the land. C. E. H., Keohonkson, N. Y.

A.—Hard wood sawdust is of some benefit on very heavy, sticky clay as it tends to open up the soil. Sand would be preferable, while sawdust may be used as bedding where plentiful, it would not pay to haul it and use as fertilizer alone, or for opening purposes. The ashes remaining after burning the sawdust would be more valuable, being rich in potash and other salts. Pine sawdust is unsuitable for use on land. Sawdust used as bedding absorbs and holds the liquid manure, which is the most valuable part, and to that extent is valuable as a fertilizer when used for bedding.

WHAT ABOUT SUNFLOWERS.—I am thinking of planting twenty or thirty acres to sunflowers and would like to know how they will do on sandy soil; what variety to grow; where to get the seed; how to plant and cultivate; how to harvest and cure; what the yield; how and where to market the crop; would it pay me to plant 20 or 30 acres? M. M., New Rome, Wis.

A.—We refer you to answers to similar inquiries in January COMFORT where you will find all your questions answered so far as possible to answer them. See also in this issue what we advise under heading "Start New Crops on a Small Scale." We repeat: Don't gamble by making a big plunge on a new and untried crop. Start on a very small scale and if results prove satisfactory spread out the next season.

Save One Third On Farm Engines

Buy direct from the factory. Save money. For instance, our famous 288Z5040.

3-Speed SATTLEY Guaranteed Engine

Fully equipped, for about one-third less. Shipped to you from the nearest of our warehouses in Albany, N.Y., Jackson, Mich., Springfield, Ill., Des Moines, Ia., Fargo, N.D., St. Paul, Minn., Kansas City, Mo. and Lincoln, Neb. **$30.75**

60 Days' Trial Free

Write for our Farm Book—FREE. You can save ⅓ on everything you need or use on the farm. Everything guaranteed to give complete satisfaction or money cheerfully refunded.

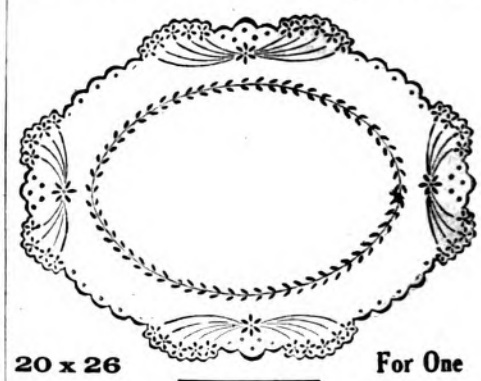


Montgomery Ward & Co. Dept. AZ35
New York Chicago Kansas City Ft. Worth Portland, Ore.
Write house nearest you.

ACTRESS TELLS SECRET.

A well known actress gives the following recipe for gray hair: To half pint of water add 1 oz. Bay Rum, a small box of Barbo Compound, and ¼ oz. of glycerine. Any druggist can put this up or you can mix it at home at very little cost. Full directions for making and use come in each box of Barbo Compound. It will gradually darken streaked, faded gray hair, and make it soft and glossy. It will not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy, and does not rub off.—Adv.

A Handsome Tray Cloth



20 x 26 Inches — **Premium No. 7841** — **For One Subscription**

We call the above one of the handsomest designs in a tray-cloth we have yet seen to say nothing of its large size, **which is 20 x 26 inches** and yet in spite of its size it does not require an unusual amount of work to finish it. The stitches themselves are simple as it may be worked either in solid or eyelet embroidery with buttonhole edge. It looks the neatest when worked all in white, although one or more colors may be used if desired. This extra large, attractive tray-cloth comes stamped on pure white "Butcher cloth" which in reality is very fine linen finished cotton—a material which has the appearance of pure linen and will if anything give longer service. We will make you a present of this tray-cloth upon the terms of one of the following special offers.

Offer 7841A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c we will send you this handsome tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7841B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 10c additional (35c in all) we will send you this tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7841.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

This Dear Little Infant Doll Talks And Cries For Mama LIKE A REAL BABY!



Premium No. 7284

THIS is the very latest in talking dolls and without doubt the best one ever invented. You have probably heard the "so-called" talking dolls that have heretofore been sold in the stores and which don't talk at all but simply make a noise which is not like **anything** human—simply a "squeak" or a "squeal". Here is a doll however that speaks and says "Mama" so plainly that it actually startles everyone who hears it. No strings to pull. You simply **press it gently** in the back and the wonderfully life-like voice responds instantly. **The vocal mechanism by which this doll imitates human speech** completely fills its chubby body. The marvelous contrivance is thoroughly made and its distinct articulation of "Mama" is surprising, not to say bewildering to those who hear it. Therefore it is nothing like the ordinary crying or talking doll for the principle of reproducing a baby's voice in this new infant doll has been so very much improved that it hardly seems possible to add more and all are pleased with the results. Including dress and all this little infant measures **14 inches in length.** The pretty white infant's dress and hood is trimmed with lace and handsome blue silk ribbon bows. She has blue eyes and a **cute baby curl** peeps out from beneath the hood in a truly life-like manner. This doll is **unbreakable,** the head being made of a special indestructible composition of a natural **flesh-like** color so that **in appearance** as well as in **voice** it more closely resembles a real baby than any doll made up to the present time. No matter how many dolls the children now have, they will surely be delighted with this doll which talks as if it were **really alive** and every mother who reads this offer should take advantage of it at once. We will send you this new talking infant doll exactly as described upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each or two three-year subscriptions at 50c each we will send you this talking infant doll free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7284.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Wrong Way Out

By Lou E. Sweeney

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

BETTY MOORE hung up the receiver and turned from the telephone. She stood for several moments absorbed in thought and then broke into bitter, scornful speech, though there was none near to hear her—or perhaps, for that very reason.

"I give wedding presents," she cried bitterly, "how can a person who never has a cent that she can call her own, give presents! It is not right. How can men be so cruelly thoughtless, so utterly selfish?" and, sinking into a chair, Betty gave herself up to the luxury of being perfectly miserable.

By and by, the nine o'clock school bell rang, and she remembered that not one of her household tasks had yet been touched. Mechanically she went about her work, her mind running back over the five years of her married life. Before her marriage, she had taught in the village school. Merry, sweet-tempered, and generous, she was loved alike by old and young. When the old people had predicted that John Moore would not make her happy, the young folks had scoffed at the idea. Moore was all right, they said—a little stern, slightly inclined to be exacting, somewhat "close" with his money—but a good fellow, just the same.

The Moores lived in a little house in the edge of the village. Betty did all her own work and cared for her two little girls. John provided well for his family—according to his own ideas. He bought what he thought they needed, and that was all. Betty's cheeks burned afresh with resentment, as she remembered how he invariably answered whenever she expressed a wish to buy anything. "Very well, get it if you need it," he always said. It was not that she wanted to be extravagant, she told herself, but she wanted him to show that he was willing for her to spend a little now and then, and not care how she spent it.

Her thoughts still ran on. She recalled the many, many humiliating experiences she had suffered because of her lack of pocket money. Often she was asked to subscribe to some charity fund, but, of course, had to refuse. How could she do otherwise? She had no money of her own, and she did not feel free to give John's money. Occasionally, there was a collection taken up in her presence, for some good purpose or other, and she had to sit with flushed face and downcast eyes as the plate passed her. She knew that people wondered at her—perhaps they pitied her! It was all the more irksome, for the reason that, in her girlhood, she had given freely to every good cause; she had had her own money then.

Betty thought of the last time that she had asked her husband for money—two years ago, it was. She had wanted to do some Christmas shopping and, feeling in a holiday mood, had gaily demanded the "wherewithal" for her enterprise. She turned weak and faint at the very memory of the agony of pain which had shot through her heart, as he had gruffly asked: "How much do you want?"

She remembered how she had forced herself to answer indifferently, "Oh, nothing; it doesn't matter," and had then blindly stumbled to her own room, to sob her heart out in silent misery, while John had gone on with his reading, wholly unconscious of the hurt in her heart.

Since that day, she had never asked him for money; she simply could not. He had hurt her too sorely for forgetfulness. Gradually, she had dropped out of things. It was easier to stay at home than it was to go and suffer some humiliation on account of her penniless condition. She even grew so morbid that she fancied that John did not care to buy her necessary clothing, so she dressed shabbily, going without many, many things that she needed. And, man-like John never noticed that her clothes were old-fashioned and much worn.

And thus the years passed. Betty's heart was full of bitterness toward her husband. At times, she tried to root out this feeling; for, she knew that no wife should feel like that toward her husband, but at the very moment of success, some thoughtlessly selfish deed on his part would arouse all the old animosity, and there was the same hard battle to be fought again. She rigidly performed all wifely duties, but it was from a sense of duty, not love. If her husband sometimes wondered at the change which had come over his wife—for Betty had become strangely cold and silent—he set it down to woman-nature and never dreamed that he was in fault.

Betty grew thin and ill from overwork, but no word of complaint passed her lips. One evening John found her unconscious on the library floor. Thoroughly frightened, he placed her on the couch and began bathing her face and chafing her cold hands.

After a time, Betty opened her eyes and looked at him.

John softly stroked the hand he held, while gently urging his wife to take better care of herself for his sake.

Betty listened in silence for a time. Suddenly, she threw off his hand, sprang to her feet, and began pacing the floor. At length, she faced him and the pent-up bitterness of the past years poured in torrents from her lips. All her wretchedness—the unbearable humiliation of her proud spirit—was made known to him.

John sat aghast. He had never dreamed of anything like that. His heart ached for her; he really loved his wife and had not meant to be unkind. He had only been careless—as many another man has been.

"I am neither a slave nor a child," Betty cried, "that I must humbly beg for every cent that I wish to spend. A married woman has some rights. I work as hard as you do. The difference is, you get paid for your work, while I receive nothing for mine. It is exceedingly hard never to have a nickel you can call your own—especially, if you have been accustomed to earning your own money and spending it as you pleased. It is humiliating beyond expression, to be called on in public to give to some good work, and be compelled to refuse because you have no money. I have gone without everything that I wanted and many things that I needed, simply because I could not bring myself to ask you to buy them for me."

Her voice broke and she paused for a moment, but threw out her hand with a gesture commanding silence, when John would have made eager reply.

"I know that I should not feel like this. I tried not to care. I made excuses for you. I fought desperately for our happiness. Time and again, I resolved that I would not become discontented, but it was of no use and, when I realized this, I made up my mind that I would find some work which I could do quietly in my own home. I thought that would be good for my mind—and my purse. It has been very hard and I have not yet succeeded, but I will," she ended fiercely.

John went up to Betty; but when he would have taken her in his arms and comforted her, she shrank from him and turned to mount the stairs. Midway up, she wavered and fell, rolling to the very bottom step.

Crushed with misery and alarm, John sprang to his wife's side. Lifting her tenderly, he carried her to her room and summoned a physician.

Day and night, doctor and nurse stood over Betty, stubbornly fighting for her life. She was very dear to them; for, both had known and loved her from babyhood. John wandered about the house, too anxious and unhappy to settle down anywhere. Miserable away from Betty, he could not bear to see her suffer and hear her delirious raving. His face burned as he listened to her unconscious betrayal of those years of suffering and unhappiness.

After days of hovering in the borderland between life and death, Betty's wandering spirit came slowly back to earthly cares. There came a day when she was able to sit in an easy chair by the window. Sitting there, she took a mental review of the past few years—and she feared that they had been wasted. Somehow, nothing mattered now, but that she was alive and had her babies and husband. "What a fool I've been," she thought, "just to be alive is joy."

There was a knock at the door and her husband came in. Dropping to his knees by her side, he buried his face in her lap. Presently Betty became aware that he was murmuring brokenly, terms of endearment, words of penitence, and promises for the future, all hopelessly jumbled together.

Gently stroking the bowed dark hair, she whispered unsteadily:

"We'll begin again, dear; I, too, was in fault."

6 Months To Pay 6

Tailor-Made To Order

This is the most sensational Tailor-Made to Order Suit Offer ever made. You can now have any suit you want—cut and fit in the very latest style—to your individual measurements—and from your **own choice** of the season's latest patterns, checks, stripes, —and take **six months to pay** for it, if, after trying it on, you decide to keep it. Furthermore, we will make you any suit you may want on receipt of

Only $1.00

Send coupon for free book which explains this wonderful offer. No matter what price, style or pattern suit you may want we will make it to your order and send it to you on receipt of ONLY $1.00. After suit arrives and you are convinced that it is the biggest bargain you ever saw or heard of, pay the balance of our rock-bottom cash price on easiest credit terms. We actually

Save You $15 to $25

We buy all our materials in enormous quantities, **direct from the mills**, at rock-bottom cash prices. We do our own designing, cutting and tailoring. And by making every suit in our mammoth establishment and **selling direct to the man who wears** the clothes, we eliminate all waste and save you dealer's profits.

FREE Big Style Book and Cloth Samples

Send coupon for this Free book. It shows latest styles in men's garments and a wonderful assortment of fabrics, the very choice and pick of foreign and domestic mills! Mail coupon or write postal for Free Book and Samples today—sure!

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY
1015 Jackson Blvd. Dept. 522 Chicago, Ill.



Send For Free Style Book

STANLEY-ROGERS COMPANY
1015 Jackson Blvd. Dept. 522 Chicago, Ill.
Please send me FREE, your new Spring and Summer Style Book showing latest Metropolitan Styles, also Cloth Samples and full particulars of your great $1.00 down with 6-Months-to-Pay Offer.

Name.....
Address.....
City.....State.....

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.)

"Wisconsin Farmer" an article written by the editor, James M. Pierce, on the subject which solved the problem for me. Mr. Pierce said, "I believe every man, whatever his business may be, should discuss his business affairs with his wife. He should tell her every detail of his affairs down to the smallest item, make her his partner in every way. I believe that every woman should consult her husband in every undertaking, from the buying of household conveniences to the moral principles which she tries to instil into her children's minds. In no other way can married life be a success."

My husband and I each agreed that on those very principles was our home built and maintained. I realize that there are couples who perhaps had not the chance that we have had as we were both married before and neither first marriage was happy, and another thing, I was thirty years old and my husband eleven years my senior when we were married.

Too many young people enter the marriage state without sufficient thought. Little they think of how serious a step they are taking. They simply see the romantic side and follow their passionate impulse. For such people I can see little help as I have never yet seen a couple who after quarreling and wrangling for years could ever bring themselves to give each other credit for even common sense. My advice to those contemplating matrimony is look well before taking the step and once it is taken don't look back. There are many sacrifices ahead of both. Pray for strength to meet them cheerfully.

Another marriage which is almost bound to prove a failure is a marriage between a Prostestant and a Catholic.

Hoping this may do someone a little good, I remain, with best wishes to all, MARGARET MAGEE.

WASCO, OREGON.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

In reading my last COMFORT I see that the subscribers have not been very prompt in giving assistance to the fund for Uncle Charlie's Home, but I just know they nearly all will, but, like myself, have put off attending to the matter from day to day, until before we realize it, a whole month has passed. But this very day I am going to get my letter ready and when I go to town (I live in the country) will send him money order for one dollar. I have all four of his books and enjoy them very much. He is certainly one of God's noble men.

With best wishes for dear old COMFORT (have been a subscriber for ten years) and a heartfelt prayer for Uncle Charlie, MRS. C. M. ANDREWS.

LOUISVILLE, R. R. 4, MISS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have been reading COMFORT ever since the days of Aunt Minerva, and always expect to take it. When it comes, my mother, sister and I always see which can get it first. The stories are so good, Uncle Charlie's talks and the sisters' letters are so interesting that anyone who does not take it cannot realize all the good things they are missing.

I am an invalid and want to speak a few words on invalidism in general. A few months ago I underwent a serious surgical operation and was in the hospital nearly four weeks and I know how to appreciate a smile, and a kind word as much as anyone on earth and I notice how sweet and pleasant some are and how thoughtless and selfish others can be. The most welcome visitor to a sick room is the one who comes in with something cheerful and bright to relate, with a smile of sympathy that we know is real. Sometimes some thoughtless person comes in telling about someone being killed, or injured or sick or dead. And a sick person's thoughts feed upon what he hears. If something good, good thoughts are on their mind; if something horrible and fearsome, again such is on the mind. Everyone likes to remember a beautiful face, a beautiful voice or some kind act. Nothing is truer than that beautiful thoughts shine in one's face.

I enjoy the letters from the sisters and would appreciate a personal letter from any of them ever so much.

I admire fancy work and enjoy doing it. I would like quilt pieces and thread from those who have them to spare for I like to do something to pass away the time in my lonely shut-in life.

With much love to all, LUDIE GRIFFIN.

TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been a subscriber for some time and since reading Mrs. Martin's letter on the divorce question I have decided to send my opinion. I am unable to see a crime in divorce. Those who oppose divorce argue that it is opposed to the will of God. They cite that part of the scripture which says, "Whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder." Now I don't think it takes a couple long to find out that God had nothing to do with their marriage. Does anyone believe that the Lord joins together those persons who marry for social reasons or for money? Marriage is made by love alone. If love does not join husband and wife there is no marriage—merely a mistake. What love hath joined together man cannot put asunder.

I enjoy reading the sisters' letters so much.

Respectfully, MRS. C. L.

MORGANTOWN, IND.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND ALL:

I have taken COMFORT for a long time and have always read the sisters' letters with interest. After reading Georgie's letter in December COMFORT have decided to write.

My dear sister Georgie, how can you choose city life in preference to country life for your children? We lived in the city six years and have been living in the country five years, and there isn't enough money to hire me to take my children back to the city to live now, much less after they get to be the age of yours. We have three children, aged six, eight and ten; the oldest a blue-eyed, fair-haired boy and two dark-eyed girls with hair the color of their eyes. I cannot see that country schools are inferior to city schools, and by comparing my children's reports with those of children who go to city schools our children are as far along in school, if not farther, than children their age who go to city schools. And how can a child, or anyone else, see too much of Nature? Is not that what God intended them to see? If there had been a better and wiser way to have constructed nature God would surely have used it, since all plans were open to Him. We cannot doubt but that He chose the wisest way. Our children have never yet seen the things of which you speak. If they did and asked me questions concerning what they saw I would tell them the truth. They already know that every living thing must have two parents. I have taught them that. They should know the truth about such matters, but should be instructed in a way not to excite anything but purity in their minds. They should be taught that life and parentage is sacred. I think it is all wrong for parents to bring children up without teaching them the meaning of parentage and the origin of life. All children, if they are not idiots or of unsound mind, ponder these questions in their minds. Where did we come from? We know where chickens and birds come from, how seeds germinate and sprout plants, but how and where do little calves, lambs and children come from? When your children come to you, asking you these questions, innocently and confidently, expecting you to tell them the tuth, for how could they expect anything but the truth from their own parents, can you turn them away with an indirect answer and leave them to find out the truth from someone else? The other person may not tell them in a way that you would like for them to hear it, and imagine the bitterness your child would feel toward you when he found that his mother had told him a lie and could not be trusted. That is why children are inclined to lie; it is not born in them, but rather is taught them from infancy.

I do not know which is healthier, the country or town, although I should think contagious diseases would spread faster in town on account of more people coming in contact with each other, and then I should think that the more space one has to breathe in the purer the air is. Any child should be comparatively healthy if the parents are healthy in the first place, and they are properly cared for; bathed regularly and allowed to sleep by themselves in well-ventilated rooms, and given proper food to eat. People that are not perfectly healthy should not bring children into the world. In the first place they should not marry. Why should little innocent children be brought into the world to suffer? I believe in Dr. J. A. Houser's doctrine, "Fewer children and better."

We are a happy country family, and I love my home and neighbors. I think anyone who has the will to, can be happy in any place, although I could be much happier in the country than in the city, for in the city I would always be afraid of the future for my children.

Uncle Charlie's talk in November COMFORT was very good and is perfectly true, and it is enough to show us the dangers of city life.

With love and best wishes for every one, I remain, Your constant friend, MRS. S. ACKERMAN, MISS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I am a stranger to the sisters, yet, not one of you seems like a stranger to me. I have been for many

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 38.)

WANTED!

WE NEED a responsible, progressive woman in your town to sell our wool suitings, silks, linens, wash goods, hosiery, handkerchiefs, rain coats and other ready-to-wear garments. Many are earning $30.00 a week. No experience or capital required. We furnish samples and teach you how to do it. Write at once.
MUTUAL FABRIC COMPANY, Dept. 548, BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

YOU CAN HAVE THIS



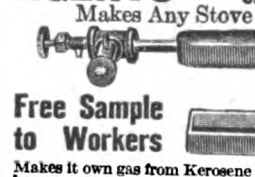
wholly visible (42 key) single shift typewriter, for your own, if you will show it to your friends and let them see wherein it excels other $100 typewriters, and tell them of our most liberal offer ever made on a strictly modern, typewriter and Woodstock at that. By post card or letter simply say "Mail Particulars."
WOODSTOCK TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. F 631, CHICAGO, ILL.

AGENTS $30 to $50 Weekly MEN AND WOMEN



Sell the New Improved Monitor Self-Heating Iron—the "World's Best"—Nickel plated throughout—Over 850,000 in use. Positively the easiest, fastest selling, Lowest Priced, best known iron made. Binding Guarantee. No experience needed. Big profits for all or part time. Evans, N. Car., sold two dozen on Sat., Mrs. Nixon, Vt., sold eight first half day. Liberal Terms. Exclusive territory. Sample outfit free to workers. Write today.
The Monitor Sad Iron Co., 816 Wayne St., Big Prairie, O.

AGENTS—KEROSENE (COAL OIL) BURNER
Makes Any Stove a Gas Stove



Free Sample to Workers

Makes it own gas from Kerosene (coal oil). Gives every home a gas stove. Absolutely safe. Cheapest fuel known. Wonderful Labor Saver Agents just coining money. Women wild about it. No coal or ashes to carry. No more danger from gasoline. Safe, Clean, Odorless, Cheap
Every home a prospect. Low price makes quick sales. Easy to carry and demonstrate. Big profits. Your territory is open. Write today. Thomas Burner Co., 2530 Gay St., Dayton, Ohio

$1.50



6 YEAR GUARANTEE

Sample Watch Free

Genuine full standard size railroad style watch with locomotive on dial and locomotive handsomely engraved on back. Full nickel plated case, extra dust proof, Arabic numerals on dial, heavy R. R. style figures. Genuine American make, stem wind and set, fully GUARANTEED for 6 YEARS. To advertise our business and introduce this wonderful watch and our great catalogue of Elgin, Waltham and Hampden watches we will send this elegant watch to any address by mail postpaid for ONLY $1.50 and if you sell two of these watches we will give you ONE SAMPLE WATCH FREE for your trouble. Send this advertisement with $1.50 and watch will be sent by mail postpaid, or send $2.00 for two and we will send ONE EXTRA WATCH FREE. Order today as this offer may not appear again. Address R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 538 So. Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.

Beautiful Silk Pieces

Premium No. 5561



Remnants of real silk, in all shapes, sizes and colors. They are carefully trimmed and just what you need for making up beautiful quilts, tidies, pillow tops and all kinds of "crazy patchwork." We will send you a big package containing one hundred of these beautiful silk pieces besides a piece of plush and 5 skeins embroidery silk in different bright colors. If you order at once we will also send you, in addition to everything else, an Instruction Book with eight full-page illustrations showing how to ornament seams of crazy patchwork and other work where fancy stitches are used. It tells you how to put pieces of patchwork together to get the best effect, how to cover up seams with fancy stitches, how to join the edges, etc. This book illustrates over one hundred and fifty of these besides containing full and explicit directions for working the Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille embroidery, ribbon work, plush or tufted stitch also directions for Kensington painting. Remember you get one big lot of these Silk Remnants (100 pieces), 5 skeins Embroidery Silk, one piece of Plush, and an Instruction Book, as above described, all sent to you free by Parcel Post prepaid if you will accept either one of the following offers.

Offer No. 5561A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you one package of these Silk Remnants, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 5561B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you one package of these Remnants free by parcel post prepaid. Premium No. 5561.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

How Women Can Make Money at Home

and add to the family income in these times of high prices will be explained in the big March Household Number. Renew your subscription, at once, two full years for 30 cents and make sure not to miss March COMFORT. We can't supply back numbers if you let your subscription run out.



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Kittycol, Gonzales, Texas.—When a lady's escort asks her to select a box of candy, she should not ask the clerk the price, but she should select a medium-sized box so as not to strain the generosity of her escort. She should thank him for it on the spot. When else could she thank him better?

Q. T., Raleigh, N. C.—It may be nice enough and proper enough to ride a motorcycle with a young man you have been going with, but we think it is much safer not to, unless he has a side-car. A lady on a motorcycle with a man doesn't look very nice, either. (2) You may do as you please about assisting the young man to put on his overcoat. They all like to have the girls help them that way.

F. L., Remus, Mich.—If the escort who took the lady to the party does not object to her going home with a different one, etiquette will not object. To do so without his consent would be worse than etiquette and no lady would do it. Unless the party were over by ten o'clock the escort should not go into the house at all, except in the case of a regular caller who usually remained quite late, or the lady had prepared a small feast for her escort, as is sometimes done after evening entertainments, outside.

Blonde, Dahinda, Ill.—A very little society, so called, and the association of young men should be indulged in by a girl of any age while she is at school. A little is not objectionable, if of the best, but a girl who is giving proper attention to her studies can have very little time for social divertisements. When she is through school there will be time enough for society and beaus. (2) When you are older and are better acquainted with men and women you will be more careful in the selection of what you call true friends and you will not be so disappointed in them. Your experience with your present and previous selections is teaching you that now. You can find plenty of true friends, who are really true, but you can't pick them up everywhere and you cannot make the right selection without proper care.

Black Eyes and Brown, Bolivar, La.—Don't believe any man who tells you he will quit drinking on condition of something you may do for him, whatever it is. One time in a thousand maybe, he can be believed and you never can tell which time that is until it is too late. (2) It may not be wrong for two girls to walk three miles at night to a party with two young men, but it is wretchedly bad manners for two young men to ask two girls to walk that far. They should not go unless they could afford a conveyance. (3) Unless there is some very good reason for it the gentleman should not pay the lady's way on the train. If she is with him by invitation, he should pay. (4) A very great many good men drink, but never get drunk, yet they would be better men if they did not drink. Alcohol is one of the finest things in the world to let alone.

Unhappy, Baw Island, Alta, Can.—For the children's sake you must bear with the father, at the same time your duty to them and to yourself does not compel you to submit to indignities from the father and if you will assert your rights as a wife and mother and insist upon his recognizing and respecting them, we believe he will realize that he is not fair with you and will improve in his conduct. Most husbands have to be taught by their wives how to be the right kind of husbands and it is for you to teach this one.

M. O., Dazey, N. Dak.—A finger bowl should be used by dipping the fingers daintily into it and cleansing them and also the lips, using the serviette afterwards. Some people use a finger-bowl as though it were a wash-basin, which is very bad form. (2) If a friend on whom you are calling asks you to stay to dinner, or other meal, you accept with thanks—if you accept—and when you leave you should say how pleasant a time you had and how nice of her to ask you, or something like that by way of expressing your appreciation. Don't overdo it.

Noname, Lost Creek, W. Va.—Let the girl alone till you get out of school. If she has refused to answer any one of your four letters you should take it as a quadruple sign that she doesn't want to write to you or hear from you. You know that she is afraid of her parents and that they object to you and why do you want to make things any more disagreeable for her? Have a heart, young man, and also have some sense. N. B. Before you leave high school you should take a special course in letter writing. No wonder the girl didn't like your letters.

Soldier's Girl, Detroit, Mich.—As between a soldier you know nothing about and a civilian whom you know nothing about, the preference would be for the soldier because he must have some character and respectability or he could not be a soldier. At least, in the regular army. The civilian might be an ex-convict or something of that sort. But why become engaged to a man of any kind whom you know nothing about? Do you think such ignorance is a good foundation for a happy married life?

Chum, Lenoir, N. C.—No matter how young a married woman is she is no longer in the girl class and she must dress and deport herself as a mature woman. (2) What a married woman should say when any one wishes her joy depends upon how she feels about it. The usual response is "Thank you, very much."

F. D., Crookston, Minn.—Ordinarily boys and girls in school do not wait upon etiquette to become acquainted and it is just as well that they do not. But neither should presume upon this to act otherwise than as ladies and gentlemen. (2) You may make any pleasant answer you please to: "I am glad I met you." The common reply, which is very common, is: "The pleasure is mine."

Va. Girl, Evington, Va.—The attendants—not "waiters"—at a wedding group themselves at the sides of the bride and groom, and a little to the rear, or they may arrange themselves according to the space they have before the officiating clergyman. They may precede or follow the couple, going to their respective sides before the altar. At supper they may take their places according to their rank, the highest being next to the bride, or better, they should sit so that ladies and gentlemen alternate.

Two and One, Mt. View, Va.—It is proper enough for a lady to wear a ring a gentleman loans her, but she will certainly not do it if she knows it belongs to another lady. (3) Third cousins are really no kin and they should be treated as strangers in kissing. (3) A gentleman may call on a lady, even though she likes another gentleman better. She can't like everybody alike, can she?

Olive, Pleasant Valley, N. J.—It depends upon how far past forty a woman is before she becomes too unattractive to marry, and some never do, especially if they are rich and some young man wants their money. Many girls who are neither good looking or attractive in their youth develop into charming women when they are forty and after. (2) There is no time limit in the matter of acquaintance before becoming engaged. No girl, however, should become engaged to a man whom she had known only a few months. A year's acquaintance is none too long and even then marriage develops many qualities, not always desirable, which had not been previously suspected.

Blossom, Maben, Miss.—About the only thing a lady can do, without creating a disturbance, when a caller wants to put his hands on her, when she sits near him, is to leave him and sit at a distance. If he persists after that, she can walk out of the room and leave him there to get away as best he can. A lady should not permit a man of that type—and there are plenty of them—to call on her, or ever see her alone. (2) Why a gentleman, who is always polite to a lady when meeting her anywhere, and may be even attentive for an afternoon or evening, does not call on her, or seek to extend his acquaintance with her, is something that etiquette cannot determine. You will have to ask him. He may have a reason, or he may be merely careless about calling. But the lady shouldn't worry about it.

Jim, Flowery Branch, Ga.—If a young lady of twenty finds a boy of eighteen worth her while it is quite proper for him to go with her. Most girls of twenty, however, prefer more seasoned timber. An eighteen-year-old boy is about the greenest thing that grows in the garden of girls. (2) Third cousins may legally marry if they want to.

Ignorant, La Follette, Tenn.—Card etiquette is a much more complicated matter in city society than it is in the society of smaller communities. It takes practise to learn it in the city, but in the country, a caller need only leave her card when she calls. If there are visitors at the house where she calls she may also leave a card for each visitor, though this is not always done. It is a sensible thing to do, though, because it identifies the caller to the visitor and she may take the card home with her for future reference. If the lady is accompanied by her husband, or her grown son, the men's cards should be left. So with one or more daughters. Usually in smaller communities everybody knows everybody else so well that these formalities are not very strictly observed and no great social harm seems to result from the breach of observance. Cards are not usually left when the person called on is at home, though if a servant let the caller in, a card is given to be taken to the person called on.

Cultivation of Golden Seal

By C. B. Irvine

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

AN advertiser who has the seed and and plants for sale breathes hope and encouragement in every line when he says "Golden seal is one of the most important drug plants in the world, and for the last sixty years it has steadily gained in price until now it is a sublime wealth producer. The shade from the north side of your house can be coined into money by planting golden seal seed." His words were so optimistic that inquiry was made, with the resultant discovery that golden seal farmers are the real little landers. They seemingly have Bolton Hall and his three acres and independence backed off the map. The seed men will tell you that this same golden seal is one of the greatest money makers of which they have any knowledge, when extent of area, amount of capital invested and labor necessary are taken into consideration. A few square feet of ground are said to insure the grower a living after he is once started and the plants become seed bearing. They say your neighbors and friends will all want to go into the business after they see your garden and watch you reap a harvest of dollars selling seeds while the roots are maturing.

Golden seal (hydrastis canadensis) is better known as yellow root, orange root, Indian dye, yellow eye and jaundice root. It is a small herbaceous perennial plant with a thick, fleshy rhizome from which extend in all directions long fibrous rootlets. It has a single stem from six to twelve inches in length, crowned by two unequal leaves. A small flower appears at the base of the upper leaf. The fruit in size and color resembles a raspberry, but is not edible. Its natural home is in the moist, rich woodland. The root is the portion most extensively used in medicine, but during recent years the demand has been such that the stem and top are now utilized. As early as 1860 the United States pharmacopoeia recognized its value, which had from earliest days been appreciated by the aborigines. It is much used in the cases of dyspepsia and affections requiring tonic treatment.

The Year Book of the Department of Agriculture for 1912 made the statement that it has been shown that many valuable drug and related crops can be grown in favorable regions throughout the country, and added that "the culture of golden seal has been successfully established." In a previous article on the same subject the same authority stated that the demand of the United States for medicinal substances of plant origin includes products drawn from wildly separated parts of the earth. Many plants growing either as weeds or in an otherwise uncultivated state are made use of in large quantities, and in some instances have become subjects of foreign demand. This steady call has gradually increased until the number of tons of crude drugs gathered in the different parts of the country is enormous. In certain sections of the country there is, as a result, a great diminution in the quantity of the higher priced products collected. In some cases plants which were formerly abundant and apparently exhaustless in quantity are today not to be found. This difficulty has been greatly increased by the cutting of the forests, thereby removing the conditions necessary to the growth of large parts of the flora of the region. Thus the stock of native drug products has decreased from year to year, with the result that prices paid to collectors have steadily risen. "A shortage has already become keenly felt," says the bulletin, "in the case of golden seal and a number of other relatively rare drug plants, and this shortage is certain to continue with increasing demand and to affect a larger number of products until the last available wild stock is in the drug-dealer's hands." But one remedy is suggested for this situation. The rare native drug plants must be brought under cultivation. The author of the bulletin says the necessity for cultivation seems to be near at hand, and cites the case of the golden seal as typical. The same authority says the price of this staple has steadily risen until it would seem that the growing of golden seal is worthy of a trial as a possible agricultural resource of limited scope.

Eighteen years ago dry golden seal roots were worth 18c per pound. The Agricultural Year Book for 1903 quoted them at 75c per pound in the wholesale market—and the drug difficult to obtain even at that price. Last year a grower sold his crop at $4 per pound and a few months later saw the quotations advance to $4.75. These last figures seem rather high, although it is the statement of the grower and is so given, without verification.

Rich, loose garden soil made to resemble as closely as possible that seen in deciduous forests, is required for golden seal. The growth would be stimulated by an abundance of decayed vegetable matter. It has been demonstrated that roots obtained by division will, when allowed to grow, reach a size suitable for harvesting and drying in about three years. It would seem that the cultivation of golden seal is still in its infancy, with price advancing, and these facts have been given due consideration by the Department of Agriculture, which sounds a note of warning in giving the advice to the prospective drug grower to be cautious.

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS SAVED.—Junkmen in the United States collected $114,000,000 worth of scrap iron and other metals last year. This was recently announced by the Geological Survey.

30 DAYS FREE TRIAL



Total cost only $7.50 by Our 7 MONTHS TIME Purchase Plan

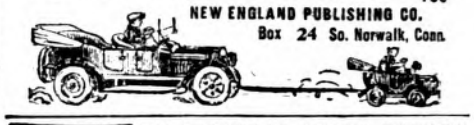
to prove to you that this magnificent Royal has the Sweetest, Purest, Loudest and Clearest tone—**to prove to you** that it is as large and handsome as the trust machines that sell at $25.00—**to prove to you** that it has the strongest motor, the best reproducer and tone arm and the most ingenious devices to start, stop and control the music. Shipped with a supply of 10-inch double disc records of your selection, so you can enjoy the finest entertainments for one whole month. Return the outfit **AT OUR EXPENSE** if for any reason you do not wish to keep it. Drop a postal for our big list of unsolicited testimonials, record book and other literature. They are free.

S. H. DAVIS, 62-G 6101 May St., CHICAGO

New Ford Joke Book 1917

All the latest jokes on the Ford Auto. Hundreds of them and all good ones. Spring a new one on your neighbors. Large book with colored cover by mail, 10c

NEW ENGLAND PUBLISHING CO. Box 24 So. Norwalk, Conn.





WHITE ROSE FACE BLEACH

Will make your Complexion as white as the virgin snow. 2-cent stamp for free particulars. Address MME. BOGETT, Box 498, Desk 4, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM

A toilet preparation of merit. Helps to eradicate dandruff. For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair. 50c. and $1.00 at druggists.

SUGAR Only 4c a Pound

We save you big money on all Groceries. Send for free Bargain Price List. COLE-CONRAD CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.

SILK Or Velvet REMNANTS—Exquisite designs in charming colors. 1 lb. $1: 1 pkg. 10c—: 3 for 25c.—7 for 50c. Fabricius, 49 Liberty Str., New York



FREE BYRAM POWERFUL AIR GUN

Big lever action rifle free for selling 20 Art and Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 825 CHICAGO

Beautiful Watch AND SIX CHARMING PIECES JEWELRY FREE





EARN THESE QUICK. Beautiful Watch, also one Gold pl. Bracelet, one charming Pendant, set with imi. diamonds and Four Beautiful Rings. BIG VALUE. Sell 12 boxes white Cloverine at 25 cents per box, give beautiful 16x20 in. picture FREE. Return us $3.00. Be first in your town. Write today for 12 boxes. The Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. A3 Tyrone, Pa.

12 Everblooming Rose Bushes

A Magnificent Collection Of The Newest Varieties In The Most Beautiful Colors

Given To You For A Club Of Two!

BEAUTIFUL Charming Roses in profusion that anybody can grow in any climate and in almost any soil. We will give **you a whole garden** of them free and they will bloom and bloom **all summer,** surrounding your home with a veritable **paradise** of delightful fragrance and radiant colors. The different varieties described below are strong, well-rooted **one-year old** bushes ready to be transplanted to your garden **as soon as you receive them** and we guarantee that they will grow and thrive beautifully if given proper care and attention. No matter in what part of the United States you live, our growers will send them to you **at the proper time to plant** according to the schedule printed below. Please remember, however, that these dates may vary from **ten to fifteen days** in event of an extremely early or late spring, so you need not become anxious if they should not reach you just on the date named in schedule. The rose growers who supply us are perfectly familiar with planting conditions in your locality and you may depend upon them to forward the roses to you at the best time for you to put them in the ground. Following is a brief description of each of the different varieties of beautiful ever-blooming rose bushes given you **free on this great offer.** Complete instructions on how to plant and care for roses will be included free of charge.

OUR GUARANTEE

THESE roses are all strong healthy plants **on their own roots** and will be packed in **damp moss** and sent to you by Parcel Post prepaid so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as when they left the greenhouse. You may accept this offer with the perfect assurance that these beautiful ever-blooming roses will grow and develop into rare specimen beauties. If any fail to grow **we hereby guarantee to replace them for you free of all cost.**

Premium No. 6722

Melody

For years rose growers have tried to produce a genuinely yellow rose, and when this Irish beauty was introduced, it was hailed with delight for it represented a new color in its class and has now become the greatest of all yellow roses for the home planter. It grows to perfection in any ordinary garden soil in all localities and from the time it is planted in the early spring, it bears continuously great numbers of lovely flowers of immense size, which stand out well from the plant, giving it a regal appearance and stamping it as the most extraordinary rose of its color. The color is a lovely shade of **yellow,** deepening to **apricot** in the center; in fact, it is a rose of sterling merit, which has proved hardy in all localities.

WHEN TO PLANT ROSES.

Latitude of Florida, Calif., Tex.,	after	Feb.	1
" " Ariz., Okla., So. Car.,	"	Mch.	1
" " Wash., Tenn., Va.,	"	"	15
" " Nev., Kans., Mo.,	"	Apr.,	1
" " Iowa, Ohio, W. Va.,	"	"	15
" " Mont., Mich., N. Y., and all New England States		May	1

Frau Karl Druschi

This brilliant rose is renowned as the best snow-white rose ever produced. The foliage is heavy and of rich texture; but the glory of this plant, is its magnificent flowers, huge in size and produced with the greatest freedom on long stiff stems. A single plant will produce hundreds of bloomers, which are full, very deep and double. The color is marvelously **white,** positively without a suggestion of any tint or shade of color. The fragrance is exquisite; in short this glorious Rose seems to have been endowed with all the charms and grace of the entire rose family.

Maiden's Blush

A beautiful rose for bedding or decorated purposes just recently introduced. It is very vigorous and healthy, hardy enough to withstand all climates and quickly forming a handsome shapely bush the first season planted. It will thrive in most any soil or situation, clothing itself with beautiful ornamental foliage and having the vitality necessary to produce the handsome double flowers all through the season. Everyone exclaims over its exquisite beauty and after having seen it in bloom, we can well appreciate their enthusiasm. The delicate blendings of colors is almost impossible to describe, **rose tints** in the center of the flower gradually shading off into pale blush and creamy white.

Etoile De France

This rose has been selected from the almost unlimited number of hardy red roses, because it seems the acme of perfection. The bush grows upright, covered with beautiful, bronzy, green foliage, which is not subject to insect attack. The growth is so luxuriant and lusty that great masses of beautiful **crimson** roses are borne all summer. This is one of the finest of all garden roses.

Radiance

This wonderful new everblooming rose is one of the most beautiful varieties ever introduced. We want every lover of beautiful roses to plant Radiance for there is no other like it, either in color, growth, or beauty. It is the ideal garden rose, thriving in practically any soil under the most adverse conditions to a perfection seen in no other rose. The splendid flowers are produced in amazing profusion. They are immense in size, and the color is a beautiful blending of shades of **carmine rose** with opal and coppery reflections, extremely brilliant in effect, exquisitely beautiful but most difficult to describe. Radiance is the premier garden rose of today, and its numerous charms will delight you.

Red Dorothy Perkins

This is the most valuable addition to the popular class of Rambler roses ever produced. Its magnificent foliage is fine, dark and glossy, remaining intact to unseasonable weather and withstanding all diseases. This quality alone assures an ornamental climber which is nearly evergreen and its graceful pendulous habit will place it first among pillar roses. The marvelous production of bloom is really sensational; it is produced in great clusters; each individual rose being perfect in form and very double, the color being deep intense **scarlet** which retains its vivid brilliancy as long as the flower lasts.

We will send you **twelve** of these rose bushes (two of each variety) or **six** bushes (one of each variety) on the terms of the following special offers:

Offer 6722. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you **twelve** of the above described rose bushes (six different varieties) **free** by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 6722.**

Offer 6721 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you **six of the above described Rose Bushes (six different varieties)** free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6721.**

Offer 6721 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents, and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **six** of the above described Rose Bushes (six different varieties) free by Parcel Post prepaid **Premium No. 6721.** If you want us to fill your order **immediately** be sure to say so in your letter otherwise the roses will not be mailed to you until the proper time arrives for you to plant them in your garden. **Premium No. 6721. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

A Corner for Boys

By Uncle John

HELLO boys. how does this month find you? It is the shortest of the year but we dare not sneer at it, because it is richer in great days than any other, at least to Americans. Can you enumerate them. St. Valentine's and the anniversary of the Maine disaster. There is an analogy between the importance of this pigmy month and the importance of your life, which you may, at this time, consider of little moment to the world at large. The prizes do not all go to those who are big and brawny by nature. It is the hard worker and the one with persevering spirit that wins out in the end. When discouraging thoughts try to steal into your consciousness think of the little month that virtually laughs at the others because her children have led the world so far ahead. Your thoughts are your children and your thoughts will have value just as soon as you transmute them into action.

Snow Block Building

Here's a brand new way of building with snow. With the simple mould shown in Fig. 2 we form it into bricks and with these we build walls, using wet snow for mortar and a pointed shingle for a trowel. Fig. 2 is a side view of the mould. The box "b" is made of one-inch boards and has pegs on the bottom edges, as shown, which fit into holes on the baseboard. To make a brick, fill "b" with snow and scrape it off level on top and then press "a" into it by standing on "c." Lift "b" straight up and brick will drop out. They may be used immediately or left over night to freeze hard. The inside walls of the box must be kept greased and the inner space should be a trifle larger at the base to allow for easy removal of block. To make a gable roof, the ridgepole must be supported at the ends with uprights like "f." When the slant boards "g" are on they may be covered with snow. Fig. 3 is a picture of a trowel made of a shingle, a spool and a piece

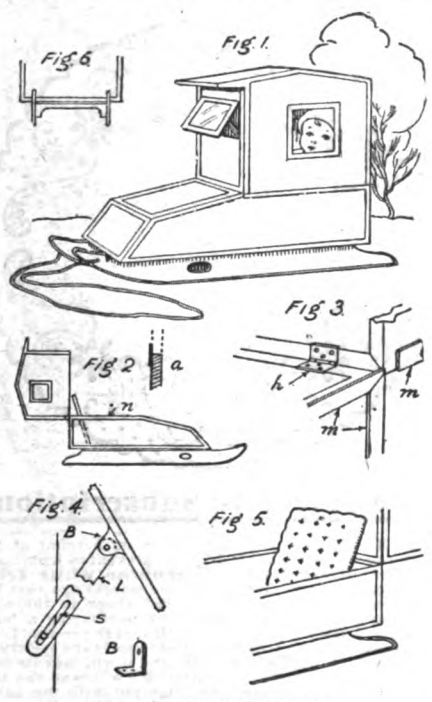


THE SNOW BLOCK HOUSE.

of broom handle held together with a single stove bolt. The bolt head is countersunk into the face of the trowel. With this outfit and plenty of snow your supply of builing blocks will never run out.

Covered Sled

This picture suggests a way to make a limousine covering for your sled. It is six inches shorter than the runners and extended six inches over each side of the latter, as in Fig. 6. The making of the box is too simple to waste time explaining. The rough work might be covered with canvas and moulding strips nailed along all edges. This will make your finished article quite as neat as Fig. 1. The top section is hinged on and swings, as shown in Fig. 2. A side view, with the position of hinge shown is marked "a." Fig. 3 shows the hinge. "h," set into the wood its own depth or thickness, and the moulding strips "m." Fig. 5 shows part of the lower section with a back rest that may be made of a board padded with excelsior or hair and covered with cloth. Fig. 4 shows how the ventilator

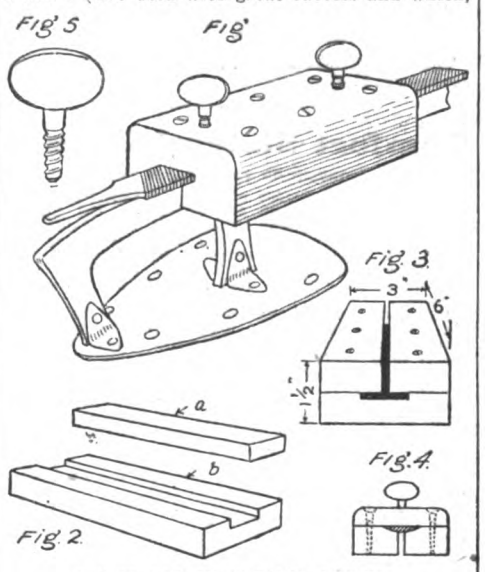


LIMOUSINE BABY SLED.

in the front works. It is hinged at the top and a bracket piece "B" is screwed to the inside of each end, a little below center. A metal lever piece, ten inches long, two inches wide, one sixteenth inch thick, with a slot one quarter inch wide and five inches long in the center of the lower part, is used to hold it open. The round-headed screw that goes through the slot in the lever bears on it hard enough to hold the ventilator open, and of course it may be screwed a little tighter at any time. A coin or the back of a knife blade will do for a screw-driver The glass in the sides and front make the box more comfortable to the person riding. The sled is ideal for your little brother or sister.

Skate Sharpening Tool

It is very difficult to sharpen skates properly without some kind of a guide to hold the file rigid and level. In the accompanying sketch, I have attempted to show a home-made file holder, which I have used with great success and which,



DEVICE FOR SHARPENING SKATES.

I believe, any boy of average mechanical ability can make for himself. Fig. 1 is a view of the tool in use. It is pushed back and forth with firm, even strokes, while the skate is held in a vise. The block, "b," Fig. 2, is three quarters of an inch thick, three inches wide, six inches long and has a groove running lengthwise in the center one inch wide and one eighth inch deep. The long sides of the groove may be sawed to the proper depth and the intervening strip shaved out with a chisel. Make the space between the two blocks "a" just wide enough for your skate to fit in snugly. Use hard wood and assemble the parts, as shown in Fig. 3. Each screw is one and one quarter inches long and fits into a hole already bored. The thumb screws. Fig. 5. when turned to the right, press against the file and hold it solid. Fig. 5 is an end view of the sharpener, with a curved file in the groove. This is used to finish the sharpening process and gives a slightly concave surface to the skate runner. The latter is very desirable when the ice is smooth and glary.

Lincoln's Wit

Abraham Lincoln was noted for his wit and resourcefulness. On many occasions it served to extricate him from embarrassing situations but probably never more palpably than during the Black Hawk war. Lincoln had been chosen captain of a volunteer company by his townsmen and with his nondescript band was marching to join the regular troops at the state capital. He did not know much about military tactics, and when his men, marching four abreast, came to a high stone fence with a gate only a foot wide, he could not, for the life of him, think of the proper order to give, to get them through it single file. "Halt," he cried, endeavoring to gain time, then a bright thought came to his rescue and he drawled, "This company is dismissed for one minute. When you form ranks again, please do so on the other side of that fence."

Puzzle

Write down the words represented by the pictures and rearrange the letters in the numerical order given by the figures under each. You will



then have an expression or sentiment, uttered by a famous American, whose anniversary comes in February.

Puzzle Answer

With malice toward none, with charity for all. Machine, 5-35-9-24-29-17-20. Cherry, 25-4-10-15-28-31. Doll, 16-33-7-36. Waif, 13-14-2-32. Tot, 3-18-11. I, 22. Hat, 26-27-23. Lion, 37-8-12-19. Rat, 34-6-30. W. W, 1-21.

Riddles

Why can't a man shave with a cake of yeast or a wagon jack?

Because neither one is the right kind of a raiser (razor).

What is the difference between a prophet and a boy giving directions to a lost quartet?

One foretells, the other tells four.

Why is a man with a ten-year-old derby like George Washington?

Because he has his little hatchet (hat yet.)

Why is the forest lonesome in the springtime?

Because the trees are making boughs (bows) and getting ready to leave.

This is all the space I can allow you this time. I hope you will find the articles of interest and that, at least one of the plans, will meet with your approval. The COMFORT family is so large and the climate and environment of my readers so diversified that I cannot make all the ideas fit one particular section of the country. To please the largest number is my aim and I am willing, at all times, to listen to the friendly advice of correspondents. If you write in a strain that requires a personal reply, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Whatever suggestions you offer will be carefully considered.

UNCLE JOHN.

500 Shot Repeating DAISY Air Rifle FREE



Absolutely Free—for a limited time only—this famous Daisy Air Rifle if you order from this advertisement. A constant source of amusement for any boy. Teaches accuracy of eye. And trains steadiness of nerves. Best of all, gives loads of fun. The same Daisy Air Rifle that storekeepers ask $1.25 for!

Why do we give this remarkable rifle free? Because we want to add a large number of new customers right away. We want several thousand mothers to send for this wonderful 8-piece outfit and learn what extra value is in our boys' clothing. Just mail P. O. order for $1.00. Send now—while this offer lasts.

$1 And You Get This Boys' New Stylish **8-Piece Outfit** (*Complete from head to foot*)

Astounding?—Yes! For here's *better* quality at a *lower* price than others sell for cash. You will be proud to see your **boy in** these snappy, up-to-date clothes. A wonderful, yes, a wonderful money-saving bargain. Don't miss this!

Order by No. S-56



On Credit!

We ship on approval. Money back if you say so. Outfit includes:—

"Manley" Pinch Back Norfolk Suit Is specially well made and up-to-date in every detail. Has 3 outside patch pockets with flaps on two lower pockets; one inside breast pocket. Popular pinch back with 3-piece detachable belt. Lined with good-wearing serge. Semi-peg knickers with belt loops and watch pocket. Adjustable buttons at knee. Furnished in smooth finished neat striped cassimers in blue, brown or gray. Sizes 7 to 17.

Sturdy Shoes Our Best Ever quality leather. Comfortable last; Strongly made. Sizes up to 6.

Latest Pinch Back Cap to match suit. Made of same cloth. Rich art silk lining. Sizes 6 1-4 to 7 1-8

Percale Waist Fast color Zatek striped percale. Military linked collar.

Handsome Tie Silk knitted. Four-in-hand style. Rich colorings.

3 Pair Stockings Famous Rockwell brand. Reinforced knees.

(Be sure to give size of suit, shoes and cap.)

No. S-55, Price $9.95. $1.00 Cash, $1.00 Monthly.

Order Today! Send only a dollar bill or P. O. Order and we will send you this wonderful 8-piece outfit for your approval. Remember, the Daisy Air Rifle is absolutely free if you order from this advertisement. We guarantee satisfaction. Send now while this offer lasts. Don't miss this wonderfully liberal offer.

ALSO FREE—Big Bargain Catalog of women's, men's, boys' and girls' clothing. Send for this catalog whether you order outfit or not. Shows you amazing bargains—**on credit.**

Send for big Bargain Catalog of women's, men's boys' and girls' clothing FREE!

Order by No. S-55

Money Back If Not Satisfied

ELMER RICHARDS CO., W. 35th St. Dept. 1072 **Chicago, Ill.**

Indoor Game

The "Postman" game is a merry pastime for a mixed gathering of young folks. It may be played as a social entertainment or at a school party. A cardboard box with a slot in the top cover is placed on the table and the players are provided with post-cards or sheets of paper. Upon them they write humorous messages to other members of the party and as soon as a card is complete, they drop it into the box. Each card is properly addressed to some one present but it is signed with some other name than that of the writer. Besides this every effort is made to disguise the writing and hide the identity of the sender of the missive. When the mail box is opened and the cards delivered, each reads his aloud and tries to guess who wrote it. If he names the writer the first guess the latter must acknowledge his guilt and perform whatever forfeit is asked of him by the injured person. Hilarious laughter prevails while the notes are being read and the penalties paid. The penalties consist of performing silly stunts such as winding an imaginary clock or crowing like a rooster or speaking some baby rhyme. In playing the game, be careful not to offend any sensitive person and be sure not to get offended yourself.

THRIFTINESS.—The average amount of savings per capita of the people of Switzerland is $47; in America the average is said to be less than $5. The latest available figures show that about 10 per cent of the people of the United States have savings bank accounts; while more than half of the Swiss population have such accounts.

Wonderful New STEREOSCOPE



With 100 Views For A Club Of Two!

Lions, Tigers, Bears and all kinds of Wild Animals. Home Scenes, Domestic Pets and Happy Childhood Days. Here is something **as good as a circus** for the children **the year round**—an indestructible, new style **Stereoscope** made of **all metal** with powerful, magnifying **lens**, and with it we give you **free** a big collection of **100 Views of home scenes, domestic pets, farm scenes,** all kinds of **trained and wild animals, hunting scenes,** views from the **Arctic** and **tropical** countries, and **happy childhood scenes**—the biggest and finest assortment of the most **delightful and entertaining** stereoscopic views for children ever gotten out. Boys and girls need not be obliged to hunt for something to occupy their active minds indoors with one of these Scopes at hand because it will give them a never-ending, joyful **entertainment** keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. Aside from the pleasure they will derive from the **fifty** beautiful **scenes of home life,** the **fifty** exciting **animal views** will furnish them with a **regular circus, the lions, tigers, bears, buffalo,** and all kinds of **wild and savage animals** as well as **horses, dogs, cats** and other domestic animals standing out **real and life-like** when looked at through this Scope. Any boy or girl would be delighted to have one of these wonderful Stereoscopes together with the big collection of 100 entertaining and exciting Views that come with it and knowing this we have purchased a large quantity of them direct from the factory and because we bought so many we got them at a price **low enough** to enable us to **give them away** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Stereoscope with 100 Views free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6462.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

32 NICE POST CARDS different sorts, and a Good Magazine for one year. The WHOLE THING for only ten cents. ROBERTS & CO., 326 MADISON ST., CHICAGO



Myers "Lock Stitch" Sewing Awl. Sample complete $1.00. Low price to agents. **C. A. Myers Company, 6334 University Ave., Chicago, Ills., U. S. A.**

FREE



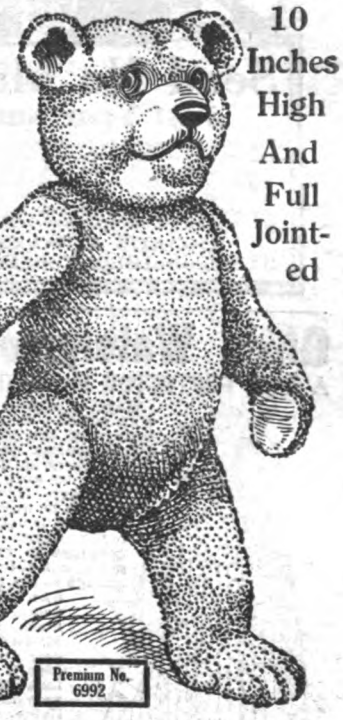
$20 UKULELE MANDOLIN, VIOLIN, GUITAR OR CORNET

We have a wonderful new system of teaching note music by mail. To first pupils in each locality, we'll give a $20 superb Violin, Mandolin, Ukulele, Guitar or Cornet absolutely free. Very small charge for lessons only expense. We guarantee to make you a player or no charge. Complete outfit free. Write at once—no obligation.

SLINGERLAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Dept 78, Chicago, Ill.

Large Shaggy Teddy Bear

The Best Playmate A Boy or Girl Ever Had



10 Inches High And Full Jointed

FREE FOR A CLUB OF TWO!

EVERY little boy and girl wants a **Teddy Bear and** here is an opportunity for every father or mother who reads COMFORT to get one without expense. "Teddy" looks exactly as you see him in the picture above. He is a big shaggy fellow, 10 inches **tall,** made of rich, handsome brown plush, paws lined with felt, carefully stitched and finished and his head, arms and legs are jointed in such a manner that you can place him in almost any position. He will stand up, sit up, stand on his head, go on all four feet, in fact, you can make him assume all kinds of positions that are so **comical and lifelike** that it makes the children scream with delight just to look at him. "Teddy" is so well made that no matter how roughly he is handled he cannot become broken and with ordinary care should last for years. We will send you "Teddy" free if you will accept the following special

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this fine shaggy Teddy Bear free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6992.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

$1.95 PANTS Made to Your Order



Special Offer to prove our fine quality: These fine Pants for Dress or Business, choice of many handsome styles, guaranteed for 18 months solid wear and satisfaction or MONEY BACK, absolute $5.00 value—while they last, one pair to a customer, Express Prepaid for only $1.95.

NO EXTRA CHARGES

No charge for Big Extreme Peg Tops, or Cuff Bottoms, nothing extra for fancy Belt Loops or Pocket Flaps, no charge for Open Welt Seams or Large Sizes—all novelty features FREE—no extra charges of any kind.

Cash Profits to you for taking measures of relatives and neighbors. Young Nat. Spriggs made $139.00 in 30 days. Write for Free samples today.

Send No Money

CHICAGO TAILORS' ASSOCIATION
Dept. 218 315 So. Franklin Street, Chicago.

Elegant 21 Jewel Watch $5.50

21 JEWEL MOVEMENT GOLD PLATE CASE
5 YR. GUARANTEE OPEN FACE OR HUNTING STYLE



C.O.D.

Send your name and address, and we will send you this watch by prepaid parcel post or express. When it arrives, pay Agent $5.50 and watch is yours. If not satisfied after ten days' trial we will refund your money. Order Now. Catalogue Free.

M. BYRNE & CO., Dept. D3A 115 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

ARMY AUCTION BARGAINS



Saddles, $3.00 up. New uniforms, $1.50 up. **Army 7 shot carbine $3.50; etges. 1½c each U. S. N. Winchester high power rifle 6m/m, $9.85** Team harness $21.85 up. C.W. Army Revolvers, $1.65 **Remington Army Revolver, $4.85; etges. 1c each Mauser High Power rifle with 200 etges. $19.85** 15 Acres Government Auction Goods Bargains Illustrated and described in 428 large page wholesale and retail cyclopedia catalogue, mailed 25c east and 30c west of Mississippi River.

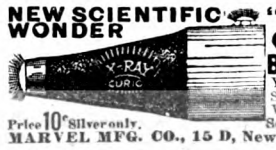
FRANCIS BANNERMAN, 501 BROADWAY, NEW YORK



FREE Your choice Premo roll film Camera or Tako plate Camera & complete outfit for selling 20 pkgs. new Art & Religious Post Cards at 10¢. Fast sellers.

Keystone Post Card Co. Box 402 Greenville, Pa.

NEW SCIENTIFIC WONDER "X RAY" CURIO BOYS-LOOK



See thru Cloth—Wood Stone. See Bones in Flesh.

Price 10¢ Silver only.

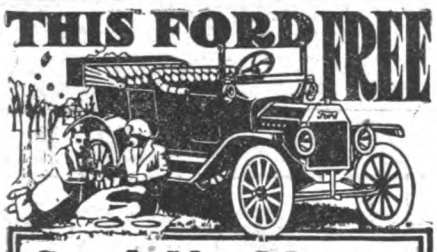
MARVEL MFG. CO., 15 D, New Haven, Conn.

125-Pc. DINNER SET Free



This picture shows a few pieces of the complete 125-Pc New Gold and Floral Decorated Dinner Set No. 1176 we give Absolutely Free for taking only a few orders for our high grade Extracts, Toilet Articles, Soaps, etc. King's New Selling Plan cuts your work in half and you get twice as much new as we ever gave away before. Write quick for our large New 1917 Catalog, Order Blank, etc., mailed free. **King Mfg. Co., Dept. 416, St. Louis, Mo.**

THIS FORD FREE



Send No Money
Just Your Name

You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars, absolutely free of charge. I have given away dozens of them. You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away and say: "I want one of your free Fords"—a postcard will do.

RHOADS AUTO CLUB,
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

Girl's Waterproof Cape
A Great PROTECTOR From WIND and RAIN



Made of striped rubberized cloth with suitable lining, and the best feature of this cape is the hood. **Girls going to school** do not like to carry an umbrella, and this cape can be worn either in hot or cold weather. If in winter a sweater or coat can be worn underneath, and the child is not only dry but perfectly warm. There are two openings in the cape for the arms, but the garment is large enough so the books or packages can be carried underneath, which makes it much **better than a Rain Coat.** The shoulders are shaped so as to give it a very attractive look. This cape comes in a very dark drab color with lighter drab stripes. They are so pretty any girl will be proud to wear one. Sizes 6 to 14 years. When ordering better order it larger than necessary so to have it of sufficient size to go over a heavy coat or other garments. **Boys** can easily get up clubs and thus get one of these Rain Capes for their sisters. **Girls** like to get subscribers to COMFORT where they can so easily earn **such a sensible premium** so as to keep warm and dry during the rainy season. **When ordering be sure to mention size wanted. It comes in sizes from 6 to 14 years.**

Special Club Offer. For a club of only seven one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you by parcel post one of these serviceable Rain Capes. **State size wanted. Premium No. 5297.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Toughey's Travels and Adventures Abroad

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.)

little while with their own eyes tightly closed.

Toughey's interest in the Evangelist and his picturesque denunciation of sin and sinners waned instantly she discovered that Norma and the children had gone. Soon she left to look for them, though she had told Norma to take them to the grove or beach if they grew tired. But the habit of knowing where they were was too strong to resist, not finding them in the picnic grounds at the swings and seesaws, nor any signs of them from the edge of the cliff she rushed down the path toward the beach almost colliding with Norma and John and hearing Norma declare vehemently: "I am not an Indian and I will never, never marry an Indian."

"Where are the children?" asked Toughey sharply, feeling that Norma should be with them.

"On the beach," the girl answered in confusion, running down the path. As she half tumbled after the girl Toughey noticed the Indian's dejected air. The two girls looked eagerly for the children who were not to be seen. Racing in opposite directions they explored the shore to where the cliff dropped down into the flat meadow land. Wild fear seized Toughey.

"Get John, hunt everywhere, in the grove, tell Mr. Brooke the children are lost or——" She could not say what she thought. She spoke pantingly, for she could not take a deep breath. When Norma had gone, Toughey stepped up the pier which extended out into the deep water quite a distance as large boats from Toronto and other big towns docked here. Walking clear to the end she forced herself to gaze down into the water up one side of the dock and down the other. Her whole body was shaking and the weight on her breast grew heavier every minute, dragging her to her knees as she left the pier.

If Mr. Brooke would only come; perhaps he could do or say something. He did come and other people, but none who could tell of the children. Toughey turned sick as she noted others walking the pier with grave faces, peering down into the water just as she had done. She looked up into Mr. Brooke's white face and spoke at first inaudibly for her lips were stiff.

"Mamma—telephone; don't tell her till—till—we know."

He nodded, looked at his watch.

"They won't expect us yet. I'll wait and if——" he could not trust himself to finish.

Toughey sat on the sand wondering if it were really she—Toughey Deering upon whom this unspeakable horror had fallen.

The meeting ended, the crowds left, ignorant of the situation on the beach, but many of the cottagers heard the story of the lost children and became pathetically anxious to help. Norma and John returned breathless from a fruitless search.

Two men with motor boats offered their services.

"They might have gotten into a row boat and drifted away," suggested one, "we'll go out on the lake and take a look around for them."

Norma uttered a cry. She recalled the little boat on which she had placed the coats. Where was it? Gone! And she distinctly remembered it had been there. Hope leaped up in Toughey, lifting the weight that was threatening to choke her. She rushed to the water's edge and made Norma repeat what she knew about the boat and the coats.

The two men started off in their boats, assuring her that if the children were on the lake they would be sure to find them. Then in came the steamer from Toronto. Mr. Brooke told the story to the Captain and the big boat put off again in search of the little girls. Mr. Brooke telephoned to the farm. His wife was to tell Mrs. Deering they were delayed and would be a little late. She was not to worry. They'd have supper at the Park.

"What's the matter?" insisted Mrs. Brooke.

"A broken dray wheel," answered Mr. Brooke mendaciously—"have to fix up another. No, nobody hurt. Good by," he ended with a shout. He looked at his watch; a steamer was to leave Hamilton in fifteen minutes. He rang up the company.

"Look out for three little girls in a rowboat, supposed to have drifted from the Park dock about two hours ago."

"Yes," came the answer. "All hands would keep a sharp lookout."

Toughey's fear increased. She dreaded lest the children become panic stricken and overturn the boat.

"Those little girls have good heads and plenty of spirit, they'll come out of this all right," cheered Mr. Brooke more hopefully than he felt for he knew how easy it was for people untrained to sit still in a boat to upset it.

Afternoon passed, the sun went down, darkness came. Men passed softly with grappling hooks using them from the pier and small boats. But Toughey saw and heard, though she made no sound but lay upon the sand, her face hidden. Through the weary vigil that followed, Mr. Brooke and his son and daughter sat by her. Norma moved about restlessly sometimes breaking forth into a storm of tears. John stood like a sentinel, ready for any service and obeying an occasional direction from Mr. Brooke.

After a time, according to Toughey's count, had become eternity, the faint sound of a motor boat came across the dark stretch of water. Toughey started up; everyone became painfully intent upon it; it was coming nearer; it must bring news of the children. As the chug chug of the little engine grew more distinct they hurried involuntarily to the end of the pier. Mr. Brooke put Toughey's arm through his. She was trembling violently.

They awaited the boat in silence. Several men with lanterns raised them and presently into the feeble circle of light the dory darted, behind it trailed an empty rowboat. Out of the shadows there loomed up first the big bulk of the owner; next came two little white faces and two little figures, one of them with a sleepy child in its lap. Toughey's lips were unclosed at last—she uttered a cry of joy that was taken up and repeated and multiplied by the crowd on the pier and shore. The little people were handed up in strong arms and there followed an indescribable scene of weeping and laughing and embracing in which twoscore of strangers joined. Everybody concerned in the near tragedy was so excited and nervous that Mr. Brooke made them all sit down and be quiet for a time. Toughey kept her arms about the children feeling as though she could never let them go again. Norma held her little sister, now awake and cross. Mr. Brooke sent his son ahead to one of the hotels in the Park to order hot soup for the party. They must not be hysterical when they reached home for Mr. Brooke and Toughey agreed that her mother and grandmother might well be spared the anguish they, themselves had suffered. There seemed to be no one to blame; it was just a dreadful accident that might properly be forgotten. Tears flowed, however, when the little girls described their terror at finding themselves far from shore. Plainly the rocking of the boat had caused it to slip down into the water. The rope was evidently simply thrown around the post, and while they were pretending, in order to quiet the little Indian, they themselves had dropped off to sleep. A land breeze accomplished the rest.

After they had the hot chicken broth at the hotel, and everybody was fairly normal again, Toughey called her mother on the phone, to say they were starting home and would arrive in about an hour. She also made the children say "hello" and say they were not a bit sleepy. "Having had a nice long nap?" murmured Toughey with a grimace.

Mrs. Deering and Grandmother were awaiting them under the big willows and Toughey was thankful for the darkness. It hid all tears and emotion. Rushing them through the usual good nights Toughey hurried the children and herself to bed.

It was long after their return to Washington that Mrs. Deering learned of the facts of that day at the Park. By an appeal to their affection for their mother and Grandmother, combined with some threatening and considerable bribing, Toughey had succeeded in keeping the children quiet.

Though the incident was published in the Canadian paper as the identity of the children was not known, and Mrs. Deering had a plentiful supply of Washington and New York dailies, Toughey with Mr. Brooke's connivance, was able to keep the local publication out of her hands until the matter ceased to be news. The story finally leaked out, but for years both Mrs. Deering and Grandmother believed that the boat had simply slipped its moorings and a kind man had promptly towed it back.

Indian John's love affair did not prosper, for word came to the Deerings that a year later Norma married a French farm laborer.

The next chapter will tell of the Deering family adventures in Mexico.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35.)

years, a constant reader of dear old COMFORT, and I derive much help from the letters in the Sisters' Corner, as I am a young housekeeper. I proclaim COMFORT as being one of the most beneficial papers published. I eagerly read every topic, especially those concerning home and home ties. I am very young, just out of the "teens," and I like to see how others manage.

Husband and I have been married a little over three years, and we are happy. We live in a cozy little country cottage, that nestles among the sunkissed hills of Mississippi, and I wouldn't exchange it and my husband's love for a mansion and millions. I think, like all others, that I have the very best husband on earth. We are still "sweethearts," and he is so good to help me with my work when he is around. I am sure a more devoted husband cannot be found. We have a little golden-haired blue-eyed girl, Edith Eileen, aged twenty months. She is just a little fairy God has sent to complete our little home—only a gift from our father on high.

In one of the past numbers of COMFORT I read a very touching letter from a girl. I do not remember the initials, but my heart goes out to her. I can just imagine how her poor heart craves parental love. It is natural for children to long for just one affectionate word, one loving caress from mother. My dear girl, your parents love you, but have just neglected making any demonstrations of their love. I am going to show my love for my little darling. I am going to let her know that mother is her very best friend. I want her to confide in me. I want her to feel free to "chum" with mother. She never closes her little eyes without mother's good night kiss. She thinks she can't sleep without it. I think parents should show their love for their children and then they will have nothing to regret. There will never come the thought of "what might have been." There would be less broken hearts and fewer outcasts. Lack of love from parents, or a failure to show their love, is the cause of so many wrecked lives. It's the cause of so many boys and girls going out into the cold world to work. There they do not find the love they crave and they think no one cares. Fathers, mothers, give the desired caresses and loving kindness to your children. Let them know you love them and then you'll have nothing to regret.

I do not feel competent to discuss the subject most discussed—"suffrage!" However, I do not object to those who wish to vote doing so. I will say that when we can have a hand in the making of the laws, I will go to the polls with my husband. I do not think it a disgrace for women to vote.

I do a great deal of fancy work, I make tatting, crochet and I embroider some. I do not neglect my household duties for my fancy work. I can find many spare moments in the afternoon, and I can find nothing better than fancy work to improve the time.

I trust all enjoyed the holidays and may 1917 bring all more happiness than have the years before is the wish of A New Sister. MRS. MACK GRAVES.

MONROE, N. Y.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

It's three years since I visited our corner and want to say I have made many friends through COMFORT.

I smiled when I read Mrs. Thixton's letter and I quite agree with her on the divorce question. If they start right, the wife won't allow any abusive treatment. Now, many wives are very unhappy because their husbands carry the pocketbook, and they never have a penny to call their own. Now, before I married, I had a complete understanding with my husband that our marriage would be a partnership and that the financial part would be shared equally. When my husband gets his wages he tosses it in my lap and says, "there you are," and it's quite cheerfully spoken. We both know to a penny how much money we have, so we don't have any trouble on that account.

I don't believe in large families, and that too, we discussed, and agreed that if we raised two children, strong, healthy and well educated we would be doing the world and society at large far more benefit, than if we had twelve that might be weak minded, criminals and beggars, depending on the community for clothing and food.

In other words I believe in eugenics; and am much interested in every strong, healthy baby that I see.

I don't believe in that "married fifty years and have never had a quarrel." That's out of date.

I wouldn't give two cents for a man or woman who wouldn't speak up when they know they are right and say that they are. Yes, someone is offended or has a huff on for a while, but see how much you like the making up part. It's like the sun—it shines brighter after the storm.

I believe in suffrage and although not an active worker I always express my views on that subject whenever I have a chance.

I am running a chicken business on a small scale. Last spring I hatched fifteen hundred chicks. Some were hatched with a small incubator, but mostly with hens. I sold lots of broilers and besides we had "frys" often ourselves, to say nothing of fowls, eggs, etc. There are good markets here and within easy reach of New York City to ship eggs, fowls, etc.

I have had opportunity to observe city life as compared with farm life, and want to say it would come dreadfully hard to have to put my hand in my pocketbook for the price of a meal instead of going down cellar for the supplies. I don't see why more people don't go to the country to live. They don't know what living is until they plant their garden and watch it grow.

I am starting a State quilt and would be grateful for pieces of calico, velvet or woolen goods.

I want to make a flower garden next spring, and would like to get a few seeds from every state. In return I'll send some hollyhock seeds. I have some lovely ones.

I will be glad to hear from all who enclose a stamp, and would like to receive a card shower for my birthday, May 18th. I will be twenty-three. Who is my twin? Will answer all who write.

Cordially yours, MRS. HARRY BENJAMIN.

RANGER, NEBR.

TO THE SISTERS' CORNER:

I have been reading the sisters' letters this morning and have decided to write too. I hardly know what to start on for there are so many interesting topics. The talks on rearing children are always of interest to me for I have two boys of my own who are ever a source of pleasure to us. The older is five, just at the questioning age, and such questions! It is often a puzzle how to best answer in a truthful and satisfying manner. How little a child knows and how much we much teach, if we would do our duty.

As to divorce, I am neither for nor against it. There are always two sides to each case and often it seems necessary. But seriously, now, don't you think it is too common and too much the fashion? It isn't frowned on as it should be. If there were no such thing as divorce there would be no divorces, but there you are, and we have both. I used to think it was more prevalent among the real, idle rich, and perhaps it is, but anyone who takes the time, has time for such foolishness. This divorcing one mate for an-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 39.)

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties. Catalog Free. **D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.**

MONEY Made quickly by smart men. T. ARTOL CO., 115 Nassau St., N.Y.

Money $ $ FOR WISE MEN $ $ KEY FREE. J. Warren Smith, Ottawa, Ill.

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.

Play Piano In One Hour For One Cent

A Postal Card Brings it to You Free.

Would you give a penny to learn to play the piano or organ in one evening? Impossible? No, not at all. Hundreds of thousands of others who never played before played their first piece in just a few minutes. THEN WHY CAN'T YOU?

John H. Ferguson, Acme, Alta., Canada., says: "I was not a little amazed when I found I could play in a few minutes." C. Pitmann, Memo, Okla., says: "Have two children, one is 12 and the other 10, who in a very few minutes could play it well, and they did not know one note from another in the old music." V. R. Perkins, Romney, Ind., says: "I studied 'Easy Form' music fifteen minutes and then started to play." Thousands of similar reports are in our files. Doesn't this convince you that you can play by this wonderful new method? Any child can now understand and play music without previous knowledge. No teacher. No tedious instructions by mail.

If you can't play the piano or organ, send a postcard today, stating the number of white keys on your instrument and we will mail you 100 pieces of the World's Sweetest Music, regular sheet music size, together with Instructions that will enable you to play any one of the pieces in one evening. If you can play at the end of 5 days you pay only $1.50 and $1.50 a month for 5 months or mail the music back to us and owe nothing. All you need do is simply send your name and address to Easy Method Music Co., 168 Clarkson Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

FREE PHONOGRAPH



Wonderful, Clear Tone, plays all makes disc records. Machine and record free for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. postcards at 10c each. Order your choice.

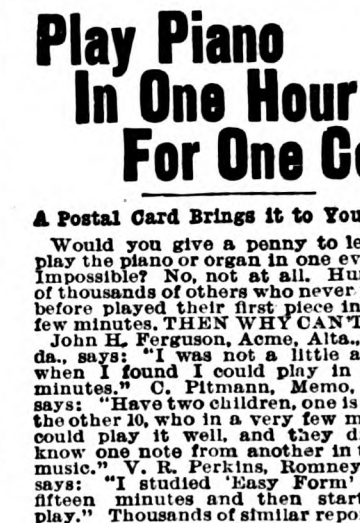
GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 1225 CHICAGO

BE A DETECTIVE

Earn from $150.00 to $300.00 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. LUDWIG, 121 Westover Building, Kansas City, Mo.

Ostrich Plumes

Premium No. 6986



16 Inches Long And 6 Inches Wide

Positively Guaranteed as to Workmanship, Quality and Color

Given For A Club Of Six!

THESE beautiful Ostrich Plumes are of the highest quality and are guaranteed for brilliancy and permanence of color. They are just what every lady wants for the **upright trimmings** now in vogue as they have thick, strong flues and a large full, graceful, **French head** with the latest fashionable **flat curl.** Each plume is a full 16 inches in length and over 6 inches in width and made of the best African male stock, will last for years and always look well. We can furnish these plumes in colors of either Black or White and be sure to mention color wanted when ordering.

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these handsome Ostrich Plumes **free** by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 6986.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

22-Inch Linen Centerpiece

Premium No. 7772.



Given For Two Subscriptions

LINEN is scarce and high in price on account of the European war but that does not prevent us from making a very liberal offer on this **genuine white Irish linen** centerpiece. We knew some months ago that the linen market would be in very bad shape in the near future so we protected ourselves by purchasing a large supply at a price way below what it is at the present time. This artistic design is to be worked in solid and eyelet embroidery with buttonholed edge and it will look its very finest if embroidered all in white. We will send you this 22-inch white linen centerpiece, stamped with the handsome design shown in the above illustration free upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this 22-inch centerpiece free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No 7772.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Less Than ½ Price!

RENT OR BUY

A genuine, visible writing Underwood with famous back spacer, two-color ribbon and tabulator—at less than ½ manufacturer's price. Guaranteed for 5 years. Sent on *10 Days' Free Trial.* This

$100.00 UNDERWOOD for $37.20

will enable you to write quickly, legibly. Keep carbon copies. Save arguments and lawsuits. Earn extra money typing manuscripts, scenarios, etc. You may rent, applying rent on low purchase price—or *buy*, cash or easy payments. Ask for Offer No. 29

TYPEWRITER EMPORIUM
Est. for a Quarter Century
Chicago, Ill.



YOUR NEXT SUIT FREE



Send postal today for full information how to get your new suit, made to measure, without a penny's cost. $30 to $40 would not buy a better one. Simply wear it, tell your friends where you got it—take their orders—and make

$10 to $15 a Day

in your spare time. It is dead easy—you never saw a nobbier suit or a more stunning pattern, cut in very latest style. Your choice of 60 fabrics and 32 styles. Drop us a postal card for heavy pattern book, inside information about styles, self-measuring blanks, etc. DON'T WAIT. We prepay Delivery Charges. Mail Postal NOW!

American Woolen Mills Co.
Dept. 207 Chicago

FREE A 54-PIECE FULL SIZE HANDSOME DINNER SET



WE TRUST YOU
NO MONEY NEEDED
WE PAY FREIGHT

Sell 12 boxes of 7 cakes fine Toilet Soap, and with every box, give as premiums to each purchaser all of the following articles; a Pound of Baking Powder, Bottle Perfume, Box Talcum Powder, 6 Teaspoons, Pair Shears and Package of Needles and the **Dinner Set is Yours.** Many other equally attractive offers and hundreds of useful Premiums or Cash Commission given for your time. **Special Extra Present** of a 26-pc. Silverine Knife, Fork and Spoon Set FREE of all cost or work of any kind, if you write at once. You advance no money. You have nothing to risk. Write today for our **Big FREE Agents Outfit.** Act quickly—don't delay. **THE PURE FOOD CO.** Established 1897. 169 W. Pearl St. CINCINNATI, O.



Send for This Book—It's FREE

Don't Pay Retail Prices for Drugs, Standard Toilet Specialties and all the well-known Proprietary Remedies. We supply them fresh at sensational cut prices, prepaid by parcel post. Write today for our Cut-Price Bargain Catalog of Standard Drugs. It's free.

Empire Sales Company, 15 Whittier St., East Orange, N.J.



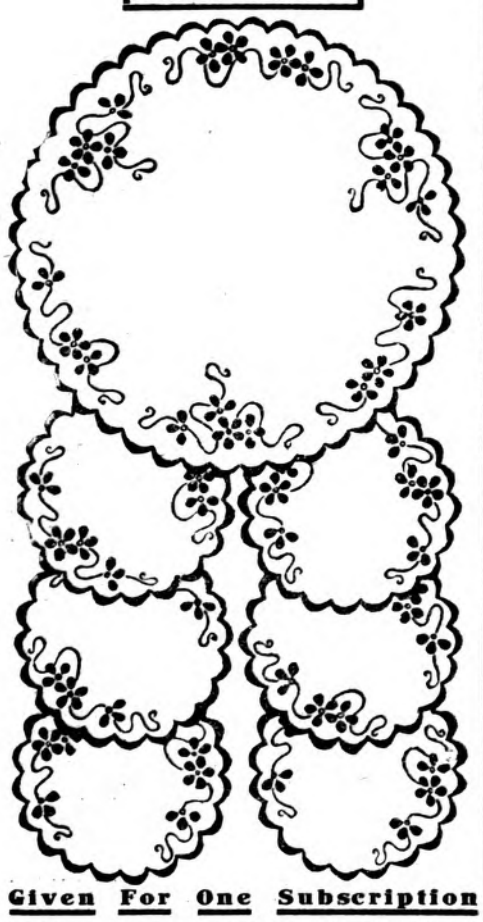
Initials or date **Engraved Free** Friendship or Anniversary RING your size, for 12c., both for 23c. Warranted Sterling or Rolled GOLD.



Monogram Jewelry Co., 119 Nassau Street, Dept. 80, New York

Seven-Piece Water Set

Premium No. 7821.



Given For One Subscription

THIS very attractive water set consisting of one 10-inch centerpiece and six 5-inch doilies, comes stamped on white "butcher cloth" which has all the appearance of pure linen and will wear as long if not longer. The complete set of seven pieces comes on one piece of cloth and the design may be worked either in all eyelet or solid and eyelet embroidery combined with buttonholed edge. You can obtain this seven-piece doily set free upon the terms of one of the following special offers.

Offer 7821A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this handsome water set stamped on genuine white "butcher cloth" free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7821B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you this water set free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7821.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38.)

other regardless of consequences, broken hearts or homes, I mean does not seem right. Modern fiction, especially the higher priced magazines all tend to the "Problems" of wives and husbands and "coveting thy neighbor's wife." It's the fashion, that's all. I don't think they should be made so much of—these "problems" women and men have to face, such as finding themselves in love with someone else, etc. They should nip such things in the bud. If it wasn't so much talked of and so constantly before us in print, and on our minds, maybe, there wouldn't be so much of it. Authors seem to think their duty is not done unless there is something wrong somewhere. How many of us, were we to sit down and write out our pretty little romances, and try to get them in print, would succeed? Not many. They wouldn't be exciting enough. No, no, the public demand excitement. But then, these are just my "ideas."

What a wholesome, intelligent class the writers of letters to the Sisters' Corner represent. The right sort of paper for the right sort of people, that is what COMFORT is. Such letters are more fitted to our needs, more helpful and uplifting than lots of stories.

I haven't said a word yet about Uncle Charlie's splendid talk on white slavery. I would like to help with his Home but subscriptions are hard to get here as all of my neighbors are subscribers, but I'll help what I can though.

With best wishes for one and all,
Sincerely, MRS. ARTHUR BABCOCK.

CARLYSS, LA.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Several years ago I wrote to this corner. I was only a bride then, now I am the mother of a dear little girl four years old, and a widow. My husband died in less than two years after we were married. But I am blessed with good parents and make my home with them.

Sisters, I would like to get a colored girl to do housework, one that can cook. I would give her a good home and her clothes, just to help as I do not want her to do all the drudgery, but just help mother and me around the house. I received several letters from one (when my address was printed with the recipe) asking for a home on those conditions but I lost the address. I would like to hear from her again.

We live on a farm. Raise corn, cane, sweet and Irish potatoes, rice and all kinds of vegetables. We have very good winters and never any extreme cold. I would like to visit some of the Northern sisters in the winter, just to see what snow looks like.

I would like flower seeds, also reading matter, as my purse is too thin to purchase such.

I am five feet, four inches tall, brown hair and eyes and am only twenty-two years old, so you see, sisters, I was quite young when I was married—only sixteen. Girls, stay in school till you are graduated, help mother a few years and then think of marriage—by that time you will be old enough to realize what you are doing.

I will close, hoping to hear from some of the sisters.
Sincerely, MRS. EUNA WETHERILL.

Washington

BY JOHN PIERPONT

The following original hymn was sung at the celebration on the 22nd of February, 1835. I think in the Old South Meeting House, Boston.

To thee, beneath whose eye
Each circling century
  Obedient rolls,
Our Nation in its prime
Looked with a faith sublime
And trusted in "the time
  That tried men's soul."

When from this gate of Heaven
People and priest were driven
  By fire and sword,
And, where thy saints had prayed,
The harnessed war horse neighed
And horsemen's trumpet brayed
  In harsh accord.

Nor was our fathers' trust,
Thou Mighty One and just,
  Then put to shame.
"Up to the hills" for light
Looked they in perils' night,
And from yon guardian height
  Deliverance came.

There like an angel form,
Sent down to still the storm,
  Stood Washington!
Clouds broke and rolled away;
Foes fled in pale dismay;
Wreathed were his brows with bay
  When war was done.

God of our sires and sons,
Let other Washingtons
  Our country bless,
And like the brave and wise
Of by-gone centuries,
Show that true greatness lies
  In righteousness.

Sent in by **C. D. P.**

"The Woman Who Understands"

(REQUESTED)

"Somewhere she waits to make you win, your soul in her firm white hands,
Somewhere the gods have made for you, the woman who understands.

"As the tide went out, she found him
  Lashed to a spar of despair,
The wreck of his ship around him—
  The wreck of his dreams in the air;
Found him and loved him and gathered
  The soul of him close to her heart—
The soul that had sailed an uncharted sea,
  The soul that had sought to win and be free—
The soul of which she was a part.
  And there in the dusk she cried to the man,
'Win your battle—you can, you can.'

"Broken by fate, unrelenting,
  Scarred by the lashings of chance;
Bitter his heart, unrepenting—
  Hardened by circumstance;
Shadowed by failure ever,
  Cursing, he would have died,
But the touch of her hand, her strong warm hand,
  And the love of his soul took full command,
Just at the turn of the tide;
  Standing beside him, filled with trust,
'Win,' she whispered, 'you must, you must!'

"Helping and loving and guiding,
  Urging when that were best,
Holding her fears in hiding
  Deep in her quiet breast;
This is the woman who kept him
  True to his standards lost,
When, tossed in the storm and stress of strife,
  He thought himself through with the game of life
And ready to pay the cost,
  Watching and guarding, whispering still,
'Win, you can—and you will, you will.'

"This is the story of ages,
  This is the woman's way;
Wiser than seers or sages,
  Lifting us day by day;
Facing all things with a courage
  Nothing can daunt or dim,
Treading life's path, wherever it leads—
  Lined with flowers or choked with weeds,
But ever with him—with him!
  Guider—comrade—Golden-spur,
The men who win are helped by her!

"Somewhere, she waits, strong in belief, your soul in her firm white hands:
Thank well the gods, when she comes to you—'The Woman who Understands.'"

Sent in by Ward Bowen, St. Joseph, Y. M. C. A., Mo.

My Shadow

I have a little shadow, that goes in and out with me,
And what can be the use of him is more than I can see,
He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head;
And I see him jump before me when I jump into my bed.

The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow—
Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow;
For he sometimes shoots up taller like an India rubber ball,
And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.

He hasn't got a notion of how children ought to play,
And can only make a fool of men in every sort of way,
He stays so close beside me, he's a coward you can see;
I'd think it shame to stick to nursie as that shadow sticks to me.

One morning very early, before the sun was up
I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup,
But my lazy little shadow, like an arrant sleepy-head
Had stayed at home behind me, and was fast asleep in bed.

Robert Louis Stevenson.

What Might Be Done

What might be done if men were wise—
  What glorious deeds, my suffering brother,
  Would they unite
  In love and right,
  And cease their scorn of one another.

Opression's heart might be imbued
  With kindling drops of loving kindness;
  And knowledge pour
  From shore to shore
  Light on the eyes of mental blindness.

All slavery, warfare, lies and wrongs,
  All vice and crime might die together;
  And wine and corn
  To each man born,
  Be free as warmth in summer weather.

The meanest wretch that ever trod,
  The depest sunk in guilt and sorrow,
  Might stand erect
  In self-respect
  And share the teeming world tomorrow.

What might be done? This might be done,
  And more than this, my suffering brother—
  More than the tongue
  E'er said or sung,
  If men were wise and loved each other.

—Charles Mackay.

Words

"One day a harsh word rashly said
Upon an evil journey sped.
And like a sharp and cruel dart,
It pierced a fond and loving heart;
It turned a friend into a foe,
And everywhere brought pain and woe.

"A kind word followed it one day,
Flew swiftly on its blessed way;
It healed the wound, it soothed the pain
And friends of old are friends again;
It made the hate and anger cease,
And everywhere brought joy and peace."

Sent in by Mrs. Taylor, Fresno, Cal.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around The Home

Spirits of camphor will remove white spots from varnish.

A tablespoonful of corn-starch is a very good substitute for an egg in baking cakes.
MRS. MARTIN LOCKE, Indian Lake, N. Y.

When washing windows put a little kerosene in the water and you will find they dry quicker and are much brighter. Ammonia is also good.

Sprinkle a little flour in the frying pan to prevent grease popping onto the stove.
LAURA GUTEKUNST, Mt. Carmel, Ohio.

Never put table linen into soap suds until all the stains have been removed.

Wax for sealing bottles containing fruit may be made by melting together equal parts of resin and beef suet.

The smell of tobacco from the evening pipe and cigars will have disappeared by morning if a large bowl of water is put in the room over night.

To clean glazed tiles when spotted, wash them with lemon juice, leave for fifteen minutes and then polish with a soft cloth.

Salt sprinkled on grease spilled on the stove will prevent it from smoking.

Light soapsuds are said to be excellent for making plants grow and blossom, on account of the potash therein.

When polishing floors make a thick pad of felt or velvet and fasten it over a worn-out broom. This makes an excellent polisher and saves the trouble of kneeling on the floor.
FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

Remedies

To the lady who asked for the remedy for lice I would suggest that she get ten cents' worth of Cocus Indicus or Fish Berries, as they are called, and break and soak in alcohol twenty-four hours. Apply to head. One or two applications will be sufficient.
MRS. W. S. CLEVERDON, Cripple Creek, Colo.

ASTHMA.—Three dozen peach kernels, one pint fresh hog's lard, one tablespoon oil sassafras, one tablespoon gum camphor and one teaspoon spirits turpentine. Brown peach kernels thoroughly in the lard, take off and strain; add oil sassafras, gum camphor and turpentine. Let cool. Dose: For adults, one teaspoon after meals; children, about half a teaspoon. When children are croupy rub chest with this.
MRS. EYNA WETHERILL, Carlyss, La.

Mix thoroughly two tablespoons of lard and fifteen drops of carbolic acid. Apply to insect stings or ivy poison. It will relieve the itching almost instantly. Apply coal oil to frost bites.
MRS. ALICE FERRIS, Arlington, Colo.

For bad breath and bad taste in the mouth, try cleaning your teeth with common salt, every day.

I have used cold sage tea, one or two glasses a day, for stomach trouble and been helped by it.
MRS. IDA MCDANIEL, Latham, Mo.

Requests

Remedy for dandruff.

How to make rye bread.

How to make sugar candy in stick form.

Mrs. M. E. Pearson, Converse, R. R. 1, S. C., would like song, "Barbara Allen."

How to cure meat, bacon and joints, as it is cured in the packing houses.

Mrs. O. W. Hagelberg, Charles City R. R. 6, Iowa, would like cancelled postage stamps.

Poem containing the words, "There's just one date I can get just right, that's 1492."

(Mrs. Gilpin, There are a few patterns for toy animals in November, 1916, COMFORT.—Ed.)

Mrs. F. La Fountain, El Reno, Box 246, Okla., would like poem, "Claycy's Wooden Wedding."

Mrs. L. A. Wiseman, Sherritts, Ohio, would like copy of song, "Why Don't You Speak for Yourself, John," words and music.

Mrs. C. B. Ketchum, Skamania, Wash., would like the old song, "Under the Dreamland Tree," beginning "Over the mountains, over the sea."

Miss Edith Ratcliffe, Maryville, 816 N. Walnut St., Mo. is desirous of corresponding with someone living in West Plains, Mo. and Hollister, Mo.

Has anyone a copy of "Chatterbox" published during the 80's, containing story "The Lost Children." Also I want "The Third World," and "The Cavern Queen."

Minnie Gentry, Shiloh, Ark., would like poem "College Oil Cans," also to exchange book "White Hearts and White Hands," cloth bound, for "White Rose of Memphis." Write first.

I have a black fur I want to make up into toys and would like the sisters to send me patterns for making toy animals, and tell me what to stuff them with. MRS. A. GILPIN, Ashland, Ky.

I would like to correspond with anyone sending stamped, addressed envelope. My baby and I are staying nineteen miles from town, back in the hills, and it is very lonesome.
MRS. MAX FLECHSIG, Park Rapids, Wash.

MRS. LEON MORRIS, Florence, 508 S. Dargan St., S. C.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 40.)

$2.25 a Month Buys a Genuine KIMBALL ORGAN At Factory Prices.



FREE Music Instruction by our New Diagram System if you write at once.

We will send them to reliable people anywhere, on our extremely easy payment plan.

Operating the largest piano and organ factory in the world—the Kimball system positively saves you $25 to $50 on strictly first-class organs.

Send for Money-Saving Plan and Free Catalog

Under no circumstances can you afford to buy or consider any other organ until you have our money-saving proposition. Our half-century's manufacturing experience, our financially strong guarantee mean much to you.

W. W. KIMBALL CO., O-3052 Kimball Hall, Chicago.

Please send me FREE your 1917 Organ Catalog, factory distributing prices and the Nation's Home Songs with words and music FREE.

Name_____
City_____ State_____
St. or R. F. D._____

TWINE FROM PAPER.—German manufacturers are now making twine out of paper, because of the scarcity of raw materials for the manufacture of string and twine. The products which have been placed on the market resemble those made from jute and hemp. This is by no means the first time that paper pulp has been used for such purposes for Japan made yarn from this pulp more than 100 years ago.



Learn Dressmaking at Home

Giving just spare time to it you will be able by our new method to make your own and the children's clothes or earn a good income as a fashionable dressmaker. We teach you by mail in fascinating lessons all essential stitches, to design garments, draft patterns, make waists, skirts, dresses, suits, to purchase materials economically, do fancy work, make lingerie, to renovate, dye and make over garments. Or we will teach you millinery.

A charmingly illustrated, 32-page book, called "Dressmaking Made Easy," tells all about the Woman's Institute of Domestic Arts and Sciences and its home-study courses. It is free. Send for it today. Tell us, please, whether you are most interested in Home or Professional Dressmaking or Millinery.

WOMAN'S INSTITUTE, INC., Dept. 9-P, 358 Fifth Ave., New York City



TRIM YOUR HATS AT HOME SAVE ½

SAVE high milliner's profits. We furnish elegant materials, diagram and full instructions. Any woman or child can make a beautiful, new style hat. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send today for free catalog of 27 styles, explaining our easy plan.

FASHION MILLINERY SOCIETY, 3860 OLIVE ST., ST. LOUIS



$10.50 for All PRICES SMASHED OUR LOSS—YOUR GAIN

Send us $10.50 and we will ship you one first-class new 40-lb. Feather Bed, (nominal Value $12.00); one pair 6-pound New Pillows ($3.00); all new live clean selected sanitary feathers covered with A. C. A. Feather proof ticking; also one pair full size Blankets ($3.00); one full size white Counterpane ($3.00); and one pair nice lace Pillow Shams ($1.50) ALL FOR ONLY $10.50. This offer is good for a short time only. These goods all new and first class and not to be compared with the cheap Shoddy goods that are being offered by other concerns for less money. Satisfaction guaranteed. Mail money order now or write for order blanks.

Southern Feather & Pillow Co. Dept. 200 Greenboro, N. C.



HAIR-DYEING COMB

Produces any shade by simply combing, without staining the scalp; perfectly harmless, durable, undetectable. Saves time and money, and is the only practical way of coloring the hair. Write for particulars.

H. BIENECK, Dept. D, 1821 Gleason Ave., New York.



SOLID GOLD RING Set with our Scientific Gem—stands all Diamond Tests—(actual size) Post-Paid $3.00. Send finger size. Catalog Free. COLLINS & CO., 9 Ma-Lane, NEW YORK.



Your name in fancy writing on 10 cards 10c. Agts. big outfit with order. Send today. **J. D. Byers, Dpt. 2b, Chanute, Kans.**

Genuine Weatherproof Garment

Premium No. 53012



Fashioned after the model of a **"Great Coat,"** it covers the entire person from **"Head to Foot,"** affording complete protection from the weather, be it wind or rain. Made of **waterproof rubber sheeting,** in two colors, **Olive Drab** or **Tan** and **Gray** with **Plaid Lining,** every seam is both **sewed** and **cemented,** has standing **Military Collar, two side pockets** and **five large buttons.**

For walking the coat is none too heavy, for riding it is the greatest rain and wind repellant imaginable.

Every person, especially schoolgirls, should be amply protected from the weather, and this coat provides a garment that covers all the outer clothes, providing warmth and keeping everything dry. Such coats usually sell for $5.00 but we can give them away free for small subscription clubs as we have bought a quantity at great advantage. **When ordering be sure to mention size and color wanted.**

Club Offer. For a club of twelve one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or six three-year subscriptions at 50 cents each we will send you this coat by parcel post prepaid. Be sure to name color wanted, also give size or bust measure. Men's sizes are 34 to 44, length 51 inches, women's size 32 to 44, length 54 inches, misses' sizes are 14, 16 and 18. **Premium No. 53012.** Address

COMFORT,
Augusta, Maine

1917 Spring Suit Free

A WONDERFUL amazing OFFER



If you are a live wide-awake man we want you to get one of our elegant Spring suits, made to YOUR measure, absolutely **FREE.** All we ask you to do is to wear it, show it to your friends and take a few orders for our high grade, Made-to-Measure Clothes.

$25 EXTRA A WEEK AND YOUR OWN CLOTHES FREE

Does it look good to you *for a little spare time?* Write at once or simply send us your name on a postal and we will send details of this "STARTLING OFFER." We will also send you **FREE** a large assortment of cloth samples and dozens of fashion plates to choose from

NOTHING LIKE IT EVER OFFERED

by any other Tailoring House. We don't ask you to spend your cash profits for your clothes. Ours is a new and better plan. Write at once, be the first in your town to get this **FREE** suit.

SPENCER MEAD COMPANY
Dept 1664 CHICAGO



Let us Send You a Cornet like Sousa's Cornetist Uses

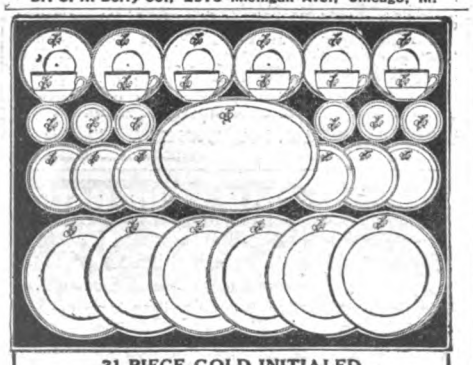
FRANK Simons, cornet solist for Sousa's Band, selected the New Wonder Conn Cornet. For ease in blowing and quickness of valve action the New Wonder has no equal. Micrometer tuning device. Makes finest shades of tone possible. Will be sent to you on 10 days trial. Pay as you can afford.

Write for the Conn Book But first write for the Conn book. We are makers of everything for bands. Catalog free. Merely state instrument in which you're interested.

C. G. Conn, Ltd.
Dept. 3042 Elkhart, Ind.

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet BX 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW. **EARL HOPKINS, Washington. D. C.**

Kremola Cream. **Wonderful bleach.** Removes brown spots, etc. By mail $1. Booklet free. **Dr. C. H. Berry Co., 2975 Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.**

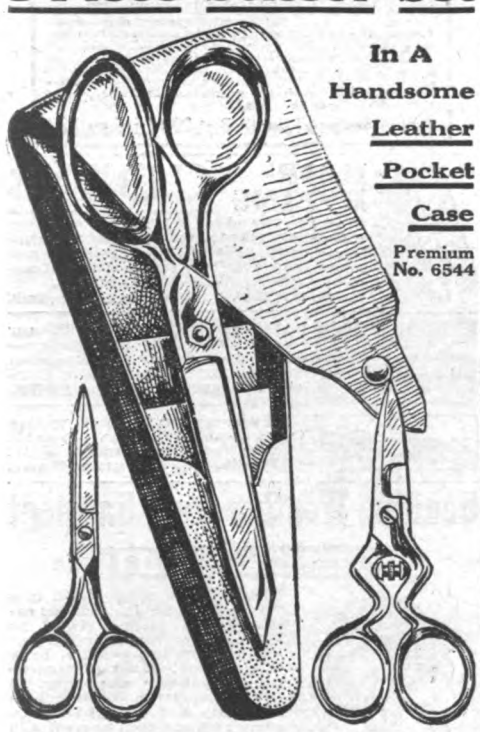


31 PIECE GOLD INITIALED
DINNER SET FREE
For A Few Hours Easy Work

Every piece pure white, high grade china, blue edge and gold initialed. One of the richest looking, most stylish Dinner Sets on the market. Absolutely up-to-the-minute and of undisputable quality. Guaranteed not to craze. Will add beauty to any table. Get this set. Merely give away FREE 12 Beautiful Art Pictures 16x20 inches [sold for $1.00 each in many stores] with 12 cans of White Cloverine which you sell at 25c each. Millions using it for cuts, eczema, catarrh, colds, piles, burns, etc. Send us the $3.00 collected and the set is yours. We've been making these offers for 20 years. The Wilson plan is the easiest and absolutely square. No money required. Simply send name and address. Pictures sent promptly prepaid.

WILSON CHEMICAL CO. Dept. 901, TYRONE, PA.

3-Piece Scissor Set



In A Handsome Leather Pocket Case

Premium No. 6544

Given for A Club of Four

This handsome and useful **3-Piece Shear-and-Scissor Set** is something actually needed in every home. The Shears are **8 inches long,** made of the very best steel, highly tempered, and **handsomely nickel plated.** They are ground down to a **sharp keen edge** which will last almost indefinitely without resharpening. The Buttonhole Scissors are also made of fine quality steel **4 1-4 inches in length** with a patented **gauge** as shown in the illustration. By simply screwing this gauge one way or the other any desired size buttonhole can be instantly made without loss of time or trouble. The Embroidery Scissors are **4 1-4 inches long,** made of the same high quality steel, and beautifully nickel plated. The complete assortment comes in a handsome **leather pocket carrying case** which fastens with a ball-and-socket device. This case makes it very convenient to carry all three pieces in the pocket or in shopping or traveling bag. This is one of the most useful premiums we have ever offered and we expect a great demand for it among COMFORT'S lady and girl readers who have lots of **sewing and home dressmaking work to do.** We will send you this **3-Piece shear-and-scissor set** in handsome **leather case** exactly as above described **free** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only **four** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or **two** 3-year subscriptions **at 50 cents each,** we will send you this 3-Piece Shear-and-Scissor Set in its Leather Case free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6544. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30.)

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for February

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Mrs. Martha Carter, Clinchport, Va. Widow. Helpless from rheumatism. Needy and worthy. Send her a dime shower. J. A. Wolfe, Bancroft, W. Va. Has broken back caused by accident in coal mine. Has wife and three small children. No means of support. Very sad case. Help this afflicted family. M. Moran, Pinnacle, R. R. 2, N. C. Crippled and badly ruptured. Needs operation. Send him some cheer. John Robinson, Buffalo, Ill. Sixty-five years of age. Almost blind. Sick and poor. Give him a boost. Mrs. M. R. Dobsom, Walling, R. R. 1, Box 34, Tenn. Invalid. Would appreciate second-hand clothing and any assistance you care to send. Mrs. Anna Young, Kingsville, Mo. Helpless from rheumatism for fifteen years. Son aged sixteen her only support. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Mollie Burris, Price, N. C. Shut-in. Needy and worthy. Send her a dime shower. Well recommended. Bettie Witt, Shuff, Va. Invalid. Widow with two little children. Needy and worthy. Send her some cheer. Tavie N. Collum, Mulberry, Ark. Invalid for many years. Would appreciate letters, cards and financial assistance. Well recommended. Mrs. Lucinda Weed, Curtis, Mich. Has tuberculosis. Would appreciate second-hand clothing and financial aid. Give this poor, suffering soul a boost. Walter B. Estes, Coffeeville, Ala. Invalid for eleven years. Send him some cheer.

The poor souls whose names appear in the above list are in too desperate need to care for anything but substantial financial aid. They cannot eat or wear sympathy, and they despise tracts. Fork out your silver or your currency. It is the only thing that goes with God or man. Sympathy and cash make a splendid combination, but sympathy without cash cuts no icicles. For God's sake be practical. Do to others as you would have others do to you.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

Uncle Charlie's Poems Will Make You Laugh, Scream and Yell!

This is exactly what they will do, and they are the best and cheapest medicine for the blues in the world. Only one in two hundred of our readers have availed themselves of the opportunity to secure this exquisitely beautiful 160-page volume of screamingly funny verse, bound in lilac silk cloth, free for a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. This elegant book also contains splendid pictures of Uncle Charlie and his family and a touching account of his life. It contains too, the funniest recitations ever written. It is a present fit for a king and no home should be without it. If you won't get it for yourself, get it for your children and make them happy. Free for an hour's easy work. Start your subbing today.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book is a Knock Out! The Best Ever!

A home without music is a home without joy. Uncle Charlie's Song Book contains twenty-eight of the dandiest songs ever written, songs for church, parlor and concert platform. Here you have a great, big, beautiful music folio containing such gems of mirth and melody as "My Beautiful Queen Of Dreams," "The Dream That Never Came True," "The Old Village Choir," and "Broke Again." Five dollars' worth of music with full score for voice and piano, a splendidly gotten up folio with a handsomely decorated cover on which appear several pictures of Uncle Charlie equal to photographs, and all free for a club of only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. Both books free for a club of six. These premiums count toward our great cash prize competition. Greatest premium bargains ever offered. Work for them today.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27.)

left until twelve o'clock—and the three girls had been loath to leave the drawing-room fire for their beds. As Kit had said, "One got no beauty sleep if one wasn't in bed before twelve, and as that was past one might as well sit up and enjoy one's self."

Nerine had forgotten her theft from Mayne's room until she was at last hastening regretfully up the wide stair and through the cold halls to her bedroom in Agatha's wake, and the book in her pocket banged against her as she ran.

Should she speak about it or not? She waited until they were in their rooms which opened into one another. For a time she fidgeted about instead of undressing. Agatha was not like her; she had a set of principles and lived up to them. Mr. Mayne's whole library might have been spread out before her and she would not have touched a volume.

The younger sister pinched the stolen book through her dress and took courage. It was her mother's, and it belonged far more to herself and to Agatha than to Mayne. She advanced toward Agatha's room.

"What do you think? I——" She stopped short in her disclosure.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39.)

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Wanted, information of Lavon Lewis or J. H. Gilbert, last heard of in Murphy, N. C. about four years ago. M. W. Roberts, Lumberton, Miss.

I will pay $1.00 for W. T. Hale's new address. Last heard of at Friley, Miss. S. R. Eaks, Union, Miss.

Information of my father's sister, Mandy Bowman (nee Bridges), or heirs. Last heard of in Illinois. Mrs. Bud Cooley, Vanderpool, Texas.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Miss Ethel Dean, Centereach, Box 7, N. Y. Miss Hazel McClurg, New Sheffield, Pa. Lester O. Lounsburg, Athens, R. R., N. Y. Charles H. Warner, Rogerson, Idaho.

HUGE SUM IN NATIONAL BANKS.—Financial prosperity and strength is greater in the United States than ever before. This is the interpretation placed by Comptroller of the Currency on figures made public showing conditions in the national banks of the country. The returns show that the total resources of national banks are $13,838,000,000, an increase of $2,271,000,000 or 20 per cent in a year. The total deposits are $10,790,000,000, an increase of $2,198,000,000 or almost 25 per cent in a year and an increase of $411,000,000 since December 31, 1915. The increase in resources exceeds the entire resources of the Reichsbank of Germany.

TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 48 Packages Soap Powder FREE



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only 4 doz. pkgs. of our famous washing powder **FREE** among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. **NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO**

Great Bicycle Offer!



Write for new 1917 catalog. Wonderful 1917 ARROW—new motorcycle type—shipped **no money down.** *Free inspection.* Nothing like this bicycle ever offered before. Electric light, Fisk Non-Skid Tires, built like a motorcycle. Free catalog gives full description. All sizes for boys, men and women.

Pay As You Ride

Start riding the 1917 Arrow right away. While you're riding, pay only a small amount each month until paid.

Write Today for free catalog and rock-bottom pay-as-you-ride offer. *While this offer lasts.*

1917 ARROW

ARROW CYCLE CO., Dept. 3042 19th St. & California Av. Chicago, Ill.

TOTAL OF MILITARY AGE.—According to the census taken in 1910, the total male population in the United States of military age was about 19,183,000. Estimating a 10 per cent increase since that time, we should have now about 21,000,000 men capable of performing military service.

EARN GOOD PAY copying addresses; particulars six stamps. HINCHEY, 171, MIDDLEPORT, N. Y.



DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU? Agents wanted to sell glasses. Send for catalog. COULTER OPTICAL CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.



FREE Fine Camera and complete outfit for selling 20 Large Colored Art & Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Beautiful Post Cards at 10c each. Satisfaction Guaranteed or money returned. Order your choice today. GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 325, CHICAGO

FREE ELECTRIC FLASHLIGHT for selling 20 pkgs. Art & Religious Post Cards at 10¢. Keystone Co. Box 533 Greenville, Pa.



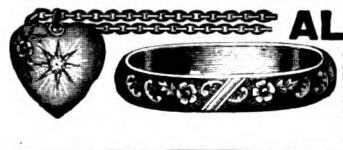
We Will Give You This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling romance by Adelaide Sterling. It is a beautiful story having a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compels the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine. To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

We are sure our readers will enjoy this delightful story which will run as a serial in COMFORT through the remainder of the winter and the spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



ALL THESE FREE

Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone, 22-inch chain, Handsome Watch, **GUARANTEED TIME-KEEPER,** one Nethersole Bracelet to fit any arm and these 2 gold plated Rings **ALL GIVEN FREE** for selling only 24 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c each. Write for Jewelry today.



COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO., Dept. 265 East Boston, Mass.

Comfort's Bedtime Stories For Little Folks!

A Library of Cute Little Books

40 WONDERFUL TALES IN STORY AND VERSE 40



Beautifully Illustrated

Library of 12 Sent For One Subscription!

The stories of our childhood—how well we remember them. After all it seems but a short time since we listened with rapt attention to the adventures of **Robinson Crusoe** cast away on his lonely island—of beautiful **Cinderella,** the fairy and the prince—the tragic fate of poor little **Red Riding Hood**—these were only a few of the marvelous tales that thrilled our childish imagination and helped us spend many blissful hours.

The children of today are the same as they were fifty years ago. And these **good old-time stories** are just as popular with the young folks now as they were then. So we have decided to give our little boy and girl friends a fine big collection of these stories including some of **the old-time favorites** as well as a number of newer and later books equally as interesting. We have arranged **three different sets** or "libraries"—each library consisting of **twelve books,** no two alike, and you can have your choice of any one library, or two libraries, or all three libraries. **Library No. 7951** comprises the following twelve titles:

Robinson Crusoe, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Mother Goose, Animal Pets, Purring Pussies, Playmates, Our Pets, The Three Bears, The Sleeping Beauty, Playful Pets, The Teddy Bears.

Library No. 7991 has these twelve titles:

The Shepherd And His Sheep, Young America, The Deep Blue Sea, Land of Tulips, Rex and Rover, Our Farm Yard, Little Darlings, Childhood of Hiawatha, Faithful Friends, The Fancy Dress Party, Our Country, Happy Days.

Library No. 8001 consists of these twelve titles:

Little Sweethearts, The Story of Little Piggie Wig, In The Jungle, The Big League, Doggie Doings, Fred's Feathered Friends, Uncle Jerry's Farm, Chums, The Story of Santa Claus, Little Laddies, Pussy's Pranks, Faithful And True.

As these stories are intended for the younger children some of them have been "boiled down" to the fewest and simplest words so that they are not as complete as the original editions, but **all** of them are printed on fine paper in large clear type that is easy to see and read and have no less than **five beautiful full page illustrations in colors.**

Some of the titles named above of course need no introduction. The other titles are just the sort of stories that delight every child—stories of **childish sports, flowers, the sea, Indians, animal pets, horses, donkeys, dogs, bunnies, pussy cats, chickens, lambs, etc.,** wonderful romances in which there are old **Stone Castles, Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses, Good Fairies, and Wicked Fairies,** stories of the **Bear Family**—Pa Bear, old Ma Bear and little "Teddy" Bear, stories of little **Playmates,** the true tale of the **Teddy Bears**—in fact the finest collection of juvenile short stories ever published. Each book is nicely bound with a handsomely illustrated cover in **colors** and is 4 inches by 5¼ inches in size.

There is nothing you could get for the children that would make them any happier than one or more of these cute libraries and best of all it will **cost you nothing** as we are giving them away as a premium. We will send you free your choice of any one, two, or all three libraries—each library consisting of **twelve stories,** each story in a book by itself, **twelve different books in all**—on the terms of the following special offers:

Offer A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you any **one** library of twelve books by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention number of library wanted.**

Offer B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you any one library by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention number of library wanted.**

Offer C. For two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you any two libraries, or for three one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each, we will send you **all three** libraries, parcel post prepaid. **Don't forget to give number or numbers of libraries wanted.**

Extra Gift For Promptness! If you will send **three** subscriptions and 75 cents for **all three** libraries **within 15 days** we will send you **four extra books** absolutely free. This will give you one **grand complete library of forty of these splendid little books, all** different titles, of uniform size and **binding, handsomely** printed and illustrated in colors. **Premium No. 7303**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FREE CLOTH SAMPLES

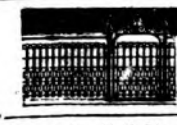


Big selection of cloth samples—Guaranteed all-wool Serges, new fancy Worsteds, stylish Cassimeres, all latest shades and patterns—everything good dressers wear—**Free.** Postal will bring it. ***We make fine clothes for men*** to individual measure, absolutely guaranteed to fit and please at prices that will astonish you. Don't buy suit or overcoat anywhere at any price—until you have got our selection of cloth samples, fashion models, tape line, everything **Free.** Stop paying high prices for clothes. Write quick for our amazing suit offer.
THE CAPITOL TAILORS, Dept. 113, Chicago, Ill.



TO SLENDER WOMEN
You will positively acquire all the lovely soft outlines of the perfect form by wearing
The Perfect Contour Bust Model
which adjusts naturally over the bust, is dainty, durable and easily laundered. Send to-day for finest quality. Price $1.00.
THE PERFECT CONTOUR CO., Dept. A.
3224 E. Berkshire Road, Cleveland Heights, O.

Legal Advice $1 Domestic, business, social affairs. Send $1 for opinion on any one subject—or write for free details.
Hartwell Cole, Attorney, Syracuse, N. Y.



ORNAMENTAL FENCE
Adesigns—all steel. Handsome, costs less than wood, more durable. We can save you money. Write for free catalog and and special prices.
KOKOMO FENCE MACH. CO.
479 North Street, Kokomo, Ind.

Horseshoe Nail Ring Set with Your Birthstone FREE



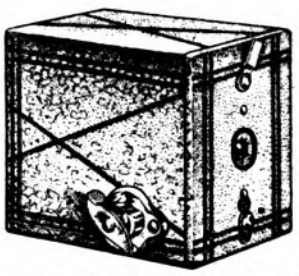
Made of "Everbright Silver" guaranteed to give satisfaction. Bright polished, beautifully set with proper stone for your birth month. Send 12c to help pay advertising.
The Auction Co., Dept. 53, Attleboro, Mass.

FREE



Steam wind and set watch, guaranteed 5 years, for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice.
GEO. GATES CO. Dept. 225 Chicago

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7314

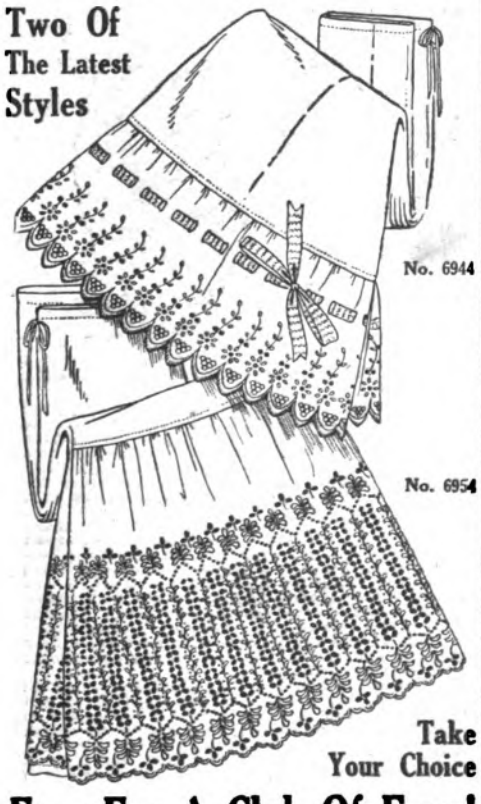
For a Club of Four!

We will also include free of charge one **Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known "Premo" camera, made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.,** therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in **broad daylight,** so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book,** all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free by Parcel Post, prepaid,** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. **Premium No. 7314.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Cambric Underskirts

Two Of The Latest Styles



No. 6944

No. 6954

Take Your Choice

Free For A Club Of Four!

THESE two very attractive and stylish underskirts are made of fine quality **cambric** with flounces of muslin embroidery and come in sizes from 36 to 44 inclusive. The skirt shown at the top is made with a narrow flounce 6½ inches deep with a beading about one inch from the top of flounce through which is drawn pretty lingerie ribbon. The skirt shown at the bottom of the illustration has a 14½ inch flounce of handsome eyelet embroidery. Both these skirts are up-to-date in style and shape being cut along straight lines which give them the fashionable narrow effect now in vogue. The regular retail value of these skirts is **one Dollar. Be sure to give number and size of skirt wanted.**

Club Offer. For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you your choice of either skirt free by Parcel Post prepaid. In ordering be sure to mention size also say whether you want **skirt No. 6944 or No. 6954. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

WELL, my dears, did you get through the first month of the new year with all your resolutions just as nice and unbroken as when you began with them? But there, you don't have to answer. It is none of my affair whether you did or not. If I guess that you didn't it is simply because I am a horrid old thing who doesn't make any allowance for youth and temptation and all those. But you may think what you please, I didn't break any resolutions, because I didn't make any. However, let's forget it and this time next year we can go over it all again in the same old way. Now to work instead of talk.

The first letter I take up is from Water Lily of Kaufman, Texas and she is in love with the best man in the world, even if he is divorced, and he is in love with her and her horrid mother won't let them see each other and the Lily wants to know what she should do. I wish I could settle all the questions that come to me as easy as I can this one. The Lily is of age, or soon will be, the man is really a nice man, and it is so perfectly easy for them to marry and be happy that I don't understand why they don't do it. They have my blessing, if that will be any help.

Girlie, Cosmos, Okla.—Forget the insignificant deformity which will not count for anything if you have an attractive character and a kindly way with you. If the young man you admire—don't begin to love him till he is ready for it—cares for you as he should he won't notice that you are not perfect in books. Love, you know, is blind anyway. Besides, skin beauty fades while soul beauty never does.

Faithful, Chowchilla, Cal.—It's a poor way to win your friend from a girl who is more attractive to him than you are, whatever her character may be, by writing letters to her people making her out probably worse than she is. If he doesn't care enough for himself to go into good company, and that company yours, you should keep hands off and let him go his way. If you have not stopped your crusade against your rival, do so now and be sorry you went as far as you did.

Four Girls, Mauriceville, Texas.—Four of you and each sweet sixteen, each in school and each in love. Well, stick to your school and by the time you have finished it, you will have forgotten the loves of today and will be just as much troubled by the later loves. You can finish your schooling, but you never can finish your loving. P. S. That young man who is so bashful and is yet a flirt, is so different from ordinary bashful ones that you should put him in a museum.

Freckles and Dimples, Olathe, Colo.—In old-fashioned days gentlemen always kissed the hands of ladies when they met, but in these new-fangled times hand kissing is not what it used to be and you should not permit it. (2) Of course, the young man, who tells you he loves you every time he meets you, says the same thing to every other girl. It's a silly way some young men have and only silly girls believe them. (3) Treat all the nice young men exactly alike and if you happen to care more for one of them than for the others he will not know it. Talk at the gate and walk along the leafy lanes is quite proper and permissible. Rules of etiquette do not apply to four people who don't know any better than to crowd into a buggy built for two.

Violet, Roberdell, N. C.—If he has all the qualities that make a good husband and you love each other, don't bother a minute about his age. Maybe if he were younger he wouldn't be half as nice and he might be flirting with other girls as some young husbands love to do. I think you have a prize, and you have my blessing.

Slavey, Hardin, Ky.—For a motherless girl of fifteen to have charge of a family of seven with a father who does not appreciate her position and help her all he can, is indeed hard, but don't marry to escape it. You are jumping out of the frying-pan into the fire. Meet your responsibilities as best you can and it will not be long until you are old enough and are capable enough to go out and work for yourself and be independent of everybody. Of course, if you meet some nice man when you are old enough to marry, it will be right and proper for you to marry, but don't ever marry just to get rid of other troubles.

Discontented, Palestine, Texas.—What else, my dear, could he do but forsake you when he proposed to you in writing and you did not answer though he waited two years for you to do so? How long did you expect him to wait? You had no right to question his sincerity, but should have answered yes or no and settled it. Now that you have lost him, through your own devices, you must find him again that way because I cannot help you, and wouldn't if I could. (2) It is not wise for a girl to ask even her "close-by friend" to take her to places, because men are apt to resent it. The only exception is to church and there a girl may ask any man to take her, because that is spiritual, not social.

Two Girls, Greensboro, N. C.—The only safe course to pursue when a girl is in love with two young men is to drop them both, because if she drops either one she will pine for the other and be unhappy. (2) Listen, girls, omit the osculation.

Brown Eyes, Iola, Texas.—My, my, but you are awfully silly. When he was fifteen he didn't want you around and now that he is seventeen and still doesn't want you, can't you understand that he is not for you? You are enough older than he is to know that much, I should think.

Elbe, Melrose, N. M.—For the benefit of postal clerks who have enough other troubles I will not give you the postage stamp language. The only sensible place for a stamp is the usual one where it may be most easily cancelled. The inside of the envelope is the proper place for the expression of your tender sentiments.

Calla, St. Michael, Pa.—There is no rule by which lost lovers may be restored, and those who do come back, do so because they want to and not because of any effort to bring them. Leave him to do as he wishes, and leave the rest to Providence.

Wildflower, Breese, Ill.—If he deceived you into loving him by not telling you he had a wife from whom he was not yet divorced, do you think he is the kind of man who would become a husband who could be trusted? You may be willing to risk him, but I wouldn't.

Undecided, Thornton, Texas.—You say you are in love with "to boys" and want my advice, but what are "to boys?" I never heard of any boys like that and I can't find it in the spelling-book.

Blue Eyes, Webb City, Mo.—Your chief mistakes are in being too finicky over small matters and in trying to harmonize with a young man who is about as finicky as you are. Harmony cannot exist under such conditions and you might as well give it up and find a different disposition to harmonize with. The greatest mistake of all is in two people of such dispositions getting married. P. S. As you are in the high school you should not write: "I have a gentleman friend which I admire." "Gentleman friend" is bad form and "which" isn't that kind of a relative pronoun. Ask your teacher.

Myrtle, Hany, N. C.—Never try to get a sweetheart back who has deserted you without your giving him cause. You can't get him back. He's tired of you and he is glad to get away. It is sad and it is bad, but you know if you were tired of him you would treat him just as he treats you. They always do.

Springtime, Tampa, Fla.—If you love him with his false and spiteful ways, why ask me what you should do? I could only tell you to give up that kind of a sweetheart and choose one who was not false and not spiteful and you don't want that kind. So you must put up with what you like best, my dear.

Troubled, Ellerton, Ga.—I think I can see this young man with tears in his eyes telling you you do not love him or you would let him kiss you. Let me tell you, my dear, that if you marry him as he asks you to, he will never cry to kiss you, though he may cry to kiss some other woman. You are very foolish if you do not take your father's advice and go to college.

Marie, Wave, Ill.—I am very glad to hear that my advice has stopped the kissing until you are engaged. If the young man wants to know why there is to be no more promiscuous kissing, tell him I told you it wasn't right and you would believe me before you would believe any young man who wants to kiss every girl he goes with.

Freckles, Dayton, Ohio.—The trouble with you, my dear, is that you are too narrow minded to understand that a girl should have friends among young men, not necessarily lovers, and that when one wants to be attentive for the moment, it does not mean that you have a claim upon his exclusive and permanent attention. Take a wider view of human association and don't narrow it down to your own selfish notion, or to the belief that every young man you meet wants to marry you. Most of them don't.

Dimples, Crookston, Minn.—As both of you attend the same school and have not met each other and you seem to be more anxious to meet him than he to meet you, suppose you ask your teacher to introduce you to each other properly.

Down Hearted, Bluefields, W. Va.—Don't be down hearted this soon. You can't have him till he's through college and that will take four years, plenty time enough for your heart to be up and around and all right again.

Brown Eyes, Parkersburg, W. Va.—When a sixteen-year-old girl and an eighteen-year-old boy get the silly idea into their noddles that they must marry, they should be put in charge of a nurse with instructions to spank them every time they mentioned the subject. Show this to your parents, with my regards.

Amri, Cleveland, Minn.—Marriage is not always a failure, but when it is, it is oftener so because foolish girls like you are go into it without the least idea what it really means. Now you listen to your mother. She knows what it is and she will not give you any bad advice.

Wondering, Austin, Texas.—He sounds all right, my dear, but beware of the smooth tongues and ingratiating ways. He may be exactly as represented, but I have my doubts, because you say he drinks and goodness knows what else he does. You have told him you were never kissed and I am inclined to think he is trying to see if he can't be first in the field. That he seems to be so anxious to marry you and is able to support a wife are two things in his favor, but he might change if you kissed him. It is a difficult case and you must exercise your own knowledge and wisdom. It is too much for me to decide.

Fairy, Colonial Beach, Va.—So far you have handled the young man properly and treated him as he deserved to be treated. He isn't bad at all, just too young to know any better and as you are older than he is, you might as well tell him not to come around any more until he has grown up. You will not miss a great deal, I imagine.

Dolly Dimple, Ripley, Tenn.—Don't give up your school next year to go in the store and don't give it up at all until you have learned how to write a letter that no school girl should be ashamed of. Yours is a sad reflection both upon you and your teacher.

Violet, Gatesville, Texas.—As you don't want to marry the one who has asked you and you do want to marry the one who hasn't, suppose you wait till the other has proposed and you won't want to marry him either. Still a girl twenty-five years old shouldn't be too sassy.

Birdie, Elkin, N. C.—When a girl always quarrels with any young man who is attentive to her it is a good sign that she should not marry and be tied to a quarrelsome existence for life. Remain a bachelor girl.

Dixie, Maben, Ala.—The trouble with you, my dear, is that you are too superior to your associates and the women and girls can't help being envious and jealous and saying mean things about you. My advice is for you to keep in the background and let the other take your place in front. You say you always try to be nice to everybody and good and kind to all, and this is your chance to be popular with everybody by effacing yourself. What do you care anyway, having so fine a man for a real sweetheart? It is quite the proper and customary thing to seal an engagement with a kiss, whether the Maben married ladies did theirs that way, or not.

Nineteen, Marcellus, N. Y.—Maybe true love isn't built on candy, as sweet as it may be, but there are plenty of girls these days who wouldn't think of loving a young man who would not feed them on caramels and such. As between this one who doesn't feed you on candy and the other one you never saw, but have been writing to for three years, I think I would choose the one who didn't give me candy.

There, my dears, how many of you are not satisfied with what I have said to you? I'm sorry if you're not, because the less you like it the more you need it. However, it's all for the best and may all of us be a thousand times better than we are. By, by and the good Lord watch over us.

COUSIN MARION.

Poultry Farming For Women

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21.)

might be to blame, though it is not very probable. Did you use any strong insect powder on the chickens or the hens who are brooding them? I have occasionally heard of one chick being blind in a flock, but never of a large number, as you describe, and it is especially strange, as you say they are well and strong, with eyes that look quite normal. If any of our readers have had similar experiences, I should like to hear from them, and to know what ideas they have about the probable cause.

J. C. H.—I cannot answer letters by mail. Your questions were answered in this column last month.

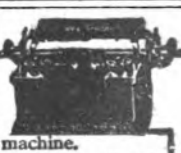
E. H.—Please read answer to J. D. in this issue. (2) The two small eggs you sent have been carefully examined. The larger one looks quite normal, but the smaller one was black and oblong in shape when received, so I imagine it must have been in that condition when you opened the bird, though in your letter you only remark on the eggs being hard. There must have been some abnormal condition of the egg passage if the eggs were really hard, but as they were still so small when the hen was killed, it is difficult to say what they might have developed into before being laid. When a laying hen, or a hen who is about to lay, is killed and opened, a cluster of eggs which look like grapes will be found; this is called the ovarium. These, however, are but rudimentary eggs, and are in size from a pin's head to the full-sized yolk of an egg. Each of these eggs is contained within a thin transparent sac, and attached by a narrow pipe or stem to the ovary, and during the laying period of the hen these eggs are maturing, and thus keep up the supply which she lays. These rudimentary eggs have neither shell nor white, consisting wholly of yolk, on which floats the germ of the future chicken, and as they become larger they arrive at a certain stage when, by their own volition, weight, or other cause, they become detached from the bunch and fall into a sort of funnel leading into a passage called the oviduct—this organ in the hen being from twenty-two to twenty-six inches long. During the passage of this egg or ovum to the outer world, it becomes coated with successive layers of albumen—the white—which is secreted from the blood vessels of the oviduct in the form of a thick glairy fluid, and is prevented from mixing with the yolk by the membrane or sac which surrounded it before it became detached from the cluster. It is also strengthened by a second and stronger membrane, formed around the first immediately after falling into the funnel, and having what is like two twisted cords of a more dense albuminous character, called by anatomists *chalazes*, which pass quite through the white at the ends, and being, as it were, embedded therein, thus preventing the yolk and germ from rolling about when the egg is moved, and serving to keep the germ so that it may best receive the heat imparted during incubation. It is during the passage of the egg through the lower part of the oviduct that it gets covered with the two skins which are found inside the shell. These, although lying close around the egg, at the thick end become separate, and form what is called the air bubble or chamber. Eggs are produced from the surplus food, which is that over and above what is required for the sustenance of the hen, and, if such is too stimulating, or given in excessive quantities, the result is that in the former case the ova are produced so rapidly that sometimes two of them drop into the oviduct together, which results in the eccentricities which frequently puzzle the poultry keeper. These ova travel along together through the passage and receive the white separately, but become enveloped in one shell, and when laid are commonly known as double-yolked eggs, but more properly it is a double egg, the white being duplicated as well as the yolk. Should these yolks be fertilized and the egg hatched, we get the occasional four-legged or other chicken monstronsities. To overfeeding is also attributable the further irregularity of one perfect egg being found within another, and caused by irritation of the oviduct, which, contracting in front of the perfectly formed egg instead of behind it, forces it back until it meets another yolk, when the two join and again become coated with the white and the shell, thus producing another wonder. To the internal fatness of the hen are due other eccentricities than those mentioned, including the apparently paradoxical feat of laying rotten new-laid eggs, this being a not infrequent occurrence. The egg, being unabled to force its way through the fatty oviduct, is retained two or three days near the mouth of this organ, and, if a fertilized one, the heat of the hen's body tends to putrefy it, and when ultimately laid it is in an addled condition. To other causes, but principally diseased organs, is due a departure from normal in the way of color. A hen which lays white or brown eggs, on rare occasions produces one almost black, and in most instances, the shells are rough, wavy, corrugated, or otherwise irregular. Then there are instances of foreign matter being found in eggs, clots of blood being nothing unusual. This is the result of the breaking of a blood vessel internally, and, again, possibly the effect of overfeeding. Fowls from whatever cause producing any of the above misshapen or otherwise faulty eggs should at once be got rid of, for although in some cases a reduced diet may bring them back to their normal production, still the slightest cause will frequently prompt the organs to their previous irregularities.

This Stylish Suit Free



We want **YOU** to get one these suits absolutely **FREE** so you can show it to your friends. No doubt about it, you will
Be The Best Dressed Man In Your Town
It will be a big advertisement for us. Just to prove the **wonderful quality,** style and value of our tailoring, we make this **astounding offer.** Never before have we been able to make such a wonderful offer; **best clothes—nobbiest fabrics—classiest styles—and lowest prices.**
$2500 A Year and Two Suits for Yourself
Here is the greatest opportunity you ever heard of for you to make a **BIG SALARY,** a lot of money on the side, while doing other work. If you would like to make **$2500 a year and get YOUR OWN CLOTHES FREE,** write for our wonderful offer—it's a dandy—style book, confidential price list, and 64 beautiful samples to choose from—**FREE.**
The Progress Tailoring Co., Dept. 722, Chicago
Express and postage paid.
Write NOW—TODAY

Now $2.00



Only $2 down brings brand new Rex (*10 years' guarantee*) built because world's greatest merchandise house wanted a better machine.
Typewriter Prices Smashed
Don't fool with 2nd hand "rebuilt" when you can have a brand new Rex at an astounding low price. Sent on trial. **Write today for "Typewriter Secrets."** Will be a *revelation!*
Rex Typewriter Company
Dept. 3042 Steger Bldg. Chicago, Ill.

$5 TO $10 A DAY



AGENTS—BIG HIT
5-Piece Aluminum Set
Cheaper than enamel ware. Guaranteed 20 years. Retail value $5.00. You sell to housewives for only **$1.83.** Sure sale wherever shown. Answer quick for your territory.
AMERICAN ALUMINUM MFG. CO.
Div. C5, Lemont, Illinois

A High School Course In Two Years Learn in your own home. Here is a thorough, complete, and simplified high school course that you can finish in two years. *Meets all college entrance requirements.* Prepared by leading members of the faculties of universities and academies.
Write for booklet. Send your name and address for our booklet and full particulars. No obligations. Write today—now.
American School of Correspondence, Dept. P3042 Chicago, U. S. A.

A MOUSE A MINUTE can be caught with a "GRAVITY" trap, send dime for one, quarter for three, agents wanted. **PHIL H. KOHL, MORRIS, ILLINOIS.**

Large List, Dialogs, Entertainments, Recitations, Drills, **PLAYS** Catalogue Free. T. S. DENISON & CO., Dept. 8 Chicago, Ill.

Pocket Flashlight

Premium No. 7083



Given For A Club Of Three

THERE are so many occasions when a flashlight is a necessity it would be impossible to name them all but there is one thing sure—**it is the handiest and safest means of illuminating ever devised.** We offer here one of the best pocket flashlights made. It is known as the "Eveready," which is certainly an appropriate name as it is always ready when you want to use it. But the greatest feature of this flashlight is its **safety** around inflammable material. In the house it lights up the darkest rooms or clothes closets, dark corners in the basement, in the garret; it may be used around **gasoline, or powder,** in the stable, in the barn, even in the hay mow, and **there is not the slightest danger of fire.** It throws a shaft of steady brilliance right in the teeth of wind or rain. The mere pressure of your finger starts and stops the light at your will and it is so small and compact that you can carry it around **in your vest pocket** where it does not take up any more room than a cigarette box. The "Eveready" is beautifully finished in **polished nickel** with a hinged bottom which opens to replace the battery and is equipped with a push button as well as a sliding switch for a flash or continuous light. It is equipped with a Tungsten battery and bulb and gives a surprisingly powerful bright light and the battery with average use will last **from two to four months.** When one battery becomes exhausted you can easily buy another one anywhere as they are on sale in every city and town in the United States. Or, if you prefer, we will furnish you with additional **batteries free of cost** in return for a few subscriptions to COMFORT. We will send you this flashlight **with battery and bulb complete,** ready for business as soon as you receive it, upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one "Eveready" flashlight as described above free by Parcel Post prepaid. **(Premium No. 7083.)** We can also supply you with extra batteries for the "Eveready" at the rate of one battery free for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each. **(Premium No. 7092.)**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

$3.75 SUIT
NO EXTRA CHARGES



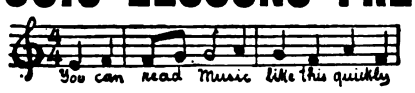
Made to measure in latest style. Not $3.75, not even $1, not even one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. No extra charge for fancy, swell styles, no extra charge for extra big, extreme peg-tops, pearl buttons, tunnel or fancy belt loops, no extra charge for anything, all free. Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. Agents of other tailoring houses please write, we have a new deal that will open your eyes. We ask every man to answer this, every boy in long pants, every man, every where. No matter where you live, or what you do, write us a letter or postal and say *"Send Me Your Offer"* the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges. Write today, this minute. Address

KNICKERBOCKER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 584 Chicago, Ill.



LIGHT YOUR HOME LIKE DAY—COST 1c
for 6 hours. Pure white 100 candle power light from common Kerosene.
The Beacon Lamp Makes and Burns Its Own Gas
Better, brighter, safer, cheaper, than Gas, Gasoline or Electricity. Every home interested. 600,000 satisfied users. Agents wanted. Write quick for selling plan, exclusive free territory and trial offer.
HOME SUPPLY CO., 17 Home Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

MUSIC LESSONS FREE



At Your Home. Write today for our booklet. It tells how to learn to play Piano, Organ, Violin, Mandolin, Guitar, Banjo, etc. Beginners or advanced pupils. **AMERICAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 15 Lakeside Bldg., Chicago.**

BOYS' AIR RIFLE FREE



for selling only 12 pieces of Jewelry at 10c ea. When sold return $1.20 and we will send this fine Rifle. Write for Jewelry today.
Eagle Watch Co., 134, East Boston, Mass.



TYPEWRITERS
$10 & Up. All Makes. Save $25 to $50 on rebuilt at the factory by the well-known "Young Process." Sold for low cash—installment or rented. Rental applies on purchase price. Write for full details and guarantee. Free trial.
YOUNG TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. 1366 Chicago



Lots of Fish- If you want to catch them send $1.30 and get one of these wire baskets, delivered. 3½ feet long and 13 inches diameter. **W. A. JESTER, GRIFFIN, GA.**



FREE Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 6 years, for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice.
GATES MFG. CO. Dept. 425 Chicago

PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D.C. Advice and books free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best services



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

F. M., Angelice, Wis.—If the wart is of the ordinary kind it may be removed by applications of lunar caustic, to be had at any drug-store. Be careful in using not to get it on the skin as it will burn painfully. If that will not remove it you should consult a doctor, as warts sometimes are more serious than they look.

E. F., Limestone, N. Y.—Your fainting when you hear sickness talked about is an idiosyncrasy for which there is no clear explanation and no cure. Some people faint at the sight of blood, the great Napoleon turned pale at the sight of a cat and thousands of others for some reason or other unknown are affected in one way or another as you are by hearing sickness spoken of. The only remedy is to keep out of hearing when such a subject is being talked of.

M. M. W., Leon, Iowa.—Acne is an inflammation of the follicles generally affecting the skin at the time of going from childhood to maturity and when the permanent hair of the body is being developed. This inflammation, called folliculitis, causes pimples and other skin eruptions, appearing usually on the face, but as well on the breast, shoulders and back in many cases. The exact cause is not known fully, but it is influenced by conditions of the stomach, bowels and blood. It is at its worst between the ages of thirteen and thirty, but rarely shows in older people. Acne is of two kinds, simplex and rosacea, which is its adult form. There are cases of acne, which develop into skin disorders of a serious character, but ordinarily simple lotions for external use, cleanliness and a proper regard for diet is the treatment. Any physician of average intelligence should be able to give all the treatment necessary in simple cases. Complicated, or chronic cases require much more careful and intelligent handling.

Mrs. E. T., Hinsdale, Mont.—A sharp pain starting in the pit of the stomach and going through under the shoulder blade is one sign of indigestion, but as you have had it only twice in five years, you have nothing to worry about. These casual pains, even though they are very disagreeable for a short time are the result of some temporary disorder and have no after effects.

Mrs. M. O., Kahoka, Mo.—No substitute has been found for alcohol in the compounding of drugs and other uses and you need not fear that any legislation, however "dry," will prevent its use in those connections. There is a very considerable difference between pure alcohol and the usual alcoholic beverages classified as the Demon Rum. (2) The electric needle we believe is the most thorough depilatory. There are numerous chemical depilatories, but we fancy none is better than the unsatisfactory one you used, because they are all more or less troublesome and we imagine you want something that isn't any trouble.

L. H., Scotia, Nebr.—It is foolish for one to suppose because there is a pain around the heart that there is organic heart disease, as many do on the slightest discomfort in that delicate region, but when the heart beats as yours does and there is soreness and dizziness, it is time you were having a doctor examine you and determine what is wrong and make it right if he can. Unless you attend to this properly under a physician's care, one of these days you will have a spell and you will not need anybody except the undertaker. A stitch in time very often saves the whole cloth.

Anxious, Athens, Ga.—We don't believe you are half as much in danger from consumption as you are from indigestion. The doctor, who told you nothing was the matter with you and to eat a plenty, should at the same time have told you what to eat in order to prevent indigestion. Suppose you ask him to prescribe a healthy diet for you as he knows your case and we do not. A seventeen-year-old girl ought to live for sixty-five years yet and have average health to the end. If she does not, she is more at fault than anybody else.

J. O. P., Belfield, N. Dak.—Chilblains are caused by a feebleness of circulation and while that continues you will be subject to them in variations of temperature, and care should be taken to prevent exposure to cold. The system should be built up with plenty of nourishing and digestible food, and no tight shoes, corsets or other garments to impede the circulation should be worn. Dress loosely. A liniment of equal parts of turpentine and copaiba may be used if the skin is not broken. If the skin is broken a preparation of collodion,—ask your druggist for it—may be used as a protection. Though you say you have seen doctors and they could do you no good, we tell you that if they cannot, nobody can. You certainly cannot.

D. B., Union City, Tenn.—The symptoms of itch are a terrible itching caused by a microscopic bug, *acarus*, boring into the skin. The scratching results in pimples where the bug is and it may extend all over the body, though it is confined frequently only to the hands. The itch is not a blood disease and the treatment is by applications to kill the parasite. Sulphur ointment is the usual remedy, but something more searching is a preparation of flowers of sulphur, one dram; ammoniated mercury, fifteen grains; olive oil, half ounce; lard, two ounces and a half. This should be thoroughly rubbed in, after a bath in hot water and soap and continued night and morning for three days, to be followed by another hot bath. It should be remembered that sulphur is very irritating to the skin of children. Itch is primarily a dirt disease and cleanliness is one of the requisites for its prevention and cure.

Ignorant, Townsend, Fla.—As dryness of the air is the first consideration of climate for consumption and catarrh, the high dry regions of the West and Southwest are preferable to Florida which is lowland surrounded by the sea. Arizona and New Mexico are the hot, dry states recommended, while Colorado is cold dry. The mountains of North Carolina and the Adirondacks of New York are also favorite resorts of consumptives. Asheville is in the center of the North Carolina region.

E. M. W., Oakland, Cal.—The tobacco chewer, unless he grossly overdoes it, is not likely to harm himself nearly as much as he must disgust his friends, at least his women friends. There are various "cures" for the tobacco habit, but the surest cure is for the chewer to stop it and stay stopped, even though he must fight the devil for months.

S. W. T., Antioch, W. Va.—If your doctor prescribed iron, take it as he prescribed it and don't try doctoring yourself with patent medicines you know nothing about. The doctor knows better than you do what is needed in your case. Why go to a doctor, if you know better than he does how to treat yourself? The worst part of it is that there are thousands of just such patients as you are and still they complain because the doctors don't do them any good.

Mrs. T. L., Mt. Auburn, Iowa.—Relief is about the best that can be done for neuralgia. It is not a definite and distinct disease, but a symptom of various disorders of organs and nerves and these must be cured if the neuralgia is to be prevented.

Mrs. J. F. T., Elkton, Va.—Rheumatism is as yet beyond the control of medical science, but there are temporary remedies and if you could go to Hot Springs you might get great relief, as thousands of sufferers have done. We can not say positively that you would be benefited, but we would recommend that you give the Springs a trial, if you can afford to do so.



ALL SEVEN PREMIUMS FREE
Gold plated **Lavalliere** (set with Im. Diamond) and **Neck Chain**, pair Pierceless **Ear Bobs** (set with Im. Diamonds), **Bracelet** (set with 3 Im. Diamonds), **3** Gold plated **Rings** and Solid Sterling Silver **Ring**, set with imported Carbuncle Stone. We give **All Seven** Premiums **Absolutely Free** to anyone who sells only 12 Jewelry Novelties at 10 cents each. We trust you and take back all not sold.
Write for this liberal offer.
J. T. Dale Mfg. Co Providence, R. I.

A TALKING MACHINE FOR YOU—A REAL MACHINE
WHICH REPRODUCES TALKING — SINGING AND DANCE MUSIC PERFECTLY



Strongly and durably made. Will give you pleasure for years. Fully guaranteed. We give machine with record free for selling only 60 packets of "Garden Spot Seeds" for us at 5c per pack. No money required. We trust you. Write for seeds today. When sold, send $3 collected and Talking Machine, complete, is yours. Parcel post prepaid. Supply limited; send now. **LANCASTER COUNTY SEED CO., Box 40, Paradise, Pa.** Catalog 300 presents, free.

RUBY GORDON or, BACK FROM THE GRAVE
By LIBBIE SPRAGUE PHILLIPS
SPECIAL SALE PRICE with a 3 months' subscription to THE ILLUSTRATED COMPANION ONLY 10 CENTS



This book contains about 60,000 words. Printed from good, clear type. About 100,000 copies have already been marketed at 35c. each, but we have decided to offer it for a limited time at 7c. or with a three months' subscription to The Illustrated Companion for 10c. postpaid. The story is one of Mrs. Phillips' masterpieces.

RUBY GORDON, a poor orphan girl, becomes engaged to a young man in the town, who is the adopted son and heir of a wealthy recluse. The old gentleman took a great dislike to Ruby Gordon because she reminded him of his wife who had left him years before and had been lost at sea in crossing the ocean: he felt that she was his wife's spirit reincarnated, and forbade Lawrence, his adopted son to marry her.

OFFER IS MADE to induce new readers to try The Illustrated Companion 3 months. It is one of the best Home papers published. CONTENTS: Stories for Old and Young. Book without Paper, 7 cts.; Book and Paper, 3 mo., 10 cts. Address
F. B. WARNER CO., DEPT C. T. 80 CHAMBERS ST., NEW YORK

Big Lot Of Beautiful Lace Valentines, Cards And Novelties!

All New Designs This Season

A Joyful Valentine Surprise For You

Premium No. 7291

Given To You If You Will Accept Special Offer Below

Large Handsome Lace Valentines, Dainty Novelty Cut Outs, Cupids, Hearts, Folders, Turnover Cards and a Splendid Assortment of Lovely Gold and Color Embossed Valentine Post Cards!

The Largest and Choicest Collection Of Up-to-date High-Grade Valentine Novelties Ever Offered For So Small An Effort!

WE realize that it is hard for most of our readers to secure the latest up-to-date Valentine novelties as generally they are found only in the stores of the large cities. So we have had made up for us **at a great bargain** by one of the big manufacturers a large special assortment of these **latest style** Valentines, Cards and Novelties including a number of **exclusive designs** which cannot be obtained in the stores or anywhere except from us. Best of all we will **give** you the whole collection entirely **free of expense** and as it is so large and contains so many different articles you will be able to sell quite a lot of them to your friends and still have enough left for your own use. Just see what this big assortment contains:

1 Large Lace Monitor Top Two Leaf Valentine Folder in a pretty heart and flower embossed Valentine envelope, 1 large Lace Periscope Heart Canopy Two Leaf Folder in envelope, 1 large Novelty Card Lace Pergola Valentine in envelope. 1 Magic Turnover Valentine, 2 Pretty Heart Folding Valentines, 4 Assorted Valentine Novelty Cut Outs, 2 Juvenile Valentine Hearts, 1 Handsome Embossed Valentine Folder, 1 Embossed Flower, Heart and Cupid Panel Valentine Bookmark, 5 Beautiful Gold And Color Embossed Valentine Post Cards.

February 14 is considered as St. Valentine's Day although Valentines are sent all through the month. It is a beautiful custom that appeals to all both young and old—the exchange of these sentiments of friendship, affection and love, these **tender Cupid dart missives** between husband and wife, sweethearts, near and dear friends and relatives, and of course, the school children like to exchange with their little friends these dainty love tokens beginning on the fourteenth of February, the month when birds are supposed to choose their mates. Most of the schools now have **Valentine Boxes** in which the children drop their Valentines to be distributed later in the day, an hour or more being set apart by the teacher for that purpose. And not only the children but the **older people** as well still are keeping alive the **spirit of youth** by sending on St. Valentine's Day some appropriate token of remembrance to husband, wife, sweetheart or friend.

The befrilled and **lacy** cards with raised **cupids** and crimson **hearts** of which a fine assortment is included in this collection have been used much of late but the prettier and more original style of **full lace Valentines** are returning more in favor each year. We give you several special **exclusive** designs of the most beautiful **lace** Valentines obtainable, also the new **Novelty Cards** which are cut out by a **specially constructed die** of a very unique pattern.

Our illustration gives you a very fair idea as to what you may expect as regards quantity but it falls far short of showing you the size and quality of the different cards, novelties, etc. The large beautiful lace Valentine is actually 6 inches long and nearly 5 inches wide, of the well-known **Monitor top** pattern **of pretty and fine lace work** raised two inches on an **accordion plaited standard** with a **heart and gold decorated base** and a charming illustrated sentiment of verse on the inside.

Two other handsome lace Valentines are also **exclusive designs made expressly for us**—one of them a dainty lace pattern on an embossed card over 6 inches long and nearly 3½ inches wide, over the pretty face of **a young maiden** thus giving the **fine Pergola effect** so popular in the olden days. The other is a pretty **periscope heart-shaped canopy** of elevated **lace paper** on a background on which is shown standing a childish figure and on the inside you find an illustrated verse of proper sentiment. A most pleasing novelty is the **magic Turnover** Valentine which first appears to be an ordinary folder, then presto—a flip of the finger and **it unfolds** and shows a **smiling little girl** sitting on a stile and an **expectant youth** standing at a short distance, all of this being **handsomely printed in colors** with an appropriate verse underneath. This also makes a very handsome mantelpiece ornament as it is quite large and stands without support.

In addition to these very latest Novelty Valentines which we have taken pains to describe so that you will understand something of their **real beauty and attractiveness**, we also include in this remarkable collection **two very pretty embossed heart-shaped folders** with verse inside, **four choice assorted Valentine Novelty Cut Outs** of little children, **two red and gold illustrated and inscribed Valentine Hearts, one beautiful embossed Cupid and Heart Floral Bookmark**, printed in **bright colors** on a **tinted background** and **five handsome Valentine Post Cards embossed** in **gold and many bright colors** showing flowers and children at play each having the proper sentiment expressed by an appropriate verse underneath.

Thousands of our readers are going to send for this fine large Valentine assortment of **the latest and prettiest Valentine Cards and Novelties** and although we have a large supply yet we fear we have not enough to go around so **take no chances of being disappointed but send in your order at once.** You will be simply delighted with what you get and you will say that they are the prettiest, most original Valentine Novelties you ever saw. You may not be able to use all of them yourself but you can easily sell some of them or maybe you had rather give them to some member of your family, or to your friends or keep them until next year.

We will send you this big Valentine collection all packed in a neat tasty envelope **free and postpaid** if you will accept our special offer printed below. **Be sure to send in your order early so as to get it in time for St. Valentine's Day.**

Will Cost You No Money!

Although a Valentine assortment not so good as this has been sold in city retail stores for over one dollar in the past yet by buying a large quantity **at a bargain price** from a leading manufacturer we are able to give them away among our friends and readers on the terms of the following liberal offers:

Offer No. 7291 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this big assortment of beautiful up-to-date Valentines, Valentine Cards and Novelties free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7291 B. For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and ten cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you this Valentine assortment free and postpaid. **Premium No. 7291.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta Maine.

German Silver Mesh Purse



Given For Two Subscriptions!

THIS is the new "Gate Top" mesh purse with a ten-inch wrist chain, made throughout of **German Silver,** handsome, stylish, and **perfectly safe for the carrying of money and other valuables.** A slight pull with the forefinger of each hand instantly opens the purse, a gentle pressure with thumb and finger closes it. Our illustration shows the purse closed. When open the top is as large as the bottom, or in other words, two inches in diameter. When closed it leaves an opening only three-fourths of an inch wide over which the brightly polished German silver cover snaps down tightly so that the contents of the purse cannot possibly become lost. This dainty purse is now extremely fashionable so we have purchased a quantity for the benefit of those of our lady and girl readers who like to be up-to-date in these little accessories. You can have one of them free by taking advantage of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this handsome and stylish German silver mesh purse free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7362.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Tapestry Table Cover



Nearly One Yard Square

Premium No. 6642

Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Two!

THIS beautiful, fringed Tapestry Table Cover is nearly **one yard square** which is a size large enough for any stand or small table and is very elaborately made up in **handsome colors** on an interwoven background which is of a color that **harmonizes** with the fringe which extends entirely around the cover. Add one or more of these beautiful colored covers to the furnishings of any room and it will **enliven and cheer up the whole atmosphere of your home.** They are just as durable as they are handsome and taken altogether are something any woman should be pleased to own and display. We will send you this Table Cover, exactly as described, if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Tapestry Table Cover free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6642.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Barking DOG



PREMIUM NO 7892

For A Club Of Two!

YOU simply press down on top of "doggy's" head and he **opens his mouth and barks right out loud.** And not only does he bark like a real dog but he **looks** like one. With his **alert sparkling eyes, long drooping ears, and upturned inquisitive nose** he is a perfect likeness of a cute little pup. In color he is pure white with brown spots. His body, head and legs are made of practically **indestructible** material covered with soft thick felt; the marvelous mechanism in the throat that produces the bark is so constructed that it will not easily get out of order.

These wonderful barking dogs come from **Japan where they make some of the finest mechanical toys in the world. In spite of the war we managed to import a limited quantity of them and while they last we are going to send them free to COMFORT homes** where there are little boys and girls. Doggy looks so lifelike and his sharp yelping bark sounds so natural we know he will surely delight the children more than anything else you could possibly get for them. We will send you this fine barking dog exactly as illustrated and described free upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer: For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this cute novelty, Barking Dog free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7892.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Children's Happy Hour

Dorothy's Forest Friends

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

ALL the neighbors like Dorothy because she is sweet and kind and not a bit saucy. She loves to help others and particularly an old lady who lives in a lonely little cabin not far from the main road. There is a small strip of woods to go through before reaching the cabin and, when Dorothy is traveling alone, she runs along quickly so the squirrels and chipmunks will not take the good things she is bringing to the poor woman.

Not long ago, while hurrying under the trees with a nice basket of lunch, she tripped on a vine and fell. More stunned than hurt, she lay there for quite a while and, strange to say, fell fast asleep. When she awoke the food had all been eaten by the hungry birds and animals and it was quite dark.

"Mamma, mamma," cried Dorothy, in alarm.

Nearby was a little garden she had planted herself and the flowers growing there tried to comfort her. A pretty chrysanthemum said:

"Tell me your trouble, little girl and perhaps I can help you."

"Dorothy's dress was badly torn and she sobbed out the story of her fall and how she was to go away with her folks and now could not go because her best dress was ruined and she was too poor to get another for many weeks to come.

Now the tall chrysanthemum wanted to help Dorothy but she could not make a dress alone, so she called out: "Flowers, attention; all you who wish to help this good, little girl, nod your heads and say, 'I do.'"

In less than a second, every flower bent low and whispered, "I do."

The tall one gathered her sisters together and made the chrysanthemum dress you see Dorothy wearing in the picture.

The oak leaves and acorns had been watching and listening and now they called out: "Oh, please Miss Chrysanthemum, make us into a dress for Dorothy! We love her, too."

With rare skill, the seamstress wove them into the pretty gown you see in the right-hand corner.

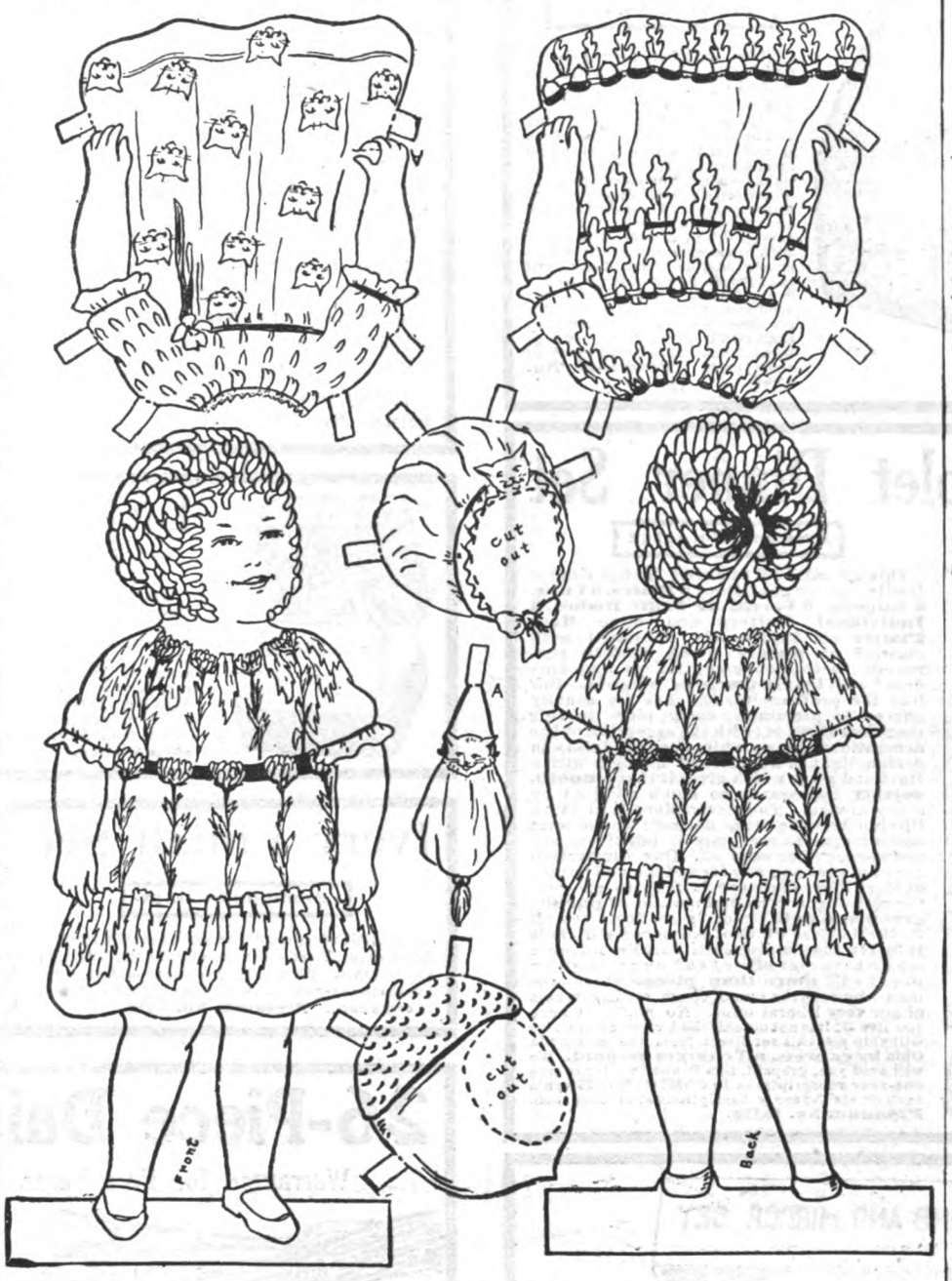
"Meow, meow, I want to help too," wailed a kitten that our little friend had been kind to on several occasions.

All the woods people laughed, but the wise chrysanthemum chided them and said: "No one who wants to be kind shall be disappointed. I will paint kitty's picture many times for the trimmings of a dress and Dorothy can carry her home in a hand bag."

Dorothy thought the pussy dress was the cutest of all but she was sad because it was late and she had to bid Miss Chrysanthemum good by. Really, it would be lonely for the flower, for all her sisters were on the dress and would soon be gone.

For quite a while they stood facing each other, unwilling to part, then suddenly, Miss Chrysanthemum brightened up and said: "I will be your bonnet dear, if I may?"

Reaching up, she fitted her petals prettily about Dorothy's head, and then as the happy child turned to go home, who was standing there, but her own darling mother. In a second our little friend was safe in her mamma's arms telling her of the wonderful clothes provided by her forest friends.



Cut-Out Doll Directions

Paste the entire picture on a piece of cardboard (using boiled flour paste) and smooth, with the hands from the center towards the edges. Put it in a large book to dry and let it remain there at least three hours. Cut out each doll, dress, hat and other articles with scissors and color them with crayons, chalk or water colors. This is a double doll. It has a front and a back. Paste the front and back parts together to form one figure. To put the dresses on, bend back the little flaps. The flap "A" on the pussy handbag fits into a slot "A" on the dotted line near child's hand on the pussy dress. To put the hats on, cut out the central portion, inside the dotted line and hold them to the head by bending back the little flaps. To make the doll stand alone, bend back the base strips near the ends to form corners or angles.

Whiskey's Decreasing Tax on Thrift

Whatever may be the consensus of opinion as to the necessity for and desirability of alcoholic liquors as beverages, no thinking man will deny that drinking is an expensive habit, costly both to the individual and to the State. A dollar can be spent quicker and with less to show for it at the bar than in any other way, and the man who is a "good spender" and keeps pace with the crowd around the social glass must keep a pace that kills.

Of late years the production and consumption of liquors and beer has increased enormously, and from observation one would conclude that everybody drinks a little and most people too much. The resultant evils are widespread and far-reaching, even to the third and fourth generation, for the cost does not end with the waiter's check, but with the bills for police, almshouses, prisons and Potter's fields.

The man who indulges this habit must realize that he is putting a self-imposed tax upon his thrift, as well as a tax upon his energies. Of what avail to work hard and then spend to no useful end? Why work for the man who stands behind the bar? Why spend a day's wages in half an hour and get nothing for it but a thrill? If the State should put the same tax upon his income that he puts upon himself, he would rebel. Then, too, he who spends his money thus must realize that he is simply putting money in the bank for the other fellow. It may take a circuitous route to get there, but eventually it will find lodgment in some bank, where it will work for somebody, perhaps harder than he worked for it. And the easiest way to get it in a bank quick—to the other fellow's account—is to buy the drinks for the crowd.

Cheering news along this line comes from Government reports on the consumption of liquor for recent years. Alcohol is lessening its tax upon thrift. The consumption of liquor in 1913 was 143,220,056 gallons. In 1914 it was 139,138,501 gallons, while in 1915 it was 125,155,178 gallons, *a net decrease of 18 million gallons in* two years. Likewise in the matter of tobacco. In 1915 we burned up six hundred million less cigars than heretofore in a single year, and the Government's tobacco revenues decreased $2,500,000. One hundred and eight distilleries went out of business in 1915 and forty-one breweries ceased to brew. Forty per cent of our Government revenues have been derived from liquor taxes, and in 1915 these revenues fell off over twenty-two million dollars.

Whatever may be the cause for this commendable showing—whether because of the thoughts of war and what it might mean, or whether as a people we are beginning to realize that this is a tax; or whether it is because in many places you can't get a lawful drink, the fact remains that we are drinking less and saving more.

Whether a man figures that drinking is expensive, or harmful, matters little as long as he stops. This conclusion is very apt to fatten his pocketbook somewhat and pad his pay envelope and make him a better citizen. When he concludes that indulgence in any form of extravagance can get him nowhere but downwards, and thrift will surely get him upwards, he has chosen well: for thrift consists not only in doing some things, but refraining from doing others, the chief of which is that habit which takes your all and gives nothing in return but regret, and regrets are costly emotions.

AMERICAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION.

BOYS and GIRLS Shetland PONIES FREE



If you have ever dreamed of having a nice little pony, write for my plan that has made it easy for boys and girls to get ponies. All my ponies are well trained and gentle. If you haven't a pony and want this one send me your name today

Don't send any money. Just your name. On a post card, say: I want you to send me a pony and buggy free, address

UNCLE JERRY, The Pony Man A92 E. 4th St., ST. PAUL, MINN.

ALL FREE



Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone and 22-inch chain, one Nethersole Bracelet to fit any arm and these four gold plated Rings, **ALL GIVEN FREE** for selling only 12 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c each. Write for Jewelry today. Address

Eagle Watch Co.
Dept 65 East Boston, Mass.

FREE TALKING MACHINE AND RECORDS



Reproduces both vocal & instrumental music Clear-toned. Plays *Columbia* or *Victor* Records. Machine & records *Free* for selling 20 pkgs. colored Post Cards at 10c. When sold return $2.00 and machine and records are yours.

KEYSTONE POST CARD CO., Box 164 Greenville, Pa.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S

Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address

UNCLE CHARLIE,
care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Voice Thrower 10 cts



Learn to throw your voice into a TRUNK under the bed, out in the hall or anywhere. Lots of FUN fooling the Teacher, Janitor, Policeman, Parents, Neighbors, or Friends

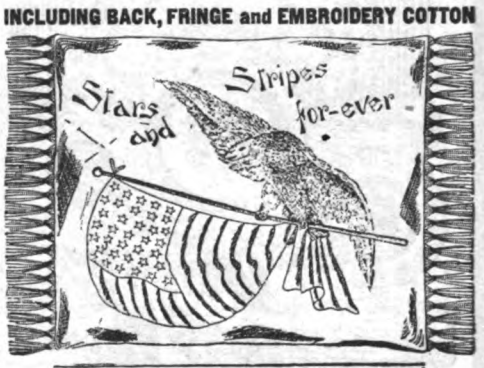
The Ventrilo

is a little instrument that fits into the mouth out of sight. BOYS or Girls can use it. NEVER FAILS! A **32** page book on **Ventriloquism** sent with the **VENTRILO** for **TEN Cents.**

Royal Novelty Co. Dept. 98, SO. NORWALK, CONN

Three Handsome Pillow Tops!

INCLUDING BACK, FRINGE and EMBROIDERY COTTON



Premium No. 7222



Premium No. 7232



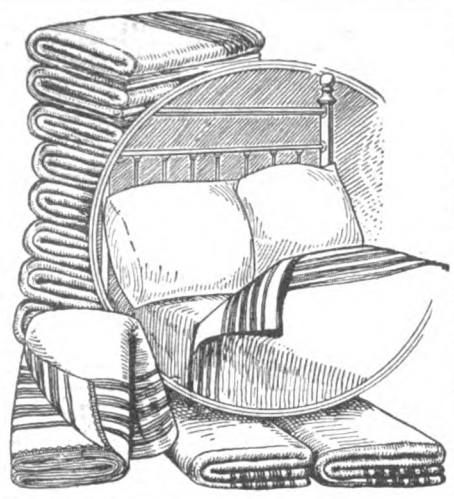
Premium No. 7242

One Given For Two Subscriptions!

YOU CAN have your choice of the American Flag, or the Rose, or the Daisy Pillow Top, or you can have any two of them or all three of them if you desire. Each top is **17x21 inches** in size, made of good quality **art cloth** that will stand lots of wear and the designs are stamped and tinted in **colors** that are correct and true to nature. We include free **the back, three-inch wide fringe** and **embroidery cotton.** No home is complete without lots of pillow tops scattered about living-room and parlor and no matter how many pillow tops you may already have you certainly can find room for three more, especially as these are bright, new attractive designs. You may have your choice of any or all of them by accepting the following

Club Offers. For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you your choice of one pillow top free by Parcel Post prepaid. Or for a club of three one-year subscriptions, we will send you two pillow tops, or for a club of four, three pillow tops. Remember, that with each top we also give you the back, a yard of three-inch fringe and a good supply of embroidery cotton. **When ordering be sure to specify number or numbers of tops wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Pair White Blankets

Premium No. 4276

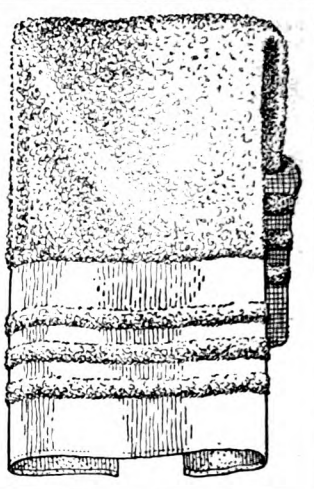
These fine double blankets are 72 inches long and 55 inches wide, extremely well made and finely finished. They are white in color and come with either blue or pink borders. Please notice that they are large enough for any standard size bed being of sufficient length to come up well on the pillow and wide enough so that they may be snugly tucked in at the sides. We will send you, prepaid, one pair of these Blankets for six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each. **Premium No. 4276.**

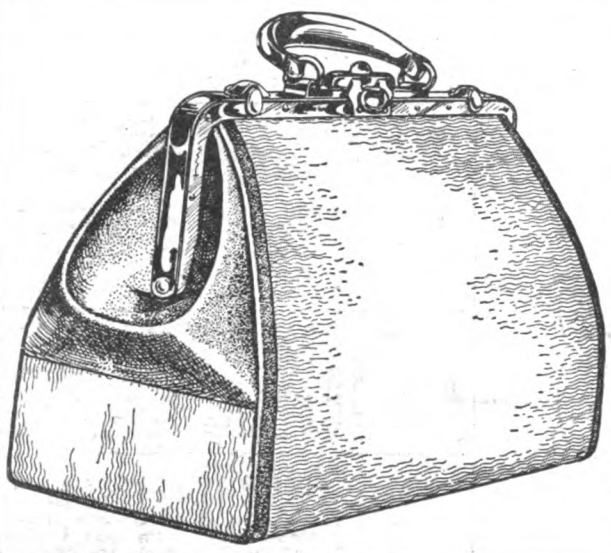
Pair White Bath Towels

Premium No. 7302

Beautiful white heavy towels, will wear for years. This is a bargain never before offered as real Turkish Bath Towels in this white, durable material have been quite expensive and beyond the average purse.

We will send you, prepaid, one pair of these fine Towels for two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents. **Premium No. 7302.**





Light Weight Fiber Grip

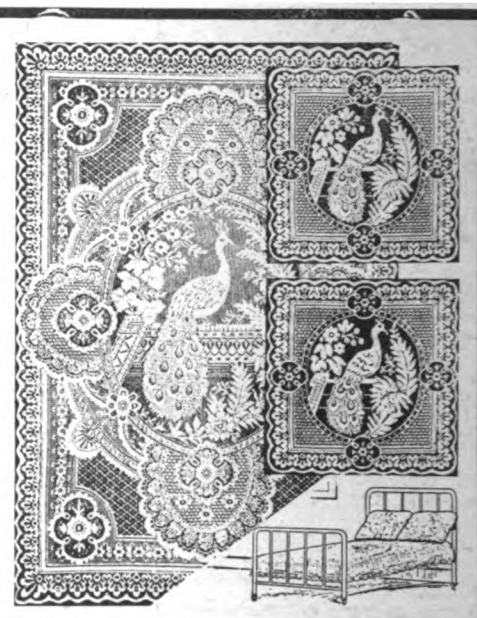
Premium No. 7266

This popular new grip is over 16 inches long, 8 inches wide and stands 12 inches high. This gives room for carrying an entire outfit for the man or woman. The great beauty in this new grip is the strong construction yet extremely light weight. The sides are made of twisted and woven light colored fiber or grass. The ends are dark brown leatherette where the wear comes. The frame is solid metal with brass lock and snaps with a strong handle. Beautifully lined in figured flower design and 4 brass feet to stand on. We will send you, prepaid, this Grip for six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each. **Premium No. 7266.**

Three-Piece Lace Bed Set

Premium No. 5036

The illustration only gives you an idea of the size and general appearance of this wonderful lace-work Bedspread and Shams. You must really see them to appreciate the delicate lace-work design on the border, with the beautiful pattern in conventional design surrounding the medallion in the center, with the peacock standing out in all the grandeur of grace and beauty. Words fail to describe this wonderful lace-work and the same pattern is fully carried out in each sham. We will send you, prepaid, this **full size** Bed Set for six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each. **Premium No. 5036.**



Rich Woods Violet Dinner Set

Premium No. 46112



This splendid set of dishes is full size for family use and consists of **6 Plates, 6 Cups, 6 Saucers, 6 Cereal or Fruit Dishes, 6 Individual Butters** and large **Meat Platter** all handsomely decorated with clusters of **purple wood violets** surrounded with rich green foliage and bordered with **lovely tracings of gold.** Unlike the ordinary dishes that are usually offered as premiums, every piece in this magnificent set is (with the exception of the decorations) snowy white in color, dainty in design, light in weight and finished with a Haviland glaze which gives it that **smooth, velvety** appearance so much admired by every woman. The decorations will last a lifetime because being burned into the ware and underneath the glaze it positively will not wash, rub or wear off. Our illustration does not give you any idea of the real beauty of these dishes because it fails to show up the pleasing color combination of **purple, green and gold** which is so finely set off by the flawless white of the ware itself. This is by far the handsomest, daintiest dinner set we have ever offered and we are positive that it will **more than please** every woman who secures one of them on the terms of our very liberal offer. No matter where you live (if it is not outside the United States), we will ship you this set direct from the pottery in Ohio **by express, all charges prepaid.** We will send you, prepaid, this Dinner Set for twelve one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or six 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each. **Premium No. 46112.**



LADIES' RINGS

Premium No. 7882

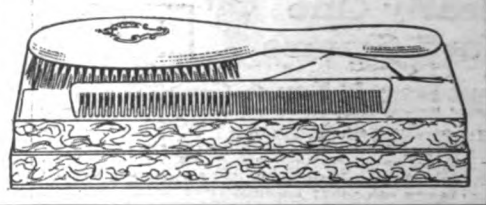
Genuine solid gold shell, guaranteed to wear three years. You may have your choice of opal, emerald or ruby. Each one is set with two brilliant rex diamonds contained in a beautiful ring case. **Be sure to mention size and stone wanted.** We will send you, prepaid, this stylish ring for two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents each. **Premium No. 7882. Please mention size and stone wanted.**



Ivory Finish Set

Premium No. 7313

Beautiful white comb and white brush in elegant fitted case. First class in everything. Stylish and durable. We will send you, prepaid, this Set for three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each. **Premium No. 7313.**



EBONIZED BRUSH, COMB AND MIRROR SET

Premium No. 2605



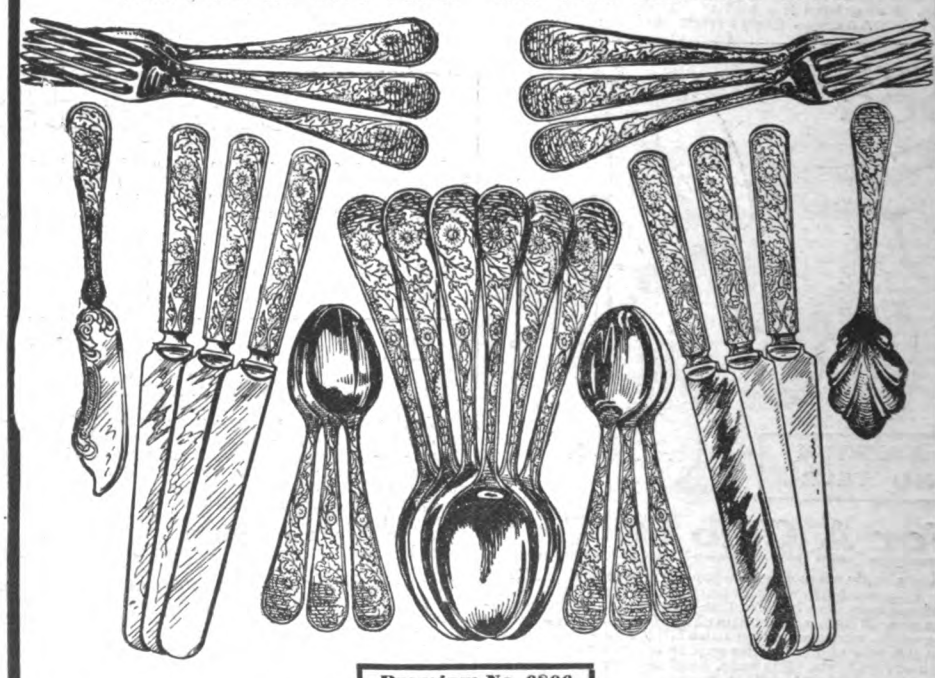
For Five Subscriptions

There does not live a girl whose heart would not fairly jump with joy at the sight of this swell dull black finished set. A man's heart is pleased, realizing well the beauty of work in the brush with its fine white bristles, the excellent fitted bevelled mirror and finely made comb. A woman is still a girl, only grown up, and to think of really owning this set seems in many cases the realization of some fairy's dream.

The brush is nine inches long, 2 1-2 wide, firmly set white bristles, with shield of Silverine. Mirror is eight and one-half inches long, 4 1-2 inches wide on back, with a four-inch clear, finely beveled glass set with rich Ebonyoid frame. Comb is seven inches long, 1 1-2 inches wide, with fine and coarse teeth. We will send you prepaid this Three-Piece Set for five one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each. **Premium No. 2605.**

26-Piece Daisy Silver Set

Warranted for Five Years. Will Wear Like Solid Silver



Premium No. 6806

This Set which we offer you here is silver plated on a white metal base therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will never show signs of tarnish or wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife. Each piece is full regulation size for family use, the handles are handsomely embossed and decorated with the beautiful Daisy design which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and bright polished. We will send you, prepaid, this 26-Piece Set for six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each. **Premium No. 6806.**

Address All Orders For Above Special Premiums To COMFORT, Subscription Dept. B, Augusta, Maine

Comfort's Home Lawyer



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

M. S., New Mexico.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the separate property of the husband is not chargeable with the debts of the wife contracted before marriage.

B. T., Mass.—I think that if your friend procured the one hundred dollars from you for stock of some company which he has been unable to give you, you are entitled to the return of the one hundred-dollar check you paid him and also to the return of the subscription for the stock which you say you signed and gave him.

Mrs. S. F., Ala.—Under the laws of your state, I am of the opinion, that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will and leaving a widow and more than four children, his widow would receive a dower of a third interest for life in his real estate and one fifth of his personal property after payment of debts and administration expenses absolutely, the remainder of the estate going in equal shares to his children, the descendants of any deceased child taking their parent's share, so that upon the death of the man you mention who left eleven children, if the son who died pre-deceased his father and his father left no will, his children would receive his portion of his father's estate, which in other words would mean that each child, if he left three, would be entitled to one third of their father's share, but that if, on the other hand, he survived his father, and neither left a will, his share of his father's property, would be divided under the law as his estate and his widow would come into her share which, of course, would be dower of one third interest for life in his share of the real property and in case there were only three children, she would receive absolutely a child's part in the personal property which in this case would be one quarter of her husband's share from his father's estate. The distribution of this personal property being different under the laws of your state, where the decedent leaves only three children, from what would be the case in the father's estate where he left eleven children. Of course, in case of a will, the property would go according to the terms of the will, if the same were a valid will.

Mrs. A. E. McC., Wash.—Under the laws of your state, I am of the opinion, that all property, both real and personal, owned by the wife before marriage and that acquired afterwards by gift, devise or descent is her separate property and that she can dispose of same without the consent of the husband. I think that in the case you mention, if the property was bought thirty-five years ago and deeded to the father of the wife and afterwards devised to her by her father and that if this took place a long period of years ago, her husband would now have great difficulty in establishing an oral agreement made at the time of purchase with the wife's father, that the husband should have a privilege of repurchasing the property from him, provided, of course, no steps have ever been taken in this long period of years to carry out such agreement. I think it possible that the lawyer who you say advised this husband that he had an interest in this property, was thinking of such community property as this husband and wife may own, and, of course, as to that the husband would be entitled to his community interest in same, but I do not think that this rule would hold as to the separate property as above defined belonging to the wife.

Mrs. N. DeV., Oregon.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a surviving widow and children as his heirs at law and next of kin, his widow would receive dower of a one half interest for life in his real estate, and one half of the personal property absolutely after payment of debts and expenses of administration, the balance going in equal shares to the children; we do not think the minor heirs could give a good deed or convey good title to their share in the estate without the proper court proceeding being had for the purpose of disposing of their property; we think unless there is some other objection, it would be more economical to wait until all the heirs become of age before disposing of the property, provided, of course, you will not have to wait too long.

Mrs. M. C. C., Wisconsin.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that any married woman may receive real or personal property by inheritance, nor by gift, grant, devise or bequest from any person, and to hold to her sole and separate use and convey and devise the same.

A. M. P., Maine.—Under the laws of Massachusetts we are of the opinion that upon the death of a man or woman, leaving no will, and leaving no husband, widow, parent, descendant, brother or sister the estate would go to the issue of brothers and sisters in equal shares if they are all in the same degree of kindred, otherwise by right of representation.

Mrs. M. T. G., Texas.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that legally adopted children have the same rights of inheritance as the other children of their foster parents; that children can be disinherited by will, but that under the community system which prevails in your state neither husband or wife can dispose of more than one half of the community property; we think that upon the death of either the husband or wife one half of the common property goes to the survivor and the remainder to the child or children of the deceased. We think under the laws of your state, upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a widow and children, his property, other than community property, would go one third of the personal property absolutely, and one third of the real estate for life to the widow, and the balance in equal shares to his children.

Mrs. J. L. Y. Missouri.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the time, within which to bring an action in ejectment for real estate, is limited to ten years.

Mrs. J. J., Iowa.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that in the absence of a will, a daughter-in-law would have no interest in the estate of a parent of her deceased husband.

E. N., Nebraska.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that your sister had a legal right to leave her property by will to the institution you mention, provided she possessed testamentary capacity and no undue influence was exercised upon her.

Mrs. A. E. H., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that the signature of the husband is necessary to the conveyance of his interest in the real estate belonging to his wife. We think this would apply to either a mortgage or deed.

E. M., Michigan.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a married man cannot disinherit his wife by will, and that she has the right of election to either take the share allowed her by the terms of the will or to take the share allowed her by statute.

Married Woman, Texas.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that all property acquired by owner's title during marriage becomes the community property of the husband and wife, and during the marriage may be disposed of by the husband without the consent of the wife, and that upon the death of either, without a will, one half of such community property goes to the survivor, and the remainder to the child or children of the deceased. We think that in case of the separation of the husband and wife the court, before which the matter comes, exercises very general jurisdiction over the property and children.

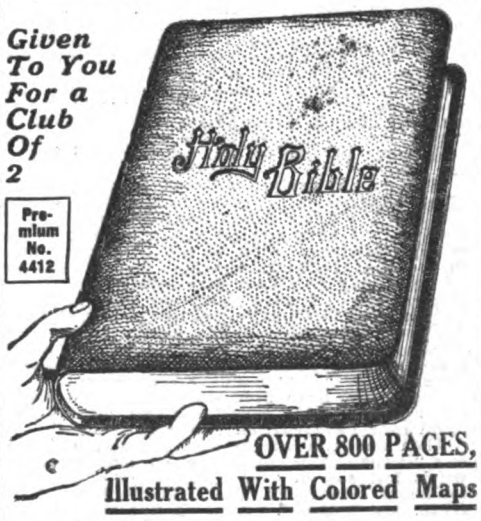
Mrs. M. S., Missouri.—In the absence of a will, we do not think that the divorce of the parents in any way affects the inheritance rights of the children.

Mrs. L. M. B., Colo.—Under the laws of your state I am of the opinion that an exemption is allowed to a debtor who is the head of a family or his wife of sixty per cent of all wages or earnings when such family resides in the state and is depended in whole or in part upon such earnings and all wages are exempt when they do not exceed five dollars per week. I think from your statements, that you should be able to compromise the claim you mention.

L. M., Ala.—You do not supply me with enough infomation for me to form an opinion as to just what would be necessary for you to sell the goods you mentioned. I do not think that you have any legal right to sell a patented article as your own composition, without procuring the right from the person or persons owning the patent. I think also that before selling drug articles, it is necessary to comply with the conditions of the Pure Food and Drug Act of the United States government in regard to labelling same. Of course, if you are simply a distributor of these goods, such law may have been complied with by the manufacturer. I think also that there are many laws restricting the sale of drugs containing some ingredients, and I can form no opinion as to your right to sell the drugs you mentioned without any knowledge as to what such goods are, as you must understand that the sale of poisons and narcotics is much restricted by law.

Mrs. C. A. P., Mont.—Under the laws of your state, I am of the opinion, that if upon the proper showing you can establish that you did not leave or abandon your husband except for good cause, you would be entitled to support from him. I think that the custody of the children in case of the separation of parents, is a question for the court before which such an action might come to decide. I think that a husband can bar by will his wife from all interest in his estate upon his death, except dower of one third interest for life, and that he can disinhert his child by will, if he so elects. I do not think that a husband can be compelled to support his wife living separate or apart from him, unless she leaves him for some good cause. She would, of course, be entitled to support from him if he deserted her without a good cause.

This Handsome Bible



Given To You For a Club Of 2

Premium No. 4412

OVER 800 PAGES, Illustrated With Colored Maps

ALTHOUGH this elegant little Bible is small enough so that it can be carried conveniently in the hand or in the pocket or hand-bag, yet it is **complete and unabridged** containing full books of both the **Old and New Testaments** in the King James Version, and in addition there are several **colored maps** illustrating different interesting portions of **Palestine** and surrounding country. It is 5½ inches long, 3¾ inches wide and one inch thick, beautifully bound in flexible pebbled black leatherette and contains over **eight hundred pages,** with round corners and finished with red edges. The name "Holy Bible" is stamped **in gold** on the front cover. This is an unequalled opportunity for Sunday School workers, teachers, in fact **all Bible students** at home or in church to secure a small yet **complete** Bible without cost and we feel that among COMFORT'S readers there must be thousands who have been waiting for us to make just such an offer as this. Remember that you are not going to receive a small, cheap paper bound or cloth bound book, but a splendidly made Bible, finely printed, handsomely and durably bound, and absolutely refined and perfect in every detail. We will send to any address this fine Bible exactly as illustrated and described upon the terms of the followiug special

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this Bible free by mail postpaid. **Premium 4412. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



New Non-leakable SAFETY FOUNTAIN PEN

Of Solid 14K Gold Finished With An

IRIDIUM POINT

Premium No. 2344

The cut shows the pen in the exact size when opened and ready for use. The larger cap unscrews and when the pen is encased into its smallest compass it measures only four inches in length. By a late patented device it is an utter impossibility for there to be any leaking of ink and it is so constructed as to be carried in any position, either in a pocket of a coat or vest or in a lady's handbag or valise without the misfortune of spoiling valuable contents or garments by daubing them all over with ink.

The ink bottles are fast being discarded. It is so much more handy to use a fountain pen than the old-fashioned penholder and bottle of ink which is either being constantly tipped over and spilled or frozen. Now all women in their homes, teachers and children at school, lawyers, doctors, clerks and persons in all walks of life prefer to have a bottle of ink always on tap in the shape of a good, reliable Fountain Pen. These Pens will always be found in unleakable, workable condition.

While the entire article is the petite size, it holds enough ink to write a lot of letters and does not have to be refilled for a long time. The holder is hand turned and made from the finest rubber and with its wavy lines of embossed engraving makes a beautiful appearance. Heretofore first-class fountain pens have sold for several dollars each, but this pen is made by a very large manufacturing concern who are anxious to introduce every new working principle to COMFORT readers, and have made up a quantity at a remarkably low rate.

If you have been disappointed in previous fountain pens you may have owned or have been thinking of trying this handy way of using pen and ink, don't fail to take advantage of this offer.

Club Offer. For four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send this Safety Pen, including a Glass Filler with rubber bulb, and directions packed in sliding case box, free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 2344.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Tons of Rust

When you see a coat of rust on a tool you can conclude that it has begun to oxidize or go back to the original form in which it was dug from the earth. In a few years a bar of iron will disintegrate and becomes iron ore again. The finest steel implements will do likewise, and because of this fact, we are unable to decide whether or not ancient races were iron producers. If they did leave articles of this material, they would long ago have returned to earth again. A prominent engineer of a leading railway system estimaes the daily loss of his company, by rust alone, as eighteen tons. Wherever possible, metal surfaces are covered with suitable paint, and this is no small item either, the cost of painting one large bridge, being ten thousand dollars a year. On the famous Brooklyn bridge, a corps of painters work every day in the year, for when they reach one end, the other is in need of repainting. It will be a boon to mankind when some patient scientist succeeds in producing a non-rusting iron.

COLLEGE COURSE IN MANNERS.—Students of New York University are to have an opportunity of learning how to behave with propriety at dinners, parties, banquets and pink teas. Professor Arthur H. Nason, of the English Department is in charge of the new course of "Social Etiquette for Men."



THIS SUIT FREE

To Introduce Our Nobby Clothes in Your Town

It's the very finest suit you ever saw. $50 couldn't buy a better one, but you can get it free. It's made to your measure from the most beautiful cloth. Don't fail to get one of these suits. You can earn it while you wear it and make

$50 a Week

by taking orders. Drop us a postal for latest sample outfit, select the style you want and the cloth. Let us prove our amazing offer. We send everything free the same day your request is received. Address

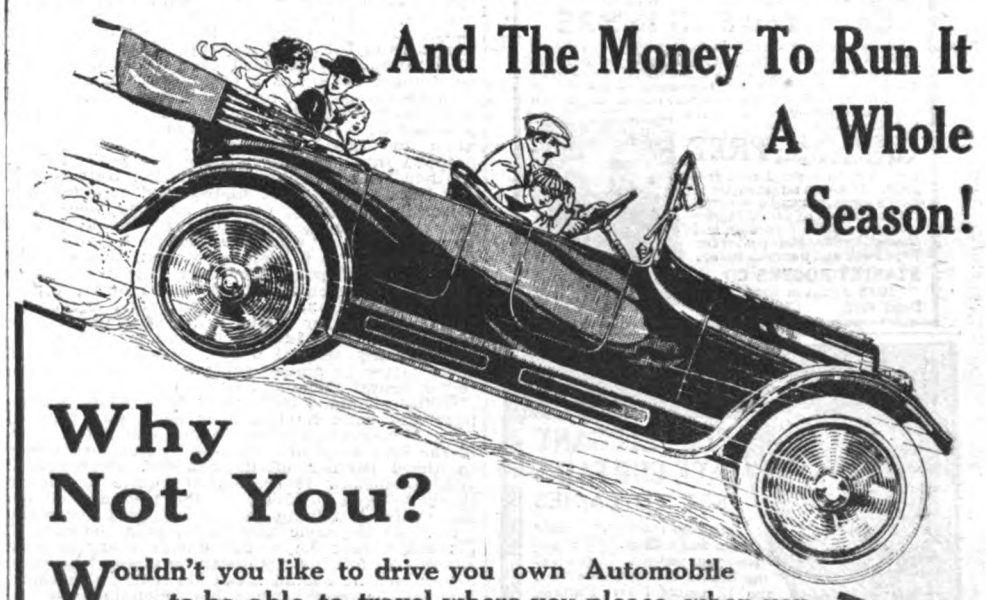
Paragon Tailoring Co. Dept 207 Chicago

THIS  **FREE**

Air gun or this La Vallier given for selling 20 art pictures at 10c each or 8 boxes of our Household Products at 25c each. When sold return our $2.00 and we will send the premium you select. We trust you. Send for your choice of goods to sell. **Pennsy Supply Co., Dept. F, Pittsburgh, Pa., N. S.**

Someone Will Get This Auto Free

And The Money To Run It



A Whole Season!

Why Not You?

Wouldn't you like to drive you own Automobile—to be able to travel where you please, when you please—to ride comfortably, safely with family or friends, across country, to the city, or wherever you want to go?

Then why not enter this **free-for-all contest** and make a try for the splendid 5-Passenger **"Overland"** we are going to give away? This brand new 1917 Overland Touring Car with complete equipment will actually be given **free and freight prepaid** to the one who sends in the largest number of subscriptions to COMFORT up to and including April 30, 1917. **And this is not all!** The man, woman, boy or girl who wins this Car is also **sure** to win enough **money** in Monthly Cash Prizes to **easily** pay the expense of running it **all next summer**—very likely **two** summers.

As explained below the Monthly Cash Prizes are entirely **extra** and **in addition** to the Auto and 61 other Grand Prizes. We are paying them to the contestants who send in the most subscriptions **each month**—up to and including April 1917. And as the Auto and other Grand Prizes will go to those who send in the most subscriptions **during the entire six months** (beginning November 1916) you will readily see why the winner of the Car—**who has already won a large number of the Monthly Cash Prizes**—will also have the money to pay for "gas" and other operating expenses for a long time to come.

Now is the time to make a start if you want a chance at this splendid $635 "Overland" and the other magnificent prizes named below. Remember—the Contest has three months to run yet—and it is **not** too late for you to enter and win if you will start after your first Club **today.**

Hundreds Of Dollars In Cash Prizes Besides The Auto!

The 62 Grand Prizes, a list of which is given below, will be given in their order to the 62 contestants who send in the most subscriptions up to and including April 30, 1917. The **$635 Overland Car** will go to the one who sends in the **largest** number of subscriptions. The **$200** in cash will go to the one who sends in the **second** largest number. The **$150** in cash will go to the one who sends in the **third** largest number, and so on.

The Monthly Grand Prizes ranging from **$180** to **$2.00** are awarded and **paid** each and every month—up to and including April 1917. They are given to the contestants who send in the most subscriptions **during each month.** So you see this gives you the opportunity to win one or more Monthly Cash Prizes—besides one Grand Prize—either the Auto or a Grand Cash Prize. Following is a complete list of the Monthly Cash Prizes and Grand Prizes.

Monthly Cash Prizes!

The November and December Monthly Cash Prizes have been paid. The names of the November prize winners appear in January COMFORT. The names of the December prize winners are published elsewhere in this issue. The January prizes will be paid on or about February 8, and the winners announced in our March issue.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY PRIZES

First Prize	$30 to $120	Next 3 Prizes	$5 to $15	each
Second Prize	20 to 60	Next 4 Prizes	3 to 9	each
Third Prize	10 to 30	Next 8 Prizes	2 to 6	each

MARCH MONTHLY PRIZES

First Prize	$30 to $150	Next 3 Prizes	$5 to $15	each
Second Prize	20 to 60	Next 4 Prizes	3 to 9	each
Third Prize	10 to 30	Next 8 Prizes	2 to 6	each

APRIL MONTHLY PRIZES

First Prize	$30 to $180	Next 3 Prizes	$5 to $15	each
Second Prize	20 to 60	Next 4 Prizes	3 to 9	each
Third Prize	10 to 30	Next 8 Prizes	2 to 6	each

List of Grand Prizes!

First Grand Prize, $635 Five-Passenger Overland Touring Car.
Second Grand Prize, $200 Cash.
Third Grand Prize, $150 Cash.
Fourth Grand Prize, $100 Cash.
Fifth Grand Prize, $75 Cash.
Sixth Grand Prize, $50 Cash.
Seventh Grand Prize, $25 Cash.
Next Ten Grand Prizes, each $15 Cash.
Next Fifteen Grand Prizes, each $10 Cash.
Next Thirty Grand Prizes, each $5 Cash.

In case of a tie for any prize (a Monthly Cash Prize or a Grand Prize) a prize exactly like the one tied for will be given to each tying contestant.

You Get Your Premiums Sure!

This is not a contest in which a few contestants win all the prizes and the others receive nothing in return for their efforts. Every club will entitle you to a fine premium which you may select from our regular Premium List or any issue of COMFORT. And we will place the very same club to your credit on the Monthly Cash Prizes and the Auto and other Grand Prizes. If you do not care for premiums, we will pay you a liberal cash commission. If you choose premiums they will be sent to you promptly upon receipt of every club you send in. If you prefer the cash commission you may deduct and retain 40 per cent of the subscription money and remit the balance when you send in your club. In this way you are absolutely sure of being rewarded for your work and in addition YOU may win one or more of the Monthly Cash Prizes and become the proud owner of the fine $635 Five-Passenger Overland Touring Car April 30, 1917.

Start Now With a Small Club!

Don't wait and let others get ahead of you but hustle around for your first club and send it in as soon as possible, returning the coupon printed below. **Remember you have everything to gain and nothing to lose.** You are **sure** of your premiums anyway—or your cash commission if you prefer—and even a small club **will start a prize your way.** Start a club today. Get all your friends and acquaintances and everybody you see to subscribe or renew their subscription to COMFORT. They will be glad to help you out. Just as soon as we hear from you we will mail you free and prepaid **full information** regarding the contest, rules and conditions, etc., and everything else you need to help you make a successful start. Mail us the special contest blank with your first club right away and let us enter your name in this Grand Contest for the $635 Overland Car and other Prizes.

To COMFORT'S Prize Contest, Augusta, Maine

Date *1917*

Please enter my name in the Contest. I send herewith $ ..... and ..... subscriptions to be placed to my credit on the Automobile and other prizes.

Send me Premium No. ..... My Name is .....

Street and No. ..... R. F. D. No. ..... Box No. .....

Post Office ..... State .....

☞ Write your subscribers' names and addresses on a separate sheet of paper and pin this coupon to it

6 Months To Pay 6

Tailor-Made-To Order



This is the most sensational Tailor-Made-to-Order Suit Offer ever made. You can now have any suit you want—cut and fit in the very latest style—from your own choice of the season's latest patterns—and take **six months to pay** for it, if, after trying it on, you desire to keep it. Furthermore, we will make you any suit you may want on receipt of

Only $1.00

Write name and address on postal for free book which explains full particulars of this offer. No matter what price, style or pattern suit you want we will make it to your order and send it to you on receipt of **Only $1.00.** After suit arrives and you are convinced that it is the biggest bargain you ever saw or heard of, pay the balance of our rock-bottom price on the easiest, most liberal credit terms ever devised. We also

Save You $15 to $25

We buy all our materials in enormous quantities, **direct from the mills**, at rock-bottom prices. We do our own designing, cutting and tailoring. And by making every suit in our mammoth establishment and **selling direct** to the man who **wears** the clothes we eliminate all waste and save you the dealer's profits.

Big Style Book And Cloth Samples FREE

Send for this wonderful free book. It shows latest styles in men's garments and a wonderful assortment of actual fabrics—the very pick of foreign and domestic mills. Mail postal for Free Book and Samples today.



STANLEY-ROGERS CO.,
1015 Jackson Blvd.,
Dept. 522 Chicago, Ill.

SIX ELEGANT LACE CURTAINS FREE TO LADIES

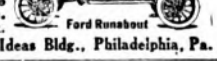
Send no money. Simply name and address. We will send you, postpaid, 12 boxes of our famous **White Cloverine**, also 12 beautiful Art Pictures, 16x20 in. Sell the **Cloverine** at 25c. each and give one beautiful picture free with each box. Return us $3 collected and we will immediately send you six (three pair) beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains nearly three yards long. You will be proud of them. Everyone buys after you show pictures—stores usually charge $1 each for them. A doctor discovered "Cloverine." Millions using it for Cuts, Eczema, Piles, Colds, Catarrh. Write today.

The Wilson Chemical Co.
Curtain Dept. No. 705, TYRONE, PA

You May Win This Gift

13	25			
1	21	20	15	

Each square here represents a letter—but figures are used instead of letters. There are 26 letters in the alphabet. Letter A is 1, B is 2, C is 3, etc. The six squares make six letters and spell two words which will interest you **mightily.** If you can make out the words send them with a 2c stamp to cover postage—agree to show my offer and mdse. to your friends and I will send you a **gift package** that will **surely please you.** Send 2-cent stamp quick.


Ford Runabout

THE GIFT MAN, 518 New Ideas Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.



BIRTH STONE RINGS FREE 14K Gold filled, guaranteed to give satisfaction, with stone for any month, to introduce our catalogue. Send 12c to cover cost of advertising and mailing. Send size. **EagleJeweiry Co.,** Dept. 51, **East Boston, Mass.**

A BEAUtiful neck, face and arms **Don't pay 50c. but send 10c. for sealed package which transforms instantly. Look your best in spite of moles, sallowness, blotches, freckles, wrinkles, blackheads, etc. If you want to be charming and attractive order at once. Warranted absolutely harmless.** TOILET COMPOUND CO. Dept. A, Box 1927, Boston, Mass.



Six Rogers' Silver Teaspoons

Warranted to Wear Ten Years

Premium No. 3864



Guaranteed each and every one to be Strictly Pure **A 1 Brand** made by the famous **Wm. Rogers and every teaspoon is so stamped on back.**

This silverware comes in the popular **Grape or Vintage Pattern,** which is the very latest and prettiest design in Silverware. The picture hardly show you the great beauty of the dainty, bright, clean clusters of **Ripe Grapes** or the finely executed leaves growing on the delicate vine seen on the front and back of every spoon. Rogers' Silverware has a world-wide reputation. We can hardly add more. These **A 1 Rogers'** teaspoons are guaranteed to be **full standard extra plate** upon the finest quality of **18% nickel silver base,** and with ordinary care will last **ten years.** Some families **are using Rogers' ware twice this time.**

Everybody loves new, bright silverware. Nobody ever had too much, especially of **Wm. A. Rogers'** manufacture, as the expense was always and is now, too high but COMFORT'S plan makes it possible for every woman to own these **six Rogers' teaspoons free.**

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you a set of Six Teaspoons exactly as illustrated and described above free by parcel post prepaid. **PREMIUM NO. 3864.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

When Thomas Haines Understood

By Ellen Gray

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

RACHEL HAINES was dead. Her husband, looking down at her as she lay in placid repose in her coffin, could scarcely realize that she was more than sleeping—her posture was so like that she had always assumed while taking her Sunday afternoon nap on the parlor couch. She had been an orderly woman, doing her housework in a quiet, capable manner, and even taking her rest so.

"She had no thought beyond her family and her work," her husband mused, as he stood stroking his beard and scanning her features for the last time.

Village custom decreed that the bereaved husband or wife should spend a half hour or so alone with the dead before the funeral, and Thomas Haines, with a mental shrug, had complied with the custom. Already he felt bored. At her best, he had never considered Rachel brilliant company, and alone with her now he felt a sort of vague pity for her—a pity for her dullness and her humdrum life.

"She was too good to ever have much fun," he thought. "It's funny how this world seems to be made for the jolly, care-free sort. Now, there's Joan Hammond——" With a bound of relief his mind leaped from the contemplation of Rachel Haines' colorless past to the brilliant present and future of sprightly Joan Hammond. She it was who presided over the village millinery store. Joan was a large, fresh-faced, crinkly haired woman of forty or thereabouts, with a jolly laugh, and blue eyes that could sparkle joyously at a well-put gibe and flash ominously at a too broad compliment. Since she had dropped into the village some five years before, she had been an enigma to Thomas Haines with her hearty laugh and undisguised fondness for masculine company, coupled as they were with her unimpeachable reputation for modesty and virtue. That a woman could be a jolly companion and also a virtuous woman was a great surprise to Thomas, who had known only two classes of women in his life—the quiet, vague, drab-lived matrons like his wife and a remarkably large number of the ladies of shady reputation, whose acquaintance he had made notwithstanding his marital bonds. As he thought of these latter he almost squirmed, then gave himself a mental shake as he thought:

"Why should I bother my head about what's past and gone Rachel, poor soul, was far too slow to ever learn of any of my escapades. Now, if she had been like Joan——" But he refused to think further of independent, clear-sighted Joan. Somehow it seemed not quite decent to think so well of Joan in the presence of his dead wife—a tribute he had not paid her while alive. At the same time he knew in the back of his mind that he would devise every scheme possible to foil his well-meaning nieces who were determined he should make his home with them. Instead, he would move his belongings to the inn where Joan also resided, and so be near her at least three times a day. Not that he ha any serious idea of marrying Joan. He must investigate her character more thoroughly before deciding about that, for this little, grizzly-faced roue, with his back bent from carrying his carpenter's tools, was most particular about the antecedents of the woman who should take his name. Still, the task of investigation promised to be a pleasing one, and the coming years spread themselves out in delightful perspective before his inner vision.

The creaking of the door brought him out of his day-dream, and there came into the room a wrinkled sour-visaged, little old woman, a cousin of Rachel's, who advanced toward him with something white in her outstretched hand.

"She left it fur you," she said, and started out.

"Who?" asked Thomas, with dazed thoughts still running on Joan.

"Her," laconically replied the old woman, pointing to the silent form in the casket. Then she closed the door, leaving Thomas with a sealed letter in his hand.

"Some little love token, I suppose," he thought, as he broke the seal. "She used always to be putting little notes into my pocket when we were first married, and she even sent me valentines and funny little verses through the mail. She was such a chirky little girl when I married her, it's a pity she should have allowed herself to change so."

He moved nearer the light, for her writing was uneven and dim.

"Dear Thomas," he read. "I have had some things to say to you for several years, but thought you'd be more forgiving if you didn't hear them until after I was dead."

"Forgiving," ejaculated Thomas Haines, as he grasped the sheet more closely. "What on earth should I forgive her for? Some little fancied wrong she had done, I suppose."

"I never meant to do you any harm," the letter went on. "That is, I never meant people to know I cared for him, and especially when he was one of your friends. Of course, I knew it was wrong to love another man——"

"God," cried Thomas Haines.

"But he was kind and good to me, and sort of made up for the things I missed in you. We were very careful about showing our love for each other——"

"Oh, you unspeakable thing," breathed Thomas.

—"and I don't think more than half-a-dozen people in town know of it, and they are all such good friends I don't think they'll ever tell. I guess I can't hardly ask you to forgive me, but I wanted you to know what I have been doing. I had intended telling you the man's name, but I think I'd better not, for he is one of your friends, and you might do something rash."

"'Something rash,' I guess I would do something rash," raged Thomas. "I'd have killed him like the dog that he is, and her along with him. Oh, God, don't let me look at her, or I'll be tempted to curse the dead."

For minutes—it seemed hours to him—the little man raged and fumed. He was like a maniac, and yet with it all he remembered not to make any demonstration that would call in the neighbors and relatives in the adjoining room. He now felt that they knew his shame—had known it, perhaps, for years, and all of the time he had supposed them to be pitying Rachel for having so gay a spouse, instead they had been secretly pitying him for his wife's amours with one of his friends.

"God in Heaven, why are such women allowed to cumber the earth?" he wondered. He hated every woman that had ever lived. He tried to recall the looks and tones of his acquaintances when they had spoken to Rachel in the past, but his brain seemed too numb to perform the task. He had sometimes worried for fear she might be hurt by some stray gossip regarding himself, when he should have been investigating her own behavior.

She had said one of his friends was the man. Which one could it be? He would be suspicious of all until he had ferreted out the culprit. He would not dare make any inquiries of any of them, for he might be speaking to the traitor himself. But surely, in some way, God—a God whose especial duty it was to reveal the way of revenge to a righteously angry husband—would point out the guilty man. And then, so he swore with a mighty oath, there should be an accounting. No man could drag his name through the mire unpunished. He cared not what punishment he might receive for his deed. To be in prison would be a relief. Then none of the villagers could see him and gloat over his misfortune. He dreaded their eyes more than anything else. He wished he might stay in this room forever. He felt that outside there were eyes, eyes everywhere—some mocking, some inquisitive, and some sympathetic. For some unexplainable reason, he dreaded the sympathetic ones more than any other.

He shrank as he heard each tiny noise in the outer room. Merciful Heavens! to think that he, who had gone his way so care-free all these years should have been forced to bear this agony. He crouched in his corner, a desperate, frenzied man.

Quietly the door began to open. Thomas pressed a shaking hand to his mouth to hold back the shriek of outraged nerves that threatened to break forth. Then he saw that it was the old cousin again. With all of the strength of his will he forced himself to remain in his chair instead of flying at her throat. "The old she-devil," he muttered in his beard. "She's come to gloat over me, I warrant she knew every thing. If I find she helped them in their sin, so help me, she'll pay for it."

The old woman shuffled a step or two from the threshold, peering into the gloom with her bleared old eyes. Then she spoke.

"Here's another letter fur you," she said, and laid it on a convenient chair. "Dinner'll be ready in a half hour," she added as she closed the door.

Food, ugh, the thought was deadly repulsive to him. He could never eat in the presence of those peering, inquisitive eyes. In fact, he could think of no place in the village where he might enjoy himself again. There was the Red Men's lodge, one of whose offices he held—he could never preside there again. There was the fishing club composed of old cronies who spent many happy summer days on the banks of neighboring streams. He would never join them again. And all because he had married a woman who was unworthy.

Now he thought of the second letter. Who could it be from? Some relative sending condolences, he supposed. He forced himself to pick it up. Then almost dropped it when he saw it was also addressed in his wife's handwriting with a large figure 2 underneath his name. He wished to tear it into a thousand pieces but restrained himself when he realized that perhaps herein lay the key to the mystery. With palsied hands he tore off the envelope and opened the letter.

Without any preface it bounded into the midst of his trouble: "I am going to tell Anne to give you the first letter a half hour before this one," he read. "I have marked this one No. 2 so she couldn't mistake. First of all, Thomas, I want to say that I lied in the first one. It was the first and only lie I have ever told you in all our married life. I have never, so help me, God, wronged you in thought, word or action since we have been married——" The sheets slipped from Thomas' cold fingers. His brain refused to understand this positive denial of her positive statement of a few minutes previous.

"She must have been demented," was all he could think. "No woman in her right senses could ever have written two such letters."

Then he gathered the sheets again, and read on: "Perhaps you can't believe me at first," his wife's letter said. "For I suppose my first letter about crazed you. But I am telling you the truth, my husband. And when I tell you my purpose for giving you this terrible hurt, maybe you will be angrier than ever. Yet I hardly think so, Thomas. I only wanted to give you a *taste* of what I've been enduring for twenty years. Don't, don't get angry now until I tell you why I have done this. My motive is not revenge, believe me. Perhaps you thought I never knew when you were untrue to me. I hope you thought me too dull to understand, but, oh, my God, I understood all too well. I knew every time you were unfaithful. I knew each one of your loves. And, oh, I knew that people *knew*. Their silly sympathetic looks stabbed me to the heart. Why, why couldn't you see this, Thomas? Haven't you seen me gradually drop out of church work and all such things I have always loved so well? And didn't you ever notice how, between your attachments for these women, I always brightened up? I even started into some of my old church work a time or two, but I always dropped out, for in a few months their looks would be pitying me again. Pity is a hard thing to bear."

"I know, I know," murmured Thomas Haines.

"I suppose you wonder why I didn't tell you some of this while alive, and urge you to give it all up. Oh, my man, don't you know it would have been useless? Can't you see how furious you would have been, and how you would have pursued the same course as usual, a little more secretly, perhaps, but still the same course? When I am gone you will forgive me so much more than while I am with you. That is why I dared write that first lying letter. I wanted you to suffer only one half hour. That isn't too long a time when you think of my days and months, is it, dear? And although I am human enough to really wish you to suffer that half hour, yet it wasn't for that alone I wrote the lie. It is hard for me to tell you my reason for doing all this. I have never preached during all our life together, have I, dear? And I don't know how to begin now that I am going to leave you.

"But it is something like this: I do want you to be with me wherever I may be—not that I'm sure of going to Heaven, for I've had so many bitter thoughts in the past few years I can't feel sure of anything. But somehow I have a feeling that if you loved me the last years of your life and remained true to me as I have done to you all my life, that surely God would let us be together during the years to come, and that would be Heaven to me, even if it chanced to be in the deepest depths of hell.

"You remember, dear, when we were young, how every one used to laugh when I'd slip the cake or candy in my pocket at a party, to bring home to share with you? It tasted so much better than way. And do you remember, Thomas, how I'd burden you with my troubles, too? If any one had hurt my feelings, or I'd made a mistake in my sewing, or if the jelly had boiled over on my clean floor, I'd run to meet you in the evening, and pour out my troubles to you and then forget them immediately? It seems I always wanted to share good and bad with you as long as I felt you cared for me, and oh, how I want to share the future with you. Heaven can't be Heaven without you, and I can't be terrified at the thought of the other place if only you were with me and loving me. I'm sadly afraid I have not made myself plain to you, dear man, for it's hard to express myself after such a long silence.

"But, perhaps, you'll understand. I pray God you may. Your wife, RACHEL."

At the funeral the villagers were amazed at the change in Thomas Haines. They had expected him to be decently sorrowful, but this grim-faced, hollow-eyed man rather awed them.

"He'll be himself again," commented Jack Barnes, with all of a bachelor's cynicism. "He'll be all right as soon as he gets into line again. He's just trying to realize that he's actually free now."

But in the carriage behind the hearse, Thomas Haines was quietly saying to Amanda, the ultra-respectable niece of his wife: "If you don't mind, Amanda, after everything is over, I believe I'll come to your house to board."

"Why, Uncle Thomas," gasped the startled Amanda. "Of course, you are welcome. Aunt Rachel always wanted me to take care of you after she was gone, but I was afraid I'd have trouble persuading you to do as she wished."

"You might have had at one time," replied Thomas, "but not now. For now I understand."

6 Wheel Chairs in January

388 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

The six January wheel chairs go to the following applicants. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

H. R. Smith, Yuma, Colo., 210; Millie Catherine Barnes, Columbia, N. C., 140; Mrs. Naomi Moad, Carpenter, Okla., 132; Vernie May Williams, Fairview, Okla., 104; Ben Brown, Grapeland, Texas, 101; Mrs. Thomas B. Christian, Grady, N. M., 100.

H. R. Smith, age 39, is crippled in his lower limbs as a result of the stroke of paralysis suffered four years ago.

Little Millie Barnes, age 6, has been afflicted all her life with spinal trouble, so that she has never been able to stand or walk and has to be cared for like an infant, which severely taxes her mother's strength. Mrs. Barnes writes that she is very desirous of the wheel chair as she expects it will be a great help to her caring for her unfortunate child.

Mrs. Moad, age 53, has obtained nearly all the subscriptions for her chair herself and deserves to be rewarded for her persistent efforts.

Vernie May Williams, age 8, is crippled in her lower limbs by rickets from which she has suffered ever since she was seven months old.

Ben Brown, age 35, is crippled by rheumatism. His legs are drawn up in a sitting position and his arm joints so stiffened that he cannot feed himself. His wife supports the family.

Mrs. Christian, age 28, is crippled by what the doctors call inward goitre which caused her muscles to shrivel until she has so little strength that she is almost helpless. The poor woman is dependent on her husband to lift and carry her about. He is very kind and attentive but, as they can't afford to hire help, she has a hard time when he is at work as he has to be to earn a living. She writes that she will be very glad when she gets the wheel chair which she needs so much.

Now, good friends, open your hearts and do your best to help the other poor shut-ins on our list who are suffering for a wheel chair and are bravely struggling to earn one.

For a cripple to suffer for a wheel chair is a disgrace to the community in which he lives because COMFORT'S Wheel-Chair Club offers the means of obtaining wheel chairs free of expense.

Our Roll of Honor and the touching letters of thanks below will interest you.

Sincerely yours,

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Subscription price is 25 cents, but if sent in clubs of five or more for the Wheel-Chair Club, I accept them at 20 cents each.

COMFORT'S Wheel Chair a Great Help to Mother in Caring for Her Crippled Boy.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I received the wheel chair a few days ago and my son was very much pleased with it. It is a great help to me as he can lie and sit in it and I can easily take him from room to room, and it will be so much help when he is sick. His little six-year-old brother, William Jennings Bryan, who helps take care of him, is highly pleased with the chair and says he loves it. He wheels Jesse about and plays with him. I appreciate the chair so much that I shall get more subscriptions whenever I can so to help other shut-ins to get the chairs they are trying for. With a thankful heart, I remain, Yours truly,

MRS. R. W. BRYAN.

A Much Better Chair than She Expected

LOUISVILLE, MISS.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

The wheel chair came in good condition and I am much pleased with it. It is a much better chair than I had expected it to be. I am still working getting subscriptions so to help others who need wheel chairs. May your good work go on.

Yours truly, MRS. H. J. BALL.

Much Pleased with the COMFORT Wheel Chair

GALVESTON, TEXAS.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

The wheel chair for Fidel was duly received. We are all very pleased with it and thank you ever so much for it. Any time I have a chance I shall get you some subscriptions. Enclosed you will find two with 50 cents to pay for them. Again I thank you for the beautiful chair.

Respectfully yours, ANTONIA HERNANDEZ.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

H. R. Smith, Colo., for own wheel chair, 127; Lula M. Williams, Okla., for Vernie May Williams, 104; Mrs. F. N. LaChapelle, Conn., for Wilhelmina Moore, 100; Mrs. Mary Brown, Texas, for Ben Brown, 100; Mrs. J. S. Hancock, Ga., for Tavie Culpepper, 79; Mrs. Naomi Moad, Okla., for own wheel chair, 51; Mr. Willie W. West, Va., for Catherine Barnes, 30; Mrs. C. I. Brown, Iowa, for Catherine Barnes, 21; Mrs. Frank Andrews, Kans., for Mark Clark, 20; Mrs. E. O. Strong, Nebr., for Nada Pearl Strong, 20; Mrs. J. W. Sifford, Mo., for Willie Sifford, 17; Mrs. A. W. Barnes, N. C., for Catherine Barnes, 15; Mrs. C. P. Howard, Ark., for Jerome Morris, 13; Mrs. Chas. Johnson, La., for Mrs. Lucinda Sissons, 13; M. A. Williams, Ark., for Callie Williams, 12; Mrs. Laura Mansfield, Miss., for Mabel Foster, 12; Mrs. Ida Goode, Okla., for Mrs. T. B. Christian, 11; Miss Mae Floyd, S. C., for Ada Pigate, 11; Mrs. S. A. Strong, Oregon, for Nada Pearl Strong, 11; Mrs. S. W. Walker, N. C., for Herbert Walker, 11; Edward H. Obert, N. J., for Mrs. Phillis Garrison, 11; Mrs. J. S. Doyle, S. Dak., for Mark Clark, 10; J. R. Henderson, Fla., for Catherine Fraisure, 10; Mrs. T. A. Hancock, Va., for Thomas Hancock, 10; Charles C. Morgan, S. C. Morgan, S. Dak., for Mark Clark, 10; Miss Alice O'Dell, Ark., for Callie Williams, 10; Carrie Titler, Iowa, for General, 10; Mrs. Maud Waggoner, Ind., for Preston Morgan, 10; Mrs. C. G. Andrews, Me., for Edith M. Cole, 9; Mrs. Thos. M. Blount, Mo., for Mrs. Malinda Gillem, 9; Leithor D. Darter, Tex., for own wheel chair, 8; Mrs. Martin Coleman, Del., for own wheel chair, 8; Mrs. Freda Krapff, Pa., for General, 8; Mrs. J. H. Voltas, Wash., for Walter Nickum, 7; Mrs. Lydia Pigate, S. C., for Miss Ada Pigate, 7; Mrs. Lonie Scarbrough, Ky., for Mollie Graham, 6; Kate Harris, Ga., for own wheel chair, 6; Mrs. Pearl Ivey, Ga., for Miss Ann Allen, 6; Mrs. Annie M. Strang, Mich., for General, 5; Selma Molander, Colo., for Mrs. B. Leland, 5; Mrs. W. R. Ledford, Ga., for Miss Ann Allen, 5; Mrs. J. W. Dikeman, Colo., for Preston Morgan, 5; Mrs. Otto Kinsel, Ill., for General, 5; Mrs. Ida Dolen, Nebr., for Mark Clark, 5; Mrs. Elsie Comfort, Pa., for General, 5; Miss Dell Bigler, N. Y., for General, 5; Mollie Andrews, Okla., for Ruel Hibbard, 5; Mrs. Nina Beach, N. Mex., for own wheel chair, 5; Mrs. E. C. Roark, Okla., for General, 5; Eugene Mize, N. C., for John Calvin Shook, 5; Miss C. V. Tegner, Colo., for H. R. Smith, 5; Mrs. Fannie Land, Nebr., for Leithor D. Darter, 5; Mrs. Jas. A. Graham, N. Dak., for General, 5; Mrs. Emily Ehret, Pa., for General, 5; Lillie Smith, Ariz., for General, 5.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents—Here's The Best Line of food flavors, perfumes, soaps, toilet preparations, etc. ever offered. Complete outfits furnished free to workers. Write today for full particulars. American Products Co., 9315 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 586 Broadway, New York City.

Agents—Pair Silk Hose Free. State size & color. Beautiful line direct from mill. Good profits. Agents wanted. Write today. Triplewear Mills, Dept. G, 720 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free William Ragsdale, East Orange, N.J.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 131 Locust, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents; Enormous Profits. Over 90 Fast Selling Household Necessities. Big Repeaters. Outfit Free. Permanent Business. All or Spare Time. Write Quick. Duo Factories, Dept. E. 40, North Java, N. Y.

Agents—Steady Income. Large manufacturer of Handkerchiefs and Dress Goods, etc., wishes representative in each locality. Factory to consumer. Big profits, honest goods. Credit given. Send for particulars. Freeport Mfg. Co., 60 Main St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Every Home on Farm, In Small Town or suburb needs and will buy the wonderful Aladdin kerosene (coal-oil) mantle lamp; five times as bright as electric; tested and recommended by Government and 34 leading universities; awarded gold medal; one farmer cleared over $500 in 6 weeks; hundreds with rigs or autos earning $100 to $300 per month; no capital required; we furnish goods to reliable men; write quick for distributor's proposition, and lamp for free trial. Mantle Lamp Co., 610 Aladdin Bldg., Chicago.

Agents: Cooper made $314 last month, $91 last week selling "Kantleak" Raincoats. New proposition. We deliver and collect. Sample coat Free. Comer Mfg. Co., 15 Opal St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents To Travel By Automobile to introduce our 250 fast selling, popular priced household necessities. The greatest line on earth. Make $10 a day. Complete outfit and automobile furnished free to workers. Write today for exclusive territory. E. M. Feltman, Sales Mgr., 9815 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents $80 a week to travel by Automobile and introduce our 300 candle power coal-oil lantern. Write for particulars of our free auto offer. Thomas Co., 619 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

We Pay $36 A Week and Expenses To men with rigs to introduce poultry compound. Year's contract. Imperial Mfg. Co., Dept. 9, Parsons, Kans.

Agents! Quick Sales! Big Profits! Outfit Free! Cash or credit. Sales in every home for our beautiful Dress Goods, Hosiery, Underwear, etc. Write today. National Importing & Mfg. Co., Dept. DB, 425 Broadway, New York.

Women Make Money introducing Priscilla Fabrics, Hosiery, Underwear, Dresses, in spare time. Beautiful samples furnished free. Fitzcharles Co., Dept. 156, Trenton, N. J.

Agents: Get An Easy Seller. Sanitary All Metal Bread and Pastry Board and Rolling Pin is making big hit. Make $25 to $40 every week. Smith, Ohio, sold 38 one day. Profit $19.00. Sells at sight. No talking necessary. Free Sample to Agents. Write quick for appointment and territory. Union Mfg. Co., 182 Main St., Cambridge, O.

Earn $50 to $100 monthly distributing Parker Hosiery to regular repeat customers in your home town at mill prices. All or spare time. Protected territory. Credit given. G. Parker Mills, 2733 No. 12th St., Phila., Pa.

Man To Wear Fine Suit, act as agent. Big pay, easy work. Banner Tailoring Co., Dept. 489, Chicago.

$1000 Per Man Per County—Strange invention startles world—Agents amazed. Ten inexperienced men divide $40,000. Korstad, a farmer, did $2,200 in 14 days. Schleicher, a minister, $195 first 12 hours. $1,200 cold cash, made, paid, banked by Stoneman in 30 days; $15,000 to date. A hot or cold running water bath equipment for any home at only $6.50. Self-heating. No plumbing or waterworks required. Investigate. Exclusive sale. Credit given. Send no money. Write letter or postal today. Allen Mfg. Co., 342 Allen Bldg., Toledo, O.

We Pay $80 Monthly Salary and furnish rig and expenses to introduce guaranteed poultry and stock powders. Bigler Company, X-314, Springfield, Ill.

Agents: Sell Eg-Save, Proven egg substitute. Every housewife a prospect. Guaranteed under food law. Big money maker. Send 25c for package that takes place of 2 dozen eggs. Eg-Save Co., Dept. C. 186 Oak St., Buffalo, N. Y.

$50 Weekly and up selling Mexican Diamonds. Exactly resemble genuine; Same Rainbow Fire; Stand tests; sell at sight; Repeat orders. Write for Sample Case offer free. Mexican Diamond Importing Co., G. Las Cruces, N. M.

Would $150 Monthly as General Agent for $150,000 corporation and a Ford auto of your own, introducing Stock and Poultry remedies, Dips, Disinfectants, and Sanitary products interest you? Then address Royoleum Co-Operative Mfg. Co., Dept. 48, Monticello, Ind.

Life of Christ on 50 beautiful colored, lithographed post-cards-illustrating and describing His life and death. Sent for $1.00. For ten cents you can receive two sample cards of this set. National Sales Company, 919 Milwaukee Av. Chicago, Ill.

Agents: Biggest selling household necessity. Huge profits; steady repeater. Write today. Peck Specialty Co., North Haven, Conn.

Blaxit Safely While Hot. New stove polish, works without soiling the hands. Agents Wanted. Boss Mfg. Co., New London, Ct.

Guaranteed Hosiery Selling From Mill earns $5 a day for our representatives. No Capital or experience needed. All or Spare Time. A. Weber Mills, Nicetown Station, Phila., Pa.

AGENTS WANTED

Man Or Woman To Travel for old-established firm. No canvassing; $1170 first year, payable weekly, pursuant to Contract; Expenses advanced. G. O. Nichols, Phila., Pa., Pepper Bldg.

Spiral Spring Curtain Rods; fit any window; put up in minute; sample 10c; circulars free. Moore Co., 40 Jerome Ave., Cincinnati.

Agents' 1917 Sensation. NoRKA Brand new process guaranteed Raincoats. We deliver and collect. Sample outfit free. The New London Mfg. Co., New London, Ohio.

Would $150 Monthly, Auto of your own to travel in, as General Agent, handling remarkable sellers, Lightning Patch Vulcanizer, Shock Absorber, and Anti-Thief Combination Auto-Switch Lock, thief proof, interest you? Then address Dept. 1-2, U. S. Manufacturing Co., Wolcott, Indiana.

Photo Pillow Tops, Portraits, Frames. Sheet Pictures, Photo Plates, Pennants, Paper Mache Frames. Rejects credited. Prompt shipments; samples & cat. free to agents. 30 days credit. Jas. C. Bailey Co., Desk C1, Chicago, Ill.

Big Textile Mills want ambitious men and women everywhere to show latest dress fabrics, neckwear, hosiery, underwear and sweaters, 400 styles. Easy sales. Values beat stores. Many making over $30 weekly. All or spare time. Complete sample outfit starts you. Steadfast Mills, 34 Remsen St., Cohoes, N. Y.

Newest Moneymaker! 11 piece toilet set selling like blazes at $1.00 with $1 carving set Free! Enormous Profits! Tremendous hit! Randall sold 30 one day. Success sure. Pierce Co., 505 Pierce Bldg., Chicago.

Agents Sell Duz-Win Washing Paste. Wonderful compound. Washes and whitens clothes without boiling, rubbing or bluing. Guaranteed absolutely harmless. 100% profit. Splendid repeater. Send for free sample and agents proposition. Duz-win Products Co., Crow St., Utica, N. Y.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 98c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

Sells Like Hot Cakes, new ironing wax, perfumes clothes, clamps ironing board, asbestos rest. Working outfit 5c. Waxpad, Lynbrook, N.Y.

Sell California Rosebeads. Swell line. Big profits. Catalog free. Mission Bead Company, A2819 West Pico, Los Angeles, Calif.

"Easy Steps", scientific foot comforters, sponge rubber inside-cushions; any size shoes; Dozen pairs $2.25; profit $3.75; samples 25c. Manhattan C-Products, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Agents—A one-cent post card will put you in touch with an $80 a week proposition selling Aluminum Utensils and Specialties direct to the consumer. Don't let one cent stand between you and prosperity. Div. B.B.P., American Aluminum Mfg. Co., Lemont, Ill.

Ladies—We pay $2.50 per day, pursuant to contract, to distribute free circulars and take orders for Regal Shields. Experience unnecessary. Regal Company, D 6, Kalamazoo, Mich.

One Thousand Dollars Reward if this is not the greatest money-making house-to-house proposition. N. R. G. Laundry Tablet washes clothes in 10 minutes, without rubbing. Contains no Lime, Lye, Paraffin Wax or other injurious chemical and cannot possibly injure the clothes or hands. Nothing like it on the market. Positively the wonder of the age—sells for 15c, enough for 5 family washings. We supply one free sample with every package you buy and guarantee the sale of same. Just leave the free sample with the housewife, and, when you call again, she is eagerly awaiting to become your steady customer. Secure territorial rights at once, or you will regret it. A 1c postal brings sample and full particulars. Farquhar-Moon Mfg. Co., Desk C210, 140 W. Van Buren St., Chicago, Ill.

Agents, Make War-Time Profits, build permanent business with our Big line Perfumes, Creams, Extracts, Spices, Medicines. Catalogue free. Western Laboratories. 1900K Van Buren, Chicago.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

$35.00 Profit Nightly. Small Capital Starts You. No experience needed. We teach you the business, Catalog free. Atlas Moving Picture Co., 407 Franklin Bldg., Chicago.

$20 to $50 Nightly. Complete outfit, machine, Film. Everything furnished on Payment Plan. Catalog free. Moving Picture Sales Co., Dept. CC, 540 Plymouth Place, Chicago.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct Free—sell on Commission. Big Rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31, Auburn, N. Y.

See Here! We want your Ideas for photoplays and stories! Accepted in any form, and criticised Free. Sold on commission. Write Now! Ms. Sales Co., Dept. E., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles, poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1060 Washington, D. C.

MISCELLANEOUS

Buy Your Hats Direct From Factory. Panamas and felts for men and women. Send for catalog. The A. C. Wilson Hat Co., Orange, N. J.

FORMULAS

1,000 page volume, formulas and trade-secrets for all trades, including farming $2.00. Ellemm, 667 Ocean Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn big pay while you learn at home during spare time. Only eight weeks required. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of students we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 per month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Salesmen Wanted—Reliable Men That can furnish team and wagon to travel in the country and sell old established line of medicines, flavorings, spices, soaps, toilets, condition powder, etc. Permanent work. Pay Big. Write today for free copy of "Opportunity." It tells how. Seminole Medicine Co., Boone, Ia., Box 228.

Be Our Salesman—Make six to ten dollars a day taking orders for the famous Costello line of 100 household necessities. 100% commission. A steady customer in every home. No capital required. No experience needed. Salesman's outfit and handsome sample case Free. Write today for exclusive rights in your county. Costello Chemical Co., 305 N. Ewing Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Tobacco Factory wants salesman; good pay, steady work, promotion; experience unnecessary, we give complete instructions. Piedmont Tobacco Co., Box B-19, Danville, Va.

BOOKS

"From The Ball Room To Hell" mailed anywhere 25c. L. E. Maney, 136 E. Pleasant Ave., X, Syracuse, N. Y.

LAME PEOPLE

The Perfection Extension Shoe for any person with one short limb. No more unsightly cork soles, irons, etc., needed. Worn with ready-made shoes. Shipped on trial. Write for booklet. Henry J. Lotz, 313 Third Ave., New York.

AUTOMOBILES

Buick Auto Free. I have given away more that fifty automobiles in the last three years to people all over the United States. These automobiles have not cost these persons one cent. They were earned under my wonderful new system of prize distributions in which I am soon going to give another automobile. This time it's a 5-passenger Buick Touring Car, fully equipped, and self-starting. Full information is free and does not obligate you in any way. Don't send money or stamps, just your name and address on a postal. Auto Tom, 509 So. 17th St., Omaha, Nebr.

Aeroframe Gas Saver $1 at your dealers or by mail. Guaranteed. Aeroframe Company, Inc., 107 Mass. Ave., Boston.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Write For Free Catalog of best books on writing and selling photoplays, short stories, poems. Atlas Publishing Co., 826, Cincinnati.

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Do You Take Pictures? Write for free sample of our large magazine, showing how to make better pictures & earn money. American Photography, 839 Pope Bldg., Boston, Mass.

TYPEWRITERS

$2.50 A Month buys standard typewriter. Send for Special price. Free trial. Guaranteed. H. A. Smith, 315-231 N. 5th Ave., Chicago.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

Ladies—Girls—Boys—We will send you six highly colored postals and large illustrated catalog of novelties if you send us your name and address. Townes Novelty Company, Richmond, Va.

SCHOOLS

Telegraphy—Wire & Wireless & station Agency Taught. Largest School. Catalog Free. Dodge's Institute, L St., Valparaiso, Ind.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Invent Something. It may bring wealth. Free book tells what to invent and how to obtain a patent through our Credit System. Waters & Co. Succeeded by Talbert & Parker, 4206 Warder Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel, 232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Three books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg., Wash., D. C.

HOME WEAVING

Looms—Only $8.50—Big money in Weaving rugs, carpets, etc., from rags and waste material. Be sure to send for free loom book. It tells all about Weaving and our wonderful $8.50 and other looms. Union Loom Works, 272 Factory St., Boonville, N. Y.

INVENTIONS

Inventions Developed, experimental work. Our experts will solve your intricate mechanical and electrical problems. Make any metal novelty. Send drawing or sample. Gent Machine Co., Box 172, Cleveland, Ohio.

POULTRY

Poultry Paper, 44-124 page periodical, up to date, tells all you want to know about care and management of poultry, for pleasure or profit; four months for 10 cents. Poultry Advocate, Dept. 112, Syracuse, N. Y.

Egg-o-hatch applied to eggs during incubation strengthens the chick and weakens the shell. It supplies free oxygen, absorbs the carbon dioxide and rots the shell. Makes better hatches of stronger chicks. Booklet free, Sample, treats 100 eggs, 10 cents. Package, treats 600 eggs, 50 cents, postpaid. Geo. H. Lee Co., 509 Lee Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

Chicks—Reds, Rocks, Leghorns (Brown & White), Cochins, Wyandottes, Orpingtons. Nearly a million Hillpot Quality Chicks shipped last year. Catalog Free! W. F. Hillpot, Box 6, Frenchtown, N. J.

Rosemont Pure Bred Baby Chicks from thoroughbred matings. Quality Chicks from free ranged, free from disease, heavy laying strains. Over 150,000 hatching capacity. 12 leading varieties. Send for a copy of our big catalogue that tells what you should know, before purchasing chicks, It's Free. Prices, 9c. up. Rosemont Poultry Farms & Hatchery, Rosemont, N. J. Box 600.

Heavy Laying S. C. White Leghorns. Price list of Chicks and Setting eggs free. Write N. V. Fogg, Box 4500, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

Day Old Chicks for sale cheap. 10 Varieties. Hatched by one of the oldest Hatchers in the country. Circular Free. Old Honesty Hatchery, Dept. C, New Washington, O.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Guaranteed Watch Or Gold Plated bracelet free to boys and girls for placing sample packet seeds with friends. Eckert Seed Co., B-71, Cly, Pa.

Sell 12 Collar Buttons at 10c each, keep 40c, send me 80c. I trust you, all goods not sold taken back. V. F. Hunter, Barton, Vt.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Free Scholarships in Resident Nursing Course. Low rates for home training. Send for free book. Philadelphia School for Nurses, 2227 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Save Your Hair—remove oil with vegetable shampoo-powder, no water. 100 shampoos 50c. Gero-Ewing, Dep. B, Wheeling, W. Va.

Dress-Forms—make your own. Easy, cheap. Instruction booklet sent for $1.00. Patented process. Geo. Weant, Ponca City, Okla.

Ladies fine catalogue fancy work, beautiful present free, also marvelous money raiser, sure, quick, plan. Rural Supply, Salineville, O.

PHOTO FINISHING

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

Developing 10c a Roll; Prints 2½ x 3¼, 3c; 2½ x 4¼, 3½c; 3¼ x 4¼, 4c; Post Cards, 4½c; Square-Deal Photo Shop, 20 Main, West Cairo, O.

Kodak Films Developed, 10c. per roll, any size. Prompt attention given mail orders. Prints 2½x3¼ to 3¼x4¼, 3c.; 4x5 to 3½x5½, 4c. J. M. Manning, 1062 Third Ave., New York City. Box S.

Films Developed—5c to 12c Each. Prints 1c. to 2½c. Each. Send 2c. stamp for particulars and sample print. F. R. Blair, Herrickville, Pa.

Beautiful Enlargements, Art Mounts, 5x7, 25c; 8x10, 35c; send negative, satisfaction guaranteed. Quality Photo Finishing gives Better Results. Special Offer, samples free. Fox Studios, 59th & Hunter Sts., Philadelphia.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

Will Pay $2.00 for 1904 Dollar, proof; 10c. for 1912 nickels S. Mint; $100.00 for Dime 1894 S. Mint. We want thousands coins and stamps. We offer up to $1000.00 for certain dates. Send 4c. now for our Large Illustrated Coin Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

$4.25 Each Paid for U. S. Eagle Cents dated 1856. Keep all money dated before 1895, and send 10c at once for New Illust'd Coin Value Book, 4x7. It may mean a fortune. Clarke & Co., Coin Dealers, Box 20, LeRoy, N. Y.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Free For Six Months—My special offer to introduce my magazine, "Investing for Profit." It is worth $10 a copy to any one who has not acquired sufficient money to provide necessities and comforts for self and loved ones. It shows how to become richer quickly and honestly. Investing for Profit is the only progressive financial journal and has the largest circulation in America. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200; write now and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 408, 26 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago.

Young Men—Our nationally known manufacturing and wholesaling house is establishing branches everywhere. Live, intelligent men wanted as managers or representatives. We train you to our business. $1500 to $3000 yearly. Become part of our great national organization, with big future before you. Free particulars. Rogers, Thurman & Company, Dept. 10, Mallers Bldg., Chicago.

Free For One Month. Our weekly magazine, "Inside Investments," is devoted to a financial idea worthy of consideration. A real "inside investment" should easily double in value every three months. Figure for yourself what $100 would amount to in a few years if invested and re-invested on that basis. Our magazine points the way to making such investments. $2.00 per year. Send today for one month's free subscription. Address, McIntyre Companies Limited, 1647 Westminster Bldg., Chicago.

STAMMERING

St-stu-t-t-tering and Stammering Cured at home. Instructive booklet free. Walter McDonnell, Room 56, 817 Fifteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

FARM LANDS

Uncle Sam is watering a farm for you in Salt River Valley, Arizona, where you will live longer and better, and make more money with less work. Read our Roosevelt Dam folder free on request. C. L. Seagraves, Industrial Com'r AT&SF Ry., 1946 Ry. Exchange, Chicago.

California Land $1.00 Per Acre Cash. Balance purchase 90c. month per acre. Immediate possession given. No taxes. No interest. Level San Joaquin Valley. Only four hours from San Francisco. 5 acres up. Clear; ready to plow. Open ditch irrigation $1.00 acre per annum. Particulars, maps, photograph, free. Stevinson Colony, Desk B, 785 Market St., San Francisco.

Productive Lands. Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 14 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

Alfalfa Land, Los Angeles County $40 an acre; also improved farms. Write us, R & L Ranch, 326 W. 3d, Los Angeles, Calif.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

Virginia And North Carolina Farms $15. per acre and up. Easy payments. Fruit, Dairy, Stock, Climate, Schools, Churches, Roads, Markets & Neighbors of the best. Get our Farm Lists, magazine and other interesting literature, all free. Address F. H. LaBaume, Agrl. Agt., N. & W. Ry., 269 N. & W. Bldg., Roanoke, Va.

Landseekers! Splendid chance to own farm! Small or large tracts good land for general farming, poultry, vegetables, fruit. $15 to $25 an acre, $5 to $50 down, bal. small monthly payments. Best counties in Michigan. Write for big booklet free. Swigart Land Co. A1248, First National Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

FARMS WANTED

Wanted. Hear from owner good farm for sale. Cash price, description. D. F. Bush, Minneapolis, Minn.

FARMS FOR SALE

Money-Making Farms, 15 states, $10 to $50 an acre; stock, tools and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue, E. A. Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3027, New York.

REAL ESTATE

Small Missouri Farm $10 Cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes; Highly productive land; close to three big markets. Write for photographs and full information. Munger, D-104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

MALE HELP WANTED

Be A Detective—Earn $100 to $300 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 828 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

The Way To Get A Gov't Job is through the Washington Civil Service School. We prepare you and you get a position or we guarantee to refund your money. Write to Earl Hopkins, President, Washington, D. C. for Book FK. 1450, telling about 292296 Gov't Positions with lifetime employment, short hours, sure pay, regular vacations.

Railway Mail Clerks—Wanted. $75.00 Month. Sample examination questions free. Franklin Institute, Dep't T 12, Rochester, N.Y.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

Be A Government Farmer. Good pay. Steady, interesting job. Fine locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8F, St. Louis.

Detectives—Earn big salaries. Easy work. Write National School of Detectives, 489 Fifth Ave., New York, Room 525.

HELP WANTED

$25.00 Week Paid Chauffeurs. Learn while earning. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dep't. T 812, Rochester, N. Y.

Thousands Men—Women Wanted. $100 month. Government jobs. Write immediately for list positions. Franklin Institute, Dep't. T. 9, Rochester, N. Y.

500 Men Wanted At Once 20-40 For Electric Railway Motormen and Conductors. All parts U. S. $60-$100 monthly. Experience unnecessary. Send Stamp for application blank. National Railway, Dept. 170, Kansas City, Mo.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis, Mo.

Wanted, representatives to report names, information and handle real estate. Dept. A, National Information Exchange, Omaha, Neb.

Be A Detective—Earn $100 to $300 per month; easy work; we show you; Write Wagner, 1243 Lexington Ave., New York. Dept. 403.

$150.00 A Month easily earned by energetic man or woman in steady, paying business of their own. Experience unnecessary. Need only a few dollars for expenses. Apply at once to Nacor Company, Indianapolis, Ind.

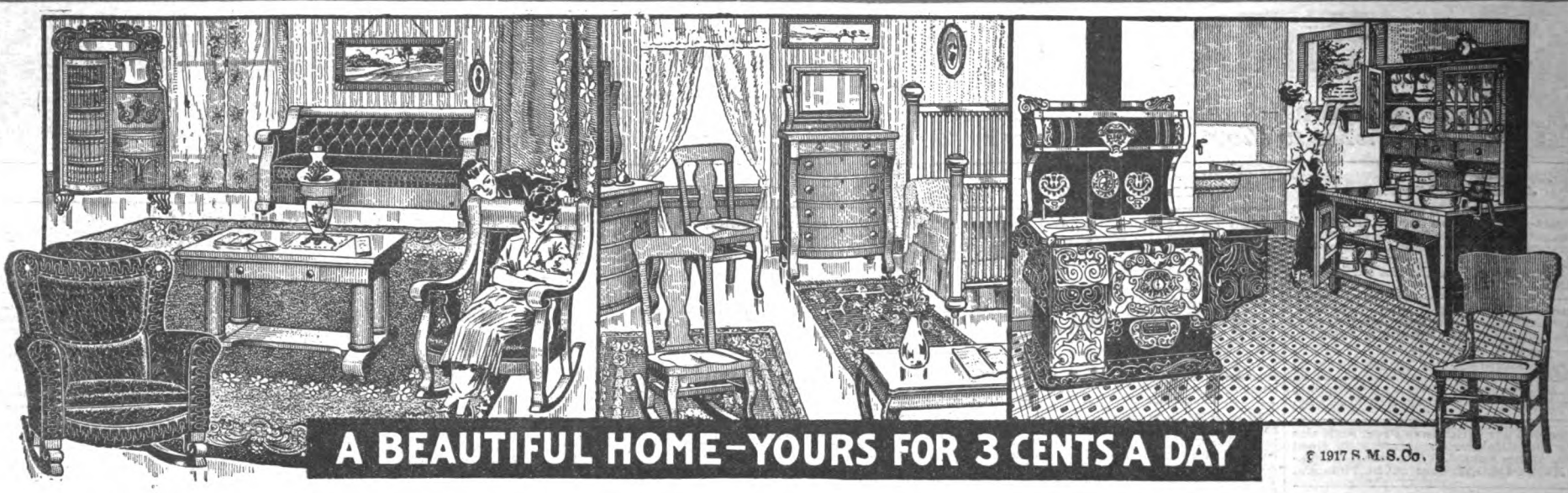
FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

Will Pay reliable Woman $25.00 to distribute Free (not to sell) 200 pkgs. Borax Soap Powder among friends. No money required. A. Ward Company, 732 N. Franklin St., Chicago.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Be A Government Matron. Good salary. Interesting work. Beautiful locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8M, St. Louis.



An Extra Year on Home Things

Get Them Now—Pay as You Can—We'll Trust You

What we offer you is this: An extra year's enjoyment of home luxuries and comforts.

No matter about the money. Just tell us what you want. There is no formality, no red tape. We trust every home lover. Instead of saving for a year to buy things, just take a year to pay.

2½ Million Do It

Over 2½ million homes buy furnishings here in that way. Some have done it for over 50 years.

Nearly all big things sold anywhere are bought by folks on time.

But our way is unique. We give credit to every customer. We never accept cash orders. We send a Credit Card with our catalog. We open your account without asking. There is no red tape. No references are required.

We treat the poorest man like the richest.

Just Say "Send It"

With our Big Bargain Book you will get a Credit Card. That shows your account is open. Then pick from the book what things you want, and simply ask us to send them.

Don't hesitate. We are selling in this way to millions. We trust you—a stranger—because we have learned that everyone pays for good home things.

Women's Style Book

This is a book of 1000 Spring Styles, prepared by Martha Lane Adams. Be sure to ask for this book too.

A $1.50 Book Free

Picturing 5000 Home Things

Furniture	Baby Cabs—Cameras
Carpets—Rugs	Silverware—Clocks
Refrigerators	Chinaware—Lamps
Draperies—Linens	Sewing Machines
Curtains—Bedding	Kitchen Cabinets
Oilcloth, etc.	Stoves—Ranges

Send Coupon for It

A Year or More

We give a year's time, or more, without extra charge or interest. Pay as convenient, a little each month. We don't hurry people. We have no collectors. Our chief desire is to make customers happy, so they will buy here for a lifetime.

Wait 30 Days

Nothing we ship you is considered sold until you have it for 30 days. You have that month's free trial. Then, if you are not satisfied, you can send the things back, and we will pay freight both ways.

So we can't mislead you. We can't fail to save you money. We are bound to please you, else the goods come back.

You can never do that—have 30 days' trial—unless you buy on credit.

NO MONEY WANTED

We never ask a customer who is on our books to pay any money down. They wait until after the 30 days' free trial in the home.

The first payment is not due for a month. Our customers get the goods, use them a month, and approve them before paying a penny.

Six Strong Solid Oak Chairs

Black Imitation Leather Seats



$8.95 for Set of Six

Our Spring Bargain Book is full of amazing values like these chairs. Send for this book now. In it you will find these chairs, also others in a variety of designs.

Take a Whole Year to Pay

We open your account when you send for our Bargain Book. Then if you want this handsome set of chairs they will be shipped promptly, without delay or red tape, for 30 days' free trial in your home. You pay a little monthly if you keep them. Bargains like these are not offered elsewhere. Send for our Bargain Book now, before our present stocks are gone.

These six chairs are handsome in design, rich in finish, finely made of solid oak with pretty banister back. Notice the effect formed by the shapely broad banister, which is 5½ inches wide.

Then there is a top slat 4¾ inches wide, nicely shaped and firmly joined to the banister.

Solid oak of good quality, thoroughly kiln dried and tested, is used throughout in these chairs, finished in a rich golden shade.

Our Bargain Book Shows 35 Other Styles

Construction is first-class. Heavy turned legs are full length, firmly braced to the seat by neat cross arms. Seat is in turn supported by broad and shapely spindles and nice apron front. **Rich Black Imitation Leather,** guaranteed not to crack or peel, is used in covering the seat, which measures 16½ x 15½ inches. It is nicely padded, giving extra comfort. Chair stands 39 inches high and is full size in every way. Shipping weight of six, about 75 pounds.

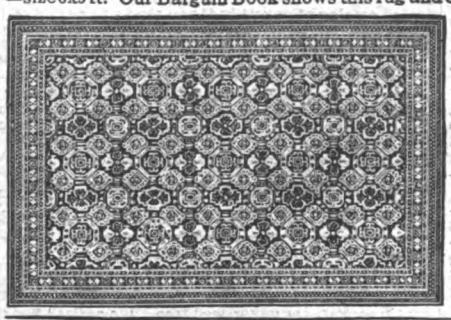
No. L4B4549. Price, set of six $8.95

30 Days to Try Them

You Can Scrub This Congoleum Rug $3.90

Our Price a Bargain—Over a Year to Pay

We offer you this sensational floor covering in a beautiful pattern—size 6x9 ft. Our Bargain Book shows this rug and others in actual colors.



While we give you over a year to pay, ours is the lowest cash price—you can prove this for yourself. Looks like a wool rug. Is waterproof. Wears better than linoleum or oil cloth. Comes in a beautiful pattern with green background and delicate tan figures. Shipping weight about 25 lbs.

No. L4C7157. Size 6x9 feet. Price... $3.90

Fine Steel Bed, Spring and Mattress



$11.35 A Year to Pay

Our Spring Bargain Book shows this bed outfit and other remarkable values, too. It tells you how to order on a year's credit.

Full continuous design steel bed has corner posts and top rails 1 1-16 inch thick. Five upper filling rods are 5-16 inch thick. Notice circular casting in center. Bed is made of good quality Bessemer steel. Bed stands 57½ inches high at head and 38½ inches high at foot. Can be furnished in either white enamel or famous Vernis Martin all-gold finish. Spring is extra strong link fabric; cotton top mattress is well made.

No. L4B6008. Price, bed, spring and mattress..... **$11.35**

No. L4B6009. Price, bed only..... **5.35**

A $1.50 Book Free

Our new Bargain Book pictures over 5000 home things, bought under low-price contracts. Many are pictured in colors. The high cost of paper makes each copy, with mailing, cost us about $1.50. But we send the book free to home lovers.

All these prices, however, expire with our present stocks. New stocks, bought on 1916 contracts, will cost us vastly more. So only a limited number of these books will be issued. And never again will you see home things quoted so low, we believe.

Send the coupon today for this book, to make sure you get it. Your Credit Card will come with it.

Half Prices

Our latest catalog quotes many things at half the current prices. Our savings will average one-third. And we guarantee on everything to undersell any other house.

The reason is, we buy whole factory outputs. We buy for millions of homes, and largely on yearly contracts. Our contracts for goods now on hand were made in 1915, before the enormous 1916 advances. So that saving alone will average one-third under present factory costs. So $1 here, on many things, buys you $2 in present value. The prices we quote will amaze you.

CUT OUT THIS COUPON

SPIEGEL, MAY, STERN CO. (1138)

1257 W. 35th Street, Chicago

Mail me your **Spring Bargain Book.** Also the books I mark below.

....Stove Book. ....Watches and Jewelry.

....1000 Spring Styles for Women.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Check which Catalogs you want.

Spiegel, May, Stern Co. 1257 W. 35th Street CHICAGO

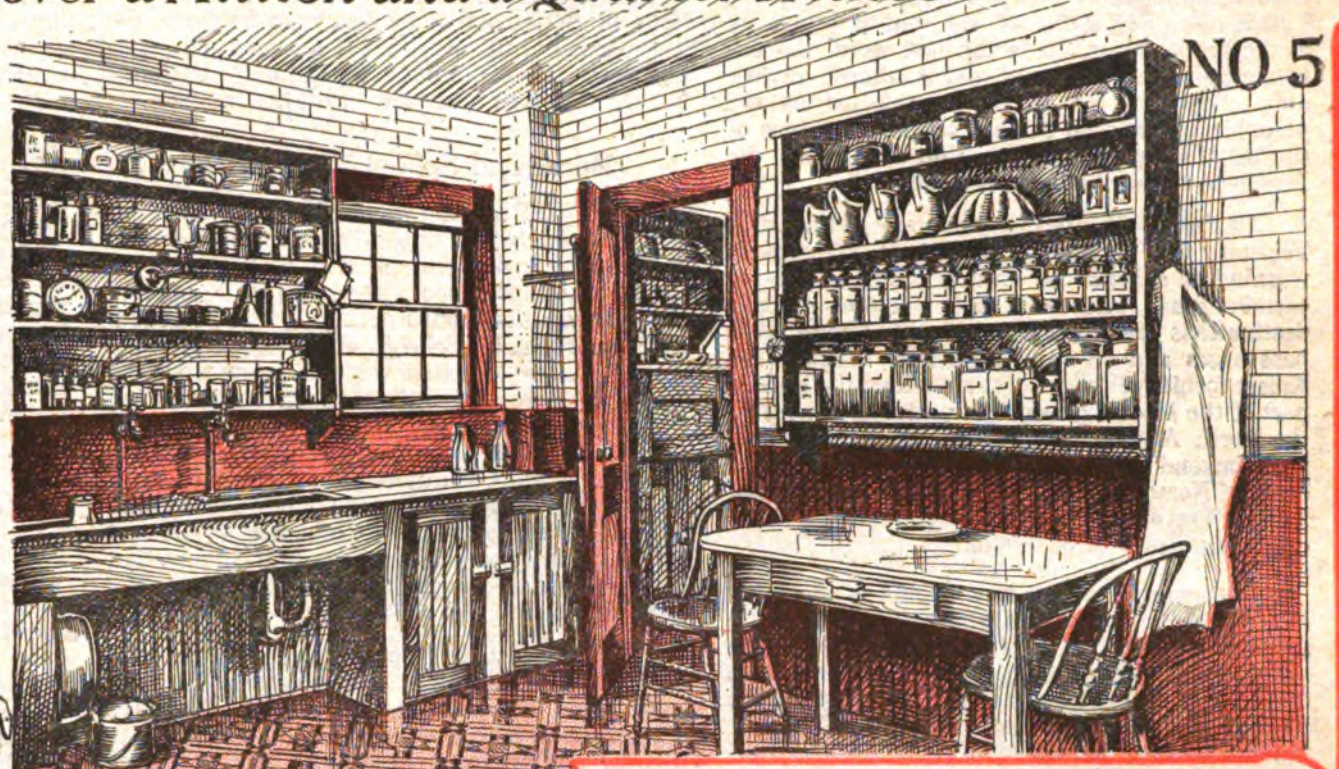
HOUSEHOLD NUMBER

COMFORT

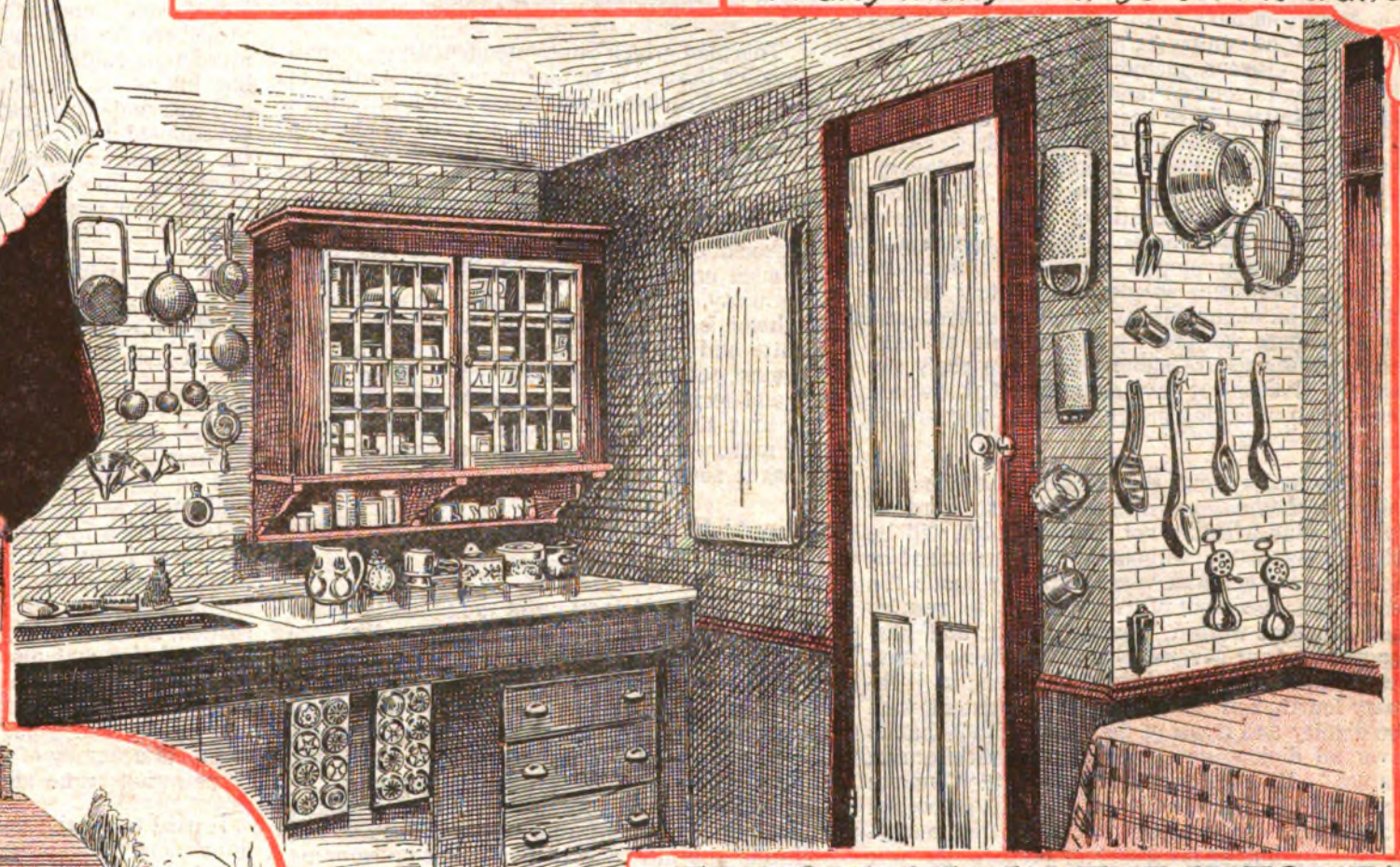
The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

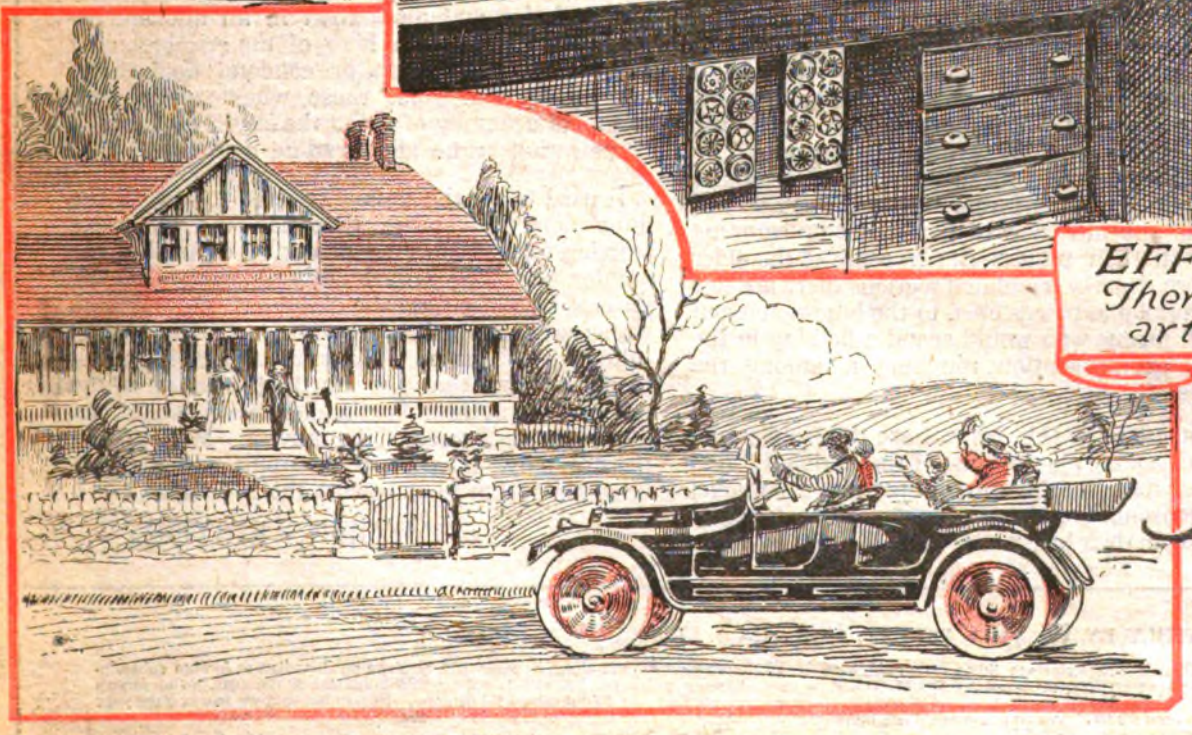
VOL. XXIX NO. 5





You can keep all your kitchen utensils on shelves, in drawers or hang many things on the walls.





EFFICIENCY IN THE KITCHEN
There should be a place for each article . . . See Story page 10

MARCH 1917

Published at AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Copyright 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 8

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

President Wilson Puts It Squarely up to Germany to Choose Between Peace and War with United States

BECAUSE of Germany's latest and most intolerable aggression against our national dignity and rights, President Wilson has broken off friendly relations and severed diplomatic intercourse between the United States government and the government of Germany by recalling our ambassador at Berlin and telling the German ambassador at Washington to go home. This is not a declaration of war, but it brings us to the brink of war. It is the last word, the extreme protest short of war, and is almost invariably followed by war which is expected as the probable sequel also in this instance because of the aggravated provocation that compelled the President to this momentous action.

On January 31 Germany announced that after February first her submarines would sink without warning all ships of all nations found traversing certain seas, whatever their cargoes or their destinations and regardless of the fate of their passengers and crews. The zones wherein the Kaiser forbids all ocean travel include the greater part of the Mediterranean Sea and a large area of the North Atlantic extending from Spain northward beyond the Shetland Islands and well up the coast of Norway, and from the coast of continental Europe westward to the twentieth meridian hundreds of miles west of Ireland.

Germany's purpose in so doing is to starve her enemies, France and especially England, to submission; but even for this purpose she has no right to sink ships engaged in peaceful commerce on the high seas and destroy or even imperil the lives of their passengers and crews. All neutral nations, in fact the whole world outside of Germany and her allies, have protested against this action and denounced it as an atrocious and inhuman violation of the rights of humanity.

Since February 1915, when Germany began her submarine campaign, more than two hundred American citizens, including many women and children, and over two thousand citizens of other neutral countries have been killed by the sinking of ships of commerce by German raiders. After repeated protests and warnings by our government, which Germany disregarded, President Wilson, on the eighteenth of April last, gave notice that he would break off diplomatic relations with the German empire altogether unless the German government should immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its "relentless and indiscriminate warfare against vessels of commerce by the use of submarines." In reply the German government gave assurance that it would desist from attacking merchant ships contrary to the rules of war.

This notice from the President is what is called an *Ultimatum,* meaning a last word or final demand which, if not complied with, will be followed by action without further argument or discussion. Therefore, when Germany made the recent announcement of its intention to resume indiscriminate warfare against freight and passenger ships our government, as President Wilson declared in his address before Congress on February fourth, had "no alternative consistent with the dignity and honor of the United States but to sever all diplomatic relations with the German empire." By an almost unanimous vote Congress approved the President's action and proceeded immediately to consider the measures recommended by him as necessary to prepare for war in case Germany should compel us to defend our rights by force of arms.

Our government has spoken its last word in no uncertain tone and is no longer on speaking terms with the German government. The choice between peace and war with the United States rests with Germany and depends entirely on Germany's action. As the President says, while still hoping for peace every possible effort is being made to prepare for the worst. We are glad to note a general and spontaneous outburst of popular approval of the President's course together with innumerable offers of help, in case of war, from all classes and all sections. Happily the hyphens seem to have disappeared from our citizenship and the nation stands united in its loyal support of the government. Doubtless this resolute demonstration of American patriotism will have a restraining influence on the councils of the war lords in Berlin and a tendency to prevent the commission of the overt act that would plunge us into war. The situation is critical in the extreme, but we still hope for peace with honor.

Home and School Associations

A RECENT bulletin issued by the U. S. Bureau of Education urges closer reciprocal relations and more effective cooperation between home and school. It quotes with approval a communication from Franklin B. Dyer, Superintendent of Public Schools of Boston, Mass., in which he says: "There never was a time when the need was so great for intimate connection between home and school as at present. The conditions of modern life are so complex, opportunities for good and evil are so numerous, the occupations of home are so meager unless they are related to the school, and the work of the school is so abstract unless it has a practical outcome in the home, that it is imperative for parents and teachers to get together."

He asserts that "the training of each must supplement the other. Such cooperation can come about in no other way so well as through organizations that bring parents and teachers into friendly and frequent association." He advises that the citizens in each school district in Boston organize a Home and School Association and appoint a local committee to act as an advisory council in cooperation with the school authorities.

This plan, which Superintendent Dyer recommends for Boston, is similar in purpose to that of the Parent-Teacher Associations which have been organized in many sections and are productive of excellent results wherever they exist. In a previous editorial we pointed out the benefits derived by the schools and the homes, the pupils, parents and teachers through these Parent-Teacher Associations, and again we urge our readers to join such an association, if there is one in their community, and, if not, to organize one at once. The home is the most important institution in this country and the school ranks next. They are the two most potent factors in developing the characters and forming the habits of the rising generation, thus shaping the destiny of the nation, and they must work together in perfect harmony and not, as is sometimes the case, at cross purposes.

National Forest Reserves as Public Play-Grounds and Recreation Resorts

NOT the least important of the many purposes for which the national forest reserves are being utilized is their use as public fishing, camping and recreation grounds and vacation resorts. More and more as the country fills up with the rapid increase of population the beauty spots, and especially the desirable places along the streams, ponds and lakes, are being acquired by the wealthy as sites for summer homes, or are under cultivation as farms whose owners do not welcome the intrusion of picnickers or camping parties on their properties. In some of the older and more densely populated sections there are few if any available places open to the humble citizen of small means who would spend a holiday in the country or a vacation roughing it among the beauties of nature.

Fortunate in this respect are the people who live within easy reach of one of the national forest reserves where the government permits the public, under reasonable and proper regulations, to enjoy an outing to their hearts' content. Roads and trails are being extended so that before long the most remote parts will be accessible to the tourist. Each summer thousands of vacationists in ever increasing numbers avail themselves of the free privilege of camping in the national forests and find health-giving sport and recreation in roaming the woods, fishing the well stocked lakes and ponds that nestle among the tree clad hills and in the limpid streams that meander through the valleys or leap down the mountain sides in sparkling torrents.

Though it is intended that the government shall never part with the ownership and control, those desiring a permanent habitation in which to spend their vacations are permitted to lease cottage lots, at a moderate rental, bordering the shores of some of the lakes, and land may be rented even for hotel purposes to furnish accommodations for wayfarers and tourists of more fastidious tastes. It is of incalculable value to the health and morals of the nation that these sanctuaries of wild nature should be preserved and reserved for the use and benefit of the plain people and not permitted to be monopolized by land grabbers.

Mexicans Raiding Our Border Again

IT is nearly a year since our government despatched an expeditionary force under General Pershing into Mexico with orders to get Villa "dead or alive" because of his atrocious raid on Columbus, N. M., murdering our citizens and burning their homes. Our soldiers were treacherously attacked by Mexican government troops and at the behest of Carranza, Pershing was ordered to halt his pursuit, but while he remained with his troopers on the other side of the border peace and security reigned on our side. He has been recalled in deference to or fear of the despot of Mexico, and Pershing's rear guard is scarcely returned ere the Mexican armed forces resume their murderous raiding on our side of the boundary line killing our citizens, pillaging their property and carrying others captive into Mexico. As our government has taken no action, at this writing, the citizens are organizing a volunteer force to cross over into Mexico and try to rescue their friends from the hands of the Mexican brigands.

Clean Up the Movies

WE are pleased to learn that the board of review, which censors the films, at last has decided not to approve the picturing of any more nude female figures on the screen. One hardly knows whether the audacity of the producers in presenting such indecent pictures or the complacent indulgence of the censors in passing them is the more astonishing. While they are about it they had better go a step or two further in a much needed clean-up of the movies and cut out the numerous plays of immoral tendency, pictures which in their circumstance and action are salacious or of impure suggestion, those which portray drinking and other forms of vice and dissipation in an alluring aspect, or which make a hero of the criminal, cast a glamour over crime or condone unchastity, and among the worst those which teach with technical accuracy of detail the expert methods of perpetrating crime and evading detection.

It used to be the yellow-covered novels or the dime detective stories that had the blame of starting many boys in a career of crime, but the opinion has been stated authoritatively that the movies, by presenting the classes of plays which we have mentioned, are exerting a more baleful influence on youth. A prominent judge gives it as his opinion that the startling increase in the number of youthful lawbreakers is due to the demoralizing influence of the movies. Many of the picture plays have a moral uplift and high educational value—but beware the bad ones.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. ***We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.*** If you do not get your magazine by the 20th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we ***must*** have your ***former*** address, as well as your ***new*** address to make the change. Be sure to send ***both.*** We do not supply back numbers.

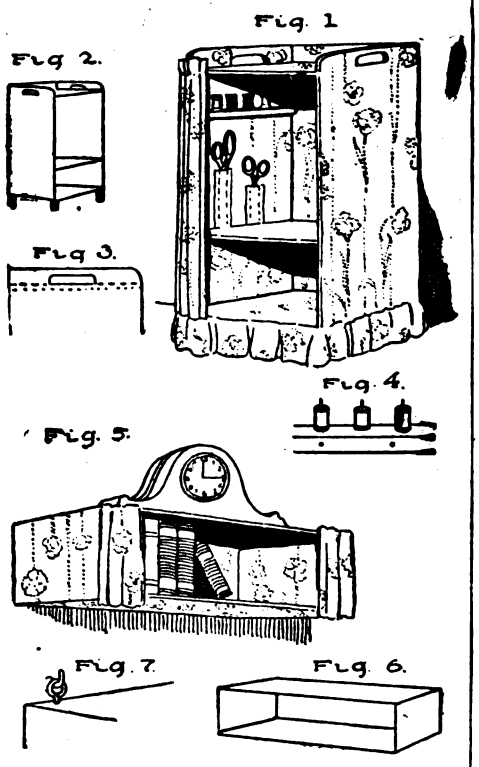
Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second class mail matter. Copyright, 1916 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

Household Conveniences That Make Home Attractive and Comfortable

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

Cretonne Covered Racks

Covering cabinets or cases with flowered cretonne with a ruffle at the bottom have a dainty look never imparted by paint or enamel. It should never be put on flat like wall paper but rather shirred or ruffled like a curtain. The folds can lay over and conceal the tacks that hold it on. Fig. 1 shows a sewing cabinet made of a soap box. No painting or finishing is needed except the cretonne covering neatly tacked on. Fig. 5 is a bookshelf, curtained in front and cloth cov-

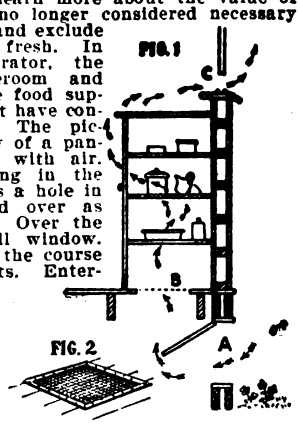


CRETONNE COVERED FURNISHINGS.

ered on top and ends. Fig. 6 shows the simple construction of the shelf and Fig. 7 how it hangs on the wall. Fig. 4 is a little shelf studded with nails that serves as a spool holder. For a bedroom, cretonne covered pieces are tasteful and appropriate. The covering can be washed and replaced any time. A sitting-room or chamber finished with one pattern of goods would be novel and refreshing. Picture frames covered with cretonne are very effective too.

Ventilation

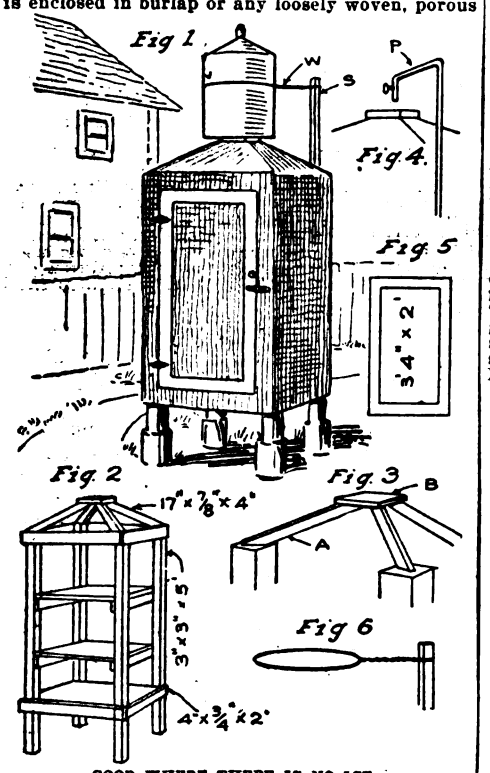
Every day we learn more about the value of fresh air. It is no longer considered necessary to box things up and exclude air to keep them fresh. In fact, the refrigerator, the closet and storeroom and every place where food supplies are kept must have constant ventilation. The picture is a side view of a pantry well supplied with air. "A" is an opening in the foundation, "B" is a hole in the floor screened over as shown in Fig. 2. Over the shelves is a small window. The arrows show the course of the air currents. Entering from the great outdoors, it traverses every part of the cupboard and then flows out the upper window. Remember that nothing ever got musty in the open air, and many a case of typhoid and other diseases can be prevented by ventilating the larder.



FRESH AIR PREVENTS DISEASE.

Iceless Cooler

People who live where it is impossible to get ice will find the accompanying plan a great help in the hot season. Fig 2 shows how a simple set of shelves or cupboard is built. This is enclosed in burlap or any loosely woven, porous

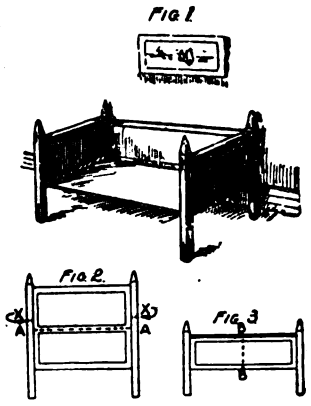


GOOD WHERE THERE IS NO ICE.

material of two or three-ply thickness. It is held by tacks and should be stretched quite taut. The door is a simple frame like Fig. 5, covered with the same kind of cloth. The framework of the roof, as shown in Fig. 3, is designed to shed the rain. It is covered with good roofing material. On the flat part "B" a vessel containing two or three gallons of water is placed. The bottom of the vessel is perforated with needle holes so that the water will leak out and drip evenly down on the four sides. A three gallon tank will require filling once each day. If the cloth is kept reasonably wet so that evaporation is constant, the interior will be cool, even on the hottest day. Aim to have the cooler where a draft or breeze will strike it. The legs set in tin cans which are half full of water. As the refrigerator is placed outdoors, this latter arrangement is a necessary precaution against ants and other crawling things. Of course it should be shaded from the sun. This plan was given me by a lady who used it successfully in the most torrid part of this country and personally I will vouch for the merit it possesses.

An Attractive Settle

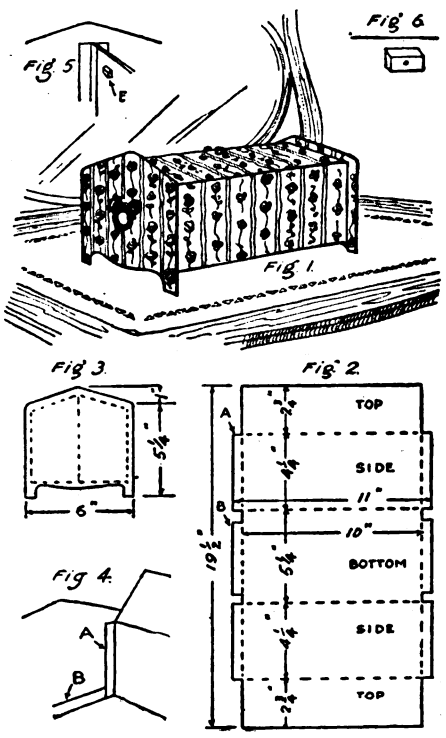
In nearly every home in the land can be found one or more old-fashioned wooden bedsteads, long since unused. Our purpose is to suggest a means of utilizing profitably the waste bed parts that now litter attics and storerooms. The drawing herewith shown is the happiest solution of the question I can devise. A few cuts of the saw, a little nailing and presto, your old bed becomes a neat and comfortable settle. Cut on the dotted lines. The two parts of the tall end of the bedstead forms the back and seat of the bench or settle, and the smaller end divided, gives us two ends for the same.



COZY AND COMFORTABLE.

Dresser Chest

Here is a home-made boudoir article of utility and beauty. It may be used as a hair receiver or a glove or handkerchief box or a receptacle for dainty linens. It is made of heavy cardboard which may be cut in one piece as in Fig. 2. This diagram includes all parts except the ends. At every bend, paste a strip of cloth for reinforcement. The bend itself will run along the center of the strip, which may act also as a hinge for the top piece. The ends are fastened by bending

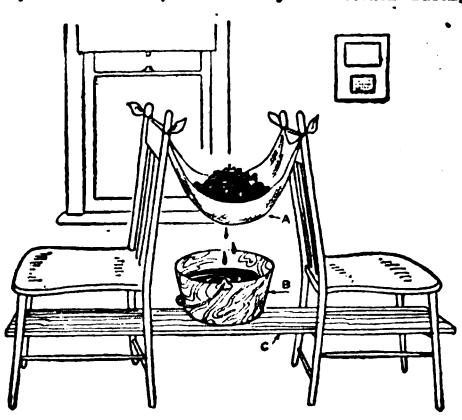


FOR THE DRESSING TABLE.

the flaps "A" and "B" and pasting to them, as in Fig. 4. Liquid glue is the best kind of an adhesive to use. It is to be applied with a small paint brush. Before pasting finally you can get an idea of how the box will look by basting the parts together. The finished chest is covered with velvet or cretonne. It is sewed on with thread of a color that makes it practically invisible. Fig. 5 shows how the upright partition is put in the center of the box. "E" is a small piece of cork glued on to act as a stop or rest for the lid. The box makes a pretty gift.

Straining Jelly

Here is a very practical method of arranging chairs and cloth for the purpose of straining fruit pulp in the canning season. The board "C," besides providing a resting place for the granite vessel, tends to hold the chairs firm and stable. The mass of pulp is placed in the familiar sling "A" and will not need any further attention. My mother always lets her jellies strain during

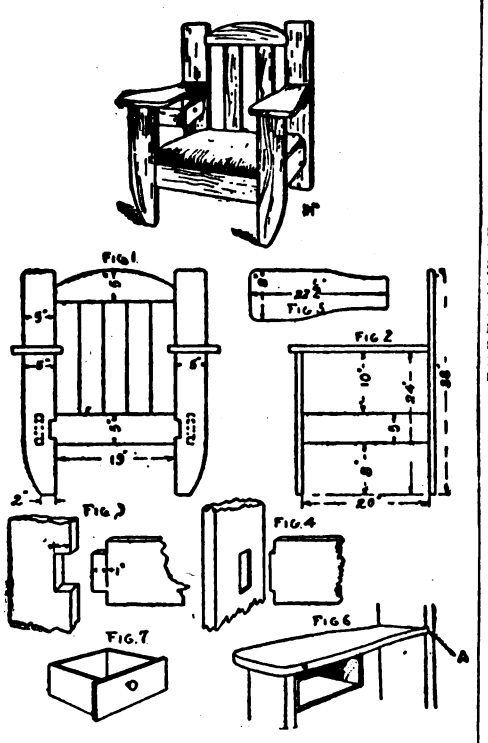


AN IMPROVISED CONVENIENCE.

the night and in the morning they are usually in just the right condition to be handled. A temporary cover of oilcloth might be placed over the arrangement shown in the picture to prevent dust from settling on the soft mass. Wherever fruit is being handled the floor should be damp enough to absolutely prevent the rising of dust. Wet mopping in the first place and a few sprinklings during the day will bring about this desirable condition. It is said that nearly all the diseases known to man may be contracted by infection from germs that float in the air. It is no unimportant matter, then to try to minimize this constant source of danger.

Reading Chair

You may have a great number of chairs in your home but I doubt if you have one that is used exclusively for reading and writing purposes. There is really a demand for such a chair so I have designed this one to fill the want. I can safely say that it will give satisfaction for I have used one of my own making for several years. Fig. 1 is a front view and Fig. 2 a side view. The arms are very wide

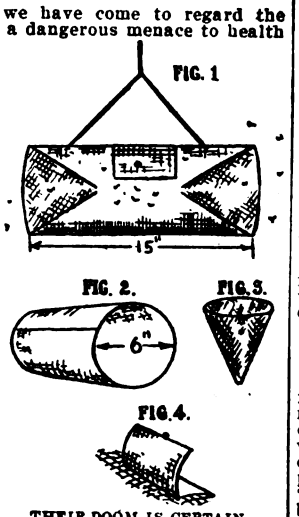


FOR READING AND WRITING.

so that they can be used to rest the paper on while you write. Under the right arm is a little side drawer used to contain the writing material or the book you are reading. Boards one inch in thickness are used for material. The joint Fig. 3 is used to fasten the front rail to the front legs. The one pictured in Fig. 4 is employed to join the side rails and rear legs. Underneath those rails, boards are nailed to form a seat and a cushion that fits snugly between the square formed by the four rails placed on top. Figs. 6 and 7 show the drawer plan. I used chestnut for my chair. It looks a good deal like oak and may be finished very nicely. If you like this plan, let me know.

A Fly Trap

In recent times we have come to regard the common housefly as a dangerous menace to health and life. Not only does the fly carry disease germs from infected places but it is a breeding place for the pests. The picture shows a trap made of common wire screen. To a cylinder of this material, add the cones as shown. The flies get inside and cannot get out. Of course there is a hole at the smaller end of each cone. Place the trap where flies are found in great numbers and when it is full hold it over a blaze. It can be used over and over again for a whole season. A door in the top like Fig. 4 permits the inside to be brushed out with a whisk broom. The fastening is done by sewing with a strand of the fine wire.



THEIR DOOM IS CERTAIN.

Window Washer

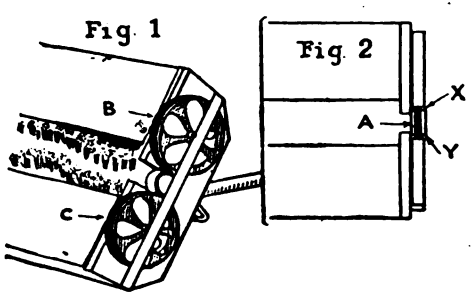
The device shown in the cut is a three-cornered piece of half inch pine which measured from four to six inches between points. The handle is about eighteen inches long and is screwed on, holes being bored for the screws. Most windows are just high enough to evade the reach of an ordinary person and this tool makes it easy for you to do a good job without taking much risk. Wrap the wash-cloth around it and you can get at the corners nicely. If a piece of rubber is nailed to the edge it will serve as a quick drier, for the rubber drawn downward on the pane of glass will force nearly all the water ahead of it. It is a useful tool and costs nothing but a little time and labor.



WORK MADE LIGHTER.

Mending the Carpet Sweeper

Both the regulation style carpet sweepers and the more modern pneumatic suction sweepers are apt to get worn at the friction surface of the wheels. It is essential that the wheels play against each other rather hard in order that sufficient driving power be developed and their looseness can only be remedied by building out the rim or running surface. A good way to do this

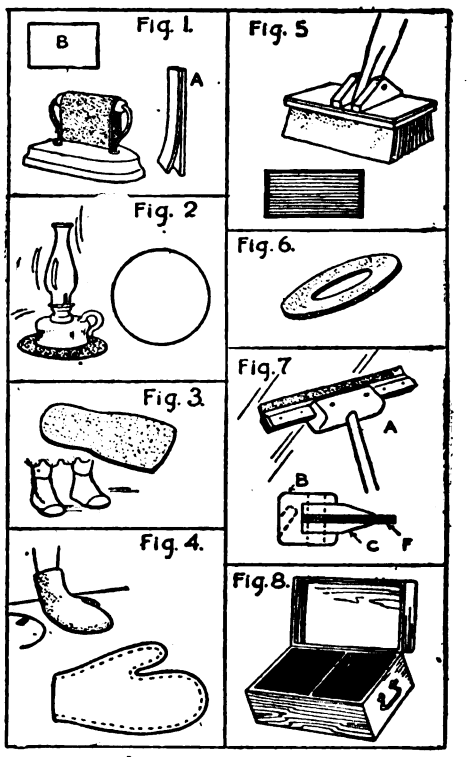


MAKING IT GOOD AS NEW.

is to wrap adhesive tape around either of the large wheels "B" or "C," or the small one between them, marked "A." If the brush of the sweeper does not go around rapidly enough to suit you, try this simple method of repair and you will be agreeably surprised at its restored efficiency.

Uses for Felt

Where there are several men in a family, it is surprising what a large number of felt hats will accumulate. The sketches herewith shown are submitted to aid you in using up the old hats. Fig. 1 is an iron holder made of a double thickness of felt. It is a non conductor of heat and does not burn easily and is therefore admirably suited to the purpose named. The next sketch is a round mat for a lamp. Fig. 3 is an insole of felt for baby's shoe, and Fig. 4 is a stove polishing mitten made of two felt layers.

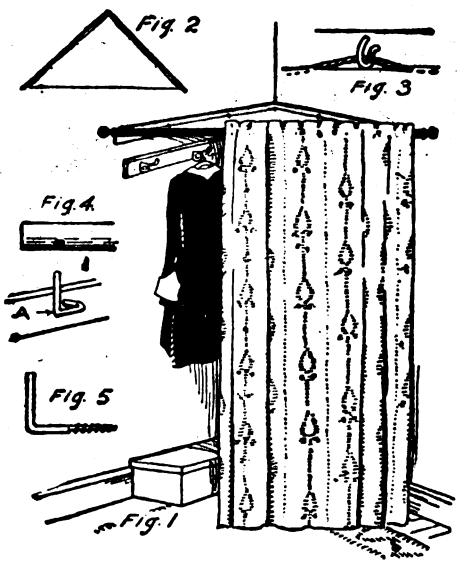


SOME USES FOR OLD FELT.

Fig. 5 is a floor polishing brush made of many thicknesses like the leaves of a book. They are sewed together and tacked to a board which forms the top of the brush and carries two blocks, between which a tiling handle fits. Fig. 6 is a felt substitute for a rubber washer in making small plumbing repairs. Fig. 7 is a window cleaner, "F" is the doubled felt, "B" a wood block, and "C" the beveled strips that hold the felt. Fig. 8 is a box lined with felt. Such a box would be useful for storing or shipping cut glass or jewelry.

A Storage Corner

It takes a pretty large house to afford ample room for everything, but good management solves many a problem of keeping things neat and accessible. The corner arrangement shown herewith is suitable for use in a bedroom that has no closet or one of insufficient size. The curtain pole is supported at each end by a hook bent like "A." A common hook, Fig. 5, is used and may be bent with pliers. If a gimlet hole is bored in the pole to receive the hook a very solid job will



SUBSTITUTE FOR CLOSET.

be the result. Fig. 2 is a roof for the corner, necessary to keep out dust. It may be bound on the edge with rope which hangs on wall hooks as in Fig. 3. Cretonne or any heavier flowered material will be appropriate for the curtains or an old pair of draperies, which are now out of date, may be utilized to good advantage. The cloth should be fastened in such a way that it will admit of taking down without much trouble, as frequent washing will be desirable.

Nerine's Second Choice

by Adelaide Stirling



"I was going to read something," replied Nerine, with the calmness of perfect truth.



"Odious little wretch. I don't mind if I break you!"



He was walking slowly along with the two girls.

Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

John Lispenard, cousin to Kit Belton's mother, marries a Canadian girl. Dying he leaves a widow, two girls, Agatha and Nerine, and one son Maurice. Mrs. Lispenard marries Clarence Mayne, an interloper. At her decease she leaves Clarence Mayne an income until the girls are of age. Lispenard house and money go to the male heir in the direct line. Clarence Mayne goes on a trip to Monte Carlo, Kit Belton comes on a visit, while Maurice Lispenard, denied the education which is his by right, walks from Liverpool, where he is learning to be a mechanical engineer, to be with Kit Belton. Jones, known to Maurice as Lister, is ordered to harness the horses, when they go to see Lord Satterlee in a game of football. Agatha recognizes him. He has attended St. Jude's that he might see her. Maurice invites Lord Satterlee to dine with him. A young maid, not familiar with the house, and suspicious, leaves him in the darkness. He gropes his way to Clarence Mayne's room, where Nerine finds him later. She picks up a fallen table. In a secret drawer she discovers a book with her mother's initials on it.

CHAPTER VI. (CONTINUED.)

AGATHA was on her knees saying her prayers. The dim light fell on her bent head and clasped hands as she knelt, and after one look Nerine retreated.

Agatha would never, she knew, get up from her prayers to approve of touching any of Mr. Mayne's possessions!

Nerine returned to her own chamber, got out of her garments and into bed without much ceremony, and set her candle on the small table beside her. In no case was she given to long orisons on her knees, like Agatha; two childish and familiar prayers had served her since first her mother had taught them to her.

Very cautiously she began to examine her treasure trove, when a question from her sister, who stood in the doorway, made her hide it.

"How can you sit up like this in this cold room?"

"I was going to read something," replied Nerine with the calmness of perfect truth.

A few minutes later, when Nerine was convinced that her sister was sound asleep she pulled the candle close to her and with chilly fingers took out her book.

It was old and worn. On the back of it was stamped in letters of faded gold, "Diary." That E. L. of raised silver on the cover meant that it had belonged to Esther Lispenard not to Esther Mayne. Had Mr. Mayne put it in that drawer, she wondered, or had it been there unknown to anyone ever since her dead mother had laid it there?

It was a pretty book, sumptuous in its Russia binding and the heavy silver clasp which resisted her fingers. Nerine gave it an impatient shake. It was ridiculously strong to be only a woman's diary. She looked searchingly at it, and the reason she could not open it became sufficiently plain. Under the silver clasp was a patent steel lock. Nerine gave a jerk of impatience as she shivered in the cold room.

"Why on earth hadn't I the sense to think of looking for a key?" she thought. "Now, heaven only knows when I shall be able to get into that room again."

With a dull disappointment she pushed the book under her pillow. It was not worth while to say anything about it to anyone now; tomorrow she would put it away somewhere and wait in patience till she could come across a key. She was averse to taking it to a locksmith, and she did not like to force it open, as she had a superstitious feeling that it would be wrong to mutilate her dead mother's diary.

The next day dawned dull and unpleasant. The Lispenard household, with the exception of Maurice, arose with a flat "after-the-party" feeling to match the day. Nerine, without a second glance at her stolen book, put it away in her wardrobe under a pile of linen, having no key to turn on it, and went down to breakfast. She felt unsettled; nervous without any reason; the dullness of every-day existence seemed doubly unsatisfactory somehow after last night's dinner with its one guest. Rather lazily she helped Agatha to put away the glass and silver they had had out for the occasion. It had been fun to get it out, but to put it away was servant's work.

Nerine was eager to once more visit Mr. Mayne's room, and she made some excuse to get away from Agatha. She looked into the morning-room as she passed, just to make sure that Maurice and Kit were safe. They apparently were, for they had drawn a table close to the fire and were busy writing letters. As Nerine opened the door their animated conversation stopped abruptly.

"Don't let the fire out, Maurice," she said, giving an idle glance at the table strewn with half-written letters in Maurice's and Kit's remarkably different handwriting. "Are you writing a tragedy?" she asked, politely.

Kit laughed and Maurice frowned.

"If we are, we're jolly well agreed upon a plan how to bring about the *denouement!*" he remarked. "Come in or go out, Nerine. There's a trade wind coming through that door."

It was shut as he spoke, and Nerine was making her way softly through the house to the scene of Satterlee's imprisonment.

If she had only had the happy thought of disclosing her last night's discovery, the letter Maurice and Kit were concocting to a private inquiry office in Canada might have been differently worded. But nothing was further from Nerine's mind. She ran swiftly down the passage instead and reached Mayne's red baize-covered door. To her delight it had not been closed tightly the previous night, or something was wrong with the latch. It yielded readily to her cautious hand. She went boldly in and let it close behind her.

The air of the room was chilly and seemed to penetrate her bones through the blue cotton blouse she wore. The blinds were lowered, the shutters closed so that it was nearly as dark as night. Suppose Mr. Mayne had returned and was lurking behind the furniture! If he suddenly rushed out upon her, what on earth should she do? At the thought of the severe, dapper, sarcastic stepfather stooping to play terrifying schoolboy tricks, the girl laughed softly. Why indulge in silly hobgoblin fears that were, after all, impossible?

She felt her way to the window and drew up the blind. Open the shutters she dared not; the window looked directly on the stables, and an opened shutter might bring that devoted henchman, Jones, upon her.

In the half light which reigned when all the blinds were raised Nerine looked curiously about her. It was years since she had been in this room, which had been half sitting-room, half-dressing-room in her mother's day. There was the solid little table Lord Satterlee had overturned last night. Nerine went down on her knees beside it and began to fumble for the secret drawer; quite uselessly. She could not even find out where it ought to be!

"Odious little wretch, I don't mind if I break you!" she said to herself, and with a little rush at the unfortunate bit of furniture she knocked it over exactly as Satterlee had done. Out sprung the drawer, and she bent over it eagerly. With the exception of a daguerreotype case, there was not one thing in it. There was certainly no sign of a key.

Disappointedly Nerine began to look about the floor; the key might have fallen out last night, like the diary. But there was nothing to be seen but two or three little spots of dust. Perhaps the da uerreotype was a likeness of her mother. She would take it if it were. But when she had unfastened the rusty catch there was no picture inside more interesting than that of Maurice—Maurice as a chubby boy. On a little slip of paper pasted inside the cover of the case were some words in Mrs. Lispenard's writing.

"Maurice, two years old, November." There was no date, and Nerine shut the case rather crossly and put it back in the drawer. There was no sense in taking possession of a hideous portrait of Maurice as a baby, with photographer's pink in his cheeks and ridiculous fat legs.

She strolled round the room looking angrily at all the things Mayne had appropriated to his own use. Why, she wondered, had he crowded so much of the furniture in a heap? Was it his intention to sell it?

"While I am in the camp of the enemy I may as well see it thoroughly," she reflected, trying the door leading into the next room. It was unfastened. Mr. Mayne had evidently relied on that latch of his which had placed him so false for protection, or else had left the locking up of his rooms to Jones.

Nerine pushed the door back sharply and heedlessly. Then she stood on the threshold aghast.

The room was empty, as she had expected. But it was also very evident that it had not been so for very long. On the white marble hearth was a neatly-kept fire; on the soft, thick rug before it lay a book, upside down; in the window was a stand full of white hyacinths and ferns, which must have been put there fresh since Mr. Mayne's departure or have been watered and cared for every day.

The warm, luxurious scent of the room made her shiver far more than the chill of the one from which she had just come. There was something odd about it. Could it be *brandy* that she smelled so distinctly over the perfume of the hyacinths?

With a tremor of fear, so potent was the dread of Clarence Mayne, Nerine softly slipped shut the door and hurried through the next room to the passage, only stopping on the way to pull down those blinds which might tell a tale. Not till she was safely out in the passage did she feel secure.

What could be going on in Clarence Mayne's rooms, which were at such a safe distance from their part of the house? Had he never gone away at all, or was there some one living in his rooms during his absence?"

She sat on the back stairs down which Lord Satterlee had blundered and was astonished to find her knees shaking.

"Bah! My good girl!" she thought, angrily, "you are an idiot. If Mr. Mayne had been in the house all this week, would he not have clamored for his meals as usual? It must be Jones who is responsible for the odor of the brandy!"

And the flowers? Nerine sat completely nonplussed. Ought she to go and tell the others? Maurice would only say that probably Jones had orders always to be ready for his master's return and Mr. Mayne invariably had flowers; the florist's cart was forever coming to Lispenard House.

"I will go back again tonight and see what is going on! And I won't say a word to the others till I have something to show them," she was deciding, when her own name, loudly called, made her jump to her feet.

It was Maurice, lustily bawling that lunch was ready.

Nerine resolutely banished her morning's experience from her mind as she washed the dust off her fingers. Why worry over what was, after all, Mr. Mayne's concern? Only tonight, before she went to bed, she would make pretty certain that whoever might be in her stepfather's apartments could not get out into their part of the house.

* * * * * * * * * * *

"Come for a walk after lunch, you people," said Agatha while they were still busy over the unwonted luxuries left from the evening before.

"Come for a drive," Maurice rejoined. "Walking is only fit for slaves! Besides, we must be at home by five. Satterlee said he would be over."

"I don't fancy he wants us to await his arrival seated in a row in the hall," Agatha's color rose in spite of her elder-sisterly manner. "And it's so chilly to drive."

"Kit's coming," he said, simply. He was not going to lose his Kit even one afternoon.

"Kit has a sealskin coat," was on the tip of Agatha's tongue, but she did not utter it. "Kit is, of course, eager for a drive," she remarked; "now, Nerine and I require exercise."

Kit blushed.

"Oh, let us all go together for a walk," she said, teasingly, and met Maurice's eyes full on her, with remonstrance rampant in them.

Nerine saw his look and laughed.

"Go your own gait, my children," she cried. "Agatha and I don't want you. As for Lord Satterlee, perhaps we shall meet him in our quiet country promenade. Agatha, since it is at least three years since we have had a pudding for lunch, perhaps you will give your sister some more."

Two hours later, as she marched gayly along a muddy road with Agatha, her idle words were unexpectedly realized. A smart dogcart came up behind them at a rattling pace and was pulled up beside them. A groom jumped down and went to the horse's head, and Lord Satterlee, buttoned to the chin in a wonderful driving coat, threw away a half smoked cigar, took off his hat, and got down into the black mud to shake hands with the two girls.

Precisely alike in their serge skirts and coats and their little felt hats, the Lispenard twins stood by the wintry hedge, their black heads and the soft rose tint in their cheeks the only bit of color in the prevailing dreariness.

Satterlee's last night's lesson of "which was which" was quite wasted as he looked at them. For the life of him he could not distinguish between them.

"This is rather a piece of luck for me," he said with that debonair smile and glance which belonged to him. "I was going to see you, but I would only have missed you if I had not taken a turn round here first. Are you taking a constitutional or," his pleasant smile a little dashed, "are you going to see some one?"

"Not the last, certainly," said Nerine, laughing. "We haven't a sign of an object."

"I have," said Satterlee, boldly. "I am going to the florist's to order flowers and palms and things for our dance. We are thinking of giving a small dance next week, Miss Lispenard. I hope you and your sister and Maurice are going to honor us."

He was walking slowly along with the two girls, his servant leading his horse at slow pace behind them, and his eyes happening to rest for a second on the ground, he missed the quick and curious glance which passed between the two sisters. A dance! They had not since their school days been at one, and they were always so fond of dancing. What heaven it would be to go! But also what an impossibility.

"We have not been to a dance for years," Agatha spoke, quickly.

"Then, don't you think it's about time to begin again?" Satterlee said, evidently quite certain his advice would be followed. "Tell me, Miss Lispenard, are you going home now? May I not drive you and your sister?"

"We were going across the fields, thank you," Agatha said, simply. "It is only a little bit of a distance if one goes that way."

"May I go that way, then?" he asked. "I mean may I walk home with you? You know I was going to see you in any case. Though, of course, if you don't want me I can go round by the road."

Nerine looked up at him quickly, half sweetly, half provokingly.

"But you are going to the florist's," she said. "It would be a pity to prevent you."

Satterleee looked at the curled black lashes which fell over the mockery in her eyes.

"As you have prevented me," he returned, coolly, "perhaps you will make up for it by letting me go home with you."

He stopped to give an order to his servant, and then hurried after the two graceful, active young women, already some yards in front of him, discoursing wildly, could Satterlee but have known it, upon how in the world they were to avoid going to his ball without offending him.

"Because we never can go," Agatha said. "Why, we've not even an evening *petticoat*, much less a gown, between us!"

Nerine was looking straight ahead into the darkening afternoon.

"I should adore going," she said, softly. "Fancy, Agatha, how long it has been since we were at a dance?"

"And we are not going to see this one," ruefully. "Talk of something else," quickly, as Satterlee caught up to them, "or he will harp on it all the way home."

CHAPTER VII.

THE TWINS IN A DILEMMA.

Agatha might as well have tried to stop Niagara. Not only did Lord Satterlee discuss the subject all the way across the wintry fields, but on the threshold of Lispenard House. Long past the time when in an orthodox household the parlor maid would have sternly carried off the tea tray and the dish which had held the nicely browned toast, the Lispenard family, Miss Belton, and Lord Satterlee were still gathered in the fire-lighted morning-room round their humble board. Lord Satterlee was indeed standing with his back to the fire, a stalwart, tall shape against the glowing coals, but it was to discourse with greater effect, not at all to say good by.

"You see, Lispenard," he was saying, "it isn't as though the mess were giving it. There are only four fellows in it, myself and three others, so that your sisters not having called on our major's wife (who's the only lady we have) doesn't come in at all. She has nothing to do with it."

Agatha took the answer out of Maurice's mouth.

"We could not possibly go." In the half dark she raised her steady gray eyes to his blue and eager ones. "Maurice may be chaperon enough for us, but I don't think Miss Belton's mother would think him enough to look after her."

Lord Satterlee turned to Maurice.

"If I can arrange it will you bring your sisters to my dance?" he said, point blank.

But Maurice still looked doubtful, his nineteen-year-old prudence rather up in arms.

"They must decide for themselves," he returned. "You don't want particularly to know tonight, do you?"

Agatha sighed with relief. She had been horribly afraid Maurice might give an unqualified assent to this maddest of mad ideas.

Nerine gave a little sigh also, but one of resignation.

"We are very prudent, aren't we?" she inquired. "You have to be if you hate your guardian as we do," uncovering the family skeleton with perfect indifference.

"You are quite right of course," Satterlee remarked in a tone of disappointment and, in spite of himself, crossly. Had he not proposed giving this dance simply to see Agatha Lispenard at it? He straightened himself up and prepared to take his leave. It was too late to dine at mess; he would have to dine at the club. "But do try and think it over," he said, appealing instinctively to Nerine as the most easily won over to his side.

He was beginning to know the sisters apart now.

"*What* fun it would be to go!" Kit cried as the door closed on him.

"And what fun it would be confronting your mother and our beloved stepfather afterward! I can hear him congratulating us on having made ourselves the sensation in a garrison town. Besides," Agatha was arguing bravely against her inclination, "we couldn't go if the Queen or Princess of Wales offered to take us—unless she gave us a gown to go in!"

Kit turned scarlet.

Yesterday she could have given both girls an evening dress and never felt the expense. Today all her money was mortgaged in that wild-goose chase Maurice and she had begun in Canada. In rather a gloomy silence the three girls sat and regarded the dying fire. It was a relief when Maurice re-entered after having seen Lord Satterlee out of the gate.

The uncounted hours of the night before and the long trudges of the afternoon had made Agatha sleepy; as soon as the clock struck half-past nine she and Kit went off to bed.

"In a minute," Nerine answered carelessly, when Maurice inquired if she were not going to follow their example, and she did leave the room as soon as she thought the other girls safe by Kit's fire. Instead of following them, she marched boldly down the long corridor to Mayne's rooms; at the red baize door she slipped off her shoes, felt in her pocket for the matches and the candle end with which she had provided herself, and then, with an uncomfortably beating heart and not too steady a hand, opened the door and stood in her mother's room. It was pitch dark and it was perfectly silent.

Very quietly the girl crossed the room, feeling her way through the heaped-up furniture. At the opposite door she paused a long time, listening intently. Everything was quiet; she tried the door; it was locked on the inside, hard and fast.

Someone had been there since this morning.

"I will make very certain there is no one there now," the girl thought, grimly. If the key were in the lock there might be a light on the other side of the door without her seeing it.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

The Wizard Charm

by Joseph F. Novak



"Oh! St. Patrick was a gentleman
Who came of decent people;
He built a church in Dublin town
And on it put a steeple."

Henry Bennett:—St. Patrick Was A Gentleman.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

KATHLEEN KELLEY sniffed as she carefully ironed out the frills of her last summer's gown. Kathleen was an economist. She had taken out the dress, and a bit of ribbon, a bit of lace, and a yard or two of chiffon had transformed the white creation which had done service during the last summer into a good counterfeit of the latest style exhibited in the fashion sheet given away free at the local department store.

Kathleen's gown was beautiful. In fact so well had she done, she should have been elated. But she wasn't, and as she stood ironing, she now and then wiped away the tears which slowly oozed to her eyes. Kathleen was unhappy.

Suddenly through the open window, raised a bit even though the March morning was chilly in spite of its brightness, came the rattling whistlings of a street organ in the strains of "St. Patrick's Day in the Morning."

Kathleen listened to the children in the court below in indignation, for they were shouting out in derision:

"The bells were ringing,
The devils were singing,
All on St. Patrick's morning,
The bells were ringing,
The devils were singing,
All on St. Patrick's morning,
La la la la la la la,
La la la la la la la la,
La la la la la la la la,
La la! la! la!"

Now, as it *was* St. Patrick's Day in the morning, and as Kathleen heard the little German, Polish and Lithuanian kids of the neighborhood singing that song in their derisive way, she became properly vexed, and being in an angry mood anyhow, she threw up the window to its fullest extent and leaned out.

"Shure, an', do quit yer noise, and ye, ye Gypsy Dago, git out o' th' Coort, d'ye hear?"

The "Gypsy Dago," obedient, quit playing, and Kathleen feeling quite virtuous in not having suffered the dear Irish song to be murdered by an organ grinder and derisive kids, went back to her work.

But anon, her tears again oozed to her eyes. Why was she unhappy?

Wasn't her gown beautiful? And wasn't she going to the grand ball of the Bright Shamrock Club that night? An invitation to the Bright Shamrock affair was a thing to dream over and delight in, for while the doings of the Bright Shamrock organization did not appear in the annals of the Blue Book's elect, still in that particular neighborhood to receive an invitation was to be considered somebody, and it was something to gloat over in the presence of those not fortunate enough to receive a "bid." Indeed, Kathleen prized it more than she would have prized an invitation to an opera party supervised by the most exclusive dowager of the realm.

In spite of these two happinesses, Kathleen was disappointed. But, with a proud toss of her head, she banged down her irons as she finished her work, and smelt long of the green carnations which she had purchased to wear that night, and which she had bought early lest she be left the last minute.

But even this did not cheer her. Why was she so unhappy?

Ah, the answer! Kathleen loved! But the boy she loved was not going to take her to the Bright Shamrock's affair. She had believed he would, and being "ditched" by him, was the cause of her grief, and so, when she discovered that he was to take another, with a sorrowful heart she determined to accept the first escort who came along.

It happened to be Mike Dooley. Now, Mike was a good fellow, but he was often apt to take a drop too much, and should he do so at the Bright Shamrock's affair, it would mean that Kathleen might have to go home alone in case Mike became too "stewed." But she didn't care much, and so she accepted his escort.

She hadn't believed that Dennis could be so fickle. Dennis had always admired her above all women. But though he might have loved Kathleen, he was quite aware of what havoc his bonny blue eyes could play, and how utterly irresistible his curling red hair was, and so, like all males, harbored a germ of conceit which sometimes tempted him too strongly. And this was the case now.

For recently, an Amazon of dashing proportions had moved into the neighborhood with a glib tongue for compliments, and so thick did she spread her praises of his many manly beauties that Dennis quite lost his head, became her slave and invited her to the Bright Shamrock's Ball.

This girl, who had so completely fascinated him, was a Polish creature with the jaw-breaking baptismal appellation of "Cornelka Walinzgorski." However, when her father first came over and got a job, his name was too much of a struggle for the foreman, who foreshortened the name to "Walin," and so his daughter evolved from "Cornelka Walinzgorski" the rather nice sounding "Cora Walin." This selfsame Cora had graduated from grammar school, and had gone to work in a department store where she learned the use of cosmetics, and with her inherent taste for gaudy colors, generally looked like a rainbow when she appeared on the streets.

No one knew much about the Walin family, and nothing of their humble beginnings, so, in the parlance of the neighborhood, they were, "some class."

And it was for this "Polack crature" that Kathleen was deserted. And to think that Dennis would invite her to the ball of the Bright Shamrocks. Kathleen had been over long enough to realize that this is a cosmopolitan country, and that Poles, Irish, Jews, Germans and all, hive together, and dance together, but somehow St. Patrick's Day and the Bright Shamrock's dance seemed only for those from the ould sod.

With these thoughts in mind, Kathleen was mad and sad and disappointed and ready for almost anything. Something really had to be done for if she did not get Dennis from the clutches of that "Polack crature" he might really marry her. It was alarming the way young people nowaday disregarded nationality and intermarried with foreigners! She must save Dennis from that, and incidentally for herself. Poor child! She loved Dennis so well that she couldn't help it.

As she wondered what plan she could pursue, there came a knock on the door. Kathleen went and opened it. There stood the "Gypsy Dago." He was around collecting pennies for the music he had rendered, and was giving promises of more for any additional nickels and pennies that might be given. Pompilio had left Guiseppina to watch the organ while he collected.

"You gimme da mon, for da muzic?" Pompilio queried, with outstretched hand.

"Ye git out o' here, ye Gypsy Dago, I ain't got no pennies fer th' likes o' ye."

"Me playa da fina muzic, Signorina," persisted Pompilio.

"I ain't done no sinnin' yit, so don't call me a sinnerino, er I'll land ye a clout. Git out o' here, anyhow," and Kathleen burst into tears.

"Da laidee, she kry," commented Pompilio, "she gotta da sad heart. For vhy you kry, Signorina?"

"Say, ain't I warned ye not to call me no sinnerino?" blazed Kathleen.

"Signorina ain't no 'sinnerino,' laidee, that means 'Mees,' 'young laidee,' 'purty goil,' in Italian Dago," explained Pompilio, blowing a kiss from his fingers which he had brought to his lips with a most wonderful flourish.

"Shure, an' 'tis that it m'ans, is it?" she queried, somewhat mollified. "All right."

"Whata for you kry?" continued Pompilio. "you fighta with da lover, yees?"

It was only too true, and apparently Pompilio guessed it, for he continued:

"I gotta da something I sella signorina what bringa da lover back, yees!"

Kathleen opened her eyes in astonishment.

"Phwat's that yez be sayin'?"

"I gotta da something I sella signorina what bringa da lover back," he repeated.

"Phwat's it?"

"It ees da wizard charm," said Pompilio.

"Phwat's a wizard charm, ye hathen?"

"Signorina wanta da see it, yees?" and from an inner pocket he took a small stick about two inches long. It was a bit of bough of a tree, with a silver tip and a bit of tinsel wound about it.

"Where d'ye git it?" she asked suspiciously.

"Get eet?" he queried in turn. "I get eet in da great old countree, Ireland. Eet ees made from da tree what grows by da town where da grea' St. Patrick was born, an' he planta da tree heemself! Yees!"

Kathleen was not one of the scoffers who believe that St. Patrick may have been an imaginary creature made real from the legends of his time. She firmly believed that St. Patrick lived and died, and chased the snakes out of Ireland. She didn't know that there was any doubt as to the place of his birth, nor that he is popularly believed to have been born in Scotland and captured by pirates, and as it never occurred to her to doubt the fact but that he must have been born in Ireland, it seemed very plausible that he might have planted a tree which was growing yet. However, she would not jump at it.

"I don't belave ye, Guinnie," she said. "I don't believe it kin do phwat ye sez it kin."

"How you know when you no trya it?" Pompilio demanded.

This was a staggerer for Kathleen, but she rallied.

"Well, sposin' I wud buy it, how much d'ye want fer it?"

"Three dollar sixty-nine cent," was his price.

"Oh, wurra, git! 'Taint worth that," she objected.

"No? Oh, verrya da well, I kgo! But I no comma back, an' signorina she feela da sorry when her lover no comma back—go off with 'nother signorina!" And he prepared to leave.

Kathleen grabbed him.

"Pwait, Dago," she said, "I'll buy yer charm, but how do I know it'll work?"

Pompilio was politic.

"I showa you how it work. I poka you wid it, an' see if you no feela lika givin' me da clout in da ear," he said, pressing it against the flesh of her plump arm.

Marvelous! Never had she felt so strongly inclined to box a "Dago's" ears. If it had that effect, of course it ought to have others.

"Pwhy, shure, an', I feel like givin' ye a clout," she exclaimed, delighted.

"Ah!" Pompilio breathed, "I tella signorina so, yees? now, signorina poka me, an' wish I kees you, an' see if I no feela lika keesing signorina."

Kathleen tried.

Immediately Pompilio's eyes rolled, and his arms reached out to clasp her to him.

"Shure, that's enough," said Kathleen, "I changed me mind about havin' ye kiss me."

"I no feela lika keesin' da signorina now," Pompilio said sorrowfully, "an' now I remember my Guiseppina who turna da organ-handle. You broka da charm. Now, when you poka da lover, an' wanta heem to lova you, he will, he gotta, da charm maka heem obey da vill of da one who holds it."

Kathleen was now quite convinced.

"Shure, an', I'll buy yer charm, but three dollars an' sixty-nine cents is purty stheep. Make it a little cheaper!"

They haggled for sometime, with the result that Kathleen got the charm for two dollars and seventy-six cents, the "Gypsy Dago" refusing to come down another cent. But after all, what was two dollars and seventy-six cents compared to regaining Dennis's love?

Pompilio made a quick getaway and the sound of his music rose here and there spasmodically, until it was lost in the distance.

But the world had brightened for Kathleen. She had a charm that was manufactured from a bough that grew upon a tree planted by St. Patrick. Surely the virtue of his hands and soul had entered into the great tree which must be so very old, and this was probably what made people obey the charm in spite of themselves.

Occasionally a little misgiving did enter her mind, but she did not allow it to harbor there. Hadn't she two beautiful examples of the charm's worth?

So through the rest of the day, she sang over her work, and when seven o'clock came, she hurried to her room and dressed. She looked very pretty in her clean white gown with its new trimming, and the soft green chiffon drapery and her green carnations added a touch of elegance. Her beautiful auburn hair was just the touch of color needed to set off the green and white, and she caused Mike Dooley to go quite into rhapsodies over her.

She was flushed, eager, nervous and very excited. She had heard tales of Cora Walin's gown, and she felt in her secret heart that Cora would quite outshine her as far as dress was concerned, but after all, didn't she have the wizard charm? The wizard charm had made her feel inclined to box Pompilio's ears, and had she willed it, Pompilio would have kissed her. Wasn't that enough evidence of its power?

All these things were in her mind on her way to the hall where the Bright Shamrocks were holdings their ball, and as the place was reached, Kathleen felt a little thrill of genuine pleasure, the first she had known since Cora Walin had loomed up on her horizon.

The crowd was big, and pleasantly noisy, wonderfully dressed and joyous. Everything was really swell. There were palms and decorations. Everyone wore green carnations. The music was very fine. They played the "Wearin' o' the Green," in ragtime, likewise "St. Patrick's Day in the Morning," to say nothing of sundry Irish jigs and reels.

As soon as Mike and Kathleen entered the hall, the girl looked about for Dennis and Cora. But they had not arrived. They did, however, shortly, and Kathleen's heart sank in spite of the fact that she had the wizard's charm. For Cora's rig-out was an exclamation! She wore a white gown with a slit skirt, which (oh, horror!) showed her green silk slipper, and an ankle and four inches of limb incased in a green silk stocking! Over the white silk gown which was a sort of underskirt, she had a drape of green chiffon which trailed off into a train a yard long. The chiffon was covered with a spangly design of silver which glinted and sparkled at her every movement. The waist was one mass of glittering lace cloth and priceless (?) jewels! Her hair was frizzed out in a great pompadour, with a gleaming little harp plastered up against it, while three immense plumes of green attached to a paste-diamond bandeau waved above it all!

In addition to all this glory, she carried a bushel of green carnations which Dennis had sent her. The nerve of her, and she a "Polack crature!"

Poor Kathleen saw that she and Cora had copied their gowns from the same fashion sheet. But what a poor imitation was Kathleen's in comparison!

However, she was not "at outs" with Cora, so laterly she and Mike joined Dennis who beamed with pride at the stunning picture Cora presented and what a hit she had made. In fact, so pleased was he that he even gave the long-suffering Kathleen a dance, during which, her heart, as the proverbial saying is, was "in her boots." What chance had she against that bewildering, gorgeous Cora?

For some time she hardly dared to use the wizard charm. She held it tightly in her hand. But after she and Dennis had danced a bit, she summoned up courage, and poked him in the ribs with it.

He looked at her suddenly, a little puzzled perhaps, and certainly somewhat displeased. This was not the effect it should have, so Kathleen pressed it no further, and they finished their dance in silence. Then they stood on the dance floor awaiting the customary encore. The music presently commenced again and Kathleen tried her charm for the second time.

"Say, Kathleen," Dennis complained, "don't ye grab th' skin o' my ribs that way. It don't feel nice."

Kathleen quailed, the dance ended and they stopped. She looked into Dennis's eyes with a look that he could not fathom, unless, perhaps, it touched his conscience, reminding him of the time when he believed Kathleen was all the world to him. And so, he smiled, thanked her for the dance, and went to the resplendent Cora.

Kathleen was at sea. She didn't know what to do now. Dennis had objected to her "grabbing the skin of his ribs." Still, he had given her a kind smile. Well, perhaps it was a desperate case, and the powers of the wizard charm were being strained, and especially because Cora was present. Perhaps if she tried it when they were alone——

She sat out dances for the most part, along with a few other wall-flowers. Mike had allowed his love of the glass to get the better of him, and he had a stationary place in the barroom, and was deep in inebriate bliss. He would not escort Kathleen home that night.

Poor Kathleen! She sat by herself, gossiping with the other wall-flowers who did nothing but cast remarks, slurs and insults at the more fortunate who were constantly on the floor. Verily a dance is a stupid thing if you haven't an escort. Have you ever gone to a dance without an escort, girls? Don't you do it—it's the most stupid thing you can do!

Wishing herself miles away, Kathleen sat on, hoping against hope that someone would claim her.

Suddenly there was a newcomer! He was a tall young man of graceful build, and dressed in a full dress suit. This was unusual; most of the fellows wore plain black suits and white vests, and a few, notably the committtee, appeared in rented tuxedoes. It was whispered about that this newcomer came in an automobile; he must be "somebody." His face was powdered, his lips rouged and his brows and lashes made up. Truly he looked as if he had escaped from behind the footlights!

The first dance he had with a wall-flower, but as he danced, his eyes roamed over the gathered crowd and finally he spied Cora. It was all off with him too, apparently.

Everyone wondered who he was, and as it was whispered about that he must be a millionaire, he let it go at that. If the truth be told, he was the proprietor of "Haviland's Academy of Society Dancing!"

He secured Cora for a dance, and then—oh, then there was an exhibition! With her Slavic instinct for the dance, Cora at once comprehended his instructions relative to new steps, and soon they were executing some of the most fascinating evolutions of the *Tango Argentino* and *Maxixe Brazilienne!*

For several dances, Cora "ditched" her partners to dance with the newcomer, and this made everyone decidedly angry, until it looked as if the dress-suited chap was in for trouble, particularly as he danced with all the best-dressed girls in the hall, complimenting their dancing and securing their addresses, laterly to send them his business card and invitation to visit his Academy, but just now filling their heads full of romantic impossibilities and driving them out of their everyday senses.

The final stroke of his audacity came when he asked Cora out for some refreshment. Then overhearing a plot to "do him up," he proposed to Cora that he take her home in his automobile. A ride in an automobile was a thing not to be turned down, so giddy Cora secured her wraps, for the hour was late anyhow, and they slipped away.

When Dennis went to search for her, later, she was gone.

He had it "put over him." His only consolation was that it took another Irishman to do it! He wandered about disconsolately, then went into a little ante-room adjacent to the wardrobe window where the wraps were handed out to their owners.

Kathleen too, had gone there; she couldn't stand the glamour of the ballroom, and it was her intention to slip away quietly and go home where she could cry to her heart's content.

Dennis now beheld the miserable girl, and nodded, then sat down beside her on the little bench. Truly he was in melancholy mood. To think that Cora would treat him in that manner, and worse that he had brought her to the ball and allowed her to queen it over his Irish sisters! He deserved to be hung for being such a fool! He sat down at Kathleen's side, his back to her.

Poor Kathleen had but one hope left. Dared she try the power of the wizard charm? The moment was auspicious. She shuffled over to his side, and jabbed the silver point into the back turned to her.

Dennis turned on her angrily.

"Fer th' love o' Mike!" he stormed. "What are ye pokin' me in th' ribs fer, anyhow? 'Tis th' third time ye've done it t'night!"

"Oh, it's sthung that I am, 'tis sthung that I am," she wailed.

"Sthung?" he inquired, rubbing his back where she had jabbed him. "What is it ye m'an, Kathleen Kelley?"

"'Tis a wizard charm that I bought from a Gypsy Dago, Dennis. He told me thot if I'd poke ye with it, ye'd fergit that Polack crature an' come back to me. He said th' power o' ould St. Patrick was in this charm which was cut from a tree planted by th' houly ould saint himself. Oh, wurra, I was sthung! Ye hate me th' more instid o' lovin' me," and she went off into a fresh outburst. "An' it cost me two dollars and seventy-six cents," she wailed, showing it to him.

Dennis turned to Kathleen, and as he looked upon her, something rose in his throat. How pretty she looked in her gown of white and green. How sweet, and pretty and helpless! He knew Mike was drunk and that poor Kathleen would have to go home alone. And it was a dark journey home, too. He really must take her, for he had loved her once, had loved her truly before he had seen the gorgeous Cora! Cora! The thought of her perfidy made him rage within. After he had spent three dollars for her carnations, to say nothing of all other incidental expenses, this was how she treated him. And through all his neglect, Kathleen had remained faithful still. And she had tried to win him back, forgiving his trespasses with a wonderfully generous heart.

His own softened. He looked about. There was no one near. The chap in charge of the wardrobe was dozing, so he couldn't see.

Dennis slipped his strong young arms about the drooping form.

"Kathleen, my Colleen, d'ye really love me

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 30.)

The Masked Bridal

by Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



"Then you were not—you did not—"
"Die? No," was the brief response.



Anna Goddard could scarcely control her impatience for her guests to be gone—



She sat there looking utterly helpless and wretched for a few moments

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Edith Allandale, the only support of an invalid mother pawns a valuable watch. To redeem it she offers a five-dollar gold piece, paid to her by Royal Bryant, to the broker, who, dropping it into the drawer declares it a counterfeit and returns it. Going home her mother suggests it may be genuine and again Edith goes out to buy food and coal. While eating supper an officer enters, followed by the grocer who insists upon Edith's arrest for passing counterfeit money. She is hurried to the station house, leaving her mother in the care of Kate O'Brien. Edith writes to Royal Bryant explaining the situation. He redeems the watch, secures Edith's release and sends her home, where she finds her mother dying. After her death in reading letters, Edith learns she is an adopted daughter, the child of a dear friend, who believes she is legally a wife, until the father of her child admits his perfidy and deserts her. Edith writes Mr. Bryant, giving no address and goes to Boston, securing a position as companion with Mrs. Gerald Goddard. Edith discovers there is a skeleton in the family, when Mrs. Goddard accuses her of attempting to steal her husband's affections. Emil Correlli, Mrs. Goddard's brother is persistent in his attentions to Edith; she tries to avoid him and decides to leave. Mrs. Goddard begs her to stay. Edith, going to walk renders assistance to Mrs. Stewart, who is attracted to her and shows agitation when she learns she is a companion to Mrs. Goddard, and if she needs a friend to come to her. Edith is overtaken by Emil Correlli. Nearing Mrs. Goddard's house, a woman, unknown to Edith addresses Emil in a foreign tongue. Realizing that Edith thinks there is something mysterious in his relation to this woman he endeavors to set it right, renews his protestations of love, offers marriage and is staggered by her refusal. Mrs. Goddard unfolds a scheme which cannot fail to make Edith Allen his wife, but Emil must go away. Mrs. Goddard plans with Edith for a "mid-winter frolic," at their country home. The housekeeper, Mrs. Weld, overhears Mr. Goddard entreating his wife for a certain document. Mrs. Goddard proposes a theatrical performance entitled "The Masked Bridal." The guests arrive. Mrs. Weld takes a folded paper from Mrs. Goddard's jewel case; it vindicates her. Mrs. Goddard, having sent for Edith and seeing Mrs. Weld in an adjoining room devises a scheme to get her from meeting Edith to whom she explains that Miss Kerby and brother who have the leading parts, have been summoned home and requests Edith to supply Miss Kerby's place. Edith objects to what appears sacrilege. Over persuaded she consents and veiled and masked the ceremony is performed. When she hears Mrs. Goddard congratulate Emil she grasps the duplicity and nearly falls senseless. Mrs. Goddard, returning to the ballroom asks Emil to introduce his friend, Mrs. Stewart.

CHAPTER XV.

"OH, GOD! I KNEW IT! YOU ARE—ISABEL!"

WITH a somewhat reluctant air, Emil Correlli offered his arm to his sister and led her toward the woman around whom a group of distinguished people had gathered and whom she was entertaining with an ease and grace that proclaimed her perfectly at home among the *creme de la creme* of society.

She appeared not to perceive the approach of her hostess and her brother, but continued the animated conversation in which she was engaged.

A special observer, however, would have noticed the peculiar fire which began to burn in her beautiful eyes.

When Mr. Correlli presented his sister, she turned with fascinating grace, making a charming acknowledgment although she did not offer her hostess her hand.

"You are very welcome, Mrs. Stewart," Mrs. Goddard remarked, in response to some words of apology for being a guest in the house without a previous acquintance. "I only regret that we have not met before."

"Thanks; I, too, deplore the complication of circumstances which has prevented an earlier meeting," was her sweet-voiced response.

But there was a peculiar shading in the remark which somehow, grated harshly upon Anna Goddard's ears.

"Who is she, anyhow?" she questioned within herself with a strange feeling of unrest and perplexity. "I never even heard of her until after Emil came; yet there is something about her that makes me feel as if we had met in some other sphere."

She stole a searching glance at the woman's face, only to find her great, luminous eyes fastened upon her with an equally intent gaze.

"Ah!" and with this voiceless ejaculation and a great inward start, some long dormant memory seemed suddenly to have been aroused within her.

There was an instant of awkwardness; then madam, who seldom allowed anything to disturb her self-possession, remarked:

"I am sorry, Mrs. Stewart, that you did not arrive earlier to witness our little play."

But while she was giving utterance to this polite regret, she was saying to herself:

"Yes, there certainly is a look about her that reminds me of——Ugh! She may possibly be a relative, or the resemblance may be merely a coincidence. All the same, I shall not like her any the better for recalling that horror to me."

"Thank you," Mrs. Stewart replied; "no doubt I should have enjoyed it, especially as, I am told, it was original with you and terminated in a real and very pretty wedding?"

"Yes: my brother finds that he must leave the city earlier than he anticipated; and, as he was anxious to take his bride with him, he chose this opportunity to celebrate his marriage, and to introduce his wife to our friends."

"Ah! I did not even know that Monsieur Correlli was contemplating matrimony. Who is the favored lady of his choice?" Mrs. Stewart inquired.

"A Miss Edith Allen."

"Edith Allen!" repeated the beautiful stranger, with a start.

"Yes," said Mrs. Goddard, regarding her with surprise, but unmixed with anxiety. "Did you ever meet her?"

"Is she very fair and lovely, with golden hair and deep-blue eyes, a tall, slender figure, and charming manners?" eagerly questioned Mrs. Stewart.

"Yes, you have described her exactly," answered madam, yet secretly more disturbed than before; "but I am surprised that you should know her, for she has been in the city only a short time, and I did not suppose she had made a single acquaintance outside the family."

"Oh, I cannot lay claim to an acquaintance with her, as I have only seen her once, and our meeting was purely accidental," the lady responded. "She rendered me efficient service one day when she was out for a walk, and I inquired her name."

She then proceeded to explain the nature of that service and the accident that had called it forth, and concluded by remarking:

"Allow me to say I think that Monsieur Correlli has shown excellent taste in his choice of a wife. I was charmed with the young lady, and I would like to meet her again. Will you introduce me?"

"I am very sorry that I cannot comply with your request," said Mrs. Goddard, flushing slightly; "but Edith is rather delicate and the reception, after the marriage, was such a strain upon her that she fainted and was obliged to retire."

"That was very unfortunate," Mrs. Stewart observed, while she searched her companion's face curiously, "but I trust that I may have the pleasure of meeting her later."

"I cannot promise as to that," madam replied, "as it is my brother's intention to go abroad as soon as he can complete his arrangements to do so, although no date has been set as yet. But—have you ever met my husband, Mrs. Stewart?" she inquired, as that gentleman was seen approaching their way at that moment.

"No, I have never had that honor," the lady returned; then added, with a light laugh; "I feel very much like an intruder to be here tonight as a stranger to both my host and hostess."

"Pray do not be troubled on that account," madam hastened cordially to reply; "any friend of my brother would be a welcome guest, and I am charmed to have made your acquaintance."

"Thank you," responded the beautiful stranger; but madam marveled at the line of white encircling the scarlet lips as she signaled to her husband and called him by name:

"Gerald!"

He glanced up, and both women noticed the expression of weariness and trouble upon his brow.

"You have not been introduced to Emil's friend, I think," his wife continued. "Allow me to present Mrs. Stewart—Mrs. Stewart, my husband, Mr. Goddard."

The gentleman bowed with all his accustomed courtesy, but did not fairly get a glimpse of the lady's face until they both assumed an upright position again, when he found himself looking straight into the magnificent eyes of his guest.

As he met them it seemed as if someone had stabbed him to the heart, so sudden and terrible was the shock that he experienced.

He changed an involuntary groan into a cough, but he could not have been more ghastly if he had been dead, while he continued to gaze upon her as if fascinated.

"Ha! he has noticed it also!" said madam to herself.

Then realizing that something must be done to relieve the awkwardness of the situation, she hastened to observe:

"Mrs. Stewart has only just arrived—she did not come in season to witness our little drama."

Mr. Goddard murmured some polite words of regret, but feeling all the while as if he were turning to stone.

Mrs. Stewart, however, responded in a pleasant vein, and chatted socially for a few moments, when, some other friends joining them, more introductions followed, and the conversation became general.

Gerald Goddard improved this opportunity to slip away; but his wife, who was covertly watching his every look and movement, noticed that he walked with the uncertain step of one who was either blind or intoxicated.

A feeling of depression settled upon her—a sense of impending evil, which, try as she would, she could neither forget nor shake off.

An hour later Mrs. Stewart again sought her hostess and wished her good night, remarking that circumstances which she could not control compelled her to take an early leave.

"Ah! that is unfortunate, for supper will shortly be announced; cannot you possibly remain to partake of it?" madam urged, with cordial hospitality.

"Thanks, no; but I am promising myself the pleasure of meeting you again in the near future," Mrs. Stewart returned, shooting a searching glance at her hostess.

Her language and manner were perfect; but, for the second time that evening, Anna Goddard noticed the peculiar shading in her words, and a chill that was like a breath from an iceberg went shivering over her.

She, however, replied courteously, and then Mrs. Stewart swept from the room upon the arm of her attendant.

Many earnest and curious glances followed the stately couple, for the lady was reported to be immensely rich, while it had also been whispered that the gentleman attending her—a distinguished artist—had long been a suitor for her hand; but, for some reason best known to herself, the lady had thus far turned a deaf ear to his entreaties, although it was evident that she regarded him with the greatest esteem, if not with sentiments of a tender nature.

After passing through the covered walk leading to the house, the two separated—the gentleman to attend to having their carriage called, the lady to go up-stairs for her wraps.

As she was about to enter the dressing-room to get them, a picture hanging between two windows at the end of the hall attracted her eye.

"Ah!" she exclaimed, catching her breath sharply, and moving swiftly toward it, she seemed to forget everything, and stood, with clasped hands and heaving bosom, spellbound before it.

It represented a portion of an old Roman wall—a marvelously picturesque bit of scenery, with climbing vines that seemed to cling to the gray stones lovingly, as if to conceal their irregular lines and other ravages which time and the elements had made upon them; while here and there, growing out from its crevices, were clusters of delicate maiden-hair fern, the bright green of which contrasted beautifully with the weather-beaten wall and the darker, richer coloring of the vines.

Just underneath, partly in the shadow of the wall, there sat, upon a rustic bench, a beautiful Italian girl, dressed in the costume of her country, while at her feet reclined her lover, his hat lying on the grass beside him, his handsome face upturned to the maiden, whom it was evident he adored.

It was a charming picture, very artistic, and finely executed, while the subject was one that appealed strongly to the tenderest sentiments of the human heart.

But the face of the woman who was gazing upon it was deathly white. She was motionless as a statue, and seemed to have forgotten time, place, and her surroundings, as she drank in with her wonderful eyes the scene before her.

"It is the wall upon the Appian Way in Rome," she breathed at last, with a long-drawn sigh.

"You are right, madam," responded a voice close at hand, the sound of which caused the woman to press her clasped hands hard upon her heaving bosom, though she gave no other sign of being startled.

The next moment she turned and faced the speaker.

It was Gerald Goddard.

"I heard no one approaching—I thought I was alone," she said, as she lifted those wonderful eyes of hers to his.

He shrank from her glance as under a lightning flash that had burst upon him unawares.

But quickly recovering himself, he courteously remarked:

"Pardon me—I trust I have not startled you."

"Only momentarily," she replied; then added: "I was admiring this painting; it is very lovely and—most faithfully portrays the scene from which it was copied."

"Ah! you recognize the—the locality?"

"Perfectly."

"You—you have been in—Rome?" the man faltered.

"Oh, yes."

"Recently?"

There was a sort of breathless intensity about the man as he asked this question.

"No; I was in Rome—in the year 18—."

At this response, Gerald Goddard involuntarily put out his hand and laid it upon the balustrade, near which he was standing, while he gazed spellbound into the proud, beautiful face before him searching it with wild, eager eyes.

After a moment he partially recovered himself, and remarked:

"Is it possible? I myself was in Rome during the same year and painted this picture at that time. Were—were you in the city long?" he concluded.

"From January until—until June."

For the second time that evening Mr. Goddard suppressed a groan with a cough.

"Ah! It is a singular coincidence is it not, that I also was there during those months?"

"A coincidence?" his companion repeated, with a slight lifting of her shapely brows, a curious gleam in her eyes. Then throwing back her head with an air of defiance which was intensified by the glitter of those magnificent stones which crowned her lustrous hair, and with a peculiar cadence ringing through her tones, she observed: "Rome is a lovely city—do you not think so? And, as it happened, I resided in a delightful portion of it. Possibly you may remember the locality. It was a charming little house, with beautiful trees—oleander, orange and fig—growing all around the spacious court. This pretty ideal home was Number 34, Via Nationale."

The wretched man stared helplessly at her for one brief moment when she had concluded, then a cry of despair burst from him.

"Oh, God! I knew it! You—you are Isabel?"

"Yes."

"Then you were not—you did not——"

"Die? No," was the brief response.

A mighty shudder shook Gerald Goddard from head to foot as he reeled backward and leaned against the wall for support.

"Oh, God!" he cried again in a voice of agony; then his head dropped heavily upon his breast.

His companion gazed silently upon him for a minute; then, turning, she brushed by him without a word and went on into the dressing-room for her wraps.

Presently she came forth again, enveloped from head to foot in a long garment richly lined with fur, the scarlet lining of the hood contrasting beautifully with her clear, flawless complexion and her brown eyes.

Gerald Goddard still stood where she had left him.

She would have passed him without a word, but he put out a trembling hand to detain her.

"Isabel!" he faltered.

"Mrs. Stewart, if you please," she corrected.

"Ha! you have married again!" he exclaimed.

"Married again?" she repeated, with curling lips. "I have not so perjured myself."

"But—but——"

"Yes, I know what you would say," she interposed, "nevertheless, I claim the matron's title, and 'Stewart' was my mother's maiden name," and she was about to pass on again

"Stay," said the man, nervously. "I—I must see you again—I must talk further with you."

"Very well," the lady coldly returned, "and I also have some things which I wish to say to you. I shall be at the Copley Square Hotel on Thursday afternoon. I will see you as early as you choose to call."

Then, with an air of grave dignity, she passed on, and down the stairs, without casting one backward glance at him.

"Heavens! and I deserted that glorious woman for—a virago!" Gerald Goddard muttered, hoarsely, as he strode, white and wretched, to his room.

CHAPTER XVI.

"YOU SHALL NEVER WANT FOR A FRIEND."

Up in the third story, poor Edith lay upon her bed, still in an unconscious state.

All the wedding finery had been removed and carried away, and she lay scarcely less white than the spotless *robe de nuit* she wore, her lips blue and pinched, her eyes sunken and closed.

A physician sat beside her, his fingers upon her pulse, his eyes gravely fixed upon the beautiful, waxen face lying on the pillow.

Two housemaids, looking frightened and anxious, were seated near him, watching him and the still figure on the bed, but ready to obey whatever command he might issue to them.

After introducing his sister to Mrs. Stewart, Emil Correlli had slipped away from the scene of gayety, which had become almost maddening to him, and mounted to that third-story room to inquire again regarding the condition of the girl he had so wronged.

"No better," came the answer, which made him turn with dread, and slinking away to his own room, he drank deeply to stupefy himself, and then went to bed.

Gerald Goddard also was strangely exercised over the fair girl's condition, and half an hour after his interview with Mrs. Stewart he crept forth from his room again and went to see if there had been any change in her condition.

"Yes," Dr. Arthur told him, "she is coming out of it, and if another does not follow, she will come around all right in time. If you could only find that housekeeper," he added, "she must have good care through the night."

"I will go for her again," said Mr. Goddard, and he started down-stairs upon his quest.

He met the woman on the second floor and just coming up the back stairs.

"Ah! Mrs. Weld, I am glad to find you. We have needed you sadly," he eagerly exclaimed.

"I am sorry," the woman replied, in a regretful tone. "I was unavoidably engaged and came just as soon as I was at liberty. What is this I hear?" she continued, gravely; "what is this story about the poor child being cheated into a real marriage with madam's brother? Is it true?"

"Hush! no one must hear such a version."

Mr. Goddard then proceeded to explain something of the matter, for he saw that she knew too much to keep still, unless she was told more, and cautioned not to discuss the matter with the servants.

"I knew nothing of the plot until it was all over—I swear to you I did not," he said, when she began to express her indignation at the affair. "I never would have permitted anything of the kind to have been carried out in my house, if I had suspected it. It seems that Correlli has been growing fond of her ever since he came. She has refused him twice, but he swore that he would have her, in spite of everything, and it seems that he concocted this plot to accomplish his end."

"Well, sir, he is a dastardly villain, and, in my opinion, his sister is no better than himself," Mrs. Weld exclaimed, in tones of hot indignation, and then she swept past him and on up to Edith's room.

She opened the door and entered just as the poor girl heaved a long sigh and unclosed her eyes, looking about with complete consciousness for the first time since she fell to the floor in the parlor below.

The physician immediately aministered a stimulant, for she was naturally weak and her pulses still feeble.

As this began to take effect, memory also resumed its torturing work.

Lifting her eyes to the housekeeper, who went

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.)

Uncle Sam tells how to feed Children



By Stanley Wells

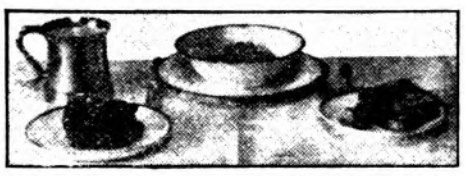
Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

TO some it may seem rather strange that this great government of ours should devote time and money to investigation and experiment along the lines of nourishment for children between three and six years of age.

As a matter of fact nothing else is of half the importance to our government as the rearing of strong, healthy children. The wise officials in charge of our government departments know full well that the children of today will be the very sinews of the government tomorrow, and that the stronger and healthier they are, the better men and women they will be and the better government they will maintain.

Whatever may be the national policy on military preparedness, Uncle Sam certainly believes in the bodily preparedness of every little citizen, and he has constantly at work a large staff of trained men and women who are doing everything possible to help fathers and mothers to rear better children. Much of this valuable work is done under the direction of C. F. Langworthy, Chief of the Office of Home Economics, and the very latest work consists of careful instructions in the matter of food for the young.

At the close of every day, says Caroline L. Hunt, Scientific Assistant to Professor Lang-



A Sensible Breakfast—Baked Apple, Cereal Mush, Milk and Toast with Butter

worthy, every mother of a child between the ages of three and six should ask herself these questions:

Did each child take about a quart of milk in one form or another?

Have I taken pains to see that the milk that comes to my house has been handled in a clean way?

If I was obliged to serve skim-milk for the sake of cleanness or economy, did I supply a little extra fat in some other way?

Were the fats which I gave the child of the wholesome kind found in milk, cream, butter, and salad oils, or of the unwholesome kind found in doughnuts and other fried foods?

Did I make good use of all skim-milk by using it in the preparation of cereal mushes, puddings, or otherwise?

Were all cereal foods thoroughly cooked?

Was the bread soggy? If so, was it because the loaves were too large, or because they were not cooked long enough?

Did I take pains to get a variety of foods from the cereal group by serving a cereal mush once during the day?

Did I keep in mind that while cereals are good foods in themselves, they do not take the place of meat, milk, eggs, fruit and vegetables?

Did I keep in mind that children who do not have plenty of fruit and vegetables need whole-wheat bread and whole grains served in other ways?

Did each child have an egg or an equivalent amount of meat, fish, or poultry?

Did any child have more than this of flesh foods or eggs? If so, might the money not have been better spent for fruits or vegetables?

If I was unable to get milk, meat, fish, poultry, or eggs, did I serve dried beans, or other legumes thoroughly cooked and carefully seasoned?

Were vegetables and fruits both on the child's bill of fare once during the day? If not, was it because we have not taken pains to raise them in our home garden?

Did either the fruit or the vegetable disagree with the child? If so, ought I to have cooked it more thoroughly, chopped it more finely, or have removed the skins or seeds?

Was the child given sweets between meals, or anything that tempted him to eat when he was not hungry?

Was he allowed to eat sweets when he should have been drinking milk or eating cereals, meat, eggs, fruit, or vegetables?

Were the sweets given to the child simple, i. e., unmixed with much fat or with hard substances difficult to chew, and not highly flavored?



Ideal Dinner for Child—Lamb Chop, Baked Potato, Spinach, Bread and Butter, Boiled Rice with Sugar and Milk.

Was the child made to eat slowly and chew his food properly?

A young child may be considered well fed if he has plenty of milk, bread, and other cereal food; an egg once a day or its equivalent in flesh foods; a small portion each of carefully prepared fruits and vegetables, with a small amount of sweet food after his appetite for other foods is satisfied. If there is too much or too little of any of these, his diet is one sided.

Now Uncle Sam, so ably represented by his experts, understands thoroughly that he must go into details with the mothers, that he must explain just what to give the youngsters, not as a whole, but what varieties may be used for breakfast, for dinner and for supper.

For breakfast he sets forth six menus, which are valuable suggestions, and these serve to show how to balance the food, so that while these need not be followed out exactly to the letter, the mother can understand by them how to supply for each breakfast a combination that is, under normal conditions, certain to give the baby health, strength and contentment. These suggested menus are:

Orange. (Juice only for youngest children.)
Farina with milk. Bread and butter.

Apple sauce (no seeds or skins).
Oatmeal with milk. Toast and butter.

Baked pears. (Pulp only for youngest).
Milk toast. Cocoa.

Stewed prunes. (Pulp only for youngest).
Corn-meal mush and milk. Toast and butter.

Grape fruit. (Juice only for youngest).
Milk toast with grated yolk of hard boiled egg.

Apple. (Scraped for little children).
Toast. Hot milk.

For the dinners a more elaborate menu may be used. Uncle Sam advises the following:

Meat soup. Egg on toast.
String beans. Rice pudding.

Roast beef. Baked potato.
Asparagus. Bread and jelly.

Lamb stew wih carrots and potato.
Twice-baked bread. Taploc custard.

Creamed potatoes. Green peas.
Stewed plums, thin cereal milk pudding.

Baked halibut. Boiled potatoes. Stewed celery.
Boiled rice with honey or sirup.

Broiled meat cakes. Grits. Creamed carrots.
Bread, butter and sugar sandwiches.

For the little folks' supper these variations of the menu are suggested:

Baked potatoes, with cream and salt or milk gravy. Cookies.

Bread and milk. Sponge cake. Apple sauce.

Potato milk soup. Twice-baked bread.
Marmalade sandwiches.

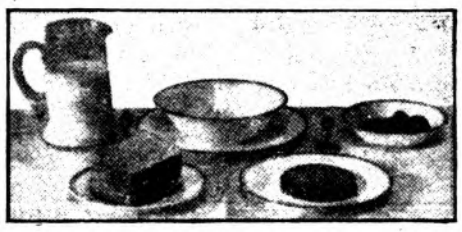
Graham crackers and milk. Baked custard.

Milk toast. Stewed peaches. Cup cake.

Celery-milk soup. Toast. Floating island.

In each case enough milk should be given to make up the required daily amount, which is about a quart. If the meals do not contain this average of milk, see that the child gets it plain, as a drink, as it is needed to balance the diet, since it is so rich in lime. The vegetables supply the needed iron, but the balance of lime is equally as necessary, hence the need of the quart a day of milk, either in the food or as a drink.

"Milk," Uncle Sam, through his experts, goes on to say, "is the natural food of babies and the most important food for young children. A quart of milk a day is a good allowance for a child. Milk may be served on fruits that are not



Good Supper for a Child—Bread, Milk, Stewed Prunes and Cookies.

very acid (baked apples or pears, berries, and others), in soups, gravies, custard, junket, and other puddings, and may be used in place of water in cooking cereals.

"Good whole milk is desirable, but if a mother is obliged to choose between clean milk and rich milk, she had better take the clean milk. Best of all, of course, is clean, whole milk, but if that cannot be obtained it is better to use clean fresh skim-milk than dirty or questionable whole milk. A quart of skim-milk, even separator skim-milk, contains about a third of a cupful of solid food, which is nearly all there was in the whole milk, except the butter fat.

"Bread and milk may well be the chief, if not the only, dish in the supper of little children. If the milk is not very rich, the bread should be spread with butter. Use well-baked bread, at least a day old, or toast, or occasionally crackers.

"Thoroughly cooked cereals served once a day for the first course and once a day for dessert encourage the use of milk. Any cereal may be cooked in milk besides being served with it. Skim-milk which might otherwise be thrown away may be used for the purpose. Rice, cooked in an uncovered double boiler, or in a pan in a very 'slow' oven, can be made to absorb about six times its volume of skim-milk. To soak a cupful of rice in this way instead of in water may be considered equivalent, so far as tissue-forming materials are concerned, to serving it with half a pound of lean beef.

Milk gravy may be combined with dried beef or salt codfish which has been cut into small pieces and soaked in warm water, or with small pieces of tender meat, chicken, fish, or vegetables. Such gravy may be served with toast, with baked or boiled potatoes, or with boiled rice or other cereals. Dishes of this kind are more suitable for dinner than for supper.

"Milk toast with the yolk of a hard-boiled egg grated over it makes an attractive dish. The whites of the hard-cooked eggs are not suitable for a young child nor for any child unless they are finely chopped or unless the child can be made to chew them well.

"For variety, milk flavored with cocoa may be served. A warm drink, made chiefly out of cocoa and water, is not to be confused with the more nourishing drink made by flavoring milk with cocoa, but it has its uses. Like clear soups, which contain little food in themselves, it may lead the child to eat freely of bread and other needed foods.

"In some families children do not get enough meat and eggs; in others they get too much. A good general rule commonly followed is to give a child two years old or over, an egg every other day and about the same amount (two ounces) of meat, fish, or poultry on the days that come between. If for any reason meat is omitted from the child's diet special care must be taken to see that other suitable foods take its place—preferably an extra amount of milk or eggs.

"Broiling and roasting are the best methods of preparing tender meat. Tough meat should be stewed or prepared in a fireless cooker, or first chopped and then broiled.

"It is important to teach children to chew meat and other foods properly.

"Fried meats, particularly those which are pan fried or cooked in a small amount of fat, should not be given to young children. One reason for this is that they are likely to be overcooked and tough, at least on the outside, and so are likely not to be properly chewed and to be swallowed in large pieces. Another reason is that the fat used in frying and also that which tries out of the meat is likely to be scorched and changed in composition. When this is the case, it is almost certain to be harmful.

"Eggs are especially useful food for young children. The chief point to remember in preparing them for children is that they must not be overcooked or they are likely to cause indigestion. Everyone knows how the heat of cooking hardens the egg, and it is easy to understand why the digestive juices might have difficulty in penetrating such hard substance as the white of a hard-boiled egg. Overcooked yolks are also hard to digest. The best ways of serving eggs for children are poached, soft-boiled, or coddled, though they may be scrambled for a change if one is careful not to scorch the fat used or to overcook the egg.

"Cereal foods of some sort are used by children practically all over the world. Bread is the commonest cereal food in this country, though cereal mushes are also very generally used. Well-baked bread and thoroughly cooked breakfast cereals are both good for children and with milk should make up a large part of the diet. These two foods, bread and breakfast cereals, provide almost the same kinds of nourishment. Bread may therefore take the place, to a certain extent, of cereal mushes and cereal mushes may take the place of bread, but neither can take the place of milk, meat, eggs, fruits and vegetables.

"An ordinary slice of bread (a three quarter-inch slice cut from an ordinary loaf) is equal in food value to about half a cupful of boiled or steamed cereal and to about a cupful of puffed or flaked cereal. The mother who must feed her child very economically should calculate the cost of each and decide which is cheapest.

"The relation of food to the condition of the bowels is an important matter. Grains, particularly those containing the outer or branny layers or coats, are laxative; so, too, are such mildly acid fruits as apples, oranges and grapefruit. So far, therefore, as the important matter of preventing constipation is concerned, coarse grains and mildly acid fruits serve the same purpose. When fruits are to be obtained in abundance, the kind of cereal served is not of great importance. When they are not, the coarser cereals should be used. In the case of both cereals and fruits, it is possible to overdo.

"Bread cut or torn into small pieces and heated in a very slow oven until thoroughly dried and very delicately browned is good food for children. The warming oven of a coal stove is about hot enough for this purpose. In the case of gas ovens it is often difficult to get the gas low enough without having the door open a little way. The advantage of tearing instead of cutting the bread is that it makes it lighter in texture and easier to eat. The crust can be torn off from all but the ends of a loaf of bread in one piece. This crust should be torn into pieces about two inches wide. The inside of an ordinary loaf of bread will make sixteen pieces of convenient size. Tear first across the loaf and then tear each half into eight pieces. It is usually necessary to make a small cut first in order to start the tearing. It is well to keep the crusts separate, as otherwise they are likely to get too brown. Such bread will need to be reheated before being served unless it is kept in a warm place, like a warming oven. This is also a good way to use stale bread. Some people crush it and use it with milk as a breakfast food.

"Except when used for dessert, cereal mushes and ready-to-eat cereals should be served with milk and with very little, if any, sugar. If the cereals are heavily sweetened, children are likely to eat so much that they neglect other and much-needed foods. If carefully salted, mushes are more likely to satisfy the taste without sugar than otherwise. Well-cooked cereals with milk or stewed fruit or a little molasses, sirup, honey, or sugar make good desserts for dinner, lunch, or supper. If preferred, dried fruits, like dates and raisins, may be cooked with the cereal to sweeten it and to give flavor.

"Fat is an important part of the food of children. Butter, which consists chiefly of separated milk fat, and cream, which is rich in milk fat and also in the other nourishing substances of milk, are both wholesome. Salad oils of various kinds (olive, cottonseed, peanut and others) may be given to children in small amounts. Those who are not used to table oil must often be trained to like it. This can usually be done by introducing it very gradually into the diet. A good way to serve it is on spinach and other greens or on tender salad vegetables.

"There is more than an ounce of fat (at least two and one half level tablespoonfuls) in a quart of whole milk. If the healthy child is given a quart of milk, has butter on its bread, and meat or an egg once a day, he gets enough fat and that which he receives is in wholesome form. It is well, therefore, not to give such fatty foods as pastry, fried meats and vegetables, and doughnuts or rich cakes, for in these the fats are not in so good a form for children, as experience has shown. If the child is constipated, the occasional use of cream or salad oil is desirable, for fat in abundance is laxative.

"Bacon or salt pork, cut very thin and carefully cooked, may be given occasionally but thick pieces with much lean are not desirable.

"Vegetables are an important but often a neglected part of a child's diet. They should be served at least once a day, as they help to keep the bowels in good condition. Several of the ways of accustoming the child to the taste of unfamiliar vegetables have already been suggested here. They may be used as flavoring for soups and stews, may be added to milk or meat stews, or served with meat gravy. If gravy is used, it should not be too fat nor made with scorched fat.

"Young children may be given the young and tender parts of celery and lettuce, a satisfactory way of serving being in the form of sandwiches. For this purpose they should be slightly salted and the celery should be chopped or cut into small pieces.

"All vegetables, whether served raw or cooked, should be washed with great care. Large vegetables like potatoes and carrots should be scrubbed with a brush. Greens should be washed leaf by leaf under running water, or in a large amount of water. To prevent it from again getting on the vegetables lift them from the water instead of pouring the water off.

"Most vegetables when served as a separate dish should be either steamed, boiled, baked, or stewed. If the supply of fresh vegetables is not generous, the juice in which they are cooked should be used with them so far as possible, or put into soups or stews. Experience has shown that vegetables, particularly green vegetables, are at their best when cooked until tender, but not until completely wilted. Spinach requires cooking from twenty to thirty minutes. Vegetables should be served either quite simply or with a little milk, cream, or butter, to improve or vary the flavor. These simple methods are better than complicated ones like frying or scalloping. For the smallest children such vegetables as greens should be finely chopped, and if the tougher portions of other vegetables, the skins of green peas, for example, are found to disagree with a child, these portions should be removed by putting the cooked vegetable through a sieve.

"Fruits are also very important in the child's diet. They supply mild acids and they are important for their flavor, for their laxative effects, and no doubt for other reasons also. This laxative effect is well recognized in the very general use of orange juice, prunes and apples. Then, too, the fruits, like the vegetables, have mineral elements which the body requires.

"Fruits should be served in some form at least once a day. In general, the same rule should be followed as for vegetables in deciding in what form they should be served. Fruit juices and the pulp of cooked fruit, baked apples and pears, and stewed prunes, for example, are safest, whether the skins should be given depends partly on the age and health of the child and partly on the way the fruit is prepared. If the skins are very tender, they are not likely to cause trouble, except with very young children. When apples and pears are baked the skins can be made tender by frequent basting.

"Simple sweets are such things as lump sugar, maple sugar, sirups, honey, and plain candy, and those foods in which sugar is combined in simple forms with fruit juices (in lemonade, water ice, jelly, etc.), with flour or starch, as in plain cakes (cup cake, sponge cake, cookies), and with fruit, as in jams, marmalades, and similar things. Sweets which contain much fat, like rich cakes and pastry, and foods which are made rich with nuts or dried or candied fruits, or those which are highly flavored or spiced, cannot be classed as simple sweets. Sweets should not be given between meals or during the first course of a meal. Careful mothers who forbid their children eating candy at odd times sometimes give one or two pieces of wholesome candy as a 'treat' with dessert at dinner."

No detail is forgotten by "Uncle Sam" in the matter of proper diet for little children, even in regard to the serving. The government experts in this very latest advice and instruction to mothers calls attention to the desirability of having everything served to the children as clean, dainty and attractive as possible. The child relishes his food much better and, relishing it eats more. Sometimes it is difficult to get a child to eat as much as he should.

A dish of oatmeal served in an old cracked, nicked and heat-stained saucer does not appeal at all to the little one. But serve the same food in a little blue saucer with a gilt stripe, or a nursery saucer in colors with figures of animals inside, and with a pretty little spoon, and the youngster will be delighted. Frequently he will eat the cereal very carefully and methodically, just to uncover the pretty pictures.

To eat with pleasure means good digestion. To be constantly urged to eat more, means that the child will not relish his food, and consequently it will not digest as easily. Almost every adult can remember his childhood days when he was scolded because he did not eat more and when he was told to "Eat it all up, at once!" And most of us can remember how hard it was to get some of that food down, how it fairly nauseated us. Scientists have shown us that our mental condition has much to do with digestion. See to it that the child is happy and contented while eating, especially if he be a delicate child with small appetite.



What Cora Manning Says

"And, oh, Jack! we're out of Jell-O again. Order a dozen and bring a package of Strawberry Jell-O with you. The Mannings are coming for dinner and Cora Manning says there's nothing so lovely as my

JELL-O

desserts."

The Mannings and their friends, and other sensible people, do not deprive themselves of good things because they are cheap.

The charm of the Jell-O dessert is felt in every home, and it only costs ten cents!

Plain but delicious desserts and elaborate desserts are made of Jell-O—and most of them can be made in a minute.

The new Jell-O Book, just out, describes new Jell-O salads, "whips," knickknacks, and dainties of almost unlimited variety. Recipes for every-day salads and desserts are given first place in it, and particularly the new things in fruity Jell-O desserts. A copy will be sent to you free if you will send us your name and address.

There are seven delightful pure fruit Jell-O flavors: Strawberry, Raspberry, Lemon, Orange, Cherry, Peach, Chocolate.

10 cents each at any grocer's.

THE GENESEE PURE FOOD COMPANY,
Le Roy, N. Y., and Bridgeburg, Ont.

The name Jell-O is on every package in big red letters. If it isn't there, it isn't Jell-O.

10¢ a package

Butterless, Eggless and Milkless Cake

The following recipe was sent in by Mrs. George Scherrer, of Washington, a valued COMFORT subscriber.

One cup brown sugar, one cup cold water, two cups raisins, one third cup lard, one teaspoon cinnamon, one teaspoon salt, one half teaspoon cloves and one quarter teaspoon nutmeg. Put the above in saucepan and boil three minutes. When cool add one teaspoon soda dissolved in a little hot water, two cups flour one half teaspoon baking powder. Bake one hour in slow oven.

I generally double this recipe, grease and line round tin, bake two hours, then cover with a thick icing made of one teaspoon butter, with cream and powdered sugar to right consistency. Flavor with vanilla. This cake, when put in a tin box, will keep from ten to fourteen days.

Toughey's Travels and Adventures Abroad

By Adele S. Burleson

Copyright, 1915, by Adele S. Burleson.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XII.

ADVENTURES IN MEXICO.

PACKING up and going to their Texas plantation for a quiet, restful, enjoyable summer had become a thing of the past for the Deering family. The habit had just been broken by their year abroad, followed by a season at the seashore and one in Canada, so that when Mrs. Deering suggested their old camp on the Brazos for the summer, between Toughey's sophomore and junior years at college, there was a rather shocked outcry against such a plan. It brought the realization to their mother that the children were growing up; that a handful of shells in the creek bottom, a cardinal's nest in a sumach bush, a ride on their ponies to the cress spring, were no longer day-long, soul-satisfying pleasures. They had begun to ask for more companionship, more color, more movement in their lives. When Toughey made a motion for Mexico at the first meeting of the family to discuss summer plans there was a chorus of "ayes" with only one "no." This was emphatic and came from Mrs. Deering.

"But, mamma," Toughey urged in answer to her objections, "The Highlands of Mexico are delightfully cool."

"Yes, at the sacrifice of many other of the desirable qualities you look for in climate."

"What, for instance," asked Toughey.

"Well, the bracing qualities. You can't take exercise in a climate that owes its coolness to altitude. It exhausts you. Why, even the Indians from the hot countries are larger and stronger and better developed physically than the people who live in the mountains." A famous physician had said this to Mrs. Deering and her own observation and experience had proven it to her. But in the end she was overruled, even Mr. Deering casting his vote against her. So it happened that one over-hot day, the following June, they found themselves headed for the Rio Grande. The observation car was crowded and the breeze that blew from over many miles of cactus and mesquite was surcharged with the dryness of a two months' drought. Even Toughey gasped and for one tortured moment permitted her mind to revert to the cool New England hills Mrs. Deering had advocated for the summer holidays. At the border the family passed through the Custom House with their usual ease, as they never carried contraband. They were never even under suspicion but once, when Nan remarked to her mother, while a New York inspector was digging into one of their trunks at the time of their return from abroad: "Oh, mamma! Suppose he should find something!"

"I shall never understand how we escaped immediate arrest," said Toughey laughing and recalling the circumstance.

"I do," replied her mother, "he didn't find anything."

"Meaning, of course there was nothing to find?" asked Toughey teasingly.

"Meaning that very thing," Mrs. Deering answered firmly, though with a smile. Mr. Deering had always insisted that his wife, like all other women born to this life, was a smuggler. On cross examination he would admit that he never knew what she had smuggled, or could prove that she really ever did, but he could not be made to back down from his theory that smuggling was an inherent vice of women, and that while every other class of criminals was subject to reform, a smuggler could never be redeemed. That this opinion was shared to a certain degree by the Mexican Inspectors seemed apparent, for the train was delayed over an hour while they thoroughly ransacked the numerous trunks, suitcases, bags and baskets belonging to a portly Mexican lady and her two servants. A resident in one of the cities of northern Mexico, with the habit of making frequent trips across the border, she had been for years a suspect, and her belongings never escaped the closest possible scrutiny. Released at last, she returned to the car bursting with rage and denunciation of the inquisitorial and dishonest methods of customs officials. The train finally started again with its load of suffering travelers and it was nine o'clock before the Gulf breeze arrived for their relief.

The following day found them running through one of the best mining regions in Mexico. But the huge smelters to be seen from the car windows were of less interest to the youthful members of the Deering family than the state of the thermometer and they were overly pleased when the train began to climb into the mountains and they could notice the cooling and refreshing of the atmosphere. It was expected that the train would be late in its arrival at Durango and it was; so that the luncheon hour found them still on the way with Bess and Nan hanging out of the car window at a mining camp bargaining with Mexican peons for the "gordos" they offer for sale, at the station. A "gordo" is a kind of developed flapover and is a monument to the skill and resourcefulness of the Mexican woman. Its outer structure is corn-meal. Its interior varies according to the taste and material at the dispos l of the architect. Sometimes it is built of fried pork and "frijoles" (red beans), or chicken and rice with peppers, or some other combination approved by the national standards in cookery. But whatever its constitution may be, it is supposed to contain within itself a balanced meal. To a healthy purchaser, of Catholic taste, it furnishes the pleasing element of surprise; to one of capricious appetite it is a fearsome risk. Toughey and the children, as these big girls were still called by the family, went into their "gordos" with the thrills of gamblers, and laughed at their mother for her unfriendly attitude to the "fat ones."

"Mine is a treasure box," declared Toughey with hungry appreciation.

"Keep it my dear," said her mother with a slight grimace. "It would be squandered on me."

An hour later, as they neared Durango the road passed through rough outcroppings of rock, interspersed with level stretches of prairie dotted with the feathery huisache tree a frequent and beautiful feature of a Mexican landscape on the table-lands. When the trip finally ended at Durango and they stepped from the train to the simple platform constituting the station, they might easily have imagined themselves in the Far East. The shabby, open carriages, the dark-skinned people, speaking a strange language, and the outline of church domes and towers in the distance seemed to belong properly to Egypt or Palestine. These impressions were broken into by Mr. and Mrs. Fenner, some kind American residents of Durango, who had negotiated for them the renting of the house they were to occupy during the summer and presently they found themselves jolting along ill conditioned streets, crossing formidable mudholes, and really arriving, without casualties, at the door of their residence. While Mrs. Fenner rummaged in her handbag for the key to the premises, Toughey and the children, who had jumped eagerly from the carriage, stared at their surroundings with such evident dismay that Mrs. Deering felt inclined to laugh for they had insisted upon Mexico at any price. The country of their dreams was fading out of sight; the real Mexico confronted them.

The street where they stood was narrow and dirty; the swarms of children, noisy and dirty, the shops across the way insignificant and dirty. Mrs. Fenner stood fumbling with the lock of a shabby wooden door let into an irregular length

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss April will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1917 by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.



MISS MARCH.

THE influence of the zodiacal sign Aries begins with the vernal equinox on the 21st of March and extends to the 19th of April. All persons born between those dates belong to the intellectual part of the grand body of humanity—the head. They use their heads to think and reason with, and their busy brains are the most active organs of their bodies.

They will be called obstinate, when in fact they are not, because they are independent enough to hold to their own ideas until better ones are advanced, when they readily recognize the fact and yield to reason without pride of opinion.

Their nature requires harmony, and under conditions which do not accord with their temperament, their whole existence is out of tune; and for this reason, they must work according to their own methods, not at the dictation of another, nor according to precedent.

They will love the beautiful and have a keen sense of its existence, which explains their ability to trace beauty of thought in a stern, repellent nature.

Their home must possess light, air and sunshine; music will freshen and relax their sometimes over-wrought brains. Excitement and worry will produce nervous disturbances. Quiet, rest and sleep will prove the only restorer; drugs will be useless.

Men born under these influences should marry women who love order, cleanliness and elegance, and for recreation, music and dancing should be cultivated. There must exist however, a certain degree of consistency in all things, else harmony will cease her habitation.

Women born under these influences will do well to cultivate their natural talents, being and doing what nature intended, for if they do not, they will act in confusion and succeed in nothing. This is because constancy, that rare jewel in nature, is very strong with these women, and they must live in good faith with themselves if they give unto others what nature decreed.

Constancy of purpose makes for successful philanthropic work in all its branches, particularly among children and old people, where the work is ha dest and most discouraging and without constancy, will be abandoned.

If these women possess health and a fair amount of strength, they will attain high positions in the business world. Because of their unusual tact they make excellent wives for clergymen and professional men.

Bloodstone the March Birth-stone

Courage, of which the Bloodstone is symbolic, is a quality necessary to every man and woman if they would meet the demands of life with reason and profit. We need but recall the early school days, when we stood before an accusing teacher, to remember that it took courage to confess to disobedience, and still more to maintain our innocence when we knew the result would be to transfer the accusation against a fellow classmate.

As we approach manhood and womanhood, the demand for courage increases, and unless fortified by a strong sense of duty toward parents and self, youth may act with rashness, or follow the ways of least resistance.

Then arises the question, what is courage? And the answer is,—that freedom from being influenced against our better judgment by the opinion of another, constitutes moral courage, and to remain serene and free in the face of danger makes for physical courage.

Conscience, firm resolve, and an ability to distinguish right from wrong, are courage builders, and if we build well, courage will not forsake us when temptation or danger threatens.

In the early days of the Christian Church the bloodstone was venerated as symbolic of the blood of our Lord shed for the salvation of mankind, the noblest example of courage that history records.

Tradition has decreed that the birth-stone for March shall be the bloodstone, and worn as an amulet, to symbolize the daily lesson of courage, it will serve the wearer well.

How to Make Miss March

Saint Patrick was the first missionary priest to Ireland and converted Ireland to Christianity. Among the many stories that have come down to us concerning him is the familiar legend that he miraculously drove all the snakes out of Ireland into the sea, by which the Irish account for the fact that Ireland has no snakes.

COMFORT readers who celebrate St. Patrick's Day, will find a description of Miss March helpful. The shamrock is very similar to our three-leafed clover, and features this costume. Bright green should be the dominant color. As only the head and arms of figure are visible, make them of cloth and fill with cotton. Attach them to waist made the same way and fasten to weighted box so it will stand firmly. Make the turban, waist and skirt with rounded overskirt and plaited kerchief fastened about the shoulders, all of white crepe paper, thus bringing the green paper shamrocks worn at the front of skirt, at the waist and on the cap into bold relief. A snake is made of wire bent into a realistic shape and covered with green crepe paper. This is carried over the right arm.

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
Household Conveniencies That Make Home Attractive and Comfortable.	3
Nerine's Second Choice (continued) *Adelaide Stirling*	4
The Wizard Charm *Joseph F. Novak*	5
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	6
Uncle Sam Tells How to Feed Children *Stanley Wells*	7
Toughey's Travels and Adventures Abroad *Adele Steiner Burleson*	8
The Kingdom of Our Birthright	8
Crumbs of Comfort	8
Comfort Sisters' Corner	9
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	9
Efficiency in the Kitchen *Mary Clara Huntington*	10
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	12
A Successful Sweet Pea Venture *Mary Harrod Northend*	14
Fish—How to Select and Cook it *Ella Gordon*	15
Home Dressmaking and Fashion Forecasts for Spring and Summer, Showing Advance Styles *Geneva Gladding*	16 & 17
The Modern Farmer	18
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	19
He that Loseth His Life (continued) *Maud Mary Brown*	20
Second Inauguration of President Wilson *Edna Mary Colman*	21
Short Cuts in Housecleaning *Mary Hamilton Talbot*	22
Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	23
Trees that Kill, Trees that Rain and Trees that Produce Bread and Butter *C. L. Chapman*	23
New Ideas for the Household in Tatting and Crochet —By Comfort Workers Edited by *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	24 & 25
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps	26
A Woman's Intuition *Hapsburg Liebe*	27
How I Succeeded With My Incubator	29
Granny's Old Piano *Florence Briney Reed*	30
Veterinary Information	31
Manners and Looks	32
Uncle Charlie's Home Fund	34
Use of Paint on the Farm *Charles Francis Reed*	35
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	36
A Corner for Boys *Uncle John*	37
Information Bureau	38
January Prize Winners	38
Talks with Girls	39
Home Lawyer	40
Seven Wheel Chairs in January	43
Children's Happy Hour	45
The Order of the Black Eagle	45
Family Doctor	46
Letter from Comfort's Publisher	46
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	47

April Comfort

will be an all-round budget of delight with charming stories that, according to their varied romance, reflect the spring sunshine, exalt the drooping soul with the inspiring spirit of Easter gladness and hope, or with ludicrous predicaments in a comedy of errors provoke a merry laugh; and it will carry a lot of practical, helpful instruction, too.

Special Features for April

"The Sermon on the Mount"—an Easter Romance

A splendid story, by Joseph F. Novak, that tells of a soul courageous, but crushed by adversity, that walked in the "Valley of the Shadow of Death" yet feared no evil because he was sustained by the heroic devotion of the woman at his side.

"An Easter Luncheon"

Tells how to cook and serve an Easter luncheon in approved style, with recipes and directions for decorations.

A Farmer's Wife in the Flower Business

Describes how a farmer's wife managed to market her garden flowers successfully and profitably. A good idea.

"Bulk Versus Package"

Gives valuable and timely instruction in economical selection and buying of food to counteract the high cost of living.

"How to Make Easter Chicks"

Tells and illustrates how to make the pretty little Easter chicks now so much in vogue for decorations. Good amusement for the children.

"Fifteen Minutes of Frightfulness"—a Comic Romance

A winsome widow, a bashful bachelor boarder, and the near tragedy in their affairs that turned out a ridiculous farce but enabled her to slip the noose of matrimony round his shy but willing neck and let him think he had done the courting.

Special, Low Rate for March Renewals

As an inducement to renew your subscription promptly this month we offer the special, low rate of 30 cents for a 2-year renewal. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album.

If the number over your name on the wrapper in which this paper comes is 342, or any less number, it means that your subscription should be renewed at once. Send in your renewal today, if you don't want to miss April COMFORT. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name*.....

Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....

R. F. D. No. .....*Box No.*.....*State* .....

March, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

No owl is blinder than a lover.

A fine cage doesn't feed the bird.

Better suffer wrong than do wrong.

The ripest fruit is highest on the tree.

Waste not fresh tears over old sorrows.

Evil gains are worse than honest losses.

Even the gods could not love and be wise.

Where there is sorrow there is holy ground.

No man can climb higher than his character.

It is only the ignorant who despise education.

We want most that which we should not have.

One regrets speech, much oftener than silence.

The wise man lets somebody else do the talking.

To err is human, but the result may be inhuman.

A lie has some credit until the truth comes along.

Don't love yourself if you want others to love you.

The wrong way always seems the more reasonable.

Patience is the best remedy for most of our troubles.

Bees don't go after flowers that have no sweet in them.

Anything is great or little according to a mortal's thinking.

Resignation is only a mockery where the burden is not felt.

Think what you would like to do, and do what you ought to do.

No man is his neighbor's equal, for no two minds are equal.

Never was a marvel done on earth but that it sprang from faith.

There is nothing so small that it may not produce great things.

There is no sound more pleasing than one's own praises.

The more things a man is ashamed of, the more respectable he is.

To think you are happy makes you happy, so immaterial is happiness.

Do one thing at a time—you can't take both forks of a road at once.

Angels are around the good man to catch the incense of his prayer.

No one can pray in faith whose prayer is not grounded on a promise.

If you want to be young when you are old, be old when you are young.

Do you live, or do you merely breathe and eat and sleep and labor?

Economy is commendable, but do not try to put both feet into one shoe.

With age we learn that we are under more obligations to our children than they are to us.

Count that day lost whose low descending sun views from your hand no worthy action done.

Women do not transgress the bounds of decorum as often as men, but when they do they go to greater lengths.

Put something by for a rainy day, even if it isn't more than an umbrella, and be sure to put it where somebody won't steal it.

Life is as a slate on which our sins are written. From time to time we rub the sponge of repentance over it and begin writing again.

The reason why books are so seldom returned by the borrowers is that it is so much easier to retain the books than what is in them.

It is with narrow-minded people, as with narrow-necked bottles, the less they have in them, the more noise they make in pouring it out.

Man is an everlasting mystery, even to himself. His own person is a house which he never enters, and of which he studies only the outside.

Call on a business man during business hours only on business; transact your business and go about your business so that he may attend to his business.



This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

TO the housewife who is obliged to buy a large quantity of food supplies at one time the storage problem often assumes enormous proportions, so Uncle Sam has obligingly come to her rescue, as will be seen in the following article on the storage of food in the home, taken from a Department of Agriculture bulletin.—Ed.

Storage of Groceries, Meats, Cooked Food, and Canned Goods

Flour comes packed both in barrels and in bags, and the form in which it shall be purchased and kept is of importance to the housewife. Bags have certain advantages over the barrel for both producer and consumer; they pack into freight cars with no waste of space, and the cloth for eight bags costs less than one barrel: for the consumer also, it is often convenient to buy in small quantities. But, on the other hand, the bag is too often very flimsy in texture, so that it allows flour to sift out, and is also easily soiled by contact with a damp or dirty floor. The purchaser may well require that the bags be made of good material, so that the contents may be protected from dust and dirt.

On this question Prof. Harry Snyder of the University of Minnesota, says:

There is no question whatever but what flour improves by storage up to six months and it will then hold its own for some time, depending upon the character of the wheat and the thoroughness with which impurities are removed.

As a general proposition it seems certain that it is economical for the consumer to buy flour in bulk rather than in small sacks at a time. In the fall of the year a small sack of flour for trial purposes can be purchased of the grocer and at the same time he can set aside a barrel of the same flour of the same shipment for future delivery, provided the first sample proves satisfactory. As a general rule the price of flour advances from fall to spring sufficient to more than cover the interest item involved and at the same time the consumer is assured of a good quality of flour.

Aside from accidental contamination the chief destructive agencies in stored flour and similar materials are fungi and bacteria. The fungi or molds break down chiefly the starches of the flour, forming organic acids which make the flour sour. The bacterial growths which are present are chiefly forms which liquefy or break down the gluten, the acid presumably aiding in this. This matter has been studied by H. G. Bell, among others, in connection with the problem of commercial storage, and he recommends storage in well-lighted, warm and dry rooms as a preventive of the development of fungi and bacteria, a method as applicable to farm and town homes as to commercial conditions.

The various prepared or "self-raising" flours are more expensive than the mixture that the housewife can easily make by adding the requisite amount of baking powder to flour and sifting it several times. It is a convenience and a saving of time to keep this mixture on hand, as one sifting provides enough for a month's use in cakes and muffins.

The fact that many breakfast cereals that were once sold only in bulk can be bought in packages is a great advantage from a sanitary point of view. The contents of these packages, if bought fresh and if well cared for, will remain in good condition for months. If made in clean factories, such goods have had little chance for contamination from dust and dirt.

If breakfast cereals are bought in bulk they should be kept in tight receptacles in a cool, dry place. Crackers may be kept like breakfast cereals, either in the packages, in which many sorts are marketed, or in tin boxes or in jars.

Corn-meal spoils more readily than flour, and for most families it is best to buy in small quantities.

Rice, tapioca, macaroni and similar dry materials may be kept without any trouble in covered cans or small crocks in a dry, clean place. The same method is advisable for raisins, Zante currants, evaporated and dried fruits, and similar supplies.

Sugar and salt are best kept, the former in tin, the latter in wooden or crockery receptacles.

Glass preserve jars are perhaps the best and most convenient of all containers for small quantities of almost any food material.

Labeling Foods in Packages and Cans

Many otherwise good housekeepers are very indifferent about labeling. They trust to their memory as to what is in each jar or package, and sometimes with disastrous results. All stores should be plainly labeled.—*U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.*

MARIETTA, OHIO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT since I was a little girl and this is the first time I have thought of writing.

I know Georgie will feel very much alone in her "opinions" when next month's COMFORT is issued so I want, at least, one letter in her defense.

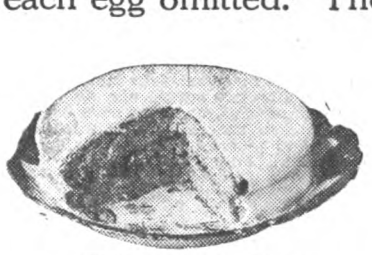
I think she is much mistaken in regard to her comparison of city and country life so far as sanitary conditions go, but I think she is perfectly right in regard to the city and country child.

We moved to the country when I was fifteen years old and I attended school there for two years

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)



Royal Baking Powder produces appetizing and wholesome cakes, muffins, cornbread, etc., with fewer eggs than are usually required. In many recipes the number of eggs may be reduced and excellent results obtained by adding an extra quantity of **Royal Baking Powder,** about a teaspoon, for each egg omitted. The following tested recipes are practical examples:—

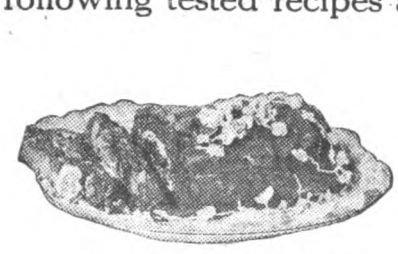


WHITE LAYER CAKE

½ cup shortening
1 cup granulated sugar
⅔ cup water
2 cups flour
3 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
whites of 2 eggs
1 teaspoon extract

The old method called for 3 eggs

DIRECTIONS:—Cream shortening and sugar together until very light; add water slowly almost drop by drop and beat constantly; add flavoring; stir in the flour and baking powder which have been sifted together twice; fold in the whites of eggs which have been beaten until stiff and dry, pour into two greased layer tins and bake in moderate oven 20 to 25 minutes. Put together with any filling or icing.

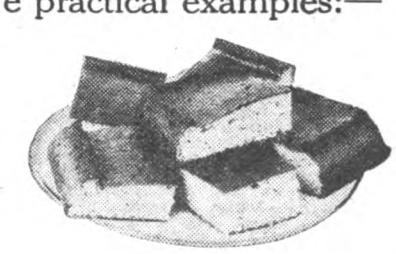


CHOCOLATE SPONGE ROLL

1¼ cups flour
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
2 squares melted chocolate
2 tablespoons shortening
¼ cup hot water
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder

The old method called for 4 eggs

DIRECTIONS:—Beat whole eggs. Add slowly sugar, boiling water, and vanilla; stir in melted chocolate and melted shortening without beating. Add dry ingredients, which have been sifted together three times and fold in lightly as possible. Pour into large baking pan lined with oiled paper, and bake in slow oven twenty minutes. When done, turn out on a damp, hot cloth, spread with Royal icing and roll, then cover with chocolate icing.



CORN BREAD

1¾ cups corn meal
¼ cup flour
3 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon sugar (if desired)
2 tablespoons shortening
1½ cups sweet milk

The old method called for 2 eggs

DIRECTIONS:—Sift the dry ingredients into bowl; add milk and melted shortening, beat well, and pour into well-greased pan or muffin tin and bake in hot oven about 25 minutes.

A practical cook book containing several hundred other recipes for all kinds of cookery sent free on request
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 130 William Street, New York

Royal Baking Powder

Made from Cream of Tartar, derived from Grapes, and adds none but healthful qualities to the food.

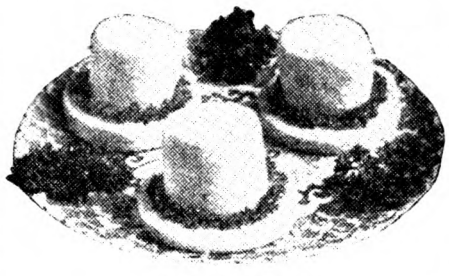
NO ALUM NO PHOSPHATE

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

IT doesn't necessarily follow that our ancestors must have come from Erin's Isle, or that we are being disloyal to our own particular nationality if we serve a few St. Patrick's Day dishes on our table, the 17th of March—a day beloved of all good Irishmen—or even go to the extent of having the entire decorations carried out in shamrock green with white, since that combination seems to be the best. We might, as a sop to our conscience, say that the very attractiveness of the table is enough to overbalance any race prejudices, and, indeed, with a border of shamrocks and a centerpiece in the form of a harp made of shamrocks, aided and abetted by the St. Patrick's Day dishes, as illustrated below, almost any conscience would be silenced. By placing the stems of white flowers (pinks are particularly good for this) in green dye, very appropriate floral decorations can be obtained.

EMERGENCY SOUP.—Dissolve two and one half teaspoons beef extract in three cups boiling water. Add three tablespoons milk, gradually, to one and one half tablespoons flour to make a smooth, thin paste. Add to the first mixture, stirring constantly until boiling point is reached and let boil three minutes: then add three quarters teaspoon salt, a very small amount of cayenne pepper, and three quarters cup of cream.

SAINT PATRICK'S HAT.—Cover pared Irish potatoes with boiling salted water and cook till fork will just go through. Drain and dry in oven one minute. Mash, season with salt and add enough hot cream

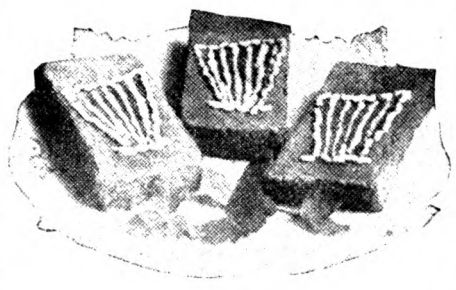


SAINT PATRICK'S HAT.

to beat light. Keeping the pan while beating on back of stove. Shape to represent high hats, brush over with beaten egg and brown in oven. Make hat bands of parsley or other green.

MARY NORTHEND, Salem, Mass.

HARP CAKES.—Cream two tablespoons of butter with one cup of sugar and add the well-beaten yolk of one egg and one teaspoon of vanilla. Beat well. Measure two cups of sifted flour and add one teaspoon of cream of tartar and one half teaspoon of



HARP CAKES.

soda and sift again. Measure one cup of milk and add to egg, alternating with the flour. Lastly add the beaten white of egg. Bake thirty minutes in a shallow pan. Cake should be about one inch thick. When cold cut in oblong pieces and cover with chocolate frosting. Trace with white frosting to represent harp.

MOCK-BISQUE SOUP.—Take one half can of tomatoes, or as many fresh ones as will make the same quantity and stew them soft enough to strain easily. Scald one quart of milk in a double boiler. Melt a tablespoon of butter in a small pan, cook with it a tablespoon of corn-starch, add enough of the hot milk to make it as thin as cream, then stir into the scalding milk and let cook for ten minutes. Add two tablespoons more of butter, stir until well mixed, season with salt and pepper, add a pinch of soda to the tomatoes, and stir in the last thing. Serve with crackers or small squares of bread, toasted. The soda should prevent the tomatoes curdling the milk. If it should curdle, however, a few brisk whirls with the egg beater will make it all right. Serve hot.

BLACK BEAN SOUP.—Wash one pint black turtle beans, drain, cover with cold water and let soak over night. In the morning drain and cook slowly two hours in three pints of boiling water in covered kettle. Add one level teaspoon of salt, a little pepper and one quart of stock. Rub all through a colander and then through a sieve. Rinse kettle, bring soup to a boil in it. Slice thin two hard boiled eggs and one lemon. Serve in the boiling soup. Bread sticks are a good accompaniment.

SPINACH BALLS.—Equal bulk of finely chopped spinach that has been seasoned, and very fine dry bread crumbs. Season highly with pepper, salt and cayenne. Add enough white of egg to moisten well, then set aside to stiffen. Shape in balls, size of hickory nut; poach in hot soup for five minutes, and serve three or four to each plate of soup.

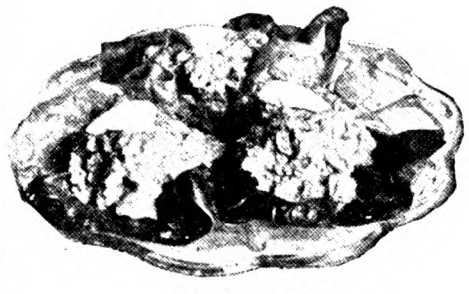
SMOTHERED LIVER AND BACON.—Fry eight thin slices of bacon until brown, and remove from pan. Place in the hot fat one pound of liver seasoned with salt and dredged in flour. When the liver is brown on one side, turn it over and on the top place the bacon and two large onions, sliced thin. Cover for about five minutes on hot fire. Add one pint of water and keep simmering, while tightly covered, for fifteen minutes.

BAKED HALIBUT, SPANISH STYLE.—Have a slice of halibut weighing two pounds cut three inches thick. Place in a buttered pan, cover with one cup of tomatoes, canned, or three fresh ones, one thinly sliced onion, one chopped green pepper, salt, pepper, one cup of water and one quarter cup of butter. Bake slowly till fish is done and serve with the vegetables.

BAKED SALT MACKEREL.—Soak two small mackerel in cold, fresh water for six hours or longer; then rinse, wipe dry and squeeze a little lemon juice over the flesh side of the fish. Lay one of the fish on a buttered cloth or tin in a baking pan, cover with a dressing made of bread crumbs seasoned with parsley, butter, salt, pepper and lemon juice or thin yellow rind; put the other fish on this dressing and bake, basting often with melted butter and hot water. When well browned remove to a hot platter, cover the top with bread crumbs moistened with butter and set in oven just long enough to brown.

FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

SHAMROCK PEAS.—An appropriate and attractive dish for Saint Patrick's Day is made of toast, peas and parsley. Drain thoroughly canned peas, add butter, pepper and salt, and let come to a scalding heat in a double cooker. Take slices of stale bread one-



SHAMROCK PEAS.

inch thick and cut into shape of shamrock. Hollow out the center of each shamrock leaf and put into a

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

Kneeling down, she tried the keyhole with a long hairpin. It went easily through. A cold wind blew on her face through the keyhole as she knelt, and all was dark. Could she have imagined that the room only this morning was warm and smelling of flowers—and brandy?

She got up angrily and went over to the window, opening it a crack, so that if anything happened to the fastening of the door she could enter the room at a pinch from the outside. Then she walked off to her bedroom. Thank goodness, she had not mentioned her little tour of investigation to any of the others!

CHAPTER VIII.

A MYSTERIOUS STRANGER.

"MY DEAR BOBBY:

"I am thinking of running in upon you for a day or two next week on my way up to town. I am changing some of the furniture in my own rooms, and shall spend a few days with your Aunt Julia while I hunt up the curtains and coverings which are in my mind's eye. You might get rooms for me and for Hooper at the hotel if it is comfortable. I shall only stay the night unless you offer me some attraction. Let me know if I am to bring you anything; also, if I am likely to be a nuisance to you, in which case I shall go direct to Aunt Julia. Ever, my dearest boy, your affectionate mother, D. SATTERLEE."

Lord Satterlee put down the above epistle with mingled emotions.

"If she likes them, it's the very thing. If she doesn't——" He whistled softly as he sat by the fire in his own quarters. His mother was one of the most charming and "thorough" (to use his own word for her) of women; but what man, what son even, could venture to predict the emotions of any woman suddenly confronted with two strange girls and coolly requested to chaperon them and their unknown proclivities to a dance given by four young men? No wonder Lord Satterlee whistled! "Best make hay while the sun shines," he reflected, not too hopefully. His mother was extremely fond of Maurice Lispenard, but she had a way of liking nice boys. That might go for nothing when his sisters were concerned.

He looked out at the weather; it was raining hard. Then he looked at the date of his mother's note; the day before yesterday.

Rooms at a hotel there would be no trouble about; there was a very good hotel. He would go and make arrangements at once and then send a telegram.

It did not take him long to get into plain clothes, nor to button himself up to the chin in his mackintosh. As he drove through the streaming rain into Highbury he grew more cheery. After all, what could promise better for the success of his dance than this maternal visit?

He inspected the best rooms at the comfortable hotel with a growing hope. They were very good indeed. The sitting-room gave him visions of tea parties—Lady Satterlee never stirred from home without her beloved tea things; he could get some palms and lamp shades and things; and perhaps she might "take to" the Lispenards as much as he himself had done.

He sent off his telegram with a boyish satisfaction. Then he looked at his watch. It was only four o'clock. He wished he could with decency present himself at the twins' tea table, but he could not find courage to go without an invitation two days running.

As he stood buttoning his gloves in the hotel doorway, divided in his mind whether to take a constitutional in the rain or to go down to the club and play pool, he caught sight of a tall and shapely young person, wearing an extremely shabby waterproof and a glazed sailor hat, and walking through the driving rain without apparently the least wish for an umbrella.

Lord Satterlee looked for a full minute in amazement. What could Lispenard be thinking of to let his sister out in such weather? Was it *his* Miss Lispenard or was it the other one?

Whichever it was, she stopped in front of the pastry cook's opposite, giving a little shake like a wet dog to the disreputable waterproof. Then she vanished into the shop.

Lord Satterlee marched across the wet street and went in also. Nerine, standing in her ancient waterproof, gave a dismayed start as she saw him. Why had she put on her very worst pair of gloves, impelled by mistaken economy? There was a hole in them—they were wet—disgusting! In hot despair she was compelled to put out one of them—very limply—into Satterlee's outstretched fingers.

"What are you doing here?" he said, wonderingly, ignoring the wet, torn glove, the wetter mackintosh. "What a day for you to be out!"

"That is the very reason. I was so tired of the house, and a country walk would have been really too muddy. Also," as the shopman approached with a small parcel, "Miss Belton wanted some sweets and so did I." She put Kit's half-crown on the counter with the best glove as she spoke.

"Let's see, isn't this place rather famous for confectionery, or cakes, or something?"

Nerine assented, slipping her parcel into her pocket. "Wedding cakes," she said, "and others, too. The Princess of Wales once ordered a cake here, Mr. Mayne says."

"Then I do not see why I should not follow the example of royalty!" He turned to the shopman.

"I want to see some of your cakes—your best cakes, if you please. By the way, Miss Lispenard," as the man went away, "who is Mr. Mayne?"

"My stepfather," with a preoccupied frown. "Tell me, why are you wasting your money on a cake? You will never *eat* it!"

"Why not?" quite undaunted. "I am going to ask you to let me drive you home, and I sincerely hope you will feel obliged to invite me in to tea. Then you will see whether or not I can eat cake!"

"But——" Nerine stammered, "I don't think I want to drive home with you! I came out to walk."

Satterlee looked at her.

"Was it raining in this manner when you left home?" he inquired, dryly.

"No," rather unwillingly, "but, all the same, I don't think I ought to drive home with you."

"I don't think you ought to *walk* home. If you do you will hurt my feelings very much, to say nothing of getting very wet."

Nerine did not answer. She was gazing at the appalling size of the cake which was being done up for her unwelcome companion.

Satterlee laughed as he caught her eye.

"You would not compel me to *walk* home with that, Miss Lispenard. Seriously, you will let me drive you? The rain is much worse than it was, and you will be drenched if you walk."

"Very well," with a gentleness very foreign to her, "if you really would like to come in to tea," blushing a little.

Satterlee flushed in his turn as he answered her.

"Honestly, I was seeking an excuse to go to see you when I caught sight of you coming in here. I wonder if they are doing up my cake in a water-tight manner?"

He walked to the other side of the shop to pay for it and to see it sent out to his trap. How Nerine's economical soul would have stood aghast had she seen the good hard gold that was given for that frost-covered mountain.

Blissfully unconscious and forgetful even of her gloves, she let Satterlee help her into the high dogcart and button the leather apron over her.

The rain was behind them; the air seemed to have grown warmer. Nerine had never driven in so high a cart or behind a horse that stepped so fast. She took a sidelong glance at Satterlee, at his clear, straight profile, his little gold mustache, and found him very good to behold.

But what, she wondered, would Agatha say when she drove up to the gate with him? Nerine had never in her life been driven by a young man in a high dogcart, and she was not easy in her mind about doing it now.

They were at Lispenard Hall in less than no time; Satterlee had lifted her down, sent away his trap, and was following her into the hall, with his big cake in both hands, almost before Nerine had realized that they had started.

It was a pleasant, home-like scene Nerine opened the morning-room door upon—the glowing fire, the snowy tea table, Agatha stretched out in a comfortable chair, toasting herself in the cheerful glow. Agatha in her velvet gown, with idle white hands.

Satterlee for the first time felt that his cake might perhaps be too bold a stroke of genius. What if Miss Lispenard were offended? Confound the thing! How should he ever explain about it?

Agatha looked up in surprise as she saw the pair in the doorway, the enormous white parcel very conspicuous against Nerine's dripping garments.

"What in the world——" she began; then with late politeness, "How do you do, Lord Satterlee? Nerine, is that a—a *washtub*?"

"Not at all," briskly; "it's a cake."

"Where did you get it?" said Agatha, rather faintly. She had caught sight of the name of the shop on the parcel, and a dreadful vision of the bill, which must infallibly be sent in for it—Nerine had no money but Kit's half crown—well nigh overcame her. She shot a glance of horror at her twin-sister. It was all very well to gloss over their poverty, but to buy a cake like that simply to be grand before Lord Satterlee was a little too extravagant. "We had lots of cake, Nerine!"

"Don't," said Lord Satterlee, with undignified haste. "I—it's *my* cake!"

Agatha stared at him in silence.

"I met your sister in the shop when I was buying it, and I deliberately asked her if I might bring it here to be eaten. Of course," with humility, "I knew you had lots of cake."

"We haven't—like that!" Nerine remarked, composedly. "Agatha, you tell Jane to bring tea while I take my wet things off." She vanished as she spoke, letting the door close behind her.

Satterlee still stood just within it, his cake in his hands.

"Miss Lispenard, tell me, you don't mind my idiocy about the cake? They told me," artfully, "that it was a very *good* cake."

"I think you are the most absurd person I ever heard of!" Agatha began, primly, and then caught his eye—such a blue, half-wheedling and half-plaintive eye over the expanse of parcel, that she laughed.

Satterlee laughed, too, with a large measure of relief. Miss Lispenard was a much more awe-inspiring person than her sister, and he had not liked the way in which she had greeted his cake.

"Then I may put it down," joyfully. "It weighs a ton. I thought I would have enough wedding cake for once in my life!"

"Wedding cake!" Agatha cried. She moved hastily to the table and pulled off the wrappings. "You don't mean you and Nerine really bought a wedding cake!"

Satterlee nodded. She looked so magnificently handsome, standing behind the enormous bride cake, pulling the papers away from it with slim white fingers, that a quick, audacious thought came to him.

He had once been best man to a friend of his in a line regiment; he remembered how the bride had cut the cake with her husband's sword.

"Miss Lispenard," he said, softly, "will you cut my wedding cake for me?"

"Oh, yes," unsuspiciously. Then, with a quickly withdrawn glance and a reddening cheek, "that is, presently. It's not time yet; we must wait for the others."

"All right—we'll wait. But mind, it's a promise," with a look he had never given to the richer beauty of her twin sister. But then, he had never sat gazing at that twin sister through long morning services at St. Jude's.

Up-stairs Nerine was making a more careful toilet than she had ever done in her life; recoiling her damp black hair, arranging her old silk gown with unwonted care, and humming a tune under her breath the while. What a nice afternoon she had had, in spite of the wet! And how well cropped yellow hair could look in the rain! She laughed outright as she thought of Agatha's face when she saw that cake.

It had grown dusk while she was dressing; when she was quite ready she peered about the room for a package of Everton taffy she had bought for Kit. She remembered then that she had taken it out of her pocket in the pantry, whe she had gone to waylay Jane for hot water. Gathering her long skirts in her hand, Nerine ran lightly down the back stairs to the pantry. As she entered some one left it by the door leading into the dining-room.

"Oh, Jane, wait a minute," Nerine cried, hurrying after her. "What did you do with my parcel?"

Jane stopped, gave a single backward glance, and then ran. There were no two ways about it. She had something under her arm, but it was too big for Nerine's parcel.

"Is Jane going cracked, I wonder?" Nerine exclaimed with some indignation, and a more indignant, if respectful, voice from behind answered her:

"No, miss! I'm sure I hope not. What were you pleased to want? I gave the parcel to Miss Agatha with the tea things."

Substantial Jane stood behind her in the door by which Nerine herself had entered.

"Do you mean," cried the latter, "that you did not go into the dining-room from here and *run* when I called you?"

Jane's eyes flashed.

"I was in my kitchen, Miss Nerine."

"Then who on earth was it?" with an uncomfortable recollection of that door at the end of the passage. "It was not either of the young ladies."

"Nor was it me, miss," doggedly. "It was Mr. Maurice, very like."

"Very like," with unconscious mimicry. If Maurice was dressed in a dark gown and was of much the same stout country build as Jane, very likely it was he. "You are sure, Jane, that it wasn't you I saw?" she persisted.

But Jane had retired in dudgeon.

"There's something strange going on in this house, I'm certain," mused her mistress, "and I believe Jane knows what it is, or why did she get so angry at an ordinary question?"

She looked at the huge dining-room, growing dark in the twilight; thought of the comfortable morning-room, the fire, the cake, Satterlee and the other three gathered within its comfortable walls.

"I shall just look in Mr. Mayne's room before I go to tea!" she decided. "Perhaps it was Jones I saw in a long coat, or something. He may be there now!"

CHAPTER IX.

NERINE'S STRATEGY.

The door from the corridor was tightly shut. Nerine had rather expected to find it so, and was the more certain that the vanishing figure had not been imaginary, but someone who had taken care to cover his or her exit.

She retraced her steps till she came to the front door, and then ran bareheaded through the rainy dusk round the house, so close under the windows that the cheerful tea party in the morning-room did not see her. Mr. Mayne's windows had outside shutters; they were closed, and Nerine passed them bravely. The windows of Mrs. Mayne's room were low to the ground; it did not take her long to open the one she had left ready and slip through.

The room was empty, dark and cold, as usual, but through the crack of the door into Mr. Mayne's room came a clean shaft of lamplight. The door was well ajar, and Nerine stopped short, trembling. If whoever was there had heard her entrance, she probably had all her trouble for nothing.

"If it is Jones or Jane—impertinent wretches!" she thought, as she went slowly forward in shoeless feet, "what a tempest in a teapot I will have discovered."

She reached the door. There was a wide crack at the hinges; she could see quite well into the middle of the room.

At the sight which met her she all but spoke aloud! She had been panting a moment before, but in her excitement now her breath seemed to come quite easily. On the table, spread out helter skelter, was a very respectably sized collection of Lispenard silver. There were spoons, jugs and a small punch bowl, a couple of teapots, some nondescript trifles, and a tankard.

Within the range of Nerine's vision stood a stoutish woman, whose back was turned to the unseen watcher. Quite certain of being alone and unseen since the baize-covered door into the passage was so carefully fastened and barricaded on the inside—she was leisurely doing up the Lispenard silver, piece by piece, in paper and stowing it into a leather bag before her.

"If I could only see her face, to know her again, I might go back for Maurice," Nerine thought in impotent rage. But she would hear me! She'd be gone by the time we got back, and so would the silver!"

She peered determinedly through the crack. She wronged Jones for once; the woman was alone; Nerine was certain she had never seen her before. Heavens! how fast her own silver was going into that bag!

"I will get it from that beast! I'm sure I can." She felt her own strong young wrists and looked at the fat, dumpy hands of the thief. Suddenly she shrank back from the telltale light which came through the crack of the door; she flattened her strong young physique in its dark dress against the wall; the strange woman had left the table and come to the door where Nerine stood.

For a moment she gazed absently into the dark room.

"There! I'm about ready," she remarked, calmly. "When Clarence comes back he'll find I've not forgotten much especially when he's blamed for it, as I pray he will be! I'll go and put on my bonnet now and be off from this place for good. He might drop in on me any day!"

She turned back into the sitting-room and went into the dressing-room adjoining. The bedroom where she must have been sleeping was, as Nerine well knew, behind that again.

A bold plan came into the girl's head. Oh, for one instant of time to execute it! With quick fingers she slipped off her long silk skirt.

On a table in the room where she was lay a collection of Canadian stones and minerals. If she could only find them in the dark!

It would never do for Nerine to bear off the bag bodily. In the first place, she could not get it out of the window, and then the woman might seize her as she was trying the complicated catch of the baize door. Somehow she shuddered at the thought of a bodily struggle with a woman like the one so near her. No; it must be the min

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26.)

Efficiency in the Kitchen

By Mary Clara Huntington

See front cover illustration.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

EFFICIENT kitchens have become an absolute necessity. Efficiency must be the key-note, efficient work, efficient rest and elimination of all unnecessary work, and the doing of the necessary work in the easiest and most economical way. These are the problems of every housewife; there are four main requisites for all kitchens, storage place for supplies, a work table, proper arrangements for cooking and facilities for dish washing and cleaning. These needs must be met in any kind of kitchen for a family of any size. The concentration of all the working processes near together, and in convenient relation to one another saves hours of time, by preventing useless steps and unnecessary motions. Kitchen work is not a series of isolated tasks, but one task must be fitted into another if we are to do an effective day's work; our stove, sink, work table and supplies must be near enough together so that we can "keep an eye" on one thing while we are doing another. We can work effectively just in proportion as we use skill in planning and arranging our work.

Awkward, poorly arranged kitchens can be made into efficient workrooms at a small expense by having the working materials and utensils grouped in a way that helps the working instead of hindering it. Keep nothing in your kitchen that you do not use every day. Have plenty of narrow shelf room and keep only one row of articles on each shelf, things used oftener should be conveniently near at hand. Shelves should be at a reasonable height, none lower than twelve inches, and none higher than can be easily reached.

Fixed equipments should be placed where the light is good, and at a convenient height for the worker. There should be shelves, closet room, or hooks for all kitchen utensils. A broad work shelf instead of a table is a great convenience, this should be, if possible, built along the entire width of the kitchen, the space underneath may be utilized partly for drawers and part of it may be be closed in to hold some of the more bulky parts of the kitchen equipment.

Some housekeepers prefer to keep all of their kitchen utensils on shelves or in drawers, while others like to hang everything possible on the walls. For hanging large articles on the wall a square or L shaped hook with a shank about one inch long is best; for smaller pieces hooks of the same shape about three quarters of an inch long will do. For things to be hung from the under side of a shelf, table or cabinet round cup-hooks of suitable sizes are required. Use only brass hooks—never iron or steel hooks, as these will rust.

There should be a special place for each article in the kitchen, and the place should be selected with reference to the purpose and convenient use of the article. This applies to cooking materials as well as to utensils, and both classes should be grouped accordingly. Those which are used together or in successive stages of the same process should be grouped within easy reach from one position in order to save steps. Some utensils and some materials are used two or even three times a day and they should be located more accessibly than such as are needed only occasionally. Have a suitable place for everything and then keep everything in its place.

Nothing should be permitted to rest on the floor, thus making it an easy matter to keep clean. The open shelf system has the advantage that we can put them where they are needed, while the closed in closet must be put where the doors will not be in the way. Narrow shelves offer many advantages over deep shelves, for there is room for but one row of articles, thus avoiding the danger of knocking things off the shelf, and breaking them, when reaching for the second row. In this way we save time and energy due to awkward movements.

There should, if possible, be a special closet for the cleaning things. If this is not possible have a cleat three inches wide nailed to the wall five feet five inches above the floor; another cleat three feet high for dustpan, brush and so forth, these articles should have screw eyes fastened to the end and should always be hung on hooks when not in use. As all of these implements are in constant demand they should be readily at hand.

Wherever a wood or coal stove is in use there should be a place near the stove for a small reserve of fuel; it should not be necessary to go to the coal bin but once a day, if there are two separate coal hods. Gas, kerosene and alcohol stoves are all easier to care for, and are less expensive to operate than coal or wood. It is important to suggest here the advantage of having a wide zinc-covered shelf on which to keep the large supply can of kerosene or alcohol; this should be about twelve inches wide and two feet from the floor, and should be put in a perfectly safe place.

If the kitchen floor is not hard wood, a painted floor is good. Fill the cracks with a crack filler and give it two coats of shellac before the paint is put on, then two coats of floor paint in tan, grey, or red. When worn spots appear they should at once be touched up. A linoleum will give satisfactory results. The best grade ranges from one dollar and sixty cents to one dollar and seventy cents per square yard. If properly laid and cared for it will last twenty years. To lay a linoleum is the work of an expert and should never be attempted by the amateur. It should be kept clean with warm water and a soft, clean cloth. Water should not be used in quantity for if it is allowed to get under the surface, it causes serious damage. Hard wood is more important for the woodwork in the kitchen than any other room in the house for it gets such hard wear and needs so much cleaning. The wood should be treated with turpentine stain and then waxed. A varnish finish is durable, but the effect is not as good. Pine wood should be covered with paint. White enamel is very attractive but it demands daily care, and will need renewing often. It is not to be recommended for households where labor must be economized. Tan or gray paint is much better.

In the treatment of walls one must be guided by their condition: if these are well preserved paint or tint them, either of which is very clean and sanitary. Wallpaper should never be used unless it is of the washable oilcloth variety. These come one and one half yards wide, costing twenty-six cents per yard. Paint for from one to two coats costs, four and a half cents each coat, while kalsomine, one or three coats costs per square yard, one cent each coat. If the walls are cracked they should be filled with plaster of Paris and touched up with shellac before putting on the kalsomine.

While a full equipment of necessary kitchen utensils is essential to efficiency and to the saving of time, strength and labor, an accumulation of superfluous contraptions in the kitchen is a nuisance to be avoided. Nevertheless, keep your outfit up to date by adding or substituting the most improved kitchen ware and implements to enable you to handle your work in the best and easiest way.

Labor saving is disposition saving, not only for the tired mother of insufficient means who needs convenient arrangement so that serious waste of time and labor may be avoided, but for the home maker of abundant means as well. To create an efficient kitchen, one must plan the saving of time and steps in every detail of the work to be done there. To the attainment of this purpose and the elimination of unnecessary drudgery, the location of the stove, sink, work table, the shelves, closets, cabinet and lockers with regard to their convenient use and relatively to the doors and windows is a matter of importance requiring careful consideration and planning on the part of the busy housewife who would gain the little daily leisure and rest requisite to conserve her health, brighten her eyes, restore the roses to her cheeks, sharpen her wits, bring cheer to her heart and an optimistic smile to her lips, and withal make her the light of the home.



Even She Had Corns

Until a Little While Ago She Thought Them Unavoidable

If you have corns don't blame yourself too much. Many an old person has had them fifty years.

Yet they have done what you do—pared them and used old-time, useless treatments.

But what folly it is when nowadays about half the world keeps free.

Just try one corn.

Apply a Blue-jay plaster in a jiffy. Then forget it. It will never pain again.

In two days take the plaster off. The corn will disappear. Only one corn in ten needs another application.

The cost is five cents per corn. The trouble is a moment. The results are sure.

You will laugh at the old ways when you try Blue-jay. You will wonder why people ever let corns hurt. Please start tonight. You have suffered long enough.

BAUER & BLACK
Chicago and New York
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc.

Blue-jay
Stops Pain—Ends Corns
15c and 25c at Druggists
Also Blue-jay Bunion Plasters

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

and I know younger children than I, told me things that a grown person should not know and things that I had never heard in the city schools.

Ignorance and bashfulness among country children is mistaken by most people for innocence and the city child by coming in contact with people more and knowing more of current events, naturally seems more precocious than a child should and so the general opinion is that city children are too "knowing" and the country children are innocent.

I dislike hearing a child bring forth his opinions when older people are talking but parents should teach their children to learn all they can, and until they are of a proper age to take part in discussions "to be seen and not heard."

I am twenty-two years of age and have been married only a little over a year and as I have gotten most of my household hints from COMFORT I have none to offer.

I hope our country sisters will not take great offense to Georgie's and my opinion but will take more interest in their children's morals and not so much in money making. That is the cause of the depravity among the children for they are just left to "grow" as Topsy did.

Wishing Mrs. Wilkinson and the COMFORT sisters success, I remain. "HOPEFUL."

WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I am writing my first letter to one of the most helpful departments in COMFORT. I am very much interested in the sisters' letters and get a good deal of advice from them.

Mrs. Pete's letter especially interested me. If I were Mrs. Pete, I would try and get my husband interested in my friends by having more of them visit at my home. Perhaps your friends are not to his liking. Why not invite more of his friends to your house? Perhaps when you visit and have your good times, the things you do and talk about do not interest him. If I were she I would try to go where my husband liked to go or entertain at home. Many women would only be too glad of a chance to stay at home with their husbands.

The letter of Miss Evangeline Doble was interesting and I agree with her about not remarrying after divorce.

I would like to say a word or two about reading. I think that people should try to read the best of books. Don't we read enough of crime and misery in the newspapers without reading the cheap dime novels? I admit that they are sometimes interesting. They cannot hold your attention long and soon after you have read it, you forget it. While if you read good literature, you can recall the main characters and incidents. I think Mary Johnston's books are very good and I am sure everyone who has read "Janice Meredith" by P. L. Ford enjoyed it. The good libraries in the cities enable one to read the best of books without purchasing them. In Washington, there are two fine libraries, the Congressional with its millions of books and the Carnegie Library.

Lately I have been keeping a list of books I have read and that I want to read. Will not the sisters who remember some book that they especially liked, please tell me about it in this column.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and the sisters, I remain. "FRANCES MAE."

Frances Mae. There is a good deal of sound, common sense in your advice to Mrs. Pete; but the subject is still open for the opinion of others. A discussion of worth-while books seems to be one of the best ways of helping each other, and I am glad you started the ball rolling by mentioning some of your favorite books and authors. People living in remote country districts cannot of course, take advantage of free libraries to such an extent as city dwellers but they can start a library of their own; and particularly if there are children in the home would I advise this for the cultivation of the reading habit is one means of keeping children and young folks home more, and really books aren't so very expensive when you stop to consider the advantages and results obtained. A dictionary, a set of reliable encyclopedias, a few historical and scientific books and a set of nature studies are a great help to school children, and everyone else in fact, and make a fine beginning for a library, but don't confine yourself too closely to books of that sort as fiction of the right kind is as necessary to allround mental growth. Let the boys make a bookcase, and encourage both girls and boys to buy their own books with money they earn, only let the choice rest with them, though it may be well to start them in the right direction by a few words of advice or warning, carefully given, so they won't realize it.—Ed.

POST, OREGON.

DEAR COMRADES:

I am not a bit frightened over the terrible consequences Miss Scott seems to think will overtake those of us who have let our children believe in dear old mythical Santa (sometimes folks stand up so straight they fall over backwards). My children are all grown; big, hearty, frank-faced, truthful men who don't hesitate, to give (to them) the best mother in the world a regular bear hug with a kiss; they know I am not a liar. I'm truly sorry for anyone who is without imagination.

In my opinion to whip a child to make it say its prayers would be very wrong. A friend of mine made her little son go to Sunday school every Sunday, rain or shine as long as she had authority over him, then he stopped and will not attend either church or Sunday school. We often took our lunch and went out in the woods by the river and spent Sunday, although our oldest son was organist in Sunday school and missed only two Sundays in two years. I don't think it hardly fair, he should have had a Sunday off occasionally.

I prefer the city school to the country; the best teachers do not always like to go into the country, although they sometimes do. But where I live we are fifty miles from a railroad, people live from one mile to three apart and very few children, about three bachelors to every family. Often though teachers are holding down a homestead and also teaching at the same time.

We are living on a three hundred and twenty-acre homestead in central Oregon. This part and eastern Oregon are as different from western and southern Oregon as the two latter parts of the country mentioned is different from Iowa. The winters here are dry and cold, with snow. There it is warm with much rain. This is a stock country but as it is being settled up will gradually work into agriculture. They raise wheat, oats, barley, rye and Alfalfa and fine vegetables of the hardy varieties. We are about four thousand feet elevation, some much higher; the mountains are covered with pine timber mostly, hardly any underbrush, it is like riding through a park (I enjoy horseback riding as thoroughly as I did at eighteen.) In western Oregon the Douglas fir is the principal timber, but there is also much cedar, hemlock, spruce and pine; also a thick growth of undergrowth. There we find numerous cold springs and fine running streams. Here the springs are trampled into mud by the stock, not many running streams. One from western Oregon misses the fruits and flowers. Fruit can be grown here but few have planted. People do not visit much, the stranger not at all, as a rule they are unwelcome as the coming of the homesteader means the closing up of the open range whereby these earlier settlers have made their stake.

Women suffrage will yet be universal, the sooner the better. Some talk as though the act of voting would change a woman's nature, after once voting she would be entirely different; as for time, the most time anyone could possibly put in would certainly not be over twenty minutes. I think I was about ten minutes. One thing I do know in my home town the women who worked against Woman Suffrage were on hand to vote when they had a chance; two women who were especially bitter against the measure acted as judges on the election board. Sometimes I "kinder" think these women should have waited about five years before they could cast a ballot.

I expect it is time for me to quit, no doubt I will get into trouble over this call, and it is my first one. We are homesteading here; thought while Uncle Sam's land was going we would get our share. Fifty miles from a railroad is quite a ways but we have auto stages and daily mail. We are thirty miles to the nearest town. "No place to go but out. Nowhere to come but in."

To me every one who writes, whether old or young is good looking. I pay no attention to description, I was a "grama" at forty-five. The "children and their paw" think I'm good looking any way. If anyone wants a description I will give it should I ever call again. I am a native Oregonian. Mother was born in Illinois, her name was Veatch, father, Hamilton Wallace in Missouri.

Best wishes to all. FRANCES E. MORSS.

ARKANSAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Will you admit a little Arkansas girl into your happy circle? I have seen several letters from the Great Bear state but never one from this part. My mother and other members of the family have been subscribers to COMFORT since I was a small child. I have always enjoyed reading the cousins' letters and Uncle Charlie's witty answers but have never before become much interested in the Sisters' Corner.

I certainly agree with "Mossback" and "California Voter" in regard to Woman Suffrage. I think that every intelligent woman should have the right to help make the laws whereby she must abide and rear her family. The women of Arkansas have not yet been given the right to vote, but the day is coming, and very soon too, when we will stand side by side with the men in making our laws.

Georgie, I certainly do not agree with you in your opinions of country life. I am a little country girl, being born and reared in the country and I thank God for that blessing, for such I certainly consider it. I think a child reared in the country is by far better fitted to meet and bear the responsibilities of life. One never knows what misfortune is in store for them. The boy or girl on the farm can acquire a good, practical education if they will only make use of their time in our little country schools. We have a great free school system in Arkansas. A child can attend the free school from the age of six to twenty-two; and while our boys and girls are getting their practical education they can easily work at farming, dairying, stock raising and many other things whereby they can earn money for a high school, business college or college education. They can do this during vacation time.

We have our county health officer who comes out and visits our country schools and sees that they are perfectly sanitary in every way. The individual drinking cup is in use all over Polk county.

I hardly think it depends on where the child lives as to its innocence. It depends wholly on how the child is reared, for when you hear a little child talking indecently you may know that he has heard older people talking the same way or has heard other children who have heard it from their elders. Sister, is your city so clean that your children will never hear a vulgar word or an oath? If so, methinks every one will be moving to that city.

The general opinion of the world is that country life is the cleanest, purest, most upright life to be lived. The young men of our country all say, "Give me the country girl, raised by one of the South's dear, old-fashioned mothers." They say the city girls know very little about caring for a home and they do not, as a rule, make suitable companions.

As to nature, I believe in making a study of it, for is it not a gift from our Creator?

There are six of us children and we are all healthy, happy and free. We all have good educations. I am teaching school. Father and mother have tried to raise us to live upright, Christian lives. We are all obedient and have been taught to do all kinds of farm work and we girls can do all kinds of housework. We are all very heathful, have never had a case of severe sickness among us.

I trust no one will be vexed with me for my opinions. I always speak my mind freely when I feel it my duty.

I will close by giving a description of myself. I am twenty-four years old, have black hair, dark blue eyes, fair complexion, am five feet, seven inches tall and weigh one hundred and twenty-one pounds.

With love and best wishes to dear Mrs. Wilkinson and all the sisters, ARKANSAS SISTER.

Arkansas Sister. While COMFORT'S circulation is largely among the country and small town people, there are, a number of subscribers in the cities and I have a feeling that some of the city girls will resent your attitude toward them and come forth with arguments in their own behalf; anyway, all are equally welcome.—Ed.

TOMPKINSVILLE, KY.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Through the kindness of my sister, COMFORT will be sent to me one year and I am very thankful to her for the kindness. I enjoy reading the Sisters' Corner, but never read the stories.

We live in the country and like that life. My husband of course is a farmer. We raise all kinds of vegetables. He owns an eight H. P. gasoline engine that he uses for grinding corn and drilling wells; also a two H. P. engine that saws wood.

We have never lived in the city and don't think we would care to. I agree exactly with Mrs. Bauer about farm life. I am twenty-nine years old and my husband is twenty-eight. We have been married a little over six years and have three children living, Floyd, Euren and Alene. I enjoy the letters on child training for we are trying to teach ours in the right way, and do hope and pray that they will come and share in the life and grace of Christ. And I believe they will when once they are made to realize how great a blessing they are missing by staying away. We are Baptists, and by living the gospel ourselves we best advertise its worth to others, in one way or another. The professor of Christ's religion ought to make it known to his fellowmen and then if it is rejected they will not be to blame. We are not responsible for results but for our own work but we should give our best.

I agree with Mrs. Lovelace on the idea of starting a bank account for the children. We began giving Floyd all our pennies when he was one year old and now he has over three dollars. His uncle gave him one dollar and we mean to put that in the bank in his own name.

We have an organ and a banjo and we all dearly love music, but the sweetest songs on earth to me are the old-fashioned songs that father and mother sang long ago, such as "The Old-time Religion"—it can't be beat—and "Home, Sweet Home." That word touches every fiber of the soul and strikes every chord of the human heart with its angelic tone. To the child, home is his world, he knows no other—the father's love, the mother's smile, the sister's embrace and the brother's welcome. Home is the spot where the child pours out his complaints and is the grave of all his sorrows.

To the sister who writes about her little boy refusing to say his prayers I will say that my little boy, when three years old, never failed to say his prayers but after a while he tired of it. Of course I wanted him to keep on but I waited and did not scold and now he always says them. He often says, "Mamma, sing about the prints of the nails in his His hand." Mothers, let's tell them more about Jesus.

If there are any taking COMFORT who knew me as Ada Grinestaff, please let me hear from them through COMFORT. Yours lovingly, MRS. ADA COMBS.

DAHMER, W. VA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

As I have been silent about four years I thought I would come again. I wish to thank all the sisters for the many letters received from them and the communication I was able to establish between the "home folks" and those of the great West.

I do not want to be pessimistic but I wish to express my ideas and then in return get ideas from others. The person who always gets information from others and never gives any in return is selfish, I think.

I was one of eleven children, and we were raised on a little farm so I know that economy was necessary in our home. Now I am the proud mother of four children, Ella Vaiden, eight years; Lucy Verona, five years; Elvira Jane, three years, and Arla Evelyn, sixteen months old. A few years ago I conceived the idea of the savings bank as being a good thing in favor of thrift and a menace against extravagance. I adopted the following plan in our home, as we are located about eight miles from the nearest bank.

1. I provide my children with a suitable place to keep their money—a little bank or purse.
2. I do not permit them to spend their money for trifles.
3. When anything is necessary for the welfare of the children my husband and I buy it out of our savings.
4. When amount is realized sufficient to draw interest, deposit same in bank for them.

We have become a nation of spendthrifts. Twelve millions of our people are in absolute poverty. Many millions more are barely "keeping the wolf from the door." Our children must be taught not only to make money but to save it. Switzerland leads the world in frugality now, and if I am correctly informed, our country ranks as the fifteenth.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and all, MRS. ESTELLA DAHMER.

Mrs. Dahmer. Your four rules are admirable, but why not add a fifth one—that of teaching your children, girls and boys, how to *spend* money. It is a good plan to give the child an allowance and out of this expect him, or her, to buy some of the little things they actually need. The chances are good that the child will be a living example of "a fool and his money" and spend the entire allowance for something foolish and be obliged to get along the rest of the week, or month, on thoughts of what he might have bought had he stopped to consider before making his first purchase. The lesson will seem bitter, to the child, but in the end it invariably teaches them the worth of money.—Ed.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have long been a reader of the sisters' letters though I have never written before. Soon after coming West I subscribed for the paper from the good old "Pine Tree State." I enjoy the whole of the paper and have found many recipes and suggestions that have been a help to me.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.)

ECONOMY

Each package of Knox Sparkling Gelatine will make enough jelly to serve twenty people, or it is so easily measured that one can make an individual dish.

Mrs. Charles B. Knox.
President

KNOX ORANGE JELLY

Soak 1 envelope Knox Sparkling Gelatine in ½ cup cold water five minutes, and dissolve in 2 cups boiling water. Add 1 cup of sugar and stir until dissolved. Then add 1 cup orange juice and 2 tablespoonfuls lemon juice and strain through cheese cloth into molds first dipped in cold water, and chill.

NOTE—If desired, add fresh or canned fruit or chopped nuts when making. Serve with or without whipped cream.

KNOX SPARKLING GELATINE

FREE Recipe Book

for your grocer's name. If you have never used Knox Gelatine, enclose 4c in stamps for pint sample.

CHAS. B. KNOX GELATINE CO., Inc.
425 Knox Ave., Johnstown, N. Y.

Who Is This Woman?



She is the woman who was darkening and greasing her furniture with oil polishes—who wisely changed to

LIQUID VENEER

with results that astonished her—and who *now* has brilliantly clean and new-looking furniture that will *stay* beautiful for years.

Endorsed by the National Housewives' League.
BUFFALO SPECIALTY CO., Buffalo, N. Y.
Bridgeburg, Ont., Canada

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

hot oven and toast to golden brown; then butter generously. Fill hollowed-out places in toast with the peas and sprinkle the toast with finely chopped parsley. Decorate plate with bunches of parsley.

FRIED BANANAS.—Peel and slice the bananas, sprinkle with salt, dip in thin batter and fry in butter. Serve immediately.

MRS. E. V. DAVIS, Duluth, Minn.

HOT KENTUCKY ROLLS.—Cup of oat flakes scalded with half cup of boiling milk. Let cool, then add third of a cup of molasses, one level tablespoon of butter, one quarter of a cup of yeast and beat five minutes. Thicken with flour to proper stiffness—let rise over night, mold into small rolls and let rise till light. Glaze with white of egg. Bake.

MRS. E. H. PRATHER, Grandin, N. Dak.

FRUIT CAKE.—Three cups sugar, one cup butter, one cup sour cream, one teaspoon each, cinnamon, allspice, cloves and one half teaspoon nutmeg, one pound raisins, one pound currants, one tablespoon soda dissolved in two thirds cup hot water and flour enough to make batter as stiff as can be stirred. Bake one hour.

A SISTER FROM NEBRASKA.

TWO-EGG ANGEL CAKE.—Scald one cup of milk. Sift one cup of flour, one cup of sugar and three level teaspoons of baking powder together several times, then pour the hot milk over flour, etc. Beat for a minute and then add the beaten whites of two eggs, folded in but do not beat the batter. Add flavor to taste. Bake in moderate oven.

ICING.—One cup granulated sugar with just enough water to moisten. Boil without stirring until clear. Have ready the white of one egg, stiffly beaten and pour the boiling syrup slowly over the egg, beating constantly.

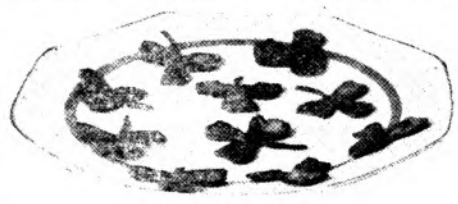
MRS. N. M. OAKES, Kelseyville, Cal.

SPICED FRUIT CAKE.—Four eggs, one cup brown sugar, one cup molasses, two cups milk, one cup raisins, one quarter pound chopped citron, two cups flour, one teaspoon baking powder, one teaspoon allspice, one teaspoon cinnamon and one teaspoon vanilla.

CORN-STARCH CAKE.—Four eggs, two cups pulverized sugar, one half cup corn-starch, one cup butter, one cup sweet milk, three cups flour, two teaspoons baking powder and two teaspons lemon extract.

GRACE J. SCHULTETUS, Wichert, Ill.

ST. PATRICK SALAD.—Surround a paper case with crepe paper tying it with green ribbon; inside fill it with chicken salad, ornamenting it with radish roses.



ST. PATRICK SALAD.

The potatoes can be cut in the form of a shamrock and fried as shown in illustration.

MARY NORTHEND, Salem, Mass.

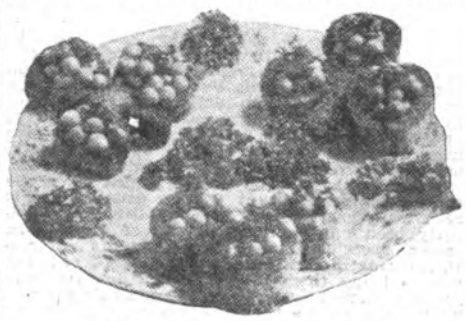
BRAN GEMS.—One and one third cup sour milk, one cup bran, one half cup graham or whole wheat flour, one level teaspoon soda, one tablespoon melted lard and a dash of salt. This makes eight gems.

MRS. CHESTER FERRELL, Seattle, Wash.

SWEET CRACKERS. (Requested).—Three cups sugar, one cup lard, one cup sweet milk, two eggs and two ounces baking ammonia. Dissolve ammonia in one cup of boiling water, add a pinch of salt, mix stiff with flour; roll thin, cut in squares and bake in a hot oven.

MRS. ADDIE STAGGS, Seymour, Iowa.

MACAROON CREAM AND PEACHES.—Soak one tablespoon of Granulated Sparkling Gelatine in a quarter of a cup of cold water, make a custard of two cups of scalded milk, yolks of two eggs, one third of a cup of sugar, pinch of salt, add soaked gelatine.



MACAROON CREAM AND PEACHES.

When dissolved, strain, cool and add one cup of pounded macaroons, one teaspoon of vanilla and stir until it begins to thicken, then add whites beaten stiff and dry. Put in a mold to harden, and serve with whipped cream, slices of peaches and macaroons.

COCOANUT COOKIES. (Requested.)—One and one half cups sugar, one scant cup butter, one half cup milk, two eggs, one teaspoon baking powder, one cup cocoanut, one half teaspoon vanilla and flour to roll.

MISS HILMA HANSON, Marshalltown, Iowa.

Miss Hanson. Yes, indeed, send any and all recipes you think would be helpful to the sisters.—Ed.

HORSERADISH.—Mix together thoroughly one small tablespoon of melted butter, or if preferred, olive oil, and one of mixed mustard, two of horseradish, one of vinegar, and a dessertspoon of vinegar and a little salt.

PEANUT BREAD.—One cup chopped, browned peanuts, one half cup sugar, two and one half cups flour, two rounding teaspoons baking powder, one egg, well beaten, one cup or enough sweet milk to make a stiff dough. Pinch of salt. Bake forty minutes.

MRS. P. S. HENDRY, Loxley, "Fair Acres," Ala.

DEVILED EGGS.—Boil six eggs hard, remove shells, cut the eggs in halves and remove yolks, and fill whites with a mixture made by chopping two large pickles with one medium-sized onion, one teaspoon melted butter, one tablespoon vinegar, salt and pepper and the yolks of the eggs. Place on lettuce leaves and serve. MRS. R. W. WILLIAMS, Llano, Texas.

CHICKEN IN JACKETS.—Bake eight large potatoes in the oven until well done, cut off one end and scoop out the insides without breaking the jacket, and put in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper, add a large lump of butter, yolks of two eggs, one cup and a half of minced white of chicken, and four or five tablespoons of thick cream. Mix well, fill jackets and put in a bake pan and bake ten or fifteen minutes. Cover top with hard-boiled eggs and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

LEMON SHERBET.—One pound of granulated sugar, one teaspoon Granulated Sparkling gelatine, one quart water and one cup lemon juice. Boil water and sugar together twenty minutes; add the gelatine, softened in one quarter cup cold water; strain and when cold add one cup lemon juice; freeze.

MISS FRANCES VOJKUVKA, Lyons, Texas.

TOMATO JELLY.—One can of tomatoes or in season use eight medium-sized tomatoes. Dissolve one quarter box of Granulated Sparkling Gelatine in one half cup cold water. Pass tomatoes through sieve to remove seeds. Season with pepper and salt and pour over gelatine, while hot, juice of one lemon. Pour in mold and set away to cool. When firm, garnish with lettuce leaves or parsley and serve with mayonnaise dressing. Individual molds may be used.—Ed.

CORN-MEAL FISH BALLS.—Two cups corn-meal mush, one cup shredded codfish, one egg, and one tablespoon of butter. Soak the fish to remove salt and pick into small pieces (unless you use the shredded kind that comes prepared) and mix with the mush, eggs and butter and make into balls. Roll them in corn-meal and fry in hot lard until brown.

THELMA KING, House, N. Mex.

BAKED HAM.—Place a thick slice of ham, say one and one half or two inches, in pan and sprinkle a thin layer of brown sugar and a little ground clove over the top. Put two thirds of a cup of water in the pan and bake one hour in a medium oven.—Ed.

WELSH RAREBIT.—Melt two tablespoons butter and add one tablespoon flour, one half teaspoon mustard, and a little salt. Mix all together well and add one cup milk. When thoroughly heated add one cup cheese, cut in small pieces. Just before taking from fire, add one egg, well beaten. Serve hot on toast or crackers.—Ed.

CHOCOLATE CAKE.—One cup sugar, one and one half cups flour, one egg, three heaping teaspoons of cocoa, one third cup butter, one cup sour milk and one teaspoon soda. Use vanilla flavoring if desired.—Ed.

SWEET CREAM CAKE.—Break two eggs into a cup and fill cup with sweet cream. Beat well with egg beater. Add one cup sugar and beat again. Then add one and one half cups sifted flour to which has been added one teaspoon of soda, two teaspoons cream of tartar and one half teaspoon salt and a little vanilla. Beat well and bake twenty-five minutes in a moderate oven.—Ed.



NONE SUCH MINCE MEAT

"Like Mother Used to Make"

MERRELL-SOULE CO. Syracuse, New York



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

THERE is a great howl in this country about free speech. It is the most precious possession we have and is guaranteed by the constitution; but the American people do not believe in free speech, and for that matter scarcely a living soul believes in free speech. When people talk about free speech it just means this and nothing more: They believe that their ideas and their views should be aired from the housetops the world over, but if anyone starts to talk and give vent to ideas that conflict with theirs, they'll throw bricks at his head and shut him up.

There are scores of subjects I would like to discuss in the columns of COMFORT, but if I were to thresh out all the things I am fairly aching to touch upon, I would lose Mr. Gannett half his subscription list in a month. If a man wants to give vent to opinions that conflict with generally accepted ideas about politics, religion and economics, he has to cut loose and start a newspaper of his own, and draw around him those who art in sympathy with those views. There are scores of papers in this country devoted to exploiting this or that particular "ism," and this or that particular brand of religion, and all have their little axes out for the other fellow whose "ism" or religious views differs from theirs. The adherents of these various "isms," clans, bugs and sects, want me to endorse and air their views and knock the stuffing out of all the other fellows. They are all great for free speech, as long as you don't hit any of their pet beliefs. Place however, an impious finger on their idols and they behave like painted savages.

We ought to be able to talk freely about the war in this country, but it can't be done, at least not in a household publication. No one unless he is an ignorant nut who does not know that he is alive, and whose brain has turned to soup is really neutral as far as this war in Europe is concerned. The man who says he doesn't care which side wins writes himself down as a boob and a saphead. No real man ever was or ever can be neutral where right or wrong are in conflict.

There are a lot of people in Europe who don't know what they are fighting for, because they have been content to accept the opinions of others without investigating or have been willfully misinformed and kept in ignorance of the true issues at stake. The masses on both sides fervently believe that their cause is the right one and that the other fellow was the aggressor and not they. That is the tragedy of it all, the inability to get the truth to those who have been willfully deceived, and willfully lied to, so that kings may continue their rule of despotism and poor boobs may shed their blood in order that parasites and loafers may live in idleness. If I were President of this great country I would call a Congress of all the neutral nations, and I would ask the warring nations to send their ablest men to lay before the Congress their side in this great world struggle. I would have a supreme court of nations and I would give every combatant a chance to be heard, a chance to put his cards on the table, and I would let the court decide just who it was that deliberately started this hellish murderfest. The findings of the court should be placed in the hands of every nation, especially the warring nations. The blame should be placed squarely where it belongs and the nation or nations that are at fault should be ostracized, cut off entirely from the family of nations for a certain number of years. You will say it is wrong to punish a whole nation for the sins of its rulers, but as each nation fervently believes that its rulers are in the right, and that the cause of these exploiting parasites is their cause, then they are equally guilty with their rulers, and must be ostracized and punished until they come to their senses. They should be dead to all the rest of the world until they have done penance for their crimes. We punish murderous individuals, we should punish murderous nations. America should be the champion of mankind, the guardian of liberty. President Wilson has voiced some very beautiful sentiments about our duty to mankind, how we should be ever ready to uphold right, righteousness and democracy the world over. All our presidents and presidential candidates, politicians and statesmen get these fine sounding phrases off their chests, especially around election time and the mobs howl with delight, but all this talk is the veriest buncomb. There is not an atom of sincerity at the back of it. Of course our big men would like to do all sorts of fine things, at least a few of them would, but at the best a president has never more than half the nation behind him, and not more than a quarter of that half will be ready to back him up in any worth-while world policy. To become the champions of mankind would mean having one nation with but a single thought, a hundred million people whose hearts throbbed as one, and that kind of nation we haven't got. With a nation of that kind at his back, instead of millions of howling, shrieking, cursing critics, the president could do wonders. But to do anything fine and big we must have people with big, world-wide ideas, and where pray shall we find them?

When the women who toured the country recently on behalf of one of the presidential candidates, got home, they were a much more sober and wiser bunch than when they started. They found even in a great city like Minneapolis, people were almost entirely interested in local politics, and in the majority of places they visited, they said that all the election excitement, or ninety per cent of it, centered around the election of a pound master; some local dough-head whose business it is to gather in stray dogs, hogs and other ferocious wild animals of that type. If our capital were in the middle of the country instead of the edge of it, in Omaha instead of Washington, we might be able to begin to talk nationally, and think nationally instead of to think in terms of hog, and dog pounds. The women said it was practically impossible to find anybody who could think and talk along national lines. Now if you can't talk and think nationally, it is utterly impossible to think and talk internationally, for all internationalism is based on nationalism. The first must precede the second, and if nationalism is not sustained by force of arms if necessary, there can be no internationalism, and without internationalism there can be no world brotherhood, no hope of placing the interests of humanity above the interests of the individual and the state.

So you see our chance of doing something big for our warring brothers and our weaker brothers is mighty small. You can't reason, argue or talk with men whose passions are at the murder point, and neither can you with nations. Some far-seeing men realize this and have started a World League to Enforce Peace. That will mean that every nation that has a grouch against another will have to come into court and air its grouch and grievances before it will be allowed to go and kick the other fellow's lights out, and the League of Peace is determined that any nation that starts fighting contrary to its wishes and mandates will find all the other nations of the world arrayed against it and ready to jump on its back. Uncle Sam ought to be the chief judge in that Supreme Court of Humanity and he ought to have a hundred million people at the back of him ready and willing to do the bidding of that court. This world is still full of inhuman savages, too full of the love of conquest and bloodshed, too full of king, emperor, kaiser, czar and mikado lovers and monarchy idolators, to be swayed in its acts by such altruistic and idealistic institutions as the Hague Peace Tribunal. If that Hague Peace Tribunal had had behind it a league of all the democratic nations of the world, a fighting as well as gab and talk league, the international agreements made by that league would have been kept, and there would have been no war. Andrew Carnegie made one very sensible remark when he said there were certain nations in the world that intended to have peace even if they had to fight for it. Now just as soon as we can get more nations who are ready to fight for peace than are ready to indulge in war for war's sake and the territory that conquest brings, we shall have world peace, and not until then. If there is any benighted idiot, male or female in this wide world who thinks that peace is to be got in any other way, especially by the cowardly process of backing down and eating crow, and pussy footing around, simpering platitudes and turning the other cheek to be smitten, and lifting the other coat tail to be kicked, and bleating like silly geese "I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier" or "my girl to be a mother," or flapping geese wings and chortling "He kept us out of war," and other yawps of pin head, vacuous, craven, impractical, dog pound minds, they are woefully mistaken. This is a world of iron and steel, a world of brute, beast force. It is a world of blood, murder and lawlessness. Look at our own record of nearly a thousand murders a month if you want proof of this. Force controls and the only thing that can dominate force is superior force. We have the material in this country to provide the superior force, but it would need a national spirit, a national organization, military, social, industrial and spiritual, to make that force (righteous in conception, altruistic and idealistic in spirit) conquer all the forces of evil and bring peace to a stricken world. All good men and women who love God and pattern their lives after His Son, the Christ, want peace and brotherhood. But to get these precious things, as the world is constituted today, they must first demonstrate they are ready if need be to fight for them.

Last month we celebrated Washington's birthday. Washington admonished us to observe faith and justice. We should heed his advice and be ready to support with all the strength at our command, the cause of justice the world over, and that would mean we can never be neutral when right and wrong are in conflict. As one writer puts it "justice is not a mere negation, it is a positive, affirmative force and involves active duties as well as passive rights." James M. Beck, one of the greatest publicists of this generation, a man who has written a book which gives the keenest analytical study of the causes of this great war that has yet been published, has recently been on the battle fronts of Europe. In a recent speech he made some statements so forceful, illuminating and interesting that I feel it my duty to bring them to your attention. He says it would serve no useful purpose at this time to analyze the attitude of the different groups of nations toward this country at the present hour. It is enough to say that one group of nations has for his country an intense feeling of resentment and hatred, other groups of nations feel that "with humanity on the cross, America has contented itself like the Roman soldiers with *parting the raiment of the crucified*.

"The lesser neutral powers have a sense of bitter disillusion and disappointment in the feeling that they look to this greatest of neutral powers for leadership to protect the interests of neutrals and looked in vain. The world is not likely to forget that we of all nations willingly or unwillingly have found enormous prosperity in the misery and suffering of other nations. To every thinking American the possibilities of this situation ought to fill us with apprehension, but our country through its traditions of isolation has been so influenced by the spirit of provincialism (provincial means narrow, local, dog poundy) that only a minority in America pays any attention to the gathering clouds which though they be at the present moment no bigger than a man's hand, may yet one day overcast the heavens. The man who believes that this will be the last war is an incurable optimist. On the contrary it is in my judgment only the beginning of a series of titanic conflicts. Over ravaged fields, newly made graves and desolated homes, the belligerant powers are likely at least for half a century to gaze at each other with irreconcilable hatred. In my judgment therefore, the world is likely to be a seething of international hatred for some decades to come, and it will be difficult and perhaps impossible for the United States to escape in the future from the entanglements of this world crisis. In this portentous period to come America will have need of the wisest and greatest unity of action. * * * * This is the time when America should put aside all minor difficulties and endeavor to act in this world conflict with reasonable unity of action. And yet instead of such unity our country is drifting into a menacing spirit of disunion in the strife between sections and classes."

President Wilson made a statement recently that probably few of you noticed or heeded. He said, and for once he was a true prophet, that this was the last great war *in which the United States could remain neutral*. That means that when the next great war comes along *we shall be in it* and if we are in it and don't want to be spanked into a pulp and wiped off the face of the earth, we had better prepare ourselves for the storm and be ready to meet it and repel it. The military forces of the world from now on (and nearly everyone is agreed on this point) will be divided into two great groups, and there is little doubt that circumstances which we shall be powerless to control, will for the sake of our own preservation, ultimately force us into one or other of these groups, for no nation is powerful enough in these days to stand alone.

There are two great ideas fighting for mastery in this world today, the democratic, republican idea, as opposed to the monarchical, autocratic, mediæval idea of government by accidents of birth, otherwise kings, sacreligious fanatics who claim to rule by divine right, and who claim too to be responsible to God alone for their actions. England had a king who made such claims, and the people promptly cut off his head. That was nearly three hundred years ago. Today whatever democracy we enjoy we owe to that act of the British people, under the leadership of the great Commoner, Oliver Cromwell. A hundred years or so later, the French people cut off the head of Louis the Sixteenth, another divine right parasite. That made France a liberty loving, democratic nation forever. Unfortunately other European nations lacked the revolutionary spirit shown by Britain and France, and permitted their arrogant rulers to put the divine right bluff over on them, and they are standing for that kind of rot and dying to maintain that kind of sacreligious piffle at this very moment, hundreds of years after other nations had canned that kind of bunk. And understand this, until all nations the world over can their kings liberty and freedom won't be worth a song unless you are ready *to fight for them*. If the divinely appointed monarchies win in this world struggle, good by to the United States and all it stands for. If the democratic idea triumphs we can have a Court of Nations and a league to enforce peace. Benjamin Ide Wheeler, one of our most prominent men, writing in the Evening Mail recently said: "The League to Enforce Peace offers so far as I can see the only practical plan for lessening the chances of war in the future. The plan however will be vain even with the support of our national government except as we stand strong enough to command a hearing. The plain straightforward path to follow should be a national plan for universal training. If we are known to have at our command seven or eight million men who have received initial training and know where their places in the ranks are and where there is grease for their gun locks, our opinions and desires regarding peace will have a hearing, otherwise our efforts will be in vain.

The ideas of Mr. Beck and Mr. Wheeler are those that prevail among progressive, far-seeing leaders of thought the country o'er. We must then be ready to support justice, not as an abstract principle, but as an active force the world over. Instead of trying to divide the garment of the crucified we must bind up their wounds. We must bring peace to a warring world, and build up the homes war has shattered, and provide money and material to do the job. That will lessen old world hatred of us and that will give us a chance to try and lessen the deadly hatred that exists between those who have been destroying each other. Then if we gather as many nations as we possibly can around us, as many as are ready and willing to back up with force, if necessary, the League to Enforce Peace the dreadful prospect of future terrible wars will in all probability be happily averted. A course of this kind means life, vitality and honor to this nation. Any other course as Mr. Beck rightly says means spiritual death. To accomplish this does not mean the shedding of blood, but the shedding of narrow, foolish, selfish, childish, craven, provincial, hog pound, dog pound ideas. We must think nationally. We must have a vision, something at present the vast masses of our people have not got; and where there is no vision, the people perish. America must live, it must not perish and you who read this must breathe new life into the "veins of this nation." Consecrate yourselves to your country's service, then war will vanish and world peace will come. Remember, no man can be free in this world and no man has a right to be free until he has fitted himself to fight efficiently for his freedom, and if he fits himself to fight he will never have to fight. Christ is called the Prince of Peace, I prefer to call Him The Prince of Righteousness. A slave can have peace, but only the strong can have justice and righteousness.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers: the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

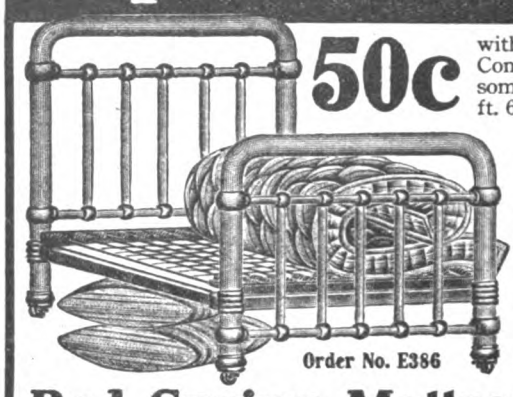
HERMAN, R. R. 1, NEBR.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Having written before to this corner and not yet having the luck to escape Billy, I've decided to write

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

Just to Prove that "Spear charges Less"



50c with order and 50c a month pays for this Complete Bed Outfit. Consists of a handsome, strongly constructed Iron Bed, in 4 ft. 6 in. width only, and in blue, green or plain white enamel; rust-proof steel link fabric spring fastened to angle steel ends with full helical springs; well made 50-lb. cotton top mattress and a pair of select, sanitary, well covered feather pillows. This bed is a great big value, and will be shipped on 30 days' trial. Return it at our expense if not satisfactory, and your first payment as well as freight charges will be refunded. You get everything for $11.95.

Order No. E386

Bed, Spring, Mattress, Pillows COMPLETE OUTFIT

Shipment will be made immediately upon receipt of the small first payment of 50 cents. This Big Bargain is offered to prove that I Save you Money wherever you live. But you don't have to buy from pictures. Like everything else I sell, this Bed Outfit is sent on

30 Days' Home Trial and Use

If your satisfaction is not complete you can return the outfit after a month's trial. Your first payment and all freight charges will be refunded. **Order No. E386.** **Terms: 50c cash with order, balance 50c per month. Total price** **$11.95**



Order No. E2828

Try This Kitchen Cabinet 30 Days

50c Monthly

This is an ideal value in a fine, low-priced kitchen cabinet. Is made of select solid oak finished golden. Material and workmanship guaranteed. The hardwood base top measures 41 x 26 inches. Has 45 pound capacity flour bin with sifter, roomy china closet and plenty of drawer and utensil space. Cupboard doors are fitted with attractive art glass, and all the trimmings are of the neatest design. This cabinet will give the utmost of satisfaction, and will be shipped on 30 days' trial. Return it at our expense if not satisfactory and your money will be refunded.

Order No. E2828. Terms, 50c cash with order balance 50c monthly. Price **$11.95**

Send for My New FREE Book Today



You should have my fine, big, complete catalog of everything for the home. It shows bargain after bargain. Every article is illustrated (many in beautiful colors) and fully described as to construction, materials and finish down to the smallest detail.

It will introduce you to

A Thousand Bargains

in Everything for the Home. Furniture, Carpets, Portieres, Rugs, Clocks, Stoves, Dishes, Go-Carts, Guns, Linoleum, Silverware, Lace Curtains, Bedding, Springs, Mattresses, Sewing Machines, Washing Machines, Ranges.

"I Will Trust You Gladly" *Spear, of Pittsburgh*



Open Account Easy Terms To All

I will open your charge account as soon as I have your name and address. I give the longest time to pay and guarantee fair, square and liberal treatment. Everything I sell is sent on

30 Days' Home Trial

and use. There are no strings to this offer. If your satisfaction is not complete we want you to return the goods; we will refund your money.

Nathaniel Spear, Pres.

→ Spear ← & Company

Dept. E Pittsburgh, Pa.

SPEAR & CO., Dept. E Pittsburgh, Pa.

I would like to know all about the Spear Open Account, Easy Payment Plan for home furnishing. Please send me, free, your complete Bargain Catalog with Prices, Terms and Information, without the slightest obligation on my part.

Name.....

Town.....

State.....

Don't Miss that Splendid Easter Story

by Joseph F. Novak in April COMFORT which will also contain a lot of exceptionally interesting features. Read the first part of "He that Loseth His Life" in this paper and make sure of the astonishing conclusion of that mystifying story in April, by renewing your subscription, today, two full years for 30 cents.

Overland
TRADE MARK REG.

Stability

YOUR car is inseparable from the institution that built it.

The service it gives you is just what its producers built into it and ***keep alive*** in it.

In motor cars, stability of product is inseparable from the stability of the producers.

Overland ranks first among producers of cars above the $400 class — second in the entire industry.

There are 400,000 Overlands in use.

Overland dealers have contracted for one hundred and eighty million dollars worth of Overlands for 1917 — an increase of seventy-five million dollars compared with last year.

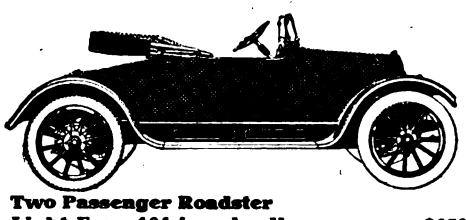
Overland sales this year therefore will be approximately as great as the entire annual gross revenues of the New York Central Railroad.

Overland net assets have grown from ***fifty-eight thousand*** dollars eight years ago, to over ***sixty-eight million*** dollars today.

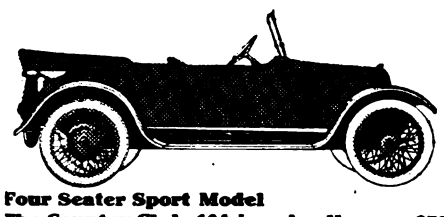
In our great Toledo plant and our allied plants, we employ nearly thirty-eight thousand men.

They directly support more than two hundred thousand people.

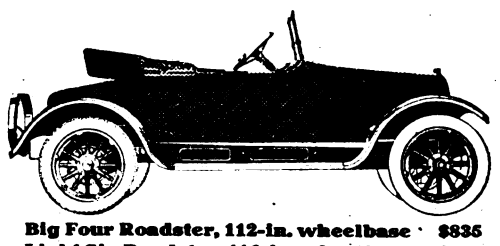
Permanent well appointed factory branches and parts depots representing an investment of millions have been established in important metropolitan centers that cover the country.



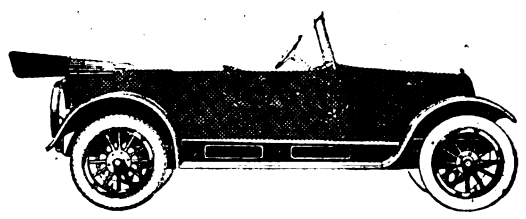
Two Passenger Roadster
Light Four, 104-in. wheelbase **$650**



Four Seater Sport Model
The Country Club, 104-in. wheelbase **$750**



Big Four Roadster, 112-in. wheelbase **$835**
Light Six Roadster, 116-in. wheelbase **$970**



Light Four Touring, 106-in. wheelbase **$665**
Big Four Touring, 112-in. wheelbase **$850**
Light Six Touring, 116-in. wheelbase **$985**
All prices f. o. b. Toledo

These branches serve the five thousand Willys-Overland dealers who complete our great international service system.

These tangible evidences of the stability of the Overland Industry are your best assurance of stability of quality and service in Overland Automobiles.

The Willys-Overland line is now ***complete.***

And it is the only complete line of cars built and sold—

—under ***one*** executive management

—with ***one*** engineering staff,

—with ***one*** purchasing power,

—by ***one*** production management,

—through ***one*** sales force,

—and ***one*** group of dealers.

Resulting economies amounting to millions of dollars, reduce the cost of every car—enable Overland to establish and maintain higher quality standards at lower prices.

So in your Overland you get maximum quality at minimum price—plus stability to assure permanence of value in your investment.

You can select a car in the light four group, the big four group, or the light six group.

You can select one of the cars in the luxurious Willys-Knight group.

In either case it is dominant value in its class for it has shared in the economies of Overland bigness and stability.

See the Overland dealer now and make your selection.

Catalogue on request. Please address Dept. 912.

The Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio
Manufacturers of Willys-Knight and Overland Automobiles and Light Commercial Cars
"Made in U. S. A."

Burpee's Seeds Grow



Burpee's Sweet Peas

For 25c we will mail one regular 10c packet (40 to 50 seeds) each of CHERUB, rich cream, edged bright rose; KING WHITE, the finest pure white; MARGARET ATLEE, best cream pink; ROSABELLE, a large deep rose; WEDGEWOOD, a lovely light blue. Also one large packet (90 to 100 seeds) of the BURPEE BLEND OF SUPERB SPENCERS FOR 1917.

Burpee's Annual for 1917

is better, bigger and brighter than ever before. 204 pages. Thirty (30) varieties illustrated in colors. It is mailed free. Write for it today and please mention this publication.

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO.
Burpee Buildings Philadelphia



SEEDS

Fresh, Reliable, Pure
Guaranteed to Please

Every Gardener and Planter should test Our Northern-Grown Seeds.

SPECIAL OFFER

FOR 10c we will mail postpaid our FAMOUS COLLECTION

1 pkg. 60-Day Tomato	20c
1 pkg. Princess Radish	10c
1 pkg. Self-Growing Celery	20c
1 pkg. Early Arrow-head Cabbage	15c
1 pkg. Fullerton Market Lettuce	10c
Also 12 Varieties Choice Flower Seeds	25c
	$1.00

Write today! Send 10 cents to help pay postage and packing and receive the above "Famous Collection" and our New Instructive Garden Guide.

Great Northern Seed Co.
211 Rose St. Rockford, Illinois

10 Sample Pkts. of Flower SEEDS FREE



1 Pkt. Asters, McGregor's Mixed
1 Pkt. Fancy Pansies, Gorgeous
1 Pkt. Sum. Cypress, Burn'g Bush
1 Pkt. Peony Poppies, Double
1 Pkt. Snapdragon, Giant Fl'd
1 Pkt. Clove Pinks, Spicy Sweet
1 Pkt. Alyssum, Always Blooms
1 Pkt. Mignonette, Old Favorite
1 Pkt. Candytuft, All Colors
1 Pkt. Petunia, Free Flowering

Send 10c to pay packing, postage, etc., and we will mail these 10 pkts. selected seeds with full instructions, in a 20c premium envelope which gives you more than the seed FREE

OUR GREAT SPECIAL BARGAIN CATALOGUE

SENT FREE—OVER 100 FLOWERS SHOWN IN COLORS

McGregor Bros. Co., Box 531, Springfield, Ohio

Japanese Rose Bushes Five for 10cts.



The Wonder of the World

Rose Bushes with roses on them in 8 weeks from the time the seed was planted. It may not seem possible but we **Guarantee** it to be so. They will **BLOOM EVERY TEN WEEKS** Winter or Summer and when 3 years old will have 5 or 6 hundred roses on each bush. **Will grow** in the house in the **winter** as well as in the ground in summer. **Roses All The Year Around.** Package of seed with our guarantee, by mail, **Only Ten Cents.**

Japan Seed Co., Box 616, South Norwalk, Conn.

BARGAINS IN SEEDS

Hundreds of special offers in seeds and plants at bargain prices. Don't buy until you have seen our beautiful new catalog and special liberal offer, mailed free if you mention this paper.

Iowa Seed Co., Dept. A, Des Moines, Iowa



FREE A pair of Mated Everbearing Strawberry plants, large pkt. of new Cereal Feterita, Sudan Grass and Silk Leaf Poppy seed, all **Free for Testing.** Send 10c for mailing expense, or not, as you please. We offer genuine Progressive Everbearing plants at 50c per doz.; 90c for 50; $1.75 for 100; $2.00 for 225, all postpaid. CATALOG FREE.

The Gardner Nursery Co., Box 423, Osage, Iowa

BUY THE BEST, direct from Ernst, all kinds of Trees, Shrubs, Vines, Roses, Seeds, Everbearing Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Etc. Catalog free.
ERNST NURSERIES, Box 40, EATON, OHIO

FEED YOUR FLOWERS FLOWER FOOD TABLETS—contain every element necessary to perfect plant life, 25c per doz.
FLOWER FOOD CO., 115 BWAY, N. Y.

STRAWBERRIES, 100 plants best early sort (Mathews) and 100 fine late berries (Chesapeake) mailed free east of Miss. for $1.00; or 100 Superb that will surely bear finest fruit, this fall and next spring, for same price. Catalog. SLAYMAKER & SON, Wyoming, Del.

Large List, Dialogs, Entertainments, Recitations, Drills, **PLAYS** Catalogue Free. T. S. DENISON & CO., Dept. 8 Chicago, Ill.

PAYSON'S INDELIBLE INK

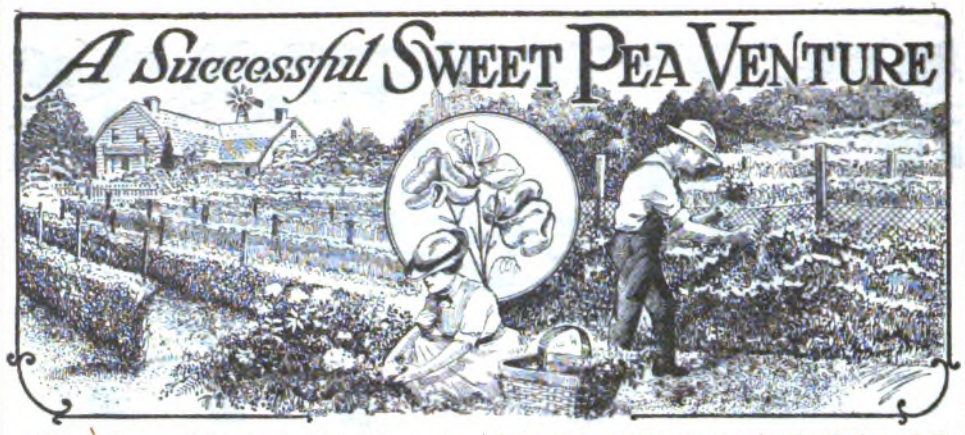
ready for use with a ***common pen.*** It makes a clear mark and will not spread or wash out and will protect cotton, linens and heavier fabrics from confusion or loss. A household necessity for eighty-two years. Stationers and Druggists sell it in the old-fashioned red and yellow wrappers, or it will be sent prepaid for 25 cents by **R. L. Williston, Northampton, Mass., Dept. C.**

CLEARS  SAVES

Cuticura SOAP AND **OINTMENT** QUICKLY REMOVE PIMPLES, DANDRUFF

THE SKIN THE HAIR

SAMPLES FREE CUTICURA Dept. M BOSTON Sold Everywhere



By Mary Harrod Northend

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT is the wise woman who, when wishing to try out a venture in flower raising confines her efforts to one kind, realizing that anything that is worth while takes plenty of time to perfect. She must, in order to make it a success, study its habit, the special soil it needs, and the right situation, as well as the best kind for profitable flowering. All of this takes time but it saves in the end. It can be done in odd minutes, while attending to household cares. In this way, she keeps herself so well informed that when the season opens she does not have to waste time in useless experiments.

It was a farmer's wife, who succeeded in making a comfortable income by raising sweet peas and this is how she did it. Always fond of outdoor life, and raising flowers she made up her mind that when they moved on to the farm, she would, if possible have a little plot of land that she could call her own. Here she would try out her venture, that is if she could interest her husband to dig up the soil and in odd minutes do the hard work for her.

At the foot of the lane, not far from the kitchen door, was a bit of rocky land, where the sun lay most of the day. It was only ten by fifteen feet but large enough for the first venture. In the late fall, before the hard frost had set in, she had it dug over to a depth of five feet. Over this was spread a thick layer of barnyard manure, although bone meal or sheep manure would have answered the purpose as well.

In order to have early blossoms, in the late winter just before the opening of the spring, she purchased several dozen paper pots. In each one of these she planted some of the seeds, that had been previously soaked to expose embryo. Different varieties were planted, each color by itself, after which the pots were marked in order that they should not be mixed. Any soil she knew was suitable for this growth although a little fertilizer mixed in helps out. They should be set in sunny windows and kept watered, using once a week a diluted liquid manure. It will not be before tiny green shoots will be seen and by the time the ground is ready for planting they will be several inches in height.

The time of planting varies, with the season. An early spring allows it the middle of March. Trenches should be made about six inches apart. They should be dug to a depth of two and a half feet, and two feet in width. A layer of manure should be placed at the bottom, and thoroughly sprayed with the garden hose in order to settle it. The remainder of the depth can be filled in with equal parts of loam, wood earth and old manure, which should be carefully pressed down. It is now ready to be worked on.

Seeds should be very carefully chosen, purchased from some reliable firm, and for the best results they should not be carried over from season to season. In order to save confusion, and mixing of colors, each one of the trenches should be planted with one variety only.

The seeds should be soaked, or they may need chipping, more especially the darker colored flowers which have extremely thick shells. Furrows, six inches deep, should be made, all along the row, into each one four or five seeds should be planted and covered with two inches of soil. This should be pressed firmly down using for this purpose a two-inch strip of board fastened into a handle. Fine lime should then be sprinkled over the surface, this is a preventive from cutworms which are the sweet peas' worst enemies.

Along each row, plant strong posts ten feet apart, and fasten to them a five foot wire netting. Many people use brush, and string, but it is not as good or as serviceable, for the brush gets torn up and the string rots and becomes broken, requiring constant mending. Then, too, posts may be a little more expensive but when once firmly planted, more especially if they are cedar posts, will last for years.

A separate bed adjoining the main bed was dug over for the paper pots. It was much smaller, being only six feet long and four in width. The manner of planting was much the same as that of the seed—and they can, if you like, be set out at intervals from the middle of March until the first of May, so that there will be a succession of bloom before the main bed has commenced to flower. The plants should be set out five or six inches apart as space counts for strong growth. The value of paper pots is shown, in the fact that they do not have to be disturbed. The exterior melting away giving the plant more chance to come in contact with the soil.

When the plants are once up, they require very little care, except an occasional stirring of the soil so that it shall not become caked around them, and they should be abundantly watered twice every week, every other time with liquid manure. If the plants do not become as vigorous as one wishes, a small quantity of nitrate of soda should be dug in on either side of the trench six inches away from the vine and great care should be taken that it does not touch them.

The enemies which one has to combat in the growing of sweet peas are aphids and mildew. As the remedy for the former use tobacco emulsion, and for the latter, a dusting of soot before flowering and once a month afterwards. They are easy to grow, take little time and care, and provide a wealth and variety of fragrant blossoms all summer long.

If you wish more vigorous plants when they are about three inches high, the tops should be pinched, put in order to have the lateral growth stronger, and if extra large flowers are desired, an additional watering with liquid manure should be given. This is made by dissolving sheep or cow manure with water.

The sweet pea is as a German doctor writes, "A thankful flower," and is thankful for even a slight attention. They should never be allowed to go to seed, and to keep it at its best the vine should be thoroughly gone over every morning, for in this way only can they be made to blossom continuously for months. The neglect of this duty brings about less bloom, and unhealthy plants.

If you wish to be successful, the flowers should be taken into the house and placed in water in a cool, dark room. If they are sold when they are picked they soon wither, the long stems absorb the water, and keep the blossom fresh and strong for a very much longer time than if they had been picked and sent away at once.

If they are to be sent any distance they should be treated in this manner, after which they are packed in damp cotton-wool, covered with waxed paper, and put in a box for transportation. Careful attention to these facts never fails to insure their reaching the customer in as perfect a condition as they were when first bought. Treated in this way they are able to be sent long distances, reaching their destination safely.

Twelve years ago, little was thought of this particular flower. It was considered stiff and inconspicuous. Through careful experiments in developing types to get color variation, they are now "gorgeous," and the color scheme runs through most of the tints of the rainbow. They show a wonderful diversity with the possible exception of deep scarlet, yellows, and pure blues.

A great development in sweet peas have been made possible by cross fertilization. This is especially manifested in the Spencer or Giant Orchid flowering species. The blooms of this type often measuring two inches across, showing huge standards and very large wings, twice the size of the old kind variety. This particular sweet pea comes in many varieties, ranging from white down through orange, scarlet and salmon to blue, purple and maroon. They come in packages varying in cost from five to twenty cents, but are cheaper if bought by the quarter of pound.

For commercial purposes they are very valuable as they are profuse bloomers, and shy seeders, both of which facts are important to flower raisers.

Many of the old varieties cannot be improved upon. The amateur grower, realizes the importance of his previous study when he picks up the catalogues and is not confused by the terms "Grandiflora," "Unwin," etc. He has learned what these mean, and whether they are suitable for his purpose or not.

Every grower has to learn from experience as to what kind he prefers, but for white there is nothing better than the King White, the Dorothy Eckford and Nora Unwin. For blue, Flora Norton, and Captain of the Blues; for lavender, After Glow, Lady Grisell Hamilton and Frank Dolby. For cream pink, Dobby's Cream and Mrs. Hugh Dixon. For striped and flaked red, use the American Spencer. In addition to these the Dorothy Tenant, the Blanche Ferry, and the Royal Rose are good blossomers, and stand the test, as well as some of the newer varieties.

Some colors are better sellers than others. White is much called for for funerals, as well as lavender. For weddings, pink, and pink and white are the most fashionable, while for birthday parties, pink are most frequently desired.

These rules were carefully carried out by the farmer's wife with such success, that today she is planting a quarter of an acre. The first year of her venture, she cleared only fifty dollars; last year, she had become so well known, through ten years' experience, she cleared over five hundred dollars. The only requisite for making an equally successful venture would have to be knowledge of market, no lowering of standard, and eternal vigilance.

MAULE'S SEEDS



20 DAYS FROM SEED TO TABLE—that is the record of Maule's "Just So" Radish—crisp, tender and sweet. Send 10c. today for enough "Just So" Radish Seed to make a big planting.

Maule's seeds are your best insurance against a poor garden, because Maule's seeds are tested for vigor and growing power.

The Maule Seed Book

Send now for this 176 page catalog full of gardening information **Free**

Buying direct from us means both economy and ***fresh*** seeds.

WM. HENRY MAULE, Inc.
2140 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pa.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

at once to her side, a spasm of agony convulsed her beautiful features.

"Oh, Mrs. Weld!" she moaned.

"Hush, child!" said the woman, bending over her and laying a gentle hand upon her head: "It will all come right, so just shut your eyes and try to go to sleep. I am going to stay with you tonight, and nobody else shall come near you. Don't talk before the servants," she added, in a swift whisper close to her ear.

An expression of intense relief swept over the fair sufferer's face at this friendly assurance, and lifting a grateful look to the housekeeper's face, she settled herself contentedly upon her pillow.

Dr. Arthur then drew Mrs. Weld to the opposite side of the room, where he gave her directions for the night and what to do in case the fainting should return—which, however, he said he did not anticipate, as the action of the heart had become normal and the circulation more natural.

A little later he took his leave, after which the housemaids were dismissed and Edith was alone with her friend.

When the door closed after them the girl stretched forth her hands in a gesture of helpless appeal to the woman.

"Oh, Mrs. Weld," she wailed, "must I be bound to that wretch during the remainder of my life? I cannot live and bear such a fate! Oh, what a shameful mockery it was! I felt, all the time, as if I were committing a sacrilege, and yet I never dreamed that I was being used so treacherously——"

The housekeeper sat down beside the excited girl, whose eyes were burning with a feverish light, and who showed symptoms of returning hysteria.

She removed her spectacles, and taking both of those trembling hands in hers, looked steadily into the troubled eyes.

"My child," she said, in a gentle, soothing tone, "you must not talk about it tonight—you must not even think about it. I have told you that it will all come out right; no man could hold you to such a marriage—no court would hold you bound when once it is understood how fraudulently you had been drawn into it."

"But who is going to be able to prove that it was fraudulent?" questioned Edith with increasing anxiety. "Apparently I went to the altar with that man of my own free will; with all the semblance of sincerity I took those marriage vows upon me and then received the congratulations of all those guests as if I were a real wife. Oh, it was terrible! terrible! terrible!" and her voice arose almost to a shriek of agony as she concluded.

"Hush! not another word! Edith look at me!" commanded Mrs. Weld with gentle but impressive authority.

The young girl, awed to silence in spite of her grief and nervous excitement, looked wonderingly up to into those magnetic eyes which almost seemed to betray a dual nature.

"Oh, dear Mrs. Weld, you do not seem at all like yourself," she gasped. "What—who are you?"

"I am your friend, my dear," was the soothing response, "and I am going to prove it, first by forbidding you to refer to this subject again until after you have had a nice, long sleep. Trust me and obey me, dear; I am going to stand by you as long as you need a friend, and I promise you that you shall never be a slave to the man who has so wronged you tonight. Now put it all out of your mind. I do not want to give you an opiate if I can avoid it, for you would not be so well tomorrow after taking it; but I shall have to if you keep up this excitement."

She continued to hold the girl's trembling hands in a strong, protecting clasp, while she still gazed steadily into her eyes, until, as if overcome by a will stronger than her own—her physical strength being well-nigh exhausted—the white lids gradually drooped, the rigid form relaxed, the lines smoothed themselves out of her brow, and she was soon sleeping quietly and restfully.

When her regular breathing assured the watcher beside her that oblivion had sealed her senses for the time, she bent over her, touched her lips softly to her forehead, and murmured:

"Dear heart, they shall never hold you to that wicked ceremony—to that unholy bond! If the law will not cancel it, if they have sprung the trap upon you so cunningly that the court cannot free you, they shall at least leave you in peace and virtually free, and you shall never want for a friend as long as—as—Gertrude Weld lives," she concluded, a peculiar smile wreathing her lips.

While this strange woman sat in that third-story room and watched her sleeping patient, the hours sped by on rapid wings to the merry dancers below, very few of whom concerned themselves about, or even knew of, the tragic ending of the marriage which they had witnessed earlier in the evening.

But oh, how heavily these hours dragged to one among that smiling throng!

Anna Goddard could scarcely control her impatience for her guests to be gone—for the terrible farce to end.

When she saw signs of the ball breaking up she sent an imperative message to her husband to join her, for she knew that it would cause unpleasant remarks if the master of the house should fail to put in an appearance to "speed the parting guest."

But she almost wished, when he came to her side, that she had not sent for him, for he seemed like one who had lost his hold upon every hope in the world, and looked so coldly upon her that she would rather have had him plunge a dagger into her heart.

But the weary evening was over at length—the last guest from outside was gone—the last visitor in the house had retired.

Her husband also had watched his opportunity when she was looking another way, and had slipped out of the room and up-stairs to escape having any complaints or questions from her.

And so Anna Goddard stood alone in her elegant drawing-room, a most miserable woman, in spite of the luxury that surrounded her.

Finally, with a weary sigh, the unhappy woman went slowly up-stairs, feeling as if, in spite of the smiles and compliments which she had that evening received, she had not a real friend in the world.

Going to her dressing-case, she began to remove her jewels.

The house was very still—so still that it almost seemed deserted, and this feeling only served to add to the sense of loneliness and desolation that was oppressing her.

Her face was full of pain, her beautiful lips quivered with suppressed emotion as she gathered up her costly treasures in both hands and stood looking at them a moment, thinking bitterly how much money they represented, and yet of how little real value they were to her as an essential element in her life.

She moved toward her casket to put her gems carefully away.

She stood looking down into the box for a minute, then, as if impelled by some irresistible impulse, she laid the priceless stones all in a heap upon the table, when, taking hold of a loop, which had escaped the housekeeper's notice, she lifted the cushion from its place, thus revealing the papers which had been concealed beneath it.

She seized the uppermost one with an eager hand.

"I believe I will destroy it," she mused, "I am afraid there is something more in his desire to possess it than he is willing to admit, for he is so determined to get possession of it."

She half unfolded the document as if to examine it, when a sudden shock went quivering through her frame and a look of amazement over spread her face.

"What can this mean?" she exclaimed, in a tone of alarm, as she dashed it upon the floor and seized another.

This also proved disappointing.

"It was here the last time I looked! I am sure I left it on top of the others!" she muttered, with white lips, as, with trembling hands and heaving bosom, she overturned everything in search of the missing document.

But the most rigid examination failed to reveal it, and, with a cry of mingled agony and anger, she sank weak and trembling upon the nearest chair.

"It is gone!" she whispered, hoarsely; "some one has stolen it!"

She sat there looking utterly helpless and wretched for a few moments.

Then her eyes began to blaze and her lips to twitch spasmodically.

"He has done this!" she cried, starting to her feet once more. "That was why he was absent so long from the ballroom tonight."

Seizing the papers she had removed from the box, she hastily replaced them, also the cushion, restoring the jewels to their places, after which she shut and locked the casket, taking care to remove the key from its lock.

This done, she hurried from the room, looking more like a beautiful fiend than a woman.

CHAPTER XVII.

"WOULD YOU DARE BE FALSE TO ME, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS?"

With her exquisite robe trailing unheeded after her, Anna Goddard swept swiftly down the hall and rapped imperatively upon the door of her husband's room.

There was no answer from within.

She tried the handle. The door would not yield—it was locked on the inside.

"Gerald, are you in bed?" his wife inquired, putting her lips to the crack and speaking low.

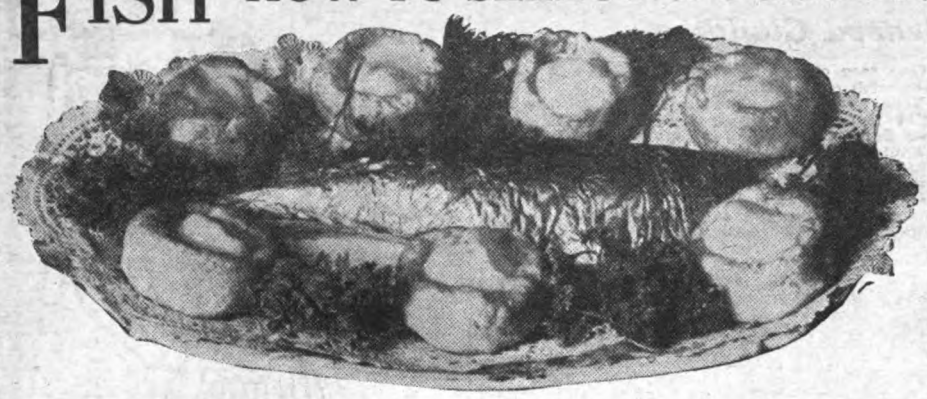
"What do you wish, Anna?" the man questioned.

"I wish to see you—I must speak with you, even if you have retired," she returned, imperatively.

There was a slight movement within the room, then the door was thrown open, and Gerald God-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 32.)

FISH—HOW TO SELECT & COOK IT



BAKED SALMON WITH POTATO CASES

By Ella Gordon

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

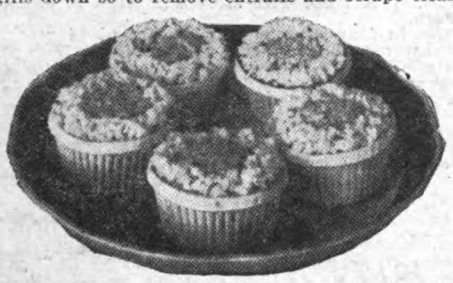
FISH is becoming more and more a valued article of diet, its digestibility more appreciated. The price of meat has advanced till the sensible housewife looks about for a partial substitute and finds it in fish. Its large proportion of nitrogenous material makes it an especially valuable food for those upon whom there are great demands for nervous energy.

Fat fish such as halibut, mackerel, salmon, shad, etc., head the list in nourishment, and should be cooked by baking or broiling.

Small fish such as caught in fresh waters, and the lean of white fish are suitable for frying because they are not oily. Fish should be salted with great care, as the nourishing part is greatly reduced by improper salting.

Fish requires to be eaten when strictly fresh to make a perfect food. Direct contact with ice draws out the juices, therefore fish should be laid in a pan if it is to go on the ice. Dull, sunken eyes indicate that the fish has been kept too long. When washing fish, do it quickly in salted water, not letting it stand wet, but dry with a cloth. The odor is one of the best tests of freshness of fish.

When baking a fish whole, do not remove head and tail, but clean and leave on. Split from the gills down so to remove entrails and scrape clean.



SCALLOPED FISH.

When preparing whole fish to broil, split down the back, clean, wash and wipe dry.

Fillets of fish are thick pieces free from bone.

Fish forcemeat is fish finely chopped and pressed through a fine wire sieve before being cooked.

To boil fish, wrap in cheese-cloth, cover with boiling water, and when the fish begins to boil, set it back where it will just simmer. Cook four pounds about thirty minutes.

Steaming is far better than boiling fish as none of the juices are lost. It takes a little longer to steam fish than to boil.

To broil, wash and wipe, lay on well-greased broiler and turn every five minutes over a clear fire. Do not hold too near heat as the oils catch fire and the fish will not cook evenly. Salt and spread well with softened butter.

To fry fish, wash and wipe very dry. Dip in beaten egg seasoned with salt and pepper; then roll in flour, meal or bread crumbs. Use deep fat very hot, as the fish cools the fat rapidly.

Eat bread and potatoes with fish, and use plenty of butter with the kinds of fish that lack fat. Lemon juice makes a wholesome condiment, and is especially desirable with oysters, clams and lobster.

Baked Salmon with Potato Cases

First read above directions for baking. Clean fish by lightly washing in cold water and wipe dry. Stuff and sew together. Cut gashes three inches apart on both sides and insert strips of salt pork. Rub with cream and salt. Dredge with flour and bake in a hot oven without water. When the flour begins to brown, baste frequently. Remove to a hot platter and surround with potato cases filled with drawn butter sauce flavored with lemon.



SALT CODFISH BALLS.

STUFFING.—To one cup of cracker crumbs, add salt and pepper, a teaspoon of scraped onion, chopped parsley, two teaspoons of chopped sour pickle, four tablespoons of melted butter and one beaten egg.

POTATO CASES.—Pare white potatoes and boil in salted water and drain. Dry by shaking around in kettle on hot part of stove. Put potatoes through masher and season with salt, pepper, butter and enough hot milk or cream so the potato can be handled. To every three cupfuls, add two eggs, yolks and whites beaten separately, when potato is partly cooled. Add the yolks first then beat in the whites. Shape first into balls, then flatten top and bottom and scoop out the centers to hold sauce. Put on a pan in a hot oven and bake a golden brown. Fill with sauce just before serving.

DRAWN BUTTER SAUCE.—Melt four tablespoons of butter in a sauce pan and add two tablespoons



SARDINES WITH RICE CAKES.

of dry flour. Stir till smooth and hot, then add two cups of boiling water very gradually, stirring all the time. Cook ten minutes slowly, then add as much more butter, salt and pepper and remove from fire. Garnish with parsley.

Baked Finnan-Haddie

Wash and cover with cold water, letting it stand fifteen minutes flesh side down. Rinse. Put in baking pan (agate preferable), cover with rich milk and bake fifteen to twenty-five minutes, depending on thickness. As the fish takes up the milk, baste occasionally to prevent drying. When done, remove the bone and skin and fold once and lay on platter. Add to the milk in pan enough more to make sufficient gravy. Season with salt and thicken with flour first mixed with a little cold water. Cook five minutes, add butter and pour over fish. Garnish with slices of hard-boiled egg. Any kind of smoked fish can be cooked this way.

Salt Codfish Balls

Shred one cup of raw salt codfish and put in a sauce pan with three cups of raw potato cut in half inch squares. Just cover with boiling water. Stew slowly till potato is tender but not mushy. Drain thoroughly and mash with a fork. Add salt and pepper and two tablespoons of butter and beat with fork till light, and lastly add one well-beaten egg and beat again. Shape in balls and fry in deep fat till brown. Garnish with lettuce leaves.

Scalloped Fish

An appetizing way to use left-overs of fish. Shred cold fish; have ready buttered bread



BAKED FINNAN HADDIE.

crumbs and white sauce and fill shallow cups in alternate layers; first the fish, then sauce and crumbs. Garnish with parsley.

WHITE SAUCE.—Melt three tablespoons of butter but do not brown, and stir in three tablespoons of dry flour making a smooth paste. Add salt and cayenne pepper and one and one half cups of hot milk. Cook eight minutes slowly, stirring constantly.

Sardines with Rice Cakes

Hard boil six eggs and with a fork mash the yolks. Bone one and one half the amount of sardines and mix with egg yolks. Finely chop the egg whites, add four tablespoons of chopped pickles, two tablespoons of lemon juice, one tablespoon of table sauce, pepper and salt. With a fork toss all together till thoroughly mixed with the sardines and yolks. Heap in the center of serving plate and surround with hot rice cakes.

RICE CAKES.—Two cups of boiled rice salted. Add the well-beaten yolks of two eggs and then the well-beaten whites and beat together. Drop on well-greased biscuit tin and bake till brown in a hot oven.

Potted Fish

Eight medium-sized herring or mackerel skinned and split in halves. Mix tgether a scant half cup of salt, less than one eighth of a teaspoon of cayenne pepper and half a cup of whole spices. In a small stone jar put a layer of fish, then a layer of salt and spices, and repeat till all is used. Cover with moderately strong vinegar. Bake so none of the liquid will evaporate, and the best way is to tie over the top a thick cloth and cover that with bread dough. Bake five hours in moderate oven. This keeps a long time and is a delicious relish.



© 1917 S. M. S. Co.

Let Us Send It

Tell Us What You Want Most—On Credit

Tell us what you want. Let us send it on 30 days' free trial, subject to return. If you like it, pay as you can—a little each month. Millions buy here in that way.

A Year or More

Take a year or more on each bill. Save up 2 or 3 cents daily. You can furnish a home in that way.

OUR GUARANTEE

In each of our catalogs we print a bond and guarantee to fulfill every statement we make in this advertisement.

This double guarantee is vouched for by the National Surety Company of New York City. So you can't possibly lose one penny in dealing with us.

No References

Send no references. Your Credit Card will come with our catalog. When you see what you want, simply tell us to send it. We gladly trust home lovers. We want charge accounts.

Now 1915 Prices

You can have home things here now at 1915 prices. Our present stock was bought on yearly contracts made in 1915. Our next stocks of the same goods will cost vastly more.

This Bargain Book shows over 5000 home things, many in actual colors. It costs us with mailing $1.50 per copy, but we send it free.

Send the coupon now. In a month or two all these prices must enormously advance. You will never see such bargains again.

This Beautiful Rocker



$3.15

A Whole Year to Pay

Shipped on 30-day trial

Catalog shows 64 other styles

This handsome rocker has heavy hardwood frame nicely finished in a perfect imitation of genuine quarter-sawed oak, rich golden color. Large full box saddle seat is 19 in. deep and 19½ in. wide. Back is rich design. Stands 36 in. high.

No. L4B1205. Price..... $3.15

A $1.50 Book Free

Picturing 5000 Home Things

Furniture	Baby Cabs—Cameras
Carpets—Rugs	Silverware—Clocks
Refrigerators	Chinaware—Lamps
Draperies—Linens	Sewing Machines
Curtains—Bedding	Kitchen Cabinets
Oilcloth, etc.	Stoves—Ranges

Send Coupon for It

Ask also for our Style Book picturing 1000 Spring Styles for Women

Spiegel, May, Stern Co.
1323 W. 35th Street, Chicago

SPIEGEL, MAY, STERN CO.
1323 W. 35th Street, Chicago
Mail me your Spring Bargain Book.
Also the books I mark below.
....Stove Book ....Watches and Jewelry.
....1000 Spring Styles for Women.
Name .....
Address .....
Check which catalogs you want. (1205)

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

I left Maine, my home state, in November, 1915, and came directly to California, attending the Exposition the last seven days and wishing I had seven weeks to attend. I enjoyed every minute of it, and especially the California and Canadian exhibits as I am country born and bred and am interested in everything that goes with farming.

Though I have been in California over a year I have spent all the time in the city, but hope to go to the country soon and I would like to hear from sisters living in the country, on ranches, or in small towns of California, Nevada, Arizona, Texas or New Mexico; or in fact, anywhere in the Western or Southwestern part of the United States. Particularly would I like to hear from sisters who, like myself, are lovers of country life and animals, especially horses. So sisters and cousins, please write.

As so many of the sisters give descriptions of themselves, I will too. I am five feet four inches tall and weigh one hundred and twenty pounds; medium brown hair, gray eyes; age, too old to tell, but less than thirty.

I enjoy the discussions on Woman Suffrage and though I, myself, have never voted, I believe women should have the right. Why not? Many women own property and they have to pay taxes, so why shouldn't they vote?

Although California is very different from my home state, I like out here and hope to see much more of the West and Southwest. I am a working girl so cannot travel only as I work and earn enough to go from place to place.

I would like to hear from sisters living near the groves of "Big Trees" of California or in mining sections of the West.

This Christmas was not very real to me, as it was so different from Christmas weather in Maine. We had a little white frost and the Californians thought it terribly cold.

At this writing I am in Los Angeles but expect soon to be at the address given below, and if not, the letters the sisters write will be forwarded to me. Address,

MISS NELLIE GOODELL, El Centro, R. R. 1, Cal.

LANSING, N. C.

DEAR COMFORT FRIENDS:

Here comes your noisy little Tar Heel friend with some more of her nonsense. May I come in? I'll promise not to mention Paul, Peter or Politics and be just as good as I can. I'll tell you sisters something if you won't use it for a wet blanket, 'cause it's against the "Cheerful Law" to give wet blankets. Honor bright, you won't? Well, I've had to have my leg amputated! There—some of the sympathetic sisters have forgotten already and are coming with long faces and words of pity two miles long. Pray spare both and substitute encouragement, if you please.

I was taken sick July 25, 1916, and suffered more than anyone can ever realize, without actual experience, for three months. Papa planned all along to carry me to the hospital when I should be strong enough but each day left me worse till at last we all realized that we must face the inevitable and I, at least, faced it cheerfully. There was nothing left to do but to submit to the operation and now I am well and strong and can use an artificial leg in about two months, then I'll be 'most as good as new, won't I? We know not how to appreciate this life with its beauties and pleasures until we have been denied them a while. Then, and only then, can we realize that life is too short to spend in grumbling, rebellion and unthankfulness. I'm afraid my misfortune hasn't cured me of a cheerful disposition. I'm wondering if it will ever be cured in me. Mamma says not. Surely if I can go through life on one leg and wear a smile that comes from the heart, the world can wear one for me.

Since writing to dear old COMFORT I've been deluged with letters from nearly every state in the union. Some were cheerfully written and some were not but on the whole I think they are a pretty good bunch of hopefulness and if I've failed to answer any, please inform me. I tried to answer all but may have made a mistake and left one out. I received a nice letter from a boy in jail. Did I answer? Indeed I did, and I'm not ashamed of it, either. If ever anyone needs encouragement and confidence it is the boy or girl who is going wrong. Suppose that was your boy, mothers? How would you feel to know that he was behind the prison bars, shut out from the world, deserted by friends (?) and with never a kind word or smile of encouragement to tell him that even if he had wandered from the paths of virtue and righteousness, while there's life there's hope. He is some mother's boy and her heart may be aching for him as your heart would ache for your boy. He may be guilty—I can't say that he isn't—but once he was innocent and pure, and if God in His mercy can forgive the deepest sinner, however low he may have sunk into perdition, what are we to judge a fellow being? I fear we all judge wrongly and too often. We are all just human and there's too much bad in the best of us.

When a friend is in trouble and disgrace, let's lend a helping hand and let him know that someone cares whether he makes good or not. There are none of us immune from the hand of fate and who knows but what, some day, we may need a little encouragement and the aid of a friendly push, but, alas, the push is too often in the downward direction. "Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Here is a little poem (no author's name was given) that I clipped from a magazine and it rings so true:

"Who gives this world a noble thought,
And writes it out in prose or hymn,
May furnish for some lowly soul
A stepping stone on which to climb.
For I believe each child of earth,
However darkly stained by sin,
Still holds the hope that higher worth,
Somehow, somewhere, he yet may win.
Then send abroad your noblest thoughts,
Nor idly wait some higher call,
Give to humanity and God your best,
Nor deem that gift too small."

Dear Mrs. Wilkinson, of course you may visit me in my dream ranch when it gets to be a reality. I am none the less determined to be a stock raiser, but papa doesn't want me to give up a literary education now so I suppose "my ranch" will have to wait a

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 29.)

LEARN AT HOME TO MAKE YOUR OWN CLOTHES

Wherever you live, you can now easily and quickly learn in spare time, in your own home, to make all your own and your children's clothes and



Save Half on Everything You Wear

Complete instruction by mail through a fascinating new method, so simple you cannot fail to understand so practical you start making garments at once. We teach you every step in dressmaking—just exactly what to do from the time you select your pattern until you stand before admiring friends in the stylish finished garment. No experience whatever required. Not the slightest doubt of your success. Expert teachers guide and help you. Thousands of delighted students.

Send this coupon or a letter or postal today for "Dressmaking Made Easy," a handsome illustrated book telling all about this wonderful new method.

WOMAN'S INSTITUTE, Inc.
Dept. 9-Q 358 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.
Please send me a copy of "Dressmaking Made Easy."
Name _____
Address _____

Time Yet to Win that $635 Auto

The two months yet remaining of our Grand Prize Contest gives you time and opportunity to win that splendid five-passenger Overland touring car and cash besides to buy gasoline to run it.

Enter now and you have a chance to win a March cash prize and an April cash prize doubled, and the same subscriptions that win you the two monthly prizes may win also the auto or some other one of the Grand Prizes.

Don't Miss this Opportunity. Read our prize Offer on page 38, and make a start today.

Home Dressmaking & Fashion Forecasts for Spring

Fashion Hints by Geneva Gladding

MIDDY blouses have lost none of their popularity, and are shown in every material from cotton to silk and satin.

Coat dresses and one-piece frocks are nice for growing girls as well as for their elder sisters, and surely there is no style more youthful and becoming especially for slender figures.

Even at this early date the shops are beginning to show spring fabrics, and the wise woman will soon be busy with her cotton frocks.

For sport wear there is a new cotton gabardine that promises to wear and wash well. It comes in a variety of colorings and patterns, and is especially nice for separate skirts.

Some changes are announced for the new sweaters.

We will have odd stripe and check combinations and zigzag stripes.

The old style sweater to be slipped over the head will be most fashionable.

The new sport coats will be cut extremely full. Some lovely models are made of shantung, trimmed with silk jersey. There will also be many leather trimmed garments.

One sees coats and dresses with loose panels lined with contrasting material.

Yoke effects are shown on many of the new waist models. Surplice styles so becoming to most figures are good for separate waists.

Tunic skirts are in good style and are well adapted for the remodeling of a last season's gown.

One could have a pretty blouse of lawn with trimming bands and peplum of a contrasting color, and a new two-piece skirt of cheviot for general wear.

For a dainty afternoon dress, the one-piece models in simple styles are best, both as to grace and finish as well as because the simple frocks are easily made.

There are lovely new silk sport blouses, in long tunic style and smart shirt-waists with attractive decorative as well as useful pockets.

On spring coats one may find collars so arranged that they may be rolled high or low to suit one's taste.

Dark blue seems to be the most popular color and gray and beige are in good style.

Georgette crepe, chiffon cloth and marquisette are nice for daytime dresses.







Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

1770—Waist. A Picturesque Model. 1769—Skirt. The sleeve may be finished with the ruffle at elbow length. Challie, organdie, nun's veiling, batiste, and lawn are all suitable for this style.

Waist, 1770, cut in six sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Skirt, 1769, cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires seven and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a medium size, without folds. *Two* separate patterns 10c *for each* pattern.

















1950—Ladies' Shirt-waist. This model will be nice for the new silks and flannels, and is also good for madras, linen, batiste and taffeta.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires two and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1782—A Simple Frock for the little miss. This style is nice for linen, chambrey, gingham and percale. The sleeve may be in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for an eight-year size.



1978—Child's Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This is a splendid model for serge, percale, voile, gabardine, galatea, albatross, lawn, gingham and chambrey.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and one half yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

1953—Waist. 1949—Skirt. A Dressy Combination to wear at home or when calling. Pattern 1953 illustrates a pretty style on these lines. The skirt that accompanies it is also in good style. Both models are good for any of the materials now in vogue.

Waist pattern 1953 cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure, and requires two and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size. Skirt pattern 1949 cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34, inches waist measure. Size 24 will require four and three quarters yards of 36-inch material. *Two* separate patterns 10c *for each* pattern.

1944—Girls' One-piece Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Galatea, gingham, percale, serge, gabardine, velvet, corduroy and taffeta, linen, linene and lawn are nice for this design. The belt is held in place by slashes made through the underfolds of the plaits.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. Size eight will require two and three quarters yards of 44-inch material.

1609—Girls' Dress, with or without bolero, with sleeve in either of two lengths. The dress is nice for nun's veiling or crepe in pink, blue or cream, with embroidery or lace for trimming, also in challie, lawn, dimity, silk and percale.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires three and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a six-year size.

1888—A Smart Dress for the growing girl. Serge, gabardine, voile, plaid and checked suiting, velvet and corduroy, and all wash fabrics may be used for this style.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires three and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

1982—Blouse. 1992—Skirt. A good suit for sport and school. The blouse may be of drill, linen, or flannel and the skirt of serge, gabardine or wash material. The sleeve of the blouse may be finished in wrist or elbow length. The skirt is a two-piece model with plaits at the sides.

Patterns are cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. The skirt, 1992, requires three and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 16-year size. The blouse, 1982, requires three and one quarter yards. *Two* separate patterns 10c *for each* pattern.

1773—A Smart Party or Best Dress, with sleeve in wrist or elbow length. This model is nice for lawn, dimity, nainsook, or linen. The bertha may be omitted.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires, with double skirt, four and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for an eight-year size; with single skirt, it requires three and three eighths yards.

1920—Ladies' One-piece Yoke Dress, with or without folds. This attractive model may be developed in serge, taffeta, gabardine, faille, broadcloth, satin or velvet.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1817—A New and Attractive Shirt-waist. This model is splendid for the new lingerie materials, silks and other waistings now in vogue.

Cut in eight sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48 inches bust measure. It requires two and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1617—Junior Dress, with or without bolero, and with two styles of sleeve. The model is nice for batiste, lawn, crepe, tulle, silk, voile, nun's veiling, net or chiffon.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires five and one half yards of 30-inch material for the dress, and two yards for the bolero, for a 14 year size.

1306—Ladies' "Middy Apron" to be slipped over the head, or closed at the back. This style is nice for gingham, jean, chambrey, lawn, sateen, or alpaca. A generous pocket is added to the front. The fullness at the waist may be free or held in place by a belt.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires five yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1921—Ladies' House Dress with sleeve, in wrist or elbow length. Serge, taffeta, gabardine voile, linen, drill, gingham, chambrey, seersucker and percale are all nice for this style of garment.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1806—A Natty Suit for Mother's Boy. Serge, cheviot, velvet, velveteen, galatea, linen, corduroy, linene and gingham are lovely for this style. The trousers are mannish with their straight edge.

Cut in four sizes; three, four, five and six years. It requires two and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a four-year size.

1951—Girls' Slip with empire waist. Cambric, muslin, lawn, batiste and crepe are nice for this model. The slip may be finished in skirt form or in envelope chemise style.

Cut in six sizes; four, six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires two and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 10-year size.

1984—A Comfortable, easy-to-make house dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style is simple, attractive and comfortable. The fullness at the waistline is to be confined by a belt or to be gathered, with a casing underneath.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1941—Girls' Dress, with or without peplum. This style will be nice for checked or plaid suiting and may be made with sleeves in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires five and one half yards of 36-inch material for the dress with peplum, and without peplum four and one half yards for a 10-year size.

1820—A Most Attractive House or Home Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Striped seersucker, checked gingham, or a neat pattern of percale would make this up nicely for a morning dress. It could also be developed for business or street wear in taffeta, gabardine, poplin, voile or serge.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires seven and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.



9319—Infant's Short Clothes Outfit. Composed of a yoke dress to be finished with long or short sleeves. A simple double-breasted coat with round collar and bishop sleeve, a cap in Dutch style, a nightdress, a petticoat with added waist, a feed-

Summer, Showing Advance Styles



EVERY woman knows how to appreciate a comfortable protective apron, and especially if it is a model that is easy to develop and easy to adjust. At this season of the year one may readily find in the shops lengths of gingham and percale that will be fine for aprons and house dresses.

The home dressmaker will also turn her thoughts to spring dresses for the children, which are always more satisfactory when made at home, for one can have a choice of style and better material.

It is now that the stores are showing "white sales" in undergarments, and while there is much about ready-made underwear that is pleasing and attractive, these things can be made at home at one half the cost and with more individuality and beauty.

Pink seems to be a favorite color for lingerie, and when embroidered in white or self color is very pretty.

ing apron, drawers, rompers and a play dress.

The pattern is cut in one size. It requires: Yoke dress, two yards; coat, two and one quarter yards; bonnet, three quarters yard; nightdress, two yards; petticoat, one and three eighths yard; ruffle, three eighths yard; feeding apron, five eighths yard; drawers, three quarters yard; rompers, one and three quarters yard; underwaist, three eighths yard; play dress, three yards; each of 36-inch material. Price, *15 cents.*

1794—Juniors' Dress. This model could be finished without the peplum, and may have a sleeve in wrist or elbow length, as preferred. The skirt is a five-gored model. The dress is nice for linen, poplin, repp, tub silk, taffeta, gabardine and serge.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires five and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for a 14-year size.

1805—A Simple, Practical Apron Model. Percale, drill, linene, lawn and alpaca would be nice for this. The apron is easy to develop and very comfortable.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires three and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1972—Juniors' Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. The blouse is finished with deep box plaits in back and front, and the usual smart pocket trimming. The skirt is a three-piece model.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires four and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 14-year size.

1798—A Comfortable and convenient garment. This style forms an ideal combination of corset cover and drawers when gathered at the waist and finished as illustrated. It may also serve as an envelope chemise, and without the envelope extension it becomes a chemise in regulation style.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires three and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1772—A Simple, Attractive Dress for home and porch. Percale, linen, gingham, chambrey, voile, challie and cashmere are all nice for this style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1760—An Attractive Negligee. This smart style is lovely for any of the pretty inexpensive crepes, lawns, organdies or voiles. It is also nice for silk, batiste and all lingerie fabrics. The sleeve is cut in one with the body of the waist.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires six and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a medium size.

1502—Ladies' "Over All" Apron. This style covers the dress so well and practically, it may serve in place of a work or house dress. The skirt has five sections, slightly gored. Gingham, percale, drill, chambrey, galatea or lawn are all equally serviceable for this design.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires four and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1788—A Comfortable Morning Dress. This model may be finished with a sleeve in wrist length or with a bell sleeve at elbow length. The dress is in one piece, with the fullness confined at the waistline under the belt.

Cut in seven sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1922—A Charmingly Attractive Frock for Mother's Girl. Comfortably, serviceable pockets trim the front. The skirt is a gored model.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for an eight-year size.

1968—A Comfortable Dress for Mother's Girl, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style follows the lines of a semi-princess "grown-up" model. A new collar in Quaker style forms a pretty neck finish.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a six-year size.

1797—A Simple Dress for Mother's Girl. All wash fabrics are nice for this, for the dress is easy to launder, and is easy to make. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or elbow length. The dress may be developed in serge, cashmere, poplin, repp, check or plaid suiting.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires two and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a six-year size.

1964—Girls' One-piece Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style is made to slip over the head, and is easy to develop. It is good for serge, gabardine, galatea, gingham, seersucker, and nice for linen, taffeta, velvet and corduroy.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires four yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

1969—A Charming Dress for Mother's Girl. Galatea, gingham, serge, linen or percale, may be used for this model. It is also good for velvet, corduroy, taffeta, mixed suitings, cashmere or gabardine. If preferred, a belt may be used as shown in the small view in place of the tabs. The sleeve may be in wrist or short length. The pattern provides a chemisette for high neck finish.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. Size eight requires three yards of 44-inch material.

1928—Ladies' Skirt. The front is trimmed with jaunty pockets. The skirt is cut with graceful and becoming fullness.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires five and three eighths yards of 27-inch material for a 24-inch size.

1963—A New and Pleasing Apron Model. This model is comfortable with its semi-fitting lines and trim shape. The skirt is cut in pointed outline at its upper edge, where it joins a gathered waist front.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires five and one quarter yards of 36-inch material.

1917—Ladies' Dressing or House Sack. Crepe, lawn, flannel, flannelette, satin, challie, cashmere, taffeta and China silk could be used for this model. The fullness at the waistline may be gathered or left unconfined.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1954—A Popular Style, Ladies' One-piece Dress. Serge, gabardine, satin, velvet and taffeta are good for this. The model has simple lines and is easy to develop.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires seven and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1966—Ladies' Maternity Skirt, in raised waistline. Serge, gabardine, velvet, satin, mixed suiting, corduroy, broadcloth and all wash fabrics are nice for this model. The fronts and back are slightly gathered. The side sections are plaited.

Cut in seven sizes; 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 and 36 inches waist measure. It requires five and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 30-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

Questions Answered

F. F. L., Kansas.—To cover a mould, cut a circle of material a bit more than three eighths inch larger all around than the outline of the mould. Push a little bit of surgeon's cotton through the hole in the center of the mould and stretch it evenly over the face of the mould. Gather at least one eighth inch from the edge on the circle of material, place over the mould and draw up the thread. Be sure to keep the thread at an even distance from the edge of the mould and with the gathers even, the finished edges will be smooth. Sew back and forth across underside of the button to strengthen it and then it is ready for sewing on.

AMATEUR DRESSMAKER, Indiana.—Perhaps this is what you wanted to know, anyway, I hope it will help you, and others.

A.—Pipings are made by cutting material one and one half inch wide, and folding it lengthwise, then basting to secure the edges. Folds are made by cutting bias bands and basting them together so one side will be longer by one quarter inch than the other. The longer side is then turned down over the skirt, and the fold is basted and then stitched to the garment. As this style of trimming will not launder well, it is not wise to use it on wash materials. A flat fold is made by cutting material of any desired width, basting the material down one quarter inch on each side and sewing it to the garment. In turning folds and hems always use a marker. Trimmings of cording in fancy shapings may be made of silk or other material, by overcasting bias strips of material over a cord of any desired size. Shirred bands are made by sewing a small cord into either side of a bias band that has been turned in on both sides. Some artistic forms may be made by drawing up the cords that are run through these bands. Decorative motifs may be made with the simple Fagot stitch. Baste bias bands of material or narrow ribbon over any design on paper or muslin, join the bands with the stitching, and clip the bastings to remove from the paper or muslin. To cut a true bias band or fold, fold your material on a true bias, that is cornerwise, so that the selvage falls on a line even with the cut edges. The fold is the bias, cut through the fold, and measure the stripes desired, so as to have them of even width. It is well to mark the width with chalk or pencil every few inches, and then rule a line to connect the markings. Now join the ends of the material together, so that the ruled lines meet. Press the seam open, and then begin to cut on the ruled lines, round and round. You will have a long bias strip. Straps may be made in the same way.



USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address **COMFORT**, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash,

(or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me

Patterns No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____

Name _____ State _____

Post Office _____ R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

Book of 32 Prize Yokes 10¢



The biggest Yoke Book; contains 32 stunning new yokes for Gowns, Waists or Underwear. The illustrations are extra large, showing enlarged stitches. With each yoke are complete, simple directions. On sale everywhere for 10c, by mail 12c.

RICHARDSON'S
R. M. C. Cordonnet, Art. 65
Green Label Crochet Cotton

This is the *genuine*, mercerized, washable Cordonnet Crochet Cotton—the choice of experts. Made in White Sizes—3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80. Ecru Sizes—3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60.

Price 10c a ball everywhere, or by mail 12c.

Special Offer

If your dealer does not carry R. M. C. Green Label Crochet Cotton, and will not get it, send us your order for 5 or more balls at 10c each and we will send you **FREE**, any one of the following books:

RICHARDSON'S LIBRARY

Complete Crochet, No. 1	Tatting, No. 7
Complete Crochet, No. 2	Embroidery Book, No. 9
Edgings and Insertions, No. 3	32 Prize Yokes, No. 10
Crochet Yokes, No. 4	Silk and Cotton, No. 11
Bedspreads No. 6	Filet Crochet, No. 14

These are the best and most up to date books published. They are 10c each (12c by mail) if purchased separately, or **FREE** for 10 R. M. C. Green Labels and 4c in stamps.

RICHARDSON SILK CO., Dept. 3044, CHICAGO, ILL.
DEALERS: *Write for Special Proposition.*

Sorting Out the Laundry IS EASY

CASH'S NAMES gives you an ideal system for marking linen and for knitted garments, woollens and other articles of wear that cannot be marked with ink. Each member of the family should have his name on every article of wear.



CASH'S NAMES ARE WOVEN on fine cambric tape in fast turkey red. Prices for any name, not exceeding 22 letters:

12 Doz.	$2.00
6 Doz.	1.25
3 Doz.	.85

WRITE US FOR STYLE SHEET and SAMPLES of WOVEN NAMES.

Sold by all Leading Dry Goods and Men's Furnishing Stores.

J. & J. CASH, LIMITED
13 Chestnut St., South Norwalk, Conn.

The **Pullastic** ADJUSTABLE HAT LINING REG.



Makes Any Hat Fit Any Head—Comfortably

No cutting, or sewing necessary. Merely tack it in with six stitches. Sold at millinery and notion departments. If your dealer does not sell them send 25c. and we will forward you either a white or black Pullastic lining.

The Pullastic Co., 49 East 21st Street, New York



$10.50 for All PRICES SMASHED OUR LOSS—YOUR GAIN

Send us $10.50 and we will ship you one first-class new 40-lb. Feather Bed, (nominal Value $12.00); one pair 6-pound New Pillows ($3.00); all new live clean selected sanitary feathers covered with A. C. A. Feather proof ticking; also one pair full size Blankets ($3.00); one full size white Counterpane ($3.00); and one pair nice lace Pillow Shams ($1.50) ALL FOR ONLY $10.50. This offer is good for a short time only. These goods all new and first class and not to be compared with the cheap Shoddy goods that are being offered by other concerns for less money. Satisfaction guaranteed. Mail money order now or write for order blanks.

Southern Feather & Pillow Co. Dept. 200 Greenboro, N. C.



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Garden Time Again

WITH the approach of spring we begin to make our garden plans. The first thing in line is the hotbed, a feature of early gardening too often neglected. Every one in the North who has land enough to grow a good-sized garden should have a hotbed.

The hotbed should be placed on the south side of a building or on a sheltered slope with a southern exposure. The land beneath it should be well drained. It may be built upon the top of the ground or a pit may be dug in the earth for the manure and a frame built over the pit.

How to Make the Hotbed

As soon as a location has been selected the manure should be made ready. Fresh horse manure should be used. If the pit has not been dug in the fall the manure should be piled up on the spot where the hotbed is to stand. The heating of the manure will help to draw out what frost remains in the ground. If the manure is dry water should be added. As soon as the manure begins to heat it should be forked over. This should be done every few days for three weeks, being careful each time to see that the manure is thoroughly mixed and uniformly treated.

When it has gotten to steaming well it should be pushed back the width of the pile and a foot of earth removed from the spot on which the pile stood. This will form the pit. A box two feet deep, made of boards nailed to stakes driven into the ground, should be built around this pit and the steaming manure shoveled in and tramped down solidly. When finished the manure should be two feet deep. On top of this at least four inches of the top soil taken from the pit should be placed. The remainder of the soil should be banked up around the outside of the bed.

The bed should be made any desired length and of a width to fit the sash to be used. Old windows answer well for this purpose. If the frame is built three feet wide a muslin cover may be used instead of glass though the latter is to be preferred. The frame should be higher in the rear than at the front, so that the glass covers will slope toward the south.

Planting the Hotbed

The seeds should not be sown in the bed until the violent heat which follows placing the manure in the bed has subsided. It is usually safe to let the bed stand a week before planting. It therefore takes about a month from the time that the hotbed is begun until the seeds are placed in the soil.

Many people fail with hotbeds because they do not take proper care of the plants. On cold nights the heat should be saved by covering the sash with blankets or gunny sacks. On warm days the sash should be raised or taken off entirely to let out the surplus heat. A constant effort must be made to keep the temperature as nearly uniform as possible.

Hotbed plants should be watered heavily but not too frequently. This is best done on the mornings of bright days so that the plants themselves will be dry when they go to bed at night.

Hotbed plants need thinning, weeding and cultivating in exactly the same way as those grown in the open ground.

Study Your Garden

The garden spot should be selected with special care. No rules can be given that apply to all needs. However, no one wants a wet or poorly drained garden. Stiff, sticky clays are poor garden lands. A north slope is undesirable. A light, rich, well-drained sandy soil with a southern or southeastern slope will come as near supplying ideal garden conditions as any, however. On limited areas, in villages and towns or even on farms, some portions of the garden may be shaded by buildings or trees. It is important to know what plants do best in the open and what ones succeed in the shade.

WHAT TO PLANT IN THE OPEN.—Plants whose success depends upon leaf growth must be grown in the open. Tomatoes, peppers, egg plants, melons, cucumbers and squashes must be grown in the open. Their fruit is produced rapidly and hence must have an abundance of leaf growth to manufacture the food that is stored in the fruit. On the other hand, slow maturing plants often do better in the shade.

WHAT TO PLANT IN THE SHADE.—Cabbage and lettuce will stand a little shade. Peas do best in it. A good rule to remember when deciding what to plant in the shade, is this: *Plant in the shade those plants which when grown under natural conditions shade themselves.* The big leaves of cabbage and lettuce and the vines of peas all tend to shade each other, hence will do well if planted in the shade. It is well to remember, however, that such plants cannot be planted so thickly in the shade or too much light will be cut off.

Have You Ordered Your Garden Seeds?

Remember what we have said through these columns about ordering garden seeds early from reliable seedsmen. Don't wait until the last minute and don't buy seeds of doubtful origin or old seeds that may have been kept over from last year or even before that time. Be sure to get fresh seeds that will grow at first planting if you want a good garden. Get your seeds early and test samples of them in the house before planting. You can't plant over and expect results. Many folks blame the weather when they have to plant over. In nine cases out of ten, however, the fault is not with the weather but with the seeds.

Try Out Something New This Spring

Have you ever tried endive or egg plant or mango peppers or peanuts or chewfles or collards or swiss chard or everbearing strawberries or any one of half a hundred other things we might mention? If not, try one or two new plants this year. You may like them.

Making the Home Beautiful

Are you going to "fix up" around the house a little this spring? If so, here are a few suggestions which you may find helpful.

BABBERRY FOR HEDGES.—For hedges there is nothing better than barberry, of which there are three principal varieties,—the common, the purple leaf and Thumberg's. The latter is the most beautiful and bears numerous red berries which stay on the bushes all winter.

SPIREA FOR CLUSTERS.—Spirea, or bridal wreath as it is often called, is one of the best shrubs to use in clusters for filling in corners or concealing unsightly places. There are several varieties of this plant of which the Van Houten is the most beautiful.

CLEMATIS OR WISTARIA FOR TRELLISES.—The wistaria is a beautiful climbing vine bearing great clusters of purple or white flowers. It is hardy anywhere. The Japanese clematis is a most beautiful vine as is also the purple variety. Both are particularly well adapted to screens and trellises.

A FEW OTHER SUGGESTIONS.—Beautful, hardy shrubs are the red flowering almond, the variegated althea, the pink duetzia, the golden forsythia and the tamarix. Unusual and attractive vines are the matrimony vine and the perennial sweet pea. Pompon dahlias, panama lilies, greenback cannas, plutarch peonies and eldora iris are new, unusual and attractive flowers. They bear close acquaintance.

Now is the Time to Prune

Have you pruned your fruit trees and your shrubbery yet? Or did you do it last fall? If not, now is the time to prune before the buds start.

Many people think pruning every four or five years is all that their orchard needs. This is a great mistake. Orchard trees as well as small fruits need pruning every year. It takes less time and gets better results, besides small fruits must have the old canes removed.

HOW TO REMOVE BIG LIMBS.—To remove a big limb that is giving a poor shape to the tree or that has grown so large that there is danger of splitting down, make three cuts as follows: First saw about half way through the limb from the under side about a foot from the tree (or until the saw begins to "pinch"). Then cut down from the top a few inches farther away from the tree. The under side cut will prevent the limb from splitting down and injuring the tree. This will leave a stub about a foot long which can be removed by cutting close to the tree.

TREATING THE WOUNDS.—After the limb has been removed the edges of the wound should be smoothed with a sharp knife so that the bark will readily grow over the wound. All wounds of one inch or more in diameter should be painted over with white lead or asphaltum. This prevents the entrance of molds and bacteria which cause decay.

LET IN THE SUNLIGHT.—Everybody has noticed that the nicest apples usually grow on the topmost branches. This is because they get more sunlight and the free circulation of air prevents the growth of injurious pests. In pruning it is well to remember this fact and open up the head of the tree so that sunlight and air can get in. This is sure to result in a better quality of fruit.

CUT OUT SMALL BRANCHES.—The tree always produces more branches than it can use in the production of high class fruit. These unnecessary branches should be cut away when they are small. A sharp knife is best to use on those that can be easily reached. For those out of reach pruning shears attached to a pole should be used. Always cut as close to the tree or limb as possible and be sure to make a smooth cut.

PRUNING SMALL FRUITS.—The rule is to prune liberally. A few strong canes or bushes produce more and better fruit than many crowded and inferior ones. As soon as a cane has borne fruit cut it away and give the new ones a chance. In raspberries and blackberries the old canes die anyway and must be removed, but with currants and gooseberries one should use his judgment and preserve only the best of the old canes. In these the young shoots do not produce fruit the first year. One can always tell the fruit producing canes by looking for the little "fruit spurs" that shoot out from the branch. Young canes are smooth and bear no fruit spurs. Old ones may produce a lot of spurs but very poor fruit.

PRUNING ORNAMENTAL SHRUBBERY.—Most people are afraid to prune ornamental shrubbery as much as it needs. Liberal pruning produces thick, dense heads which in most shrubs is the effect desired. One scarcely ever makes the mistake of "cutting back" too much. Use the knife and cut out all old canes. They are only in the way. If pruning has been long neglected it is often better to cut clear back to the ground and let an entirely new growth spring up from the roots. This does not set the shrubbery back so much as one would at first think. The strong root system and the abundance of food material forces rapid growth of the new shoots and after the first year only an expert would notice that the shrubs had been cut back at all. The new heads may then be controlled by pruning to suit.

DON'T FORGET CULTIVATION, HOWEVER.—Cultivation is as necessary to the success of small shrubs as it is to the growth of corn. After every spring pruning dig up around the roots to let the air in. Apply well rotted barnyard manure and work thoroughly into the soil. This will force the new growth. The heavier the pruning the more the necessity for careful cultivation and a liberal supply of manure.

Starting with Sheep

With wool selling for thirty cents a pound and up the past season it is little wonder that farmers are talking of going into the sheep business the coming season and many of them are going to be disappointed if they do. Not every man is cut out for a shepherd. It takes the quiet, patient attention of a kindly, well-balanced man to successfully handle sheep. Some men are especially adapted for the horse business and others for dairying or swine raising. We have noticed that always the successful beeman, or poultryman, has a special temperament and adaptability for the business which he follows and it would be impossible to make such men change jobs and have them succeed equally well after the change.

The business of sheep breeding and feeding is best learned from first handling a few sheep and then increasing the flock as experience is gained. Failure in the past has come from certain well understood mistakes and these we shall in a few words point out here. They may be set down as follows: 1. Starting with scrub ewes and a scrub ram. It would be far better to start with five right ewes than a flock of wrong ones and the sheep to pick are those best adapted for the district in which they are to be raised. 2. Starting to keep sheep with the idea that they are intended for the business of weed and brush extermination. If a sheep is to act as a scavenger upon the farm good mutton and wool need not be expected. It is true that sheep will clean off weeds and brush if starved to do so; but the profit comes from generous feeding for a maximum production of wool or meat. Better keep goats for the weed and brush clearing business. 3. Wintering ewes on Timothy hay, straw and old weathered corn fodder, without succulent or laxative feed or grain. Sheep to do well should have clover or Alfalfa hay, roots or silage and grain such as whole oats and shelled corn with wheat bran added. Thousands of sheep die every winter and spring from impaction and liver trouble due to coarse bulky somewhat innutritious fodder. 4. Allowing sheep too little exercise and keeping them cooped up in hot, dirty, damp stables. Sheep need lots of exercise every day and must have dry, ventilated stables. Indeed they will do well with a shed open to the south, provided it is well bedded and kept dry and the sheep are not allowed to become wet or face cold, driving winds or snow. 5. Failure to adequately feed sheep just before and through the mating season that a big percentage of strong lambs may be obtained. It pays to feed at the time indicated and not to overtax the ram. 6. Feeding ewes and young lambs upon old, bare-bitten, worm-infected permanent pastures. Here the sheep contract worms and they are the bane of the business.

Start with a few high grade ewes and mate them with a pure bred ram of the breed used for the grading-up process, avoiding the errors we have outlined, and success will come in time. Experience will add a host of smaller but highly important things to the category we have printed here.

Sugar Beets

Owing to the high price of sugar last year was an exceptionally good one for the farmer who is engaged in growing sugar beets. In the Middle West the price was about six dollars per ton delivered on the track. Since beets produce under favorable conditions from 15 to 20 tons per acre this has made a very good return from the land. There is every probability that equally high prices will prevail for the next two or three years. It is our purpose to give our readers some directions that may prove helpful to them in the culture of this crop.

CROP SOLD BEFORE PLANTED.—One advantage in the growing of sugar beets is that the crop is usualy grown on contract,—that is, it is sold before planted. In this way the farmer knows exactly what his crop will bring. He can then give it extra care and cultivation with a full knowledge of exactly what the increased crop due to his extra efforts will bring. With most other crops an extra good yield over a large territory means a low price with perhaps little or no gain per acre, but with beets a good yield is certain to bring a high return for each acre cultivated. The contract fixes the price and the number of acres to be grown.

MAKE CONTRACTS EARLY.—Most contracts for the culture of sugar beets are made in the winter or early spring. It is important for the farmer to begin to think about this matter early in order to properly plan his work. For many, sugar beets will be a new crop. With all new crops the labor problem is the most important, particularly one requiring so large an amount of labor as do sugar beets. It is very important for the farmer to know exactly how many acres of sugar beets he is to grow in order that he may not only plan for this but also for the labor on the rest of his farm. The introduction of this one crop may necessitate to a very large degree the reorganization of the balance of his farm. This is very important and must not be overlooked. The making of sugar beet contracts early in the season therefore becomes of prime importance.

WHAT IT COSTS TO GROW BEETS.—Since there is a large amount of labor involved it costs a good deal per acre to grow sugar beets,—not less than $25 or $30, depending upon soil, machinery and the price of labor. Even at this rate five or six tons per acre will pay the labor cost, leaving the balance for profit. With a good crop the profit will then amount to from $50 to $75 per acre.

HOW TO GROW BEETS.—Sugar beets require fertile, well-drained, moist land. They do best in sandy loam and poorest on heavy clays. The ground should be heavily fertilized as for tobacco or potatoes by plowing under a heavy crop of clover or a rich coating of barnyard manure. The ground should be plowed deep,—not less than eight or ten inches, in order to loosen up the soil and to allow the large roots to penetrate it easily. It should be thoroughly pulverized and put in fine shape for seeding. About corn planting time the beets should be planted with a beet-seed drill made especially for the purpose. The rows should be at least sixteen inches apart to permit of easy cultivation with the horse.

BUNCHING AND THINNING.—When the plants come up they must be thinned. This is best done with the hoe. The hoe is used to cut out all between the bunches which are placed eight or ten inches apart. Here three or four plants are left, or enough to insure at least one strong beet in each bunch. Now comes the hardest part of sugar beet culture,—thinning. This of course must be done by hand leaving the strongest plant in each bunch.

CULTIVATION AND HARVESTING.—The cultivating is done with a horse cultivator though it is occasionally necessary to use the hoe to destroy the weeds and loosen up the dirt. In harvesting the beets are first lifted with a puller and then pulled and topped by hand. After topping they are thrown in piles and then hauled direct to the cars to be loaded. A good quality of beets properly topped will test 15 per cent of sugar and one ton will therefore produce 300 pounds of this sweet. An acre of sugar beets may yield as much as three tons of the manufactured product.

Some Uncommon Farm Crops

Speltz

This grain is but little known on American farms. It somewhat resembles both wheat and barley and yields as well or better, particularly in dry seasons. It was introduced into this country from Russia by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is cultivated and harvested in the same manner as other grains. As a feed for beef cattle it is fully the equal of barley and oats and almost as good as corn. This grain will doubtless be more extensively grown in this country when its merits become more wildly known.

Seradella

Seradella might well be called the "sandy soil clover." It is a small plant and produces its seeds in pods. It is particularly well adapted to sandy soils and can be used with profit as a green manuring crop for plowing under and adding nitrogen to the soil since it "catches" and grows on sand where red clover refuses to grow. This crop also does well on sour soils where clover refuses to grow because of a lack of lime; in fact seradella does not like lime. Cut and cured as hay it makes a most excellent feed.

Soy Beans

Soy beans, though well known in the South, are comparatively unknown throughout the northern half of the United States. The soy bean was introduced into this country from Japan. The beans are very small, sending up vigorous stalks and making a heavy growth of vines. They do especially well on light sandy soils and are particularly adapted to building up the fertility of these soils since they are rich in nitrogen. They belong to the legume family and hence take their nitrogen direct from the air. Cut and cured as hay they make an excellent feed for cattle and sheep. Their seeds are richer in nitrogen than those of any other grain. They are also heavy in oil. The ground beans are among the very best and highest priced oil and protein carrying feeds. Efforts are now being made to grow these beans as a substitute for flaxseed in the manufacture of oil for paints. Soy bean cake, obtained after the oil is removed, is the equal of linseed meal as a stock food.

The Fescues

Though the fescues are widely scattered they are little known because of their peculiar habits of growth; hence the seed is seldom called for by farmers. There are four principal varieties of this grass,—the various leaved fescue, the sheep's fescue, the meadow fescue and the creeping fescue. All of these are short in stature and form a thick bottom grass. For this reason they are particularly adapted to use in the making of lawns and permanent pasture. They should never be sown alone but mixed with other grasses. They all start very early in the spring and therefore produce early pastures and lawns.

Sanfoin

Sanfoin is a splendid crop for hilly and stony land. It will grow and do well where other crops fail to produce because of the thinness of the soil layer. Sanfoin is a kind of clover and somewhat resembles Alfalfa. It withstands drought well and the older plants are little affected by cold weather. The young plants are easily winter killed. It produces from one to two tons of high feeding value hay per acre. It is easier to cure thin red clover hay and when once seeded the same piece may be cut like Alfalfa for several

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 34.)



A HAIR CUT at home costs 2c

Men and boys can cut their own or friends hair. Women can cut their children and men folks hair at home, by using an

American Safety Hair Cutter
(McDonough Patent)

This machine is not a clipper, and requires no special training to operate. Will last a life time. Descriptive book sent free. Write the

American Safety Hair Cutter Corporation.
967 Liberty Avenue, Room 245, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!
$24
Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Lightrunning, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.
30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.
ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12)
2162 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO
102,897 now in use

Save Half Your Shoe Money
Sizes 1 to 13 Heights 6 to 17 in.
Wear Overland Aluminum Shoes
They last twice as long as all-leather, rubber or wood-soled boots and shoes.
Water-Proof, Rust-Proof, Rot-Proof
Best leather uppers. Thick felt insoles. No metal touches you. Warm, comfortable, easy to walk in. Keep feet in good condition and prevent sickness. Best by test for all work in any weather.
MONEY BACK if shoes do not meet with your approval. Write for FREE catalog which shows styles, gives prices and tells how to order. A postal brings it.
OVERLAND SHOE CO., Dept. 8A, Racine, Wis.

Farmers or Farmers' Sons
Great Money Making Opportunity
Sell Lange's Extracts, Spices, Toilet Articles, Teas, Coffees, Remedies and Veterinary Specialties, direct from wagon to home. Long-established well-known big line, fine profits. Steady work in a business all your own. You furnish horse or team, we supply rig on easy terms. Previous experience unnecessary. We train you in salesmanship. Make big money. Our contract beats all others. Exclusive territory near your home. Write us quick.
THE LANGE, CO., Dept. W. DePere, Wis.

Start in Business For Yourself—Sell BRAUN'S MARGARINE
—highest quality food product—to your friends and neighbors. Every family uses margarine or butter every meal. Small investment will start you. Rapid every day seller. Good profit. Satisfaction guaranteed. Write for full particulars at once and get exclusive territory.
GEO. P. BRAUN COMPANY, 2666 W. Polk St., Chicago

Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business
Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars.
Star Drilling Machine Co.
675 Washington St., Akron, Ohio

Ballard's Bran
IDEAL DRUGLESS LAXATIVE
At your Grocer's. If he does not have it, send us his name and address with 35c (West of Denver 40c) in stamps for trial package.
BALLARD & BALLARD CO.
Station C Louisville, Ky.

Get Wholesale Stove Prices
Direct from manufacturers. Save money—Quick shipment—We pay the freight—30 days' trial. We make stoves, gas ranges, furnaces, kitchen kabinets and tables.
Write for Catalog No. 501 and mention article wanted.
KALAMAZOO STOVE CO., Kalamazoo, - - - Mich.
A Kalamazoo Direct to You



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Managing an Incubator

IN the January number of COMFORT, I called attention to the importance of having strong, healthy birds in the breeding pens, and explained why a cellar or a north room should be chosen if the incubator has to be located in a dwelling house, as is usually the case when only one or two machines are being used. This month we will consider the important points in running the machine itself, and caring for the babies after they are hatched.

First of all, remember that the incubator must stand perfectly even. Nothing but the use of a carpenter's level can determine this point. Next, the machine must not stand under or near a window or door, or any opening which is likely to cause a draft. If the machine has been used before, thoroughly dust and disinfect it, no matter how well it was cleansed after last season's work. An accumulation of dust or a tiny cobweb in the heater may cause a lot of trouble and loss by causing the lamp to smoke.

Be sure that the lamp is in perfect order; no dents or cracked edges on the burner; hinges and snap in good condition, and every part perfectly clean. Put in a new wick which exactly fits the slot, for if the wick is the slightest bit narrow, air will creep up the edges, and probably cause the flame to flicker or smoke; and if it is too wide it won't turn up and down evenly.

Light the lamp, and allow the machine to warm up for several hours, then scrub and spray the entire inside of the egg chamber with hot water and some good germ killer. I have, at different times, used carbolic acid, mercuric chloride, peroxide, and several of the tar preparations. It really does not matter so much so long as enough is used.

Of course, the egg tray should be taken out of the machine and scrubbed top and bottom, and put near the kitchen stove, or out into the sun and air to dry. Leave the door of the machine open about half an inch, and the lamp burning, until all the moisture is dried out; then close up and allow the heat to reach 102 degrees, at which point regulate the automatic heat control according to the instructions sent out with the machine, and run it for a day or two before putting in the eggs, to assure yourself that the thermostat is working properly and that the tin disk over the heat escape closes down evenly when the lamp is removed for filling, and that it rises to the correct height after the lamp is replaced.

It is well to test the efficiency of the different parts which constitute the automatic control several times. After the machine has been running some hours with a moderate flame, the disk one sixteenth of an inch above the escape pipe, and the thermometer registering 102, open the door of the machine until the thermometer drops to 99; then close it. The disk should have shut down closely when the temperature went down, and if the thermostat and all the parts are working properly, the disk should again rise one sixteenth of an inch above the escape, and the thermometer again register 102 degrees within a few minutes after closing the door.

Should the disk swing to one side, or fail to rise with the change in temperature, study the maker's directions very carefully, and try to decide what is wrong. If the book of instructions gives no directions for remedying such difficulties, examine the wire which attaches the disk to the regulating arm and the disk itself. The slightest bend in the wire or kink in the disk is liable to cause the trouble, and must be carefully corrected. If neither wire nor disk are at fault, unscrew the connecting rod which runs through the machine and connects the thermostat with the regulating arm, draw it up three or four inches, and let it drop back. If it sticks, even in a slight degree, or fails to fall truly and evenly into place, it has got bent, and must be straightened, for if it rubs or binds, it will prevent its answering the automatic action of the thermostat.

You know, I suppose, that the thermostat is composed of such sensitive metal that it immediately expands or contracts with variation of heat in the egg chamber. This expansion or contraction affects the connecting rod, and the rod in turn influences the regulating arm, at the end of which the disk which controls the escape of heat is suspended.

I have given this short, rough explanation of the connecting influence of the different parts which constitute the automatic heat control in all modern incubators for the benefit of the men and women who may be running an incubator for the first time, and who have no knowledge of such matters, for the directions sent out with some incubators just tell how to connect the parts, and give no explanation of cause and effect to guide the poor amateur if anything goes wrong.

When the machine is running evenly, and you are sure that everything is properly adjusted, the trays can be filled with eggs and the hatch started. When the cold trays and eggs go into the machine, the temperature will run down, and the disk close tightly over the escape. Don't turn up the lamp, or be anxious if the heat does not seem to be recovering. One hundred and fifty or two hundred eggs may take from ten to twelve hours to heat through, so if you put the full trays in at night, the heat will not regain the 102 mark on the thermometer until the following morning. Of course, fewer eggs will not take so long to heat, but still you need not worry, for if the machine was running properly before the eggs were put into it, and the lamp has not been interfered with in any way, the thermostat will respond to the increasing heat, as the eggs warm, and as it expands, the connecting rod will have tightened on the regulating arm, and the disk would be lifted from the top of the escape at the right time to hold the temperature in the machine at 102. If the lamp flame had been turned up at the time when the eggs were put into the machine, the heat might have increased during the long hours of the night beyond the controlling power of the thermostat. For it must be clearly understood that if the heat in the egg chamber of the ordinary machine gets above 110, the automatic control is lost, and there is great danger of the thermostat getting cracked and ruined. This is a point which is frequently not understood.

People don't realize the limitations of the automatic control in an incubator. The thermostat cannot maintain the temperature in the egg chamber beyond a variation of ten or fifteen degrees at the most. It is for this reason that it is so much safer to locate incubators in a cellar or north room, where the outdoor changes in temperature are not felt so rapidly as they would be in a south room, and why the attendant should always clean and trim the lamp in the morning, so making it possible to watch that it does not run up after first lighting, and why it is advisable to use a moderate flame when heating up and regulating the machine; for with the machine set with a moderate flame, it is possible to turn it up slightly on an unusually cold night, or down for the occasional hot day in early spring which so often upsets our calculations.

During the last few years, the agricultural colleges and experiment stations have been giving more and more study to the subject of moisture in incubation, until now it is generally conceded that it is quite as important as heat, and that a lack of sufficient moisture during the early days of incubation is frequently the cause of weakly, slow growing chicks. When one understands the process of development from the germ to the embryo chick and subsequent growth till it reaches the stage where it breaks through the shell, there can be little doubt that we should give full attention to this point.

The white of a newly laid egg is largely composed of water, which keeps it in a liquid state. The shell of the egg being porous, allows this water to evaporate, and the white to become thick and sticky; if the egg is kept for any considerable time, in dry air, it will all evaporate.

When the germ of the egg is quickened into life by the heat of the incubator or under the hen, tiny veins run out into the white and absorb the water and certain nutriment which is converted into the blood of the embryo and nourishes it during the building of its structure and the formation of its organs.

When an egg is put into an incubator situated in a dry room and heated up to 102 or 103 degrees, the air in the machine must necessarily be dry, and the watery contingent of the white evaporates so rapidly that the embryo lacks blood and nutriment, with the result that when hatched it has weak internal organs, and can never become a really vigorous and profitable bird—like as an egg producer or a breeder. For this reason the amount of moisture in the egg chamber is most important. Too much is as detrimental as too little.

Now we come to the question as to what is the correct amount and how to gauge it. When a good hygrometer is used in the incubator, the attendant has only to read what it registers, just as he reads the thermometer to know the amount of heat which is present.

During the first week, the hygrometer should register 75 degrees; the thermometer 102 to 102½. Second week; hygrometer, 70; thermometer 102½ to 103.

During the third week we have a changed condition of affairs. The small systems of blood vessels of the first week have vastly increased, so that by the fourteenth day the white of the egg is full of veins in which the blood is rapidly circulating and the chick's body is growing fast. Bear in mind that the first ten days are devoted to development, and in that short time the chick is fully formed in all its parts. During this period the quantity of blood circulation is comparatively small.

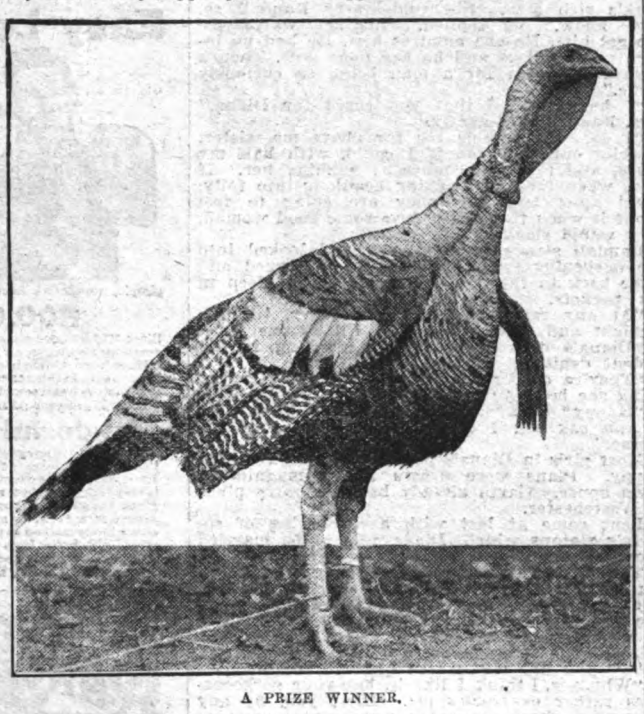
Then come the ten days of growth, or increase in size of body and its parts, when great quantities of blood are rushing through the numerous blood vessels, carrying the building material. It is during this latter period that the water (after being used in the blood circulation) should be allowed to escape freely from the egg with consequent rapid enlargement of the air cell. Therefore, during the last week of incubation I would remove the water pans or wet sand from the egg chamber and let the humidity decrease even to 50 degrees, or possibly 40 in some cases. Simply removing the extra supply of water usually answers the purpose.

The moisture supply must be renewed on the nineteenth day for another distinct purpose. If the air surrounding the hatching eggs is dry, the chicks are likely to have a hard time breaking through the tough inner linings of the eggs. When this parchment like lining is dry, it is exceedingly difficult to tear it, and its strong bands may hold a vigorous chick a prisoner even after it has broken the outer shell clear around.

Keeping the air of the egg chamber moist renders the inner linings of the egg shell easy for the chick to burst through.

The greatest danger from overheating comes during the first few days of incubating. It is well to hold the temperature at the level of tops of the eggs under 103 F. for the first week. I like to keep it at 102.

During the third week the animal heat exerts home influence, and 103 will be about right at the upper part of the egg.



A PRIZE WINNER.

While the chicks are hatching from the eggs, 104 may be registered at the level of the tops of the eggs. In some parts of our country, where incubators are operated at altitudes of several thousand feet, the temperatures may be run a degree higher than I have indicated. At these altitudes where the air is usually very dry, the matter of extra moisture supply becomes a very important item in successful incubation.

Ventilation is Vital

During the early stages of embryo development in the egg, very little air is needed, because there is very little blood to be oxidized. During the second week there is increased blood circulation, and therefore need of some ventilation, so that the fresh air shall supply enough oxygen. All through the third week there must be abundant air supply, because at this period there is a very great circulation of the red blood, which must be continually using oxygen from the air. The pure air passes through the shell of the egg to the blood vessels that ramify all over the inner lining of the egg. Carbon dioxide and moisture pass out through the shell.

If an egg chamber is poorly ventilated, the eggs should be aired once daily for a few minutes at a time, from the fourth to the twelfth day, and twice daily during the last week of incubation.

FREE

This New Fashion Book for Spring



Send a Postal for it Today

FREE

We Pay Mail and Express Charges





This new Fashion Book—direct from Fifth Avenue—shows the most alluring creations for Spring from the world's greatest fashion center. Our wonderfully low prices enable any woman to dress faultlessly at a little cost. Send a postal for this book today.

We Guarantee to Please You Absolutely or Refund Your Money.

Smart Check Coat $2.98 F 67. Up-to-date coat of fashionable black-and-white checked coating. Cut on loose, straight lines and may be worn with or without belt. Stunning big collar, patch pockets and deep cuffs are trimmed with pointed tabs of hunter's green Silk Poplin which gives a becoming touch of color. Two-toned green-and-nickel buttons finish this smart model. Colors: Black-and-white only. Sizes: 32 to 44 bust; 14 to 18 yrs. Postpaid.



Smocked Middy 98c F69. A very attractive, new style Middy Blouse of durable, white Galatea, finished below yoke with fancy, colored, hand-smocking. Collar, cuffs and pocket flaps of colored Galatea make a pleasing contrast. Detachable belt. Silk lacing. Colors: White with rose or Copenhagen. Sizes: 32 to 40-in. bust; also 14 to 20 yrs. Postpaid.

A Big Waist Bargain



Serge Skirt $1.25 F 59. Tailored skirt made of excellent hair line, striped Serge. A perfect fitting, flare model with girdle top and deep lapped front seam. Button trimmed, patch pocket. Colors: Black or Navy Blue with White Stripes. Sizes: 22 to 30-in. waist measure; 36 to 44-in. front length.

A Charming Fifth Avenue Style



All Over Embroidery 98c F 64. This exquisite Summer blouse in delightfully dainty and becoming style is made of sheer, all-over embroidered French Voile. A charming feature is the pretty sailor collar edged with val. lace. Hemstitched, Organdie cuffs finish the full-length sleeves. Clusters of Pearl buttons trim the front and form the visible waist fastening. White only. Sizes, 34 to 44 in. bust. Postpaid.

Plaid Voile 98c F 65. Stunning blouse in smart, distinctive style, made of the fashionable sheer Plaid Voile. Designed in simple style with becoming large round Organdie collar prettily hemstitched and edged with fine Net to match cuffs. Black silk bow at neck adds chic touch. Colors: Blue-and-white or Pink-and-white. Sizes: 34 to 44 in. bust. Postpaid.

KNICKERBOCKER MAIL ORDER CO. INC.

Dept. F 6—142 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

In dealing with the development and growth of the chick embryo it is evident that temperature, humidity, and ventilation must be under complete control, and that common sense should be used in the controlling.

If you have no hygrometer, the amount of moisture can be told if a broody hen is given eggs at the same time that the incubator is started. On the fifth or sixth day, compare the condition of the eggs under the hen with those in the incubator, by holding up first one and then the other to the light in your egg tester. Note the size of the air space at the large end of the egg. It grows larger as the water in the white is consumed, either by the developing embryo or by evaporation. If all is right in the incubator, the air cell will be the same size in eggs taken from under the hen and out of the incubator. But if the air in the egg chamber of the machine is too dry, the air cell in the incubator eggs will be more developed than in the eggs taken from under the hen. If, on the other hand, the air cell is smaller in the eggs taken from the incubator, the air in the machine is too moist.

Now, to correct this condition, if moisture is lacking, put pans of wet sand, or one or two sponges squeezed out of warm water in the bottom of the machine. Remember that whatever is used to add moisture must be warm. Never put anything cold into the machine after the hatch once starts. If there is too much moisture, which is sometimes the case when the machine is located in a wet, poorly ventilated cellar, the eggs must be kept out of the machine longer each day, when you air and turn them.

If the cellar is cold, put a warm blanket over them, for part of the time that they are out of the machine. Place pans of unslaked lime on the floor of the cellar; it will absorb the moisture and help to purify the air.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

I. L. M.—From your description of the bird's condition, and the spots on liver and lungs, I judge the fowls have what is called coccidiosis, which is a germ disease, and attacks rats and mice and small animals, such as rabbits. Eggs laid by hens with a chronic form of this disease are likely to carry germs which will develop into white diarrhea in a chick hatched from them. Wild birds, pigeons or rats may introduce the germs into the poultry yard by means of their droppings, as the disease is transmitted through food or water being contaminated. Young chickens succumb to the disease at once, but adult birds or animals have a great power of resisting it, and usually only carry it in a chronic form which does them little harm, but spreads it broadcast among the rest of the poultry; for it is only occasionally, after long duration, that an adult animal or bird dies from it. The best treatment is to feed a mash made by moistening ground grain with Castor oil. Don't be afraid of the oil—it won't hurt if each bird gets two or three teaspoonfuls. Add three grains of sulphate of iron to each quart of drinking water every day for three weeks. Repeat the mash treatment each week. The germs of this disease are very difficult to get rid of, so everything in and about the poultry house and runs should be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. If the house has a dirt floor, scrape off the surface to a depth of three inches, and fill in with clean, dry dirt. Use a strong solution of cresol on perches and dishes, and on fixtures. Mites are very small and round, so I think the vermin you found on the birds were lice. Use Dalmatian powder. Hold the bird by the feet with head down; saturate the feathers with the powder, especially in the soft fluff around the thighs and underbody and tail; then rub it in with the fingers. The work should be done after dark at night, and the hen put carefully on the roost, so that she doesn't shake all the powder out before it has had time to do its work. To successfully rid the birds of vermin of any kind, the powdering should be repeated three times, with intervals of three nights between applications, and during that period the house, nests, and perches should be treated with sheep dip, or some strong preparation of that kind.

J. H.—As the birds were Rhode Island Reds and Plymouth Rocks in their second and third year, and as you have been feeding very heavily, there is little doubt that they had acute liver trouble, as lameness in the left leg and shrinking of the comb are all symptoms usually seen in the last stages of that disease. Stop feeding mash at noon; instead give one pint of wheat or oats for every ten birds, and scatter it in deep litter on the chicken-house floor, so that they will have to scratch for it. As soon as the warm weather comes, give nothing at all at noon, as they are on free range. Such heavy feeding as you have been giving forces pullets and young hens into egg production at first, but always causes trouble later, especially with any of the heavy breeds, like Plymouth Rocks.

G. W.—Four Leghorn roosters would be sufficient for fifty-eight hens, but as you have the extra bird, I advise you to let him run with the flock.

D. H.—Rhode Island Reds and Plymouth Rocks, like all the heavy type of fowls, are given to getting broody at all seasons. I know of no way to cure them of the habit. The only thing to do is to make one or two small coops with wire bottoms and put a perch in each; then when your birds get broody, shut them up in these coops for two or three days. They don't like sitting or standing on the wire netting, and the constant roosting soon breaks them of their desire to set.

L. A. D.—You are quite right in thinking that much of your mother's success with turkeys was due to the fact that she kept them far away from other poultry, and scrupulously clean. I keep the White Hol-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 28.)

Always Does the Work and Does It Right

ROUGH ON RATS



Unbeatable Exterminator

of Rats Mice and Bugs

Used the World Over. Used by U. S. Government

It Can't Fail—It's All Exterminator

Stop Fattening Rats, Mice & Bugs

On your food or on Catch Penny ready-to-use substitutes whose bulk is inert flour and grease.

Why Trap Rats & Mice One By One

while those uncaught rapidly increase.

END THEM ALL TO-NIGHT WITH a 25c box of ROUGH ON RATS

The Recognized Standard For Half a Century

At Drug & Country Stores.



Indoor Closet

More Comfortable, Healthful, Convenient

Eliminates the out-door privy, open vault and cesspool, which are breeding places for germs. Have a warm, sanitary, odorless toilet right in your house. No going out in cold weather. A boon to invalids. Endorsed by State Boards of Health.

ABSOLUTELY ODORLESS

Put It Anywhere In The House

The germs are killed by a chemical process in water in the container, which you empty once a month. Absolutely no odor. No more trouble to empty than ashes. Closet absolutely guaranteed. Write for full description and price.

ROWE SANITARY MFG CO. 328A ROWE BLDG., DETROIT, MICH.

Ask about the Ro-San Washstand—Hot and Cold Running Water Without Plumbing

He That Loseth His Life

By Maud Mary Brown

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT was the most violent of all the nights of that record-breaking month of November. By eleven o'clock only those whose business demanded it were abroad. Trolleys, in diabolical haste to finish their run, scooted over glistening rails; taxicabs skidded drunkenly, and infrequent pedestrians bent to the storm and scurried for shelter.

Only The Girl, walking eastward from the Pennsylvania Terminal, was deliberate, and her leisure obviously was prompted by uncertainty. Her pretty clothes were insufficient protection from the elements and already they looked sodden and bedraggled.

Occasional steps sounded behind her, and when they passed on to be lost in the noises of the night, she breathed relief.

Presently there came steps that lagged as they reached her side. It was what she had been dreading and she shrank as a voice sounded at her elbow.

"I beg your pardon," The Man began: "It is a misfortune to be without an umbrella on a night like this. Perhaps you will come under mine."

He held his umbrella over her shrinking form and fell into step beside her.

"I—I am looking for a policeman," she explained, conquering her fear. "I wish to be directed to an address."

"We shall find one a little farther on," The Man replied; "but perhaps I can help you."

His interest had been trapped by a closer vision of The Girl. She was bewilderingly pretty in her anxiety. The loose ends of her dark hair fell into adorable tendrils about her face; her eyes—he could see them as they passed under a light—were like perfectly-matched sapphires; her voice and her simple mourning garments bespoke race and distinction.

"Where did you want to go?" he asked after a brief silence.

"To West One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street," she replied after a slight hesitation.

"So far? Then I'll call a taxicab."

"Oh, no!" protested The Girl nervously.

"Then the subway will be best. We will board the first cross-town car."

"Couldn't I walk?" she entreated; "you see, I have—no money. I came North to visit my cousin and she did not meet me, though I sent her a telegram after the wreck. I happened to have just enough for that in my coat pocket."

"The wreck?"

She nodded wearily. "The train that I came up on. I lost everything; a fire started, you see." She shuddered at the memory.

"What hard luck! I'm glad now that my car skidded back there and did something to a wheel so that I was compelled to walk; otherwise, I should not have come across you. Here is our officer; should you like to ask him any questions before we set out to find your cousin?"

She shook her head as the officer saluted her companion.

"Now then, we're going to signal the first vacant taxicab. You've been under a strain too long to make it wise for you to jostle up-town in a subway train."

"You're very good; I'll get some money from Cousin Clorinda to pay you. I hate New York!" she added fiercely.

The Man hailed a cab and after handing her in, he followed, and they speeded northward. The Girl peering out into the city's night, The Man watching her, silent.

"Here we are," he said cheerfully when at last the car swerved in to the curb.

"Wait!" he ordered the driver as they crossed the walk together.

The slumbering hall boy roused himself at The Man's sharp questions.

"Mis' Elkins?" he blinked; "why, Mis' Elkins moved out two weeks ago, sir; she's gone to California or somewhere. The day boy'll know."

The color receded from The Girl's cheeks.

"Come," urged The Man gently. "There is no use lingering here. We will plan in the car." Dazed, she followed him to the waiting cab.

"I am afraid," he began, when they were under way, "that a hotel is out of the question in the condition you're in; besides, you have no luggage."

"The Young Woman's Christian Association?" The Girl suggested, her eyes on her dripping garments.

"It's past midnight; I am afraid——"

"But what can a girl in my position do?" she asked wildly.

"Of course there are the police stations with their matrons, but they are not for your kind. Here is my suggestion and you may take it or leave it: Come to my apartment where you can be comfortable for the few hours that are left of the night. When my man comes in the morning, he will press your clothing. In the meantime, you can decide what to do. But of course you will go home."

"I have no home; my father died two weeks ago."

"I am sorry. Will you come?"

The Girl hesitated.

"Remember that this is New York," he resumed, "I presume you have heard lurid tales about us; we are unconventional, but we are quite as righteous as others."

"You are awfully kind. I feel a brute for having dragged you all these miles for nothing."

The Man gave the driver an address and they rocketed down the street. In a few minutes they stood together in the hall of The Man's apartment while he flooded the place with light.

The Girl was surprised at the sumptuousness of her surroundings. Her feet slid through heavy-napped rugs; lights glowed dimly through shades of rose; heavy-scented flowers drugged the air; pictures, insolent of conception, hung between priceless tapestries.

"Better than a police station, what?" smiled her host. "And now, you for that room yonder to get out of your wet clothes. Wait! I will give you a kimono to put on. It is one of my treasures and it once belonged to a court beauty of Japan."

He laid across her arm a soft robe of sapphire blue, its impudent pattern scrolled in dull rose.

"Don't be long," he urged as she turned to the door.

When she reappeared to The Man she had been transformed from a pretty girl to a wonderfully seductive woman. The blue of the robe darkened her eyes; excitement rouged the cheeks that had gone white in her distress. She dimpled at The Man's surprise.

"Where," he demanded sternly, "is the girl who went into that room?"

"Present. Present, and very, very hungry."

"Impertinent! Sit here, then. This chair does nicely for a throne. I will go and rustle some food."

In a few seconds she had followed him to the rear of the apartment. "Please let me help," she pleaded; "when I am alone my eyes simply won't stay open and directly I close them I see that fire creeping toward me."

"Nerves! And small wonder. If you ask me, you've been rather brave. Of course you may help. Only, as you value your immortal soul, don't spot that robe."

"I'll be careful," she promised, and he noticed that the strain had left her voice.

It was a cheerful feast. Rain battered at the windows only to emphasize the firelight comfort within. The Man poured some bubbling wine into a glass and handed it to her.

"It is precisely what you need after your experience," he told her, and she drank it all.

A little later she grew drowsy in her throne-like chair.

"Now," he decided, "you are going to bed."

But a look of terror filled The Girl's eyes.

"I am afraid," she shuddered. "The wreck! The creeping fire! They haunt me."

Gently The Man led her to a couch, half-supporting her as he rearranged the cushions. Then he lowered her, unresisting, among them, and sat down on the edge of the couch, stroking her slender hands.

"It is all right—quite all right," he soothed. "You are here with me—safe."

* * * * * * * * * * * *

"What is it, Hermione?" Barry Randall had just claimed a dance with his widowed sister-in-law at the Dents' ball.

"I have been watching you. At first I thought it was the flame-colored chiffons, but it goes deeper than that. You are shockingly radiant."

"I've wanted to tell you for a week, Barry, but I was waiting for Andrew's letter saying that Diana might come."

"Diana?"

"Diana Leigh—the little distant cousin whom I rounded up on a run-down estate the last time I was South. Andrew is her brother—the oldest of a dozen, I should think. They are orphans and these boys and a pack of noisy dogs have been Diana's only companions. They adore her. If anything should happen to her up here, I think Andrew would come up with his rusty gun to enquire why."

Randall laughed lightly. "You speak as though this is a lion's den. What on earth could happen to her?"

"Things do, you know; broken hearts and things like that."

Randall's face softened and he gave her a swift, warm glance. He had never forgiven his brother for his failure to make Hermione happy.

"She is an adorable child, Barry. But, please, I'm afraid it's hands off for you. Your past hasn't exactly qualified you as woman's tutelar angel. I wouldn't wish her pulses to be accelerated by you, you inconstant wretch! There is Gilbert Garth looking for me. I don't like that man."

"Who does? When may I see you, sister?"

"Soon, please. Diana comes early next week. Come and help me plan festivities for her."

Diana Leigh reached New York in the twilight of a winter's day and as she drove up-town with Mrs. Randall, she was absorbed by the crowds, the lights, the brilliant windows.

"How good you are!" she breathed, enraptured.

"I wonder," Mrs. Randall returned, her eyes on the girl's lovely face.

"Of course you are. I didn't begin to appreciate it till I saw all this. Andrew disliked giving his consent to my coming, I am sure. Do you know, Cousin Hermione, sometimes I suspect a sad chapter in his life."

Hermione smiled at Diana's seriousness.

"Well, I'm here, anyway," the girl chattered on; "I'm here and loving it."

Barry Randall was at the house when the two reached home.

"How like you to be on hand with a welcome!" Hermione said. "Diana, this is my husband's brother; he will claim you for a cousin, but the decision rests with you."

"Then I adopt him instantly," laughed Diana, extending her slim, brown hand.

During the hour which followed, Hermione felt surprise at Diana's poise. That she was a gentlewoman went without saying, but it scarcely seemed probable that her life could have schooled her in the give-and-take of drawing-room repartee, yet she tossed and parried with ease, though her color rose in the game.

"May he come again soon?" she asked as Randall rose to leave.

"Barry runs in and out as his fickle fancy dictates," Hermione replied.

She followed him to the hall, her eyes demanding his verdict.

"She is adorable, sister. Don't let success spoil her; she is certain to have it."

Diana was at the fire when Hermione rejoined her.

"Tired, honey?"

"Not tired, but very much bewildered, Cousin Hermione. I do like Cousin Barry."

"All women do," was Mrs. Randall's reply; "and men, too," she added quickly.

Followed days filled with shopping, fittings, hair dressers and manicures, interspersed with informal luncheons and teas. Like a wise campaigner, Mrs. Randall was doing some preliminary skirmishing before definitely launching Diana upon the social wave.

It all wearied Diana a trifle. It was so different from her accustomed life and she was not quite sure that she cared for the delirium.

Very soon came the night of her formal bow to New York. In all its brilliant past the Randall house had not appeared to better advantage, nor had its mistress.

As for Diana, she was unconsciously alluring, holding eyes weary and sated with beauty. Her heavy dull gold hair made a nimbus for her piquant face; her brown eyes with their topaz lights asked disconcerting questions; her diaphanous white frock upon which Hermione had spent so much thought, suited her unspoiled beauty.

"She is taking well," Randall assured Mrs. Randall. "But why," he added swiftly, "does she evade me? And she no longer calls me 'cousin'; how have I failed her?"

"Why, I don't know, Barry; she has been rather silent lately. I wonder if she has probed the sham of our lives; if she sees beneath our masks. We *are* a rather contemptible lot of pleasure-seekers, you know. Should you care, Barry?"

"I care like the devil to have her think well of me. I am having a dance with her soon."

Dancing, Diana was at her best. "There's nothing of the reluctant-feet business about you tonight, is there?" Randall bantered as they swung to the rhythm of the music.

"Not reluctant, but terribly awkward, I fear. I wish they would stop thinking up new steps till I get caught up."

Diana's remoteness as she coolly thanked him for the gorgeous flowers he had sent her puzzled him and made him rather silent.

"Who is the man who is greeting Cousin Hermione?" Diana suddenly asked.

"That," Randall replied briefly, "is Gilbert Garth, one of the most eligible bachelors in the city."

"So that is Gilbert Garth! And you don't like him; one can tell from your voice. Will you whirl me back to my cousin now, please? Here we are. Thank you, and—good night."

Randall accepted his dismissal, turning away as Garth was presented to Diana, but he was in time to take note of the spark that shot into the man's colorless eyes. Then he went home.

"May I call this afternoon?" Garth was bending over Diana's golden head as the notes of the last dance died.

"Do! But I shall be stupid. I am not yet trained to your city pace."

The last guest gone, Diana would have lingered to chat, but Mrs. Randall drove her off to bed without ceremony.

"What would Andrew say to these hours?" she demanded.

"He'd growl!" laughed Diana. "I am sure he would like Gilbert Garth, however. He is going to call this afternoon, Cousin Hermione. I like him tremendously; he is so different from the others—the acquisitive, intriguing others."

"Run along, dear."

Holding her soft draperies about her, Diana slowly mounted the staircase. She was very restless, and dawn crept in at the windows before she slept. Her last waking thoughts were for Andrew and Gilbert Garth. Between the two there seemed to be some mysterious association. Her first dream thoughts were for Barry Randall.

During the days which preceded her *debut*, Diana had made many friends. It was a favorable season for intimate friendships. The great war had aroused the facile sympathy of society and gayeties were curtailed while unaccustomed fingers fashioned garments for the men in the trenches.

For this purpose Diana spent two mornings a week with the girls of the younger set, listening, pondering, learning.

By no means ignorant of the abstract wickedness in life, she had never dreamed that it could touch her intimately, but, according to these girls, many of the men with whom they all danced freely were unequivocally bad, and the morals of some of the women were not above reproach.

"How revolting!" The words had slipped out after she had heard a tale about a man with whom she had flirted at a *dansant* the day previous.

"A woman has to take life as she finds it, my dear," a young philosopher offered. "One can't go about with a missionary spirit—not in our set."

They laughed—all but Diana. She felt a spiritual revulsion for it all. Life's canvas was shifting before her bewildered eyes, and experience was toning in repellent colors.

Unconsciously she tried to adjust her ideals without sacrificing them entirely and in those days she altered subtly. Her face took on a searching expression new to it and her eyes, hitherto so wide and frank, narrowed slightly, as though the sensitive retina had been injured.

She began to speculate about every one with whom she was thrown. She recalled how, at first, her boyish interest in life had been misinterpreted, resulting in mild familiarities which had won her flashing rebuke. She flushed at the remembrance. Had they thought her light? It was then that she became remote. But it added to her desirability. Men relish the challenge.

More than any of the others, she wondered about Barry Randall. Then, on gossip's tongue, came a garbled and exaggerated chapter from his past. She never called him "Cousin Barry" after that.

It was, perhaps, not strange that she looked forward to Gilbert Garth's return to the city with interest, for here was a man, they all admitted it, who had kept his moral head. People derided him and disliked him, but to the mind of the girl, that spoke ill of his judges.

When, on the night of the ball, she looked into his colorless eyes for the first time, she forced her heart to warm to him and her eyes away from Randall's retreating back. Here, at last, was a man like Andrew!

Diana awoke after her ball to find Hermione smiling down at her.

"Why, it's late!" she cried, starting up. "I hear Felice running my bath. Wait, dear, till I've plunged."

Later, over coffee, "Did I please you?" she asker naively.

"I haven't seen such a flutter over a debutante in years," smiled Hermione.

"I shall write that to Andrew. I loved it last night. And to think that for days I've been loathing New York!"

"Loathing it, Diana?"

"All of it. I made faces at Felice directly her back was turned. She embarrassed me so! And those warm, perfumed baths after my accustomed cold plunges! I hated the constant thought of my body. And I hated the people, too—all but you with their scandals and their license. But I've stopped. All I ask now is happiness. That isn't much for a girl to demand, is it?"

"It is more than most of us get, my dear."

"Did I tell you that Gilbert Garth is coming to see me today? I like him, Cousin Hermione. Do you?"

Hermione was momentarily disconcerted by this abrupt demand.

"I see that you don't," Diana resumed. "Well, I do. I am thankful that I do not need the spice of sin to season my portion of life."

"Don't talk nonsense, dear. The quality of goodness never detracted from a man's popularity yet. Barry will be around for tea, too."

Diana was suddenly silent.

"What has Barry done, Diana? He notices your avoidance of him."

"He hasn't done anything to me."

"You don't want to lose sight of the fact, Diana, that Barry is a man with a quality of honor that can be depended upon in a crisis."

Diana shrugged her pretty shoulders and Mrs. Randall, not altogether easy in her mind, left her to her reflections.

From their first meeting it was obvious that Garth loved Diana, but when, after a whirlwind courtship, the girl told her cousin of her betrothal, Hermione felt a distinct shock.

It seemed absurd to regret seeing her young cousin established as the wife of one of New York's rich men. She told Barry Randall so.

"I know," he replied. "Instinct warns me against him. No one admires him. He had no intimates in college and he has none now. There's always a reason for a man being so curiously alone."

"I have fancied that you cared for Diana," Mrs. Randall said gently.

"I do. But she is too far above me, sister. I'd blot out the past, if I could, with half my years, and take my chance at winning her. If men, when they are rushing headlong into folly, could appreciate how they are going to feel about it when they really love some good woman, they would slacken their pace."

Randall strode to a window and looked into the darkening street. Presently he turned and came back to the fire, his hands thrust deep in his pockets.

"At any rate, from now on, sister, it's the straight and narrow for me. I'll be one jewel in Diana's crown," he added, laughing in impudent denial of his emotion.

"They're coming now," he went on. "Do you think she is happy, Hermione?"

"Happy? Yes. But I doubt if she loves him. If you ask me, I think she is blinded by his virtue."

Most girls in Diana's position would have been happy. Plans were drawn for a magnificent town house. Garth already had a country place in Westchester.

Lent came at last with a slackening of society's riotous whirl. Diana was to be married shortly after Easter.

Toward the end of Lent, Garth gave a small tea for Diana in his rooms. She naturally felt a strong desire to see his quarters, and when she and Hermione, the first by several minutes to arrive, were admitted, she felt a startled surprise at the sumptuousness of her surroundings.

"Do you like it?" Garth queried, smiling.

"Why, yes, I think I like it, but your gorgeousness rather overcomes me. Have you, by any chance, a ghost about the premises? I seem to sense one."

"We're too ultra-modern here for that," he laughed, watching with satisfaction Hermione's departure into the next room on a little tour of inspection.

Then, bending, he drew Diana to him in a more unrestrained embrace than he had ever given her. "Wonder-girl!" he breathed.

She drew back, hands braced against his shoulders. "Please," she begged.

He drew her close again and Diana shrank under his hot kisses. She fought silently for release, but it was not till he had his fill of the sweetness of her lips that he let her go.

Diana trembled with unexplainable anger and before she had quite time to control herself the guests began to arrive.

Randall came later. Garth had balked at asking him, but Diana had insisted.

"He is really one of the family," she explained.

"He isn't the kind of man I want you to know," maintained Garth.

"I believe he is perfectly honorable," Diana defended, her loyalty fired.

Garth's eyes sharpened unpleasantly. "My wife must not defend the voluptuaries of New York," he warned. But he invited Randall.

Barry noticed Diana's pallor the moment he entered the room. "Not quite fit?" he asked upon reaching her side.

"This room is torrid and Garth's flowers are deadly. Let me take you out of the crush for a moment."

As they strolled into an adjoining room, Diana felt Garth's eyes upon her but she was curiously indifferent.

Randall had no sooner placed her in an easy chair when Garth's man summoned him to another room to answer a telephone call.

Alone, Diana rose and walked to the door which gave to the hall, drawn by some psychic urge.

Down near the entrance she saw her fiance, and with him was a woman above whom Garth towered menacingly. There was something sinister in the scene and while Diana watched from among the concealing shadows, she saw Garth open the door and heard his incisive voice.

"Get out!" he said.

Gropingly the woman obeyed, and in the next instant Garth had rejoined his guests.

"The ghost!" were the words on Diana's lips almost spoken aloud.

TO BE CONCLUDED IN APRIL.

Who is "the Ghost"? What claim has she on Garth? Has he led a double life? Is there a dark side to his character cloaked by a semblence of austere virtue? The final discovery of her identity and startling revelation of her career shapes most strangely the destinies of four of the principal characters in this story. Read the bewildering outcome in April COMFORT. Renew your subscription today and make sure not to miss it.

U. S. FORBIDS COUPONS IN CIGARETTES.—The practise of tobacco manufacturers of including coupons in packages of cigarettes was dealt a severe blow when Commissioner of Internal Revenue Osborn ruled that such coupons may not be sent to any states without being sent to all of them. Six or eight states already have passed laws restricting the use of coupons therein. The Supreme court recently ruled that states may prohibit the giving of such coupons within their jurisdiction.



For chapped hands and broken blisters; for burns, cuts and all skin irritations use

Vaseline

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

PETROLEUM JELLY

Put up in handy glass bottles. At Drug and General Stores everywhere. Illustrated booklet free on request.

Avoid substitutes.

CHESEBROUGH MFG. CO.
(Consolidated)
4 State Street New York City

Learn Music At Home!

Piano Organ Violin Cornet Guitar Banjo Mandolin Harp 'Cello Sight Singing

Easy Lessons Free!



No longer need the ability to play be shut out of your life. Just write us a postal today for our new Free Book, fresh from the printer. Let us tell you how you can easily, quickly, thoroughly learn to play your favorite musical instrument by note in your own home, without a teacher, by our New Improved Home Study Method, *without paying a cent for lessons!* Different, easier than private teacher way—no tiresome, dry exercises—no inconvenience. No trick music, no "numbers," yet simple, wonderful, amazingly easy for even a mere child.

200,000 Pupils!

Since 1898 we have successfully taught over 200,000 people, from seven to seventy, *in all parts of the world!* Hundreds write—"Have learned more in one term in my home with your weekly lessons than in three terms with private teachers." "Everything is so thorough and complete." "The lessons are marvels of simplicity. My 11-year old boy has not had the least trouble to learn."

Wonderful New Book Free!

We want to have *one pupil in each locality at once* to help advertise our wonderful easy system of teaching music. *For a limited time*, we therefore offer our marvelous lessons *free*. Only charge is for postage and sheet music which averages 12½c weekly. Beginners or advanced pupils. We have hundreds of pupils *right here in New York*, the musical centre of America, who prefer our Home Study method in place of best private teacher. Get all the proof, facts, letters from pupils, *amazing free offer* and fascinating New Book just issued, *all free!* Write postal today. Address U. S. School of Music, Box 12 225 Fifth Avenue, New York

Delivered TO YOU FREE



CHOICE OF 44 STYLES Colors and Sizes in the famous line of *"Ranger"* Bicycles, shown in full color in our big new Catalogue. There are eighty-three (83) others, also, shown at *factory prices* from $14.75, $15.75, $17.75, up. There is a *Mead* Bicycle for *every* rider, at a price made possible only by our *Factory-Direct-to-Rider* sales plan.

SEND NO MONEY but write today for our big 1917 catalog of Bicycles, Tires and Sundries at prices *so low they will astonish you.* Also particulars of our great new offer to deliver you express prepaid a *Ranger* Bicycle on one month's free trial without a cent expense to you.

BOYS you can make money taking orders for bicycles, tires, lamps, sundries, etc., from our big handsome catalog. It's free. It contains "combination offers" for re-fitting your old bicycle like new at very low cost. Also much useful bicycle information. Send for it.

LOW FACTORY PRICES direct to you. No one else can offer such values and such terms. You cannot afford to buy a bicycle, tires or sundries without *first learning what we can offer you.* Write now.

MEAD CYCLE CO., Dept. D-2, CHICAGO, ILL.

Toughey's Travels and Adventures Abroad

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

of adobe wall. A deep silence reigned; no one had the spirit to speak. The door finally yielded; they passed through it and instantly received the most delightful surprise of their lives. They stood in a long pergola covered with climbing roses and lined with rows of jars filled with blooming flowers. The opposite end let out on a stretch of lawn shaded with fruit trees and bordered by flower beds. Just to the left of the pergola and facing the lawn was the house. From its wide, brick-paved porch or mirador, as the Mexicans call it, one could look beyond the lawn and flowers to dark masses of fig trees, which with a second pergola at right angles to the first, screened from view the gardener's shack and that part of the grounds planted in vegetables.

"This is Heaven," exclaimed Toughey.

"The only one you will find in Mexico," declared Mrs. Deering, thinking of a Mexican town's unscreened meat shops, bakeries and markets; the indifference of its people with regard to contagious diseases; their ignorance of many sanitary measures insisted upon by an American community.

The children were equally wild over the extreme beauty of the place.

"I thought you would like it," said Mrs. Fenner, pleased that they should so unreservedly commend her selection of their summer home, and blissfully ignorant of their first impressions.

At the back of the mirador an archway led to a small patio set about with potted plants after the Mexican fashion, from which a door, properly the front entrance, opened directly into another street. A gate in the garden gave them a third outlet. Some of the rooms, of which there were many, opened into the patio others on the mirador, and a few into the garden. An American bathroom with hot and cold water seemed the best feature of the house, though time revealed that the hot water was more or less a fiction.

"Let's lock all the doors and gates, lose the keys and live here forever," proposed Toughey. Mrs. Deering smiled. After all it was delightful to begin this way. The place with its attractive combination of Spanish beauty and American comfort and taste was the work of its owner, an American woman whose husband had made a good sale of some mining property. Mrs. Fenner admitted, however, that since the wife's gratification of her ideas and fancies there had not been so much money in hand and that her proposition to rent the house for the Deerings had been eagerly accepted. As the servants went with the house they presently made the acquaintance of Chauna, the cocenera or cook; Juana, the canarista or housegirl; Pablo, the mosa or houseman; Francisco, the gardnener and lastly Candelaria, the diminutive kitchen helper. With such a staff of retainers, Toughey and the children were more than ever eager to relieve their mother of the duties of housekeeping, and incidentally to learn to speak Spanish. Under this plan Mrs. Deering proceeded to a leisurely survey of the books in the library, the music on the piano and the unusual variety of flowers in the garden.

For several days there was a noticeable irregularity of meals. Mrs. Deering's coffee was inexplicably halted in the mornings; the midday meal arrived with a lateness hitherto unknown in the household, while marienda, the Mexican substitute of chocolate and cakes for afternoon tea and designed to be served in the garden about five o'clock, came only with the dark and altogether squeezed out supper.

"Mamma," declared Toughey firmly, "that old saw about being a Roman in Rome is all right to talk about but it doesn't work."

"You mean to say you are going to oppose the Mexican custom," laughed her mother.

"I certainly do. I don't propose to have today's dinner day after tomorrow. Hereafter this household is to be run after American methods."

"I'd like to bet on you Toughey, but I am afraid I'd lose my money."

"You'll see," said Toughey with a slight lift of her pointed chin.

It now came out that Mrs. Fenner, with benevolent intention, had given the girls a great deal of advice, based upon the idea that it is well for strangers to follow the customs of the people among whom they have come to live. None of the women of Durango, Mexican or foreign, went to market. They sent their servants who did all the buying. "The cook starts for market right after breakfast and gets back a quarter of an hour before an early dinner hour," explained Toughey.

There followed, upon her resolution, a tremendous effort, backed by American pluck and energy and persistence to anticipate, circumvent and reform Mexican customs. But alas, with such partial success that at the end of the summer Toughey admitted that, except when she and the children remained in the kitchen and with their own hands hurried affairs, they were never able to overcome the strangling Mexican idea that "Manana" (tomorrow) or the day after was the best time for doing anything.

Of the market place the Deerings never tired. Through it flowed the life of the people, and there one could buy anything from a saddle to a poll parrot. The poorest peon with perhaps but a centavo could become a purchaser, for melons were sold by the slice, cabbages in small wedges, beans by the handful. So great is the poverty of the lowest classes that many a time Toughey bought a single egg at her doorway, offered by some wretched peon and representing his sole marketable possession. It was not unusual for beggars suffering with smallpox to ask alms on the plea of illness. "And you know they are speaking the truth," Toughey would remark significantly.

At the Plaza, where they frequently went in the evening to hear the band play, the wealthy class was more in evidence, but it never was possible to get entirely away from the misery of the people which seemed present even in the plaintive music of the country. The social center of every Mexican town, it was at the Plaza that the Deerings met many of the American residents of the town and pursued their acquaintance with those who had called. It was here, too, that courtship among the youthful part of the population took place. The process was quite simple, consisting in the beginning of an interchange of languishing glances while the men and girls promenaded around the Plaza in lines facing each other. A bolder step was the offer of a flower. A red one signified love, a white one the desire for a betrothal, whereas a yellow flower declared that love on the part of the donor had ceased. These customs afforded the Deering family considerable entertainment, especially when they were directed toward Toughey and Nan, who was now fourteen and from the Mexican point of view, in the marriage market. Toughey would laugh, go home and write to Roger Hewett, now testing in the business world his natural ability and the practical value of his college training.

As the summer advanced the Deerings yielded more and more to the enervating effects of the climate, but the charm of their surroundings and a certain romantic quality in the life they led, held to the end. One day some cards were brought to Mrs. Deering and when she and Toughey entered their beautiful sala (parlor) where they received visitors they found themselves greeting the portly Mexican lady whose effects had caused such a stir among the customs officials at the border. With her were two velvet-eyed daughters about Toughey's age. Educated in the states these girls proved interesting types evidencing in their lives the influence of American standards and customs. Their acquaintance with Toughey gradually ripened into a kind of intimacy and when their mother extended Toughey an invitation to visit them at

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 28.)

Second Inauguration of President Wilson

By Edna Mary Colman

As this issue goes to press before the inauguration our description is limited strictly to such features as have been definitely planned and arranged for. They will be carried out exactly according to program unless rendered impracticable by stormy weather or prevented by some untoward event. It has been intimated that the most of the public features would be omitted in case of hostilities growing out of our critical relations with Germany.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

WOODROW WILSON is the first Democrat since Andrew Jackson to succeed himself as President of the United States. This being the second occasion of the kind in the last eighty-five years the Democrats gave lavish expression to their natural elation, by arranging that the ceremonies attending President Wilson's reinauguration should be as unique and impressive as possible.



Clinedinst Studio, Washington, D. C.

MRS. JAMES H. BOGGS.

Because of the President and Vice-president not being inducted into office for the first time, the festivities lack the element of novelty that always attends the installation of a new Chief Executive and the introducing of a new family to the presidential mansion, especially as when they are strangers to the general public and the residents of the Capital city. However the inaugural committee has worked for weeks in revising features and elaborating the details to make this the most original and magnificent spectacle of its kind that has regaled the throngs that gather in ever increasing numbers to witness each successive inauguration, for this inaugural will go down in history distinguished for its innovations. Fate and circumstance have aided in the novelty producing, for this is the fourth time that the fourth of March, inauguration day has fallen upon Sunday, which puts the formal ceremony on Monday, the fifth, though the President will take the oath of office privately at the White House on Sunday.



Photo Copyright by G. V. Buck.

PRESIDENT AND MRS. WILSON—YOU WOULD KNOW THEM ANYWHERE.

The presidential party with Gen. Scott as marshal will leave the White House promptly at eleven o'clock instead of at ten as has been the custom heretofore, for Congress will not be in session and therefore the President will not have to spend the last hour of his old administration in his private office in the Senate side of the Capitol signing belated bills and resolutions passed in the closing hours of Congress.

The President will be escorted by a picked troop of the 2nd. U. S. Cavalry instead of the New Jersey militia regiment of last inauguration. The President made this choice, taking United States Troops in preference to the militia from his own state because his selection of an escort this time was made while he belonged to the Federal Government instead of being a State official or a private citizen.

Vice President Marshall's carriage, drawn by four horses, is to be escorted by the Black Horse Cavalry Troop of Culver Military Institute and the Culver Cadets. Inaugural Chairman Robert N. Harper, whose carriage will come next, with Col. W. W. Harts, the President's aide, and members of the Senate and House Inaugural Committee, will have an escort of mounted hunters.

The great event of the day will be the ceremony at the Capitol conducted much the same as on previous like occasions in recent years. In this case the oath is to be administered by Chief Justice White. Vice President Marshall again takes the oath and delivers his address in the Senate Chamber in the presence of all of the dignitaries and officials of the government and foreign representatives and then the assembly with the President goes to the east portico where the oath is administered to the head of the nation to be followed immediately by the inaugural address. Upon this occasion it is planned to permit the general public to draw near and to see and hear the President give his address at close range instead of having to view this part of the program over the heads and shoulders of the great concourse of military that has heretofore filled all of the space around the stand. The President decided that the military should give place to the people—a radical departure from the methods of bygone days and another niche in his record of precedent smashing. (In the event of present strained relations with Germany becoming more acute it may be deemed prudent to interpose the military as a precaution for the personal safety of the President.—EDITOR.)

Contrary to ancient precepts, both Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Marshall are to ride in the carriages with their respective husbands. True Mrs. Taft rode with her husband on the return journey from the Capitol, but never before has the wife of a Vice President taken part thus in the triumphant procession. Mrs. Marshall, as everyone knows is the Vice President's campaign partner, for she has traveled with him on all of his campaign tours, as well as every time he has stumped his state and the old wiseacres claim that Mrs. Marshall's tact and knack of winning the friendship of the rural women put many a ballot in the box for her husband.

In planning the arrangement of this parade, the committee sought to work it out as a beautifully balanced picture that would hold its place for all time in the memory of those who should see it. To insure its harmonious blending Inaugural Chairman Harper secured the services of an artist on parades, pageants, etc., and every unit and division was carefully considered and determined from several standpoints so that the whole procession should be perfect from an artistic point of view. Hence the vast display of military that usually predominates in these events was cut down so that the two grand divisions, the military and civic, will bear more evenly balanced proportions. In the military will be seen as usual detachments representing all branches of the army and navy and so placed as to give the spectators a continuous passing picture of the types of the fighting forces of the United States.

In the civic division, also, political clubs, patriotic societies and associations representing various arts, crafts and industries of the nation were shifted about in the planning until just their most appropriate setting was artistically adjusted.

Of all of the notable innovations, that have made their appearance in this pageant the most striking and significantly impressive is the presence of a regular woman's section comprised of several thousand women of all persuasions, sects and beliefs, for it was the boast of Mrs. Boggs, the chairman of this section and the first woman ever to be appointed upon an Inaugural committee, that all women's organizations were welcome, politics and partizanship being submerged in patriotic efforts to demonstrate what women could do. Her escort in similarity to that of Col. Harper is to be an equestrian squadron of Virginia Horsewomen, about three hundred of them dressed in red velvet riding jackets, black velvet skirts and black silk beavers. These women are to precede the automobile with Mrs. James H. Boggs and her officers, and following her will come the District of Columbia Girl Scouts, with their captains in the khaki uniforms and carrying banners describing their activities. To the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 46.)

FASHION GUIDE FREE



Richly Illustrated in Actual Colors

Prettier than ever are the styles this Spring and they're all here waiting your selection. Smart up-to-date models charming in design, splendid in material and workmanship. Dainty lingerie, stylish footwear, stunning new millinery. **Send for our Catalog 93F** — You'll be delighted with the big saving you will experience on your Spring purchases if you send us your orders.



Write a Postal for Catalog 93F

No. 837. Popular Semi-fitted Coat Middy made of good wearing white washable linene. Large sailor collar, patch pockets. Collar, cuffs, pockets, down front and around bottom trimmed with copenhagen blue and white stripe or pink and white stripe. **Misses** 14, 16 & 18 yrs. **Women** 34 to 44 bust. Price . . **55c**

We Pay Postage

Boston Store Chicago

TATTING BOOK GIVEN



(51)

Contains many new and beautiful designs for Tatting. To introduce TEXAZILK, our new hard-twisted, mercerized cordoney — best for tatting, edging and Maltese Crochet work—we will mail this Book Free and Postpaid to any lady sending us only 10c, silver or stamps, for two full-size sample balls.

TEXAZILK

comes in size 70 only, in white, black, medium green, pink, rose, scarlet, lightblue, delph, etc. Tatting Book clearly illustrated so designs may be copied by anyone. Send at once and get this book FREE.

COLLINGBOURNE MILLS, Dept. 5156, ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Sew Your Seams With Collingbourne's Byssine

PLANS NORTH POLE DASH.—Captain Roald Amundsen has written a friend at Seattle that he will come to Seattle this summer and construct a one-hundred-ton schooner for a dash to the North Pole.

FIRST ICELAND BOAT ARRIVES.—The Gull Foss, a steamer of 880 tons, owned by the Icelandic Steamship Co., and flying the Danish flag, arrived at New York harbor recently, with a cargo of herring. This little steamer is said to be the first to come from that country since the time of Lief the Lucky. The prevailing high prices for foods of all sorts have brought great prosperity to the island.



Larkin Co. Dept. Ct.-317, Buffalo, New York

Tell me about the Larkin Easy Payment Plan and send the Catalog describing the instrument I have checked. Also name your Introductory Factory-to-Family price.

Piano☐ Player Piano☐ Symphonola☐

Name .....

P. O. .....

State .....

St. or R. D. Address .....

TODAY

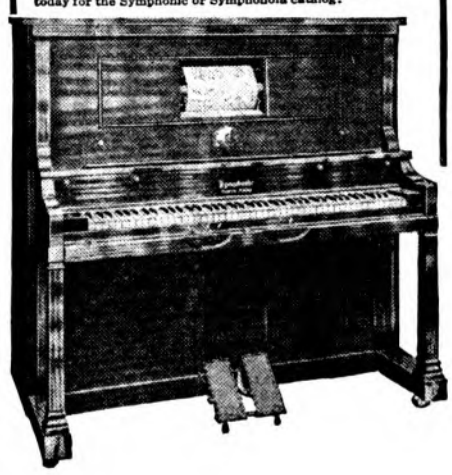
MAIL THIS COUPON

This brings all the interesting details of the Larkin Easy-Payment Plan which places in your home soon your choice of three musical instruments at the "special" Introductory Factory-to-Family price. Thousands of homes are now happier since owning the Symphonic Piano played by hand, The Symphonic Player Piano played by hand, or without previous practice with music rolls and the Symphonola which plays all Victor and Columbia records. There is a place in your home for a Symphonic or Symphonola.

Symphonic Pianos
Symphonic Player Pianos
Symphonolas

On Easy Payments—1 to 4 Years' Time

Two million other customers find it profitable to deal the Larkin Factory-to-Family way. Let us show you how our plan saves you much money on these sweet-toned instruments and how every obstacle to a purchaser is removed by our extremely easy monthly payment plan. From the moment you make your first payment until the last, the Larkin offer protects you. Let us tell you how. Be sure to send the coupon today for the Symphonic or Symphonola catalog.



Short Cuts in Housecleaning

By Mary Hamilton Talbott

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE best way to clean house is to do it gradually through the year. Eliminate dirt as you go along. Never allow things to accumulate but clear them out every month. If this has not been your plan, however, start now and get rid of the impedimenta. You might begin with that shelf of old medicines. Get rid of empty cans and bottles; the half emptied cartons of breakfast foods, crackers and the like on the pantry shelf. Take stock of the clothes and pass on all the outgrown garments and all those which you do not see immediate possibilities for using. Dispose of everything that is only littering up your house. Your work will be cut in two if you get the trash out of the way and you may have the satisfaction, too, of knowing you are providing moths, mice, roaches, and various household pests with fewer breeding places.

There are so many little bits of repair work about the house which can be done to freshen it, and a good time to do it is before one gets busy with the heavier work. If a tile in the bathroom or fireplace is loose, or there is a hole in the wall, mix some plaster of Paris with water, set the tiling or fill in the hole, smooth off the paste with a knife, and in the case of the wall try and match a piece of wall paper over it. You will have taken away much of the shabbiness which such things invariably cause. Perhaps you have a room that you would like to repaper because the paper looks so soiled, but you feel that it must be put off another year because of the expense. Try cleaning the paper yourself with this mixture: A quart of flour, a tablespoonful of bottle bluing, a tablespoonful of alcohol, a level tablespoonful of powdered alum, and enough water to make a stiff batter like bread sponge. Bake it fifteen minutes in an ungreased pan. Pour onto a bread board all that will come out of the pan without any of the brown crust, mix into it finely rolled crackers until it is too stiff to stick to the paper, and using a small piece at a time rub the paper with it—keeping the large lump folded in a damp cloth to prevent drying out too quickly. If you want to clean your painted kitchen walls fill the wash boiler and let the water in it boil until the room is filled with steam, then with a clean cloth wipe down the walls, and you will find them as clean as if you had given yourself a backache trying to scrub them.

Everyone who can possibly do it should have a vacuum cleaner as a help at this time, even if it must be engaged by the hour. It is not only a great strength saver, but saves wear and tear on the house and its furnishings. The rugs are cleaner and they are much less worn than when they are hung over the clothesline and beaten, as so many people still think it necessary to do. One such cleaning by a careless man will often prove more injurious than a year of regular usage. The mattresses, pillows, draperies, books, clothing, can all have the dirt sucked out of them by the appliances which come with a vacuum cleaner. Even a vacuum carpet sweeper, costing very little, will clean your rugs, carpets and floors better than a broom. You will be able, too, to accomplish your work in half the time and you will not be so tired. A vacuum cleaner run by electric power is most desirable for anyone who has electricity in the house, as it can be connected instantly with the light fixture in any room which you wish to clean, but for those who do not have electric lights there are several makes of hand-operated vacuum cleaners which do excellent work.

Manufacturers are vying with each other to make housecleaning easier for the progressive woman. Look at your hands after you have been wringing out a scrub cloth. Of course they are knotted and swollen; besides your work is not as well done as if you had used a scrub-cloth wringer, for you cannot use as hot water or as strong suds with your hands. Get a mop with an adjustable scrubber and scraper and even the small boy will be glad to help you. A very moderate priced helper is a brush for washing windows which does away with danger; it is round, has long, soft bristles, and a rubber binding to protect the glass from an inadvertent blow, while the handle is so curved that all parts of the pane may be washed from the inside of the raised sash. And there is no use in thinking that radiators can be really cleaned with an ordinary brush; the work is better done and in half the time with a brush made specially for the purpose. It is about an inch wide, slightly curved and fitted with soft bristles of graduated lengths, and no crack or crevice can be missed.

A whisk broom will not remove the dust in upholstered furniture satisfactorily; if one brushes hard enough to get down into the folds and small places around the buttons the fabric is invariably roughened. By investing fifty cents you can procure a brush that is made for just this work. At one end of the handle is a sharp-pointed tuft of stiff bristles which easily removes dust from around and under the upholstery buttons, and at the other end is a soft brush which takes it from the folds and will not injure the finest damask. Whatever you do, don't use an old-fashioned back-breaking dustpan, but get one with a long handle; the cover on the pan can be adjusted with the foot and all the work can be done without strain.

White enamel paint requires as careful handling as highly polished furniture and many a woman ruins hers by scrubbing it with soap and water; this fogs it. Use kerosene; one cupful to a gallon of water will remove every bit of dirt and leave it as glossy as when first put on the woodwork. Few people appreciate the cleaning quality of kerosene and there is in many homes an absurd prejudice against using it; yet it is far ahead of soap and water in its cleansing powers. Nothing will more quickly clean the metal trimmings of the bathroom than this oil mixed with whiting. It is also very effective in removing mildew from books which have been closed up in a damp place. Remember kerosene when you come to cleaning your gas stove, it will cut the dirt with but little effort.

Of course everybody washes their lace curtains when they take them down in the spring—and the wise housewife will leave them down until fall, for it seems foolish to re-hang clean curtains only to have them flap against dusty screens. If you want to do this with little labor to yourself and at a great saving to the life of the curtains use a suction washer, which consists of a funnel-shaped cone made of heavy tin, a strong wooden handle and an inside mechanism with an automatic suction valve. There is a lever attached to the handle which is so arranged as to swing the plunger to any part of the tub, or the plunger may be used without the lever. A clamp fits this device to any tub and the soil is removed from the finest fabrics in a short time without injury by the compressed air and suction which forces the water through the clothes. This washer can be used successfully for washing rag rugs and many heavy things which would take much labor without this valuable aid.

A difficult part of housecleaning work is the lifting of heavy mattresses, owing to the awkwardness that makes handling difficult. Your task will be easier if you will sew heavy webbing across the ends of the mattress making a handle of the same at the four corners. This removes the strain from the corners of the ticking which soons wears out if the handles are simply sewed to the corners. An excellent cleaner for mattresses and pillows is a paste made of cornmeal and gasoline. Remember that no heat, not even a lighted lamp or candle, must come near them until the gasoline is thoroughly evaporated. This cleaning should be done outdoors and the mattresses left out until thoroughly dry and aired.

You will save yourself an endless litter of dirty cloths if you use sponges—the close, solid kind, costing ten cents each, keeping one for soapy water and one for rinsing. And do not think dustless dusters an extravagance. They are a most wonderful labor saver, and they make a cleaner place than the old-time cloth for dusting. Dustless mops for the floor save many a backache, reaching as they do the farthermost corners under the radiators, heavy bookcases and tables for elusive dust which otherwise the housewife would have to get down on her knees to find. These mops range in price from seventy-five cents to a dollar and a half. With the vegetable oil which is used on them, they mean clean and bright floors with a minimum of work. These mops can be washed, when dirty, in hot water and washing soda and no woman with a bare floor should be without one.

I heard a woman say recently, "If housecleaning could just get one somewhere besides just cleaning, it would be more interesting, the mere digging for dirt is so tiresome." Make your housecleaning yield a little something toward the completion of the home. Rearrange the furniture, adjust the color scheme; if something is a trifle out of harmony, cover it, dye it, bleach it. Make this season count in more ways than one. The influence will be noticeable even on the children; every member of the house will take an interest in your work and let them have a voice in the rearrangement of furnishings. You may be sure the man of the house will not "take to the tall timber" when you mention housecleaning time if you consult him about things and have on a pretty frock in the evening when he comes home; he will be buying you all sorts of labor-savers when he knows how they help you. Whenever a man works he demands the best kind of tools, for modern efficiency methods show him the necessity for them. So should every housewife have the best obtainable equipment.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

again and see if I don't succeed this time. My father owns two hundred and sixty-five acres of land, eighty of which we ourselves farm, renting the other two places. So you see I am a country girl and can do most all kinds of housework, though I do believe I love to read better than anything. And flowers, oh, don't you think the homes with their green lawns and flowers are beautiful? It seems to me more homey and happy to be surrounded by flowers. I plant flowers all over our place wherever they will grow, and build bird houses for the birds to come and live in. I am eighteen years old, weigh about one hundred and twenty-five pounds, five feet five inches in height, dark brown hair and eyes and a dark clear complexion, and am a deaf lip reader. But I don't mind. I have lots of fun, and take long auto rides that's such sport.

It's pitiful to think of the invalids who can never leave their beds of pain. I would be pleased to hear from anyone, especially those who are deaf, but from any and all I would be glad to hear. With love to all,

Your niece, ANNA PETERSEN. (League No. 41,985.)

Here is a little girl who builds houses for the birds she loves and yet is doomed never to hear their song. She can see her little feathered friends, but she cannot hear them express their gratitude by those glorious trills of melody that no human song bird can equal. I wonder how many of you have followed the example of Anna Petersen? I recently received a letter from a friend of mine who lives in Fort Wayne, and who drives the Flier between that city and Chicago. In his home in the suburbs of the city in which he resides, he has turned his garden into a bird paradise, and he is having the time of his life and so are the birds, who come to visit him from the four corners of birdland. He has a beautiful fountain where they drink, bathe and sport, and he has built wonderfully artistic bird houses, which have all the modern conveniences, like millionaire apartment houses. All the lucky birds who live in this bird oasis, tell their bird friends of their good luck, and any time there is a bird meeting in any section of the globe the name of William Jungles is greeted with three cheers, I mean three chirps. Brother Jungles tells me that strange, beautiful birds, that have not been seen in his section of the country for an age, now take up their residence in his bird hotels during the entire summer. He says it is wonderfully interesting and fascinating to watch the antics of his feathered friends in the modern Garden of Eden he has provided for them. For him they save their sweetest songs, and when he scatters food around they swarm about him as though he were one of their own kind. The bird house idea is spreading like wildfire all over the land. Even the boys in the cities are erecting bird houses in their back yards, when they have any—and it's about time. Bird life is rapidly becoming extinct, and think what a dreary world this would be without the birds, those graceful, happy, wonderful little creatures, who do so much to brighten the countryside. Of course there are bad birds as well as good birds, just as there are bad humans as well as good humans, but birds as a class are one of man's very best friends. There is a terrific warfare always going on for supremacy on this planet. That fight isn't between the Central Powers and the Allies or Uncle Sam and Japan, but between mankind and the insect pests which are forever striving to eat him out of house and home and drive him off the planet. In this terrific contest, which is rapidly becoming acute, the birds are our best friends, and without their aid we would have lost the fight long ago and been starved out of existence. A bird can eat its own weight in insects in a very brief period. Scientists are not guessing when they tell us this, for they have been simply astounded when they have opened the stomachs of birds and discovered whole armies of insects safely tucked away in birdy's capacious bug digester. Start your bird houses right away, and see what pleasure and delight they will bring you. It does not take much ingenuity or skill to build them, and they will repay your efforts a thousandfold. Anna dear, I am sorry that you are deaf, but how much luckier to be deaf than blind. Maybe that's poor consolation, but still it is a consolation. People often pity and sympathize with me, but when I think of the many who are incapable of using either hand or brain I consider myself very lucky. Anna doubtless does the same. Send her lots of letters. It is such as she who will appreciate them and the kind thought they will contain.

SAN DIEGO, 830 8th St., CAL.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have recently returned from Mexico and San Blas. While there it was against the war rules to send out any private items of news in regard to methods of how the soldiers and officers conducted it. But I am now in U. S. A. again and will write you facts that came under my own observation while living over two years in Tepic, Mexico. On the morning of March 12th last, within two blocks of my house lived an English gentleman, who carried on a repair shop and had one small gasoline motor engine to furnish him with power to do such work as came into his shop from time to time. He often had automobiles to repair. On this morning in question, at about six o'clock, creada (cook woman) as is the custom there, went out to market with a small basket to buy some meat and vegetables for the day's meals, and left the front doors unlocked. The proprietor of the house and his woman housekeeper had not arisen, it being Sunday. Twelve of Carranza's soldiers entered the house at this open door and closed it behind them, while the creada was at the market, and cut the throat of the Englishman from ear to ear, and stabbed his body in fifteen places, and then stuffed sawdust in the housekeeper's throat and mouth, after they had cut her throat. Then when the creada returned they also cut her throat and stuffed sawdust in her mouth. Then they looted the boxes and trunks in the house, carrying away much of the personal effects. A little nephew of the housekeeper called about half hour after these murders had been committed, to see his auntie. He discovered the bloody bodies lying about on the floors, and rushed out to the neighbors to tell them what he had seen. Neighbors went in and found the dead and then gave the alarm and went to the governor and told him of it. He sent some officers to the house and found it all true. Then he set them at work to ferret out the murderers, and to the dealers in the town who usually bought all stolen goods. Soon the officers had the information required, they had the dealers go with them and locate each man who was implicated in this affair and arrested all of them and placed them in the penitentiary for examination. One of the guilty parties was captain of the company the men were members of at that time. The governor placed all of them under rigid examination, and all confessed their part in the murders. Some were put through the third degree when refusing testimony, which in that country is tying a man's thumbs to a sling and raising his body above the floor, till he tells the truth, and other methods. The governor published that a public execution would be celebrated in five days after the murders were committed, and in front of the church and the public plaza. On Friday of the same week, six of the condemned soldiers were marched handcuffed to the place announced, where hundreds of the people had gathered, filling the house tops and all places to look at the execution. At that time I was near to them and saw the six shot dead. The bullets still remain in the blocks of stone. On the following day the captain was shot at the same place and the other five in the penitentiary. So all were executed.

I saw the dried up bodies of road robbers hanging by the necks on trees for weeks, to fall down of themselves, the flesh carried away by buzzards and vultures, but no person was permitted to take them down. I will answer all the cousins' letters who wish to know more about Mexico. I remain your COMFORT cousin and nephew, WM. H. BRIGGS.

Bill, I'm glad to know that Villa didn't get you. You must be about the only American living that he did not get. I think you have been wise to get out of Mexico. I've never been in hell, but I should imagine that hell must be a pleasant place compared with Mexico. I know I would rather take a chance in the latter than the former. After reading your letter William, I've come to the conclusion that there is hope for Mexico. I'm sorry you did not give me that governor's name. I would have liked to have written him a letter thanking him for the prompt way in which he punished the fiends who murdered the Englishman and his housekeeper. If that murder had taken place in the United States, the odds are the murderers would never have been caught, and if they had been caught, never brought to trial. If one of our typical fool juries didn't acquit them, it is dollars to doughnuts some shyster lawyer would have got them off scot free on a technicality. I want to take my hat off to the governor of Tepic Territory, Mexico. I don't know the gentleman's name, but if I had it I certainly would write and congratulate him on the drastic and speedy way in which he avenged the death of that man and his housekeeper. I suppose if it had been an American instead of an Englishman he would not have bothered. Every Mexican has a wholesome dread of John Bull, who protects his citizens no matter where they go, and a whole hearted contempt for Uncle Sam, who permits his citizens to be murdered by the thousands abroad, and the tens of thousands at home. Oh, I forgot Uncle Sam is a great hand at boxing the ears of little Hayti or Nicaragua when they start cutting up Americans, but the old gentleman sings mighty small when Mexico or any of the big powers go on a rampage and murder, slay and drown those born under the Stars and Stripes—citizens it is the old gentleman's business to protect. Well we can't blame Uncle Sam when we have a navy only half manned, an army of three men and a dog, a national guard largely composed of department store clerks and office boys, many of whom, though brave and patriotic, don't know a gun from a hole in the ground. With such defenses as these the old gentleman can't throw many bluffs without making himself ridiculous. But that's not the point just now. What I want to get hold of is the Governor of Tepic, Mexico. That man would be a godsend to the United States. If we were to turn him loose on our criminal hordes, instead of a thousand murders a month we should not have one murder in ten years. I admire a man of action, a man who gets right on the job at the drop of the hat, a man who sizes up a situation instantly and gets busy right on the jump. A man of that kind may make an occasional mistake, but he does succeed in putting the fear of God into the hearts of the lawless, and he does get results, and the right kind of results, and that is something the dickering, paltering, higgling, pussy footing, side stepping, undecided, scared to act man, never does. In Britain they had a nice, respectable old gentleman for premier, named Asquith, a dithering gentleman who for two years has been telling the British people to "wait and see." The British people took Asquith's advice, they have waited and seen, and seen little but misfortune and bad luck. Now they have got a little man of action named Lloyd George, who has the ability to get things done, and if he does not get results it will be because the old "wait and see" gentleman waited so darned long that it was too late to get any results. It is a long time since I wrote an article about Mexico and for obvious reasons. This country is divided into two camps on the Mexican question, and each side violently asserts that the other fellows' ideas of solving the Mexican problem are all wrong. On the one hand we have those who think we should go in and clean the place up and do for it what we did for Cuba and the Philippines, while the others want to "wait and see," want it left to its own devices (spell it d—vices please Mr. Printer). A perfectly good case can be made out for either side. We would not want anyone butting into our affairs if we had an internal squabble, as we had in 1863. But there is a difference. The world knew that after that little racket was straightened out, orderly government would resume its sway, as we had demonstrated our capacity for self government, which is something the Mexican people have never done and are not likely to do with the crude human material they have down there. Don't forget that of Mexico's fifteen million people, thirteen million are wholly or partly Indian. In the city if you have a riotous neighbor that disturbs your peace of mind and breaks down your health by his objectionable, uncivilized methods of living, you call in the police or the Board of Health, and that gentleman is forced to keep the peace, and is not left to do as he pleases and become a festering social sore. If Mexico cannot clean up and behave herself, cannot select some man able to restore peace, law and order, somebody will simply have to go in there and do for the Mexicans what they are incapable for the present at least, of doing for themselves. We cannot have eighteen hundred miles of our border continually menaced by raiding hordes of cutthroats, and the world cannot afford to have one of its richest and most productive sections converted into a barren waste by political brigands whose one and only ambition is to grab the few bits of loot the other brigands have not yet appropriated. I believe Carranza is a good man and sincere, though many say he is not. His whiskers make him look wise, patriarchal and venerable, and whiskers wisely used have a distinct psychological value in impressing the ignorant. I wish to God Carranza could bring order out of chaos and bring peace and prosperity to his unhappy country. I do not however believe he can do it, nor do I believe any other Mexican can do it, unless Uncle Sam is right at his back to help him do the job with men and money, and guns if necessary, and the Yankee school mistress is also on the job, getting in her fine, enlightening work, just as she is doing in the Philippines. We ourselves make but a sorry spectacle in our attempts to govern ourselves along democratic lines, so what can we expect of Mexico which is about eighty-five per cent Indian? I only wish Mexico would invite us to send some of our best men to help them try and straighten out their tangled affairs. But they are hot headed and proud, and too ignorant to act broadly and wisely. Then too, so many tens of thousands have tasted the sweets of brigandage and adventure that few of them would care to go back to the old prosaic ways of toiling hard for a living. They find fascinating sport in outraging women and swiping other people's property. Anyway the governor of Tepic has got the right idea of handling murderous Mexicans and I wish to heaven Congress would hire him to come up here and try his efficient hand at handling murderous Americans. We have the highest murder record on the face of the earth. The brand of Cain is on the nation's brow. Let us get the governor of Tepic to come up here and remove it. God knows it is time it was removed.

PLAINVILLE, R. R., Box 30, CONN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a little farmer girl, four feet seven inches tall, blue eyes, light hair, and thirteen years old, and in the eighth grade in school.

My father owns a good-sized farm with an eight-roomed house and a large barn. And say, I forgot we've got two black dogs, one Dr. Orlo and the other his wife Lizzie anyway that's what we call them.

I have got three sisters and one brother.

I have not done my housework yet. I have got a little history, a little grammar and a little literature and I hope I have not made so many mistakes and said so many funny things as some of the cousins do.

Many children and "stuck ups" live up around here and say Uncle Charlie have the people where you live got any shoestrings (or whatever you call them) tied around their foreheads? Honestly it seems

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 31.)

MTG

NO MORE GRAY HAIR!

The free trial bottle of MARY T. GOLDMAN'S HAIR COLOR RESTORER proves how quickly gray hair disappears when this scientific restorer is used. Simply applied with special comb; leaves hair clean, fluffy and natural; does not interfere with washing. Then buy a full sized bottle from your druggist. But be sure that the bottle you buy is the *real Mary T. Goldman's.*

Send for trial bottle today and say whether your hair is naturally black, dark brown, medium brown or light brown. If possible send a lock in your letter.

Mary T. Goldman
404 Goldman Bldg.
St. Paul, Minn.

Established 50 Years.

Free Trial Bottle



$1 a week buys a Black Beauty Bike



You must see and ride a Black Beauty Bicycle to appreciate how really different it is. Its style, durability and speed defy imitation. PROVE IT at our risk.

Direct From Factory—On Approval

Let us send (freight prepaid) a Black Beauty on trial. If you don't like it return at our expense. If you do like it, you pay ONLY $1.00 A WEEK.

Guaranteed For Five Years by the Largest Exclusive Cycle House in America. Five Models. Prices $30 up.

FREE—Black Beauty Color Catalog on request.

Haverford Cycle Co., Est 1896, Dept. H, Phila., Pa.

Deafness



Perfect hearing is now being restored in every condition of deafness or defective hearing from causes such as Catarrhal Deafness, Relaxed or Sunken Drums, Thickened Drums, Roaring and Hissing Sounds, Perforated, Wholly or Partially Destroyed Drums, Discharge from Ears, etc.

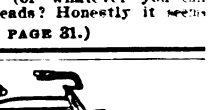
Wilson Common-Sense Ear Drums

"Little Wireless Phones for the Ears" require no medicine but effectively replace what is lacking or defective in the natural ear drums. They are simple devices, which the wearer easily fits into the ears where they are invisible. Soft, safe and comfortable.

Write *today* for our 168 page FREE book on DEAFNESS, giving you full particulars and testimonials.

WILSON EAR DRUM CO., Incorporated
735 Inter-Southern Bldg. LOUISVILLE, KY.

Now $20.00

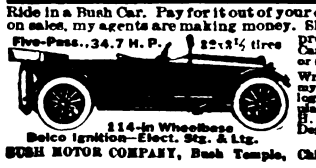


Only $2 down brings brand new Rex (*10 years' guarantee*) built because world's greatest merchandise house wanted a better machine. Typewriter prices smashed! Write today for "Typewriter Secrets." Inside facts *you ought to know.*

Rex Typewriter Company
Dept. 3063 Steger Bldg. Chicago, Ill.

Bush Car Delivered Free

Ride in a Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales, my agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back.



Five-Pass., 34.7 H. P., 32x3½ tires, 114-in Wheelbase, Delco Ignition—Elect. Sts. & Ltg.

Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. C. Bush, Pres. Dept. 304.

BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois

10 Days Free Trial



Play on the violin of your choice—and test it for 10 days before you decide to buy. Send it back at our expense or pay for it at the rate of only a few cents a day.

Rare Old Violin Circular Free

WURLITZER

We supply the U. S. Govt.

The products of the leading violin makers of the world are yours to choose from. See special circular.

Write Today for Special Circular. No obligations. Get full particulars of our offer and handsome illustrations of superb instruments. Write now.

The Rudolph Wurlitzer Company, Dept. 3043.
S. Wabash Ave., Chicago E. 4th St., Cincinnati, O.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

That Freckled Nose

THE time of freckles is approaching, when we can scarcely poke our noses out of doors without old Sol turning his burning glass upon us and producing a sprinkling of objectionable brown spots which we later sigh over before our mirrors.

Of course all my girls will be writing me: "Oh, what shall I do for freckles?" as I am taking Time by the forelock and telling all of you right now, girls, that the best way to get rid of freckles is not to have them! Freckles are really very hard to remove, for they are spots of pigment beneath the skin, and the skin has to be peeled off to dispose of them. After that is done, the new skin is sensitive and, of course, apt to freckle easily, so with one crop just



DO NOT SIT ON THE BATHING BEACH BAREHEADED.

out of the way, another may follow close on its heels.

You want to start in the early spring to prevent any freckles appearing. To do this, you must protect the skin from the glaring sun or intense heat. Never wear a narrow-brimmed hat or go bareheaded in the summer-time. Neither is a lace hat any protection, for the sun beats right through. Therefore, if you value a freckleless nose, choose large hats. If you go motoring, and a big hat is not feasible, wear a motoring bonnet with a visor or front brim, and a large chiffon veil.

At all times rub all the cold cream your skin will absorb into your face before going outdoors (and it will take a lot, if well rubbed in). Wipe softly with a pad of absorbent cotton, then dust generously with powder, and go over skin softly again with a fresh cotton pad. By the way, keep a bag or glass jar of cotton pads on your dresser.

If you swim, there is little hope of escaping freckles, although some of the wide-brimmed bathing hats which fit close down around the head and shade face and neck, help a little. Be careful to use quantities of cold cream and powder before going into the water and immediately after coming out.

The moment a freckle appears, mix some glycerine and lemon juice, half and half, and bathe the entire face with it, at night, letting it dry in. Keep up every night until the outer skin begins to peel off in little flakes. Then stop and rub in cold cream.

For severe freckles, rub lemon juice into a tablespoonful of dry mustard, then add a teaspoonful of oil of sweet almonds. Use a new mucilage brush or small paint brush and dab the paste on each freckle at night. The skin will soon begin to feel warm, then wash off face and rub in some cold cream. Keep up for a few days, and the skin will peel off exactly as if you had been sunburned. If you leave the paste on too long it will raise blisters or leave a scar. Be careful, also, not to get it in or near the eyes; and wash it off very thoroughly before using the cold cream.

If you have been exposed to a very hot sun, and fear your skin has suffered damage, a good idea, the moment you reach home, is to get a pitcher or bowl of very hot water and four Turkish wash-cloths. Put all the four cloths in the hot water. Lie down, wring out one cloth and fold over upper part of face to tip of nose, pressing down clear to nose. Wring out a second cloth, and fold over lower part of face just below nostrils. As soon as these begin to cool, replace with the two hot cloths and put the first ones to soak again. Keep getting fresh hot water as fast as it cools at all. Keep this up for fifteen to twenty minutes, and it will usually prevent sunburn, tan or freckles from the overexposure you have just suffered. This treatment must, of course, be taken the moment you come in from being in the sun.

Answers to Questions

B. B. S.—You can gain in weight by eating the kinds of foods that produce fat—potatoes, boiled or baked but not fried, rice, macaroni, white bread and butter, cereals with plenty of cream, and by drinking milk. Eat only at meals, and chew your food thoroughly, get lots of outdoor exercise, and plenty of sleep, and of course always have fresh air in your room at night. See that the eliminative functions of the body are in order daily; you can help this by following the advice I am constantly giving—to drink eight to ten glasses of water daily. In the last issue of COMFORT, I gave directions to one of our Pretty Girls about caring for her nails—follow those directions, and you will be surprised at how good-looking your nails will become.

Marie.—For the bad case of dandruff, shampoo the head at once, first going over the entire scalp with olive oil the night before and tying the head up in a towel to avoid soiling the bed-clothes. When you shampoo the next day, following the directions given so many times in these columns, the oil will help to rid the scalp of dandruff. Thereafter, you must not only be careful to wash it once in three weeks, but you must brush the hair gently every night before going to bed, one hundred strokes, and you must on no account go to bed with it done up. Either let it hang loose, or braid it very loosely indeed. Do not put water on the hair when brushing it, ever. Look to your general health, for if you are under weight and not very strong, your hair is being affected by your general condition. Make up your mind to get plenty of sleep, to eat sensible foods, to drink quantities of water, and to cut out coffee and tea—not more than one cup a day, should you drink for the time being.

Mrs. W. W. T.—The Vaucaire bust tonic is harmless. The formula is as follows:

To Develop the Bust

Liquid extract of galega (goat's rue), ten grams; lacto-phosphate of lime, ten grams; tincture of fennel, ten grams; simple syrup, one hundred grams.

Be sure that you use a reliable druggist, so that the galega is perfectly fresh. The amount to use is two soupspoonfuls in water before every meal. I think a better plan is to exercise—any arm exercises—and to look to the general health. Gentle massage will do a great deal for the bust. Rub around and around, following the outline of the bust, and being very careful not to press too firmly.

Pansy.—You could afford to weigh fifteen or twenty pounds more, since you are five feet eight and one half inches tall; yet, if your bones are small, your present weight of one hundred and thirty is not very bad. As to your slim bust, if you are only nineteen, that will probably fill out. You can assist it to do so by exercising daily—all the arm exercises so frequently given in these columns. There are pulley exercises which fasten to the wall which are excellent to develop the chest and arms—which, in turn, produces a larger bust. Swimming or rowing or tennis or other active outdoor sports help to develop the upper part of the figure, besides being excellent for the general health. The milk diet would add pounds to your weight and without doubt increase your bust measurement, as well, in three or four weeks. The pores of the skin on the nose are full of white matter because your skin is evidently sluggish and is not sufficiently stimulated to throw off the secretions. Be sure to take a complete body bath daily, and rub the skin briskly—the face with a soft towel, the rest of the body with the ordinary Turkish bath towel. This incites the little pores to do their duty. Invest, also, in a complexion brush, camel's hair—and use it to scrub the face every night. That is all your facial skin needs.

V. S.—I do not quite understand how you have been using the peroxide. You say you put it on "one night and a cloth wet." Do you mean you wet a cloth with it and laid it over the skin? Just dampen the hairy *spot* with the peroxide one night, and with ammonia the next night. You say your skin is turning yellow—perhaps you have been using too much peroxide, though that would ordinarily bleach the skin. Probably the reason for the yellowness of the skin lies in what you have been eating—perhaps too many sweets, too much butter or fat meat. Cut down a little on sweets for a time, take the juice of half a lemon in a glass of cool water half an hour before breakfast, and eat grapefruit or oranges every morning for breakfast. Then drink plenty of water, and take some of the exercises for the bowels which I have given in these columns. I think you will find the yellow skin promptly disappear.

Mrs. C. T. S.—I am sorry it is against the rules of this department to answer letters by mail, or I should have been glad to write you. If you are only five feet two inches high, one hundred and ninety-five pounds is almost seventy pounds too much. You have some work ahead of you! The first thing you should do is to alter your diet, for nothing in the world can reduce you while you are eating any foods that produce fat. Therefore you must cut out sweet things, starchy things, fat things; this means that you must not eat potatoes, rice, macaroni, cereals, cream, milk, butter, bacon, salt pork, or other fat meat, gravy, puddings, cakes, candies, preserves, etc. You think, I presume, that this sounds dreadfully hard, but it isn't for there are plenty of foods that you can eat. For instance, for breakfast you can eat a grapefruit or an orange, some soft-boiled eggs or some salt fish (broiled mackerel, for instance, but not creamed codfish, because you must avoid the foods which are cooked with cream sauces.) You can eat, for dinner, lean meat of any kind, spinach, string beans, peas, onions, celery, lettuce, asparagus, turnips, cabbage (either boiled or as cold slaw), cauliflower, etc. You must put scarcely any butter in your vegetables. Avoid soups, and do not drink at your meals. You can eat, for dessert, sliced or shredded pineapple, sliced oranges, grapes, melons, any of the berries (without cream or sugar), but nothing sweet. If you will stick to this diet (cutting out breads) for a few weeks, you will find, on weighing at the end of that time, that you have lost several pounds. You must not eat between meals, and should eat only three times a day and at regular hours. The Epsom salts reducing paste can be used in addition. To make this, take half a pound of Epsom salts and dissolve in a pint of rain-water. Shave one and a half bars of white kitchen soap and add to a quart of boiling water on the stove. Let stand over the flame until entirely dissolved. Then, partially cool, and beat in the Epsom salts solution. Massage into the portions of the body you desire to reduce, at night, and let dry in. In the morning, wash off with tepid water, then dash on cold water. You should take exercise every day of your life—fifteen minutes of bedroom exercises in your nightgown or kimono, then at least half an hour outdoors every day.

Mrs. F. R.—See answer to Mrs. C. T. S. about personal letters. I am glad you are taking the milk diet. You are drinking the right amount, and while it does, of course, make you feel "full," that is the way to produce results. For your height, five feet four, one hundred and thirty-five pounds would not be too much to weigh. Stick to the diet, and let me know how you get along.

Miss E. Z.—The way to fill out your neck is to build up your entire body, for you weigh forty-five pounds too little! Start right in to build up, and soon your neck will take care of itself. If you would go on the milk diet, according to the directions so



A FACE BATH OF GLYCERINE AND LEMON JUICE WILL GET RID OF NEW FRECKLES.

often printed in these columns, you could add from one to three pounds in weight each week. The reason you get constipated and "sick at your stomach" when you are drinking milk is, first, because you are probably taking it along with solid food, and, second, because your stomach is out of order and needs to be "sick" before it gets well. Just drop *all* solid food for a time. (I would be willing to wager that you have been eating lots of ham and salt pork and other salt meats, very little fruit, and plenty of constipating vegetables like potatoes.) Drink a glass and a half of milk (cool, not cold) every hour for eight times a day, chewing each mouthful before swallowing, the object of this being to mix the saliva with it and so help digest it before it reaches the stomach. Drink two glasses of hot water on rising and fifteen minutes later eat half a dozen prunes that have been soaked in a tumbler of water over night. Drink the prune juice also. Twenty minutes later begin your milk. Between your last "dose" at night and going to bed drink two glasses of hot water, at the same time putting the prunes to soak. If your bowels do not move freely, take a little lapactic pill (you can buy a small bottle from your druggist for thirty-five or fifty cents) at night, and if you take the prunes as directed, the water, and "chew" the milk, I do not think you will have any trouble. For two days before you start on the milk diet, drink eight to ten glasses of water a day, and eat no meat or potatoes; eat, instead, fruit, such as oranges or grapefruit, vegetables such as string beans, peas, asparagus, onions, spinach and take soup. Stop all coffee and tea, and drink nothing with your meals those two days. Take a lapactic pill the night before you begin on the milk diet. I shall be interested to know how rapidly you gain. When you are through with the milk diet, be careful of your food. You should eat fat-building foods—for breakfast, cereals and cream, fresh fruit, soft-boiled eggs. You can eat baked apples or baked pears instead of fresh fruits; or you can always eat raw apples. For your dinner you can get eat baked or boiled potatoes, any vegetables you want, especially those fixed with a creamed sauce, and you can eat any roasted or broiled fresh meat, although pork and veal are hard to digest. Fish is good for you, eggs in any form so long as they are not hard. Eat plenty of bread, cream or everything that will take cream, and do not drink tea or coffee. In addition, remember to drink eight to ten glasses of water a day, between meals but not at the table. Chew every particle of food until it is fluid before swallowing.

Miss S. McG.—The peroxide and ammonia treatment for superfluous hair is good—dampen one day with peroxide, the next with ammonia. It takes quite a long time, but the peroxide bleaches the hair and the ammonia, in time, kills the roots and the hair will dry up and fall out.

Paden City.—My, but you have a lot of problems, haven't you? but some of them I should not worry about. You say you have used soda in the water with which you shampooed your hair, and it has turned it light, while eyebrows and eyes are black, and you are chagrined! Well, stop using the soda, and brush the hair religiously every night for one hundred strokes to encourage the little cells to do their work well. In time your hair will probably acquire a little darker color. Do not attempt to dye it—you would be just as discouraged over that result as you are over having taken somebody's advice as to how to make it fluffy. To remove pimples, you must see that the bowels move very freely at least once a day. Make a habit of attempting this every morning before breakfast or half an hour afterward, and every night just before going to bed. Never fail to try, and in time you will form a habit. Stop eating sweets, candies, cakes, pies and rich desserts and gravies. Eat plenty of fruits and drink eight to ten glasses of water a day. The way to get rid of a pimple is through the stomach! To make the eyelashes long, keep the body in good condition so the blood is rich and the hair is well nourished. Then anoint the lids—just the very edge—at night, with warm olive oil. To make your cheeks red, do the same things I tell you for getting rid of pimples, and in addition exercise fifteen minutes night and morning in your bedroom, and get at least a half-hour's walk each day, just as brisk as can be, and, besides, play tennis, basket ball, swim, row, or do any other athletic thing that is possible. Sleep with your window thrown as high as it will go. You can't change the size of your eyes, my dear, but you can make them clear and healthy looking by following the above advice, and that makes them seem larger. Your liver spot is probably the result of eating too many sweets, too much fat meat. It will yield to the same treatment as the pimples. See my breakfast suggestions to "V. S." The Persians call eyebrows which meet, "the bridge of love," considering them most beautiful, but if you do not like yours, get a pair of tweezers at the druggist's, and pull them out carefully one by one. Catch with the tweezers close to the roots. They will come back and you have to do this over again every little while. "A clear smooth complexion?" You get this by the same route which disposes of pimples and liver spots! Take a body bath daily, of course, and rub the skin well. Use soapy water on the face only at night, and always rinse it off many times. In the daytime, use tepid water, and dash cold water on at last to close the pores. You can keep small bags, about two inches by three, half filled with rolled oats, and made of cheese-cloth, on your dresser, and use one of these as a washcloth in the daytime, taking a fresh one every day. Dip it quickly in the water, then wash the face with it. It will leave a little powdery substance on the face; pat the skin dry but do not rub. This cleanses as well as soap, and does not roughen the skin but leaves it white and smooth. You want your hair to be curly "in front?" Well, you might do it up on kid curlers at night. But plain hair is very fashionable at present, and if you shampoo your hair once in two or three weeks, and brush it every night as I have directed, it will soon look nicely worn plain. As for freckles, here is a formula to use, which is simple and cheap, as you request: Three tablespoonfuls of lemon juice and three of glycerine. Shake together, and every night dampen freckles with it, letting it dry on.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Trees That Kill, Trees That Rain and Trees That Produce Bread and Butter

By C. L. Chapman

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

AN Australian naturalist has recently found some interesting facts concerning the really marvelous eccentricities of different trees in distant lands: in the West Indies, the Canary Islands, in Arabia, and in the Island of Madagascar.

On one of the Canary Islands there is a tree which dispels from its branches actual rain to such an extent that a cistern placed at its base is never unfilled. This tree grows on one of the driest islands, through which no water ever flows. The branches of the trees are a cloud that changes into moisture frequently and sheds clear water.

In Arabia there is the insane or historical tree, so named from the fact that all who eat of its seeds are affected as if they had taken an overdose of laughing gas. It is not a large tree, seldom growing over six feet high. The seeds have a sweet, sickish taste and a decidedly unpleasant odor. As soon, however, as they have been pounded up and swallowed the user shows an extreme hilarity along with wild dancing, singing, and utter extravagance of language and motion. It is claimed that no other drug in the world has a similar effect.

In contrast with this silly tree is the ferocious man-eating tree of Madagascar. It is from seven to ten feet high and something like a grape fruit in shape, with rough, ugly tendrils stretching out in all directions. The trunk is black and hard as stone.

At the top of the tree are six palpi, six feet high, that rear straight up and twine and hurl about incessantly. There is a cup also at the top which contains a clear, appetizing fluid. But alas for him who drinks it. He becomes peculiarly crazed and unable to get down. Then it is that the whirling palpi twine themselves slowly but surely about the helpless man until life is gone. This species of tree is naturally avoided as a deadly serpent would be, and the natives consider that it is actually alive and possessed of an evil and terrible spirit.

In South America there is a most convenient milk-producing tree which the natives take advantage for the feeding of their children. By boing a hole in its trunk a clear sweet cream emerges which is both healthful and delicious.

In the same class with this practical tree is one in Africa which produces an excellent butter and another one in Ceylon which gives forth bread. This bread is in the form of a fruit—which when baked, is cut and eaten like our own bread. It has a somewhat similar taste.

A little different in variety of prduct, but just as useful is a tree in the West Indies, the bark of which resembles an exquisite filmy lace. It can be stretched out and is worn by native women of fashion and position.

In Guinea there is another tree which yields a peculiar kind of fruit—a huge fruit resembling cannon balls in size and shape and which makes a trembling noise when it pops.

Perhaps the most productive of all trees is the caramba tree, similar to the palm which flourishes along the Rio Grande. When it is young it produces vinegar, while the roots have a taste somethink like sarsaparilla. The trunk gives out a fiber and also a flower. The branches give forth nuts which when roasted can be used as coffee. The wood of the tree is serviceable to make musical instruments. Lastly there is a wax extracted from it that is used to make candles.



Exquisite Beauty Easy to Attain

By Miss Valeska Suratt

The Charming Actress Whose Self-Made Beauty has Become World Famous

BEAUTY never before thought possible is within the reach of thousands of women who will take the trouble to use the formulas I give here. It is necessary for the user to mix the formulas herself—in this way she is certain of results and knows she is obtaining the proper materials.

Wrinkles

A difference of ten years in appearance may be produced in a short time with pleasing results, on deep wrinkles, furrows, light wrinkles, crow's feet, and lines of age, giving a girlish freshness, even in women of middle age and past. Get two ounces of eptol from your druggist: it will cost about fifty cents. Mix with half pint of water and two tablespoonfuls of glycerine. It will not grow hair.



A Lily-Pure Complexion

Instead of spending months using cosmetics trying to beautify your skin, use the following formula, and every freckle, red spot, blemish and muddiness will soon give way to pinky-whiteness and purity that rival the petals of a rose. Get one ounce of zintone from your druggist, it will cost about fifty cents—mix with a pint of water and two tablespoonfuls of glycerine and apply as a cream.

To Obtain Beautiful Hair

"I am proud to say I am known as the only woman on the American stage who wears no switches, puffs, wool rolls or other make-shifts. You may have a wealth of hair, too, if you will get one ounce of beta-quinol from your druggist, costing not more than fifty cents, and mix it with eight ounces of alcohol and eight ounces of water or with a pint of bay rum instead of the water and alcohol. It forces hair to grow in a remarkable way, stops hair from falling.



Healthy Scalp Necessary

While using the hair grower mentioned, you should use also a shampoo made up of a teaspoonful of eggol dissolved in half a cup of water. You can get eggol at any good drug store for twenty-five cents. It is a wonder in eradicating dandruff and cleansing the scalp from every particle of scurf. This lets the roots breathe and gives them renewed life.

Treatment of Superfluous Hair

There is nothing which will remove superfluous hair so perfectly, so magically as sulfo solution. It can be obtained at drug stores for one dollar. It simply dissolves the hair, never irritates, reddens, spots or injures the skin. It can be used on tenderest skin, no matter how stiff or soft the hair growth on any part of the body. Many women have "down" on their faces or arms. Removed with this solution the difference in appearance will be startling.

For Blackheads

You can get rid of blackheads in a few minutes by sprinkling some neroxin on a sponge made wet with hot water and rubbing the face with it. It is the only real blackhead remover I ever used. Neroxin will cost you fifty cents at the drug store.



Unusual Face Powder

There is much complaint about face powders being much too chalky. That is why I had a powder made after my own formula, called "Valeska Suratt Face Powder." It is the utmost in powder loveliness exquisite in fineness and smoothness, delicate in scent, free from chalkiness, and practically invisible. It is now obtainable in drug and department stores for fifty cents in white, flesh and brunette tints.

Armpit Perspiration

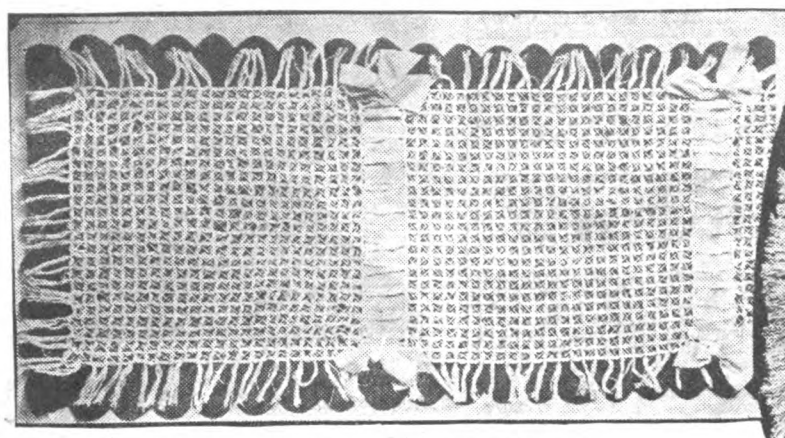
You can at once relieve that excessive and unnatural armpit perspiration by the simple use of hydrolized talc. You can obtain this at any drug store for fifty cents. It will at once remove all odor of perspiration and other body odors and prevent the soppy condition under the arms. It will save you from embarrassment and save your garments as well.

A Beautiful "Movie" Pillow-Top

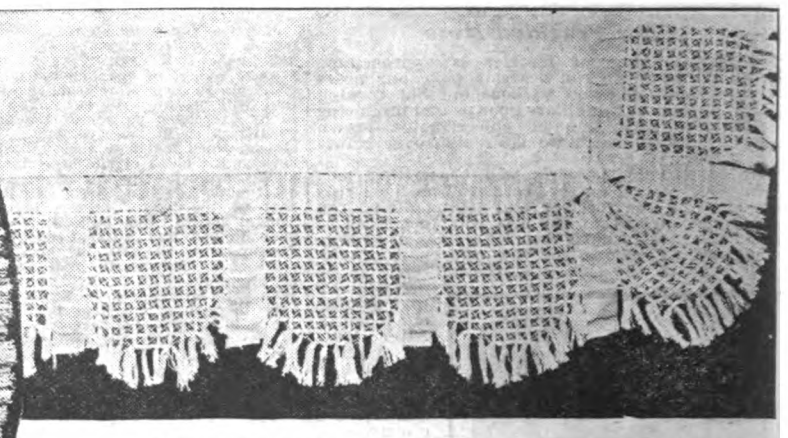
There has been such a tremendous demand for the elegant "Valeska Suratt Pillow-Tops", beautifully done in orange and purple, with my large photo and signature in the center,—that I have made special arrangements to have my friends supplied with these at the special price of fifty cents each. Send the price to "Secretary to Valeska Suratt", 441 Thompson Bldg., Chicago, and the pillow-top will be mailed to you at once.

Miss Suratt has instructed her secretary to obtain for you any article mentioned above and necessary for making up any of her beauty formulas, if for any reason you have any difficulty or delay in getting them from any drug or department store. In such case simply send your name and address with the price to "Secretary to Valeska Suratt", Suite 441 Thompson Bldg., Chicago, mentioning the articles you want.

New Ideas for the Household in Tatting



DRESSER SCARF OF THREE WOVEN SQUARES.
By Alma Little. Fig. 1.



LINEN BUREAU COVER EDGED WITH WOVEN SQUARES.
By Mrs. E. S. Foster. Fig. 2.

Handwork for Household Linens

OUR columns this month are devoted especially to various sorts of handwork for decorating articles for household use.

Table Linen

It is very satisfactory to make dainty covers for any table as dark wood shows up so prettily under lace or eyelet work.

The set for a dining table sent in by Mrs. Winsor is of sheeting linen and looks very choice and pretty even if not elaborately embroidered. This was designed especially for use during the summer months, to save laundry. The large doily practically covers the top of the table and instead of being finished with the usual scallop, has a simple filet edge made as follows.

Filet Edging

Single crochet closely into the linen, being careful to keep the circles as true as possible.

2nd row.—Ch. 6, 1 d. c. in 3rd st., ch. 3, 1 d. c. in next 3rd st., join by slip st. at end of row. Be sure to make an even number of spaces in each first row.

3rd row.—Ch. 6, 1 d. c. on d. c., ch. 3, 1 d. c. on next, repeat, join.

4th row.—Ch. 6, 1 d. c., ch. 3, 1 d. c. sl. st. over 2 spaces, ch. 6, 1 d. c. ch. 3, 1 d. c., sl. st. over 2 spaces, repeat.

5th row.—8 s. c. in each of the spaces which form the squares on the edge and 3 s. c. in of the spaces between.

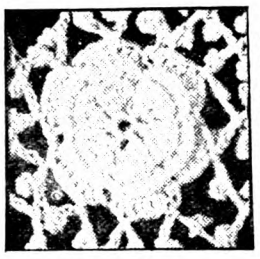
Irish Lace Centerpiece

BY MRS. NUTTING.

Single crochet closely around the edge of linen center, join.

1st row.—Ch. 6, sl. st. into third stitch to form picot, ch. 6, picot, ch. 3, 1 s. c. in 4th single from starting point, this make 1 p., ch. Repeat around, making last ch. meet first ch., now sl. st. to center of first ch. between 2 p, s. Join each row and sl. st. in this way. Make 7 more rows of p., chs.

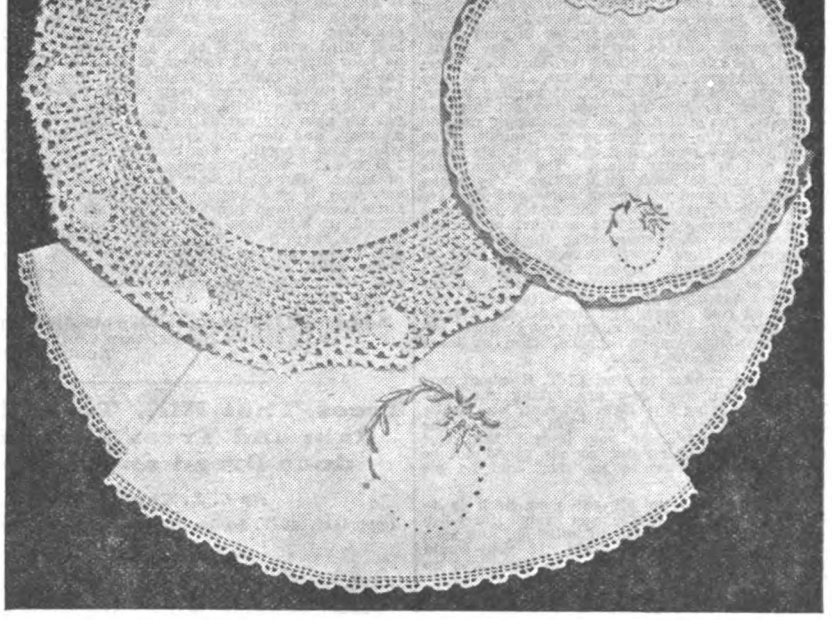
Make 15 or more roses or a rose for every 6 picot chs.



ROSE USED IN IRISH LACE CENTERPIECE.

8th row.—Sl. st. to center p. ch., ch. 6, 1 p. ch. 2, 1 sl. st. in center of petal of rose, ch. 6, 1 p., ch. 3, join next p., ch. to center of next petal. Now 4 p. chs. Join next two chs. to second rose, 4 p. chs., repeat.

Make one row of p. chs. around the roses, then complete the rows between the roses by working p. chs. back and forth joining to the chains already worked around the roses. Next one row of chains completely around doily, but making each chain a little larger by working ch. 4 between the 2 p's in each ch.



HAND-MADE TABLE LINEN. By Mrs. Winsor and Mrs. Nutting.



WOODEN FRAME WITH COTTON WOUND ON IT AND COMPLETED MAT.

Follow this with one row ch. 9, 1 s. c. between picots. Last row, 4 d. c., 1 p., 4 d. c., 1 p., 4 d. c. under each chain 9.

Directions for Roses

Ch. 5, join in ring.

1st round.—Ch. 5, 1 d. c. in ring, ch. 2, 1 d. c., ch. 2, 1 d. c., ch. 2, 1 d. c., ch. 2, 1 d. c., ch. 2, sl. st. to first ch. 5, making 6 spaces in all.

2nd round.—Ch. 1, 5 d. c., 1 s. c. under ch. 2, or first sp. Repeat in each sp. to form first row of petals.

3rd round.—Ch. 5, 1 s. c. under d. c. between the first and second groups of doubles in last round. Repeat making a ch. 5 behind each group of doubles.

4th round.—1 s. c., 7 d. c., 1 s. c. under first ch. 5, repeat under each ch. This forms second row of petals.

5th round.—Ch. 7, 1 s. c. between petals. Repeat 5 times.

6th round.—1 s. c., 9 d. c., 1 s. c. under each ch. 7, fasten off.

After one has the edge of the doily far enough along for the roses, count the number of picot chains in the last row of the lace. Allow 2 p. chs. to fasten to each rose and 6 chs. between, then make up number of roses needed and work in.

The several pieces of work which have come in from our readers show conclusively that COMFORT housewives are quick to adopt new ideas to their own particular needs in making their homes as attractive and comfortable as possible. A good illustration of this is the scarfs and handbag of tied or woven squares shown at the top of this page.

Directions for doing this particular sort of work appeared in our last September issue and seemed at once to become quite popular. As the work is very simple, does not cause eye strain and its possibilities are so great we are glad to again illustrate the frame and the work in detail.

For the best results use a soft mercerized cotton, the size being determined by the article made. A frame such as is illustrated is necessary. To wind this tie one end securely around one corner of the frame carry the cotton to the first notch on upper side of the frame. Hold the frame by this corner and wind, back and forth to the first notch on the opposite side seven or more times, carry cotton to second notch and wind around the frame, the same number of times, so continue until threads have been wound in each pair of notches on these sides. Carry cotton from last notch around corner to first notch and wind the frame in the opposite direction in the same way. Fasten at the last corner.

Do not wind the cotton tight on the frame, but just so that there is no slack.

Thread a bodkin with white or colored silkateen. Begin by knotting around the first threads which cross in one corner, tie diagonal-



INSERTION. DIRECTIONS ON NEXT PAGE. FIG. 4.

ly across to the opposite corner, knotting on the wrong side as shown in cut. Cross all the threads in this direction then recross in the opposite direction from corner to corner; this will form a crossing of the knotting threads at each crossing of the mat threads. When the tying is finished cut the mat open with a knife along two edges of the frame; the other two edges can be cut with the scissors. Shake out and even the fringe.

HAND BAG. FIG. 3.

Scarf Fig. 1. To copy this scarf make three square mats the proper size. Cut the threads only on three sides of the two end mats, and on two sides only of the center mat. Join by tying the looped ends of one mat to the side of the next mat. Run ribbon through these spaces, finish with bows and mount all on a piece of scalloped silk on sateen.

Scarf Fig. 2. This linen bureau cover has an edge of smaller mats, with the tying of the lower corner threads omitted, to give a rounded outline, only cut the threads of the lower side of these mats, join as in Fig. 1, sew to edge of hemmed linen allowing an extra mat in each corner as shown, so the work will lie flat. Run ribbons between the mats finishing the ends with a flat loop and end.



POINTED MEDALLION. DIRECTIONS ON NEXT PAGE.

Hand Bag Fig. 3. This may be made of two mats of any desired size, line with silk in the usual way. Hot plate mats, small table covers, or a bedspread may all be made in this way. For a full size bedspread 42 mats 15 inches square will be needed. Use No. 5 mercerized cotton and make mats 16 strands thick. Do not cut sides of mats and join by tying loops to sides of next mat, as in scarf Fig. 1, spread will be seven squares in length by six in width. Fill spaces in corners between squares, by weaving small mats or crossing threads and working in a spider web.

Hot Plate Mats

Either with or without a tablecloth hot plate mats of asbestos are a great convenience or rather a real necessity nowadays.

Our first illustration of a home-made covering for these mats, which can be bought in various sizes and shapes, is of linen cross-stitched with tiny rosebuds. The edge is finished by closely buttonholing and the two thicknesses of linen caught together by outlining closely all around the shape of the asbestos mats. One end is left open and fastens together with snap catches.

Crocheted Covers

A set of covers for different size mats may be made very easily of a soft mercerized cotton as follows.

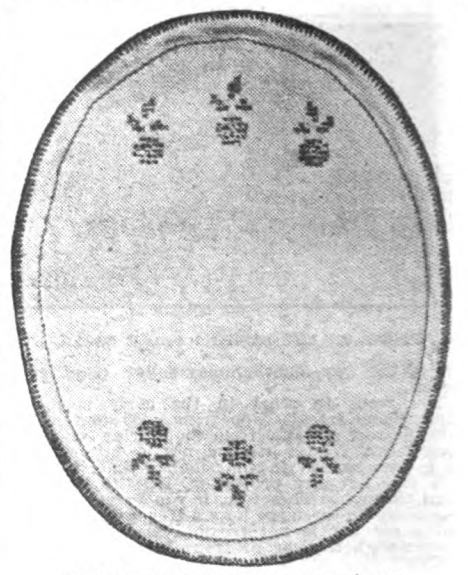
Ch. 6, join in ring.

1st round.—21 s. c. in ring.

2nd round.—Ch. 5, 1 s. c. in 3rd st., repeat making 7 chs. 5 in all.

3rd round.—Ch. 4, 4 s. c. under ch. 5, repeat all around.

4th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c., under first ch. 4, 1 s. c. on each of 3 s. c. or 5 singles in all. Ch. 4,



CROSS-STITCHED HOT PLATE MAT.

5 singles worked in the same. Repeat 5 times.

5th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch. 4, 4 s. c. on 4 s. c. as in last row. Repeat 6 times.

6th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch. 4, 5 s. c. on 5 s. c. Repeat given directions in each round.

7th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch. 4, 6 s. c. on 6 s. c. Repeat around.

8th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 7 s. c.
9th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 8 s. c.
10th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 9 s. c.
11th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 10 s. c.
12th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 11 s. c.
13th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 12 s. c.
14th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 13 s. c.
15th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 14 s. c.
16th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 15 s. c.
17th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 16 s. c.
18th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 17 s. c.
19th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 18 s. c.
20th round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 19 s. c.
21st round.—Ch. 4, 2 s. c. under ch., 20 s. c.

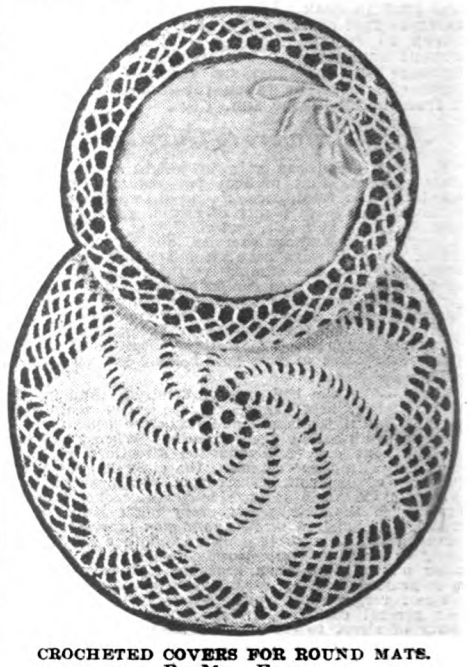
22nd round.—Ch. 4, 1 s. c. under ch. 4, ch. 4, skip 2 s. c., * 1 s. c. on each s. c. except the last, ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, skip 2 s. c. and so on, repeating from * all around.

23rd round.—Ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, sk. 2 s. c. * 1 s. c. on each s. c. except the last, 3 chs. of 4 and repeat from *.

24th round.—Ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, sk. 2 s. c., * 1 s. c. on each s. c. except the last 4 chs. of 4 and repeat from *.

25th round.—Ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, 1 s. c., ch. 4, sk. 2, s. c., in the beginning and 1 s. c. at end of row, repeat.

26th round.—6 chs. 4, with 1 s. c. between, sk. 2, first and the last s. c., repeat.



CROCHETED COVERS FOR ROUND MATS.
By Mrs. Foss.

27th round.—7 chs. 4, 4 s. c., repeat 6 times.
28th round.—8 chs. 4, 1 s. c., repeat 6 times.
29th round.—Chs. 4, 1 s. c. between.
30th round.—4 s. c. under each ch. 4.
31st round.—Chs. 4, 1 s. c. in every 4th. s. c.
32nd round.—Chs. 3, 1 s. c. under chs. 4.
33rd round.—Ch. 5, 1 d. c., ch. 3, 1 d. c., repeat under each ch. 3.

To make smaller mats simply begin to point of spokes of the wheel sooner as in 22nd row.

These mat covers can be made secure by running a crocheted cord in the last row, drawing up closely and tying.

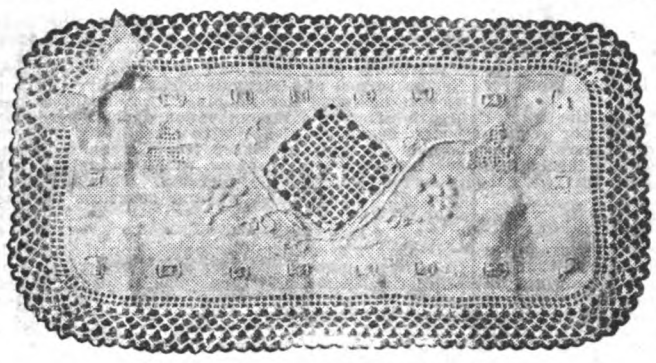
& Crochet=By Comfort Workers

Edited by Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Crocheted Trimmed Cushion Cover

BY GRACIA SHULL.

Pin cushions or cushion covers are always in order for what woman, unless she lives in the South Sea Islands, uses no pins? The cover here shown will surely delight any feminine heart who loves dainty personal belongings. Linen showing a bit of embroidery is made still more attractive and practical by the addition of the crocheted motif in the center. For this use rather fine cotton and work as follows: Ch. 36, turn and make 11 spaces, ch. 5, turn. Next 2 rows the same.



CROCHETED TRIMMED CUSHION COVER.

4th row.—5 sps., 5 d. c. in next sp. joining first and last d. c., to form a cluster, 5 sps.

5th row.—4 sps., 1 cluster, 1 sp., 1 cluster, 4 sps., ch. 5, turn.

6th row.—3 sps., 1 cluster, 3 sps., 1 cluster, 3 sps., ch. 5, turn.

Now a row like 5th, then one like 4th, 3 rows all sps.

Edge—2 clusters in corners separated by ch. 5, then cluster in every other space with ch. 5 between.

Edging—1 s. c. all around in edge of linen, then 2 rows of sps. making extra ones at the corners by making extra doubles. This gives the necessary fullness. Close the end of each round with a slip st.

3rd row.—Cluster in every other sp. with ch. 5 between.

4th row.—Ch. 6, 1 s. c. under each ch. 5.

5th row.—The same.

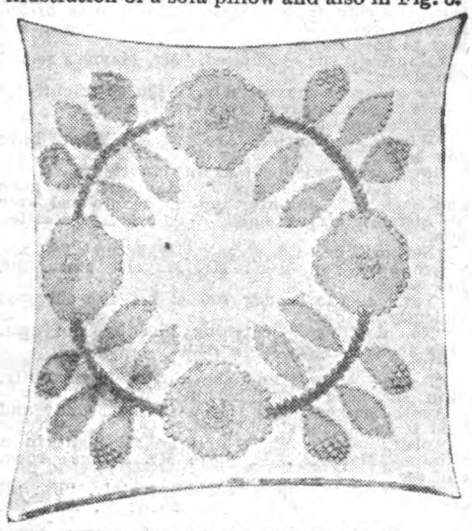
6th row.—Cluster under chs. with ch. 7, form picot, ch. 3, between each.

The front and back of such a cover as this can be laced together with ribbon making it a very easy to slip off to launder.

Cushion Covers

One can hardly be overstocked with a supply of sofa pillow covers for every-day use. These to be serviceable should be made of something substantial and also washable. A fairly coarse linen or crash combines these qualities and is also a material suitable for different sorts of embroidery.

To introduce a little color very attractively and rapidly any rather bold embroidery design, having well defined lines and fairly large spaces can be very easily worked out and a rather Japanese effect obtained, as shown in our illustration of a sofa pillow and also in Fig. 5.



APPLIQUE PATCH PILLOW COVER.

The possibilities of this sort of work are great and quite elaborate effects can be obtained with a minimum amount of work.

To prepare any suitable stamped piece of work to be embroidered in this way, simply draw horizontal lines about a quarter inch apart, across each leaf and flower. Usually the designs are worked out by combining several shades of one color. This gives a very pretty effect. Work each leaf or petal entirely of one shade.

Begin by couching down a thread on all the horizontal lines. Taking a stitch every half or three quarters of an inch with thread of the same shade. Draw all ends through and fasten down on the wrong side.

After these lines are finished with needle and thread, take short quarter inch stitches, below each horizontal line. These stitches should be quite near together, all as nearly the same length as possible and perfectly straight, or just at a right angle to the horizontal lines.

Crochet Edging on Pillow

This narrow edging which is suitable for scarfs, doilies, etc. is made as follows. Make chain the length desired. Turn, 6 s. c., ch. 3 for p., 4 s. c., ch. 12, 1 sl. st. in third single from end. Under ch. 12 work 3 s. c., ch. 3 for p., 7 s. c., ch. 3, 3 s. c., * 5 s. c. in original ch., 1 p., 4 s. c., ch. 12, sl. st. in second single from finished loop. Under ch. 12 work 3 s. c., 1 p., 4 s. c., ch. 12, turn, 1 s. c. in center finished loop. Turn, 4 s. c., 1 p., 2 s. c., 1 p., 2 s. c., 1 p., 2 s. c., 1 p., 4 s. c. Now under second ch. work 3 s. c., 1 p., 3 s. c. Repeat from *.

Applique Patchwork

Another of the recent practical novelties in needlework is the modern adaptation of patchwork as shown in our design on this page.

This square pillow cover is a good example of the effectiveness of this work.

The different motifs of a design are cut from linens or cambrics of color and then these outlines softened by French knots of coarse mercerized cotton.

In this design the large rose like motifs are of light rose linen the centers finished with a group of dark rose French knots surrounded with one row of a lighter shade of French knots, this same shade being used for the knots around the edge of the rose. The narrow circle is of dark green finished with knots of the same shade. All the leaves on the circle are of light green with French knots to match, excepting the two outside leaves of the group of three which are tipped with pink and then quite well covered with knots of the darker pink.



SIMPLE EMBROIDERY IN SHADES OF BLUE ON LINEN.

In doing this work, the various pieces should be cut out very carefully. Turn all edges in a quarter inch and arrange and paste in place. Finish by felling all edges down with thread to exactly match and then add the French knots.

Unbleached cotton finished with a border in bright colors of various animals, sunbonnet babies of simple outline in this applique work, is especially suitable for children's crib coverlets.

Simple New Designs in Tatting

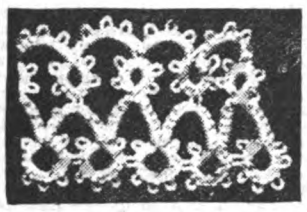
BY MRS. F. L. SMITH.

Of all the varieties of handwork which we see in the present craze for such decorations, the old-fashioned tatting bids fair to become the most popular. Perhaps this popularity is in a measure due to the fact that while tatting can be made quite as effective as embroidery, Irish crochet and like handmade trimmings, it is more easily learned and more rapidly made. The designs illustrated, which at first glance appear somewhat intricate, can be easily made by any one who has mastered the first steps in tatting—the single ring and picot.

Fig. 4. is a beading, or insertion having both sides alike. The spool is used in making the three leaves of the clover leaf and the spool and shuttle are used for the bar. First make a cloverleaf in which the first and third rings or leaves have 7 picots with 2 d. s. between, and center rings has 9 picots with 2 d. s. between. The shuttle is used in making the clover leaf. Make a clover leaf, then a bar followed by another clover leaf in opposite direction. With spool and shuttle make a horizontal bar of 9 d. s. followed by another clover leaf. Proceed in this way until the desired length is completed.

Tatted Beading

This beading is made in two rows. First, make a ring of 7 p. with 2 d. s. between each picot. Then with spool and shuttle make 6 d. s. With shuttle make 5 picoted ring with 2 d. s. between each picot. With spool and shuttle make 6 more double stitches. Now make a 7 picoted ring and join it to the ring first made at the second picot.



TATTED BEADING.

With spool and shuttle make a scallop of 12 d. s. with a p. in the middle of scallop.

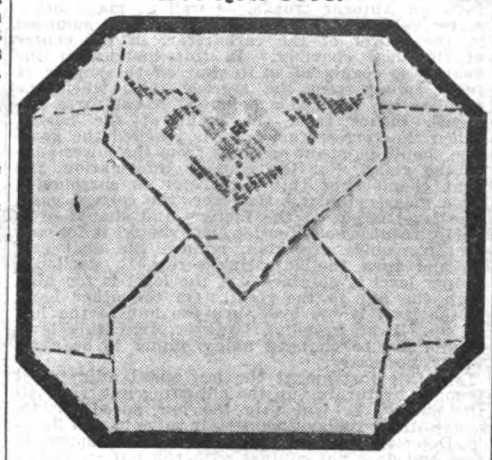
Proceed as in the beginning, alternating a ring and a scallop.

The upper row alternates something as the lower. The thread is fastened to the third picot of the ring, and a 3 p. scallop is made, then make a 5 p. ring, and join to the picot of the scallop in the first row. Make a 4 p. scallop. Fasten the thread to the third p. of the next ring of the first row.

Pointed Medallion

One 7 p. ring, with shuttle and spool 3 p. chain of scallop, with shuttle 1 ring of 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 3 p. ch., 7 p. ring, join to first ring, repeat, making 6 rings and 6 points.

Hot Roll Cover

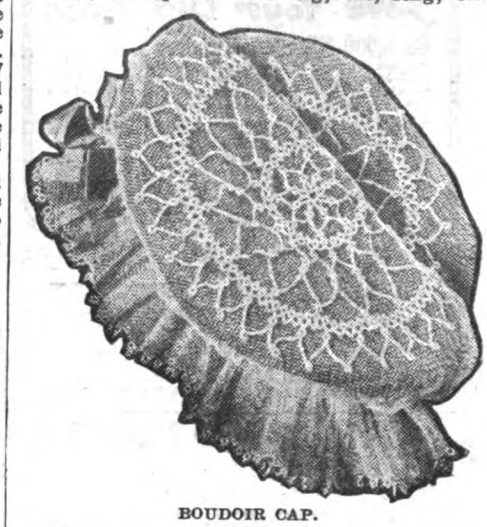


FOR HOT ROLLS. FIG. 5.

Work the same style of embroidery as is shown on sofa pillow. If simple designs are chosen for this kind of embroidery one can achieve just the right proportion of color to make many bits of household linen distinctive.

Boudoir Cap

For the tatted top which is afterwards appliqued to the net begin with center ring of 7 p. with 3 d. s. between, close, with spool and shuttle, ch. 5 d. s., with shuttle along small ring, 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat twice, 2 d. s., close, ch 5 d. s., join to p. of center ring, ch., ring, ch.,



BOUDOIR CAP.

join to next p., repeat around, making 8 points in all. Join and break thread. Join thread to center p. of a ring, ch. 9 d. s., small ring same as in last round, ch., repeat all around, join and break thread.

With shuttle make ring 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., join to center p. of ring in last round, 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., ch. 3 d. s., 1 p., 3 d. s., 1 ring of 3 p., joining to last ring, ch. 6 d. s., 1 ring, ch. 6 d. s. with 1 p., repeat all around making every other ch. with a p. and joining every fifth ring to ring in last round. Finish by joining to first ring made and break thread.

4th round.—One 3 p. ring, joining second p. to p. of ch. in last row, ch. 9 d. s., 3 p. ring, ch., ring, join to p. of ch. in last row, ch., ring, repeat all around, join and break thread.

5th round.—3 p. ring, joining to center of ring in last row, ch. 18 d. s. ring, ch., ring joined to rings of last row, repeat, join and break thread.

6th round.—Same as third. Rings 3 p. and every 7th ring joined to ring of last row. Chs. 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., join and break thread.

7th round.—Same as 5th excepting chains are only 14 d. s. Join rings to every third ch. in last round.

Edge the frill with simple tatted rings, each 5 d. s., 1 p., 5 d. s., close. Run in elastic and finish with twist of ribbon and full bow in front.

Tatted Edging

This edging is pretty for scarfs, towels, doilies or for any purpose where one wants a little more than the simplest tatted edge.

A shuttle and spool is required for this pattern, with shuttle make 7 p. ring, with spool and shuttle 7 p. scallop, repeat, making rings and scallops alternately, until 6 rings are complete. Join all rings together by picots on either side of the center p. of each ring. After sixth ring, 1 scallop then 7 p. ring, join to center p. of last scallop, 1 scallop, repeat pattern.



TATTED EDGING.

Tatted Medallion

After completing sixth ring in above edging, make scallop and join to first ring. Insertion may be made by joining medallions.



FOUR-LEAF CLOVER DESIGN.

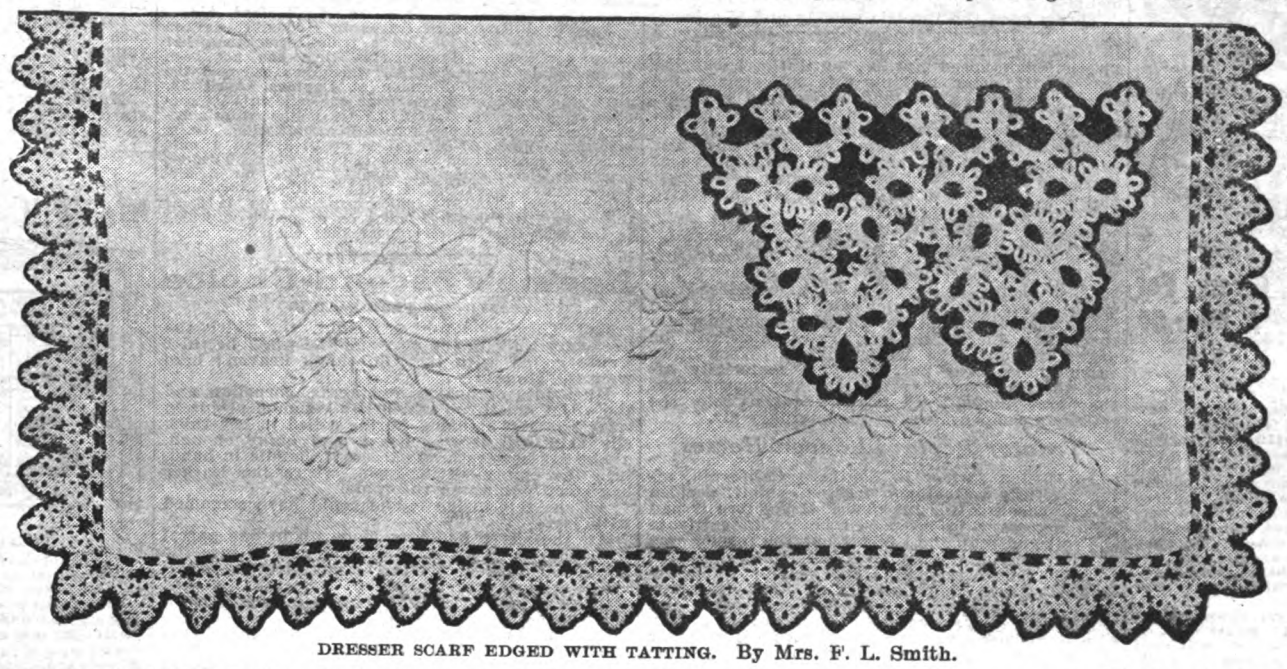
Four-leaf clover designs in very fine thread make a dainty and beautiful trimming for handkerchiefs. The directions for making are as follows: Make each ring with 7 p. with 2 d. s. between each p. and joined together closely at the base of each ring, and at the first picot of each ring. An unbroken thread as long as the strip of tatting, if possible, is carried along on the back of the tatting. This insures even, firm work.

Dresser Scarf

The scarf edged with tatted vandyke points gives one at the first glance the impression of being a much more elaborate and complicated pattern than it really is. The handsome effect being quite easily obtained by working the points first and then adding the top row of rings and scallops.

Begin the points with a 7 p. ring, another 7 p. ring close to the first in opposite direction. A 3 p. scallop, another 7 p. ring joined to the second ring made at the third p. Make a 7 p. ring opposite the last followed by a 3 p. scallop. A clover leaf of two 7 p. rings and one 9 p. ring forms the point. Finish as commenced after the clover leaf is made. Only in reverse order.

Border the points with one row made with spool and shuttle, thus; make a 3 p. ring, followed by 3 p. scallop joined to the top rings of the points at the second picots of the scallops.



DRESSER SCARF EDGED WITH TATTING. By Mrs. F. L. Smith.



Save Your Old Tires

Get 5,000 Miles More Service by "half-soling" them with Steel Studded Treads the same as European Motorists have been doing for over three years. 80,000 American Motorists have done this in the last 8 months and are saving $50.00 to $200 a year in tire expense.

5,000 Miles Without Puncture is the signed guarantee you get with every Durable Steel Studded Tread.

We Deliver Free without a cent deposit, prepay express and allow you to judge.

Special Discount offered to motorists in new territory on first shipment direct from the factory. Mail the coupon below for details. Be sure and put in your tire sizes.

MAIL TODAY—SAVE THE DISCOUNT
The Colorado Tire & Leather Co.
330 Tread Bldg., Denver, Colorado. C-90 Transportation Bldg., Chicago, Ill. 720-903 Woolworth Bldg., New York City.
Without obligation send me free catalog, copy of guarantee, sample and booklet "10,000 Miles on One Set of Tires."
Name .....
Address .....
My Tire Sizes are .....



GET MY PRICES

I can ship at once any size or style WITTE High-Grade Engine—2 to 22 H-P.—Kerosene or Gasoline—Stationary, Portable or Saw-Rig—ready to run—Guaranteed 5 Years. You don't have to wait 6 to 8 weeks for a WITTE. You save $25 to $100. Choice of engines—Cash or Easy Payments. My Free Book "How To Judge Engines," by return mail.—Ed. H. Witte, Pres.

ED. H. WITTE



WITTE ENGINE WORKS,
3641 Oakland Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
3641 Empire Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.



MAKE YOUR BIKE A MOTORCYCLE

at a small cost by using our Attachable outfit. FITS ANY BICYCLE. Easily attached. No special tools required. Write today for bargain list and free book describing the SHAW Bicycle Motor Attachment. Motorcycles, all makes, new and second-hand, $25 and up.

FREE BOOK

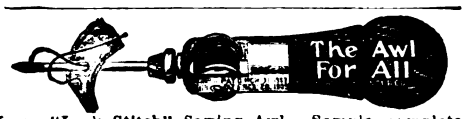
SHAW MANUFACTURING CO.
Dept. 16, Galesburg, Kansas.

Get This Car



And The AGENCY For Your Territory

Drive a new 1917 Model Birch Motor Car. Pay for it out of your commissions and make big money on sales. Special offer now. Write quick for Big Free Book and full information. Address Ralph Birchard, Pres.
BIRCH MOTOR CARS, Dept. 324 81 E. Madison St., Chicago



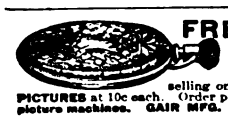
Myers "Lock Stitch" Sewing Awl. Sample complete $1.00. Low price to agents. C. A. Myers Company, 6334 University Ave., Chicago, Ills., U. S. A.

AGENTS If you make less than $1200 a year, you should get in touch with us, the largest manufacturers of transparent handled Knives and Razors in U. S. and we will show you how to make more. Special outfit offer.



$100 a Month Sure

NOVELTY CUTLERY CO., 76 Bar St., CANTON, OHIO



FREE WATCH AND RING
Lady or Gent Thin Model
10 YEAR GUARANTEE
Many other valuable prizes for selling only 25 beautiful Art and Religious PICTURES at 10c each. Order pictures at once. We give moving picture machines. GAIR MFG. CO. Dept. 301 CHICAGO, ILL.

MEN WANTED



We positively teach you at home by mail to earn $25 to $50 weekly as Chauffeur or Repairman. Students assisted to positions. Best system, lowest price. Models Furnished. Write for Free Book. PRACTICAL AUTO SCHOOL, 70-F, Beaver St., New York.

Hudson Silk Underskirt

"Fit-Top" Model

Prem. No. 7246



Your Choice Of Green, Blue Or Black

Given For A Club Of Six

THE stylish petticoat pictured above is one of the new exclusive "fit-top" models having a patent adjustable top that will fit **without alteration** the various waist sizes resulting in **a snug and perfect fit over the hips.** It is the latest "flaring" style, extremely well made of a splendid good wearing quality of "Hudson" silk having a **beautiful soft lustrous finish.** The deep flounce is trimmed with four pinch tucks and two narrow ruffles which give just the desired finish to this smartly styled petticoat. All seams are double stitched. It comes in sizes **34 to 44 inclusive** and three of the season's most popular colors—**green, blue and black. When ordering be sure to mention size and color wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each or three three-year subscriptions at 50c each we will send you one of these fashionable "fit-top" Hudson silk petticoats free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention size and color wanted. Premium No. 7246.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

More About Carburetors

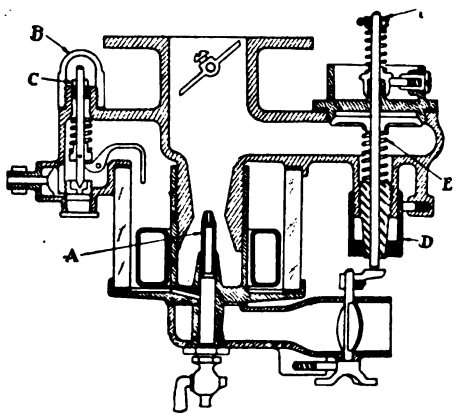
ALTHOUGH it was pointed out in the previous article that the principle of carburetion is comparatively simple, the construction of a successful carburetor is not the simple problem one is apt to imagine. If the motor ran at a certain speed at all times the problem would be comparatively easy. However such is not the case. At times the motor may be required to run at approximately 200 revolutions per minute while at other times, 2,000 or more revolutions. Since all air is drawn through the carburetor by the vacuum created by the pistons, it is obvious that the amount of air drawn through the carburetor is reliant upon the speed of piston travel. If this is the condition the reader is apt to think that as more air is drawn through the carburetor at high engine speeds, the amount of gasoline picked up will be proportionate thus resulting in an ideal condition. However, this theory is contrary to the law of liquid bodies.

The exact condition is that the flow of fuel from the jet increases under suction faster than the flow of air. Therefore if some provision were not made to offset this condition, a mixture entirely too rich for proper motor operation would be the result. A number of carburetor designers allow for this condition by using an auxiliary air valve.

To obtain full power it is necessary that when the gasoline is vaporized it be mixed with the proper amount of air. If mixed with too little air, there will not be sufficient oxygen to burn the carbon and hydrogen in the fuel. The result is that most of the fuel is wasted as will be indicated by the black smoke emitted from the exhaust. On the other hand if too much air is used, the mixture will be lacking in the real fuel and the result will be a slow burning mixture. Either a lean or too rich mixture is often evidenced by back-firing through the carburetor. Therefore it is well to keep in mind that it is of paramount importance that the proper proportions of gasoline and air be mixed so as to meet the varying conditions of speed, load, temperature and power.

Stromberg Type B

The best advice that can be given to the motorist is to leave the carburetor alone and endeavor to forget that there is any such instrument installed on his car. However, there are exceptions to this rule, there being times when it is necessary to make adjustment. The first make of carburetor to enter the discussion is the



STROMBERG TYPE B CARBURETOR

Stromberg Type B, which is used very successfully on Autocar trucks, as well as many other motor vehicles. The spray nozzle, A, is mounted in the center of the carburetor, in the center of the float chamber. In this instrument the float is so regulated as to shut off the supply of fuel coming from the storage tank when the gasoline has reached a height of about three sixteenth inches from the point of the nozzle. When the correct fuel level is reached the gasoline should be about one inch from the lower edge of the glass. For the reader's information, the float chamber of this carburetor is surrounded by a glass cylinder. However, the correct gasoline level is set at the factory and should ordinarily require no attention, but should it for any reason require attention, remove the dust cap, B, and turn the adjusting screw, C, until the proper level is obtained. If the level is too high turn the nut to the right. On the other hand if the level is too low, turn the nut to the left or up. Bear in mind, however, that this level should not be changed unless found to be absolutely necessary.

On this instrument the low speed adjustment is made by turning up the adjusting nut, D, until the spring, E, which is the low speed spring, causes the auxiliary poppet air valve to seat lightly. Determine that the high speed or top spring is free and does not contact with the nut on top of the auxiliary air valve stem. Next start the the motor and with the throttle closed, turn the nut, D, in either direction until the motor idles smoothly. This is the low speed adjustment.

Throw open the throttle quickly and if a backfire occurs through the carburetor, the mixture is too lean and should be remedied by turning up the high speed nut, F, until the backfiring ceases. If after making this adjustment the motor seems to have a tendency to load or choke, the mixture is too rich and the nut, F, should be turned down until the proper adjustment is obtained. This is the high speed setting. The spring controlled by the nut, F, should have at least one thirty-second inch clearance between it and the top of nut on the auxiliary air valve stem when the motor is at rest.

Before attempting to adjust any carburetor, regardless of its make, be certain that each cylinder is developing high compression, the valve lifters are not too closely set up, and that a hot spark is being delivered in each cylinder. Also carefully examine the inlet valve guides. If these show wear it cannot be hoped to smoothly idle the motor due to the extra air which will be drawn through the worn guides. Worn inlet valve guides will not, however, materially affect the high speed setting for the reason that the large amount of mixture taken into the cylinders compensates for the auxiliary air.

Tractor Replaced Seven Horses

In 1915 a farmer in Southern California, after carefully watching a tractor exhibit, decided to purchase one for his place. Heretofore it had been necessary to use seven horses to cultivate the soil and reap the harvest but the farmer was readily convinced that with the tractor, horses were no longer required. This tractor which developed seven horse-power at the draw-bar, for plowing, harrowing, seeding, cultivating and similar uses was operated for a nine-hour day at a total operating expense, exclusive of operator of two dollars. It was found that this tractor ploughed deeper and turned over more land in one day than was possible with the seven horses. During the idle season it was readily discovered that the tractor was suitable for other varieties of work. It was used as a stationary engine, developing 20 horse-power at the belt. From seven o'clock in the morning until noon, 31 tons of bean straw was baled. On the best farms it was found that the tractor was adapted to pumping, threshing, baling and other kinds of work too numerous to mention.

The farmers soon recognized that the tractor did not stop for heat or cold, did not require hours of careful attention as did horses at the end of the day, was economical on lubricating oil and could be run for one hour on two gallons of gasoline.

Overhaul Pays

The motorist who is running his car for a second season has no doubt discovered that an overhaul on a small scale or at least a rigid inspection of the mechanical parts at this time of year will stand between large repair bills and spoiled pleasure later on. Start with the motor and take in the details of the car as the work progresses. Scrape or have burned by the oxygen method all carbon from the pistons and combustion chambers. Remove all lubricant from the crankcase, transmission, rear axle, etc., and subject the cases and working parts to a good cleaning with kerosene. Test the bearings for looseness and if necessary take up all play by adjustment. The instruction book usually incorporates specific directions for doing this work. Go over every nut with a large wrench to make sure that they are well drawn up. Next bear in mind that the recognized common cause of the premature failure of automobiles is the lack of lubrication. A number of places which must be lubricated by the operator are not visible and it is therefore imperative that the manufacturer's oiling chart be carefully followed. There is usually an oiling chart incorporated in the regular instruction book while in some instances the maker furnishes a large wall chart showing the particular points which must be given attention. Every motor car company maintains a Service Department whose business it is to cooperate with the owner in the maintenance and care of the car. If in doubt write to this department requesting instructions concerning the lubricating of the car. In a number of instances the manufacturer recommends special brands of lubricants for the motor, transmission, rear axle, etc. More damage may be done to an unlubricated car in a single trip than would be the case in several seasons of legitimate use. Besides this there will be less repair bills and added enjoyment.

New Hold-Up Method

Highwaymen are employing a new trick to hold up occupants of motor cars. The trick consists of placing a tire in the middle of the road and as can naturally be expected a driver who happens to pass that way and sees the tire believes that the same has been dropped by some motorist who had previously travelled the route. However as the driver stops his car to pick up the tire the highwaymen emerge from their hiding place and with levelled guns demand that the occupants of the car give up their valuables. This trick is practised mostly at night and on country highways.

Precaution Against Theft

Stealing of automobiles is becoming common practise especially in the larger cities. It is obvious therefore that a car, especially if it be a new one, should not be left unattended for long periods. As a matter of quick reference to assist in identification and tracing the owner should keep a record of the engine number, chassis number, and all other minor peculiarities. There are now on the market, varying in price, several types of locking devices, which although they do not afford infallible protection against the expert thief, are of considerable value as a safeguard. The thief usually likes to make a quick get away. If he is compelled to fathom a locking device before the car can be placed in operation he will usually abandon the job for fear of being caught in the act.

Heed This Precaution

The small boy is a natural pest to the average motorist. The average American youth is mechanically inclined and enjoys nothing better than to tamper with the various parts of the automobile in the absence of the owner. One of the most serious of the tampering stunts is to release the emergency brake. If the car is left standing on an incline the steering gear should be left so as to direct the car to the curb or bank. Some motorists make doubly sure that no such accident will occur by placing the gear shifting lever in the reverse position. The reverse gear is the one of lowest ratio and therefore offers more resistance to the propulsion of the vehicle than any other. If the motorist will bear this suggestion in mind there will be little danger that should the small boy release the emergency lever of the car making a wild run down hill until it is brought to an abrupt stop by some soldid object.

Questions Answered

SPEED RECORDS.—Which is the speedier machine, the automobile or the motorcycle? What is the greatest speed attained by each respectively?

J. A. T., Bedford, Ala.

A.—The Blitzen Benz driven by Teddy Tetzlaf on the Salt Beds in Utah did a trifle better than 144 miles per hour. However his time has not been recognized by the A. A. A., which has endorsed the time made by Bob Burman at Daytona, April 23, 1911 who drove a Blitzen Benz one mile in 25.4 seconds, making a speed of 140.9. It is the editor's belief that Tetzlaf drove for only a half mile. On a motorcycle John A. McNeal is credited with a mile in 35.4 seconds which is a little better than 100 miles per hour, he driving at Omaha, Nebr., for a distance of a mile on Oct. 4, 1914. Aitken drove at a little better than 104 miles per hour in 1916 at Sheepshead Bay for 305 miles on a speedway, which is the best time on record for that class.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

erals! They would give weight, the skirt the necessary bulk to the bag, and the would-be thief would go off with it. Oh, thank heaven! here were the stones!

Huge bits of quartz and agate, cornelian and the uncut amethyst, which is a common pebble in some parts of Canada. Nerine rolled in her thick silk skirt till it was heavy and bulky enough.

She set her teeth as she crept, bundle in hand, into the empty sitting-room, where the leather bag stood gaping on the table.

As she felt inside it she could have screamed with joy.

All the silver had been done up in one parcel with paper and string. She had not to face the impossible task of getting it out piece by piece.

She had it out in a few moments and the stones and silk in; but there was no more brown paper to go over the top.

The telltale purple-and-black brocade flared consciously in the lamplight.

"Oh! there was a piece under the table. It would do, but the silver must be put out of reach first.

With incredible quickness and noiselessness Nerine flew back into her mother's room, where the cold, sooty draught from the open fireplace had given her an inspiration.

She shoved her precious bundle out of sight up the chimney and glided softly back to cover up the betraying brocade. She thrust the brown paper down hard and firm till it looked exactly as it had before the silver was abstracted. How lucky that she had thought of the skirt! The stones would never have done without it.

Both hands in the bag, leaning over it, she looked precisely as though she were feeling what its contents might be; and she forgot for a minute that great haste was needed. In another instant she would be gone; another push to a recalcitrant stone would make it safer. She was bending absorbedly over the bag and peering into it.

Something wet and cold and stifling came suddenly across her face, jerking her head back with a sickening shock.

With a scream, born half of fear, half of rage, Nerine turned and struggled frantically, and her scream hastened her undoing. As she drew her breath after it a strong vapor choked her; her heart began to leap with dreadfully uneven bounds she could not keep from screaming without her own volition now. Wild and shrill her voice rose, inarticulate, piercing. Then her head dropped. She fell silent and senseless on the floor.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

It always seemed to Nerine that on that dreadful afternoon she dreamed a series of strange and fantastic dreams, and then came suddenly out of them, to find herself lying on the floor—alone and in the dark.

She felt dizzy and very cold. As she tried to sit up, her teeth chattered and a deadly feeling of sickness conquered her. She sank on the floor again, but she was awake—the dreadful dreams were gone.

After a minute she propped her head on her hand and looked hard into the darkness that surrounded her. The room was empty. She felt sure it was; and a cold draught was blowing on her. If she did not get out of that icy wind (which she owed her life, had she known it) she would shiver herself into pieces!

Holding fast to the table, the girl scrambled up. In all her faintness her first thought was of the silver. The bag was gone! Then the woman could not have suspected the change or stopped to look.

Nerine gave a feeble little giggle of triumph. She had got into this trouble to some purpose, after all!

It took her an interminable time to get into the other room and undo the door into the corridor. She did not dare now to drop out of that open window into the dark; someone might be waiting for her outside.

When the door was opened, and a faint gleam of comforting lamplight could be seen at the far end of the passage, she felt braver and better.

She got her sooty treasure out of the chimney with a hard tug or two, and with it clasped in her arms went out into the passage. She reeled as she made her slow way along it. But she must get to the others—must above all things get to the fire! There was a deathly coldness creeping on her again.

In the morning-room (hospitably far off still) the tea party was over.

Five o'clock had struck, and six o'clock; Agatha had cut the cake, while Kit had devoured the taffy Nerine had brought her, inquiring carelessly for her the while. Agatha said she must be dressing.

At half past six Satterlee bade good by, and Agatha, with rather a guilty feeling, began really to wonder what could have become of Nerine. She ran up-stairs to see, but Nerine was not there.

She must have gone out again," Maurice said, when his elder sister returned breathless.

"Ask Jane," Kit recommended from where she sat with her little feet on the hearth. "I suspect she is in the kitchen having her clothes dried."

"She must have forgotten about the cake, then." Maurice was politely cynical. "Get along, Agatha, and see."

But as Agatha's hand was on the door it opened from the outside. Nerine—staggering, skirtless, her face both dirty and ghasty—was among them, bearing in her arms an enormous brown bundle, which she let fall as she groped her way to the nearest chair.

"Maurice," she ejaculated. "Mr. Mayne's room! our silver!"

She shivered convulsively. "I'm so frightfully —*cold!*" she muttered.

Agatha sprang toward her.

"What's the matter? Are you ill? Where have you been?"

But Nerine was past saying anything.

"I'll get some brandy!" Maurice was gone and back in a minute, and as he stooped over his sister a strong smell of chloroform startled him.

"Nerine!" he said, sternly, "wake up! Tell me, where have you been? Mr. Mayne's room, did you say?"

"Yes," as the brandy roused her she shivered violently.

"No, don't go," catching him by the arm. "It's too long ago. She's gone."

"Who's gone?"

"I don't know," and she giggled hysterically. "But she hasn't got anything, after all."

Agatha mixed hot water with the brandy and held it to Nerine's cold lips.

"Wait," she said; "you'll be all right in a minute. Maurice, you go to Mr. Mayne's room and see."

"No! no!" Nerine cried, desperately. "I'm all right now. I can tell you about it. And the silver is all right!"

"I must go," Maurice said, half roughly. "The house must have been robbed. Don't you see she has been chloroformed?"

Nerine, lying in the chair, held tightly by his sleeve.

"Maurice, it's all right," she said, earnestly. "The doors were all locked, and the woman had gone when I came to myself. I'll tell you everything in a minute."

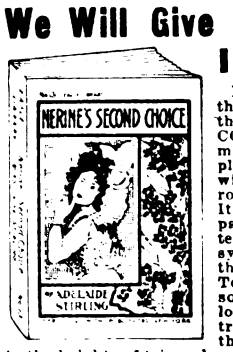
"Where's the skirt of your dress?" Kit's voice rose suddenly in horrified surprise. "You're in your petticoat! And where are your shoes?"

"I don't know. My skirt has gone instead of the silver. The silver is in the bundle!"

Maurice tore open the brown-paper parcel and stared as the Dispenard possessions rolled one by one on the floor.

TO BE CONTINUED.

We Will Give You This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling romance by Adelaide Sterling. It is a beautiful story having a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compels the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine. To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

We are sure our readers will enjoy this delightful story which will run as a serial in COMFORT through the remainder of the winter and the spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Woman's Intuition

By Hapsburg Liebe

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

WHEN David Rayne was twenty-four, he owned the controlling interest in a piano factory, and he had climbed to that position through his own efforts. It is not so strange. For generations the Raynes had been captains of the piano-making industry. Then there came adversity that even David Rayne could not overcome, and he went to the wall hard. But he didn't stay down long. Within two more years, he was in a fair way to own the controlling interest in another piano factory.

And now he was about to go down again, and it was all because of the same shrewd and overwhelming forces that had driven him to the wall before. These forces were in the hands of rich old Theodore Hart, a rival piano manufacturer, and they were built on a foundation of vengeance rather than cold-blooded business. Theodore Hart had ruined David Rayne's father and thereby sent him to his death. Still Theodore Hart wasn't satisfied.

David Rayne went to his apartments two hours before the closing of his offices, and changed his business suit for clothing more comfortable. It is warm in New Orleans in June. Then he set out for a fashionable residence section to see Isobel Corinth, his fiancee. He found her in a lawn swing under the magnolias, and sitting opposite her was old Theodore Hart's nephew Albert. The Harts lived next door, in a palace of white brick and granite.

Rayne saw that Isobel was bored. He held back an inclination to wring Hart's neck, bowed and spoke to Isobel.

"Glad you came, David," smiled Isobel. "Sit down."

She moved over, and he sat down beside her. Hart frowned, muttered something that stamped him as a person of bad manners, found his hat and went home.

"Glad he's gone, David," said Isobel. "I tolerate him only because I want to keep peace here at home. He will inherit all his uncle's wealth, and they want me to break off with you and marry him, since your affairs are—er, in bad shape. But I shan't, David. I'd rather marry a goat. His brain would rattle inside a mustard seed. Now, David, honey, I know what you came here to say, and you needn't say it!"

Rayne's sober gray eyes lighted.

"What did I come here to say?"

"This: 'In view of the fact that I seem to be going broke again, Miss Corinth, I feel in honor bound to offer you your liberty.' what you came here to say. I don't want my liberty, David, dear. I'd let you kiss me, if mother wasn't watching us from an up-stairs window. Please act very stiff, Mr. Rayne!"

"But the rows I will have to hoe would be pretty tough for you to share," muttered Rayne. "I'll have to build up all over again, you know—perhaps I'll have to build up all over again several times, Isobel."

"I'll help you," declared Isobel. "Tell me, how does old Hart do it?"

"In every way you can think of. By fair means and by foul means, but always within the law. For instance, he almost duplicates all our patterns, and he sells the instruments for less than it costs to build them. He's worth twenty times what we're worth, and he can afford it, you see. He caused my father's death, and that was the cause of my mother's death, and now he's hounding me. You don't know why? My mother married my father instead of him—that's why!"

"And that's why he never married," murmured Isobel.

"It may be," thoughtfully. "But that didn't make him wicked; it merely brought out the wickedness that was already in him."

Mrs. Corinth came out. She sat down opposite Rayne and his fiancee, chatted gaily for a few minutes, then suggested that her daughter attend to certain pressing little duties. Isobel gave Rayne a glance that was full of meaning, and went to the house. When she had disappeared, Mrs. Corinth turned to Rayne.

"I am sorry, indeed, to hear of your misfortunes," she said. She had heard of them through Albert Hart. "And I am sorry," she went on, "that I must tell you that your engagement with Isobel is at an end. You will understand, I am sure. Isobel is our only child; we want her to marry a man who can give her what she's always had. I hope you understand, Mr. Rayne."

"Perfectly," said Rayne, and he rose and walked away without another word.

He did not look back until he had reached the street, and then he saw Isobel standing on the old-fashioned second-story veranda. Isobel threw him a kiss.

As he was about to pass the Hart residence, Albert Hart hailed him from the lawn.

"Looks like somebody'd handed you a black eye!" laughed Hart.

It turned Rayne's blood to fire. A few quick steps took him to a position two yards from Hart. Then he lunged forward and drove his fist to Hart's pink-and-white face.

"Yes, and misery loves company," he growled as he turned toward the street.

Isobel Corinth saw it. She clapped her hands. Hart picked himself up and went toward his uncle's palace of white brick and granite with one hand over a fast-blackening eye.

The crash came, and David Rayne had nothing left. Most of his influential friends deserted him. He was no longer a good fellow at his club. Invitations to dinners and receptions and balls no longer came to him. When he tried to interest capital in the starting of another business, he found that Theodore Hart had placed insurmountable barriers in his way. When he tried to find a position as superintendent of a furniture factory, Hart's hand kept him from it. His healthy brain became sick because of the succeeding disappointments, and he began to lie awake at nights in his cheap bed in a cheap lodging-house and dream dreams of avengement. Finally he decided that he would whip old Theodore Hart as man never was whipped before. Then he decided that he would kill old Theodore Hart. Had not Hart brought about the death of his father and his mother?

But his better self revolted at the idea of killing a man. He put that idea aside. However, he would whip Hart, old as he was, as man never was whipped before. He left his room at dusk, with his coat buttoned to his chin and the rim of his soft black hat drawn low. Half an hour's walking brought him to the palace of white brick and granite, every window of which was lighted.

David Rayne stole across the broad veranda with the steps of a thief, and peered in at the open library window. He saw Theodore Hart sitting at the heavy oaken table; Hart's forearms were crossed on the table, and his iron-gray head lay on his forearms; evidently he was asleep. Rayne went to the front door, opened the screen soundlessly, and soundlessly stole into the library. He seized one of Hart's shoulders and shook him roughly to awaken him. Hart's head turned so that he saw one side of his face—then Rayne stepped back with a startled cry.

Theodore Hart was dead!

David Rayne stood there for a full minute, wondering, wondering. It did not occur to him that his presence there would be exceedingly damaging evidence against him. When he came to himself, young Albert Hart and the butler each had him by an arm. Rayne struggled like a madman to free himself, to no avail. He was stronger than either of them, but he was no match for both of them. The servants hurried in, and one of them went to telephone for the police. Another ran for a physician that lived a few doors away.

The neighbors began to gather, and among them were the Corinths. Isobel, pale and tremulous, walked straight up to David Rayne.

"You didn't do it, did you, David?" she asked.

"No, I didn't do it," answered the white-faced Rayne.

"Don't worry," she whispered to him. "I won't desert you, even if everybody else does. I don't know why you came here, but I know you didn't come to kill a man."

"Isobel!" reproved Mrs. Corinth. Albert would come into his inheritance soon.

"Well, mother?" said Isobel, defiantly.

"You'd better go home, I think."

Isobel gave Rayne a parting glance, turned and left the house. Isobel's father walked up to Albert Hart.

"How did he do it?"

Just then the doctor entered, and Hart didn't answer. The doctor made examinations and found the mark of a blow on the old piano manufacturer's forehead.

"He was struck with some heavy object," said the doctor, wisely.

The police came, and took David Rayne away.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

Isobel Corinth slept none that night. The next morning she rose before her mother was awake, and went to see David. He, too, had spent a sleepless night. He was haggard, and his gray eyes told her plainly that he was without hope.

"This is no place for you, Isobel," he said gloomily.

"It's no place for you, either," said Isobel, with a pale smile. "In this terrible accusation that stands against you, you are either the victim of circumstances, or you're the victim of some dark plot. I will see an attorney for you, and I will engage a private detective."

"It will avail nothing," muttered David.

She tried to encourage him, tried to put life into him, but her efforts fell short. When she left him, he was as despondent as he had been when she came. David Rayne had borne a heavy burden.

Isobel returned an hour later with an attorney and a private detective. To these Rayne gave a truthful account of all that had taken place. When the interview was over, and Isobel and her two allies were again on the street, Isobel asked the lawyer:

"What chance has he?"

"No jury would blame him very much, if he had killed Hart," answered the attorney, evasively. Juries, of course, cannot be governed by personal feeling.

Isobel went home, and heard her mother out. Mrs. Corinth was very angry. Unless Isobel ceased to be concerned about David Rayne's misfortunes, she would be locked in her room.

Two days later Isobel called her detective over the telephone.

"What have you found out?" she wanted to know.

The detective's voice came over the wire regretfully: "There's no hope for Rayne. There is not the least possible doubt that he killed Theodort Hart. Even Rayne's attorney thinks it. I have gone over the ground carefully, I assure you. Rayne will be lucky if he gets off with a sentence of twenty years in the state prison. I'm sorry to tell you this, Miss Corinth. But you'd better know the truth."

Miss Corinth hung up the receiver, went upstairs to her room, sat down and began to turn things over in her mind. She alone, of all the people that knew David Rayne, believed that he was innocent. There is nothing that is stronger, and there is nothing that is finer, than a woman's blind faith in the man she loves. If David went to the state prison for twenty years, Isobel told herself, she would wait for him. For that matter, if he went up for life, she would wait for him.

Mrs. Corinth entered the room.

"Are you still brooding over David Rayne's misfortunes?" she demanded coldly.

Isobel turned her sad face toward the window and made no answer.

"It's very foolish, my dear," said Mrs. Corinth. "Before long Albert Hart will propose marriage. You must not reject him. He is the wealthiest young man in New Orleans."

Still Isobel made no answer.

Time went on, and Albert Hart did propose. Isobel did not reject him. But she asked for a week in which to consider his proposal. She did that to keep peace at home for her.

Albert Hart's widowed mother had come to live in the palace next door, and Isobel's mother had often taken Isobel to see Mrs. Hart. When in the Harts' residence, Isobel had kept her eyes open for some sign that would give her hope for David. Always she watched for that. Nothing escaped her notice, and she weighed everything minutely. Of all the things that she saw and heard there was but one thing that seemed odd. And that was this: Albert Hart kept his eyes constantly on his butler; the butler was kept close; he had not had a single evening off since the death of his former master.

Isobel weighed that as minutely as she weighed everything else. There was a reason for it, of course. The butler, Higgins, was a loose-tongued, nervous fellow. Perhaps young Hart feared that Higgins, in an incautious moment, would let slip an inkling of some secret!

She was sure that was it.

Isobel confided her suspicions to neither Rayne's attorney nor the detective. Instead, she kept her own counsel. She thought long on ways and means by which to find out what it was that the butler knew. After a wholly sleepless night, she fell upon an idea that promised something. The idea soon became a plan that required two confidantes. Isobel employed them.

Mrs. Corinth was to spend the afternoon out, which exactly suited her daughter and her daughter's plan. When Mrs. Corinth had disappeared down the avenue, Isobel held a moment's conversation with her maid, then she went to the telephone and called Mrs. Hart.

"This is Miss Corinth," said Isobel. "Would you mind sending Higgins over with a late novel?"

"Certainly, my dear," said Mrs. Hart.

Higgins came immediately. Isobel met him at the door.

"Here is the book, Miss Corinth," said Higgins.

Isobel didn't take the novel. Her eyes were fastened on Higgins' face, and she appeared to be frightened.

"What's the matter?" she asked suddenly. "Are you ill?"

"Why—what?" Higgins muttered nervously.

"You're as white as a ghost!" said Isobel.

"White as a ghost!" repeated the butler. He was scared already.

"Yes," said Isobel. She caught him by an arm. "Let me help you into the house, and I'll call in a doctor!"

Higgins protested feebly. Isobel led him into the living-room, put him on a couch, and called her maid. The maid came hastily.

"Bring a glass of water——" began Isobel, when the maid interrupted:

"What's the matter with Mr. Higgins? Oh, he's so white!" She was one of Isobel's two confidantes. She hurried for a glass of water.

Higgins stared wide-eyed at Isobel. "I—I'm sick," he groaned. "I must have been p-poisoned!"

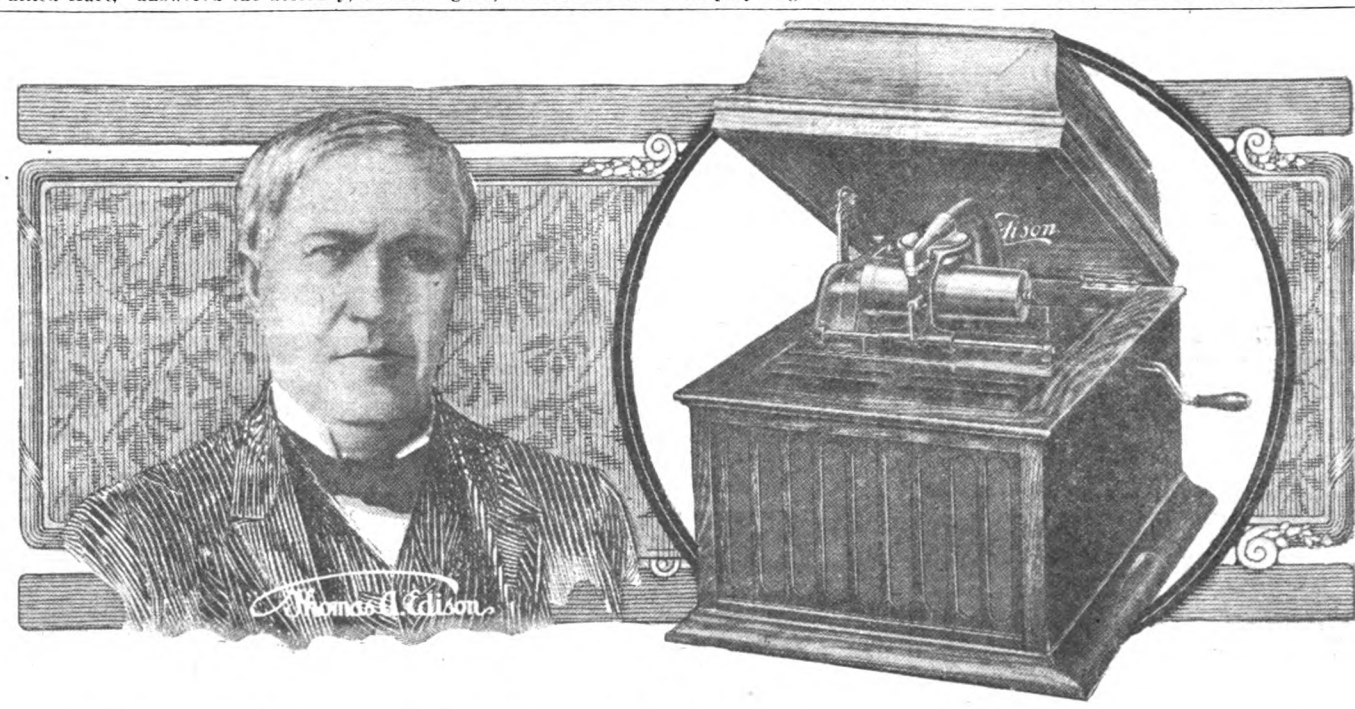
"Perhaps you were," agreed Isobel, as though sadly. "Lie very still, and I'll 'phone for a doctor."

She ran from the room. When she came back the maid was helping Higgins to the water.

"What's the matter, Miss Isobel?" asked the maid. "What makes him so white? Has he been poisoned?"

"I think so," murmured Isobel. "Oh," clasping her hands, "will the doctor never come!"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 38.)



Mr. Edison's Wonderful New Phonograph

Sent on Free Trial

Read the Coupon Below! An astounding offer—the New Edison, Mr. Edison's great new phonograph with the new Diamond Stylus reproducer, and twelve brand new Diamond Amberol Records sent to you on **absolutely free trial. Send no money**—just fill out the coupon below and send it to us at once. We will send you the complete outfit immediately. Entertain your family and friends with the latest song hits of the big cities. Laugh at the side-splitting minstrel shows. Hear anything from Grand Opera to Comic Vaudeville. Then, if you choose, send the whole outfit back to us **at our expense.**

Only $1.00 After Trial

If you wish to keep Mr. Edison's superb new instrument after the free trial, send us only $1.00. Pay the balance of $36 for the complete outfit in easy payments of only $3.50 a month.

Think of it—a $1.00 payment, and a few dollars a month to get this outfit of Mr. Edison's new phonograph with the Diamond Stylus reproducer, the life-like music—the same Diamond Amberol Records—all the musical results of the highest priced outfits. The *finest*, the *best* that money can buy at very much less than the price at which imitations of the Genuine New Edison are offered.

After years of labor on his favorite invention, Mr. Edison has made the music of the phonograph true to life. There is no reason, now—especially since we make this rock-bottom offer—why you should be satisfied with anything less than Mr. Edison's genuine instrument.

Send No Money — Just the Coupon



Convince yourself first. Get the New Edison in your home on free trial. See for yourself how much you *need* it in your life. See how much happier it will make your home. Just fill out the coupon and send it in. No money down, no C. O. D. You pay us nothing unless you keep the outfit. Send it back, if you wish, at our expense. Or pay only $1.00 after the trial, and $3.50 a month until you have paid $36.00. Send the coupon today.

F. K. Babson Edison Phonograph Distributors
3043 Edison Block, Chicago, Ill.
Canadian Office: 355 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

No obligation to buy in sending this coupon, this is just an application for a Free Trial

F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dists., 3043 Edison Block, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Babson:—As per your offer, I should like to hear Mr. Edison's wonderful new style phonograph with the new Diamond Stylus reproducer in my own home on free trial. Also send me twelve records. If I decide to keep the outfit, I will have the privilege of the rock-bottom price of $36.00 direct from you on your special terms. I merely agree to take the outfit promptly from the depot, pay the small freight or express charges, and if I do not find it thoroughly satisfactory, I reserve the right to return the outfit at once at your expense. Otherwise, I will send the first payment of $1.00 within forty-eight hours after the free trial or as soon as possible, in no case exceeding one week, and will make monthly payments thereafter of $3.50 for 10 months. The outfit is to remain your property until the last payment has been made.

My name.....My post office.....R. F. D. No.....State.....

Shipping point.....Ship by.....Occupation.....

Age.....Married or single.....If steadily employed at a salary please state.....

How long a resident in your neighborhood and your vicinity?.....If there is any possibility of changing your address during the next year, what will be your next address?.....

Daisy Water Pistol



Premium No. 7901

Given For One Subscription

THIS is the largest and most powerful water pistol on the market, manufactured by the Daisy Manufacturing Company, makers of the famous Daisy air rifle. In shape, size and appearance it looks exactly like a **.32 automatic "Colt"** having a regular full-size checkered butt and 5½ inch barrel with a handsome **blued steel** finish over all, and it squirts a solid stream of water **thirty feet or more** straight to the mark you aim it at. It works by **compressed air**—there are no rubber bulbs to wear out. To load the "Daisy" you simply pull the trigger back as far as it will go—hold it there—immerse the end of the barrel in water—then release the trigger slowly. To shoot it you give the trigger a quick pull just the same as you would a regular revolver. This liquid pistol serves two purposes—loaded with a weak solution of dilute aqua ammonia it is a **good protection against vicious dogs, tramps, burglars, etc.** Loaded with water it is perfectly harmless and the greatest **fun maker** out. Boys and girls can have literally **"barrels of fun"** with it by giving their friends **surprise shower baths** when they least expect them. We will send the Daisy Water Pistol free to any address upon the terms of either one of the following offers:

Offer No. 7901A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you the Daisy Water Pistol free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7901B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription to COMFORT for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you the Daisy Water Pistol free and prepaid. **Premium No. 7901. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Barking DOG



PREMIUM NO 7892

For A Club Of Two!

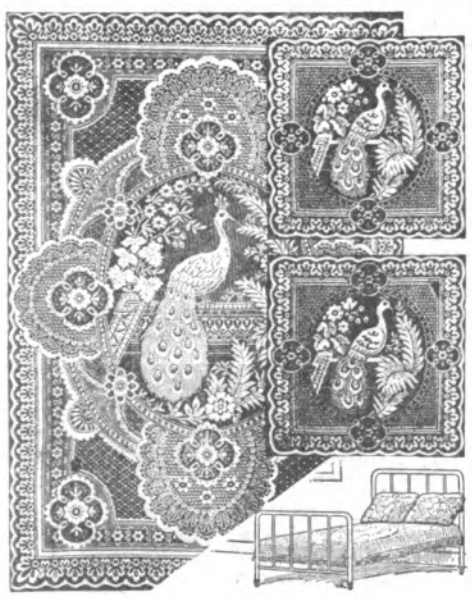
YOU simply press down on top of "doggy's" head and he **opens his mouth and barks right out loud.** And not only does he bark like a real dog but he **looks** like one. With his **alert sparkling eyes, long drooping ears, and upturned inquisitive nose** he is a perfect likeness of a cute little pup. In color he is pure white with brown spots. His body, head and legs are made of practically **indestructible** material covered with soft thick felt; the marvelous mechanism in the throat that produces the bark is so constructed that it will not easily get out of order.

These wonderful barking dogs come from **Japan** where they make some of the finest mechanical toys in the world. In spite of the war we managed to import a limited quantity of them and while they last we are going to send them **free** to COMFORT homes where there are little boys and girls. Doggy looks so lifelike and his sharp yelping bark sounds so natural we know he will surely delight the children more than anything else you could possibly get for them. We will send you this fine barking dog exactly as illustrated and described free npon the terms of the following special

Club Offer: For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this cute novelty, Barking Dog free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7892.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Three-Piece Lace Bed Set

Premium No. 5036



Yours Prepaid For A Club Of Six!

NEW PATTERNS in bed sets are constantly coming out but none has ever equalled in popularity this beautiful **peacock design** which is always desirable, extremely fashionable and something every good housewife is anxious to possess. The peacock on the spread is **very large and stately** with a graceful, natural spread of tail feathers and the same design, only smaller, appears in both shams, so that the complete set **matches perfectly** and presents a picture that is both beautiful and satisfying to look at. The spread is **full size,** measuring 85 inches long and 60 inches wide; the shams are each 28 x 32 inches, and the material is fine quality, pure white Nottingham lace which washes well and **wears well.** Any woman could easily pay $5.00 for a set that would please her no better than this one **which will cost you nothing** if you are willing to do us a slight favor. We will make you a present of this beautiful three-piece lace bed set in the new popular peacock design if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each we will send you this complete bed set free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5036.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Toughey's Travels and Adventures Abroad

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21.)

their Hacienda, Mrs. Deering was very glad to accept it for her.

A Hacienda is a collection of farms and ranches and constitutes the principal source of wealth among the Mexican upper classes. The owner lives in a comfortable, rambling adobe house; the peon who cultivates the land and tends the cattle in a one-room hut or jacel (pronounced hakel), his worldly possessions rarely consisting of more than two suits of cotton clothes and a blanket, or his food other than a sufficient supply of corn, red beans (frijoles) and chili peppers. Usually, this laborer was born on the land, as his parents and grandparents probably were.

Toughey found the home life of the rich Mexican family very interesting though in some respects trying. After a day or two at her request they used the Spanish language altogether and she found herself understanding and speaking it with a facility that delighted her. Their complete isolation obliged them to depend entirely upon themselves for amusement and this took forms that Toughey with her American training found very unattractive.

Having carefully refrained from attending the bull fights in Durango, where they were of regular Sunday occurrence, she was quite appalled to find that bull fighting was the popular order of the day for the young sons of the Hacienda. Not only was she expected to approve the sport, but it was taken as a matter of course that she would be present and enjoy herself and applaud the winner. Cock fighting was another daily pastime and while the severe discipline involved in maintaining herself as an agreeable and appreciative guest was probably good for her, poor Toughey was not sorry when the limit to her visit was reached and she found herself once again with her mother and the children in their flower-scented garden at Durango.

"You don't know the joy of not eating meat cut from a bull you saw killed or a chicken you watched bleed to death," said Toughey fervently carving for herself a generous portion of crisp brown duck at her first home dinner. But she did not regret the visit and always felt the richer for the hospitality of the kindly Mexican family.

As the middle of September, the period to their holiday was not far away, the Deerings applied themselves with all of the energy possible in the disintegrating climate to collecting some of the special products of Mexico for which the country is noted.

Mrs. Deering wanted a hand woven blanket, Toughey some of the beautiful linen drawnwork at which the Mexican women are so skilled while the children were especially interested in the wonderful baskets made in the penitentiary by the prisoners.

"We've done everything expected of us here except to have an adventure with an alacran," said Toughey pausing in her packing, which was proceeding in the mirador. She lifted her eyes to the masses of geranium climbing over the garden wall, seized a shoe, darted forward and landed a sharp blow upon the wall.

"An alacran!" shouted the children running forward intensely excited.

Toughey laughed.

"No, a spider."

"Toughey!" exclaimed the little girls deeply disappointed that the harmless insect she struck at was not the famous little scorpion of Durango, whose poison is fatal to children and a deadly menace to grown people. A disagreeable monster wherever found, for some reason its venom is equal to that of a rattlesnake.

"You've had as many fearful sensations as if we had really killed an alacran, so stop complaining and be grateful," said Toughey when the children again attacked her for the fraud they felt she had practised upon them.

The day when they took a parting look at their exquisite garden, locked the house and gave the keys to their faithful friend, Mrs. Fenner, soon followed.

When the entrance gate closed behind them, Toughey sighed and tears rose to the children's eyes.

"What a perfect summer!" said Toughey regretfully.

"Except that everyone has lost flesh and feels like the dickens," murmured Mrs. Deering behind her veil.

"What, mamma?"

But Mrs. Deering did not repeat her remark.

Poultry Farming For Women

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19.)

land turkeys, and the hens lay from fifty to sixty eggs a season. I usually steal about twenty from each nest, and let the old bird keep the rest. Never put more than five turkey eggs under a common chicken hen. When they hatch, put her and the turkeys into a clean coop, large enough to allow them some exercise. Our coops are six feet long, three feet wide, and two and a half feet high. Cover the front of the coop with unbleached muslin to keep out rain and allow plenty of fresh air and light to enter. Cover the bottom of the coop two or three inches deep with finely cut hay or clean sand. Feed the old hen whole corn; give the babies nothing for forty-eight hours; then feed some sour-milk curds, and give sour-milk to drink. When they are four days old, add chopped green onion tops and hard-boiled egg which has been chopped without removing the shell, add to the curds, and feed just a small quantity four or five times a day. When they are seven days old, feed the old hen whole corn in the morning, and when all the moisture has dried off the grass, let her and the little ones out. Drive them back into the coop about four o'clock, and feed curds and egg. After they are ten days old, gradually stop the egg, but give curds every night when they are put to bed, gradually adding a little finely cracked wheat or corn. Never let them get wet, and keep the coop clean. Powder the old hen before you set her, and every week as long as she broods them. When they are three weeks old, put a roost in the coop, so that they will gradually get accustomed to it before the hen leaves them. When a turkey hatches, I drive her and her brood very quietly to a brood coop, and keep them shut in for twenty-four hours, after which they are let out every morning, when the dew is off the grass, and shut up at 4 p. m., and fed in the same way as the chicken broods. Healthy, strong breeding stock, sour-milk, cleanliness and protection from damp are the only secrets of turkey raising.

J. M. H.—The rooster has dropsy of the feet, which usually arises from a gouty tendency or sluggish circulation, usually accompanied by liver trouble. Probably the bird is lazy, gets lots of grain, rich table scraps, and not enough vegetable food. Feed lightly on mash, made of wheat bran, chopped clover or Alfalfa hay, and give him plenty of sprouted oats, cabbage, or some sort of green vegetable every day. Administer two teaspoonfuls of Castor oil once a week, until he has had four doses. As the swelling goes down, feed small or cracked grain in deep litter to induce him to scratch and get the exercise he needs.

R. B. M.—It is a difficult case to understand without seeing the hen, but I am inclined to think that she had a bad case of infection caused by rupturing an egg duct, and that the substances that looked like tumors were egg yolks which had been dislodged and had fallen into the lower body, where they had gradually decayed and infected the flesh, which gave it a dark color. The fact that the embryo eggs still attached were hard or dark in color is almost conclusive evidence that the trouble originated in the egg passage; and possibly, instead of her comb being frozen, the dark color was the result of the progress of the poison through her system.

M. J. A.—In the morning, give one quart of mash made of equal parts of wheat bran and corn-meal and ground oats. Just moisten with hot water, and allow it to cool before feeding. Mash food must never be wet, only moist enough to crumble when thrown down. If the birds are confined to a yard, give sprouted oats, cabbage, or green vegetable of some sort, and half a pint of oats, wheat, or cracked corn scattered in deep litter, at noon. At night, all the whole corn they can eat up clean in ten minutes. Keep sharp grit, oyster shell and water before them all the time.

E. H.—It would be safer to plow the sod ground used last year by chickens that have had roup. Plow or spade, and sow oats or some such crop, which can be used as green food for the birds.

G. H.—I don't know the incubator you refer to. Poor hatches are more frequently the fault of the attendant than of the machine used. Read the poultry department in the January COMFORT, and in this issue also. Some of the points on incubation may help you to better results.

E. M.—I fear the birds are suffering from tuberculosis, but you can only be sure of it by killing, and examining the intestines. If there are any white or yellowish spots on the liver and spleen, there is no doubt that you have to deal with the dreaded disease. Doctoring is useless, for the first symptoms, such as loss of health and strength, are so slight that they are apt to go unnoticed. It is not until the disease has developed into the last stages internally, that such symptoms as swollen joints, which occasionally break and discharge pus, occur and attract attention. The disease is very contagious, being spread in large quantities with every dropping from the infected bird, and as fowl tuberculosis is chronic, and impossible to distinguish without examination of the intestines, the only safe way to banish it from the premises is to kill and burn the entire flock. Plow and plant the ground where the birds have been in the habit of congregating, clean and disinfect the chicken-house and all fixtures. Don't shirk the work if you ever want to keep chickens successfully. Brush the ceiling and walls; scrape off the floor; burn all manure and scrapings, then spray the house with some strong disinfectant and scatter quicklime on the floor. After allowing a few days to elapse, give the ceiling and walls a coat of hot whitewash made with boiling skim-milk; to each pailful add a cup of salt, whiting and powdered glue and half a cup of strong carbolic acid. As far as is known, there is no danger of fowl tuberculosis affecting human beings, but it often attacks cats, dogs, calves and other young animals, so too much care cannot be taken to rid the premises of the germs.

C. I. D.—It is difficult to tell from your description whether the birds have canker or chicken pox, but as the treatment described for the one will answer equaly well for the other, it does not make much difference. Bathe the eyes and face with warm water, then apply a saturated solution of boric acid; repeat every day for a week. Open the bird's beak; if there are no spots or sores on the roof of the mouth, or the throat, it is canker and may develop into roup. Both chicken pox and canker are slightly contagious; you should take precautions to disinfect the house. Read answer to E. M. in this issue.

D. F.—I don't know the address of the incubator you mention; should think your best plan would be to write to the paper in which you saw the advertisement, enclosing stamp for reply, and ask them to send you the address.

LARGEST CHECK EVER DRAWN.—A check for an amount in excess of $70,703,600, the largest single check ever drawn, was paid recently through the New York Clearing House. This check, made by J. P. Morgan & Co., and drawn on the National Bank of Commerce, was in connection with the $75,000,000 bond issue of the Canadian government.

ALTAR 1,000 YEARS OLD DISCOVERED.—The discovery of a community house probably a thousand years old in the pre-historic settlement thirty miles west of Santa Fe was announced by Mrs. L. L. Wilson. She has charge of an archæological expedition of the Philadelphia Museum. A huge sacrificial altar is among the relics in the ruins.

Crooked Spines Made Straight



If you are suffering from any form of spinal trouble you can be relieved—and **probably wholly overcome** your affliction—right in your own home without pain or discomfort. A wonderful anatomical appliance has been invented by a man who cured himself of Spinal Curvature. Its results are marvelous. It is nature's own method. Eminent physicians are endorsing it. The Philo Burt Method relieves the pressure at the affected parts of the spine, the whole spine is invigorated and strengthened, all soreness is taken out of the back, the cartilage between the vertibræ is made to expand, the contracted muscles are relaxed, and the spine is straightened. There is bright hope for you, no matter how long you have suffered. We have strong testimonials from every State in the Union. Each appliance is made to order from individual measurements and fits perfectly. There is positively no inconvenience in wearing. **We guarantee satisfaction and let you use it 30 days.** Write today for our new book. It gives full information and testimonials.



PHILO BURT MFG. CO., 0-334 Odd Fellows' Bldg., JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

$40 A WEEK, SURE

AGENT'S SAMPLE FREE



300 candle power outdoor Lamp and Safety Lantern. Storm and Weather Proof. For house, barn, camp, anywhere. No smoke. No odor. Absolutely safe. Burns Kerosene. Guaranteed. Burns 98% air, only 2% fuel. Price low. Sells fast. 100% profit. Year round sales plan. Save your territory now. Write quick for free sample offer.
Foote Mfg. Co., Box 1512, DAYTON, OHIO.



LIGHT YOUR HOME LIKE DAY—COST 1c

for 6 hours. Pure white 100 candle power light from common Kerosene.

The Beacon Lamp Makes and Burns Its Own Gas

Better, brighter, safer, cheaper, than Gas, Gasoline or Electricity. Every home interested. 500,000 satisfied users. Agents wanted. Write quick for selling plan, exclusive free territory and trial offer.
HOME SUPPLY CO., 17 Home Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

FREE



BUICK AUTO

Would You Spend ONE CENT for This Car?

A postal card is all it will cost the one who gets it. Someone who answers this ad will be the lucky person. YOUR name and address on a postal card will give you as much opportunity to own this powerful Buick as anyone else. Information free without obligating you. Don't send stamps or money.
AUTO TOM, 509 So. 17th St., Omaha, Nebr.

57¢ PAPERS A BIG ROOM

Just think—only 57c for enough beautiful 4 color bronzed side wall, ceiling and border to paper a big room. Write today for our Free Book of over **100 big samples of wall paper** and see this dandy paper. Also, our exquisite 1917 papers, consisting of plain and rich, heavily embossed gold, oatmeal, grass cloth, leather, tiffany, silk and creton effects at 6c to 40c a double roll of 16 yards. Finest varnished tiles, 25c a double roll. Combination matched with cut-out borders ready for hanging at 1 1-2c a yard up. Wall paper for all rooms direct to you cheaper than dealers buy at in carload lots. Don't wait. **Get samples now—today—** and see our beautiful art paper and marvelously low prices.

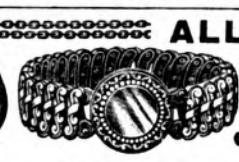


WALL PAPER
OVER 100 SAMPLES OF BEAUTIFUL PAPER

PAINT On Free Trial
All kinds for everything; try it at home; if it suits keep it, if not return at our expense. **Lowest prices** you ever saw; 124 colors. Write for Paint Book and see

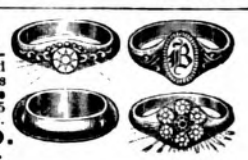
JOHN M. SMYTH MDSE CO. 703-717 Washington Blvd. CHICAGO





ALL THESE FREE

Gold plated Locket set with im. **Diamond** and 22-inch **Neckchain,** one Gold finished **Signet Extension** Bracelet, fits any arm, and these 4 beautiful **Rings ALL GIVEN FREE** for selling only 15 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. Write today.

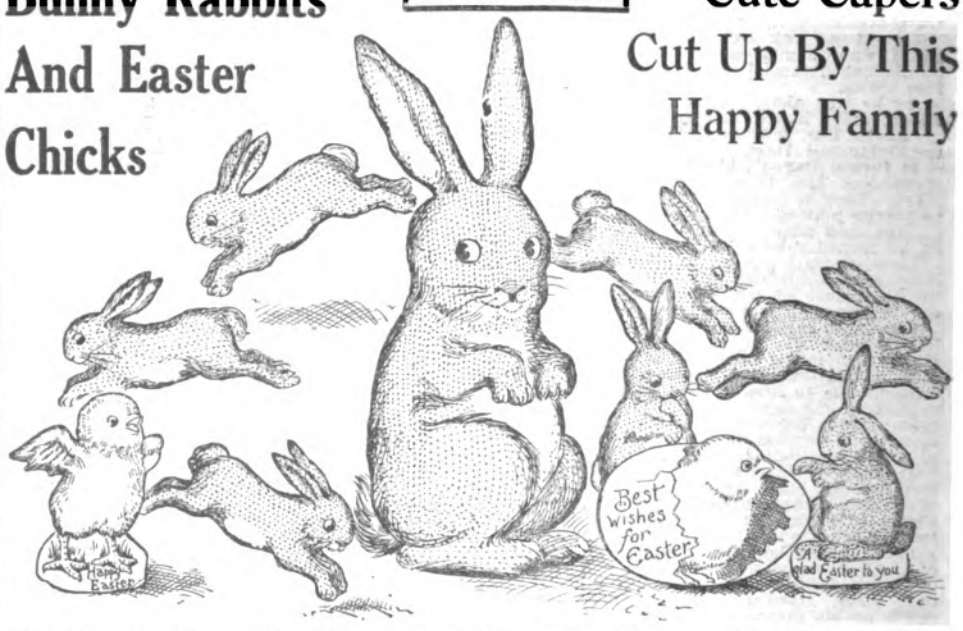


COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO.
DEPT. 39, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

Bunny Rabbits And Easter Chicks

Premium No. 7311

Cute Capers Cut Up By This Happy Family



All Large Size, Handsomely Tinted In Colors True To Life!

Look at the comical expression on the face of funny old "Papa" rabbit as he sits bolt upright with all the baby rabbits running around him as fast as their legs will carry them. And see the little rabbit with the drooping ear and the other one with his foot in his mouth. They seem to be having great fun over the chicken that is just coming out of its shell. This new **novelty animal assortment** consists of **eight** rabbits and **two** chickens—ten different pieces in all. "Pa" bunny, a real typical **March hare,** is just as sedate and dignified as he looks in the picture. He is made of thick heavy cardboard handsomely tinted **in natural life-like colors,** is over eight inches tall and has great long ears. The five small bunnies that are running around are each nearly four inches long; the two that are sitting up are each nearly four inches tall, all made of the heaviest cardboard and in colors true to life. Two dear fluffy Easter chickens complete this fine assortment, each inscribed with happy Easter greetings as also are two of the small rabbits so that you may use them as Easter greeting cards if so desired. Or you can keep the entire assortment for mantlepiece or center-table ornaments, place cards for dinner or card parties. Easter decorations or best of all, **give them to the children to play with all the year round.** Both chickens and rabbits are so really **cute and life-like** that the little folks will consider them as **real pets** and will take great delight in playing with them by the hour, sitting or standing them up and placing them in all kinds of different positions. As a special short time Easter offer to COMFORT readers we are giving away this **happy family** and will send you the complete set of ten—eight rabbits and two chickens—all nicely packed in a special envelope so that they will not get bent or broken if you will accept either one of the following offers:

Offer No. 7311 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this complete Ten-Piece Rabbit and Chicken Family Assortment free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7311 B. For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents extra (35 cents in all) we will send you the complete assortment free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7311.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Special 5-Day Offer—Twelve Beautiful Post Cards Also Given To You!

If you will send us the one subscription and 25 cents (or 35 cents) WITHIN 5 DAYS, we will send you IN ADDITION to the above HAPPY FAMILY, twelve assorted embossed and colored Easter, Birthday and Greeting Post Cards—no two cards alike and every one a beauty—all free by mail postpaid.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

UNBEATABLE



For record hatches of healthy, profitable chicks--chicks that dodge the great chick graveyard--you can't beat the "PROGRESSIVE" Hundreds of dead air cells surrounding hatching chamber protect against sudden outside changes and insure nearest to nature's healthy hatching conditions. No dry, hot blasts to "cook" eggs--no hatches spoiled by temperature changes. GENUINE CALIFORNIA REDWOOD. Double-Disc Heat Regulator, Safety Lamp, Egg Tester, etc. Your money back with 8 per cent interest if not satisfied. Freight prepaid East of Rockies. Special deal if you mention this paper. Send for BIG FREE BOOK.

$9.85 FOR BOTH

Progressive Incubator Company
Box 169 Racine, Wisconsin

$8.55 World's Champion Belle City Incubator



Buys

140 Egg Size Prize Winning Model—Hot-water — Double-walled — Copper Tank — Thermometer Holder — Deep Nursery — Self-regulating. When ordered with $4.85 Hot-water 140 chick Brooder, both cost only $12.50.

Freight Prepaid East of Rockies

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Over 524,000 Satisfied Users

Save time—Order Now—Share in my $1,000 Cash Prizes

Conditions easy to get biggest Prize—Free Book "Hatching Facts" tells all—Gives short cuts to Poultry Success — Write for it today. Jim Rohan, Pres.



90 Days' Trial

Belle City Incubator Co., Box 135 Racine, Wis.

PIGEONS PAY

Better Than Chickens

Young pigeons (squabs) bring 40 to 60c each when 3 to 4 weeks old. Big demand in city markets. Each pair of pigeons easily clear $4 per year. Always penned up. Very little space and money needed to start. Free Book explains all.



MAMMOTH SQUAB CO., Dept. 65, ADEL, IOWA.

WANTED—MEN



Prepare as Firemen, Brakemen, Electric Motormen, Train Porters (colored). Hundreds put to work—$65 to $150 a month. No experience necessary. More wanted in every state. Send stamp for Application Blank. State position wanted.

I. Railway C.I., Dept. C, Indianapolis, Ind.

NEW SANITARY **FEATHER BEDS** $8.25 NOW ONLY



FULL WEIGHT 40 POUNDS. 1 pair 6-lb. Pillows to match, $1.15. Selected, New, Live, Clean, Sanitary Feathers. Best Featherproof Ticking. Sold on money back guarantee. DO NOT BUY from anyone at any price, until you get the BOOK OF TRUTH, our big new catalog mailed FREE. Write a postal card TODAY. Agents wanted.

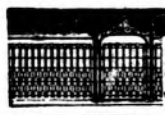
American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk 208 Nashville, Tenn



TYPEWRITERS

SOLD or RENTED anywhere at ¼ to ½ Manufacturers' Prices, allowing Rental to Apply on Price. FREE TRIAL. Installment payments if desired. Write for circular 29.

TYPEWRITER EMPORIUM, 34-36 W. Lake St., Chicago



ORNAMENTAL FENCE

40 designs—all steel. Handsome, costs less than wood, more durable. We can save you money. Write for free catalog and and special prices.

KOKOMO FENCE MACH. CO. 479 North Street, Kokomo, Ind.

ELECTRIC HOME, FARM, THEATRE, HOTEL, SCHOOL & STORE LIGHT PLANTS. Economical. Safe. Clean. Power Motors. Auto Storage Batteries. Dynamos. Engines. Belts. Railways. Motion Picture Machines. Xmas Lights. Catalog. 3 cts. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, Ohio.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S

Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 50 cents. Address UNCLE CHARLIE, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Wonderful New STEREOSCOPE

Premium No. 6462



With 100 Views

For A Club Of Two!

Lions, Tigers, Bears and all kinds of Wild Animals, Home Scenes, Domestic Pets and Happy Childhood Days. Here is something **as good as a circus** for the children **the year round**—an indestructible, new style **Stereoscope** made of **all metal** with powerful, magnifying **lens,** and with it we give you **free** a big collection of **100 Views of home scenes, domestic pets, farm scenes,** all kinds of **trained and wild animals, hunting scenes,** views from the **Arctic** and **tropical** countries, and **happy childhood scenes**—the biggest and finest assortment of the most **delightful and entertaining** stereoscopic views for children ever gotten out. Boys and girls need not be obliged to hunt for something to occupy their active minds indoors with one of these Scopes at hand because it will give them a never-ending, joyful **entertainment** keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. Aside from the pleasure they will derive from the **fifty** beautiful **scenes of home life, the fifty** exciting **animal views** will furnish them with a **regular circus, the lions, tigers, bears, buffalo,** and all kinds of **wild and savage animals** as well as **horses, dogs, cats** and other domestic animals standing out **real and life-like** when looked at through this Scope. Any boy or girl would be delighted to have one of these wonderful Stereoscopes together with the big collection of 100 entertaining and exciting Views that come with it and knowing this we have purchased a large quantity of them direct from the factory and because we bought so many we got them at a price **low enough** to enable us to **give them away** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Stereoscope with 100 Views free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6462.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

How I Succeeded With My Incubator

Those who keep hens or contemplate doing so will find profitable information in the experiences of some of our poultry-raising subscribers in the use of incubators as told by them in the following letters. These and other letters which we have printed recently were written in response to COMFORT'S offer of prizes, last June, for best articles on "How I Succeeded With My Incubator."

Incubator Versus Hens

I bought an incubator in the spring of 1912. I then had 45 Barred Plymouth Rock hens, I set the machine four times, hatching from 90 to 120 chicks each time. I raised about four hundred of them, using a home-made brooder built from the box in which the incubator came. I bought a special lamp and tank, costing $2.50 and put that in to heat it.

In 1913 and 1914 I hatched and raised about the same number of chicks, although I sold about half of the chicks from three to eight weeks old at 20 to 42 cents each, paying much better than selling them as broilers to the butcher. I sold all my Plymouth Rock pullets for 75 cents each the last of October and kept only thoroughbred Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds. Having only 15 yearling hens of fine enough color, good shape and heavy layers, I could not get enough eggs to set the incubator in 1915 so I used all hens for hatching, setting from March 4 until May 1. I had as many as 20 hens setting at once, using an empty corn crib. With the best of care and constant attention they only averaged nine chicks to the setting. This year I started in with a good flock of 135 hens and 10 fine cockerels, ordered another incubator and set them both Feb. 12, using 22 dozen eggs. March 4 I hatched 209 chicks, March 27 I hatched 115 chicks out of 131 eggs (16 were infertile). I set Silver Campine eggs in the other machine, hatching only 64. The eggs were not fertile—no fault of the machine.

In the new machine April 21 I hatched 139 chicks from 140 eggs. The last of June, 1916 I had hatched 1,255 chicks from six settings. I kept the first two hatches, brooding them in a house nine by eleven feet, heated by a 52-inch hover and coal stove, which cost me $11.85. I have sold the other four hatches, 850 chicks, at 10 cents each when one day old.

I would never attempt to raise chicks again with hens, for you see, with an incubator, I have averaged 13 chicks out of every setting of 15 eggs. These chicks have no lice to contend with. I have the hens laying the eggs they would not if they were setting. With an incubator I can sit in the parlor on cold, stormy days and turn the eggs and not have to be out chasing after old hens that won't stay on the right nest. All the oil it takes to run a machine does not amount to a fraction of the loss in eggs from setting hens. I use my parlor for the incubators and have never hurt a thing in it. While the weather was cold we kept a low fire in the stove with slack to keep the temperature up and save oil. I put a pie pan of water in the 18th day, leave it until the chicks begin coming out. I have a pad made of heavy paper covered with muslin to slide in, leave the chicks in 48 hours and when I take out the chicks and pad the machine is clean and nice as ever, ready to reset. I have never used any disinfectant about the incubator—just dust it out.

Since the first of November I have averaged $60 a month for eggs. This year (1916) until July 1, I sold $400 worth of eggs, day-old chicks, setting eggs and fat roosters, averaging three pounds each, 30 and 25 cents per pound live weight. I have on hand 136 fine young pullets and 125 hens. I am a farmer's busy wife with six cows, large house and three children, but enjoy raising chickens in such an easy way.

MRS. R. S. COWLING, Pa.

All Good Incubators Hatch Well

In our past fifteen years' experience on the farm hatching chickens with incubators we have gleaned much relative to artificial incubation of eggs.

We have handled several makes of standard incubators, both hot air and hot water, and find there is really but little difference in choice. If handled properly, following the directions implicitly, faithfully and regularly, good hatches will generally result. Here is a vital point, no machine can produce good results from poor or degenerate eggs. Eggs should be carefully selected from virile flocks, of known health, active and vigorous.

Fill the incubator with eggs of one size, shape and type. We reject all round or very pointed eggs and all with ridges or roughed, lumpy surfaces.

Generally speaking novices run the heat too high in incubators. A uniform heat (heating the eggs up gradually at first) of from 100 degrees to 102 degrees is better than a higher or much lower heat. A brooder is absolutely indispensable if one is to hatch any considerable number of chickens. We would not now think of raising incubated chicks without them. Incubator chicks in parks by themselves, when such buildings and premises are made sanitary are seldom infested with lice and when fed on dry chick feed and sweet or sour milk make very rapid gains in weight.

We find that the *baby chicks must be kept dry and warm and clean.* I emphasize it, for this is a most vital consideration in rearing them. After a feed has once been established as noted above, be cautious about changing to other feeds and drinks. If you give them sweet milk at first, continue it and vice versa. Sudden changes of feed or drink are conducive to white diarrhea and other chick diseases. Our experience indicates we make more from our poultry by hatching baby chicks for sale at eight to 15 cents each, when two days old and from broilers, from which we usually receive 18 to 24 cents per pound. We run three large incubators and have usually a good demand from neighbors for the young chickens.

This season we expect more liberal profits from our broilers as by the improved system of Parcel Post and the newer containers, it now makes it both possible, pleasant and profitable for us to ship them to not very distant city markets where, after all expenses are deducted we can realize from five to 10 cents a pound more than we formerly have been getting.

G. A. RANDALL, Mich.

My Advice Is: "Get an Incubator"

To all mothers of the farm and those that are interested in poultry raising and incubators.

I am quite an old hand at the business, 55 years of age and I always used to set hens and raise my chickens, then I thought I had done well if I raised all we could eat and sometimes had 15 or 20 to sell. That was about all I got out of my chickens five years ago.

Then I bought an incubator. Now, instead of selling 15 or 20 birds I sell them by the hundred.

I do not think there is one half of the trouble to run the incubator that there is to run after a lot of old setting hens.

I don't think there is any farm complete without an incubator. I wish every family that has no incubator could step in my yard today and see my chickens. I have 400 which will be ready for the market by July first. Besides I have already sold over 100 chicks. If I could have had an incubator when I was young I would have been all O. K. today. I get more chickens out of my incubator than I do from hens with an equal number of eggs.

Incubator chicks have some lice but nothing like when raised with hens. I keep my hens laying—I do not let them set. I have a pen and when one begins to set I put her up, and in a few days she is ready to lay again. By doing that I have both eggs and chickens to sell all the time.

I wish all women that raise chickens would take my advice and get an incubator and see for themselves what they can make. I have tens of dollars now where I used to have cents.

MRS. ANNIE ALLEN, Okla.

Little Girl Uses Incubator

That incubators are of value, not only among grown-ups but among younger poultry raisers as well, is indicated by this article, telling the experiences of a 13-year old girl. This article, though not among the regular prize winners, was awarded a special prize of $1.—Editor.

We have always had good luck in raising chickens in an incubator. Before we bought our incubator we set hens and we seldom got any more then from four to six chickens out of a dozen eggs. Since we have had an incubator we always have fine chickens and more of them.

An incubator is a great labor saver for when you set your hen you always have to be watching her to see that she stays on her nest.

We had a great experience with a hen. She wished to set so we put fourteen eggs under her. Before it was time for her to hatch she got off and we could not keep her on. She would stay on her nest for a day and the next day she would be off and would not go back any more. The eggs were all spoiled, of course. With an incubator it is a great deal easier even if you do have to watch it so it will be the correct temperature.

It also helps to hatch your chickens earlier so you will have your pullets to lay and have them to sell.

It is better to keep your hens laying and let the incubator do the work for you have your eggs, where otherwise you would not.

One spring before we got our incubator we had set four hens to see if we would have good luck; we set under each of them fourteen eggs, which all together made fifty-six eggs. From the first we got five chickens; from the second, six; from the third, none; from the fourth, nine; which made twenty chickens, so we found that we did not make anything by using hens to hatch. Then we bought an incubator, and now we are raising a great many chickens.

I advise all girls who are raising chickens to use a machine.

The incubator chickens are free from lice and mites, where the chickens that are set under a hen are not.

The incubators are fine workers. People who do not use them ought to try one.

We would never do without one again. We made a great deal of money on the chicks by raising them in an incubator. The money was somewhere around $30.

GERTRUDE MURPHY, Nebr.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15.)

while. But some day I'm going to stop building air-castles and dreaming rose-colored dreams and get to making some of them come true. And there's a bright future ahead because I'm not going to let memories of the past blot out the sunshine. Mrs. Wilkinson, of course I would not seriously object to your bringing French heels to my ranch but I shall have to ask you to leave the poodle dog at home. You see I don't fancy women lavishing love and wealth on a dog when there are so many poor little orphans going hungry, for both love and bread.

Sisters, hasn't our dear Mrs. Wilkinson a big, loving, roomy heart? I just love her.

Three cheers for dear old COMFORT, and I will bid you au revoir.

I am eighteen years young now; have had a birthday since last writing to COMFORT.

Your sincere sister, MATTIE MAE CLARK.

Mattie Mae. You talk like a centipede, but a mighty brave, lovable little centipede though, and one that I am proud and glad to welcome to our corner. Come again. Of course you've heard the old joke about the boys who were sent to the country to stay with an uncle because their city home had been threatened with earthquakes. In a few days the uncle telegraphed to their father, "Come and get the boys, send the earthquake," and maybe that is the way you will feel when I come to visit you and bring my family with me. You'll say, "Send the children home, I prefer the poodle dogs," though, honest-to-goodness, Mattie, I haven't a poodle dog and never expect to own one, so that lets me out, doesn't it? Your poem is helpful and I feel sure that you are giving "humanity and God your best" by keeping alive such a cheerful spirit even in the face of difficulties. As I said before, come again. —Ed.

MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT READERS:

Will you admit into your happy circle a girl from the dear old state of Texas? I have been a reader of COMFORT ever since I learned to read. Everyone in our family loves to read COMFORT. I think that our dear Uncle Charlie, Mr. Gannett, and you, Mrs. Wilkinson, are doing a great work and I am sure there isn't a reader but who will agree with me. I wish it were possible for all of you to visit us in our little Southern town, which is situated in a beautiful valley surrounded on three sides by mountains. There is an abundance of water here, mineral water being the most in evidence. It is obtained at a depth of one hundred and thirty feet, and in inexhaustible quantities. Of course there is plenty of good, fresh water outside the mineral belt. The water for general town use is furnished by an artificial lake. There are many varieties of mineral water, good for different ailments. I have known people to be brought here unable to walk, and perhaps in one month's time they would be climbing the mountains. One sees here almost all forms of deformity and affliction, yet most of the invalids appear cheerful and hopeful. In a town like this strangers are rare, though people are going and coming all the time. Meeting at the drinking counters, where the water is served, people naturally enter into conversation, and everyone gets acquainted. This social feature is very pleasant when one is alone and ill. The home people are always ready to respond to calls for assistance and do all in their power to minister to the needs of those who come here to be benefited. People come here from the extreme North to escape the cold winters, for this is an ideal winter home.

I am with you Virginia Queen, in regard to teaching children there is a Santa Claus. The happiest Christmas I ever had, was when I expected Santa Claus. Some of the sisters seem to think, that we do not realize the real significance of Christmas, when we believe in Santa Claus. Now I think it is just as bad one way as the other, for I have known people who *"hooted"* at the idea of letting their children believe there is a Santa Claus and the children hardly knew why they were celebrating Christmas, and all in the world the parents thought of was to have a good time. We children always eagerly looked for Santa, but we never forget what Christmas was.

I may come again some day. With best wishes to the COMFORT staff and all its readers,

Sincerely yours, MISS HANCIE MAGEE.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33.)

$9.60 Only NOW BUYS A 120-EGG Old Trusty

FREIGHT prepaid to any point east of the Rockies—a trifle more farther west. Not a new, untried machine, but our famous 1908 model with latest improvements. Outside of metal-covered Old Trusty, never had an equal in quality.



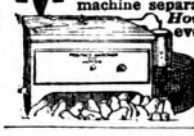
H. H. Johnson

Write for Book FREE Get Johnson's Poultry "Know-How." 700,000 satisfied users. Write now. Tell us your poultry troubles.

M. M. Johnson Co. Clay Center, Neb.



Hatcher & Hover In One $6.90



INCUBATOR AND HOVER combined for less money than you would have to pay for either machine separately. *The Perfect Hatcher and Hover* does work of both. Hatches every fertile egg. Raises chicks from time they break shell. No moving flock from place to place. Get interesting Booklet Today. IT'S FREE.

The Perfect Hatcher Co., Dept. 1 Leesville, Ohio.



150 EGG INCUBATOR CHICK BROODER Both for $11

Both are made of Calif. Redwood. Incubator is covered with asbestos and galvanized iron; has triple walls, copper tank, nursery, egg tester, thermometer, ready to use. 30 DAYS' TRIAL—money back if not O.K. Write for FREE Catalog Now.



IRONCLAD INCUBATOR CO., Dept. 21 Racine, Wis. (2)



64 BREEDS Valuable New Poultry Book Free—108 pages. Fine pure-bred chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. Choice, hardy, Northern raised. Fowls, eggs and incubators at low prices. America's greatest poultry farm. 24th year in business. Write today for Free Book.

R. F. NEUBERT CO., Box 871, Mankato, Minn.



GREIDER'S FINE CATALOGUE

of fine bred poultry for 1917; 67 breeds illustrated and described; information on poultry, how to make hens lay, grow chicks—all facts. Low price on stock and hatching eggs. Incubators and brooders. 25 years in business. This book only 10 cts. Send today.

B. H. GREIDER, Box 63, Rheems, Pa.

130-Egg Incubator and Brooder Both $10



Freight Paid East of Rockies

Hot water; double walls; copper tank; best construction. Write for free catalog.



Wisconsin Incubator Co., Box 16 Racine, Wis. (1)



SHOEMAKER'S POULTRY BOOK AND ALMANAC FOR 1917

Has many colored plates of fowls true to life; tells all about chickens, incubators, poultry houses, etc. Price 15 cents. Money back if not satisfied.

C. C. Shoemaker, Box 936, Freeport, Ill.



62 BREEDS, Pure-bred Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys. Hardy northern raised, vigorous, beautiful. Fowls, eggs, incubators at low prices. AMERICA'S PIONEER POULTRY FARM; 23 years exp. Large fine Annual Poultry Book and Catalog FREE.

F. A. NEUBERT, Box 642, Mankato, Minn.

POULTRY and SQUABS for PROFIT



Write for Foy's Big Book FREE—an encyclopedia of poultry information—written by a man who knows. Leading varieties of poultry and pigeons in natural colors. Low prices on fowls and eggs. FRANK FOY, Box 5, Clinton, Iowa.

140 Egg Incubator $7.25

The Pioneer Hatcher of Quality made by experts of 23 years' exp. None better at any price. Double redwood walls, dead air space, copper tank, self regulator, safety lamp, high nursery. Most simple and durable; set up ready to use. Guarantee. Big catalog free.



F. A. Neubert Incubator Factory, No. Mankato, Minn.



SQUAB BOOK FREE

Make money breeding PR squabs. 1917 prices highest on record. Squab book free, telling money-making experiences. How to sell by parcel post. $6 to $8 doz. Write at once. PLYMOUTH ROCK SQUAB CO., 206 HOWARD ST., MELROSE HIGHLANDS, MASSACHUSETTS.



PFILE'S 66 VARIETIES farm-raised Land and Water-Fowls. Eggs in season. Incubators. Illus. Catalog and "Grower's Guide," 2c. An honest deal. Write today. HENRY PFILE, Farmer-Poultryman, Box 644, Freeport, Ill

Martling Silver Campine Eggs Are Guaranteed to Hatch. It is the most economical breed known. They mature quicker than any others. Cost less to feed, and are heavy layers of large chalk-white eggs. They are the greatest prize-winning strain in America. The Martling Hennery, P. O. Box C, Ridgefield, N. J.

SMYTH'S 60 INCUBATOR

ALL STEEL



ON 30 DAYS' FREE TRIAL $3.92

HOLDS FULL 60 EGGS

To quickly popularize SMYTH'S All Steel 60 Egg Incubator, we will sell 5,000 at only $3.92 each. Guaranteed to hatch as large a per cent of strong, healthy chicks as any incubator made, regardless of name or price. Made of polished steel; with double walled air chamber, 1917 improved disc regulator, standard thermometer visible through glass damper, best safety metal lamp, heat distributing drum around outer edges, water jacketed heat flue and automatic heat regulation insuring even temperature and moisture in every part of egg chamber, and proper heat to eggs all the time. Full directions with each incubator. SEND $1.00 deposit and we will send you this high-grade, latest improved SMYTH'S all steel 60 egg incubator by express, subject to examination. Pay balance $2.92 and express charges to agent after you find the incubator perfectly satisfactory and the greatest incubator bargain in the world, then take it home and TRY IT 30 DAYS at our risk and if you do not find it as good a hatcher as you ever saw or heard of, regardless of price or make, or if for any reason you are dissatisfied, return at our expense and we will refund your $3.92 and freight charges. If you want incubator sent by PARCEL POST send $3.92 and enough money extra to pay the parcel post postage and we'll send on same liberal trial offer as above. Shipping weight 19 lbs. We make very low prices on larger incubators, brooders, and poultry supplies of all kinds in our big free incubator Catalog sent you free upon request. Order incubator or catalog today.

JOHN M. SMYTH MFG. CO. 703-717 West Belle Plaine Blvd. CHICAGO

$1.95 LOOK Express Paid

TAILORED TO-MEASURE PANTS

To get you for a steady customer, this swell Dress or Business pants, tailored-to-measure, choice of 17 styles. Guaranteed for 18 months solid wear, or Money Back—Quick. Genuine $5 value, Only 1 to a customer.



Not 1c For Extras

All novelty features are free—no charge for big Peg Tops, fancy cuffs, fancy belt loops and pocket flaps. Pick your choice from our FREE ordering outfit containing over 1000 cloth and style combinations.

This **PIN—GOLD Finished FREE** to you

Classy lapel pin with your first order only 350 on hand, get yours quick.

Cash Profits to you for taking measures of relatives and neighbors, young Nat. Spriggs made $139 in 30 days. Buy at lowest wholesale prices for yourself. Write for FREE samples today. Dept 331, 515 So. Franklin St., Chicago

Send No Money

CHICAGO TAILORS ASS'N.

$1.50



5 YEAR GUARANTEE

Railroad Style

To advertise our business, we will send this elegant R. R. style watch by mail for **ONLY $1.50.** Gentlemen's size, full nickel silver plated case, locomotive on dial, lever escapement, stem wind and stem set, a perfect timekeeper and fully guaranteed for 5 years. Send this advertisement to us with **$1.50** and watch will be sent by mail post paid. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Send $1.50 today. Address

R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 538 So. Dearborn St., CHICAGO.

TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 48 Packages Soap Powder FREE



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only doz. 5 pkgs. of our famous washing powder FREE among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. **NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO**

FREE



Fine Tone

$20 UKULELE MANDOLIN, VIOLIN, GUITAR OR CORNET

We have a wonderful new system of teaching note music by mail. To first pupils in each locality, we'll give a $20 superb Violin, Mandolin, Ukulele, Guitar or Cornet absolutely free. Very small charge for lessons only expense. We guarantee to make you a player or no charge. Complete outfit free. Write at once—no obligation.

SLINGERLAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Dept 78, Chicago, Ill.

AGENTS A Big Seller

New - Patented SCREEN DOOR CHECK



Splendid summer seller. **Low Priced.** Stops the bang and saves the door. Easy sales. Big profits. Big demand. A sale in every home. Dozen can be carried in pocket. Demonstration sample free to workers.

THOMAS CHECK CO. 4330 East St. Dayton, Ohio



Diamond Ring FREE

Send No Money. Just to advertise our famous Peruvian im. Diamond—the greatest discovery of the 20th Century. We will send absolutely free this Tiffany mounted 14-k gold f. ring, set with a 1-k Peruvian im. Diamond. Its sparkling beauty lasts forever. Comes in a beautiful plush ring box. If this is satisfactory give postmaster $1.20 to help pay postage, boxing, advertising, handling, etc. Only 1500 given away. Answer quick, today—Send string or paper for finger size.

FORD WATCH CO. 85, Winona, Minn.



Pink Cameo Ring FREE

Cameos are set in fine **gold filled ring.** Guaranteed for three years. To introduce new **Ring Bargains,** will send post paid, your size, upon receipt of 12c to pay advertising.

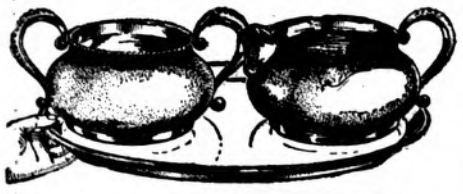
The Auction Co., Dept. 81, Attleboro, Mass.

AUTOMATIC LIGHT FIBRE



Do Nature's Work. Easy Pay after Trial. State Stump Length, Above or Below Knee. Free Fibre Sample & Booklet. **WORMAN CO., 507 Andrus Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.**

Quadruple Silver Plated SUGAR, CREAMER & TRAY



Premium No. 6204

This handsome silver set of three pieces consists of a **Sugar, Creamer and Tray,** each piece **quadruple plated with pure coin silver, gold lined, and warranted to wear for years. The Creamer** is of the elegant design shown in above illustration nearly two inches high and 2 1-4 inches in diameter at top, with a beautiful **floral decoration engraved on the side** which does not show in the picture. The bottom is **plain and bright polished** the sides and handle are finished with the **frosted effect** which is so much admired by everybody and top and handle are **heavily beaded.** This same description also applies to the **Sugar** which is of the same good size and fitted with **two beautiful beaded handles** instead of one. **The large and handsome Tray** is 6 1-2 inches in diameter **quadruple plated** with pure silver, **plain and bright polished.** Remember, this is **not** a cheap "electro plated" set but one which will last you **for years.** The heavy quadruple plate being sufficiently thick to withstand **constant use** without showing any signs of tarnish or wear. We know that every lady or girl who receives this set from us will be simply delighted with it for aside from its usefulness **it is certainly a beautiful ornament for dining table or sideboard.** Better order one of these sets right away for yourself or to give **as a present** to mother, sweetheart, wife or sister. **She will most assuredly appreciate it.** We will send you this beautiful set consisting of Sugar, Creamer and Tray **exactly as**

Club Offer. For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this elegant quadruple plated Sugar, Creamer and Tray free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6204.**

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Granny's Old Piano

How It Plays Spirit Music at Night

By Florence Briney Reed

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

PART II.

THE next day in response to her son's question as to the location of the myrtle bed, Mrs. Brand replied:

"Myrtle? There's none nearer than the old Talbut graveyard. I never could abide it in any garden of mine. It's too creepy."

"There's a sight of it up there," Granny interposed. "Sister Lucy always liked it, and we planted it thick on her grave. It's just about taken the whole plot."

"What did Aunt Lucy look like? Was she pretty?" Talbut queried, absently.

"She was a real pretty girl," Granny replied. "She was dark like the Talbuts. You favor them, too, but your sisters are light like your mother's folks. Lucy had such pretty black hair, always in long curls, and she had pretty ways and pretty dresses, for pa always favored her."

Granny was looking through the open doorway across the meadow, where a faint gleam of white in the group of pines on the hill marked the resting place of her young sister. Talbut, respecting the tender reminiscence in her faded eyes, left the room quietly, and Dora moved softly about, putting the room to rights. Presently Granny spoke:

"Some of Lucy's things are here yet, in the old wing. One of these days I'm going to get them out. They haven't had a real good airing for a long time. They're in the horsehair trunk," she added.

All that day a strange feeling of unrest brooded over the house. A special treat had been planned, a trip to the city, with an evening at the theater, with the family's return on the Limited, which stopped at the village at one o'clock in the morning. These little excursions could be enjoyed only when Talbut was at home, as Granny and Dora could not be left alone in the house.

"Tonight," said Talbut, as his Grandmother and Dora turned in from the porch after having said goodbys to the family, "tonight I shall keep a lookout for my dear Aunt Lucy. I am hoping that she will favor us with a few selections."

But Granny turned on him, exclaiming sharply:

"No good ever came of meddling with things you can't understand." And Dora added:

"It might bring you ill luck, Mr. Talbut. Better not sit up. I wouldn't, if I were you."

The evening wore on, and at last Granny and Dora retired, leaving Talbut to sit up and wait for the last train. He made himself comfortable with book and pipe in the library. The house was very still, but outside, a dog howled dismally. The honeysuckle vines, stirred by the rising wind, tapped softly at the window. Just as the hall clock chimed midnight, Talbut roused himself with a start. The last stroke of the bell still tingled in the quiet air, and with it came, faint and far away, familiar ghostly strains from the old piano. He sprang to his feet, determined to unravel the mystery. Realizing that it would be useless to try to go through the house, as the doors were all locked, he softly opened the front door and made his way stealthily around the veranda in the direction of the old wing. The lilac and rose bushes almost completely concealed the tiny windows of the parlor, but stepping carefully between the clumps of ribbon grass and flags bordering the stone walk, he crept up to the wall and pushing aside the branches, he looked within. What he expected to see, he hardly knew, but at the sight which met his eyes, he started back in amazement. The old piano was open, and the moonlight, pouring in silver flood through the west window, revealed the slender figure of a girl in the quaint costume of fifty years ago. Her hands rested lightly on the piano's yellow keys. Long curls of dark hair shadowed her face and fell over her white shoulders; the wide skirts of her flounced gown spread out on either side, and in a flash Talbut thought of Granny's adored sister, the lovely Lucy, who must have dressed just so, and who had been resting on the hill over there beyond the meadow for many years. A strange chill crept through his veins. He stepped back, letting the branches of the lilac spring into place again, as he glanced over his shoulder toward the hill where a mass of black marked the place where the pine trees kept guard over the Talbut graves. When he looked into the parlor windows again, the old room was empty. At that moment a frightened scream broke the stillness—a woman's scream. "Dora's voice!" Talbut said to himself. "She has seen the ghost, too!" Three steps brought him to the old front door, long unused. As he struggled to open it, the scream came again, this time as if half repressed. Exerting all his strength, he forced the door open and entered the room. In a corner, perched unsteadily upon one of the old haircloth chairs, was the figure he had seen at the piano, while across the floor, scampered a big gray rat. The voice was Dora's, and it was Dora whom Talbut caught in his arms, a tremulous, weeping Dora, attired in a muslin delaine gown of war-time pattern. After a few moments she was able to sob out her explanation, and Talbut heard all about the old piano, and the new table; how badly Granny had felt over it and how, knowing the superstitions of the Brand family about the old wing, she had thought up a plan to work upon their fears.

"I haven't put on this dress before," she confessed, "but something you said this morning made me sure that you would watch, and I wanted to make certain that you would never guess who the 'ghost' was. If it hadn't been for that miserable rat, everything would have been all right. But it jumped out all at once when I was going back into the storeroom—and——"

She seemed to have forgotten that Talbut still held her in his arms—her head, with its soft curls, resting on his shoulder. Talbut patted the silken rings gently as he answered:

"Never mind, everything's all right now, and I think it was mighty good of you to take all that trouble for dear old Granny. It must have been pretty spooky to come into this chilly, musty old place night after night. Weren't you afraid someone would find you out?"

"No. I knew they would never think of me, for no one had ever heard me play the piano. The matron's aunt at the Home taught me some old-fashioned pieces, and when Granny spoke about her sister playing them, I thought up my plan. Do you think it was wicked?" she queried anxiously. "I felt so sorry for Granny, and it wasn't as if your family couldn't buy a new table. They did not have to take Granny's old piano."

"No," Talbut replied. "I do not think there was any harm in it, only I believe you ought to tell Granny all about it. What do you suppose she has thought: Yes, Dorry, you must tell her, but the rest need never know."

"Well—if you say so, I will," Dora said, releasing herself shyly from Talbut's arms. "But, oh, once I was really scared! Do you remember the time we found the myrtle spray? I hadn't put it there, and it made me feel very queer. Where did it come from? Do you think a rat could have brought it?"

"Perhaps," said Talbut, with a smile. "But come, Dora, we will go to Granny now, just as you are, and get it over before the family comes home. We will just about have time."

When they reached Granny's room, they were surprised to see a line of light beneath her door. Alarmed, they paused before knocking, but the old lady's voice called out sharply:

"Come right on in. Don't stand whispering out there in the hall."

Opening the door, they found Granny wide awake and dressed. Two candles were burning in brass sconces on the mantel and a tiny fire snapped on the hearth, for the evening had been cool, and Granny always had her fire ready for lighting. The little old lady looked at them without a trace of surprise, and said:

"So you caught her? Humph, I knew you would! You're smart, just like all the Talbuts. You shan't tell on her, now. They don't need to know a thing about this. 'Twon't hurt them to worry a little."

"I'm not going to tell, Granny!" said Talbut, as she fixed her black eyes on him. "But, Granny, *you* surely didn't know who it was all this time?"

"Of course, I did," Granny replied. "Haven't I just told you the Talbuts were smart? That first night I couldn't quite make it out, but I guessed in a minute, as soon as I caught the 'Maiden's Prayer,' Dora is a good girl, but she can't play the piano like my sister Lucy. The running-up part sounded too jerky and she played the cross-hand place terrible fast. And when I decided it wasn't Lucy, which I ought to have done right away, for it isn't right to believe in spirits, why then I knew it couldn't be anybody but Dora. It was real smart of her, too, and I guess she saved Lucy's piano. That's why I told you about Lucy's old dresses today. I knew it would be just like you to go peeking in on her. The rest of 'em would be too scared to think of it. Stand out here and let me look at you, child! The dress is real becoming!"

Becoming it was, the soft rose-delaine, with its flounces and pointed waist. Dora's curls fell over her rosy cheeks as she leaned over the old lady's chair and questioned softly:

"Do you forgive me for it all, dear Granny?"

"Why, of course," answered Granny. "Didn't I say it was real smart of you? You ought to be a Talbut. They always were up to just such tricks. But now you must run away or they'll be home. I heard the train whistle for the grade a long time ago. But wait till I tell you about the myrtle sprig. I guess you wondered how it got in there, now, didn't you? Well, I put it there myself! I went over to the graveyard one hot afternoon, slipped out the back way while you people were painting the porch furniture. I kept the branch in water in my room till I found a chance to get in there with it. And then I was afraid it would be all dried up to nothing before you found it. Now, Dorry, you run along."

Talbut watched the girl flit lightly down the hall. "She's a darling," he declared, with conviction, and Granny replied: "Darling? To be sure she is. Don't get any foolish notions into your head about her just because she comes from the orphan asylum. You marry to suit yourself, Talbut Brand! The Talbuts all did."

"It's worth thinking over," Talbut said, a twinkle in his dark eyes. "But you'd better be getting to bed now, Granny. And don't worry any more about the piano. I'll buy the family the biggest, shiniest library table I can find, and that old piano shall stay just where it is until Kingdom come."

When Granny was alone again in her firelit room, she smiled wisely and murmured:

"Dorry and Talbut will see that Lucy's piano is taken care of after I'm gone. And I'll give Dorry Sister Lucy's coral set for a wedding gift. I never wanted it to go out of the family, and the others are too fair to set it off."

And so, dreaming sweet prophetic dreams, all of which were destined to be realized in due time, Granny extinguished her candles and fell asleep.

26-Piece Daisy SILVER SET

Premium No. 6808

Sent To You Prepaid For A Club Of Eight



WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS

WE have in the past made many offers of table ware, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer **a complete set of 26 Pieces** in return for such a small club of subscriptions. And please don't think that because we **are** giving away this set on such liberal terms that it is plated on a brass base and consequently will change color and have that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. This Set which we offer you here is plated on a **white metal base** therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will not show signs of wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—**6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife.** Each piece is **full regulation size** for family use, the handles are handsomely **embossed and decorated** with the beautiful **Daisy design** which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and the bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and **bright polished.**

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to offer it as a premium for so few subscriptions. It is by far **the greatest value** we have ever offered, in fact we are so **sure** that it will please and satisfy all who accept this offer **we are going to guarantee every Set sent out for a period of five years.** We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Daisy Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or four 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this 26-Piece Daisy Table Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 6808.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

A Winsome, Bonny Complexion

Produced by Using Stuart's Calcium Wafers After Meals. They Purify the Blood and Remove All Skin Blemishes

Trial Package Mailed Free.



In a few days after using Stuart's Calcium Wafers you will be overjoyed to see those pimples all gone, the redness disappeared, new skin gradually covering the cheeks, neck and shoulders, free of blackheads, blotches, liver spots and those other eruptions that have been such a plagued annoyance.

The reason for all this is the calcium sulphide, the principal agent of these Wafers. This is a natural substance which the blood must have and which it utilizes to overcome the impurities and body wastes that load up the skin and make it unsightly. Try Stuart's Calcium Wafers. Get a 50-cent box at any drug store and thus be sure of a winsome bonny complexion. Or if you wish to try them first write the F. A. Stuart Co., 116 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich. for a free trial package.

The Wizard Charm

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

like ye say ye do?"

"An' d'ye s'pose I'd buy a wizard charm to win ye back if I didn't, Denny bhoy?" she murmured, resting her head against his bosom.

"Well, I hate that Polack crature an' I wish she was in ——" but remembering there was a lady present, he didn't say where he wished the radiant Cora.

"R'ally Denny bhoy?" Kathleen asked, her trust quickly returning.

"R'ally an' truly," he returned. "'Tis that giddy she is! An' she thinks that pie-faced guy handsomer'n me!"

Dennis' pride had been sorely tried, and to himself he had to admit that the proprietor of the "Haviland Academy of Society Dancing," was the worthier to carry the palm of beauty.

But Kathleen! She snuggled up against his manly chest and whispered: "Shure, an', I don't see what she could'a seen in that mutt! There ain't none o' em, that's handsomer'n ye are!"

It was the winning stroke.

"We ain't goin' to monkey any more, Kathleen," Dennis announced, "an' we'll be married soon's ye kin git ready!"

"Oh, Denny, I'm thot happy!" and further words were lost in one long kiss.

The Wizard Charm had made good!

ACTRESS TELLS SECRET.

A well known actress gives the following recipe for gray hair: To half pint of water add 1 oz. Bay Rum, a small box of Barbo Compound, and ¼ oz. of glycerine. Any druggist can put this up or you can mix it at home at very little cost. Full directions for making and use come in each box of Barbo Compound. It will gradually darken streaked, faded gray hair, and make it soft and glossy. It will not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy, and does not rub off.—Adv.

FREE STEVENS **BIG LEVER ACTION** AIR RIFLE free for selling 20 Art and Religious Pictures or 20 packages Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. GEO. GATES CO., Dept. 925, CHICAGO

FREE ELECTRIC FLASHLIGHT for selling 20 pkgs. Art & Religious Post Cards at 10¢. Keystone Co. Box 533 Greenville, Pa.

EBONIZED BRUSH, COMB AND MIRROR SET



THREE ARTICLES IN BOX

Premium No. 2605

Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Five!

Latest Pattern Silverine Shields for Monogram. Beveled Mirror and Fitted Case. There does not live a girl whose heart would not fairly jump with joy at the sight of this swell **dull black finish set.** A man's heart is pleased, realizing well the beauty of work in the brush with its fine white bristles, the excellent fitted beveled mirror and finely made comb. A woman is still a girl, only grown up, and to think of really owning this set seems in many cases the realization of some fairy's dream.

The Brush is nine inches long, 2½ inches wide, firmly set with white bristles, with shield of Silverine. **Mirror** is eight and one-half inches long, 4½ inches wide on back, with a four-inch clear, finely **beveled** glass set with rich Ebonyoid frame. **Comb** is seven inches long, 1½ inches wide, with fine and coarse **teeth.** We will guarantee that there is not one person in one hundred who can tell this set from real $12.00 Ebony, so closely has the rich, black, dull finish been represented. **When ordering be sure to state that you want set No. 2605.**

Club Offer. For only five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send this Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 2605. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

VETERINARY INFORMATION



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

RINGBONE.—I have a very valuable horse, six years old that has ringbone on left hind foot. After it had been growing six months he became very lame. I took a chisel and cut it in two places, and burnt it with a hot iron, after which I used caustic balsam. He is wearing a lead band around ringbone. While he travels much better he is not well. What would you advise me to do? B. G. S.

A.—The cutting treatment was wrong and might have ruined the horse. Blistering was indicated but the ointment too mild. The lead band will do no good. Have a qualified veterinarian properly puncture-fire the ringbone and under it in the hoof and then apply a blister. After that the horse should be kept tied up short for six weeks.

LOCOED CATTLE.—Is there any cure for locoed cattle? A lot of it grows here and we think one yearling has it. H. L. M.

A.—So far as possible the loco weeds should be exterminated by grubbing. Affected cattle must be kept off pasture and fed good hay and other available feed. Fowler's solution of arsenic helps. The dose is one half to one ounce twice daily for an adult animal. Lessen the dose according to age and size.

PILES.—I have a young sow to raise six nice pigs. They grew nicely until two months old and then taken with something like piles. They bleed considerably at first, live in that condition two weeks and die. W.

A.—Irritants such as oat hulls or ground cob in the feed tend to cause this condition. Boiled potatoes may also cause it. Put pigs on milk diet adding wheat middlings and oil meal. Cleanse the protruded parts, bathe with extract of witch hazel and return to place then bring tail down over anus between hind legs and tie it to a strap around body so as to make it prevent return of piles or rectum. Make pigs take active exercise daily.

SWEENY.—I have a mule that has had sweeny in her front shoulder for four months. It has shrunk away. What can I do to cure her? R. B.

A.—Have a veterinarian inject a little tincture of iodine under the skin at several places at the top of the wasted part and then rub downward with the palm of the hand. The injection is done by means of a hypodermic syringe.

FOALS DYING.—I owned two colts from good healthy mares. When they were about three months old they both died, within a few days of each other, and apparently without any cause that I could see. Their mothers and they were out on blue grass pasture every day but were in the barn every night and got red top hay and some whole oats for feed. They had all the pure water they cared to drink. Nothing seemed to ail either of the colts the day when each died; on the contrary they were in splendid condition. The weather was quite warm when they died, but I have often let colts out in such weather without bad effects. Several of my neighbors lost colts in the same way. Some people say they died of bot-fly poisoning while others argue it must have been swamp fever. What do you think caused death? W. P. S.

A.—You give not the slightest clue to what may have been the cause of death. There is no such thing as bot fly poisoning and young foals are not killed by swamp fever, so far as we are aware there would seem to be a possibility of sunstroke.

WOODEN TONGUE.—I have a cow, three years old. Her tongue is swollen hard in the middle, but natural at each end. She chews her tongue and froths at the month, and cannot eat hay. It bothers her to eat grain. She has been like this for four months.

A.—The cow has actinomycosis of the tongue, commonly called wooden tongue. The disease is due to invasion of the tissues of the tongue by the ray-fungus (actinomyces) which also causes lump jaw. The disease is curable. Have a veterinarian scarify the hardened tongue and then swab with tincture of iodine, the application to be repeated two or three times a week. Also have him put the cow on a course of iodide of potash which is a specific remedy for this disease when affecting soft tissues.

WOLF TEETH.—Does a horse have wolf teeth and if so does it cause blindness? (2) Describe wolf teeth and locate them. (3) How can blindness be prevented from that cause?

A.—Some horses have wolf teeth which are insignificant little vestigial teeth representing the seventh or anterior premolar teeth of the upper jaw of the prehistoric horse. They come in just in front of the first premolar teeth of the upper jaw, are entirely harmless, never cause any derangement or disease of the eyes (common erroneous belief to the contrary) and need not be removed. They usually drop out as a horse ages.

WORMS.—Will you tell me what is the matter with my cat? He has a rattling in his throat and vomits up worms. L. D.

A.—To destroy the worms starve the cat for eighteen hours, then give one to two grains of santonin, according to age and size, and follow in one half an hour with a dose of Castor oil in milk. The dose may be repeated in two weeks if thought necessary.

SALIVARY FISTULA.—I have a seven-year-old mare that was cut on barb wire when she was a colt. The cut starts about her ear and comes down her neck just behind the jaw bone. The scar could not be seen when I bought her two months ago. Now there is a slight discharge, just enough to keep the hair around the place matted and a small place about as large as a pencil lead that is sore. R. H. H.

A.—Apparently there is a fistula of the parotid salivary duct and home treatment will do no good. It is possible that a skilled surgeon may succeed in closing the opening by operation.

LAMENESS.—I have a mare that was a little lame when I bought her, last June. I worked her and she became very lame and would hold up her hind leg. The flesh shrunk top of her hip, between hip and rump. She is better when not worked. She swings that leg a very little; it seems stiff in hock joint. Just below the stifle bone in front it seems a little large and is not as soft as the other side. I cannot find any soreness, but if she walks over rough ground she stubs her toe and is more lame. (2) I have a horse that has a lump about four inches long, half way between nostrils and eyes. When I open, a white substance in lumps and thin blood comes out and then it closes up. L. L.

A.—Unfortunately we cannot diagnose mysterious lameness without an examination, but we suspect that a ringbone is present and if so you should have it puncture-fired and blistered by a veterinarian. (2) Lump jaw (actinomycosis) apparently is present. Apply tincture of iodine daily and inject it when the lump opens. This may help a little but an operation by a trained surgeon would be the better treatment.

WORMS.—My cat has white worms, about two inches long and the size of a large common pin. The cat does not stir around and chokes a great deal. R. F.

A.—Starve cat for eighteen hours and then give one to two grains of santonin in a capsule and an hour or so afterward give a dose of Castor oil in milk. Repeat the dose in two weeks if thought necessary.

NASAL GLEET.—I have a seventeen-year-old horse, which, at times, has a running from his nostrils. It has a disagreeable odor. It appears to be a gathering and goes for weeks at a time without running; then it breaks out and runs a while and drys again. B. H.

A.—A diseased molar tooth is the probable cause of the discharge and it should be removed by trephining to be done by a trained surgeon. If a tooth is not the cause pus gathers in a sinus of the skull and that also would require trephining and then flushing out daily with a one per cent solution of permanganate of potash.

DEPRAVED APPETITE.—Will you tell me the cause of my cattle eating horse manure? They are in a good pasture and have all the roughage they will eat. They eat it in the summer-time when on good green pasture. (2) I have a large Shepherd dog that was poisoned by the range riders, about two years ago. We gave him fresh milk and he got over it but grew very poor and has remained so. F. A. H.

A.—Feeding wheat bran freely and also allowing free access to slaked lime and salt often will stop this depraved appetite which also causes the eating of bones, leather and other foreign substances. Precipitated phosphate of lime or bone meal mixed in the feed also helps. (2) Worms may be the cause. Give him two drams of freshly powdered kamala in cream or soup after starving for eighteen hours. Repeat in two weeks if thought necessary.

AZORTURIA.—I have a mare six years old, in good condition, that has what the veterinarian calls azorturia. She is only affected during the late fall and winter months. The attacks come on very suddenly. She begins to walk as though the belly band was too tight, shivers and jerks in her shoulders. If I continue driving her she will lie done. When she is stopped a few minutes she gets so stiff she can't walk. The attack usually lasts from twelve to twenty-four hours. Is there a remedy and how should she be fed? H. C.

A.—If azoturia is present the urine will be the color of strong coffee at time of attack. As the disease is purely due to overfeeding during a spell of illness no attack will come on if you stop feeding grain when there is no work for the mare to do and at such times make her take active exercise. Never let her stand for a single day idle in the stable. She should be allowed a roomy box stall. Keep her bowels active at all times.

COLIC.—I have a horse seven years old that becomes sick whenever he is used. It seems to be a pain in the stomach, and his suffering is misery. When sick he will not eat or drink, but lie down and rise again continually. I. B.

A.—Allow the horse a large box stall when in the stable and bed it with sawdust or shavings if he eats his bedding. Never let the horse stand for a single day without work or active exercise. Feed from a very large box to prevent bolting. Give the drinking water before feeding. Feed whole oats, one ninth part of wheat bran by weight, ear corn, carrots and mixed clover hay. It would be well to have the teeth attended to by a veterinarian.

WEAK SHOULDERS.—I have a mule that has soft shoulders. It doesn't appear to hurt her, only when starting a load when she will throw her head to one side. She is not lame in anyway, and her shoulders are not raw. I. R.

A.—The collar does not fit properly or the tugs are improperly adjusted on the harness. These things should be attended to. Very likely the mule would work well in a humane collar, or wide breast collar.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22.)

as if their brains rattle and they are trying to tie them together so they won't lose them. I hope nobody will ever see me with one on my head. And whether you agree with me or not, it is very foolish.

It is just half past nine and the little kiddies are tieing up their hair and getting ready for bed. Pretty soon I will be crawling into my bed. I hope to write to you pretty soon. Your sincere friend,

CECILIA EDMAN.

Cecilia, I had an awful job to read your address. Like ninety-nine out of every hundred people, you make the letter a exactly like an o. Always be careful when writing names and addresses. My street address is Park Place. Now Park Place is a real nice, refined sort of address, but my friends won't let me live on Park Place, they make all their a's into o's and the result is I have to spend my days in Pork Place. You see people will insist on putting me on the hog. Of course I don't care very much how the address is written as long as I get the letters, but only twenty million packages of mail went astray in the U. S. last year, some of it containing thousands of dollars, because people simply would insist on addressing envelopes so illegibly, or so carelessly, that even the lynx-eyed postal officials could not decipher them. I am sorry to hear Cecilia, that a lot of stuck up people live around your neighborhood. I despise stuck up people. We are not cursed with the caste system in this country to the extent that they are in Europe, but believe me we are going to get just as bad a dose of it as they have over there if we are not mighty careful, and it's stuck up people who are responsible for classes and caste. Maria went up to Millbrook, N. Y., a millionaire colony, about fifty miles north of New York, to spend a week one summer a few years ago and she saw much that made her radical, democratic stomach turn over. All around this section are vast estates. Palatial residences, almost exact replicas of the homes of the European nobility dot the landscape. Imported flunkeys in gorgeous liveries, gamekeepers, grooms, stewards, footmen, pages, butlers and other poor, unhappy folk, trying to look half human, and never succeeding, throng these gilded halls. Now if a man wants to put his money into a palatial residence I have no objection. That's his business, but I hate to see him turning thousands of acres of food producing land into pleasure parks and game preserves. That's what they have done in Europe, with the result that thousands of people, yeoman farmers, the backbone of the nation, have emigrated, or gone to the cities to be ground by the factory system into weaklings and degenerates. We do not want to adopt the decadent fads and follies of Europe, but that is just what we are doing. We are duplicating the old World vices and follies, without duplicating any old World virtues. Now that war has hit the old World, vast pleasure estates have been given over to the plow, for food must be had at all costs and genteel hands that never toiled, are tilling fields and making ammunition. I had a letter the other day from a man in Europe and this is what he wrote: "The war has done one good thing. It has made us dispense largely with female household help. Our cook and housemaid we have had to dispense with, and my wife and daughter find it quite easy to do what they once did. It means a saving to us of over fifteen dollars a week." In my friend's family there is another saving, the saving which he did not touch upon, but which to my mind is of far more consequence than the financial saving, and that is the saving of selfrespect. I never could understand why two healthy women living in a modest home, should not be wiling and able to take care of that home, and for that matter should not be compelled to take care of it. In these days of running hot and cold water, telephone service, steam and furnace heat, gas stoves, fireless cookers, electric irons, percolators, chafing dishes, self-basting roasters, mechanical sweepers and vacuum cleaners, why should not the well to do, if they have good health, do a little cleaning and cooking once a day? It is only healthy exercise at the best, and saves self respect as well as money. In the little town Maria visited, in which the newly rich had set up their mansions, there was more excitement when Mr. Goldrocks (who had made a fortune putting sand in sugar, glucose in jam, clay in candy, sawdust in sausages, or turned over five millions by wrecking a railroad, and skinning widows and orphans) went down to the village depot in his new five thousand dollar limousine, than you'll find in a British village if King George the one fifth and Mary the four fifths happened to strike it on a royal progress. It amused me when I was living in a Western town some twenty-five years ago to note how the insidious evils of pride and caste were creeping in. There was a west side where the wealthy lived, and an east side where the toilers existed. There was of course a whole page in the Sunday paper devoted to the doings of high society. All the reports on that page were graded according to a person's social position. If rich Mrs. Jones on the west side had a friend drop in for lunch, that trifling episode was given a whole column in the Sunday paper, while if poor Mrs. Brown over on the east side had two hundred of her neighbors drop in to celebrate her golden wedding, or threw her husband out of the window, or fell down-stairs and broke her neck, she only got three lines. Mrs. Gotrocks who spent her summers in Paris, regarded with unutterable contempt Mrs. Liverwurst who spent her winters in Southern California. There is only one aristocracy in the world, and that is the aristocracy of intellect and character. "Pride," Pope says, "is the never failing vice of fools," and the Lord knows he is right. Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall, says the grand old Bible. People who carry their noses highest in the air, are generally the ones that spend the butt end of their lives rubbing that same nose against their shoe tops. No really great man ever stuck his nose in the air, for no real gentleman was ever stuck up. Mr. Gould, or Mr. Vanderbilt wouldn't speak to Maria, but the Duke of Buccleuch, the premier Duke of Scotland, would and often did. It is only the parvenu, the newly rich, and the ignoramus, the purse proud and the empty headed who do the stuck up act. We should take honest pride in every worthy action we do, but honest pride never poked a man's nose in the air, rather it made him humble and brought him nearer to God. Abraham Lincoln said he only knew one man who was dignified and he was a jackass. Death levels all ranks and lays the shepherd's crook beside the scepter. Life is too short and eternity too long for little peewee mortals to attempt to lord it over their less fortunate brothers, because luck or rascality or ability has placed a few more dollars in their pockets. I have seen the curse of caste in other lands. Its blighting effect in India is appalling and horrible. The elevated nose and being stuck up are the insidious things which divide society into camps, the world into classes, and make democracy, which is our hope, our sheet anchor, our guiding star, our one salvation, a jest and a byword. Let us be democratic. No one who is truly democratic can ever be stuck up. Unless you are democratic you can never be truly American. Those little ribbons that some girls tie around the forehead is a revival of an old Greek fashion. If a girl has a Grecian type of face, a ribbon around the brow and worn when in the home, is quite becoming. No one however should wear anything on the street that is bizarre or conspicuous. In many cases these ribbons serve a good purpose, for if they do not succeed in keeping the brains from jingling, maybe they keep the mush from spilling. Our fashions are made for us by the wanton women of European capitals, and they are pushed down our throats by the male dressmakers and merchants to boom business, and anything that booms business even at the expense of all that we hold sacred and most dear, must not be interfered with, at least not until we get more sense, more decency and more self respect.

RUTHERFORDTON, N. C.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have been a reader of COMFORT for some time and have received much valuable information from its columns.

Uncle, would you mind doing me a favor? I am sending you nine words and want you to write me a few short verses, using them as a guide. The following are the words: "I'll Never Love No One Like I Do Him." Am sending a two cent stamp and a stamped envelope for answer.

Hope you won't think I am asking too much. I have a great desire to be a poet, but am going to school and haven't the time to spare at the present. Hoping to hear from you at once I am,

Your friend, UYLESS HINES.

P. S. Uncle please excuse this paper as I am in school and haven't any stationery here.

Thank you Uyless, for your brief but important letter. Please ask your teacher to reconstruct your handwriting. People who write a slanting, tumbledown back hand, as though all the letters were stewed, jingled, jagged, pickeled and inebriated, too befuddled to stand up and all trying to see a resting place on their backs, make me weary. This style of handwriting I regard as a decided evidence of decadence. It is as objectionable as the futurist's idea in painting and art. With what charming frankness and candor does Uyless inform us that he has not time to be a poet. Perhaps we can thank kind Providence for that, but a school boy who has not time to write a legible hand ought to be spanked. Paper is scarce and horribly expensive, so don't waste any valuable material by sprawling one or two letters across the entire page, and don't make the letter f look as though it were a y. Not having time to be a poet you are going to hire me to do your poetizing for you. I thank you for your

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 34.)

GIVEN TO YOU WITHOUT EXPENSE

The Rocker shown here usually sells for $8 or $10 at retail. We give it with a $10 purchase of Larkin Products because when you buy from us you save the amount it represents by dealing direct with our great Factories.



This Sewing Table makes your needlework a pleasure and helps make your home more beautiful.

New Catalog FREE

Send for yours Today. Just off the press. It describes and illustrates the fine Premiums and the 600 Larkin Products, all household necessities of the highest quality.

Make the money that stocks your pantry also furnish your home.



Mail coupon today to nearest address
BUFFALO, PEORIA, CHICAGO
Larkin Co.
Please send me your Catalog No. 76.
Name.....
Address.....
G. P. 346.....

If I Send You this Suit

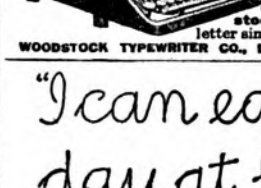
made to your measure, in the latest style, would you be willing to keep and wear it, show it to your friends and let them see our beautiful samples and dashing new styles?

Could you use $5.00 a day for a little spare time? Perhaps I can offer you a steady job. If you will write me a letter or a postal at once and say: *"Send me your special offer,"* I will send you samples and styles to pick from and my **surprising liberal offer.**



Address: L. E. ASHER, President
BANNER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 544 Chicago, Ill.

YOU CAN HAVE THIS



wholly visible (42 key) single shift typewriter, **for your own,** if you will show it to your friends and let them see where in it **excels other $100 typewriters,** and tell them of our most liberal offer ever made on a strictly modern, typewriter and **Woodstock at that.** By post card or letter simply say *"Mail Particulars."*

WOODSTOCK TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. M631, CHICAGO, ILL.

"I can earn $2 a day at home"

You may say that, too—if you want more income. Easy to learn. Steady work at home *the year round.* Send 2c stamp for information. Write today, to Auto-Knitter Hosiery Co., Inc., Desk 95-W, 147 Franklin Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

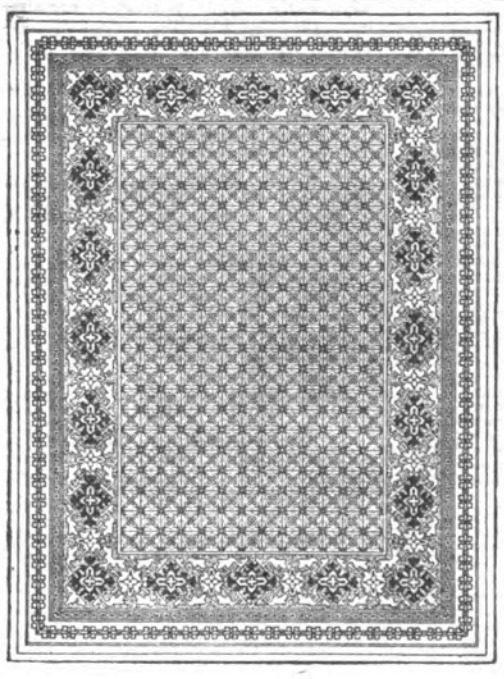
AGENTS Everywhere Making Big Money

Selling Little Wonder Gasoline Lights for Stores, Schools, Churches, Tents, Show-men, and for the Home, Park and Street Lights, Etc. **Brighter than Electricity—Cheaper than Oil. Write for Prices. Little Wonder Light Mfg. Co., 158 S. 5th St. Terre Haute, Indiana**

Beautiful Watch AND SIX CHARMING PIECES JEWELRY FREE



EARN THESE QUICK. **Beautiful Watch,** also one **Gold pl. Bracelet,** one charming **Pendant,** set with imi. diamonds and **Four Beautiful Rings. BIG VALUE.** Sell 12 boxes white Cloverine at 25 cents per box, give beautiful 16x20 in. picture FREE. Return us $3.00. Be first in your town. Write today for 12 boxes.
The Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. 43 Tyrone, Pa.



Congoleum Rug

Premium No. 7206

Given For A Club Of Six!

A **YARD and a half long and one yard wide.** Water cannot rot it, sun cannot fade it. It lies **flat** on the floor without nails, tacks or paste and positively will not **curl up** at the edges. The Congoleum Rug is something new. It is not oil-cloth or Linoleum or made of grass, fiber or fabric—it is not like any other floor covering in the world. It is absolutely **waterproof,** not affected by heat or cold, neither fades nor rots indoors or out. When you wash the floor or porch you can wash the Congoleum rug at the same time without taking it up. You can leave it outdoors the year round, and it will not rot, fade or get that dingy look that other rugs do after exposure to sun and wear. In doors you can use it on your bathroom, hall, pantry or kitchen floor, under the refrigerator or stove or in any room in the house. No matter **where** you place it it will outwear a dozen ordinary rugs and give years of service. These rugs come in many different designs and beautiful combinations of colors and we have selected the one illustrated herewith as the most suitable for **all-round** purposes. It will make an attractive appearance regardless of whether you use it as a porch rug, or in hall, kitchen, pantry or chamber. We are positive that every woman who secures one of these rugs will want more of them at once so we have arranged to supply you with as many as you may need upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one Congoleum Rug free by express or parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7206.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Want-to-know, Altus, Okla.—The wedding ceremony prescribed by the church is not quite that of the ceremony by a magistrate, though the magistrate can vary his to suit the circumstances, while the clergyman cannot. The result, however, is just as binding. If the couple wish to be married with a ring, any polite magistrate is perfectly willing to perform the ceremony accordingly. The wedding ring cannot very appropriately be had unless there is a wedding, without regard to the length of the engagement.

A. G., Sylvatus, Va.—You might give the young lady a nice little gilt-edged volume of etiquette so that she could acquire better manners than she has and then tell her good by. Really, if you are at all sane, you will pay no more attention to the young lady. She either wants to snub you, or she lacks the ordinary sense of politeness. Why bother with that sort when there are others so much more attractive? However, there are no rules of etiquette to prevent your being snubbed all over if you like that sort of thing.

Gray Eyes, West Baden, Ind.—When strange men in a buggy halloo at two ladies on the road, the presumption is that they are not gentlemen and the ladies should ignore them unless they wish to make the acquaintance of that kind of men. (2) A lady may permit a gentleman to wear her ring, but she will have a more contented mind if she does not. (3) A girl of fifteen may walk home from a party with a gentleman if some member of her own family is not there to look after her. Girls of fifteen should not go to parties unattended.

Tenn. Beauty, Mt. Airy, Tenn.—An engaged couple should talk about something else besides themselves, but they seldom do, so that when they are married and the previous subject is stale, they haven't anything else to talk about and home gets mighty dull as a conversation center. But engaged couples rarely learn this soon enough. (2) Etiquette hasn't much to do with lovers' manners, but it strikes us that if a gentleman told a lady continuously for a year that he loved her with all his heart, he should, at least, incidentally, mention the subject of marriage. Still, some do not and the lady must settle the question to suit herself. In the mean time, the gentleman has no right to put his arm around the lady and kiss her. This is another matter which the lady, not etiquette, controls. Some ladies do and some don't.

Rosie, Rainier, Cal.—Don't worry. You did not lie, you only suppressed the truth to prevent harm, and society excuses that as choosing the lesser of two evils. You acted properly in telling the truth where the truth was what should have been told. Conventional lying, as practised in social circles, is a somewhat complicated proposition and before you attempt a general practise of it you should have a talk with your pastor.

Lady, Pleasant Plain, Iowa.—In giving presents of any kind, the sensible and proper thing is to find out what the prospective recipient would like. It may be useful, or it may be ornamental, but if it is what is wanted, the success of the gift is assured. Many of the city stores now advertise to find out what persons want, and they notify the donor and supply the gift and deliver it. All the donor has to do is to pay for it and the price may be large or small as the donor advises the store people in submitting a list of presents to select from. (2) It is not exactly conventional for a lady to mend a gentleman's clothes, even though she can do it better than his relatives can, but it is a friendly act and should be recognized as humane good manners. Still, a tailor might have done the work better than the lady could.

Lassie, Knoxville, Tenn.—In accepting a gentleman's invitation in writing, don't be formal, but write it as you would answer him over the phone, or if you met him anywhere. A lady should not receive an invitation if she doesn't know how to answer it. Also, you should say "acceptance," not "acception," which is a word too old-fashioned for any use now. (2) The lady leads the way into her own house, though her escort may open the front door if he can do it as easily as she can.

Perplexed, Auburn, Wash.—It is "legal and practical" in some states for second cousins to marry, but the wisest people choose to marry outside of their own families. A state might make a law legalizing the marriage of a brother and sister, but the law wouldn't make it right. However, so many second cousins do marry that if you want to, no legal or practical objections can be made.

Brown Eyes, Butte, Mont.—Sometimes there is harm in a girl marrying a man ten years older than herself and sometimes not. It depends on the girl and the man, not the age. There is no harm in a girl of seventeen going with a man of twenty-four, if she resolves not to marry him till she is twenty-one, which would make them both of the very best marrying age. P. S. You have our congratulations upon your ability to do the housework for eight people. It is far more to your credit than being able to smoke a cigarette and dance the Toddle. Also that your letter is written without an error of any kind.

P. M. S., St. Joseph, Mo.—Do not give the cold shoulder to the young man until you know why he did not call when in the city, as he promised to do. If he is as nice as you say he is, he must have a good reason for not keeping his promise. Don't lose your temper and a nice young man both at once.

Florence, Denison, Texas.—A girl of twenty-four and a man of thirty-six are at a very good age to marry. (2) You cannot permanently remove hair from your face by merely pulling it out, for it will grow again.

K. R., Prairie View, Kans.—There is nothing improper in meeting your young man at the front gate which is beside the hogpen, but the front gate is no place for the hogpen unless that is the style for front gates in Prairie View. Of course, when you are in Rome you must do as the Romans do, for there is nothing like being in the fashion. If the young man drinks only enough to see ghosts and not snakes, he might be worse—but not much.

Discouraged, Mt. Vernon, Ind.—All three of you are in the wrong to some extent. First, you were wrong in saying anything about your friend which could be retold to his hurt, and the young lady was worse for telling what you had said and causing trouble. The friend was wrong in writing you an ill-natured letter when he should have talked to you if he wanted to take any notice at all of what you had said, and you added to the first of your wrong-doing by writing ugly letters to your friend and to the young lady. You did your part in trying to remedy the wrong by apologizing to the young lady and if she does not see fit to be polite to you, let it go. In any event, if you never get a chance to talk to her again, she will not have a chance to make trouble by repeating what you say. We think if the three of you got together and had an apology party the social atmosphere would be considerably cleared. Mail this copy of COMFORT to the young lady.

Curly, Goldsmith, N. Y.—Getting rid of undesirable acquaintances without hurting their feelings is one of the social problems which thus far has never been so successfully solved as to fit all cases. Work it out for yourself.

Oklahoma Boy, Boley, Okla.—A girl is a debutante when she has had her coming-out party and is admitted into society, and she is a debutante for one season. (2) We do not think there is too much talk about the danger to which young girls are exposed, not only in the cities, but in the country. We happen to be in touch with sources of information on this subject from all parts of the country and we know that there should be not only more talk on the dangers, but more action to prevent them. The most serious aspect of the case is that the girls themselves are careless of the dangers, not ignorant of them in most cases, and are willing to take the most dangerous risks just to have a good time as they call it in all sorts of giddy company. More respectable girls drink cocktails, smoke cigarettes and keep late hours in these days of modern ideas than was ever known before and parental restraint has been greatly relaxed in favor of social demands which undermine the health and the morals of the young of both sexes. Who is to blame for these conditions is a question many organizations, religious and social, are engaged in studying, but the solution has not yet been found.

Subscriber, Annona, Texas.—Engaged couples may kiss each other with perfect propriety, even if the date of the wedding has not been fixed.

Patt, Steubenville, Ohio.—You are doing the proper thing, young fellow, in trying to inform yourself somewhat on social usage before attempting social practise. Too many young fellows don't and their company manners are worse than those of Indians. We are glad you have found the girl you like and we hope you marry her, but don't think of it until after you are twenty-one, when you will be recognized legally as a grown man, though you should wait four years longer before you marry. Of course when you take her home, you must go into the house if she asks you, but you mustn't stay later than ten o'clock, or not so late if you have to get up very early. You do not sit on the same chair with her, at least, in the beginning, but you both may occupy a cozy sofa, or one of those double chairs built for two. If she likes candy you may begin giving it to her as soon as you please, but it isn't necessary to feed her on it, nor is it necessary to be everlastingly spending your hard-earned savings on her for movies and that sort of thing. Be liberal, but not lavish. If you go to see her Saturday and Sunday that will be plenty to start with. One of the mistakes young people make is seeing too much of each other and now that you are just beginning, you should get a fair start. Of all things, don't be in a hurry to get married, or the chances are that you will be in more of a hurry to wish you hadn't. Keep a level head and see that the girl's head is even leveler than yours. A fool girl is worse than a fool young man. You have our best wishes for a brilliant social success.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.)

dard stood before her.

But she shrank back almost immediately, a low exclamation of surprise escaping her as she saw his face, so white, so pain-drawn, and haggard.

"Gerald! what is the matter?" she demanded, forgetting, for the moment, her own anger and even her errand there, in the anxiety which she experienced for him.

"I am feeling quite well, Anna," he responded, in a mechanical tone. "What is it you wish to say to me?"

Sweeping into the room, she closed the door after her, then confronted him with accusing mien.

"What do I wish to say to you?" she repeated, her voice quivering with passion, her eyes blazing with a fierce expression. "I want that paper which you have stolen from me."

"I—I do not understand you, Anna," the man began, in a preoccupied manner. "What paper—what——"

"I will bear no trifling," she passionately cried, interrupting him. "You know very well what paper I refer to—I never had but one document in my possession in which you had any interest; the one you have so beset me about during the last few weeks."

"That?" exclaimed the man.

"That!" retorted his companion, mockingly imitating his tone, "as if you did not very well know it was 'that,' and no other. Gerald Goddard, I have come to demand it of you," she went on shrilly. "You have no right to enter my rooms, like a thief, and steal my treasures! I——"

"Anna, be still!" commanded her husband. "You are losing control of yourself, and some of our guests may overhear you. I know nothing of the document."

"You lie!" hissed the woman, almost beside herself with mingled rage and fear. "Who, but you, could have any interest in the thing? who, save you, even knew of its existence, or that it had ever been in my possession? Give it back to me! I will have it! It's my only safeguard. You knew it, and you have stolen it, to make yourself independent of me."

"Anna, you shall not demean either yourself or me by giving expression to such unjust suspicions," Gerald Goddard returned with cold dignity. "I swear to you that I do not know anything about the paper. I have not even once laid my eyes upon it since you stole it from me. If it has been taken from the place where you have kept it concealed," he went on, "then other hands than mine have been guilty of the theft."

"Then who could have taken it," she gasped, growing ghastly white at the thought of there being a third party to their secret—"who on earth has done this thing?"

Gerald Goddard was silent. He had his suspicions, suspicions that made him quake inwardly, as he thought of what might be the outcome of them if they should prove to be true.

"Gerald, why do you not answer me?" his companion impatiently demanded. "Can you think of any one who would be likely to rob us in this way?"

"Have you no suspicion, Anna?" the man asked. "Was there no one among your guests tonight, who——"

"Who—what——!" she cried.

"Was there no one present who made you think of—of some one whom you—have known in the—the past?"

"Ha! do you refer to Mrs. Stewart?" said madam. "Did you also notice the—resemblance?"

"Could any one help it?—could any one ever mistake those eyes? Anna—she was Isabel herself!"

"No—no!" she panted wildly, "she may be some relative. Are you losing your mind? Isabel is—dead."

"She lives!"

"I tell you no! I—saw her dead."

"You? How could that be possible?" exclaimed Mr. Goddard, in astonishment. "We were both in Florence at the time of that tragedy."

"Nevertheless, I saw her dead and in her coffin."

"Now you talk as if you were losing your mind."

"I am not. Do you not remember I told you one morning, I was going to spend a couple of days with a friend at Fiesole?"

"Yes."

"Well, I had read of that tragedy that very day, and then hid the paper, but I did not go to Fiesole at all. I took the first train for Rome."

"Anna!"

"I wanted to be sure," she cried, excitedly. "I was jealous of her, I—hated her; and I knew that if the report was true I should be at rest. I went to the place where they had taken her. Some one had cared for her very tenderly—she lay as if asleep, and looked like a beautiful piece of sculpture in her white robe; one could hardly believe that she was—dead. But they told me they were going to—to bury her that afternoon unless some one came to claim her. They asked me if I had known her—if she was a friend of mine. I told them no—she was nothing to me; I had simply come out of curiosity, having seen the story of her tragic end in a paper. Then I took the next train back to Florence."

"Why have you never told me this before, Anna?"

"Why?" she flashed out jealously at him. "Why should I talk of her to you? She was dead—she could never come between us, and I wished to put her entirely out of my mind, since I had satisfied myself of the fact."

"Did—did you hear anything of—of——"

"Of the child? No; all I ever knew was what you yourself read in the paper—that both mother and child had disappeared from their home and both were supposed to have suffered the same fate, although the body of the child was not found."

"Oh!" groaned Gerald Goddard, wiping his brow. "I never realized the horror of it as I do at this moment, and I never have forgiven myself for not going to Rome to institute a search for myself; but——"

"But I wouldn't let you, I suppose you were about to add," said madam, bitterly. "What was the use?" she went on, angrily. "Everything was all over before you knew anything about it——"

"I could at least have erected a tablet to mark her resting-place," the man interposed.

"Ha! ha! it strikes me it was rather late then to manifest much sentiment; that would have become you better before you broke her heart and killed her by your neglect and desertion," sneered madam.

"Don't, Anna!" he cried, sharply. Then suddenly straightening himself, he said, as if just awaking from some horrible nightmare: "But she did not die. I have not that on my conscience, after all."

"She did—I tell you she did!" retorted the woman.

"But I have seen and talked with her tonight, and she told me that she was—Isabel!" he persisted.

"I do not believe it—I will not believe it!" she panted.

"Anna," he said, gravely, and speaking with more calmness and gentleness than at any time during the interview, "this is a stern fact, and—we must look it in the face."

His tone and manner carried conviction to her heart.

She sank crouching at his feet, bowing her face upon her hands.

"Gerald! Gerald! it must not be so!" she wailed. "It is only some cunning story invented to cheat us and avenge her. That woman shall never separate us—I will never yield to her. Oh, Heaven! why did I not destroy that paper when I had it? Gerald, give it to me now, if you have it; it is not too late to burn it even now, and no one can prove the truth—we can defy her to the last."

The man stooped to raise her from her humiliating position.

"Get up, Anna," he said, kindly. "Come, sit in this chair and let us talk the matter over calmly. It is a stern fact that Isabel is alive and well, and it is useless either to ignore it or deplore it."

"You say that it is a 'stern fact' that Isabel lives," she remarked, with compressed lips.

"I am sure—there can be no mistake," the man replied. Then he told her of the interview which had occurred in the hall, where he had found the woman standing before the picture which he had painted in Rome so many years ago.

"She recognized it at once," he said; "she located the very spot from which I had painted the scene."

"Oh, I cannot make it seem possible, for I tell you I saw her lying dead in her casket," moaned madam.

"She must have been in a trance—she must have been resuscitated by those people who found her. As sure as you and I both live, she is living also."

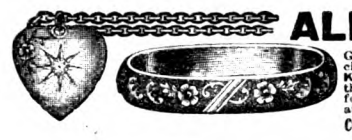
"Oh, how could such a thing be?"

"I do not know—she did not tell me; she was very cold and proud."

"What was she doing here? how dared she enter this house?" cried madam, her anger blazing up again.

"I cannot tell you. It was a question I was asking myself just as you came to the door," said Mr. Goddard, with a sigh. "I have no doubt she had some deep-laid purpose, however."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 40.)



ALL THESE FREE

Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone, 22-inch chain, Handsome Watch, **GUARANTEED TIMEKEEPER**, one Nethersole Bracelet to fit any arm and these 2 gold plated Rings **ALL GIVEN** for selling only 24 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c each. Write for Jewelry today.

FREE

COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO., Dept. 265 East Boston, Mass.





TYPEWRITERS

$10 & Up. All Makes. Save $25 to $50

on rebuilt at the factory by the well-known **"Young Process."** Sold for low cash—installment or rented. Rental applies on purchase price. Write for full details and guarantee. Free trial.

YOUNG TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. 84, Chicago



Overland FREE

Send me your name at once if you live in the country or town under 10,000, for my new easy plan for winning this New 1917 OVERLAND Touring Car, or $795 in cash. It will surely appeal to you. No money needed. I have already given away 40 autos. If you want one write today for full particulars.

C. F. ALDRICH, Dept. A., St. Paul, Minn.



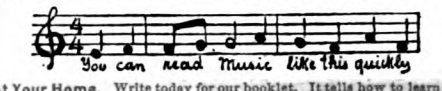
Enlarged Picture Free

A three-quarter life sized portrait of anyone dear to you, *Free* for introducing our new portrait to your friends. Fine chance to obtain a valuable picture for little effort.

Any photo copied. True likeness and satisfaction guaranteed. Special offer if you answer NOW. Full particulars and booklet, *"How to Judge a Picture" FREE!* Send for it today.

States Studios, Dept. A, 1031 W. Adams St., Chicago

MUSIC LESSONS FREE



At Your Home. Write today for our booklet. It tells how to learn to play Piano, Organ, Violin, Mandolin, Guitar, Banjo, etc. Beginners or advanced pupils. AMERICAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 15 Lakeside Bldg., Chicago.



TO SLENDER WOMEN

You will positively acquire all the lovely soft outlines of the perfect form by wearing

The Perfect Contour Bust Model

which adjusts naturally over the bust, is dainty, durable and easily laundered. Send to-day for finest quality. Price $1.00.

THE PERFECT CONTOUR CO., Dept. A, 3224 E. Berkshire Road, Cleveland Heights, O.



This is positively the most beautiful wrist watch you have ever seen. It is just the size of a half dollar. The case is made of genuine **Mother of Pearl**, giving off beautiful **variations of color.** Much prettier than gold, as it will never wear out or tarnish. Good Swiss movement; stem wind and stem set. Soft leather adjustable wristband.

SEND NO MONEY I want to give one lady or girl in each locality one of these beautiful watches **FREE** for just a little easy work, which you can do in an hour or two. Write today. Address

V. A. KEMPER, 231 Friend Building, Kansas City, Mo.



GRAY HAIR RESTORED

TO ITS NATURAL COLOR

Not an experiment but an absolute success. **Rhodes' Hair Rejuvenator** will positively restore gray and faded hair to its original color, youthful beauty and rich lustre. It is a scalp and hair food that cures dandruff, and all scalp humors. Nourishes the roots of the hair and makes it grow luxuriantly. Harmless and undetectable. It is not a dye and will not stain the skin or linen. It cures itching and sore scalps.

MAKES HAIR GROW

Let us convince you. Send 5 cents in postage for free trial bottle, book on the Care of the Hair, etc. Large bottle $1.00, express prepaid. Address the hair and scalp specialists.

A. T. RHODES' & CO., LOWELL, MASS.

Combination Embroidery And Stamping Outfit



All New Popular Designs! Prem. No. 7312 Given For a Club of Two!

HAND embroidery is in greater demand than ever this season owing to the simplicity of the dresses and waists. Even the plainest costume may be made very stylish and attractive by adding some handsome design in hand embroidery. We have been careful to include in this stamping outfit only the prettiest and most practical designs a few of which are shown in the above illustration. Also we have included some very attractive and popular designs already stamped on good material. Three are **three large sheets of perforated patterns** containing designs for **linen suits, corset covers, collar and cuffs, baby's dresses, baby's kimonos, handkerchiefs, centerpieces, calendars, picture frames, one complete alphabet** and many other popular and stylish designs, also a cake of superior stamping preparation, distributor and full directions. In addition to the perforated patterns we also give you one **large tray cloth,** 8 x 17 inches, and **six 5 1-2 inch doilies to match** all stamped on real white **Irish linen,** one oblong **pillow top** 17 x 21 inches, hand tinted on ecru art cloth, one bone **stiletto** for punching holes for eyelet embroidery, one package of **10 embroidery needles** and ten skeins of white embroidery mercerized cotton **floss. We will be glad to** send any woman or girl this complete outfit exactly as described free upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this new Combination Embroidery and Stamping Outfit free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7312. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.)

WARRENSBURG, MO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

In the December number there seemed to be quite an argument as to whether or not children should be taught to believe in Santa Claus. It is one of the sweetest memories of my childhood and I am glad now that my parents "fooled" us about the dear old saint. He was as real to me as were the relatives across the water, and I really loved him more than I did my unknown relatives of noble German blood.

I have two children, young men now, yet they talk of the times when "Sandy Claus" used to come with his reindeers and sleigh. The oldest, twenty-one, has been a soldier for almost four years and at this writing is on the Mexican border and don't you forget, dear sisters, that old St. Nick found him Christmas just as he did when he was a boy, and will continue to find him as long as his mother has any interest in Christmas, and I think that will be as long as I live.

I always told them stories or read to them and I often think of the difference in the stories told to them and those told to me when I was a child. In a sod house, on a western Kansas claim, our parents told us old German legends, weird and uncanny, about witches, ghosts, curses and spells sent on people, tokens and haunted houses, stories that made the most delicious shivers creep up and down our spines. Our neighbors were few and far between but they would meet one night at our home and then some other place and tell and retell those stories which are still fresh in my memory and there have been times when I would have given all I possessed to have been a child again and hear my parents tell me tales of long ago. J. B.

J. B. It is fortunate for your children that the stories you told them were different from those your parents told you. A child's mind is so susceptible that blood-curdling stories, superstitions and fears instilled then have a lasting effect and, indeed, some children never outgrow their influence. Children are so trusting that they are inclined to believe everything an older person tells them and even take seriously things told as a joke and with the imagination of childhood unconsciously magnify everything until small terrors assume alarming proportions. No stories at all are better than the wrong kind of stories. —Ed.

RUNGE, R. R. 3, TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I enjoy the COMFORT sisters' letters very much.

I cannot agree with Miss B. on the subject of dancing, I suppose it's my raising.

I certainly enjoyed California Voter's letter in December COMFORT. I believe with her exactly, also Mrs. W. M. Reynolds' letter, and wasn't Uncle Charlie's talk in November COMFORT fine?

Mrs. Wilkinson if my letter is not too long may I quote what I read in a woman's paper lately? "There is one point of view that the man who votes seldom sees without her (women's) guidance. In the states where women do not vote, the minimum "age of consent" is according to the law, ten years; in the suffrage states it is sixteen years. The first law made by a woman was the bill introduced in the Colorado legislature by Mrs. Carrie Clyde Holly, raising the age of consent in that state to eighteen years and under certain circumstances to twenty-one years. So you see why the Denver politicians proposing to reopen their red light district were a little uneasy about the outcome. They wanted to pass a bill providing for a 'segregated district:' they were feeling really sanguine when they had 'seen' thirty-six members of the House. There was one member they made no attempt to 'see.' Indeed they went the other way whenever they saw her coming. But they reassured each other: 'She'll be absent from her seat the day the bill comes up. A woman of course, wouldn't wish to be present.' Wouldn't she? She wouldn't be Agnes Riddle then. And the Colorado Legislature knows Agnes Riddle better now. On that day when the promoter of the Byles' bill had made his neat little speech, over there in the seat they had counted on having vacant, Mrs. Riddle rose. And in her own words she 'let them have it.' And what she said was 'a plenty.' 'You gentlemen aren't going at this matter right,' she said, 'why shut the gates of hell on the women of a red light district and leave the men who put them there free to roam around in respectable society? But I will vote for your bill, if you'll amend it to include also a segregated district for fallen men. Only how many of you would be left here in your seats in the State House? I defy any of you who is without sin to cast the first vote against these poor fallen women!' They took the ballot on the Byles' bill. Only one vote, that of the man who introduced it, was recorded in favor of the bill. In the awkward silence of a sudden adjournment, one man after another, as they filed out, whispered to his neighbor, 'She killed it.' After all, the woman who votes can always count on the chivalry of the American man."

Now I must close and tend to my babies. I have three.

Let me hear from one and all. Best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and all. An interested reader,

MRS. C. A. GARDNER.

HOBSON, TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I am sitting before a huge fireplace—no, not steam heat,—wholly engrossed in your letters.

The most important aim in my life is to raise my children in the fear and love of God.

I think dancing all right when the girls are chaperoned and then, be careful. The girl untrusted dancing shouldn't be trusted at church meeting. I know for I am "much like an owl." "Kissing" parties? What are they? Some "sister" mentioned them. The appellation sounds opprobrious.

I am an advocate of white Woman Suffrage only, but as Texas is a delinquent when it comes to Women's Rights, I fear our efforts will be ineffectual for a long time hence. The state of Georgia doesn't want Woman Suffrage as the black women outnumber the white. Good thought for Georgia, I'm surprised too since that is the state that cherishes the slanderous remarks of a church defiler, Tom Watson and now comes "the convent inspection bill," besmirching the fair name of these "martyrs in black" compelling an invasion of the sanctity of their homes. When some years back, Georgia was laboring under the yellow fever plague, 'twas the sweet, kind nuns, who had repudiated the world's ways that voluntarily ministered alike to the afflicted protestant and Catholic. Should ever Veasey or Watson "and family" need the help of the nuns they would gladly go, as if no word in vilification of them was ever uttered.

"Georgie" of Springfield, Mass. says: "I will not describe country conditions as most of you know what they are." We do not, if your description is correct. However country sisters, let your distress of mind be alleviated in realizing that Georgie's opinion is in the minority. 'Tis true the city excels the sparsely populated country in some of its schools, yet we who live where Georgie would not, cannot, like the ancient Arab, just "fold up our tents" and "silently steal away" to—say Springfield, Mass. leaving our means of existence and the coyote to be the lone vigil o'er the silent yet heretofore tilled land, just to give our little ones an education and moral training. They would on a large scale, have to help earn their bread, and on the average would be "school absentees" more often than if they were "living next to nature" e'en though a little school going is compulsory.

As for the country children's eyes daily witnessing the grosser things of nature that Georgie alludes to. I say "do you know whereof you speak?" Keep your little ones under your eyes and they will not wander where God intended they should not. Probably the facilities for enclosing or housing your stock were rather awkward or too near your house. Therein lies one cause. If children are made to obey, they will not "see" so much, howsoever observant they be. If we live in town we are content to keep them in one house and lot. 'Need we allow them freedom of the stock pens or a pasture for their playground in the country? It is dangerous as they are prey for some wild animals. Do not try to hold the city children's moral standing above those of the country children. I was born and raised in the country. When my mind began to unfold to the graver studies of nature, it was a city school child, much younger than I, who rushed into my room and imparted ideas the small girls discussed at school. I sent her to her mother with her disastrous tales. I tell this for an instance, not that I think country children's morals excel the city child. My mind is a trifle broader than to allow such a conviction intoxicate me. If my opinion is an "exception" then I think the "exceptions" are in the majority. Do not be disillusioned into thinking I regard the city as a voluptuous monster; that I would be frightened at the thought of rearing my children therein. I am confident I'd succeed in my deliberate determination to win the good, should I go to the city to live. I do not allow my little ones to be exempt from my power of control. I would like to be as a Mother Superior is over her brood. Your distorted opinion, Georgie, I attest to ignorance of real country life. In my opinion a child will mold as it was trained. Under excellent tutorship, one may occasionally fall, yet more often 'tis otherwise.

Miss Eloy Scott, we all know possibly, about Archbishop St. Nicholas, patron saint of Russia. Because his good works were legion and the doctrine of some of his contemporaries, opposed that of materialistic views (in so far as they thought "the manna of St. Nicholas" still flows from his bones healing all kinds of sick). All through the centuries following and because his day is the 6th of December is no reason we teach our children "heathenism" or to tell an untruth when we tell them of Santa Claus (St. Nicholas) as the bearer of toys. For generations back my connections reveled at the approach of Christmas and "Santa" with his toys. I was exultant in childish glee many Christmas nights o'er the "old St. Nic," just as I was o'er the mythical stories I read. When I reached the age of understanding I rejoiced at seeing those less wiser revel at his approach. Really as I read C. C. Moore's "'Twas the night before Christmas" to my children this last Yuletide, and watched their eyes sparkle, spellbound I too, felt "the fairy's wand." I know of no home surrounding that doesn't link Santa's gifts with the birth of Christ. Come to my house any Christmas I am able to have gifts and at the base of our tree, 'mongst the moss and candles will be seen a stable of Christ, St. Joseph and Mary, the Wise Men with gifts for the Babe, etc. Glance to the top of the tree and you will readily observe the glorious Star of Bethlehem that guided the shepherds to where He lay. My children, very small, will tell you the story. Come and we will attend Midnight Mass on Christmas eve, something so beautiful and suggestive,—and church on Christmas Day. There all seems to whisper, "'Tis the birthday of our Lord and Savior." Would that by His cross He could redeem the world!

Mrs. Wilkinson, God bless you, your advice is always needed. Would that threee quarters of us were as broad minded and generous as you are. May the dove of peace alight on London and Berlin towers in 1917 and if not, may we not want for bread because of it. May each and all have many joys and God's help in bringing up children to be model men and women. To accomplish that end is my prayer.

Yours sincerely, MRS. SUE LORENZ JOHNSON.

Mrs. Johnson. In Miss Scott's talk on Santa Claus I feel positive she had in mind that idea solely and did not mean to reflect unpleasantly on the Catholic or any other religion, as so many of the sisters seemed to think and I have had to reject one or two good letters this month because the writers stated their religious preferences so strongly. All creeds are equally welcome but don't you think it a better plan to take the Golden Rule for the Sisters' Corner religion and reserve our own particular denomination for some other time and place?—Ed.

REEDS, R. R. 3, MO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I am writing in answer to our editor's request to hear from some of the sisters on the "married fifty years and never quarreled people," in the November issue of COMFORT following Mrs. Thixton's letter. I have not been married fifty years but have nearly twenty and can truthfully say we have never spoken a cross word to each other and it is not hard to do if one will try. First you must have the love, to forgive, and control of your own temper, and remember one's self is not perfect always. Remember that others see as many faults in us as we do in them.

One thing that often causes trouble between young married folks and that is going to live with parents, of either side. I tried that and know how one has to do. While you are new to them you will do very well but after a while you cannot do anything to please them. They will say hard things to you and treat you in a way that will cause many a heartache and many a bitter tear, so I would advise all young couples not to live with the "in-laws" on either side, but go to housekeeping by yourselves if you have to start with only a camping outfit.

And you that are mother-in-laws, remember that your daughter-in-law is young and not as experienced as yourself, so help and advise her instead of making light of her efforts in trying to do her best.

I hope someone will be benefited by my letter. I have taken COMFORT sixteen years.

MRS. NETTIE MCCLURE.

WALKER, MINN.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT ever since I could read and my parents had taken it many years before that. It is the most welcome paper that comes to our home.

We have a forty-acre farm in Cass county, the land of "clover," as it is called. This is cut-over timber land, and is splendid for all farming purposes, raising chickens and live stock; besides many kinds of small fruit do well here. There is an abundance of wild fruit, strawberries, raspberries and blueberries, etc., besides plenty of timber for wood, and fine fishing lakes. Cass county has taken first prize for the central section of the state for two years now at the state fair. It is not settled very thickly here, as it is a new country and we find it a little lonely at times.

As others describe themselves I will do so too. I am twenty-four years old, five feet six inches tall and weigh one hundred and fifteen pounds, blue eyes and dark brown hair. We have been married six years and have a boy that was five years old in February. Such a fine, big, mischievious lad, and as there are no other children near us it keeps me busy trying to find something to amuse him. I dress him warm and he plays outside every day that it is not too cold and stormy.

There seems to be a good bit of difference in opinion on large or small families. I think there should be as many children as one can care for, and bring up well and healthy. I have seen too many sickly, dragged out, and over-burdened mothers caring for children far beyond their strength or worldly means. The children themselves usually are puny and unhealthy and their parents unable to give them sufficient education to prepare them for their struggle for existence. Being one of a very large family I know something of its advantages and disadvantages and my parents were very hard working people, too.

One thing I never see mentioned in the sisters' letters is the matter of swearing and using other bad language in the home—yet this is too often the case in one half the homes in the country, and town also. The father will usually forbid the boys swearing, yet he will make free use of all the oaths known to man in his general talk before the children from the time they are old enough to understand words at all. It becomes a general part of their education. When people sow oaths and wild words they need not expect but what they will reap them years after in return and it is not a desirable harvest to think of.

Emma Stockinger, I think you are unjust in your criticism to those who do fancy work and tatting. I can think of no more pleasant picture than my dear mother sitting down to rest with her busy tatting shuttle flying, or her knitting needles; she always knit socks, stockings and mittens for a large family and I never knew her to sit down idle. How much better to take up a piece of useful and pretty crochet than to sit and gossip. Fancy work of all kinds is advocated in convalescing hospitals where patients find time hangs heavily on their hands as it keeps their minds busy and healthy, where otherwise they would be idle and liable to be thinking too much on past ills. I know several women who make a fair little income with needlework and do all their house work besides.

After an operation three years ago I began to learn crochet, tatting and knitting and do all three and I do not think I have lost the least bit of interest in the affairs of the present day and reading good books also. Dickens is my favorite author, but I like Scott, Victor Hugo and Fenimore Cooper's "Leather Stocking Tales." I have read and enjoyed most all of the late popular authors, but Dickens is my dear old stand by. We have a very good Carnegie library here in town and I often take advantage of the privilege of good reading.

I would like to hear from some of the sisters living in California in the warm, dry belt; also in the dry regions of Washington, Idaho and northern Arizona. I have muscular rheumatism and bronchitis and want to go where it is warm and dry most all the year. We do not want to sell our home here as we are just starting to pay for it, but I would like to go West first and see how things are before we make any permanent change. Would be glad for information about the climate, crops, price of land and the chances of earning a living. As my health is poor I cannot handle a large correspondence, but would be glad to hear from a few in these localities that are favorable for asthma and rheumatism.

If any of the girls I worked with in Chicago at Kellog's Electric should see this would be glad to hear from them, especially Anna Sheehan, Anna Dyer, Lillie Heidel or Margaret Egan.

Wishing success to all COMFORT's sisters and Uncle Charlie, I am a friend of all.

MRS. OLIVE (WARREN) ANWAY.

FINDLAY, OHIO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I cannot keep still but must speak out in meetin' for Georgie's letter in the December COMFORT is the limit, when she discusses country and city life as she views it.

Now I am a farmer's wife from head to toe, and am proud of it, and I am proud of my big farmer husband. We live in the northern part of Ohio in the great oil- and corn-producing section on a 95-acre farm. Nothing suits my John (or Ben, as it really is) and I so well as the farm. We love it! And now what would our city cousins, like Georgie, do if it were not for the farmers? We raise the wheat for the flour they eat, the beef, pork, mutton, veal, poultry, apples, vegetables and everything else that they must have to exist.

The very reason Georgie did not like the country was because they had no success. It is hard work, long hours and rather lonesome, but you are so free and the neighbors are so friendly, which they are not in the city. How many of your neighbors, Georgie, bring you fresh meat when they have a big supply or come in and do your work or wait on you if you or any of your family are ill? One of our neighbors, a poor man with a small family, was burned out, saving only a few of their household goods. The neighbors clubbed together and got them yards of toweling, muslin, calico, gingham, sheets, pillows, with slips, blankets, quilts, pictures and dishes, furniture, cooking utensils and even clothes. Do you think your city neighbors would do that for you if your home were to burn? No! No!

About country children being vulgar, my nieces and nephews (save one) are all farmer children and I defy you to find any better behaved or more innocent youngsters than they are. And our schools are being centralized, therefore they will be as good as city schools. But Georgie is the first person I ever heard say that city children were more innocent than our country children. For an example: A family from the city moved into our neighborhood and their little eight-year-old girl went to our school, and the things she told our children! The very lowest and vilest things you ever heard of. I presume that is city innocence.

There are but few renters in this section as nearly all the farmers own their farms; have gas for fuel and lights, hot and cold water system, with bath, and there is an automobile in nearly every home. With all those comforts and telephone and rural mail delivery, what more can you ask for?

No, you'll never make a success of the farm unless you like it and have a large store of ambition.

Our yards are as clean and velvety as your front lawns, Georgie, but of course everything is not like this in every place in the country; neither is it in the city, for there are extremes everywhere. But you seldom see a home quarantined in the country. Did you ever notice that?

Excuse me if I have hurt anyone's feeling but I must express my opinions.

I am five feet, six inches tall, weigh one hundred and forty-two pounds, have dark brown hair, large blue eyes and light complexion. I have been married ten years to one of the best "Johns." I am sorry to say we have no family but am wishing that some day the stork may visit our home.

We take a number of papers but COMFORT is the best one.

May I come again?

Love to Mrs. Wilkinson and all the sisters,

COUNTRY JAKE.

VERONA, N. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I am a little, dark complexioned woman, twenty years old, with brown hair and eyes and weigh one hundred and ten pounds. I have been married three years and have a good husband, and a sweet little girl of eighteen months.

On the divorce question, I do not believe in it. I think if mothers would talk to their girls about getting married and explain household duties and care to them, and also tell them more of the ways of men, there would not be so many girls in such haste to get married. I was married when only seventeen and I do not regret it, but I married a boy that was "settle headed" as the saying is, and five years older than myself. I was an orphan with no father or mother to love and care for me. But I think any girl with a mother should stay with her until she is twenty at least.

Some one said that it was not the hand that rocked the cradle that ruled the world, but I think it has quite a lot to do with it. I think the fathers do not take enough interest in training their sons.

Mrs. J. C. Mason, you are one of my state sisters, but I cannot agree with you on the corset question.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 35.)



45c 4-Piece Library Set

Send only 45c and we will ship you this handsome 4-piece Library Set. Only 45c down and then 90c a month, or only $9.98 in all. A positively staggering value and one of the biggest bargains ever offered. Look at this massive set. Order it shipped on approval and see for yourself what an elegant set this is. It may be returned to us in 30 days if you do not like it and we'll return your money. Just send the coupon along with 45c. The magnificent Library Set is just one of the many bargains in our giant catalog which we send to you free. You are not under no obligations. Send today sure. Either have the Library Set sent for you to see, or tell us to mail catalog.

4-Pieces—A Room Full of Furniture

This superb Library Set complete—four pieces, made of solid oak throughout and finished in rich brown fumed oak. Large arm rocker 36 inches high, seat 19x18 inches; sewing rocker 32 inches high, seat 16x16 inches. Both upholstered in brown Delavan imitation Spanish leather. Library table top measures 24 x 24 inches. Jardiniere stand measures 18 inches high with 12 inch top. Shipping weight about 125 pounds. Shipped K. D. Order by No. B-2012-A. Send 45 cents with order, 90 cents monthly. Price $9.98.

Easy Payments

If you want anything in rockers, furniture, jewelry, carpets, rugs, curtains, washing machines, crockery, silverware, baby carriages, go-carts, Men's, Women's & Children's wearing apparel, stoves, ranges, or any article of homefurnishing, don't fail to get our sensational easy terms. Only a small deposit—then pay the balance at the rate of a small amount per month.

Send Coupon

along with 45c to us now. Have this fine library set shipped on 30 days trial.

Free Bargain Catalogs

Even if you do not order this set, write today for our big new catalog and list of special bargains. See the astounding values we are offering. Send now.

Straus & Schram, Inc. Dept 3043 W. 35th St. Chicago

Straus & Schram, Inc.
Dept 3043 35th St., Chicago

Enclosed find 45c. Ship the big special advertised 4-piece Mission Set bargain B2012A. Sale price $9.98. I am to have 30 days free trial. If I keep the set, I will pay you 90c per month until the balance has been paid. If not satisfied, I will return set and you are to refund my 45c together with any freight charges I paid. Also send me your big catalog and bargain bulletins.

Name.....

Address.....

If you only want catalog, mark X in box ☐

Make Any Range A Gas Stove



Wonderful new device—fits any cook range or heating stove—easily attached—burns coal oil like gas—one cent per hour. Absolutely safe—clean and odorless. Stop carrying coal and ashes. Send for free literature. Agents Wanted.

COSMIC PRODUCTS CO.
403 South 4th Street
St. Louis, Mo.

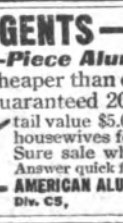
$25 TO $40 Week

Sells on sight. Instant hit in every home. Smith, Ohio, sold 38 one day. Profit $19.00. All metal bread and pastry board and rolling pin. Can't rust, absorb dirt or disease germs. Lasts lifetime. Endorsed by Good Housekeeping Institute. Agents get good appointments. Make Big Money.

Free Sample To Agents

UNION MFG. CO.
188 Main St. Cambridge, O.

$5 TO $10 A DAY



AGENTS—BIG HIT
5-Piece Aluminum Set

Cheaper than enamel ware. Guaranteed 20 years. Retail value $5.00. You sell to housewives for only $1.83. Sure sale wherever shown. Answer quick for your territory.

AMERICAN ALUMINUM MFG. CO.
Div. C5, Lemont, Illinois

LE PAGE'S CHINA CEMENT
STANDS HOT AND COLD WATER 10c

Silk Ribbon



Premium No. 7852

Your Choice Of Pink, Blue, Black, White, Red And Green

Two Yards For A Club of Two!

It is just what you need for hair ribbons for the children and for trimming dresses, hats, articles of fancy work, etc. The quality is the best. It is 5¼ inches wide and comes in pink, blue, black, white, red and green. We purchased several thousand yards of this fine silk ribbon to give away as a premium and we will be glad to send you as many yards as you want upon the terms of the following special offer. Be sure to mention color wanted when ordering.

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you two yards of this guaranteed all silk ribbon free by parcel post prepaid. Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 7852.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Beautiful Silk Pieces



Premium No. 5561

Remnants of real silk, in all shapes, sizes and colors. They are carefully trimmed and just what you need for making up beautiful quilts, tidies, pillow tops and all kinds of "crazy patchwork." We will send you a big package containing one hundred of these beautiful silk pieces besides a piece of plush and 5 skeins embroidery silk in different bright colors. If you order at once we will also send you, in addition to everything else, an Instruction Book with eight full-page illustrations showing how to ornament seams of crazy patchwork and other work where fancy stitches are used. It tells you how to put pieces of patchwork together to get the best effect, how to cover up seams with fancy stitches, how to join the edges, etc. This book illustrates over one hundred and fifty of these besides containing full and explicit directions for working the Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille embroidery, ribbon work, plush or tufted stitch also directions for Kensington painting. Remember you get one big lot of these Silk Remnants (100 pieces), 5 skeins Embroidery Silk, one piece of Plush, and an Instruction Book, as above described, all sent to you free by Parcel Post prepaid if you will accept either one of the following offers.

Offer No. 5561A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you one package of these Silk Remnants, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 5561B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you one package of these Remnants free by parcel post prepaid. Premium No. 5561.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



for Whooping Cough, Spasmodic Croup, Asthma, Sore Throat, Coughs, Bronchitis, Colds, Catarrh.

Don't fail to use Cresolene for the distressing, and often fatal affections for which it is recommended.

It is a simple, safe, effective and drugless treatment.

Vaporized Cresolene stops the paroxysms of Whooping Cough and relieves Spasmodic Croup at once.

In Asthma it shortens the attack and insures comfortable repose.

The air carrying the antiseptic vapor inspired with every breath, makes breathing easy, soothes the sore throat, and stops the cough, assuring restful nights.

Cresolene relieves the bronchial complications of Scarlet Fever and Measles and is a valuable aid in the treatment of Diphtheria.

Cresolene's best recommendation is its 37 years of successful use. Send us postal for Descriptive Booklet.

For Sale by Druggists

Try Cresolene Antiseptic Throat Tablets for the irritated throat, composed of slippery elm bark, licorice, sugar and Cresolene. They can't harm you. Of your Druggist or from us 10c in stamps.

THE VAPO-CRESOLENE CO. 62 Cortlandt St., New York
or Leeming-Miles Building, Montreal, Canada

THIS FORD FREE



Send No Money
Just Your Name

You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars. I have given away dozens of them. You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name today and get full particulars. This is your BIG CHANCE! Act NOW.

RHOADS AUTO CLUB,
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

125-Pc. DINNER SET Free



This picture shows a few pieces of the complete 125-Pc. New Gold and Floral Decorated Dinner Set No. 1176 we give Absolutely Free for taking only a few orders for our high grade Extracts, Toilet Articles, Soap, etc. King's New Selling Plan cuts your work in half and you get twice as much now as we ever gave away before. Write quick for our large New 1917 Catalog, Order Blank, etc., mailed free. **King Mfg. Co., Dept. 416, St. Louis, Mo.**



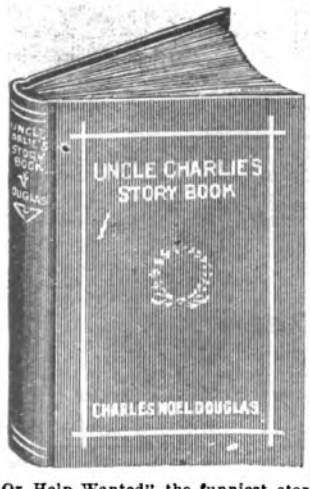
$200.00 A MONTH with **NEW MODEL COMBINATION CAMERA.** It takes and instantly develops eleven entirely different styles of pictures, including two sizes and four styles **PAPER POST CARDS**, six styles of Tin-type Pictures, and Brooch Pictures. Requires no experience whatever. Everybody wants pictures. Five hundred per cent profit. **THE WORLD'S BIGGEST MONEY-MAKER.** Small investment secures complete outfit, including Camera, Tripod, and material for 150 pictures. Make money the first day no matter where you live or what you are doing. WE TRUST YOU. Write today for free information **and our great "Special" half-price offer.**
J. B. FERRIS, 615 W. 43d St., Dept. 80, New York

For rheumatism
Sloan's Liniment KILLS PAIN
Penetrates without rubbing

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book
Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, half-tone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems and song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.

Uncle Charlie's Home Fund

UNCLE CHARLIE reports having received during January $140.00, donations and proceeds of subscriptions, contributed to his Home Fund by 196 persons. This, added to what he had previously received brings the total up to $880.00 contributed by 1,114 individuals. The January contribution is disappointing, as it is less than half the sum contributed in December; but I presume most of the good people drained the purses for Christmas and were not very flush for a while after. I am confidently expecting that February report will show a large increase and I hope it will go over $351.00, the December record.

The largest single donation thus far received is $11.00 and came from Edna E. Huntsman of Dart, Ohio, who raised that sum by giving a church entertainment for the purpose. Here is a good idea which others interested in helping to boost Uncle Charlie's Home Fund might adopt by giving a social entertainment at the church, the schoolhouse or at their homes to raise money for this purpose.

Uncle Charlie writes each contributor a personal acknowledgment and he is duly grateful to all who have helped in any way. Because a severe attack of the grippe this winter nearly knocked him out he was unable for a while to send prompt acknowledgments.

As yet the fund is far from sufficient to provide him a home, and I trust his friends will make a grand rally for him this month.

Again let me remind you how you can help:

1. By cash donations.

2. By purchasing Uncle Charlie's books (see advertisement.)

3. Those who cannot spare the money for a cash donation or for purchase of his books can contribute by getting subscriptions to COMFORT in aid of the "Uncle Charlie Benefit Fund" and instead of taking the club premium or cash commission themselves direct that it be credited to the fund. In such cases I will pay over to Uncle Charlie one half of the subscription price of all subscriptions sent for this purpose. The regular cash commission on COMFORT subscriptions is 40 per cent, but for Uncle Charlie's Benefit Fund I will allow 50 per cent. Another way to help him and benefit yourself is to get up a subscription club and take one of his books as your premium.

In one or other of these ways every COMFORT reader who wishes to do so can help swell the fund for Uncle Charlie which has my hearty approval and will have my assistance.

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31.)

confidence and the faith you have in my ability to do what you apparently are too busy or too lazy to do for yourself. The world is surely getting topsy turvy when children instruct their elders to do their work for them. The United States has been called the paradise of women. It would be far better to call it the paradise of children, excepting of course those poor little victims who have been pushed into the mines and factories. In Europe the parents rule the children, in the U. S. children rule the parents, and youthful egotism and conceit results to an appalling degree. But I'm not going to lecture Uyless, all I want to do is to write your poem and earn that two cents, for I need the money. "I'll Never Love No one Like I Do Him." What a wonderful title, and it suggests some deliciously romatic idea, but, alas! even for two cents I could not be hired to construct a poem around a title which is disgracefully ungrammatical. A good deal can be excused under the plea of poetic license, but not a title like his. If you had written it "I Will Never Love Anyone As I Love Him," I could have done something high class and worth while, but with a sentence that contains a double negative I am stumped. However I want the two cents, so here goes.

I'll never love no one like I do him,
For when my pocketbook was mighty slim,
He sent me two cents for a poem,
Good Lord how much I owe him,
I'll never love no one like I do him.

Uyless, that's all I can do for two cents. I know two cents is a good deal of money in these hard times, but as you aspire to be a poet the only way to aid you in your aspirations is to insist that you write your own poems instead of hiring them done at two cents a clip.

322 West 42nd St., NEW YORK, N. Y.

MY DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

It surely was a great treat for me to hear your voice over the phone this afternoon. You can hardly imagine how happy it has made me to know that I have really and truly talked with Uncle Charlie.

You are doing a wonderful amount of good and how I do wish that we had some more Uncle Charlies' like you.

Would like to tell you how much I like you Uncle, but words are useless. Of course I would like to come over and see you sometime yet I hardly feel worthy of such an honor, although you have invited me to go.

As I was saying over the phone today, I run an elevator in one of the big office buildings down town and it is customary for the tenants to give the elevator runners and starter a little remembrance for Christmas. We are going to send a list around to each tenant containing the names of the elevator runners and starter and we wanted to have a poem of some kind on it so that we might extract a little money from some of the tenants who might have a tendency to be a little stingy. Most anything will do, especially if it has a little touch of the Christmas spirit about it. Even one like Walt Mason's daily poems in the Globe would be all right. Will leave it to you Uncle Charlie as I know after reading your book of Poems that you can get something just right and whatever it is, it will be satisfactory.

Long live Uncle Charlie, Faithfully Yours,
ROSCOE HALEY.

I thought this letter of Roscoe Haley's, which gives our country readers a little glimpse of city life would prove interesting at least to those many thousands of very foolish people (doubting Thomas's) who think that Uncle Charlie does not exist. This letter it seems to me will give them proof that I do exist. Some idiots say that if Uncle Charlie really existed he would have his address in COMFORT. Many people complain bitterly, because the address is not published. If they'd stop to think for a moment they would know why it is not given. As soon as people get my address, which is printed on every one of my books and has been so printed for nearly twelve years, numbers of them, with the very best intentions in the world, but with intentions which result in endless trouble, work and expense, insist on sending me their subscriptions, making me the medium of all their business transactions with COMFORT. Just to avoid endless muddles and mixups of this character and for no other reason, my home address is withheld. All letters however sent me care of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, are forwarded to me in my big box of mail once a week. Now if any of you are within a few hundred miles of New York City, and are dubious of my existence, you can call me up on the phone, and if I'm not down and out with one or other of my ailments, in a few seconds you'll hear a voice rolling over the wire that will gladden the cockles of your heart and make your feet rattle in your shoes. Now perhaps some of you would like to know what I wrote for the elevator man. Many of you can use at least a portion of this "pome" to help jar loose some of the all necessary dollars from the pockets of your employers and others you think should remember you next season.

The Elevator Man's Christmas

BY UNCLE CHARLIE.

The festal season now is here,
The season glad of joy and cheer.
The time when all men show some sign
That proves there origin divine.
The Christ Child brought from realms above,
His message sweet of peace and love,
And now that Christmastime draws near,
Again Heaven's messengers we hear.
In God's great universal plan
Of love, the elevator man.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

We need no introduction, you
Have proved us oft, and found us true.
Your lives each day all through the year,
You trust with us and have no fear.
Your murmured orders we obey
With promptness, and we try each day
To let you off at the right floor
Without a jerk. Could we do more?
As tense as steel we strain each nerve
So you the better we may serve.
We take you up, we take you down,
And if you search this mighty town,
You'll find no truer servant than
The faithful elevator man,
Who, though he works like a machine,
Is like yourself a human being.
We have more ups and downs you know
Than any mortal here below;
And though to giddy heights we flit,
We're at the bottom when we quit.
Our lot is hard, and that is why
With cost of living soaring high,
And wages slim, we hope we'll not,
When Christmas comes, be quite forgot.
We've given you many a lift, and we
Would just the happiest mortals be,
If you'd return the compliment
And send to us that fat old gent,
Good Santa Claus, beloved and dear,
With just a mite of Yuletide cheer.
Cheer that will fill the frying pan,
Likewise the elevator man.
And now on Providence we call,
To bless you each, and bless you all.
And bless the ones that you hold dear,
With Christmas bright and glad New Year.

FARMINGTON, R. R. 11, TENN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a boy nineteen years of age. I am six feet

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 41.)

The Modern Farmer

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.)

years before plowing under. This is a plant of rather unusual promise.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

DEHORNING CALVES.—Will you tell me through your paper the best way to dehorn young stock?

G. H. B., Iowa.

A.—Calves are best dehorned by the use of caustic potash which may be bought at the drug-store. It comes in sticks like school crayon. The stick should be wrapped in heavy paper in order to prevent injury to the hands. When horns first appear, clip the hair away, moisten the end of the potash stick in water and rub button thoroughly with it. Horns so treated will never grow.



THIS SUIT FREE
To Introduce Our Nobby Clothes in Your Town

It's the very finest suit you ever saw. $50 couldn't buy a better one, but you can get it free. It's made to your measure from the most beautiful cloth. Don't fail to get one of these suits. You can earn it while you wear it and make

$50 a Week

by taking orders. Drop us a postal for latest sample outfit, select the style you want and the cloth. Let us prove our amazing offer. We send everything **free** the same day your request is received. Address

Paragon Tailoring Co. Dept 307 **Chicago**

TO PREVENT SMUT ON OATS.—I have seen your recipe for treating oats for smut with formaldehyde, in COMFORT, but I have lost the paper and forgotten the amount of formaldehyde to use. R. H. J., Pa.

A.—Use one pint of formaldehyde to forty gallons of water. Immerse grain in this. Sprinkling does little good.

SELECTING A RAM.—I am going into the sheep business. Have bought twenty-five common ewes and expect to raise my lambs for early fall market. Will you please tell me what kind of ram to buy to make the most money out of my lambs. R. H. J., Mo.

A.—Two years ago your own experiment station carried out a trial in feeding lambs that illustrates your problem splendidly. They fed two lots of lambs for the same period. One lot was sired by a scrub ram, the other by a pure bred Southdown. The first lot weighed less and sold for $4.50 per cwt.; the second lot was heavier and sold for $7.35 per cwt. By all means use a pure bred ram of one of the good mutton breeds. Send to your experiment station at Columbia, Mo., for Circular No. 65 which will be very helpful to you.

RAISING HOGS WITHOUT CORN.—I own 320 acres of land here in Arizona, a part of which is irrigated. On the irrigated portion we can grow good crops of Alfalfa and small grain but corn does not make a very good crop. Do you think I can raise hogs successfully without corn? R. L. K., Arizona.

A.—Yes. Pork in the past has been made most cheaply in the Corn Belt. California conditions are very similar to your own. Their experiment station has recently been experimenting on hog raising. The best advice I can give you is to send for their bulletin No. 237, Pork Production Under California Conditions. This should be very helpful to you. They will probably send it free for the asking. Write the Experiment Station, Berkeley, California.

FRECKLES

Now Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as the prescription othine—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots.

Simply get an ounce of othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Advt.

Comfort's Bedtime Stories For Little Folks!

A Library of Cute Little Books

40 WONDERFUL TALES IN STORY AND VERSE 40



Beautifully Illustrated

Library of 12 Sent For One Subscription!

The stories of our childhood—how well we remember them. After all it seems but a short time since we listened with rapt attention to the adventures of **Robinson Crusoe** cast away on his lonely island—of beautiful **Cinderella**, the fairy and the prince—the tragic fate of poor little **Red Riding Hood**—these were only a few of the marvelous tales that thrilled our childish imagination and helped us spend many blissful hours.

The children of today are the same as they were fifty years ago. And these **good old-time stories** are just as popular with the young folks now as they were then. So we have decided to give our little boy and girl friends a fine big collection of these stories including some of the **old-time favorites** as well as a number of newer and later books equally as interesting. We have arranged **three different sets** or "libraries"—each library consisting of **twelve books**, no two alike, and you can have your choice of any one library, or two libraries, or all three libraries. **Library No. 7951** comprises the following twelve titles:

Robinson Crusoe, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Mother Goose, Animal Pets, Purring Pussies, Playmates, Our Pets, The Three Bears, The Sleeping Beauty, Playful Pets, The Teddy Bears.

Library No. 7991 has these twelve titles:

The Shepherd And His Sheep, Young America, The Deep Blue Sea, Land of Tulips, Rex and Rover, Our Farm Yard, Little Darlings, Childhood of Hiawatha, Faithful Friends, The Fancy Dress Party, Our Country, Happy Days.

Library No. 8001 consists of these twelve titles:

Little Sweethearts, The Story of Little Piggie Wig, In The Jungle, The Big League, Doggie Doings, Fred's Feathered Friends, Uncle Jerry's Farm, Chums, The Story of Santa Claus, Little Laddies, Pussy's Pranks, Faithful And True.

As these stories are intended for the younger children some of them have been "boiled down" to the fewest and simplest words so that they are not as complete as the original editions, but all of them are printed on fine paper in large clear type that is easy to see and read and have no less than **five beautiful full page illustrations in colors.**

Some of the titles named above of course need no introduction. The other titles are just the sort of stories that delight every child—stories of **childish sports, flowers, the sea, Indians, animal pets, horses, donkeys, dogs, bunnies, pussy cats, chickens, lambs, etc.**, wonderful romances in which there are old **Stone Castles, Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses, Good Fairies, and Wicked Fairies**, stories of the **Bear Family**—Pa Bear, old Ma Bear and little "Teddy" Bear, stories of little **Playmates**, the true tale of the **Teddy Bears**—in fact the finest collection of juvenile short stories ever published. Each book is nicely bound with a handsomely illustrated cover **in colors** and is 4 inches by 5¼ inches in size.

There is nothing you could get for the children that would make them any happier than one or more of these **cute libraries** and best of all it will **cost you nothing** as we are giving them away as a premium. We will send you free your choice of any one, two, or all three libraries—each library consisting of **twelve stories**, each story in a book by itself, **twelve different books in all**—on the terms of the following special offers:

Offer A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you any **one** library of twelve books by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention number of library wanted.**

Offer B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you any **one** library by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention number of library wanted.**

Offer C. For two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you any two libraries, or for three one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each, we will send you **all three** libraries, parcel post prepaid. **Don't forget to give number or numbers of libraries wanted.**

Extra Gift For Promptness! If you will send three subscriptions and 75 cents for **all three libraries within 15 days** we will send you **four extra books** absolutely free. This will give you one **grand complete library of forty** of these splendid little books, **all different titles, of uniform size and binding, handsomely printed and illustrated in colors. Premium No. 7303.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Use of Paint on the Farm

By Charles Francis Reed

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"I HARDLY thought I could afford to hire the place painted, yet the buildings and the machinery all looked rusty, as if a good dose of paint would make them over." Mr. Johnson stood at the big gate and looked at the now trim white and green house, with the equally prosperous outbuildings.

"So I painted them myself, with the hired man as helper—painted everything from the house to the corn cutter. I find paint both useful and ornamental, for besides looking more slick, the whole place has a new lease of life."

Any man can do a fair job when it comes to painting. He may not be able to work as quickly or as skillfully as a trained workman, but his work will have the desired effect even if it is not quite even in thickness, or if there are parts of it that appear striped. And paint should never be considered a luxury, but a necessity, for it is a most valuable protection. Paint also has a hygienic effect for it is most sanitary.

Selecting the brush is most important, probably the most useful one being a round one having bristles about six inches in length. These bristles are a little too long for proper working, and before starting, it is better to tie a narrow piece of cloth about four inches from the end of the bristles, and about two inches from the binding point. As the brush wears this bridle, as it is called, may be pushed back, in that way lengthening the life of your brush.

Oval brushes, from two or three inches wide are very good for general use, and a great deal of painting is done with a large flat brush, four or five inches long. The advantage of this brush is that a great deal of surface can be covered at one stroke, the only disadvantage being that the paint cannot be thoroughly rubbed into the wood, as can be done with an oval brush. For smaller surfaces, window sashes about the interior of the house, pieces of furniture and small pieces of machinery, small brushes are needed. The question of the brush used must largely depend on the individual taste of the person who is doing the work.

In addition to the paint brushes, a dusting brush, one with very stiff bristles, is a help in cleaning the surface that is to be painted. For the cleaning of metal surfaces that have been allowed to rust a small wire brush is necessary if the job is to be well done.

The care of paint brushes is most important. Those that have been used for the applying of an oil paint should be very carefully cleaned after using, though if they are only to be left overnight, wrapping them in thick paper will be sufficient. Some painters keep their brushes over night by putting them in water. If a brush is to be left for some time, however, it should be well cleaned of all the paint. The best way to clean a brush is to wash it thoroughly in turpentine, but as turpentine is expensive, kerosene may be substituted. After the paint has all been washed off, the brush should be well washed with soap and hot water. After being dried it is best to put paint brushes away where they will be free from dampness or dust.

All surfaces should be prepared for painting. They should always be clean and dry. New wood is very difficult to paint, for the resin in such wood as yellow pine, or spruce has a tendency to destroy any paint applied to them. The ideal way is to allow a newly built house to stand six months before painting, for the exposure to the weather either hardens or washes away the resin. As this means that the new house must be unsightly for some months, the new wood is generally treated, and then painted. The most general method of preparing new wood for painting is to coat all the knot-holes, or other spots where there seems to be a large amount of resin with shellac varnish, a solution of gum shellac in alcohol. After applying this coat, all nail holes should be filled with putty before the final coats of paint are applied. In painting iron made machinery all rust and grease should be removed, and the surface sandpapered.

Paint only in a warm, dry spell. A little moisture under the paint will mean trouble.

For a really good piece of work it is necessary to give the object to be painted at least two coats of paint, and three will be better. A great many painters add a quantity of drier and turpentine to their first coat of paint and hurry it on in any fashion, applying a second coat almost before the other is dry. This is poor policy. Just as much care is needed with the first coat as the second.

The painting of tin roofs, or of waterpipes is difficult as paint does not adhere well to metals. This is due to a thin layer or grease that coats metals, and before starting on such a piece of work it is well to scrub the metal clean with soap and water, or wash it with cloths that have been moistened with benzine. Galvanized iron is treated in the same way, and does no harm if it is allowed to be exposed to the weather for a time before being painted.

The care of the machinery on which depends to such a large extent the success of the farming year, is most important. The metal portions of machinery are generally cast iron or steel. Cast iron is less apt to rust than steel, but no matter what the composition, nothing about the farm needs the protection of paint more than the metal parts of machinery. Before painting greatest care should be taken that the surface is absolutely clean. To hurry over the cleaning part of the labor, or to attempt to save time by just touching the bad spots with sandpaper, is a mistake. All oil and grease should be carefully removed, and the paint should be well rubbed in, filling in all the cracks.

The paint that is best for protecting iron is red lead. It is expensive, and rather hard to apply, and some people object to the color. The color can be darkened by the addition of lampblack, and the farmer who can and will afford the time and money necessary to use red lead is repaid by the service it gives. Any good oil paint will give valuable protection to the metal of your machinery if it is applied carefully and properly.

The choice of the paint that is to be used is a question that must be answered by each individual. There are a number of ready mixed paints to be procured that might be very highly recommended. On the other hand a great many men prefer to mix their own paint. This is not an easy job, and the amount of material and labor needed makes it about as expensive as buying ready mixed paint. If ready mixed paints are used the cans serve as buckets, but if the paint is home mixed a strong tin pail is needed for the stirring of the paint. A paint strainer is a help, as paint should be strained before using, but two folds of strong cheese-cloth will do if you have not a strainer.

A paint scraper and a putty knife are necessary helps, and these can be made; the scraper from a piece of sheet iron, that is not thick, and the putty knife from an old kitchen knife whose end has been ground down till it is square.

Remember that turpentine and benzine are highly inflammable, and paint containing these ingredients should not be put near an open flame.

Many pigments used in paint are poisonous, and workmen should be careful to remove all paint stains from their hands. A man should not eat in the same clothes in which he has been painting but should change and remove all stains from his skin. Do not use benzine or turpentine on the skin, but oil the parts stained with linseed oil, or any other fatty oil, and then wash thoroughly with hot water and soap.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33.)

I, for one, do not think it any harm to wear one. I wear my corsets as regularly as I do my shoes; but I do not wear them tight enough to cause injury.

Just one more subject that I sure do believe in and that is life insurance. Some man might say that if he left an insurance his wife would marry again and her next husband would spend the money he had worked for, when possibly it would enable the poor wife to start some profitable business to care for herself and the family. Then she would not have to get married. I would like to hear the other sisters' ideas on it.

We live on a small but well cultivated farm, six miles from a railroad, but not far from the river and the Atlantic Ocean. Our crops are mostly cotton, corn, potatoes and peanuts, though a few raise sugar cane.

Thanking the sisters and Mrs. W. for the many, many helps I receive from COMFORT and with love to all the COMFORT family and hoping to hear from the sisters, North Carolina and Florida sisters, particularly, I remain, MRS. NELLIE CAPPS.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

As I've never seen a letter from this part of North Carolina I thought I would ask to join your happy and cozy corner. We live four miles from the city in a small but comfortable four-room house of our own. My oldest boy is four years old, the next is two and the baby is sixteen months old. None of them are sickly, in fact, everyone out this way seems to be healthy.

My two oldest boys can repeat by heart a part of the twenty-third Psalm. I have never had any trouble in teaching my oldest boy. He can pronounce any word of three letters, also add and subtract. He likes to draw ships and wagons on his blackboard. I am a firm believer in pushing a child in education and I feel that when they want to mark all over the wall, doors and everywhere, you should guide their little hands in letters and figures so that when they start to school it will be so much easier for them.

What I wanted to speak of more than anything else, was Georgie's letter, for I was shocked at her statements about country children. I was not born in the country but I am staying in the country now for the health of my children, more than anything else. And as for country children speaking indecently, I have never heard the children around here speak in that manner. I should think a child could hear more improper language in a crowded city in one day than he could hear in the quiet country in a week. And I can't imagine a city child being more innocent than a country child.

Of course we don't have all the modern improvements that the city dwellers have, but we keep everything sanitary. The country sends a health officer around to see that everything is kept clean. Also our back yard is as clean as our front. We wouldn't think of leaving trash in our yards or where it would breed germs.

I agree with Sister Georgie that it is inconvenient to send children to country schools, if they have a long distance to travel, but the walk is very good for the larger children. But as for a child being healthier in the city, I can't agree with her; neither will a good physician.

Country schools are all right; if the pupil has the vim to learn he will learn anywhere. A visit through the city school will show many boys and girls in grades lower than they should be, and the teacher or the school system is not to blame.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and all the sisters, MRS. L. M. CRAIG.

PALESTINE, OHIO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

After reading the sisters' letters in COMFORT this month (and a good bunch of letters they are too) I could not keep silent any longer. I have been a subscriber for several years, and enjoy every department of the magazine, especially the sisters' letters and Uncle Charlie's talks, which are soul inspiring and uplifting. I always find something helpful in the letters each month. Those pertaining to the care of children interest me most. I have a little orphan nephew; he was left entirely in my care when five weeks old (his mother) my youngest sister passed to that home beyond when he was seven weeks old. I had had no experience whatever with a bottle fed baby. I did not let anything get by me that would give me information on the care and feeding of baby. I have the book on "Infant Care" sent out by the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor. It was a great help to me in many ways. By all means feed baby at regular hours and baby troubles will be lightened to a great extent. I also had the advice of a good doctor, which is very important when a baby is bottle fed. My little boy is now two years and eight months old and is a bright, healthy little fellow, with blue eyes and beautiful brown hair. I think love and kindness count the most in the upbringing of children. We should strive to acquire patience as that is a most needful article also.

Elizabeth Dirks. I agree with you on your views. Aside from other educational advantages I think every boy and girl should have a thorough training in the "homely arts," good homemaking and good housekeeping, also a course in "nursing" for the girl. What is more unfortunate in a household, when sickness enters and no one capable of performing the duties of a nurse. It is not every family who can afford to hire a nurse. Give the boy the manual training, he can make good use of it. Last but not the least give both the boy and the girl a good business training. They need it, especially the girl, if thrown on her own resources. If an estate is left to settle up or money entanglements to straighten out, what a help it is to a woman to understand business and legal proceedings.

The country vs. city life is interersting. I am in favor of country life. Life on the farm has its ups and downs yet with good management it can be made most comfortable and enjoyable.

Sister Edythe, you certainly took upon your young shoulders a great task when you began mothering those children. I am glad to know there is one happy stepmother; perhaps you knew and loved the children before you undertook to mother them. When a woman contemplates being a stepmother she should meet the children before undertaking the task and find out whether or not she can love them; if she cannot do so, she should not marry the father and all be miserable. If all things were looked at from a practical viewpoint and everything well considered beforehand the stepmother problem would not turn out so badly as it so often does. And stepmothers whatever you may know concerning a child's mother never mention it to the child, unless it is something that the child would love to hear.

Hurrah for Frank and Martha! long may you both live to enjoy the fruits of your labors.

With love and good wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and the sisters, I am, ANOTHER BACHELOR GIRL.

RUSSELL, MINN.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

May I gain admittance to your cozy circle? My mother has taken COMFORT for some years and now that I have a home of my own I take it. I think it is a fine paper and greatly enjoy reading the sisters' letters and Uncle Charlie's interesting talks.

Mrs. W. M. Reynolds, I am sorry but must say I do not believe as you do that after one is divorced they ought not to remarry while the other is alive. Just because one has been unhappy and secured a divorce consequently, is no reason why they should not marry again and be happy. I have a friend who has been divorced and today is married again and is very happy and contented.

I am interested in Woman Suffrage and hope to vote some day.

Georgie, it makes me fairly indignant to have you write that the country children are not as innocent as the city children and also you say a country home is so inferior to a city home. Unless one has a large home in the city and a large back yard for the children where they can play they are very apt to have a hard time to keep their children at home and off the street, where they are liable to fall into bad company. Generally, I think the city children are more rude and use more slang than the country children. I know many of the sisters will agree with me in this. I know many a poor family who are living in the city in two or three small rooms would give anything to get out in the country where they could breathe the pure air and enjoy the many blessings of country life. Of course we folks in the country cannot attend the theater every night or the pink teas every afternoon and we are just as happy and perhaps more so than those who do.

Mrs. Scott Sherer, you express my sentiments exactly in regard to letting children believe in Santa Claus.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 39)

500 Shot Repeating DAISY Air Rifle FREE



Order from this ad.

Absolutely Free—for a limited time only—this famous Daisy Air Rifle **if you order from this advertisement.** A constant source of amusement for any boy. Teaches accuracy of eye. And trains steadiness of nerves. Best of all, gives loads of fun. The same Daisy Air Rifle that storekeepers ask $1.25 for!

Why do we give this remarkable rifle free? Because we want to add a large number of new customers right away. We want several thousand mothers to send for this wonderful 8-piece outfit and learn what extra value is in our boys' clothing. Just mail P. O. order for $1.00. Send now—while this offer lasts.

$1 And You Get This Boys' New Stylish **8-Piece Outfit** (*Complete from head to foot*)

Astounding?—Yes! For here's *better* quality at a *lower* price than others sell for cash. You will be proud to see your boy in these snappy, up-to-date clothes. A wonderful, yes, a wonderful money-saving bargain. Don't miss this!

Order by No. S-55



Order by No. S-55

On Credit!

We ship on approval. Money back if you say so. Outfit includes:—

"Manley" Pinch Back Norfolk Suit Is specially well made and up-to-date in every detail. Has 3 outside patch pockets with flaps on two lower pockets; one inside breast pocket. Popular pinch back with 8-piece detachable belt, lined with good-wearing serge. Semi-peg knickers with belt loops and watch pocket. Adjustable buttons at knee. Furnished in smooth finished neat striped cassimers in blue, brown or gray. Sizes 7 to 17.

Sturdy Shoes Our Best Every quality leather. Comfortable last; Strongly made. Sizes up to 6.

Percale Waist Fast color Zatek striped percale. Military linked collar.

Handsome Tie Silk knitted. Four-in-hand style. Rich colorings.

Latest Pinch Back Cap to match suit. Made of same cloth. Rich art silk lining. Sizes 6 1-4 to 7 1-8

3 Pair Stockings Famous Rockwell brand. Reinforced knees.

(Be sure to give size of suit, shoes and cap.)

No. S-55, Price $0.95. $1.00 Cash, $1.50 Monthly.

Order Today! Send only a dollar bill or P. O. Order and we will send you this wonderful 8-piece outfit for your approval. Remember, the Daisy Air Rifle is absolutely free if you order from this advertisement. We guarantee satisfaction. Send now while this offer lasts. Don't miss this wonderfully liberal offer.

Send for big Bargain Catalog of women's, men's, boys' and girls' clothing FREE!

ALSO FREE—Big Bargain Catalog of women's, men's, boys' and girls' clothing. Send for this catalog whether you order outfit or not. Shows you amazing bargains—**on credit.**

ELMER RICHARDS CO., W. 35th St. Dept. 10 73 **Chicago, Ill.**

Money Back If Not Satisfied

Absolutely FREE



A beautiful KEYSTONE Upright Piano will be given ABSOLUTELY FREE to the one sending us the largest number of words constructed entirely from the letters used in the following sentence:

THE MODEL PIANO

Second or Merit prizes: $74.00 purchasing voucher to apply on a Beautiful Keystone Player Piano at the Special Direct Factory to Home Price of $403 or to any piano shown in our catalog at Factory to Home Price. On 30 days' trial. If satisfactory, pay balance on monthly installments. Otherwise, return at our expense. Scores of owners will testify to our honorable methods and the superior quality of our pianos, and the rare opportunity offered. Only one contestant permitted in a family. No one eligible who now has a piano. In case of a tie, Piano will be given each winner. SEND IN YOUR LIST OF WORDS. It is an interesting and educative contest. Use only letters contained in the sentence, do not use letters in any one word more times than they occur in sentence. English only. Write your name and address plainly. Contest positively closes **April 15th. 1917. Address Dept. D.**

KEYSTONE PIANO COMPANY, Warren, Pennsylvania

W. S. Adams, Route 4, Alexandria, Va., won the free piano in last contest.

Genuine Gold-Filled Ladies' Rings!

The Latest Styles in Beautiful Stone Set and Signet Rings for Ladies and Girls!



No. 51429



No. 52137



No. 50988



No. 51599



No. 52028



No. 51830



No. 52005

WE do not claim that these are solid gold rings, but they are **genuine gold filled** so that they are just as handsome as if they were solid gold and will wear almost as long. Every ring shown here is one of the **latest and most popular of this season's styles,** beautifully made and finished and set with imp. stones which are so exquisitely cut and mounted that they can hardly be distinguished from the **real gems** which would cost from $5.00 to $25.00 each. Remember these are not the kind of rings which always look so cheap and "brassy" after you wear them a little while because they are filled with enough **real gold** to give them **genuine wearing qualities** and being fashioned in style and finish to exactly correspond with the season's styles in expensive solid gold rings, not one person in a thousand will realize that you are wearing anything but the 14-caret gold article. Please read carefully the following descriptions of these beautiful new stylish rings and then you can easily tell which style or styles you prefer to have us send you. **When ordering be sure to mention the number of each ring wanted.**

No. 51429. Genuine gold filled, set with beautiful Imt. Amethyst.

No. 52137. The new poular Cameo ring, genuine gold filled with handsome chased design on either side of mounting.

No. 50988. Genuine gold filled heavily engraved pattern, set with handsome large Imt. Amethyst.

No. 51599. The ever popular Heart Signet, genuine gold filled and engraved.

No. 52028. Genuine gold filled, handsomely engraved, set with finest cut Imt. Ruby.

No. 51830. A very popular style, genuine gold filled, set with five handsome Imt. Garnets.

No. 52005. A very elaborate genuine gold-filled chased design set with one beautiful Imt. Sapphire and two sparkling Brilliants.

No. 51726. Genuine gold filled, set with a single brilliant Rhinestone with beautiful scroll design on either side of mounting.

No. 51786. Genuine gold filled, set with two Imt. Garnets and two sparkling Brilliants, engraved on either side of mounting.

No. 51723. A Round Signet ring gold filled, chased and beautifully engraved.

No. 51669. Genuine gold filled, set with three large Imt. Turquoise.

No. 51565. Genuine gold filled, set with a beautiful Imt. Ruby and two sparkling Brilliants.

No. 51175. Genuine gold filled and engraved, set with three brilliant Rhinestones.

No. 51682. A handsomely chased and engraved beaded design, set with one large Imt. Topaz and two sparkling Brilliants.



No. 51726



No. 51786



No. 51723



No. 51669



No. 51565



No. 51175



No. 51682

BE SURE TO SEND YOUR RING SIZE!



By using the above diagram you can tell exactly what size ring you wear if you will follow these directions: Put a stiff piece of paper around the second joint on your ring finger. Cut the paper off so that when drawn tight around your finger the ends exactly meet. Then lay the paper flat on the diagram, one end at the line O and the other end will indicate correct size. By following these instructions your ring will be a perfect fit.

YOURS FOR TWO SUBSCRIPTIONS!

By buying an enormous quantity of these rings direct from the manufacturer we secured them at a price that enables us to make a very astonishing offer. Send us only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, and we will send you free and postpaid your choice of any one ring illustrated and described above. Remember our guarantee that **these rings are genuine gold filled and that they will wear beautifully and give to you the best satisfaction.** When ordering be sure to specify **by number** the ring or rings you want.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1911, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

EXPLANATORY.—This story tells the strange things that happen to five-year-old Simmie-Sammie Smith and his sister Pittysing, nearly two years older, through the sly pranks of Nattie, the "Smallest Dapperling of All." The Dapperlings are kind-hearted, gay little elflike beings who ride on rabbits and never let themselves be seen by human eyes because of their belief that, if seen, it would bring some terrible calamity upon them. For this reason their queer little houses are always built into the hillside, and are so made, with doors and windows in front and grass growing on the backs, that they can be turned around to face out when the Dapperlings are by themselves; but as soon as anybody comes in sight the houses are whirled around so that only the grass-covered backs are seen and, as these look like the rest of the hill, you would never know the houses were there. They also have an underground assembly hall with an opening in the top covered with moss and concealed in a clump of thistles.



THERE WERE ALL THE LOST CLOTHES, NICE AND CLEAN, HUNG UP TO DRY.

CHAPTER VI.

WASHING DAY

SIMMIE-SAMMIE was feeding corn to his Plymouth Rock hen one morning, and wondering how she could swallow the big, hard kernels so easily, when his sister called to him from the doorway. Pittysing was well again, and the pretty color had come back to her cheeks.

"Simmie-Sammie! I'm going to wash Sarah-Grace-Josephine's clothes in the Mill Brook. If you'll be a good boy, you may go with me and carry part of the things."

Pittysing was wise, you see, for a little girl. She wanted Simmie-Sammie's help, but she knew if she said, "Simmie-Sammie, you must help me carry these things down to the Mill Brook," he would answer, "No, I don't want to." But when he might do it if he would be good, then it was a different matter, and he came gladly. It's all in the way you look at a thing, you see.

Sarah-Grace-Josephine was in bed. She couldn't go with them, for every single dress she owned needed washing, except her yellow silk muslin, and Pittysing was too careful a mother to let her child play around the brook in her very best dress.

Simmie-Sammie carried the little washboard, a piece of soap, and the bluing bottle. I don't suppose Pittysing could have blued the whole brook to rinse her clothes in, but it seemed a necessary part of the washing outfit, so she took it along. Pittysing carried a boxful of the clothes she was going to wash.

For as much as five minutes Simmie-Sammie watched while his sister, kneeling on the bank, soaped the little garments, one by one, and rubbed them briskly on the washboard. But when he found that he couldn't be trusted to wash, too, he didn't see the fun. So he wandered off to find amusement for himself, leaving Pittysing singing happily,

"'This is the way we wash our clothes,
Wash our clothes, wash our clothes,
This is the way we wash our clothes
So early Monday morning.'"

After a while Pittysing missed him, and called, "Simmie-Sammie!"

No answer.

"Simmie-Sammie Smith!" she called, louder this time.

Still he didn't answer.

"Come right straight back here," she called, "or I'll go and tell mamma you're lost."

"Well, I'm a-coming', ain't I?" he said. He wasn't far off, and he had heard her all the time, but he didn't like to answer, and I'll tell you why.

When he came to the brook, and his sister saw the look on his face, she asked sternly, "What have you been doing?"

"Oh, I—found sump'n," Simmie-Sammie answered.

"Show it to me!" Pittysing demanded.

"No," he refused, holding his hand behind him. "Guess I don't have to do ev'ything you say."

"It's a good thing you've got me to see to you," Pittysing declared solemnly, "for mamma couldn't watch you all the time. But seems to me," she added, "you're getting MOST old enough to watch yourself. Now show me what's in your hand, or I shan't let you help feed Chippie Chatter for two whole days."

"Well, then, look! It's sump'n awful nice, an' I guess you'll wish you'd found it first." He only said this to make believe it was all right.

Then he held out his hand, and in it were two pretty little greenish-blue eggs.

Pittysing looked at him sorrowfully.

"Yes," she said. "I DO wish I'd found 'em first, so I could have kept you from touching 'em. I didn't s'pose my own little brother'd be mean enough to rob a bird's nest. Don't you remember that robin out in the apple tree back of our house, what a pretty song he sings? Well, those little eggs, are robins' eggs, and if you'd left 'em in the nest, by and by little baby robins would have hatched out, and when they grew up, they'd have sung sweet songs, too. Don't you want to have pretty songs in the world, to make folks happy?"

Simmie-Sammie didn't look happy. Even the sweetest kind of a song wouldn't have made him happy then, for he knew he wasn't doing right.

"And don't you know," went on Pittysing, "that those big robins 'll feel just awful bad when they come back to the nest and find the eggs gone? You just show me where you found the nest, and we'll go put the eggs back. Prob'ly they won't hatch out now, but MAYBE they will. Come."

Simmie-Sammie's face had been working queerly while Pittysing preached her little sermon. He had been trying to keep the tears back, but now they came with a rush.

"They must hatch out! They shall! I'll make 'em!" he cried, and he stamped his foot.

Together they went to where, on a low branch of a fir tree that grew close by the fence, he had found the robins' nest.

"Now I'll climb up on the fence, and you pass 'em up to me, one at a time," Pittysing directed. "Mind you don't break one."

"No," said Simmie-Sammie, "'twas me what tooked 'em out, an' it must be me what putted 'em back. YOU hold the eggs, an' I'LL climb up."

"There!" Pittysing said, when the eggs were safe in the nest once more, "that's done! You won't ever be such a bad boy again. Now we'll go back to the brook, and while I'm washing, you can make boats of plantain leaves, and send 'em sailing down the brook."

But when they got back to the brook, an awful thing had happened. That is, it was awful for Sarah-Grace-Josephine. Yes, and for Pittysing, too. All the time they had been gone, the tiny Mill Brook had been running along just the same as usual—just as it had for years and years and years—dancing over the pebbles, and singing its little murmuring song all to itself.

And it wasn't the brook's fault that Pittysing had left Sarah-Grace-Josephine's clothes in the water when she went to see about the eggs. Part of the little clothes were in sight, clinging to rocks and plants along the water's edge, but many of them had floated off down the stream, out of sight. And the children couldn't go after them, for that was farther than they were allowed to go.

"Oh, dear me SUZ!" wailed Pittysing. "They may be in the Slantic Ocean by this time! Her little pink gingham dress, and her white apron, and her lace handkerchief—oh, everything, pretty near! Simmie-Sammie, I—I b'lieve I'm going to cry! I pretty near feel it coming!"

"You needn't!" cried Simmie-Sammie, for he knew if Sarah-Grace-Josephine never had any clothes to wear it would be all his fault. "Don't you do it an' I'll—I'll be a good boy, an' not make you watch me to keep me from being bad. Honest, I will!"

Pittysing threw her arms about him joyfully.

"Well there!" she cried. "If anything will make you good always, I'm glad it's happened. Help me pick up what things didn't sail off. If Sarah-Grace-Josephine's got to stay in bed, we'll play she's sick, and you can be the doctor. I wonder if she better have the scarlet measles or the dicktheria."

Sarah-Grace-Josephine was a smiling patience, and never once looked cross, though she was dosed with vinegar and brown bread pills for medicine, and had a wet bandage 'round her head, and hot vaseline on her chest.

She was enough better next day so the children took her for an airing down to the brook, wrapped in Simmie-Sammie's red sweater. As they neared the brook, Pittysing stopped suddenly, so surprised she nearly dropped her child.

"Well, for the love of—" she commenced, then thrusting Sarah-Grace-Josephine into Simmie-Sammie's arms, she rushed for the little hazelnut bush, for there were all the lost clothes, nice and clean, hung up to dry.

"Now Sawah-Gwace-Josephine's got her clothes, an' I won't have to be good," said Simmie-Sammie.

"Yes, you will! Don't think you can get out of it!" his sister told him. "A promise is a promise, and you can't take it back."

"Well, anyway, I didn't say always," muttered Simmie-Sammie.

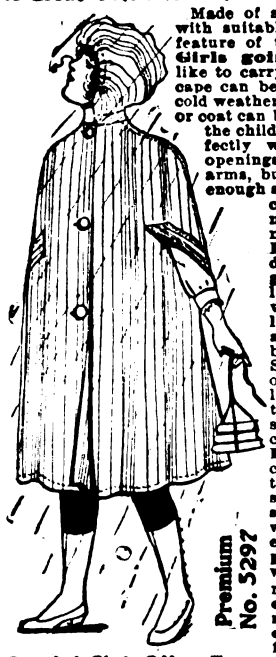
The Smallest Dapperling of All had had an awful struggle getting all those clothes out of the brook, and back where they belonged. She had torn her own dress, and pretty near got drowned, but when she saw how delighted Pittysing was, she didn't feel a bit sorry she had done it, but went singing all the way home,

"The bestest time I ever-ever had,
Was when I made somebody-body glad.
Sing-ho! Heigh-oh!
Heigh-oh! Sing-ho!
The way to have a merry-merry heart,
Is, just be sure to always do your part!
Sing-ho! Heigh-oh!
Heigh-oh! Sing-ho!"

Don't miss April COMFORT which will tell how the Dapperling village escapes a frightful danger.

Girl's Waterproof Cape

A Great PROTECTOR From WIND and RAIN



Made of striped rubberized cloth with suitable lining, and the best feature of this cape is the hood. **Girls going to school** do not like to carry an umbrella, and this cape can be worn either in hot or cold weather. If in winter a sweater or coat can be worn underneath, and the child is not only dry but perfectly warm. There are two openings in the cape for the arms, but the garment is large enough so the books or packages can be carried underneath, which makes it much **better than a Rain Coat.** The shoulders are shaped so as to give it a very attractive look. This cape comes in a very dark drab color with lighter drab stripes. They are so pretty any girl will be proud to wear one. Sizes 6 to 14 years. When ordering better order it larger than necessary so to have it of sufficient size to go over a heavy coat or other garments. **Boys** can easily get up clubs and thus get one of these Rain Capes for their sisters. **Girls** like to get subscribers to COMFORT where they can so easily earn **such a sensible premium** so as to keep warm and dry during the rainy season. **When ordering be sure to mention size wanted. It comes in sizes from 6 to 14 years.**

Premium No. 5297

Special Club Offer. For a club of only seven one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you by parcel post one of these serviceable Rain Capes. **State size wanted. Premium No. 5297.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Letter About Bargains!

The publisher of COMFORT has written you an interesting and important letter—a letter about the

Biggest 25c Worth in the World

It is a letter that gives you a chance to do a real kindness to a friend. We believe you will find it of interest and we hope that you will be sure to read it.

This important communication you will find on Page 46.

LOCKET AND CHAIN

Rolled Gold Plate!

Warranted For 5 Years!



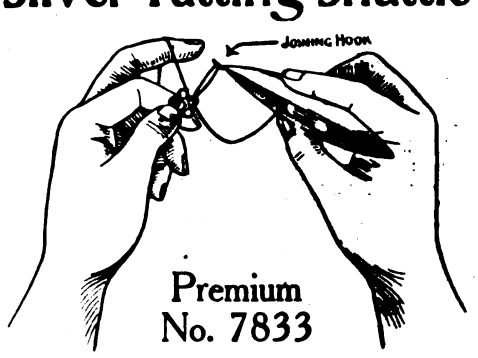
MOST every young lady wants a Locket and Chain. Other styles of neck ornaments may come and go but a gold Locket and Chain is **always** fashionable, can be worn with any dress and at any season of the year. The locket offered here is one of the latest designs. One side of it is beautifully engraved as shown in the illustration while the other side is plain. It measures exactly one inch in diameter and on the inside there is space for **two pictures.** The cable chain is 15 inches long and both Chain and Locket are made of **heavy rolled gold plate** that is absolutely guaranteed to stand an acid test and warranted **for five years.** You could easily pay $5.00 for a locket and chain that would look no better and wear no better than this one. It is dainty, refined and attractive and we are sure that it will more than please everybody. This locket and chain guaranteed to be exactly as described is yours free upon the terms of the following

PREMIUM NO. 7213

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this guaranteed rolled gold Locket and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7213.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Silver Tatting Shuttle



Premium No. 7833

Given For Three Subscriptions

MADE of **solid sterling silver** beautifully finished and polished. A new idea is the hook at the end as shown in above illustration which easily and quickly **picks up the loops.** The illustration shows how the shuttle is held in the hand and the little arrow points to the patent hook in the act of picking up the stitch or loop. The free end of the thread goes through a small hole on the inside of the shuttle. A further description of this handy little device is hardly necessary for every woman who does tatting will see at a glance how really indispensable it is and how greatly superior to anything else ever designed for the same purpose. Being made of genuine sterling silver, you can have your jeweler engrave it with any monogram or initials desired. One of these shuttles engraved in this manner makes a very acceptable gift for any woman or girl who is a tatting worker. We will send you this tatting shuttle free upon the terms of the following.

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each we will send you this sterling tatting shuttle free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7833.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Corner for Boys

By Uncle John

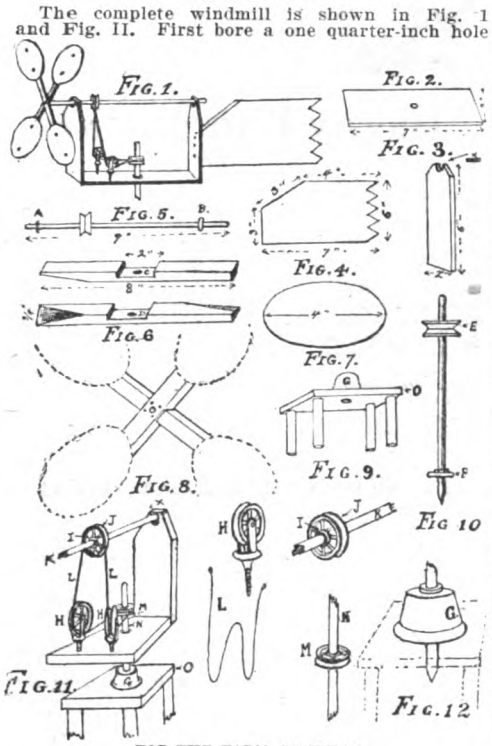
"WHEW," the wind is blowing so hard that I scarcely have breath enough to say, "How do you do?" It is a pretty chilly wind too, and, I fancy, you boys of the mild climate regions have more to be thankful for than you are aware of. After all, the weather doesn't make much difference if we are sound and healthy and our chief concern should be to remain in that condition. Nowadays, the doctrine of "How to be well," is literally preached from the housetops. Every newspaper and magazine contains practical health hints and reliable books on the subject are available to even the poorest of us. Boys, as a rule, do not think much about their bodies, but it is well to realize that youth and strength are fleeting blessings and must be conserved. Do not think you can indulge in bad habits without paying the penalty, This idea has wrecked millions of careers. Many a prematurely old man owes his decadence to the things he learned to do in boyhood. It may be that the tobacco a boy indulges in will make a weak old man of him before he is forty, or that night reading injudiciously practised will ruin his eyesight. It is the duty of every human being to investigate himself from time to time and make some changes in his manner of living. Life is an individual knot which each one must untie for himself.

Telephones to Horse

Fire department horses, which are now rapidly being replaced by gasoline and electric power, are usually intelligent and quick to respond to orders, but sometimes they grow so accustomed to obeying a single individual that they absolutely ignore commands given by any one else. An episode, that illustrates this peculiarity, occurred some years ago in a Connecticut town. During the absence of a veteran driver, the bell clanged, and all the horses responded except the absent man's particular charge. He refused to budge because he had not heard the familiar voice of his master and finally they called the man up on the telephone and asked him to suggest some way out of the dilemma. With the resourcefulness of the true fire fighter, he sensed what was wrong with the stubborn animal and said: "Put the phone to his ear and let me talk to him." Fortunately, the proximity of the telephone made this possible, and, as soon as his suggestion was followed, the fireman shouted his familiar words of command to the puzzled equine. It was not necessary to repeat them, for the animal instantly recognized the voice and flew to his proper position under the suspended harness.

Windmill

The complete windmill is shown in Fig. I and Fig. II. First bore a one quarter-inch hole



FOR THE FARM AT HOME.

in the center of a two by seven-inch board and to each end of it, nail a piece like Fig. 3. The hard wood shaft, Fig. 5, is one quarter inch in diameter and nine inches long. The wheel is formed of the two arms, Fig. 6, and the four oval disks of tin or wood, Fig. 4. Fig. 8 is a bigger view of it. The tail-board is shown above Fig. 4. The bench upon which the nail rests is made of broomstick legs and a seven by four-inch board top. Glue the spool "G" to the center of it and bore a hole under the spool hole. The upright shaft, Fig 10, fits into it. It runs on the bearing, "F" and "E" is a pulley. Two special pulleys like "H" are screwed to the table, as shown in Fig. II. They are one inch in diameter and one inch apart. The line used is a loop of flexible wire or heavy cord as thick as a match. It passes over all pulleys used. The pair, "H", "H" are loose the pulleys "J" and "M" are tight on the shafts and move with them. The windmill has a double motion. The wind turns the wheel and through the belt or cord transmission the shaft, Fig. 10, merrily revolves. Paint the finished product and oil or grease the bearings.

Cultivating Sponges

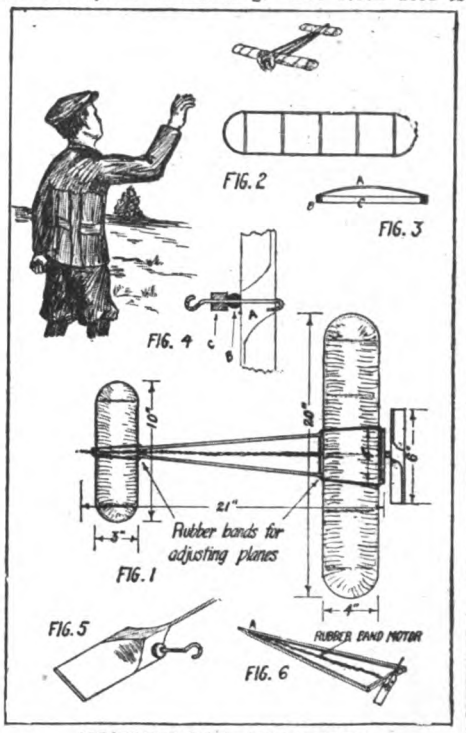
Sponges, in their natural state, are a growth of a low order of animal life which attaches itself to rocks in deep water. Of late years, the demand has grown greater than the production, and some means of augmenting the natural beds has been steadfastly sought by experts. One of the successful methods consists of cutting a seed sponge into several parts, just as potatoes are cut at planting time, and fixing them to cement disks which are then lowered slowly into watery caverns, suited to the purpose. After two years' time, the blocks are raised by divers and considerable new growth is generally found upon them. In the natural fisheries considerable loss is entailed because the sponges cling so tenaciously that they cannot be entirely torn from the rocks but the cultivated article readily peels off and involves no waste whatever. Another late development of the industry is the making of artificial sponges out of rubber and paper.

Thinking Power

If you are ever to reach a high station in life, it will have to be mainly through your thinking power. This means that you will have to use your brains as well as your hands. Hard work is only half the ammunition we have at our disposal. Hard thinking is the other half. The hunter who takes careful aim will not have to fire many shots to fill his bag. The one who shoots recklessly at every stirring leaf may come home empty-handed. Did you ever see a cow standing in a field while its calf bleated pitifully from the other side of the fence? With every bit of strength and feeling in its body, the mother longs to get close to her young but the bovine intellect is not capable of understanding that a strong push against the fence would shatter it. So all day long she moans and bleats and sorrows. Many of us are in the same situation. We whine and fret and worry while all we need to do is to stop and think, and then apply our force and labor intelligently. Be definite in your planning. Have your work mentally done before you touch a hand to it. Don't take things as they come but make them come to suit you.

Aeroplane Model

The model shown herewith is of the simplest type. Fig. 6 shows the chassis or body. It is a triangular frame four inches wide at the base and twenty-one inches long. The stock used is

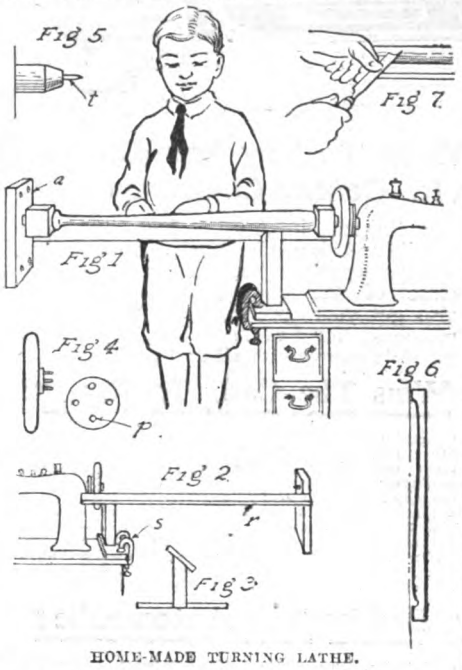


AEROPLANE ON A SMALL SCALE.

not more than one quarter-inch square and must be light and strong. Cypress, pine, bamboo or spruce splints are good for the purpose. Glue the pieces together and reinforce the joints with small brads or a thread wrapping. The motor consists of rubber bands, stretched quite tightly. At the end "A" it is fastened to a small hook rigidly fixed and at the wide end it is looped over the hook in the propeller. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of this latter shaft which has a hook on each end. The part "c" is the crosspiece at the wide end of the frame; "B" is a glass bead used like a ball bearing to reduce friction; "A" is the propeller. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the propeller. It is whittled from a block of soft wood one-inch square and six inches long. Accuracy and symmetry are the indispensable points to aim at in shaping it. The large plane is four by twenty inches. Splints cut from a cane or bamboo fish pole form the frame. The five crosspieces or struts must be evenly spaced, as in Fig. 2. Fig. 3 is an end view of the plane and shows the warp or curvature. This is given by placing a bent rib of bamboo over each cross strut after the joints of glue and thread wrapping dipped in glue has had a day to set. "C" in Fig. 3, is the cross strut, of which there are five, and "A" is the bent rib, of which there are also five used in this large plane frame. Over the curve ribs silk, varnished with shellac or regular aero cloth is stretched and held taut by sewing or gluing. The same plane is made in the same manner. It is three by ten inches and has three struts and the same number of bent ribs. To try out the model you will have to adjust the planes many times. Each one is held on the frame by one rubber band, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. To fly the machine, you wind the propeller until the rubber is stretched about as much as it will stand, then hold the whole aloft in a tilted upward position and, with a slight push, release the propeller. Do not be easily disappointed. Continue to make adjustment of the planes backward and forward until a flight of a hundred feet is made, then the planes may be secured with brads and thread wrapping to the chassis. It is a simple amusement device but finicky.

An Improvised Turning Lathe

This article aims to show how to convert an old sewing machine into a lathe. Fig. 1 is a picture of the idea being utilized by a boy to turn a baseball bat. Look at Fig. 4. It shows the



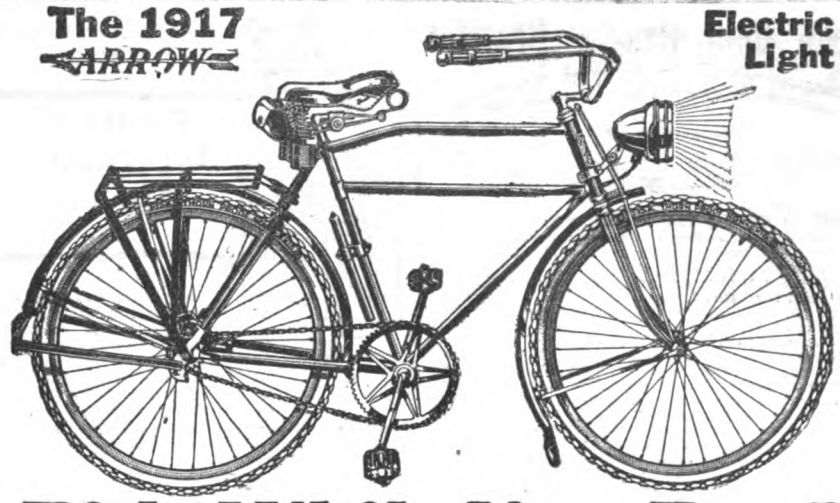
HOME-MADE TURNING LATHE.

fly wheel with the nut "p" removed. Four one eighth inch holes are bored in this nut and tightly fitting, pointed steel pins are driven into them. At the beginning of a job, the end of the rough piece of wood is pressed into those pins so that it will turn when the wheel turns. The other end of the rough stock is supported by the loose fitting point "t" in Fig. 5. This latter may be on a support or may be nailed to the wall of your workshop. We next consider the tool rest shown in Fig. 2. A piece of two by four with a one-inch block under it is clamped to the table top of the machine, indicated by "s." The top of the post is slanted and the four-inch wide rest "r" is tilted, as shown in the side view, Fig. 3. The tool used is a gouge or curved chisel as in Fig. 7. Take off a thin shaving at a time and have a bat on hand for a model. Make the machine firm before beginning work. One boy works the treadle while the other holds the tool. The idea is offered on the assumption that nearly every home has an antiquated and valueless sewing machine and that broken wagon tongues and other discarded pieces of wood are usually obtainable by the country lad. A bat is only one of many things that you can shape out.

Well, this finishes my contribution for this month. All the plans are worthy of your attention and will, if carefully worked out, give you a kind of mental exercise, similar to that involved in the solving of a mathematical problem. If it is really impossible for you tually to build the things described try the armchair method and build them in your mind. This does not mean simply reading the articles, but the imaginary making and putting together of all the parts. It is a mind and nerve test and a valuable one.

UNCLE JOHN.

The 1917 ARROW Electric Light



Ride While You Pay!

Send the coupon below today for free catalog of the new 1917 "ARROW" Bicycle. We ship the ARROW to you *without a penny down*.. Start riding and enjoying it right away. And pay the special rock-bottom price—*a small amount each month*—while you ride. If you do not agree, when you see the 1917 Arrow, that it is the biggest bicycle bargain you ever saw, send it back *at our expense*. You be the judge. Send the coupon at once for free catalog.

Electric Light
Motorcycle type frame, saddle, crossbar handlebars, pedals, mudguard, stand and luggage carrier. Fisk Thorn-Proof Non-Skid tires. Atherton or New Departure Coaster Brake, tool kit and tire pump. Other new features. Write today.

New Motorcycle Type

Read the sensational improvements in the new 1917 model. Motorcycle type—handsome and durable. A positive wonder for speed, easy riding and comfort. The biggest bicycle value ever built. All sizes for boys, men and women. Send the coupon today for free catalog, containing full description of this and many other models.

Send Coupon NOW!

Don't delay!! Learn about the sensational 1917 Arrow right away. Take advantage of our special rock-bottom price offer. Get the free catalog and details of our Pay-As-You-Ride offer. Send coupon now *while this offer lasts.*

ARROW CYCLE COMPANY, Dept. 3043
19th Street & California Ave., CHICAGO

Arrow Cycle Co.
Dept. 3043 — 19th Street and California Ave. CHICAGO, ILL.

Please send me free catalog of the New 1917 ARROW and particulars of your rock-bottom "Pay-As-You-Ride" Offer.

Name.....

Address.....

NO JOKE TO BE DEAF
—EVERY DEAF PERSON KNOWS THAT



I make myself hear, after being deaf for 25 years, with these Artificial Ear Drums. I wear them day and night. They are perfectly comfortable. No one sees them. Write me and I will tell you a true story, how I got deaf and how I make you hear. Address



Medicated Ear Drum
Pat. Nov. 3, 1908

GEO. P. WAY, Artificial Ear Drum Co. (Inc.)
105 Adelaide St., Detroit, Mich.

BOYS AIR RIFLE FREE



for selling only 12 pieces of Jewelry at 10c ea. When sold return $1.20 and we will send this fine Rifle. Write for Jewelry today.
Eagle Watch Co., 134, East Boston, Mass.



New Ford Joke Book 1917

All the latest jokes on the Ford Auto. Hundreds of them and all good ones. Spring a new one on your neighbors. Large book with colored cover by mail, 10c

NEW ENGLAND PUBLISHING CO.
Box 24 So. Norwalk, Conn



FREE TALKING MACHINE and record; marvelous clear tone; plays any disc record. Free for introducing Mentho Nova (wonder healer) to 8 of your friends at 25¢. Order today. U. S. Supply Co., Dept. 330 Greenville, Pa.

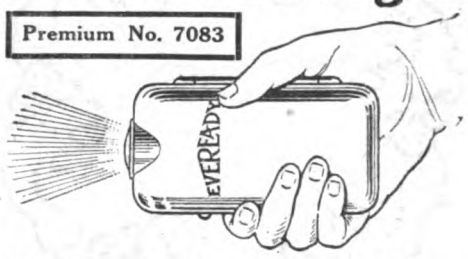
FREE WATCH & RING
A $10.00 guarantee Watch, also a beautiful Signet Ring, are given absolutely FREE for selling only 20 motto and religious pictures at 10 cents each. Write for them. RAY ART CO., DEPT. J, CHICAGO, ILL.

FREE Fine Camera and complete outfit for selling 20 Large Colored Art & Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Beautiful Post Cards at 10cents each. Satisfaction Guaranteed or money returned. Order your choice today. GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 325 CHICAGO

PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D.C. Advice and books free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best services.

Pocket Flashlight

Premium No. 7083



Given For A Club Of Three

THERE are so many occasions when a flashlight is a necessity it would be impossible to name them all but there is one thing sure—**it is the handiest and safest means of illuminating ever devised.** We offer here one of the best pocket flashlights made. It is known as the "Eveready," which is certainly an appropriate name as it **is** always ready when you want to use it. But the greatest feature of this flashlight is its **safety** around inflammable material. In the house it lights up the darkest rooms or clothes closets, dark corners in the basement, in the garret; it may be used around **gasoline, or powder,** in the stable, in the barn, even in the hay mow, and **there is not the slightest danger of fire.** It throws a shaft of steady brilliance right in the teeth of wind or rain. The mere pressure of your finger starts and stops the light at your will and it is so small and compact that you can carry it around **in your vest pocket** where it does not take up any more room than a cigarette box. The "Eveready" is beautifully finished in **polished nickel** with a hinged bottom which opens to replace the battery and is equipped with a push button as well as a sliding switch for a flash or continuous light. It is equipped with a Tungsten battery and bulb and gives a surprisingly powerful bright light and the battery with average use will last **from two to four months.** When one battery becomes exhausted you can easily buy another one anywhere as they are on sale in every city and town in the United States. Or, if you prefer, we will furnish you with additional batteries **free of cost** in return for a few subscriptions to COMFORT. We will send you this flashlight **with battery and bulb complete,** ready for business as soon as you receive it, upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one "Eveready" flashlight as described above free by Parcel Post prepaid. **(Premium No. 7083.)** We can also supply you with extra batteries for the "Eveready" at the rate of one battery free for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each. **(Premium No. 7092.)**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Premium No. 4278

Soft Warm Bed Blankets

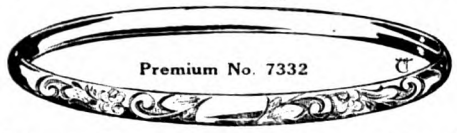
Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Eight



THIS IS an offer which no good housewife can afford to overlook. It is your opportunity to secure as many large comfortable bed blankets as you may need **without a cent of expense.** These fine double blankets are **72 inches long and 55 inches wide,** extremely well made and finely finished. They are pure white in color and come with either blue or pink borders. Please notice that they are large enough for any standard size bed being of sufficient length to come up well on the pillow and wide enough so that they may be snugly tucked in at the sides. This is in reality one of the best bargains in a premium we have ever offered on account of the fact that we have bought a large quantity of these blankets direct from the mill at a special low price and therefore are enabled to offer them to our readers for a very small club of subscriptions. When you think of this big warm blanket on your bed or lying on a closet shelf ready for use when wanted, we believe that you will want to start a club at once for the sake of securing one or more of them free of all cost to you. We will gladly send you one or more of these splendid blankets upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or four 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these large, double bed blankets free by Parcel Post prepaid. You may have your choice of either blue or pink border. **Prem. No. 4278.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Rolled Gold Bangle Bracelet



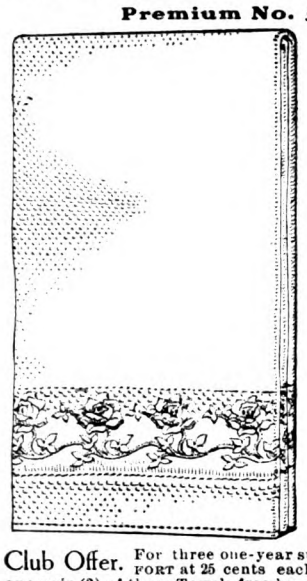
Given For Two Subscriptions!

THE Bangle Bracelet has come back. More of them are being worn this season than ever before. The handsome bracelet shown above is real bangle style made of genuine **rolled gold** plate and positively guaranteed **for five years.** It is beautifully **engraved** and is very light and dainty, measuring only 3-16 of an inch in width. We want to give every girl reader of COMFORT one of thesehandsome Bracelets now that they are again the style and by buying a large quantity of them we are able to make an offer so liberal there is no reason why all cannot have one. Remember, however, that although we ask you for a very small club this is **not** a cheap bracelet in any sense of the word. It is just as dainty and refined looking as a solid gold bracelet and it will wear beautifully for years and give you the best of satisfaction. We will make you a present of one of these stylish gold bangle bracelets if you will accept the following **Club Offer.** For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Bangle Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7332.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Pair Huck Towels

Premium No. 5873

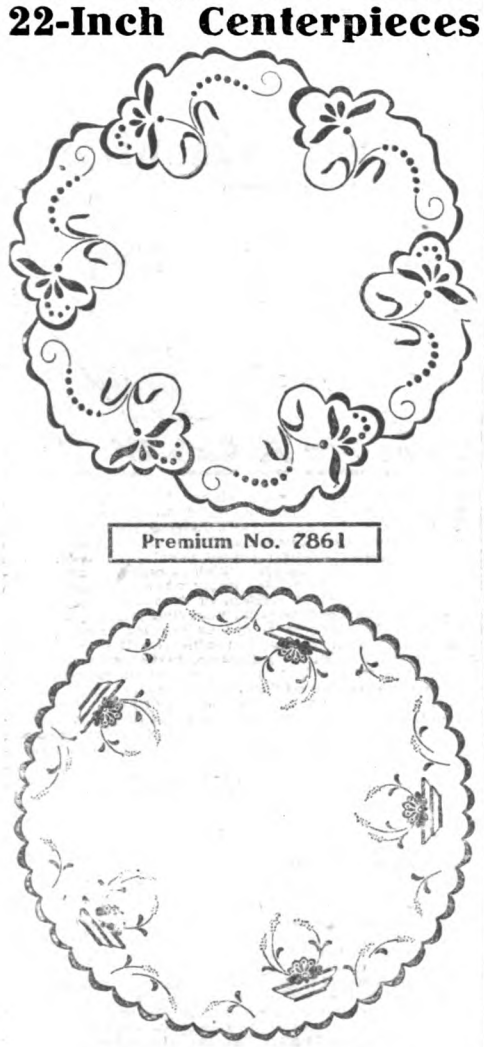


New **large, pure white Towels** of excellent quality. Of superior domestic material they are in every way the equal of towels selling at 50 cents each. Size **19 x 38 inches, full bleached** and white as snow; a pair of these beautiful towels are a satisfaction to the eye. Not only do they make delightful **"Toilet Towels** but are adapted to use as **stand or bureau covers, tray cloths, etc., etc.** We can positively guarantee **entire satisfaction** as regards their **laundering qualities.**

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you one pair (2) of these Towels free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5873.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Odd-Shaped And Basket 22-Inch Centerpieces



Premium No. 7861

Premium No. 7871

One Given For One Subscription

THESE two novel designs will please the woman who is looking for **something new and different.** The odd-shaped Centerpiece at the top is to be worked in solid stitch with buttonholed edge. The Basket design is to be worked in solid stitch and French knots with buttonholed edge. Each Centerpiece is **22 inches** in size and comes stamped on a separate piece of white "Butcher cloth" which is as good as linen for all practical purposes. Both designs are simple and easy to work and they make very handsome centers when finished. We will send you either one or both of them on the terms of the following special offers.

Offer No. 7861A. For one one-year subscription [not your own] to COMFORT at 25c we will send you the odd-shaped Centerpiece free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7861B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 10c additional [35 cents in all] we will send you the odd-shaped Centerpiece free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7861.**

Offer No. 7871A. For one one-year subscription [not your own] to COMFORT at 25c we will send you the Basket Centerpiece free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 7871B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 10c additional [35c in all] we will send you the Basket Centerpiece free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7871.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. F. D., Lilacs, Pa.—Vaccination is an undoubted protection to children at school and the law compelling it is intended for the welfare of all. You must obey the law, though it may entail hardship upon your children, not only for their protection, but for the common defense. You cannot expect to live in a community whose laws are for your protection unless you obey those laws, for if you do, then others may and presently there will be anarchy and destruction for all. Certain local laws which prove to be hardships may be repealed by common consent, but the big laws for all must stand though many suffer. COMFORT can be of no service directly. Write your protests to the local newspapers and get them to go after the local evils you complain of.

A. R., Wapinitia, Oregon.—The Government has a right to draft—not "graft," as you have it—men into the army regardless of their religion. If men refuse to fight for the country and maintain its power to protect the churches, what will become of religion? Everything else depends upon the maintenance of the government with its protecting arm about religion, commerce, home, art, science, and all the rest of it, and why should any man say his church forbids his doing his bit for the common good? (2) Jury free citizens vary in different states. Ask your sheriff about Oregon. (3) No particular nation or man was the founder of international law. It was one of those obvious necessities that founded itself. Jeremy Bentham, an English jurist, gave the name, International Law, to the old "Law of Nations," about the middle of the eighteenth century, but the law in some shape had been in existence for hundreds of years.

S. A. H., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.—Good schools, in which students may work their way as part of their tuition, are not as numerous as you think. On the other hand there is not a college or university in the land, we believe, in which there are not students working their way through. These, however, do not depend upon the school for work, though it may help through scholarships or by giving employment, but mostly they find some occupation and make as much money out of it as they can. Apparently they prefer this method to being furnished work by the school as they can get more actual money out of it. Make inquiries of teachers in your own town, or in Cleveland, as to schools in Ohio and write to President Frost, Berea, Ky., Berea College being one of the best known of its class in the entire country.

Old Subscriber, Lamberton, Minn.—Maine is not the place for Minnesota to apply for information in detail about the public schools of Idaho. You are going in the wrong direction. Write to the State Superintendent of Education, Boise, Idaho, and get the reports and other literature of his department. Then write to some of the educators mentioned in those reports for personal and direct information. This is a lot more trouble than if you could read a brief answer we might give you, but if you really want to know you will take the trouble to learn.

T. E., Earl, Wis.—A foreign medical diploma, while an evidence of your ability, is of no working value in this country and you will require the same official papers for practise that you would have to have if you did not have the diploma. Talk to a doctor about it and get information direct.

J. P., Donnsville, La.—As we have stated in this column many times, we repeat, that when anyone finds any mineral, or vegetable or animal, unknown to him and to all the people in his community, he should write to one of his state officials, describing it and asking if it is of any public value. If no information can be had in the state, then write to Superintendent, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C. for instructions.

E. E., Creal Springs, Ill.—There is no distinct color of the "rock" in which gold and silver are found, as in some instances both are found in the same vein. Ususually whatever color there is comes from some other mineral in the composition.

W. R. T., Booneville, Miss.—You did not search very carefully through the advertising columns of COMFORT or you would have found several advertisements of coin firms who are just the people you are looking for to tell you about your greenback. Write to them. If they can't tell you, write to the Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C., where the money came from, if it is good.

D. W. P., Tenino, Wash.—Chicory, the kind that is used in adulterating coffee, has roots like the dandelion and a bitter taste. It is sometimes used to take the place of coffee, but it lacks the coffee "punch," as the saying is. It is not stimulating and for that reason it is not bad on the nerves as too much coffee is. Chicory leaves are used for salad either bleached or green; they are harmless and are relished by those who like a mild bitter.

J. M. C., Caney Springs, Tenn.—We haven't space to tell you all we know about the Northwest Territories of Canada, the Yukon, Alaska and other information you should have acquired long ago from the vast amount of matter that has been written about those sections. Write to Governor Strong, Sitka, Alaska, for free literature about that region and to Hon. Lawrence Fortescue, I. S. O., Comm'r, Ottawa, and Hon. George Black, Comm'r, Dawson, Can., for literature about the N. W. Territories and the Yukon country. There is a living in those regions for any man who can get it out of them, but it is not every man who can do it. Which is the same of every other section of the earth, including Caney Springs. One good thing about those North countries is that the lazy man is mighty apt to freeze to death the first winter. (2) The Northern Lights are an auroreal display in the northern heavens, the origin or cause of which is not definitely known. They are especially beautiful in the Polar regions, the cold apparently intensifying them. (3) Some of the northwestern Indians speak English, but the majority do not. Educated Indians do. In the Puget Sound region, United States and Canada, Chinook is spoken, this being an artificial language understood by both whites and Indians.

Mrs. M., Oakwood, Ill.—What the situation now is in reference to homesteads for Civil War soldiers' orphans we cannot say, but definite information may be had by writing to Commissioner of the Land Office, Interior Dep't, Washington, D. C.

B. A. N., Winchester, Ohio.—The customary way to market a song is to send the manuscript, as you have written it, to the publisher and offer to sell it to him as you would offer anything else for sale. He will attend to the copyright and will have it in your name if you want it, but will pay more for the song if he can own the copyright. If you sell your song outright, that ends your connection with it. If you sell it on royalty, the publisher reports sales to you semi-annually and you may get some money out of it and you may not. The great majority do not, because the supply of songs far exceeds the demand. Don't pay any money to have it published unless you are absolutely sure that the song will more than pay all expenses and a fair profit.

L. M., Knoxville, Miss.—To remove ink stains successfully requires an expert in the use of chemicals and even then success usually shows the scar. You had much better get a new pennant, or leave the ink stain there as the souvenir of an occasion.

H. E. F., Talbotton, Ga.—If you and other COMFORT readers wanting information about the cultivation and sale of sunflower seed will write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. you will receive all that great collector of farm information has on hand and it will be reliable, though perhaps not so rosy as some of you may read of in the newspapers. While you are writing to the Department, suppose you make inquiries about the raising of peanuts. Many Southern farmers are now interested in the goober-pea and it is said to make a very profitable crop.



ALL SEVEN PREMIUMS FREE

Gold plated **Lavalliere** (set with Im. Diamond) and **Neck Chain,** pair Pierceless **Ear Bobs** (set with Im. Diamonds), **Bracelet** (set with 3 Im. Diamonds), **3** Gold plated **Rings** and Solid Sterling Silver **Ring,** set with imported Carbuncle Stone. We give **All Seven** Premiums **Absolutely Free** to anyone who sells only 12 Jewelry Novelties at 10 cents each. We trust you and take back all not sold.

Write for this liberal offer.
T. T. Dale Mfg. Co
Providence, R. I.



FREE



TALKING MACHINE AND RECORDS

Reproduces both vocal & instrumental music Clear-toned. Plays *Columbia* or *Victor* Records. Machine & records *Free* for selling 20 pkgs. colored Post Cards at 10c.

When sold return $2.00 and machine and records are yours.
KEYSTONE POST CARD CO., Box 164 Greenville, Pa.



IF YOU KNEW HOW

TO REDUCE 10 to 50 LBS. without drugs, sweating or starving and with real protection to health

YOU WOULD DO IT

willingly and gladly. Send name and address to-day, and I will tell you **FREE** how I did it.
S. L. BURNS., 14 W. 37th St., New York

CASH FOR OLD GOLD

Send us old rings, lockets and other jewelry and silverware of no use to you. We will estimate value and send money at once. If you are not satisfied we return your jewelry same day we hear from you. Refer to Stapleton National Bank as to our fair dealing and integrity. Send what you have for estimate NOW. Tear this out to remind you.
C. A. TURPISCH & SONS, Jewelers, 23 Bay St., Stapleton, N. Y.

SUGAR Only 4c a Pound

We save you big money on all Groceries. Send for free Bargain Price List,
COLE-CONRAD CO., Dept. A-39, CHICAGO, ILL.

FREE  **POWERFUL AIR GUN**

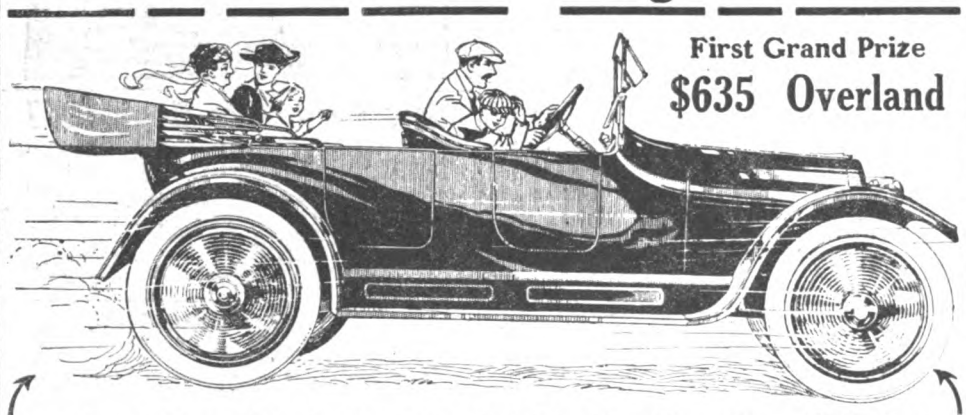
Big lever action rifle free for selling 20 Art and Religious Pictures or 20 pkgs. Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. **GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 825 CHICAGO**

BIG WONDER PACKAGE



1 Great North Pole Game, 1 Big Roll Stage Money, 1 Game Authors, 1 Cribbage Board, 1 Checker Board and Men, Pinochle Game, 37 other Games, 19 Lessons in Magic, 1 Set of Dominoes, 27 Autograph Verses, 12 Money Making Secrets, Wireless Telegraph Code, 25 Pictures of Pretty Girls, 2 Puzzles, 100 Conundrums. All the above with large catalog for **10** Cts
ROYAL GAME CO., Box 406, So. Norwalk, Conn.

Send In Your Clubs—Large Or Small!



First Grand Prize
$635 Overland

Only A Few Weeks Left In Which To Try For This Car And The Cash That Goes With It. Contest Closes April 30!

No matter what your present standing is, or even if you have not yet entered the contest at all, there is still time for you to win **Two Monthly Cash Prizes** and perhaps one of the **Grand Prizes.** Remember—there remains thirty-six Monthly Cash Prizes to be awarded—eighteen in March and eighteen in April. And the Automobile and sixty-one other Grand Prizes will be awarded immediately after the close of the contest April 30. You also get your premium (or cash commission) for every club you send in. We **pay** you for **all** that you do.

Whoever Wins The Car Also Wins The Cash To Run It!

Think of it! If you come out the First Prize Winner in this free-for-all contest you not only get this big, beautiful, powerful **1917 Five-Passenger "Overland"** but in the meantime you will have won enough money in Monthly Cash Prizes to **easily** pay for the expense of running it **all next summer**—very likely two summers.

The Monthly Cash Prizes are entirely **extra** and in addition to the Auto and sixty-one other Grand Prizes. We are paying them to the contestants who send in the most subscriptions **each month**—up to and including April, 1917. And as the Auto and other Grand Prizes will go to those who send in the most subscriptions **during the entire six months** (beginning November, 1916) you will readily see why the winner of the Car—who has already won a large number of the Monthly Cash Prizes—will also have the money to pay for "gas" and other operating expenses for a long time to come.

Now is the time to hustle if you want a chance at this splendid $635 "Overland" and the other prizes. Remember that we are going to give away

$1050 In Grand Cash Prizes Besides The Automobile!

Sixty-one Grand Cash Prizes ranging from **$200 to $5** will also be awarded in addition to the Automobile. The **$635 Overland Car** will go to the one who sends in the **largest** number of subscriptions. **$200** in cash will go to the one who sends in the **second** largest number. **$150** in cash will go to the one who sends in the **third** largest number, and so on.

The Monthly Grand Prizes ranging from **$180 to $2** are awarded and paid each and every month—up to and including April, 1917. They are given to the contestants who send in the most subscriptions during each month. So you see this gives you the opportunity to win one or more Monthly Cash Prizes besides one Grand Prize—either the Auto or a Grand Cash Prize. In case of a tie for any prize (a Monthly Cash Prize or a Grand Prize) a prize exactly like the one tied for will be given to each tying contestant.

The contest closes in a few short weeks, but it is **not** too late to enter and **win** if you will start after your first club **today.** Get all your friends and acquaintances and everybody you see to subscribe or renew their subscription to COMFORT. They will be glad to help you out. Just as soon as we hear from you we will mail you free and prepaid **full information** regarding the Contest, a complete list of all the prizes, and everything else you need to help you make a successful start. Mail us your first club right away and let us enter your name in this Grand Contest for the $635 Overland Car and other Prizes.

Address All Contest Letters And Orders, COMFORT, Prize Contest Dept., Augusta, Maine.

January Prize Winners

Mrs. T. S. Strong, Iowa,	1st Prize (Doubled)	$60.00
Mrs. G. N. Baillio, La.,	2nd Prize (Doubled)	40.00
L. E. Henderson, Ark.,	3rd Prize	10.00
Mrs. H. E. Logan, Texas,	4th Prize (Doubled)	10:00
L. P. Tate, Miss.,	5th Prize	5.00
Mrs. Alice Warner, Minn.,	6th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
Mrs. Cora Pearson, N. C.,	7th Prize	3.00
Nannie Henson, Calif.,	8th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
M. G. Christensen, Minn.,	9th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Lewis F. Fults, Tenn.,	10th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Mrs. Effie Lind, Nebraska,	11th Prize (Doubled)	4.00
Mrs. Henry F. Rannow, Minn.,	12th Prize	2.00
Mrs. Mattie Albin, Missouri,	13th Prize	2.00
Mary Sanders, Va.,	14th Prize	2.00
Elmer H. Banks, Missouri,	15th Prize	2.00
Joseph Catanzaro, Conn.,	16th Prize	2.00
Miss Ruth Wright, N. Mex.,	17th Prize	2.00
Miss E. E. Foster, La.,	18th Prize	2.00

A Woman's Intuition

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27.)

"Who could have poisoned him?" asked the maid. "Who wanted him out of the way?" The maid had been well schooled.

"Was there anybody that wanted you out of the way?" softly inquired Isobel of the butler.

"Not that I know of," weakly, "unless—unless——" and Higgins barely caught himself.

The two women chafed his hands, and bathed his brow in ice water. Higgins was really pale now. The mind has a great power over matter. Then there were hurried footsteps on the veranda, and Isobel called out.

"In here, doctor, quick!"

The doctor entered and threw his hat to the floor. He appeared to be deeply concerned when he saw the butler. He took Higgins' pulse, and looked at his tongue.

"Look, Miss Corinth," the doctor said to Isobel. "His eyes are turning green. He's been poisoned."

"Ain't—ain't you going to give me anything?" chattered Higgins.

"It wouldn't do any good," said Doctor Hyde. "Somebody that wanted you out of the way has given you a dose of cyanide of potassium, the most virile of all poisons. All the medical skill in the world cannot help *you* now, my man. Within five minutes you will be dead. If you have any suspicions concerning——"

"It was Mr. Albert!" groaned Higgins. "He wanted me out of the way because he was afraid I would tell, and he poisoned me!"

"Tell what?" asked Isobel, and she tried hard to keep eagerness and impatience out of her voice.

"About his uncle," chattered Higgins. "My old master——"

Higgins shut his jaws tight.

"Yes," prompted Isobel, "your old master——"

"You must not worry him," and Doctor Hyde winked slyly. "Let him die in peace, poor fellow! See, even his face is turning green. Cyanide is a terrible poison, Miss Corinth."

"Listen, doctor," Higgins said hoarsely. "Before I go—I must tell this: Mr. David Rayne did not kill my old master. My old master's heart is what killed him. He had been having smothering spells for a long time. I found him staggering across the room that evening, shortly before Mr. Rayne came in. He had struck his head against the mantel. 'I'm dying, Higgins,' he said to me; 'send Albert here.' I helped him to a chair, and he bent his head to the table. He was white. I shook him. He was already dead. Then I ran for Mr. Albert. We hurried to the library, and found Mr. David Rayne there. 'Rayne killed him, Higgins, do you understand?' said Mr. Albert to me. And that is all. Now I can die."

Doctor Hyde turned to Isobel. "Please call the police," he said.

"The police!" cried Higgins. "You won't have a dying man arrested!"

"Dying nothing!" laughed the doctor, and with one hand he threatened the butler with a stubnosed automatic pistol. "The only poison you've had was a glass of water—and a guilty conscience!"

In due time the police came, and in due time Albert Hart also was arrested. And, also in due time, Isobel married David Rayne and helped him to build up another fortune.



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

MY, my cousins, here it is the first month of spring! But don't get excited about it and take your flannels off, even if some of you live away down South, because the no-flannel weather hasn't come yet and one can't be too careful at this deceptive season. Anyway, the winter months have gone, though the winter weather may linger along for several weeks yet, and we may look forward to the sunshine and the flowers, which is more comforting than thinking about the long cold winter coming, as we have to do in dreary November. However, it isn't good form to talk about the weather when there is anything else to talk about and I see a big pile of letters on my desk that you are more interested in than the weather. So here's to work.

The first is from Cousin Dolly of Pleasant Plains, Iowa, and she wants to know if having taken a course in domestic science and knowing how to cook and keep house, having taken a course in dressmaking and knowing how to make her own clothes, being seventeen years old and able to control her hot temper, she is capable, with God's help, of choosing the man she is to marry. Now, girls, what do you think of that? It sounds as though she should be capable, doesn't it? But let me tell you, that even with God's help, and I believe in religion, she is capable of making a choice that she will never regret. She may do so, as I hope most wives have, but some of the wisest have made mistakes. Housekeeping, dressmaking and all those are concrete things that may be acquired, but getting married is an abstract proposition that can be studied only by trial. Sometimes the man is at fault, sometimes the woman, but whichever it is, they simply cannot agree and though they may live their lives to the end, the real happiness is never theirs. What makes it nobody knows, and as I say, nobody can tell if it is to be theirs or not, except by trying. There is nothing better in this world, if the trial is a success, and nothing worse, if it is not. The risk may be lessened by taking proper precautions with plenty of plain common sense in advance, and trusting to Providence for the rest. P. S. And, my dear, one of these sensible precautions, is not at seventeen to marry a man of twenty-one. Wait until you are four years older. If your unmarried love will not wait that long, your married love won't last a lifetime sure.

Friend, Flint, Mich.—If you cannot keep your mind off of him and his mind seems to be on another girl, you can only wait until he changes his mind, because as long as it is on the other girl, you are not in it at all. I think you might strengthen your mind by study and get something else in it, don't you?

Brown-eyed Girls, Dillsboro, Ind.—The best way to inform the young man you do not like his interference with your choice of friends, he having no claim on you, is to tell him frankly and firmly that it is none of his business and you want him to keep his hands off. You have to talk to some people with a club. As to the other young man, just be friendly nice to him and if he is to come your way he will come and he can't help himself. If you try to bring him around you never will get him.

School-girl, Lexington, Ky.—You are a thousand times better in every way by not being popular with young men, if to be popular you must be, as you say, like the popular girls in your community are. But I can't tell a Kentucky girl how to win the attention of gentlemen. I thought they knew how instinctively. Neither did I ever know before that it was not popular in Lexington for a lady to invite a gentleman to call. It is popular everywhere else among hospitable and friendly people. Suppose you invite this Prince Charming of yours to call and risk being unpopular. If he likes it, you can afford to disregard the likes of everybody else.

Dewdrop, Springdale, Texas.—If you are not to marry for two years, I think you are better off without the engagement ring than with it. Wait till about three months before the wedding date. Besides, if you don't have an engagement ring, you will not have to return it if the engagement should happen to get broken, as they very often do under the strain of a long, long time.

Chick, Wauchula, Fla.—A girl of sixteen and a boy of twenty may care for each other, my dear, and very tenderly, but if they have the strong, sensible love that counts for future married happiness, they will test it out for four or five years and not marry until they are fully matured woman and man. Try it and see for yourself. (2) You don't have to answer a Christmas card with anything but your name, if your mind hasn't anything else to write about.

Mayflower, Monterey, Ky.—A man thirty-five years old is not too old to marry a girl eighteen years old, but a girl eighteen years old is too young to marry a man of any age. Anyway, you shouldn't talk about "marrage," until you know how to spell it.

Troubled, Beobe, Wash.—As he is your only chance for company and there is no objection to him except that he talks too much, I think you had better hold on to him for the present. If you don't like his cigarette smoking, tell him so and ask him not to smoke in your company. He means all right, but needs polishing up a little in his manners. Maybe your parents will not object to him when you have him properly trained.

Lonesome, McAlaster, Okla.—Because the young man acted ungentlemanly is no reason why you should be unladylike to get even. Ask him to apologize or get off your list of friends. (2) Your weight, one hundred and thirty pounds, is just the average for five feet three inches.

Daisy, Lonsdale, Ark.—Your father was quite right in not wishing you to go to Denver with your cousin unless you were chaperoned. If it were a trip to be made in the morning and back at night, nothing could be said against it, but a girl of seventeen cannot go on a long trip with any man who is not of her own family. (2) I think, as you do, that it is nicer for you to know some one to go with you to places at night than to go alone, and you should make it an issue with your grandmother, for whom you do so much, and insist upon your rights. You don't have to have a beau, but you should have young company.

Blondie, Riffe, Wash.—As between a training-school and a young man for a sixteen-year-old girl, no matter how nice the young man is, I vote for the school every time. No sixteen-year-old girl needs a beau and every girl of that age needs very much what she will get in a training-school.

Brown Eyes, Silver Creek, Wash.—At seventeen you can very well wait four years to placate your parents and make them as fond of the young man as you are, then all will be well. Try the four-year treatment, please.

Disappointed, Chinook, Mont.—Having in cold blood deserted your sweetheart of four years, and engaged to him, for a man you scarcely knew, and only cared for because he offered you a home, and now having lost him as you deserved to do, I have no sympathy for you, and have no advice to offer as to how you can get the lost one back, because I don't wish him any bad luck. There, my dear, study that for a little while.

Brownie, Norway, Mich.—Nothing on this earth can be sillier than a silly girl and when you "picked a quarrel" with a young man you esteemed highly and he was worthy, merely for the "fun" other girls told you there was in quarreling that way, you were doing about the silliest thing you could have done. Having some sense himself he very properly resented the false and foolish charges you made against him and I am very, very glad he doesn't call on you any more and barely speaks when you meet him on the street. You owe him an apology and an explanation and I think you can start it best by showing him this little hint I am giving you. P. S. Other silly COMFORT girls, please make a note of this.

Young Girl, Colton, S. Dak.—My dear, when a girl is in love with a young man and doesn't know it, though every thought of him should tell her, I think, she should take stock of herself and reason a little before she marries. Not enough to destroy the better part of young love's romance, but just enough to realize that too much of the romance is lost in marriage when courtship is all romance. There is plenty of romance in marriage, but not of the kind that makes husbands heroes and wives angels. Ameliorate your romance with a little practical sense and you should have a very happy married life with a good husband who does not have to be a hero any more than you have to be an angel every day.

Curly Lox, Rexburg, Idaho.—The best way to become popular is to stop thinking about what other people don't do for you and begin to think of what you are not doing for other people. Then begin to do things for other people and they will think you are the finest ever.

Blue Bell, Knippa, Texas.—It is a risky thing for a girl who knows a young man in her circle whose reputation is not very good, to accept attention from him. If young girls, and women too, would be more strict in that respect young men would be more careful to deserve their approval by sustaining a good reputation. A woman can't touch pitch without becoming smirched if not defiled.

There, my dears, your questions are answered that were for me to answer, except those too silly to answer, and I think maybe I have indulged in a little spring scolding in places, but it was really necessary. Now, run along smiling, all of you and look for the first flowers and the songs of the birds, but keep on your flannels till we meet again. By, by.

COUSIN MARION.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35.)

I have two dear little baby girls, one of two years and the other a year old and shall endeavor to raise them to the best of my ability. We mothers have many a rough road to climb and many a thorn to pluck but if we be but patient we shall reach the goal with success stamped on our brows.

Wishing the COMFORT sisters many blessings, I will bid you all good by "BLUE BELL."

KANSAS.

COMFORT SISTERS' CORNER:

May I say something regarding Miss B.'s letter in which she wishes the sisters to make a definite choice between play or kissing parties and nice select dances? Perhaps someone does not want either one. Perhaps her select dances are better than kissing parties. But is a thing right or desirable because it is better than something else? To steal is probably more preferable than murder, is stealing therefore a good thing to do? I may be handsomer than someone else, am I therefore beautiful? There is probably not a wrong in the world that the perpetrator thereof does not justify by saying it is not so bad as something else.

An amusement must be approved or condemned standing by itself. I cannot speak of dancing from my own experience. I know some girls who dance who are as sweet as they can be. I know some boisterous girls who do not dance. But between you and me I do not think the dance made the first sweet or that it would sweeten the others if they tried it. I know all the sweet girls do not dance. Some girls who dance are graceful, some are awkward. Ditto, those who do not dance. I know one young man who danced before he married, but his wife never did. I heard him say to her, "I think dancing is all right in a large family like yours where you could have a dance by yourselves, but I do not think it is right otherwise." I wonder why that was. Perhaps he went to the public dances where the young men did not have to be vouched for. But, I do not doubt but that those girls in your town who cannot entertain at home or who are not in those select parties, will go to the public dance and will say among themselves, "We are doing just the same thing that Miss B. is doing. A dance is a dance, and if it is all right for her to dance in her own home, or in her friend's house we might just as well dance down here."

Kissing parties are too contemptible to speak of. I am sorry for your neighborhood. Even here, in the country, those went out of style before I began going to parties, which is sometime ago.

Why not take a Bible stand, Miss B? You are your sister's keeper whether you admit it or not. Though you may be sure you can dance and receive no harm from it, you know that it is harmful to some, or you have your father's word for it. Can you not start something that is neither a dance nor a kissing party? Perhaps you are the one to keep that deacon's daughter from harm. There are lots of things to amuse and entertain that cannot be harmful unless you have some in your town who consider a laugh sinful. A party of this kind takes more brain-work than a dance or kissing party, but they will pay.

And let me whisper to you that in a party of this kind, you have the best chance in the world to know what your friends are. The one who can dance or kiss the most gracefully, may be the one who is dull in mind or sulky in spirit when the joke goes against him. While the boy who is awkward on the floor or backward at kissing may be your best helper when he has something to employ his mind. He may be the one who can laugh at a joke on himself, or he may be the one to keep the crowd interested and amused, and make the time pass as rapidly as if the time were spent in the other amusements you mention.

When in doubt read 1 Cor. 10: 23,24. MISS L.



If You Are A Woman Who Loves Crochet And Tatting Here Is A Set Of Books You Will Be Delighted To Own!

ANY ONE of these books alone is a veritable **treasure house** of the newest, most beautiful designs. The seven books combined form a **complete library** in which you will find any pattern in crocheting and tatting you could possibly ask for. You will fairly revel in the many handsome designs shown. There are edgings, beadings, insertions and laces for every conceivable use. The illustrations are **actual photographs** of the finished work and show every thread so plainly that they are almost as good to work from as the directions themselves. The directions are adapted for either beginner or expert. They tell **stitch by stitch** how each pattern is worked, also the quantity and size of material required and the correct sizes of hooks to be used. Following is a description of each book which is **8 by 10½ inches** in size with the exception of Volume I which is **9¼ by 12 inches. Please order by numbers and titles.**

Volume 1 contains a beautiful assortment of crocheted yokes for combinations, envelopes, nightgowns, corset covers, etc.—**fifteen** all different, exquisite patterns superbly illustrated by **photographs** with complete directions for working including quantity and size of material required, and correct size of hooks to use.

Volume 2 is a real treasure book of handsome crocheted edgings and insertions suitable for handkerchiefs, underwear, dresses and a multitude of other uses,—**thirty-three** different designs, all illustrated by **photographs** with full directions including a complete table of all the principal stitches used in crocheting and how to make them.

Volume 3 tells how to crochet Cluny laces. It contains **eighteen** lovely patterns in Cluny insertions and laces for centerpieces, library scarfs, boudoir caps, corset cover yokes, piano scarfs, curtains, chemises, envelopes or combination suits. Each pattern is illustrated by an actual **photograph** and the directions for making are full and explicit, including quantity and size of material, and size of hooks required. This book also shows all the principal crochet stitches and tells how to make them.

Volume 4 contains **twenty-five** handsome patterns in artistic crochet for yokes, boudoir caps, candle shades, baby bonnets, bedspreads, doilies, library scarfs, pillows, centerpieces, portiere medallions, curtains, etc., etc. Complete directions are given for working each and every design, including quantity and size of material and size of hooks required. The illustrations are **actual photographs**, all the principal crochet stitches are also named and full instructions given for making them.

Volume 5 consists of **twenty-five** patterns in novelty crochet, including mile-a-minute and clover leaf crocheted yokes, primrose and sunflower yokes; doilies, centerpieces, boudoir caps, unique edges and insertions for serving trays; novelty aprons and collars. Each design is illustrated by an **actual photograph** and the directions for working include a complete list of all the different crochet stitches, and how to make them.

Volume 6 is devoted entirely to tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet, containing a varied and beautiful assortment of tatted handkerchief edges, edgings, and insertions, tatted yokes, boudoir caps, towel edges, medallions; yokes, breakfast caps, centerpieces, edgings and lace in Maltese crochet and yokes in Irish crochet. The patterns are illustrated by **actual photographs** and the directions for making include the different stitches in tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet and how to make them, as well as quantity and size of material and size of hooks required.

Volume 7 shows a variety of **thirty** handsome crocheted designs each one illustrated by a **photograph** of the real work showing just how the finished pieces look. There are rose, sunflower, periwinkle, and Venetian yokes; boudoir caps, monkey face library scarf and lace pillow; large and small baskets, hat pin holder, jewel box, vanity tray, coin purse, utility bag, star fish doily, pineapple centerpiece; edgings and insertions in pillow lace; daisy edging; spider, bell, rick-rack, novelty and coronation braid laces. Full directions accompany each design including quantity and size of material and size of hooks to be used, also all the principal stitches used in crochet and how to make them.

We advise you to order all seven of these splendid books before the assortment is broken, but if you do not care for the whole library at this time we have arranged the following **special offers** which give you the privilege of selecting any **two** or any **four** of the books as well as all seven of them. **When ordering however, be very careful to state the number of each book desired.**

Offer 8011A: For one 1-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8011B: For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8012: For two 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you **any four books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8013: For three 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you the **complete library** just as described above—**seven different volumes in all**, handsomely bound, printed on high-grade paper and containing nearly **200 beautiful photographic illustrations** of all that is new and pretty in crochet and tatting designs with **complete directions** for working. **When ordering please be sure to mention number of each book wanted.**

Address COMFORT Augusta, Maine.

This Stylish **SUIT FREE**



We want you to get one of these suits absolutely FREE, so you can show it to your friends. No doubt about it, you will

Be The Best Dressed Man In Your Town

It will be a big advertisement for us. Never before have we been able to make such a wonderful offer—**Best Clothes—Nobbiest Fabrics—Classiest Styles—Lowest Prices.**

$2,500.00 a Year and Two Suits For Yourself

Here's the greatest opportunity you ever heard of. **A big salary** for little work during your spare time. If you want to make $2,500.00 a year and get **YOUR OWN CLOTHES FREE**—write at once for our wonderful offer.

The Progress Tailoring Co. Dept. 803 Chicago

REVERSIBLE "Linene" TRADE MARK



Send 2 Cents in U. S. stamps to pay postage and we will send you FREE a **SAMPLE COLLAR** of our New Style "Copley." State size wanted. **REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO.**, Dept. E, Boston, Mass.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around the Home

Holding a fruit jar over a boiling kettle is a good way to open it. The steam softens the rubber and makes it easy to open.

MRS. NELLIE CAPPS, Verona, N. C.

If a small hole comes in a bucket or pan, take a small bit of flour and mix with boiling water and cover the hole. Let dry before using and it will keep it from leaking for quite a while.

MISS RUTH LITTLE, Mallory, S. C.

Lamb chops are improved if dipped in lemon juice just before cooking.

Benzine rubbed freshly on the edges of a carpet is a sure preventive of moths.

When the dish mop is not in use, keep it in a jar of soda water on the sink.

When cooking apples always put a pinch of salt with them; they will then be very tender.

Whipped cream served on top of a freshly made squash pie adds much to its appearance and flavor.

A spoonful of sugar added to the water for basting roast beef will give it a rich brown color as well as a fine flavor.

To keep cheese from moulding or from drying, wrap it in a cloth dampened with vinegar and keep in a covered dish.

For bowel trouble in chickens, add two teaspoons of epsom salts and one teaspoon of copperas to every three gallons of water.

Lemons that have become hard from long standing can be made usable by covering them with boiling water for a few minutes.

Pare potatoes and cover with cold water for an hour before cooking, and they will be less liable to turn dark after they are boiled.

One gets tired of lemon and vanilla flavoring sometimes, and wishes for a novelty. Try mixing them. It will produce an entirely new flavor.

If too much salt has been added to soup, slice a raw potato and boil it in the soup for a few minutes. The potato will absorb much of the salt.

The safest way to keep a sealskin coat or fine fur piece is to place them in tar bags, pillow cases or muslin bags soaked in tar water and dried.

To serve cauliflower whole and unbroken, boil in a cloth, as it may then be lifted out of the saucepan without any detriment to its appearance.

Try mixing mustard with milk instead of water or vinegar. The flavor is said to be good, the paste is smooth, and the mustard will not dry so quickly.

When making coffee, sprinkle a little salt on the coffee before pouring on boiling water, and the flavor will be improved. Always see that the pot is warmed before making coffee.

Left over pieces of brown bread or gingerbread may be made into a palatable dessert by pouring over them a sauce made of maple syrup and a few chopped nuts and dates boiled together.

For removing black beetles, put plenty of salt where the beetles frequent and keep it there for several days. Do not leave any water near. When the beetles eat the salt it will dry up their bodies.

If you spill grease on the floor or carpet, pour cold water on the spot immediately to prevent the grease from penetrating the wood or carpet; remove in the usual manner with gasoline, naphtha or other grease cleaners.

When moulding jelly or any kind of puddings, do not make the mistake of thinking it is best to turn the contents into a cold vessel. If both are of the same temperature it is even better, and the contents will be smoother on the surfaces when removed if heat is applied on the outside of the vessel. Often when the molds are ice cold it causes the mixture to stick to the edges.

Here are some useful weights and measures for the housewife to know:

Ten shelled eggs equal one pound.
Four cups of coffee equal one pound.
Eight eggs with shells one pound.
One cup of corn-meal makes six ounces.
Four cups equal one pound or one quart.
One pint chopped meat equals one pound.
Two solid cups of butter equal one pound.
Three teaspoonfuls equal one tablespoonful.
One cup cleaned currants equals six ounces.
Two cups granulated sugar equal one pound.
One pint of milk or water equals one pound.
Four tablespoonfuls of flour equal one ounce.
Two tablespoonfuls of butter equal one ounce.
One cup of stale bread crumbs equals two ounces.
Two and one half cups powdered sugar equal one pound.
One cup stemmed raisins equals six ounces.

FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

When eggs are scarce, put browned flour or cornstarch in pumpkin pies, instead of just flour. Only half as many eggs may be used.

S. B. J., Warner, Okla.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 43.)

6 Months To Pay 6

Tailor-Made-To Order



This is the most sensational Tailor-Made-to-Order Suit Offer ever made. You can now have any suit you want—cut and fit in the very latest style—from your own choice of the season's latest patterns—and take **six months to pay** for it, if, after trying it on, you desire to keep it. Furthermore, we will make you any suit you may want on receipt of

Only $1.00

Write name and address on postal for free book which explains full particulars of this offer. No matter what price, style or pattern suit you want we will make it to your order and send it to you on receipt of **Only $1.00.** After suit arrives and you are convinced that it is the biggest bargain you ever saw or heard of, pay the balance of our rock-bottom price on the easiest, most liberal credit terms ever devised. We also

Save You $15 to $25

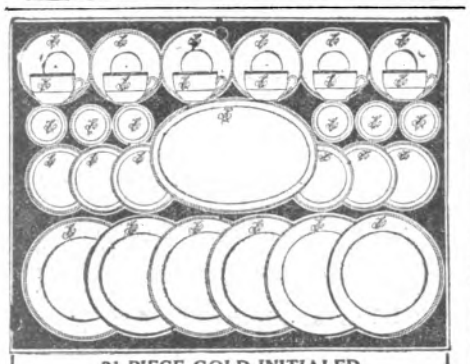
We buy all our materials in enormous quantities, direct from the mills, at rock-bottom prices. We do our own designing, cutting and tailoring. And by making every suit in our mammoth establishment and selling direct to the man who wears the clothes we eliminate all waste and save you the dealer's profits.

Big Style Book And Cloth Samples FREE



Send for this wonderful free book. It shows latest styles in men's garments and a wonderful assortment of actual fabrics—the very pick of foreign and domestic mills. Mail postal for Free Book and Samples today.

STANLEY-ROGERS CO.,
1015 Jackson Blvd.,
Dept. 522 Chicago, Ill.



31 PIECE GOLD INITIALED

DINNER SET FREE

For A Few Hours Easy Work

Every piece pure white, high grade china, blue edge and gold initialed. One of the richest looking, most stylish Dinner Sets on the market. Absolutely up-to-the-minute and of undisputable quality. Guaranteed not to craze. Will add beauty to any table. Get this set. Merely give away FREE 12 Beautiful Art Pictures 16x20 inches [sold for $1.00 each in many stores] with 12 cans of White Cloverine which you sell at 25c each. Millions using it for cuts, eczema, catarrh, colds, piles, burns, etc. Send us the $3.00 collected and the set is yours. We've been making these offers for 20 years. The Wilson plan is the easiest and absolutely square. No money required. Simply send name and address. Pictures sent promptly prepaid.

WILSON CHEMICAL CO. Dept. 901, TYRONE, PA.

THE MONO X-RAY

10 cts



With this **eye glass** you can apparently see thro cloth or wood, see the **bones** in the body, makes the flesh look **transparent.** An optical illusion. By mail 10 cts. stamps or coin
The ARDEE CO. Box **242** Stamford Conn.



GENUINE ROLL FILM PREMO CAMERA FREE

Or choice of **Watch** or **Silverware** or **Electric Flashlight,** or choice from our large list of premiums given for sailing 20 pkgs. Post Cards or 20 Religious and Art Pictures at 10c each, your choice. Order today.

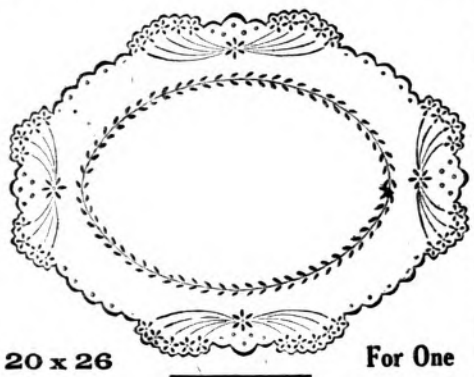
HERMAN & CO., 2310 Lincoln Ave., Dept. 800 **CHICAGO**



FRIENDSHIP RING ENGRAVED FREE with Your Initials. To get acquainted with you, we will send this ring, sterling silver finish, your size, your initials, also New Jewelry Bargains, for only 12c to help pay advertising.

The Auction Co., Dept. 80, Attleboro, Mass.

A Handsome Tray Cloth



20 x 26 Inches

Premium No. 7841

For One Subscription

We call the above one of the handsomest designs in a tray-cloth we have yet seen to say nothing of its large size, which is **20 x 26 inches** and yet in spite of its size it does not require an unusual amount of work to finish it. The stitches themselves are simple as it may be worked either in solid or eyelet embroidery with buttonhole edge. It looks the neatest when worked all in white, although one or more colors may be used if desired. This extra large, attractive tray-cloth comes stamped on pure white "Butcher cloth" which in reality is very fine linen finished cotton—a material which has the appearance of pure linen and will if anything give longer service. We will make you a present of this tray-cloth upon the terms of one of the following special offers.

Offer 7841A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c we will send you this handsome tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7841B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 10c additional (35c in all) we will send you this tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7841.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

Mrs. E. R., Kansas.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that in the absence of a will, the divorce of the parents does not affect the inheritance rights of the children, but that children can be legally disinherited by will; (2) that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, it would not be legal for the widow to continue his business or manage his property, without first being appointed administratrix of his estate.

J. F. S., Minnesota.—We are of the opinion that the laws of your state require fishing licenses from non-residents.

L. L., Georgia.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that in cases where the parents are separated, the custody of the children is in the discretion of the court before which the matter properly comes, taking into consideration as to what would be for the best interests of the child or children.

T. L. M., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that it is the duty of a custodean of a will to file same in the proper court upon the death of the maker of the will; we think that if the custodian of the will you mention refuses to file same, any party in interest can apply to the court for an order to compel him to do so.

Mrs. C. P., Nebraska.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that if the daughter you mention predeceased her father, and if all her children also predeceased her father, her former husband would have no interest in her father's estate, unless some provision was made for him by the will of the father.

C. B. E., Iowa.—We think that all children born within the United States of parents who are subject to the jurisdiction of this country, are citizens of the United States even though their parents are aliens; we think that most residents of this country are subject to the jurisdiction of this country, but that there are some exceptions, such as ambassadors of foreign governments stationed here, and their children even though born here would not become citizens of this country. We think that all national born citizens are entitled to hold any political office in this country.

M. L. A., Virginia.—We think that life insurance, upon the death of the insured, is payable to the beneficiary named in the policy, and if such beneficiary is living, the insurance money would not be liable to the debts of the insured's estate, nor would it form any part of his or her estate; under the laws of South Carolina, we think that the beneficiary of a trust can only dispose of such interest as he may have in such trust, and that his estate would receive only such benefits as are provided in the trust.

M. A. G.—We think that the age below which parental consent is required for the marriage of a male is twenty-one years in nearly all the states of the United States. We think that possibly in the states of Tennessee, Idaho and South Carolina the specified age is somewhat less, and that there may be other exceptions. You should make your inquiry more explicit.

Ruth, Idaho.—Under the laws of Kansas, we are of the opinion, that stepchildren have no intestacy rights in their step-parents' estate. (2) That the share, of a beneficiary under a will who survives the testator but who dies before the distribution of the estate, would be paid into and be administered as such beneficiaries' estate, and if he was a married man, leaving no child or descendant, and leaving no will, would all go to his widow if one survived him.

Lon, Colorado.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will and leaving a widow and one child as his only heirs at law and next of kin, his estate, subject to the payment of debts and expenses, would go one half to the widow and one half to his child regardless of the fact that the child was by a former marriage.

Mrs. T. A. H.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that it would be possible for the husband and wife you mention to have the deed of the property they propose purchasing, so drawn to themselves as grantees, so that upon the death of either the whole property would become the sole property of the survivor. We think that in case the property is deeded to the husband alone as grantee, upon his death without a will, if there be no issue, the property would go one half to the surviving widow and the other half to his father, mother, brothers or sisters or descendants of brothers or sisters, depending upon who is left. We think that if there are none such the whole property would go to the surviving widow.

C. F. P., N. C.—Under some circumstances, we think it would be possible under the laws of your state, that the heirs of your grandfather might be the heirs of your uncle who died. In order to determine just who his heirs at last would be, it would be necessary to know just who he left surviving and the degrees of relationship and the method in which he acquired the property left by him. (2) We think that in order to protect your rights against a bona fide purchaser, without notice, of the property covered by your mortgage you should have your mortgage recorded. (3) If the judgment you mention is a lien upon the land you have purchased, we think you should have such judgment satisfied and cancelled of record in order to relieve such land from the lien thereof.

Mrs. G. W. E., Mo.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that a municipality has a right to grant franchises to public service corporations and also has a legal right to assess adjoining property holders for street improvements, etc., provided, of course, the same is done in compliance with law.

Mrs. T. J., Winfield, Iowa.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion first, that if the property you mention all stood in the name of the father, the children would have no vested right in such property upon the death of the mother; second, that after the death of the mother, the father could sell the real estate without the consent of the children; third, that in case of remarriage of the father upon his death leaving no will and leaving a widow and children, we think the widow would receive one third of the estate, the balance going in equal shares to the children, the descendants of any deceased child taking their parent's share. We think in addition to the one third share, the widow would also receive some further allowance from the personal property. We do not think the children's rights would be affected by the fact that they were children by a former marriage.

Mrs. S., Bozeman, Mont.—We think that the name "Consols" was first used as a name for a governmental security of Great Britain, since which time certain other companies or corporations have named or applied the name "Consols" to some of their bonds or securities. As to just what the Consols you mention are, we are unable to state from the information you supply. In a general way, we presume that it is some form of a bond or security issued by some corporation. We think if you desire information in regard to this, you should take your securities to some reliable bond dealer who after examining the same, could probably give you some information as to the same.

W. P. S., Fargo, N. Dak.—We think that in order to legally change your name, it would be necessary to ether make an application to the proper court upon the proper petition or through a special act of legislation introduced to the legislature through some member thereof. We think that the usual method is a petition through the proper court. We think it would be advisable for you to employ some local lawyer to prepare this petition for you.

H. W., New Brunswick, N. J.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that in the absence of a will, the personal property of a decedent, after payment of debts and expenses, would go to the surviving husband or wife, providing one survives, and provided decedent leaves no issue or descendants.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32.)

"Do you imagine her purpose was to get possession of that document?" questioned madam.

"I had thought of that—I have felt almost sure of it since you told me it had disappeared."

"But how could she have known that such a paper was in our possession? You did not receive it until long after——"

"Yes, I know," interposed Mr. Goddard, with a shiver; "nevertheless I am impressed that it is now in her possession, even though I did not suppose that any one, save you and I and Will Forsyth, ever knew of its existence."

There ensued an interval of silence, during which both appeared to be absorbed in deep thought.

"If she has it, what will she do with it?" madam suddenly questioned, lifting her heavy eyes to her companion.

"I am sure I cannot tell, Anna," he coldly returned.

"Well, then, what will you do, Gerald Goddard, in view of the fact, as you believe, that she is alive and has learned the truth?" she imperiously demanded.

"I—I do not think it will be wise for us to discuss that point just at present," he faltered.

"Coward! Is that your answer to me after twenty years of adoration and devotion?" cried the woman.

"After twenty years of jealousy, bickering, and turmoil, you should have said, Anna," was the bitter response.

"Beware! beware, Gerald! I have hot blood in my veins, as you very well know," was the menacing retort.

"I have long had a proof of that," he returned.

"Oh!" she cried, putting up her hand as if to ward off a blow, "you are cruel to me." Then, with sudden passion, she added: "Perhaps, after all, that document is in your possession—or at least that you know something about it."

"I only wish your surmise were correct, Anna; for, in that case, I should have no cause to fear her," said Mr. Goddard, gravely.

"Ha! Ev n you do 'fear' her?" cried madam, eagerly. "In what way?"

"Can you not see? If she has gained possession of the paper, she has it in her power to do both of us irreparable harm," the gentleman explained.

"Y s, yes," she moaned, "she could make society ring with our names—she could ruin us, socially; but I could better bear that than that she should assert a claim upon you—that she should use her power to—to separate us. She shall not, Gerald!" she went on, passionately; "there are other countries where you and I can go and be happy, utterly indifferent to what she may do here."

The man made no reply to these words—he was apparently absorbed in his own thoughts.

"Gerald! have you nothing to say to me?"

"What can I say, Anna? There is nothing that either of us can do but await further developments," the man returned, but careful to keep to himself the fact that he had an appointment with the woman whom she so feared.

"Would you dare be false to me, after all these years?"

"Pshaw, Anna! what a senseless question," he replied.

"But you admire—you think her very beautiful?"

"Why, that is a self-evident fact—every one must admit that she is a fine looking woman," was the evasive response.

"You will be very careful what you do, Gerald," she hissed. "I have never had over much confidence in you, in spite of my love for you; but there is one thing that I will not bear, at this late day, and that is, that you should turn traitor to me; so be warned in time."

She did not wait to see what effect her words would have upon him, but, turning abruptly, swept from the room, leaving him to his own reflections.

TO BE CONTINUED.

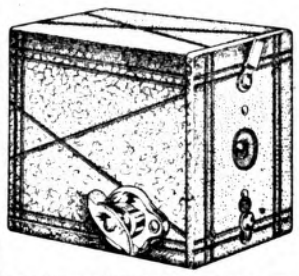
How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7314

For a Club of Four!

We will also include free of charge **one Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known "Premo" camera, made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.,** therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in **broad daylight,** so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book,** all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free by Parcel Post, prepaid,** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. **Premium No. 7314.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Gold Cross And Chain



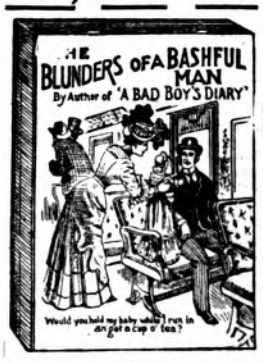
For Three Subscriptions

STYLES in neck chains, pendants, etc., come and go but the gold cross and chain is always in style and is being worn more today than ever before. Buying direct from the largest jewelry manufacturers we naturally get the lowest prices, so we offer this **guaranteed 10-Karat gold-filled** chain and cross for a very small club. The chain is 13 inches long with **soldered links,** which renders it practically unbreakable. The cross is exactly the same high quality as the chain, is three-quarters of an inch long and one-half inch wide, with the Roman, or dull finish, on one side and the English, or bright finish, on the other. We will send you this beautiful and stylish 10-Karat gold-filled cross and chain, guaranteed to be exactly as described, free upon the terms of the following.

CLUB OFFER. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each, we will send you this gold Cross and Chain free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7273.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

You Will Laugh, You Will Yell, You Will Scream at



"The Blunders of A Bashful Man"

Premium No. 6561.

You need this great book! You cannot do without it! For chasing away melancholia, dissipating gloom and banishing trouble you will find it **better than all the doctors' "dope" in the world** and it has the circus and vaudeville **beaten a mile.** This great story is the **world's champion funny book** and you must read it because it eradicates wrinkles, improves the complexion and by its laughter-compelling mirth and irresistible humor rejuvenates your whole body. In this screamingly funny story you follow with rapt attention and hilarious delight **the mishaps, mortifications, confusions and agonizing mental and physical distresses** of a self-conscious, hypersensitive, appallingly **bashful** young man who stumbles on through a succession of **astounding accidents and ludicrous predicaments** that will convulse you with cyclonic laughter causing you to hold both sides for fear of **exploding** from an excess of uproarious merriment. As a fun maker, rib tickler and laugh-provoker this great story "The Blunders of a Bashful Man" beats all records and **you will miss the treat of your life if you don't get it and read it at once.**

Offer No. 6561 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you a copy of "The Blunders of a Bashful Man" free and postpaid.

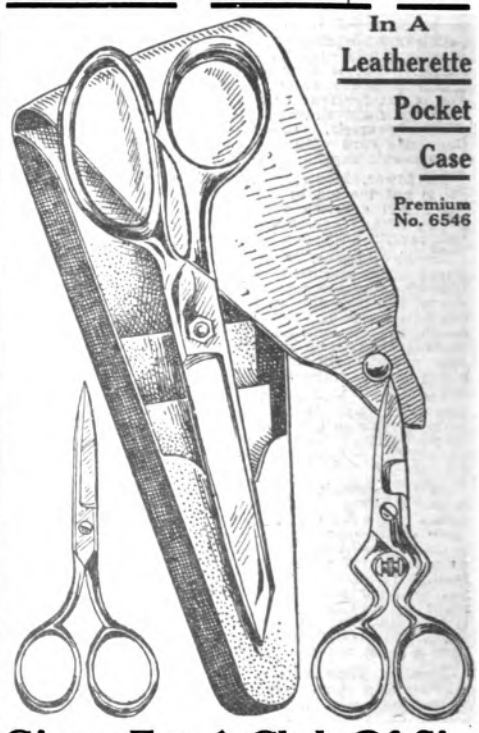
Offer No. 6561 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you a copy of "The Blunders of a Bashful Man" free and postpaid. **Premium No. 6561.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

3-Piece Scissor Set

In A Leatherette Pocket Case

Premium No. 6546



Given For A Club Of Six

This handsome and useful **3-Piece Shear-and-Scissor Set** is something actually needed in every home. The Shears are **8 inches long,** made of the very best steel, highly tempered, and **handsomely nickel plated.** They are ground down to a **sharp keen edge** which will last almost indefinitely without resharpening. The Buttonhole Scissors are also made of fine quality steel **4 1-4 inches in length** with a patented **gauge** as shown in the illustration. By simply screwing this gauge one way or the other any desired size buttonhole can be instantly made without loss of time or trouble. The Embroidery Scissors are **4 1-4 inches long,** made of the same high quality steel, and beautifully nickel plated. The complete assortment comes in a handsome **leather pocket carrying case** which fastens with a ball-and-socket device. This case makes it very convenient to carry all three pieces in the pocket or in shopping or traveling bag. This is one of the most useful premiums we have ever offered and we expect a great demand for it among COMFORT'S lady and girl readers who have lots of **sewing and home dressmaking work to do.** We will send you this **3-Piece shear-and-scissor set** in handsome **leather case** exactly as above described **free** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this 3-Piece Shear-and-Scissor Set free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6546.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

18-Inch Linen Centerpiece

Premium No. 7782.



Given For Two Subscriptions

THIS is another one of the fortunate purchases we made before the price of imported linen reached its present high figure to say nothing of the difficulty in getting it now at any price, as the supply in this country is getting low and absolutely none is being imported. This unusually attractive design is stamped on white Irish linen and is to be worked in solid and eyelet embroidery with buttonholed edge. While the design is a little more elaborate than some of the other centerpieces which we offer yet it is well worth all the time and labor you put in to it on account of the fine material and it is something that will retain its handsome appearance and give years of service. We will send you this 18-inch white linen centerpiece free upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this pure linen centerpiece free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7782.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Ostrich Plumes

Premium No. 6986



16 Inches Long And 6 Inches Wide

Positively Guaranteed as to Workmanship, Quality and Color

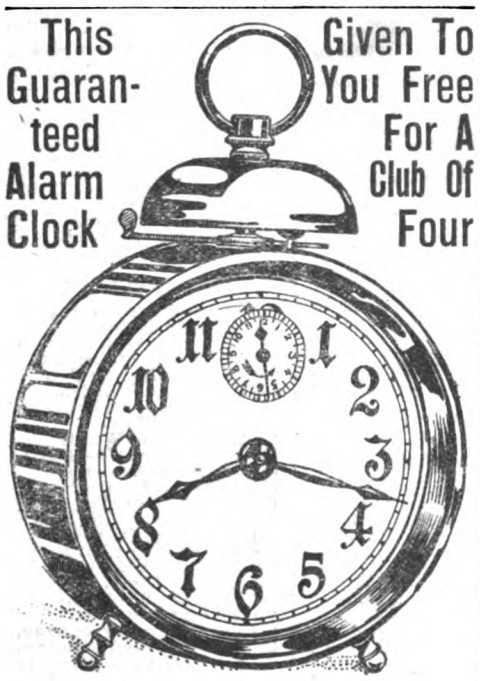
Given For A Club Of Six!

THESE beautiful Ostrich Plumes are of the highest quality and are guaranteed for brilliancy and permanence of color. They are just what every lady wants for the **upright trimmings** now in vogue as they have thick, strong flues and a large full, graceful, **French head** with the latest fashionable **flat curl.** Each plume is a full 16 inches in length and over 6 inches in width and made of the best African male stock, will last for years and always look well. We can furnish these plumes in colors of either Black or White and be sure to mention color wanted when ordering.

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these handsome Ostrich Plumes **free** by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 6986.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

This Guaranteed Alarm Clock Given To You Free For A Club Of Four



Premium No. 4574

HERE IS an Alarm Clock that you can really depend upon—a clock that will keep perfect time **all the time** and having a patent shut-off alarm which will never fail to ring **when you want it to ring** if you will set the indicator on the hour and minute you desire to rise in the morning. This is not a cheap "imported" clock but is made right here in this country by the Western Clock Co., of Illinois, the same company which manufactures the famous "Big Ben" which is advertised and sold throughout the entire civilized world. It stands over 6 inches high, is beautifully nickel plated, has a 4-inch dial with large Arabic numerals and will run twenty-four hours on one winding. The movement is the best American made, including frictionless pivots, self-centered wheels and hard steel pallet escapement. This is an alarm clock which we can heartily recommend, in fact, we would not offer it as a premium if we were not positive that it would give the best of satisfaction. You can have one of these guaranteed Alarm Clocks and it will not cost you one cent by accepting the following special

Club Offer, For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this Alarm Clock exactly as described free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4574. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34.)

high. I have black hair and brown eyes. I weigh one hundred and thirty-four pounds. I live on a thirty-two-acre farm. The farm is owned by father. We live in a five-room house.

I have one brother and one half sister. When some boys get to be old as I am, they quit school, because they think they are too large. I have never got to where I was too large to go to school, and so I am still going, I study mental arithmetic, Greek, history, rhetoric, Latin and dictionary. My teacher's name is Miss Nellie Long. I want to go to college, but I am not able. Uncle Charlie do you know of a school that I could work my way through? I think every boy and girl should have a good education. One never gets too old to learn. We live to learn. Boys don't become ashamed or discouraged. Don't quit going to school just because you are behind with your work and because you are in classes with children smaller than you are.

I think that people who have children and won't send them to school ought to be forced to do so. If the parents are too poor to send their children to school the school board ought to buy them books and clothes. They pretend to force the children to go to school here but pretend is about all they do.

We had a very dry summer and fall here, which dried up lots of wells and caused the crops to be short. This county (Marshall) is very level here. We have cedar, walnut, oak, ash, and a good many other hard wood trees. This is a very healthy place.

Won't some of you cousins of about my age write to me? I will answer all I can.

Your nephew, PORTER NICKENS.

I don't see any reason Porter why you should not continue to go to school, even if you are nineteen. Just as you say we are never too old to learn, though most people are too old to unlearn, and as a rule before you can learn one new, worth-while thing, you have to unlearn a lot of bad old things, tradition and ignorance have for centuries been storing up in the darkened brains of our ancestors and which have been transmitted to us. It is easier to start with the youthful brain that is plastic and sow it with the seeds of real, worth-while knowledge, than to try and operate on a brain that has become age hardened with prejudice and stupidity into a sort of adamant growth of cranial granite which cannot be tilled or fertilized. There are plenty of colleges and universities in your state. Here are the names of a few of them, and you can write to the president of the one nearest you: University of Nashville; Washington and Tusculum College at Greenville; Maryville College at Maryville; Cumberland University at Lebanon; Burritt College at Spencer; Hiwasee College at Sweetwater; Bethel College at McKenzie; Carson and Newman College at Jefferson City; Walden University at Nashville; University of Chattanooga at Chattanooga; University of the South at Sewanee; King College at Bristol; Knoxville College at Knoxville; Milligan College at Milligan; Southwestern Presbyterian College at Clarksville; and Lincoln Memorial University at Cumberland Gap. Porter, as to going to school, nobody can be too old, but a person might easily be too large. I went to a school once and everything went along nicely until a remarkable family of fat humans moved into the village. There were eight children in that bunch and they were all of school age. The family name was More. One morning when we went to school we found four members of the More family installed inside the schoolroom. We never knew how they got in, but we had to take the roof off to get them out. When the teacher arrived she threw up her hands. However she was a woman of ideas and quite resourceful, so she had us all sit down on the ground outside the school, stood in the doorway, and by poking her head inside and outside the door managed to get the lessons over in pretty good shape. Just as the session was over, one of the More family handed the teacher a note. The note was from the mother of the Mores, and informed the teacher that this was only half of the family and that the other half would be on hand the next day. Things began to look serious, so teacher wrote Mrs. More a letter worded as follows: "Dear Mrs. More: Please don't send any more Mores to school, as we have more Mores now than we can handle, and we can't take any more Mores until we have more room." This is a small world and only built for ordinary, average people. People who are built on gigantic lines should go to school in a circus tent, or be measured for schools and carry them around with them. I'll wager there was some fun when Bill Taft first tried to go to school. I wonder who paid the bill for having the door enlarged. Porter, you say they only make a pretense of sending children to school in your part. I was looking at a picture of a beautifully constructed school in a middle west state the other day. That school would easily have accommodated three hundred children, but those who were actually attending school were only a beggarly handful. They were photographed standing on the steps of the building, and there were nearly as many teachers as scholars. Children who should have been in school, scores of them, were working in the fields. There are hundreds of other schools which could tell the same deplorable story, all the result of putting pretense before performance. It is a pity that our democracy and our ferocious individualism should make us such a bunch of law breakers. By keeping children out of school we rob them of education, do them a rank injustice, make them ignorant, and when you make people ignorant you make them lawless. Then by the law of compensation you get it back later on, for it is these children who have been wronged who wreak their vengeance on society in later years and give us a murder bill of nearly a thousand human lives a month, and a crime bill of hundreds of millions. Keep the children in school, knowledge is the only good, ignorance the only evil.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for March

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Mrs. Cora A. Willson, Price, R. R. 2, Box 32, N. C. Invalid for many years. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Sarah Thomas, Princeton, R. R. 2, Mo. Widow. Has to support son twenty years of age, who has been crippled from birth. Mrs. Thomas is a lovely character, and deserving of your aid and sympathy. Don't forget her. Mrs. M. E. Glassbrook, Brace, Tenn. Eighty-five years of age. Poor and helpless. Send her some of the sympathy that buys bread. Charles Knass, Laurelville, Ohio. Crippled from rheumatism for seven years. No means of support. Remember him. Nora Jordan, Chatom, Ala. Great sufferer from rheumatism and heart trouble. Would appreciate quilt pieces, books and magazines and any assistance you care to send her. Laura Jones, Cambria, Va. Helpless invalid. Aged mother her only support. Needy and worthy. Send her a dime shower. Mrs. Fannie Kramer, Poor Farm, Buffalo, Ill. Invalid, sixty-four years of age. Send her some cheer. Arthur Whitt, Greenville, R. R. 6, S. C. Invalid for fifteen years, would be grateful for cheery letters, reading matter and any assistance you care to send him. Mrs. Roxine Lovelace, Price, R. R. 2, N. C. Invalid. Send her some cheer. Well recommended. Mrs. Parmela Huff, Shuff, R. R. 1, Box 38, Va. Shut-in. Almost blind. Depends on the charitable for support. Give her a boost. Thomas C. Sumler, Christiansburg, Va. Helpless, bedridden invalid for many years. Has wife and little boy seven years of age. They need bed clothing, clothes and food. Give this afflicted family a boost. H. R. Smith, Yuma, L. Box 616, Cal. Invalid, unable to work. Needy and worthy. Well recommended. Send him some help. John Adkins, Branchland, R. R. 1, Box 116, W. Va. Invalid, would be grateful for the loan of a second-hand printing press, and would like cheery letters and reading matter. Miss Anna Childers, Memphis, Tenn. Would like cheery letters, and would be grateful for advice how to earn money though unable to walk without crutches. Murray Gullons, Brooklyn, 708 Park Ave., N. Y. Invalid. Would like cheery letters. Joe Barker, Lincolnton, N. C. Invalid. Would like cheery letters. Mrs. C. W. Brown, Spencer, Va. Invalid, with large family. Would appreciate second hand clothing. No financial assistance asked.

Here's your chance to do some real good. Suffering, without money for proper nourishment, medical advice, expert nursing and necessary drugs is hell. I know for I have been there. Give liberally and save these poor souls some worry and torture. Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

"Says Uncle Charlie's Poems are Simply Grand!"

That's what Nelson Hill, Maple Ave., Danbury, Conn. says, and that is what they all say, and it takes a lot to amuse the people who live in the cities. Uncle Charlie's poems is a gorgeous, lilac silk bound, 160-page volume of rhymed, riotous delight. It makes you forget your troubles, and is the best cure for the blues in the world. For young and old it is the ideal birthday present. Why not hustle around among your neighbors and get up a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each and capture a copy of Uncle Charlie's poems and make yourself and the rest of the household happy for the rest of the year? This superb volume contains an absorbingly interesting sketch of Uncle Charlie's life and some splendid new pictures of himself and his family.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book Contains Some of the Prettiest Songs Ever Written

You will find twenty-eight of the dandiest, classiest songs, every song a hit and worth fifty cents apiece, songs for all occasions, church, parlor and platform in this superb volume of mirth, melody and sentiment. Five dollars' worth of music free for a club of only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. Superb pictures of Uncle Charlie decorate the artistic cover. Both books free for a club of six. No home complete without them. Work for them today.

TINIEST DONKEY.—Hugh G. Tyrwhittdrake of Cobtree Manor, England, who recently arrived on the steamer Minnehaha, brought with him a collection of weird animals and birds to show to Dr. W. T. Hornaday, director of the Bronx Zoological Park, New York City, with a view to their acquisition by that institution. In the collection were a lioness, a reed buck, many birds of prey, two greater birds of paradise and the smallest donkey on earth, five years old and measuring 29 inches high at the shoulder.

RAISING REINDEERS.—Reindeer raising for American markets promises to become an important industry of Alaska. Herds of these animals are being cared for and managed just as cattle are handled in the United States. Already some have been slaughtered to be sent in cold storage to San Francisco and Seattle. It is predicted that fresh deer meat from Alaska will soon be found in the markets of all American cities, just as fresh salmon and halibut from Alaskan waters are sold today.

Last Chance



PRICES are going up! You may have to *pay $5 to $10 more for your clothing* if you do not act quickly. Most things are costing again as much today as they did a year ago. Raw wool has gone up so high that almost all the clothing manufacturers have put their prices way up! And they expect to raise prices still more.

Act Quick!

Get your name on our preferred customers' list at once. We have not doubled our prices BECAUSE WE BOUGHT 'WAY AHEAD, but we can't hold this offer open for more than a few weeks. Prices are going Up! UP! Up! We admit we have been compelled to raise our price—but—only A Little! Only $1 more, that's all.

$15.50

Our record-breaking $14.50 line —see Catalog

Genuine All Wool Serge

Tailored to your measure. Think of it!—only $15.50—only $1 more—while others have raised prices way up! Last season's $17.50 now $15.50, and so on. All wool. We are making a big sacrifice in profits for the benefit of our preferred customers.

3 Months to Pay!

Yes—and what's more, you can compare this suit with other high grade clothing before you decide to buy. Then pay a little at a time—like you pay a tailor.

SPRING Style Book and Samples of Our Latest Fabrics—FREE!

This is your last chance! Don't delay a minute in sending for this book showing all the latest New York styles. We'll also send 44 generous samples of real cloth showing the exact fabrics you have to choose from. Get your name on our preferred customer's list by sending for this book today—Now.

BABSON BROS., Dept. 3043, 19th Street, CHICAGO

FREE FORD AUTO TO AGENTS

Here's an opportunity to earn big money—$6 to $12 a day, with easy work, all your time or spare time and obtain a Ford Automobile free besides. A straightout from the shoulder business proposition. No voting or guessing contest. We want wide-awake men and women to introduce into every home our famous ZANOL Pure Food Products, Non-Alcoholic Food Flavors in tubes, Toilet Preparations, Perfumes and Soaps; 250 other light weight household necessities.

MAKE $50 A WEEK EASY.

No experience necessary—we teach you how, give you the right start and help you make a success. Absolutely no limit to your earning power. We can use only a certain number of General Agents so get in touch with us at once. We furnish our representatives with a free automobile. Just send postal for particulars and money making offer. AMERICAN PRODUCTS CO. 8215 Third St. Cincinnati, O



Initials or date Engraved Free Friendship or Anniversary RING your size for 12c., both for 23c. Warranted Sterling or Rolled GOLD. Monogram Jewelry Co., 119 Nassau Street, Dept 94, New York

BIRTH STONE RINGS FREE 14K Gold filled, guaranteed to give satisfaction, with stone for any month, to introduce our catalogue. Send 12c to cover cost of advertising and mailing. Send size. EagleJewelry Co., Dept. 51, East Boston, Mass.

FREE Your choice Premo roll film Camera or Tako plate Camera & complete outfit for selling 20 pkgs. new Art & Religious Post Cards at 10¢. Fast sellers. Keystone Post Card Co. Box 402 Greenville, Pa.

You will be surprised how easy it is to get this fancy, embossed watch and stone set ring given for selling 20 jewelry articles at 10 cents each. Write to-day for the jewelry. Arden Watch Co. Dept. 34 Chicago

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers." RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.

HORSESHOE NAIL RING SET WITH YOUR BIRTHSTONE FREE Made of "Everbright Silver" guaranteed to give satisfaction. Bright polished, beautifully set with proper stone for your birth month. Send 12c to help pay advertising. Horseshoes are "Lucky." The Auction Co., Dept 79, Attleboro, Mass.

DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU? Agents wanted to sell glasses. Send for catalog. COULTER OPTICAL CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.

BE A DETECTIVE Earn from $150.00 to $300.00 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. LUDWIG, 121 Westover Building, Kansas City, Mo.

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet BX 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW. EARL HOPKINS, Washington, D. C.

OLD FALSE TEETH. We pay up to $5 a set. Also buy bridgework and platinum. Eastern Dental Depot, Dept. Y, Lynn, Mass.

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.

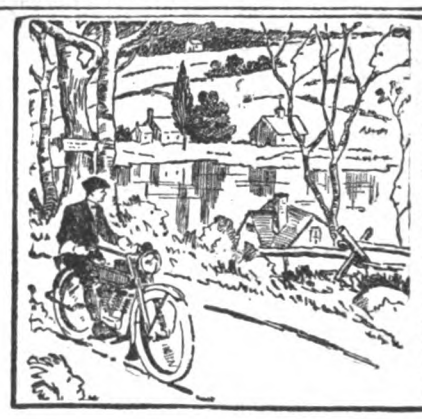
LOOK YOUR BEST. Make sure of smooth white arms, face and neck in spite of sallowness, blotches, freckles, blackheads etc. If you want to be charming and attractive—Don't pay 50c but send 10c at once for sealed Package, which will transform your appearance instantly. Warranted. TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927A, Boston, Mass.



NEW SCIENTIFIC WONDER "X RAY" CURIO BOYS-LOOK



You apparently see thru Cloth, Wood, Stone, any object. See Bones in Flesh. Price 10c. Silver only. MARVEL MFG. CO., Dept. 20. NEW HAVEN CONN.



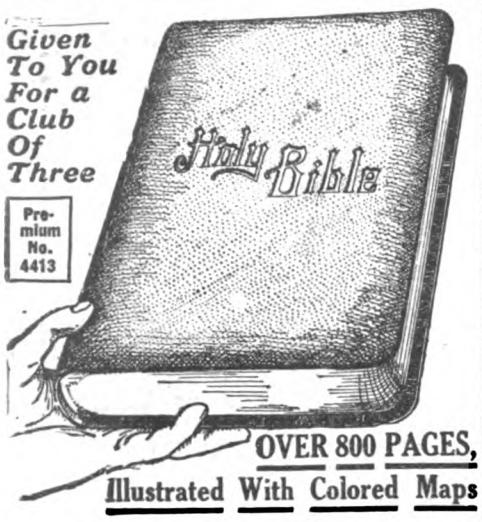
$310 Harley-Davidson Motorcycle FIRST GRAND PRIZE

In the picture are hidden a number of faces. How many can you find? Some are looking right at you, others show only the side of the face—you'll find them upside down and every way. Mark each face you find with a pencil, clip out picture, send to us with name and address NOW. We will give away a $310 1917 Model Harley-Davidson Motorcycle, as First Grand Prize, and Thousands of Dollars in Cash Rewards, Prizes and Special Premiums. There will be no losers. Solve the puzzle. If you can find as many as FIVE FACES we will send you immediately

1000 Free Votes toward the $310.00 Motorcycle and other Grand Prizes. We will also give away twelve 1917 model Coaster Brake $40.00 Bicycles. These will be given free and extra, regardless of who gets the motorcycle. Someone will win motorcycle. WHY NOT YOU?

FARM LIFE, Box 153, SPENCER, IND.

This Handsome Bible



ALTHOUGH this Bible is small enough to be carried conveniently in the hand or in the pocket or handbag, yet it is **complete and unabridged** containing full books of both the **Old and New Testaments,** and in addition there are several **colored maps** illustrating different interesting portions of **Palestine** and surrounding country. It is 5½ inches long, 3¾ inches wide and one inch thick, beautifully bound in flexible pebbled black leatherette and contains over **eight hundred pages,** with round corners and finished with red edges. The name "Holy Bible" is stamped on the front cover. This is an unequalled opportunity for Sunday School workers, teachers, in fact **all Bible students** at home or in church to secure a small yet **complete** Bible without cost and we feel that among COMFORT'S readers there must be thousands who have been waiting for us to make just such an offer as this. Remember that you are not going to receive a small, cheap, paper-bound book, but a splendidly made Bible, finely printed, handsomely and durably bound, and absolutely refined and perfect in every detail. We will send to any address this fine Bible exactly as illustrated and described upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this Bible free by mail postpaid. **Premium 4413. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Chatelaine Watch

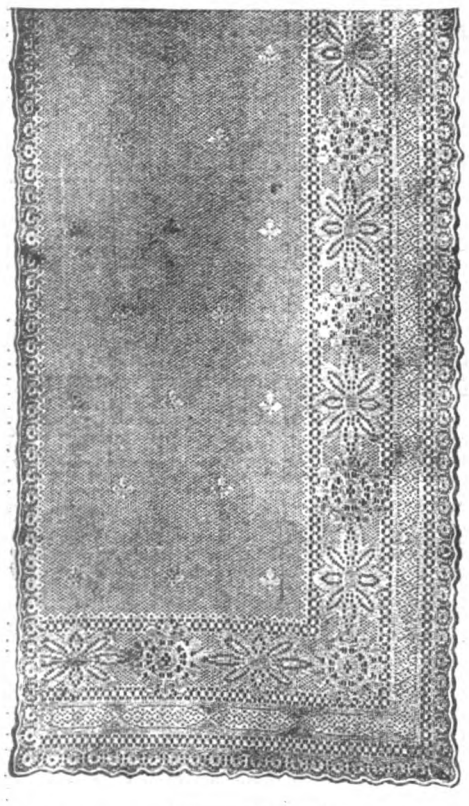
Premium No. 3598



THIS beautiful little Chatelaine Watch with Fleur-de-Lis Pin is one of the finest premiums we have to offer. For any woman or girl **it is the queen of all gifts.** The watch is about the size of illustration, **a thin model** with a handsome silver finished dust proof case and pure white dial with Arabic numerals. It is a **guaranteed** timekeeper being fitted with one of the best American movements, stem wind and set. With this dainty little timepiece we also give you the always popular "Fleur-de-Lis" pin with which to fasten the watch to the dress in true chatelaine style and both Watch and pin will come to you in a **handsome black leatherette, satin lined case.** You can have this chatelaine watch with pin and case complete free by taking advantage of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or four 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this handsome chatelaine watch with pin and case free by Parcel Post prepaid. **(Premium No. 3598.) Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.**

Lace Curtains



Nine Feet Long — Thirty Inches Wide — **Premium No. 4094** — Given For A Club of Four

THESE Nottingham lace curtains are **thirty inches wide and three yards long** and are designed after the **latest up-to-date pattern, with handsome wide border and firm well-finished edge.** These beautiful curtains are suited to any room in your house whether it be parlor, sitting-room or chambers and there is an air of elegance and refinement about them which will dress up any home no matter how richly furnished it may be. We guarantee that every woman who accepts this offer will be proud of these curtains—proud of their real beauty and value and proud of the fact that she secured them without paying out one cent of money. We are now giving away these curtains free upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one pair of these curtains free by Parcel Post prepaid. Or we will send you two pair for a club of seven one-year subscriptions, or three pair for a club of ten. **Premium No. 4094. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



Books! Books! Books!

Here Is Your Opportunity To Secure Without Cost Enough Good Reading Matter To Last You All The Year. Stories Of Love And Romance—Detective Stories—Adventure Stories—Stories For Boys And Stories For Girls—

More Than 465 Titles to Select From!

BY special arrangement with one of the largest book publishers in the country we can now supply our subscribers with a splendid variety of the **very best reading** for every member of the family. You will find in the list of titles printed below more than **four hundred and sixty-five** of the finest stories ever written, all of them by **famous authors** whose names are known throughout the entire civilized world. Each title was carefully selected by us with the view of giving the greatest possible variety of subjects. There are love stories, detective stories, stories of school and athletic sports, of hunting and camping, of adventure on land, sea and in the air—in fact it would be hard to find a better collection of books to be read by everybody in the home, from the youngest to the oldest. Each book is **complete and unabridged,** 5 by 7½ inches in size, printed on good quality paper and strongly and durably bound in **handsome photogravure covers.**

Everybody needs a good supply of reading to help pass away the evenings spent at home and here is an opportunity to get yours without the cost of a single cent. We will send you **free and prepaid** your choice of any book or books listed on this page upon the terms of the following

SPECIAL OFFERS! For one subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you any one book free and prepaid. For a club of two at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you any THREE books; for a club of three any FIVE books; for a club of six any TEN books; for a club of ten any FIFTEEN books. If you desire you may send your own **subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents, and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and receive one book free. Be sure to order the books you want BY NUMBER and also GIVE AUTHOR'S NAME so that we will make no mistake in filling your order.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Give Number And Author's Name When Ordering

Give Number And Author's Name When Ordering

Mrs. Alex McVeigh Miller

783 All for Love.
113 A Crushed Lily.
64 Dora Tenney.
732 Eric Braddon's Love.
790 The Fatal Kiss.
570 Her Heart's Unbidden Guest.
501 Her Husband's Secret.
673 Her Life's Burden.
646 Her Sister's Secret.
943 Let Us Kiss and Part.
106 Lillian, My Lillian.
43 Little Coquette Bonnie.
25 A Little Southern Beauty.
760 Love Conquers Pride.
608 Love is Love Forevermore.
753 Loyal Unto Death.
621 Lynette's Wedding.
766 The Man She Hated.
772 A Married Flirt.
602 Married in Error.
682 My Pretty Maid.
688 Only a Kiss.
34 Pretty Geraldine.
934 Pretty Madcap Lucy.
5 The Senator's Favorite.
678 The Shadow Between Them.
596 Slighted Love.
739 The Strength of Love.
91 Sweet Violet.
517 They Looked and Loved.
560 The Thorns of Regret.
590 What Was She to Him?
718 When We Two Parted.

Sylvanus Cobb, Jr.

173 The Bandit of Syracuse.
187 Ben Hamed, the Faithful.
178 Blanche of Burgundy.
168 The Caliph of Bagdad.
186 The Conspirator of Cordova.
142 The Council of Ten.
169 The Fortunes of Conrad.
189 Gertrude, the Amazon.
190 The Golden Eagle.
177 The Grip of the Tyrant.
184 The Hero of Attica.
170 Ivan, the Serf.
171 Karl the Lion.
179 The King's Mark.
188 The King's Talisman.
180 The Knight's Motto.
324 A Love Match.
174 The Outcast of Milan.
172 The Robber Countess.
181 Roderic of Kildare.
175 Rollo of Normandy.
182 The Royal Outlaw.
176 The Scourge of Damascus.
183 The Shadow of the Guillotine.
359 The Specter's Secret.
185 A Strange Secret.
78 The Yankee Champion.

Captain Mayne Reid

80 Afloat in the Forest.
131 The Boy Slaves.
144 The Boy Tar.
137 The Bush Boys.
147 The Cliff Climbers.
295 Cris Rock.
151 The Flag of Distress.
127 The Forest Exiles.
123 The Giraffe Hunters.
101 The Lone Ranch.
141 The Ocean Waifs.
125 The Plant Hunters.
129 Ran Away to Sea.
155 The Young Voyagers.
133 The Young Yagers.

Adelaide Stirling

461 Above All Things.
533 A Forgotten Love.
493 The Girl He Loved.
541 Her Evil Genius.
500 Love and Spite.
131 Nerine's Second Choice.
473 A Sacrifice to Love.
550 Saved From Himself.
448 When Love Dawns.

Henry Harrison Lewis

275 The King of the Island.
259 Sword and Pen.
232 The Valley of Mystery.
224 Yankee Boys in Japan.

Denman Thompson

563 The Old Homestead.

Augusta J. Evans

11 Beulah.
35 Inez.
52 Macaria.
600 St. Elmo.

The "Duchess"

66 Airy Fairy Lilian.
93 Beauty's Daughters.
162 Dick's Sweetheart.
122 Doris.
71 The Duchess.
165 Faith and Unfaith.
146 The Honorable Mrs. Vereker.
158 Lady Branksmere.
141 Lady Valworth's Diamonds.
102 Marvel.
150 A Mental Struggle.
54 Mildred Trevanion.
134 A Modern Circe.
62 Molly Bawn.
127 Mrs. Geoffrey.
36 Phyllis.
114 Portia.
79 Rossmoyne.
84 Under-currents.
153 The Way of a Siren.

Mrs. Harriett Lewis

457 Adrift in the World. Sequel to "A Vixen's Treachery."
715 Amber, the Adopted.
449 The Bailiff's Scheme.
474 Belle of the Season.
358 Beryl's Husband.
371 Cecil Rosse. Sequel to "Edith Trevor's Secret."
370 Edith Trevor's Secret.
346 Guy Tresillian's Fate. Sequel to "Tresillian Court."
405 The Haunted Husband.
213 The Heiress of Egremont.
380 Her Double Life.
422 Lady Kildare.
475 Love Before Pride. Sequel to the "Belle of the Season."
321 Neva's Three Lovers.
464 The Old Life's Shadows.
465 Outside Her Eden. Sequel to "The Old Life's Shadow."
450 Rosamond's Love. Sequel to the "Bailiff's Scheme."
389 Sundered Hearts.
381 The Sunshine of Love. Sequel to "Her Double Life."
345 Tresillian Court.
456 A Vixen's Treachery.

Evelyn Malcolm

923 All for a Lady Fair.
794 The Arm of the Law.
852 A Barrier Between Them.
953 Bewitched.
757 Dare-devil Betty.
814 Far Above Price.
821 The Girl in Red.
806 The Haunting Past.
841 Her Hated Husband.
870 Her Slave Forever.
914 Love's Fetters.
884 Misjudged.
876 A Sad Coquette.
901 The Seed of Hate.
830 The Stolen Bride.
773 The Thorns of Love.
862 Tricked Into Marriage.
784 What Love Can Cost.
765 When Love Speaks.
892 When the Heart Is Bitter.

Charlotte M. Stanley

962 As Light as Air.
799 Between Good and Evil.
823 Between Love and Conscience.
855 Could He Have Known!
714 Ethel's Secret.
693 For Another's Fault.
845 For Her Husband's Love.
459 A Golden Mask.
723 A Golden Sorrow.
812 Her Fateful Choice.
764 His Unbounded Faith.
706 In Love's Paradise.
756 Leola's Heart.
606 Mabel's Sacrifice.
734 Sylvia, the Forsaken.
835 When the Heart Hungers.

Mrs. E. Burke Collins

647 Bitterly Atoned.
906 The Cost of a Promise.
916 The Fortunes of Love.
858 Her Life's Desire.
878 Long Since Forgiven.
970 Love's Entanglements.
847 The Love That Prevailed.
866 No Mother to Guide Her.
873 She Scoffed at Love.
654 Vivian's Love Story.
886 A Well Kept Secret.
819 Where Love is Sent.
894 The Wife He Chose.

Burt L. Standish

566 Dick Merriwell Abroad.
674 Dick Merriwell Adrift.
874 Dick Merriwell and June Arlington.
849 Dick Merriwell and the Burglar.
440 Dick Merriwell at Fardale.
726 Dick Merriwell at the County Fair.
792 Dick Merriwell at the Olympics.
724 Dick Merriwell, a Winner.
696 Dick Merriwell Doubted.
638 Dick Merriwell, Freshman.
740 Dick Merriwell Game to the Last.
780 Dick Merriwell in Panama.
782 Dick Merriwell in South America.
702 Dick Merriwell in the Wilds.
742 Dick Merriwell, Motor King.
518 Dick Merriwell on the Gridiron.
482 Dick Merriwell's Ability.
746 Dick Merriwell's Aero Dash.
539 Dick Merriwell's Assurance.
659 Dick Merriwell's Backers.
500 Dick Merriwell's Backstop.
662 Dick Merriwell's Best Work.
684 Dick Merriwell's Black Star.
584 Dick Merriwell's Cleverness.
680 Dick Merriwell's Close Call.
768 Dick Merriwell's Commencement.
772 Dick Merriwell's Coolness.
784 Dick Merriwell's Counsel.
620 Dick Merriwell's Dare.
479 Dick Merriwell's Dash.
554 Dick Merriwell's Day.
668 Dick Merriwell's Debt.
770 Dick Merriwell's Decision.
488 Dick Merriwell's Defense.
464 Dick Merriwell's Delivery.
766 Dick Merriwell's Detective Work.
473 Dick Merriwell's Diamond.
521 Dick Merriwell's Disguise.
665 Dick Merriwell's Distrust.
560 Dick Merriwell's Downfall.
700 Dick Merriwell's Example.
752 Dick Merriwell's Fighting Chance.
602 Dick Merriwell's Five.
443 Dick Merriwell's Glory.
536 Dick Merriwell's Grit.
790 Dick Merriwell's Heroic Players.
617 Dick Merriwell's Home Run.
716 Dick Merriwell's Honors.

May Agnes Fleming

181 The Baronet's Pride.
950 Carried by Storm.
913 The Cost of a Lie.
315 The Dark Secret.
309 The Heiress of Castle Cliffe.
151 The Heiress of Glen Gower.
940 The Heir of Charlton.
961 His to Love or Hate.
930 Kate Danton.
141 Lady Evelyn.
960 Lost for a Woman.
951 Love's Dazzling Glitter.
904 A Mad Marriage.
146 Magdalen's Vow.
495 Norine's Revenge.
912 One Night's Mystery.
931 Proud as a Queen.
303 The Queen of the Isle.
920 Silent and True.
896 A Terrible Secret.
168 Thrice Lost, Thrice Won.
921 A Treasure Lost.
136 Unseen Bridegroom.
9 The Virginia Heiress.
481 Wedded, Yet No Wife.
897 When Tomorrow Came.
941 While Love Stood Waiting.
157 Who Wins.
905 The Woman Without Mercy.

Howard W. Erwin

200 Buffalo Bill at Fort Challis.
79 Buffalo Bill Besieged.
190 Buffalo Bill Between Two Fires.
185 Buffalo Bill Corralled.
201 Buffalo Bill Entrapped.
125 Buffalo Bill in Apache Land.
163 Buffalo Bill in Death Valley.
195 Buffalo Bill in Harness.
207 Buffalo Bill in Mexico.
166 Buffalo Bill in Mid Air.
204 Buffalo Bill in the Land of Dread.
160 Buffalo Bill on a Cold Trail.
107 Buffalo Bill on Black Panther's Trail.
176 Buffalo Bill on the Box.
123 Buffalo Bill on the Deadwood Trail.
105 Buffalo Bill, Peacemaker.
108 Buffalo Bill's Aerial Island.
92 Buffalo Bill's Air Voyage.
83 Buffalo Bill's Bandit Round-up.
149 Buffalo Bill's Barricade.
199 Buffalo Bill's Battle-ax.
191 Buffalo Bill's Best Bet.
171 Buffalo Bill's Big Surprise.
87 Buffalo Bill's Black Fortune.
170 Buffalo Bill's Blockhouse Siege.
111 Buffalo Bill's Boldest Strike.
88 Buffalo Bill's Bold Play.
104 Buffalo Bill's Bowie Duel.
91 Buffalo Bill's Boy Bugler.
177 Buffalo Bill's Brave Partner.
133 Buffalo Bill's Camp Fires.
134 Buffalo Bill's Clean Sweep.
198 Buffalo Bill's Comanche Raid.
124 Buffalo Bill's Crow Scouts.
152 Buffalo Bill's Dance With Death.
118 Buffalo Bill's Dangerous Duty
157 Buffalo Bill's Death Message.
103 Buffalo Bill's Determination.
127 Buffalo Bill's Diamond Mine.
169 Buffalo Bill's Double "B" Brand.
129 Buffalo Bill's Emigrant Trail.
116 Buffalo Bill's Fight for Right.
173 Buffalo Bill's Flag of Truce.
165 Buffalo Bill's Friend in Need.
106 Buffalo Bill's Game With Fate.
120 Buffalo Bill's Ghost Play.
158 Buffalo Bill's Hidden Gold.
136 Buffalo Bill's Impersonator.

Stanley Norris

535 Facing the Music.
517 For His Friend's Honor.
499 From Circus to Fortune.
508 "A Gentleman Born."
486 Phil's Pluck.
480 Phil's Rivals.
492 Phil's Triumph.
474 Phil, the Showman.
526 True to His Trust.
364 The Young Railroader.
451 The Young Railroader's Ally.
432 The Young Railroader's Challenge.
417 The Young Railroader's Chance.
402 The Young Railroader's Comrade.
465 The Young Railroader's Contest.
373 The Young Railroader's Flyer
439 The Young Railroader's Hard Task.
394 The Young Railroader's Long Run.
423 The Young Railroader's Luck.
459 The Young Railroader's Mascot.
409 The Young Railroader's Promotion.
445 The Young Railroader's Sealed Orders.
385 The Young Railroader's Victory.
379 The Young Railroader's Wreck.

Effie Rowlands

792 After Many Days.
498 Andrew Leicester's Love.
445 An Angel of Evil.
369 At a Great Cost.
186 Beneath a Spell.
815 Bitter Sweet.
910 The Blunder of An Innocent.
417 Brave Barbara.
798 Brave Heart.
107 Carla; or, Married at Sight.
290 A Change of Heart.
143 A Charity Girl.
485 The End Crowns All.
301 The False and the True.
666 A Fateful Promise.
857 The Fault of One.
917 Forever and a Day
377 Forever True.
478 For Love of Sigrid.
803 The Game of Life.
409 A Girl's Kingdom.
674 The Heart of Hetta.
539 A Heart's Triumph.
829 Her Golden Secret.
431 Her Husband and Her Love.
810 Her Kingdom.
834 A Hero for Love's Sake.

Dora Delmar

259 By a Golden Cord.
135 Cast Up by the Tide.
270 Had She Foreseen.
114 Half a Truth.
252 A Handsome Sinner.
128 The Scent of the Roses.
237 Woman or Witch?

Julia Edwards

8 Beautiful, But Poor.
27 Estelle's Millionaire Lover.
966 For Love of the Other Girl.
939 Just a Loving Look.
278 Laura Braton.

Police Captains of New York

152 Fifteen Detective Stories.

Lucy Randall Comfort

694 The Belle of Saratoga.
121 Cecile's Marriage.
768 Claire's Love Life.
782 His First Sweetheart.
592 Ida Chaloner's Heart.
508 Lottie and Victorine.
603 Love and Jealousy.
235 Love at Saratoga.
791 A Lover Scorned.
735 Married for Money.
86 The Widowed Bride.
717 Wild and Willful.

Ida Reade Allen

707 At Another's Bidding.
924 Beyond His Reach.
575 A Blue Grass Heroine.
675 The Breath of Slander.
800 Caught in Love's Net.
865 Chained to a Villian.
854 A Changeling's Love.
816 A Clouded Life.
877 The Curse of Wealth.
540 A Daughter of Darkness.
642 A Fair Enchantress.
562 A Forced Promise.
668 From Tears to Smiles.
915 The Good and the Bad.
568 Hearts and Dollars.
684 Her Enduring Love.
952 Her Future Husband.
731 His Two Loves.
788 In Love's Shadows.
701 A Lost Sweetheart.
963 Love's New, Sweet Song.
831 Love's Rugged Pathway.
967 The Love That Was Her Blessing.
807 The Love That Would Not Die.
692 The Man of Millions.
933 The Masqueraders.
716 No Man's Wife.
767 No One to Help Her.
724 Norna's Black Fortune.
893 Only Love's Fancy.
738 The Power of Gold.
555 Put to the Test.
902 A Queen at Heart.
944 She Could Not Tell.
971 Somebody Loves Me!
824 Spectres of the Past.
759 They Met by Chance.
659 Told in the Twilight.
871 To Love and Not Be Loved.
844 Too Quickly Judged.
779 A Virginia Goddess.
837 The Web of Life.
885 What True Love Is.
745 A Will of Her Own.
752 Without Name or Wealth.

7 Wheel Chairs in February

395 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

Seven wheel chairs for February is not bad; it is one better than in January, and we ought to do still better in March so to get as many poor crippled shut-ins as possible out into the April sunshine and spring air.

The seven February chairs go to the following applicants. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

John B. Mitchell, Winnsboro, R. 6, Texas, 179; Roland E. Chewning, Boons Mill, R. 3, Box 104, Va., 169; Allen Doss, Diana, Tenn., 148; Miss Ann Allen, Gainsville, R. 2, Ga., 101; Walter Campbell, Dyersville, R. 2, Tenn., 101; Dorothy Kate Harris, Cumming, R.2, Ga., 100; Nada Pearl Strong, Oregon City, R. 3, Oregon, 99.

John B. Mitchell, age 69, suffers terribly from rheumatism which has drawn his legs up into a sitting position and crippled his arms so that he is unable to help himself in any way. His wife is dead and he makes his home with one of his children.

Roland E.Chewning, age 14, is afflicted with tuberculosis of the bone which has necessitated a surgical operation for removal of diseased bone from his leg, Roland's mother has been very desirous of obtaining this chair for her invalid boy as a help to her in caring for him as well as for his comfort.

Allen Doss, age 11, has one hip and one shoulder dislocated and useless as the effect of infantile paralysis which attacked him nine years ago. He wrote me a good, manly letter describing his condition and needs, and said he intended to get subscriptions to earn a COMFORT wheel chair.

Miss Allen, age 67, suffers severely from rheumatism in the joints which has crippled her to such an extent that she has to be helped about the house and has not been out of doors for four years. She is dependent on her sister who has only her little home. She expects her wheel chair to be a great benefit to her.

Little Dorothy Kate Harris, age eight, has been a cripple all her life and never able to walk. She has no use of her lower limbs. This wheel chair will enable her mother to take her out in the sun and air. Her father is an industrious worker but his income is small.

Nada Pearl Strong, age nine. Her mother's letter describes the little girl's condition thus: "She had infantile paralysis when three months of age. It would be impossible to tell all she has suffered and undergone. We had her treated three years ago by a Chiropractic doctor who helped her to some extent. She can use her right hand fairly well and her left a very little. She can move her lower limbs but cannot control them well enough to walk. She is bright and is interested in all things that interest children of her age, and she can read. With the baths and food prescribed by the doctor she keeps in fairly good health only that she is so helpless." The doctor's bills have been a heavy strain on their slender resources and the girl's parents appreciate the privilege of obtaining the wheel chair through COMFORT subscriptions.

All you good people (read their names in our Roll of Honor) who have helped these worthy sufferers to their much needed wheel chair must have a profound sense of happiness in learning of the blessings you have conferred by so doing. Many other equally needy and worthy shut-ins are bravely struggling to earn COMFORT wheel chairs, and I appeal to all our readers to help them. Your names will look well in our April Roll of Honor. Every little helps—send at least one subscription for them this month, if you can do no better.

Sincerely yours,
W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Subscription price is 25 cents, but if sent in clubs of five or more for the Wheel-Chair Club, I accept them at 20 cents each.

COMFORT Wheel Chair Will Be Lots of Pleasure to the Boy

SUMMERFIELD, N. C.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

We received Herbert's wheel chair today in fine shape and are well pleased with it. I wish to thank you and all the kind friends who helped me get it for him. It will be a lot of pleasure to him for he likes to be out of doors.

Yours respectfully, MRS. S. W. WALKER.

Likes Her COMFORT Wheel Chair

JAMESTOWN, N. DAK.

DEAR COMFORT:

I received my wheel chair December 20th and I think it is nice. I will have my picture taken in it next spring and will send you one. With many thanks I remain, Your friend, DELLA WYMAN.

COMFORT Wheel Chair a Great Blessing to Her

CURTOIS, MO.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

Mrs. Gillem received her wheel chair in good condition and wishes me to express her thanks to you and all who helped her get it. May the Lord bless you all. She is looking forward to springtime when she can enjoy many outings in her chair. It is a great comfort and blessing to her. May God bless Uncle Charlie in his great work.

Sincerely yours, MRS. THOS. M. BLOUNT.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

Eva Mitchell, Texas, for John B. Mitchell, 179; J. T. Doss, Tenn., for Allen Doss, 148; Mrs. J. L. Parrish, Tenn., for Walter Campbell, 101; M. A. Huff, Mo., for own wheel chair, 65; Irene Temby, Utah, for Mrs. Lyman Carter, 54; Johnie May Heatherly, Ala., for own wheel chair, 43; Lula M. Williams, Okla., for Vernie May Williams, 40; C. L. Jones, Texas, for Cleo Jones, 25; May Brown, Ohio, for Roland Chewning, 22; Mrs. Otto Grones, Pa., for Catherine Barnes, 20; Miss Ida Scafe, Kans., for Alace Scafe, 20; Miss Mary Lanier, Ga., for Dollie Virginia Lanier, 20; M. A. Williams, Ark., for Callie Williams, 19; Mrs. Lena Andrews, Maine, for Mrs. Edith M. Cole, 18; Miss Ona B. Willan, Ind., for Roland Chewning, 15; Mrs. E. O. Strong, Nebr., for Nada Pearl Strong, 15; Miss Nina M. Waltman, Va., for Thos. R. Hancock, 14; B. L. Hawk, N. Mex., for Mrs. T. B. Christian, 14; Mrs. F. N. LaChapelle, Conn., for Roland Chewning, 14; Mabel Foster, Miss., for General, 14; Mrs. Martha Vaughan, Mich., for Roland Chewning, 13; Mrs. Martha Vaughan, Mich., for Catherine Barnes, 13; Mrs. Pearlie Porter, Ky., for Catherine Barnes, 12; Mrs. M. L. Dunaway, Texas, for J. R. Claxton, 12; H. J. Harris, Ga., for Kate Harris 12; Mattie Hibbard, Ark. for Buel Hibbard, 12; Mrs. C. J. Perrin, Texas, for Cleo Jones, 12; Mrs. S. A. Strong, Oregon, for Nada Pearl Strong, 11; Mrs. Catherine Clark, Ark., for Mark Clark, 11; Miss Bertha Conatser, Ark., for Elsie Roberts, 11; Chas. Vyzourek, N. Dak., for General, 10; Mrs. T. A. Ivey, Ga., for Miss Ann Allen, 10; Mrs. J. W. Payne, Ala., for Joseph Cawley, 10; Mrs. J. G. Ambrose, Kans., for Catherine Barnes, 10; Miss Ethel Cross, Ark., for Elsie Roberds, 8; Mrs. W. I. Paddock, Minn., for Catherine Barnes, 8; Mrs. M. A. Burns, Miss., for Ruth Heflin, 7; Nellie M. Waltman, Va., for Thomas Reginald Hancock, 7; Mrs. Wesley Surdam, N. Y., for Catherine Barnes, 7; Mrs. Annie L. Kohlmeyer, Wis., for Roland Chewning, 7; Mrs. J. H. Voltas, Wash., for Walter Nickum, 7; W. S. Ford, Texas, for Leithor D. Darter, 6; Mrs. Alma Campbell, Nebr., for General, 6; Mrs. Jennie Myers, Kans., for Catherine Barnes, 6; Miss Mary T. Chiarotteno, Mo., for Roland Chewning, 6; Mrs. May Apthorp, Mich., for Roland Chewning, 6; Mamie Russell, Oregon, for Nada Pearl Strong, 6; Lillie Smith, Ariz., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Lillie Smith, Ariz., for Roland Chewning, 5; Lizzie May Gibson, Ala., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. J. J. Culpepper, Ga., for Tavie Culpepper, 5; Mrs. J. F. Lee, Ohio, for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. George Spannaus, Cal., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. A. W. Barnes, N. C., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. J. F. Forest, Okla., for General, 5; May Hutchings, Ark., for D. A. Coffman, 5; from A Friend "Anna," Mo., for General, 5; Mrs. J. R. Ravenscraft, Mo., for General, 5; Mrs. Lelah Osborn, Md., for Roland Chewning, 5; Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Beall, Pa., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Louis Pigate, S. C., for Ada Pigate, 5; Kate Bier, Pa., for General, 5; Mrs. Mary Brown, Texas, for Ben Brown, 5; Mrs. W. F. Steinman, Mich., for General, 5; Mattie Leigh, Tenn., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Margretha Beckley, Mich., for General, 5; Mrs. Maud Morgan, Colo., for Preston Morgan, 5; Mrs. Nina Loomis, Mich., for General, 5; Mrs. Wm. Brown, Wis., for Mrs. Sarah Moran, 5; Ned Sherrill, N. C., for John Calvin Shook, 5; Mrs. Charles C. Teets, Md., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. Laura E. Hatte, Maine, for Roland Chewning, 5; Mrs. Edwin F. Tobey, Maine, for Roland Chewning, 5; Mrs. I. W. Lower, Wash., for General, 5; Mrs. Lillie H. Birch, Wis., for General, 5; O. N. Johnson, Iowa, for General, 5; Mrs. T. Shannon, Kans., for Raymon Boswell, 5; Mrs. Nannie Hickman, Ky., for Roland Chewning and Catherine Barnes, 9; Mrs. Maggie Puckett, Va., for Roland Chewning and Catherine Barnes, 6; Mrs. Guy Hough, Md., for Roland Chewning and Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. T. J. Whittington, Ga., for Catherine Barnes and Roland Chewning, 5; Mrs. Grace Porter, Mo., for General, 5; Mrs. E. Bywater, N. Dak., for General, 5.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39.)

Requests

Mrs. Will Reynolds, Chambersberg, Ill. wishes religious stories and poetry to read to small children.

Eliza V. Clauson, Bingham, 5th So. West St., Utah, would like to get the September, October, November and December numbers of "The Ladies' Home Companion" for 1908 and June, 1909.

Poem, "The Old Settler's Story," Send to Mrs. J. R. Hodgson, Kawal, Colo.

Poem, by Alice or Phœbe Cary,—"November," and another poem, "The House I Live In." Do not know the author.

Remedies

EARACHE.—For earache or rising in the ear, squeeze roasted onion juice in the ear, as hot as can be borne; then put a hot salt poultice against the ear.

A mustard poultice put on the pit of the stomach will relieve nausea.

MISS LITTLE, Mallory, S. C.

Poems Requested

The following poems have been requested by readers of COMFORT and sent for publication.

Bringing Our Sheaves

The time for toil is past and night has come,
The last and saddest of the harvest eves;
Worn out with labor long and wearisome,
Drooping and faint, the reapers hasten home,
Each ladened with his sheaves.

Last of the laborers, Thy feet I gain,
Lord of the harvest! and my spirit grieves
That I am burdened not so much with grain
As with a heaviness of heart and brain;
Master! behold my sheaves!

Full well I know I have more tares than wheat,
Brambles and flowers, dry stalks and withered leaves;
Therefore I blush and weep, as at thy feet
I kneel down reverently and repeat,
"Master, behold my sheaves!"

Few, light and worthless; yet their trifling weight
Through all my frame a weary aching leaves;
For long I struggled with my hapless fate,
And stayed and toiled till it was dark and late,
But these are all my sheaves.

And yet I gather strength and hope anew,
For well I know thy patient love perceives
Not what I did, but what I strove to do;
And though the full, ripe ears be sadly few
Thou wilt accept my sheaves.

—*Elizabeth Akers.*

No Playmates Any More

The glow is fading from the western sky,
And one by one my comrades, as of yore,
Have given up their play and said good by;
There isn't any one for me to play with any more.

Don't cry, dear heart! for I am worn and old;
No longer have I largess in my store;
E'en love's best gifts to me I could not hold,
There isn't any one for me to play with any more.

I miss the tender hand-clasps of old friends;
The kisses of the loved ones gone before;
'Tis lonely when the heart first comprehends
There isn't any one for me to play with any more.

I need these loving hearts, so fond and leal;
I want them in my arms, as heretofore;
When they are reached—I shall no longer feel
There isn't any one for me to play with any more.

—*Last Stanzas Written by Mark Twain.*

If

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowances for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Of being lied about don't deal in lies,
Or being hated don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim.
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same,
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss:
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the will which says to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much:
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

—*Rudyard Kipling.*

Crossing the Bar

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark.

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

—*Tennyson.*

Ma's Tools

At home it seems to be the rule,
Pa never has the proper tool
Or knack to fix things; but the stunt
That stumps Ma though, you have to hunt.

The caster in the table leg
Fell out; Pa said a wooden peg
Would fix it up; but Ma kept mum
And fixed it with a wad of gum.

We could scarce open our front door
It stuck so tight, and Pa he swore
He'd buy a plane, as big as life,
Ma fixed it with the carving knife.

The bureau drawer got stuck one day,
And push or pull, 'twas there to stay;
Said Pa, "Some day 'twill shrink, I hope!"
Ma fixed it with a piece of soap.

The window shade got out of whack,
'Twould not pull down, or yet roll back;
Pa said, "No one can fix that thing!"
Ma fixed it with a piece of string.

The bathtub drain got all clogged up,
Pa baled the tub out with a cup;
He had a dreadful helpless look.
Ma cleared it with a crochet hook.

I broke the stove hinge one day,
'Twas cracked before, though, any way;
Pa said we'd put a new door in;
Ma grabbed her hair and got a pin.

So when my things get out of fix,
Do I ask Pa to mend them? "Nix!"
Ma just grabs what's near at hand,
And togs things up to beat the band.

—*Sent in by Mrs. G.*

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Wanted—information of my father Jefel Willie Williford who lives in North Carolina. Mrs. Janie Robison, Aquilla, R. R. 2, Texas.

Wanted, by mother, her son, Ashton Galloway, known in some states as Jack Galloway, age 36 years. Last heard from at Denison, Washington, 1911. Notify Mrs. Rachel Ellis, Proctorville, R. R. 1, Box 66, Ohio.

Information of Lorenza Keirsey, left Milton, N. C., for Hopkinsville, Ky., in 1867. Was in Mason, Tenn., in 1881. Will appreciate information of him. Cornelia E. Keirsey, Semora, N. C.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Name should be Miss Mable Grace instead of Mrs. Mable Grace in January number post card exchange. Mr. Emil O. Ansen, Eleva, R. R. 2, Box 26, Wis. Miss Estella Kuhns, Shippensville, Pa. Mr. Guy Boggs, Proclous, W. Va. Mr. J. F. Stout, Danville, Ohio. F. S. Shatley, Wilcoe, W. Va.

Pretty Florida Sea Shells for children, etc. 25c and $1 per box prepaid. Agents. FLA. SHELL CO., 100, DeLand, Fla.

35 Easter, Birthday, Motto, Comic, Love Postals. Silk Flag Free. Magnus A. Hess Co., 837 Ashland Bou'l, Chicago. **10c.**

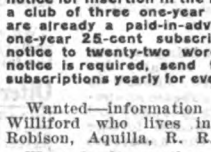
How To **LETTER** & Paint Signs, 50c. Write Freeburn, Hicksville, O.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties, Catalog Free. D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.

MONEY Made quickly by smart men. T. ARTOL Co., 115 Nassau St., N.Y.

Kremola Cream. Wonderful bleach. Removes brown spots, etc. By mail $1. Booklet free. Dr. C. H. Berry Co., 2975 Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

BOYS! WONDER OF THE 20TH CENTURY GIRLS!



BOYS! You want this GREAT NOVELTY! Apparently see bones in fingers, lead in pencil, see through cloth, etc. Lasts lifetime. Good Anytime, Anywhere. Think of the Fun YOU can have! Complete X RAY & Cat. 10c, 3 for 25c, 7 for 50c, 15 for $1.00. Address, HARRE & CO., 6253 University Ave., CHICAGO.

Oval Linen Tray-Cloth

Premium No. 7811



Given For One Subscription

IT would be hard to find a more attractive design for a tray cloth than the one shown above. It is oval in shape, stamped on genuine **white imported linen** 11 x 17 inches in size and is to be worked in solid and eyelet embroidery. When finished this tray-cloth presents a very handsome appearance and the material being pure Irish linen it is certainly well worth the time it takes to embroider it, although it requires very little work as the design is a simple one, easily and quickly done. You can obtain this linen tray-cloth upon the terms of one of the following offers.

Offer 7811A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c we will send you this linen tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7811B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription at 25c and 10c additional (35c in all) we will send you this tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid.

Premium No. 7811.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

$3.75 SUIT NO EXTRA CHARGES



Made to measure in latest style. Not $3.75, not even $1, not even one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. No extra charge for fancy, swell styles, no extra charge for extra big, extreme peg-tops, pearl buttons, tunnel or fancy belt loops, no extra charge for anything, all free. Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. Agents of other tailoring houses please write, we have a new deal that will open your eyes. We ask every man to answer this, every boy in long pants, every man, every where. No matter where you live, or what you do, write us a letter or postal and say *"Send Me Your Offer"* the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges. Write today, this minute. Address

KNICKERBOCKER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 598 Chicago, Ill.

SIX ELEGANT LACE CURTAINS FREE TO LADIES

Send no money. Simply name and address. We will send you, postpaid, 12 boxes of our famous White Cloverine, also 12 beautiful Art Pictures 16x20 in. Sell the Cloverine at 25c. each and give one beautiful picture free with each box. Return us $3 collected and we will immediately send you six (three pair) beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains nearly three yards long. You will be proud of them. Everyone buys after you show pictures—stores usually charge $1 each for them. Write to-day.

The Wilson Chemical Co.
Curtain Dept. No. 705, TYRONE, PA.



WHITE ROSE FACE BLEACH

Will make your Complexion as white as the virgin snow. 2-cent stamp for free particulars. Address MME. BOGETT, Box 496, Desk 4, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.



THIS GENUINE FRIENDSHIP RING FREE

Sterling Silver finish. To introduce our Jewelry catalogue, we will send this ring your size, your initials, hand engraved for 12 cts. EAGLE JEWELRY CO., Dept. 38, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

NEW 25-lb. FEATHER BED, ONLY $5.50

6-lb. pillows $1 pair. New feathers, best ticking. Satisfaction guaranteed. Mail money order today, or write for catalog. SANITARY BEDDING CO., Dept. 583, Charlotte, N. C.



FREE Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 5 years, for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice. GATES MFG. CO. Dept. 425 Chicago



This pretty band GIVEN for five **WEDDING RING** names of your neighbors and ten cents to pay postage &c. Gem City Supply Co., QUINCY, ILL.

Free To Every Little Girl!

Golden Locks And Her Lovely Twin Babies!

All Three Dollies Given To You Without Cost!



Premium No. 4631.

Mothers, Don't Fail To Read This Offer!

COMFORT wants to give **free** to **your** little girl and **every** little girl this handsome **doll Family** stamped in **beautiful colors** on strong cloth with **full directions** so that you can cut them out, stuff and sew them up **in less than ten minutes.** "Golden Locks" is almost as big as **a real baby,** for she stands **one and one half feet high** and her cute little twin babies which you see in the picture stand **over half a foot high. These dolls cannot be broken** no matter how much they are thrown around or dropped on the floor and you can make them **bend their arms and legs, stand up and sit down in a chair and assume all sorts of natural positions.** They have beautiful **golden hair** which hangs in the **dearest curls** you ever saw and fastened with a **bright red ribbon bow** that cannot get lost or become untied, **handsome red cheeks, rosy lips and lovely blue eyes** which smile at you in such a **life-like way** that you would almost think **they were ready to speak and say "Mama."** As shown in above illustration they are dressed in **dainty lace-trimmed underwear with bright red stockings and black buttoned boots.** The three dolls together—"Golden Locks" and the two sweet Baby Dolls—make the **cutest and prettiest** Doll Family any little girl ever had to play with. They are lots better for the little folks than the more expensive bisque and china dolls **because they will not break or snarl their pretty hair or lose their eyes.** There is no little girl who will not instantly **fall in love** with this beautiful Doll Family and spend many happy hours with it, so we hope that every mother who reads this offer will take advantage of it at once. We will send you **all three dolls free by Parcel Post prepaid** on the terms of the following special offers.

Offer 4631 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **all three dolls** free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 4631 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you **all three dolls** free by Parcel Post prepaid. **(Premium No. 4631). Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



12 Everblooming Rose Bushes

A Magnificent Collection Of The Newest Varieties In The Most Beautiful Colors

Given To You For A Club Of Two!

BEAUTIFUL Charming Roses in profusion that anybody can grow in any climate and in almost any soil. We will give you a whole garden of them free and they will bloom and bloom all summer, surrounding your home with a veritable paradise of delightful fragrance and radiant colors. The different varieties described below are strong, well-rooted one-year old bushes ready to be transplanted to your garden as soon as you receive them and we guarantee that they will grow and thrive beautifully if given proper care and attention. No matter in what part of the United States you live, our growers will send them to you at the proper time to plant according to the schedule printed below. Please remember, however, that these dates may vary from ten to fifteen days in event of an extremely early or late spring, so you need not become anxious if they should not reach you just on the date named in schedule. The rose growers who supply us are perfectly familiar with planting conditions in your locality and you may depend upon them to forward the roses to you at the best time for you to put them in the ground. Following is a brief description of each of the different varieties of beautiful ever-blooming rose bushes given you **free** on this great offer. Complete instructions on how to plant and care for roses will be included free of charge.

Melody

For years rose growers have tried to produce a genuinely yellow rose, and when this Irish beauty was introduced, it was hailed with delight for it represented a new color in its class and has now become the greatest of all yellow roses for the home planter. It grows to perfection in any ordinary garden soil in all localities and from the time it is planted in the early spring, it bears continuously great numbers of lovely flowers of immense size, which stand out well from the plant, giving it a regal appearance and stamping it as the most extraordinary rose of its color. The color is a lovely shade of **yellow**, deepening to **apricot** in the center; in fact, it is a rose of sterling **merit**, which has proved hardy in all localities.

Frau Karl Druschi

This brilliant rose is renowned as the best snow-white rose ever produced. The foliage is heavy and of rich texture; but the glory of this plant, is its magnificent flowers, huge in size and produced with the greatest freedom on long stiff stems. A single plant will produce hundreds of bloomers, which are full, very deep and double. The color is marvelously white, positively without a suggestion of any tint or shade of color. The fragrance is exquisite; in short this glorious Rose seems to have been endowed with all the charms and grace of the entire rose family.

Maiden's Blush

A beautiful rose for bedding or decorated purposes just recently introduced. It is very vigorous and healthy, hardy enough to withstand all climates and quickly forming a handsome shapely bush the first season planted. It will thrive in most any soil or situation, clothing itself with beautiful ornamental foliage and having the vitality necessary to produce the handsome double flowers all through the season. Everyone exclaims over its exquisite beauty and after having seen it in bloom, we can well appreciate their enthusiasm. The delicate blendings of colors is almost impossible to describe, rose tints in the center of the flower gradually shading off into pale blush and creamy white.

Etoile De France

This rose has been selected from the almost unlimited number of hardy red roses, because it seems the acme of perfection. The bush grows upright, covered with beautiful, bronzy, green foliage, which is not subject to insect attack. The growth is so luxuriant and lusty that great masses of beautiful crimson roses are borne all summer. This is one of the finest of all garden roses.

WHEN TO PLANT ROSES.

Latitude of Florida, Calif., Tex.,	after	Feb.	1
" " Ariz., Okla., So. Car.,	"	Mch.	1
" " Wash., Tenn., Va.,	"	"	15
" " Nev., Kans., Mo.,	"	Apr.,	1
" " Iowa, Ohio, W. Va.,	"	"	15
" " Mont., Mich., N. Y., and all New England States		May	1

Radiance

This wonderful new everblooming rose is one of the most beautiful varieties ever introduced. We want every lover of beautiful roses to plant Radiance for there is no other like it, either in color, growth, or beauty. It is the ideal garden rose, thriving in practically any soil under the most adverse conditions to a perfection seen in no other rose. The splendid flowers are produced in amazing profusion. They are immense in size, and the color is a beautiful blending of shades of carmine rose with opal and coppery reflections, extremely brilliant in effect, exquisitely beautiful but most difficult to describe. Radiance is the premier garden rose of today, and its numerous charms will delight you.

Red Dorothy Perkins

This is the most valuable addition to the popular class of Rambler roses ever produced. Its magnificent foliage is fine, dark and glossy, remaining intact to unseasonable weather and withstanding all diseases. This quality alone assures an ornamental climber which is nearly evergreen and its graceful pendulous habit will place it first among pillar roses. The marvelous production of bloom is really sensational; it is produced in great clusters; each individual rose being perfect in form and very double, the color being deep intense scarlet which retains its vivid brilliancy as long as the flower lasts.

We will send you **twelve** of these rose bushes (two of each variety) or **six** bushes (one of each variety) on the terms of the following special offers:

Offer 6722. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you **twelve** of the above described rose bushes (six different varieties) free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 6722.**

Offer 6721 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you **six** of the above described Rose Bushes (six different varieties) free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6721.**

Offer 6721 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents, and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **six** of the above described Rose Bushes (six different varieties) free by Parcel Post prepaid **Premium No. 6721.** If you want us to fill your order **immediately** be sure to say so in your letter otherwise the roses will not be mailed to you until the proper time arrives for you to plant them in your garden. **Premium No. 6721.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Premium No. 6722

OUR GUARANTEE

THESE roses are all strong healthy plants **on their own roots** and will be packed in **damp moss** and sent to you by Parcel Post prepaid so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as when they left the greenhouse. You may accept this offer with the perfect assurance that these beautiful ever-blooming roses will grow and develop into rare specimen beauties. If any fail to grow **we hereby guarantee to replace them for you free of all cost.**

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN



Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Two

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome Pendant and Chain illustrated herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch **rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the genuine **rolled-gold** pendant is also made of **rolled-gold plate** and set with **your own birthstone** and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond,** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald,** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are solitaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or for one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7342.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comb and Brush



Premium No. 2632

That Will Stand Long, Hard Use

The bristles of this brush are strongly embedded in aluminum-like, bright metal which has a silver luster, so they will stand no end of water without falling out or the back of the brush cracking.

We offer this special premium with confidence, knowing the most exacting people will be pleased to own a good brush and comb that will last for years and keep sweet and clean. The brush is nine inches long and two and one half inches wide of rich, black, **ebonized finish,** pure white, well filled rows of bristles held firmly in place by the metal which **prevents dust and germs** from collecting around the bristles. Wet the brush and it cannot spoil or sour like ordinary ones. The comb, seven and one half inches long and one and one half inches wide, with fine and coarse teeth, and being made of special black secret process material, is well named **Bull Dog** or **Unbreakable. When ordering be sure to state that you want Set No. 263.**

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this Comb and Brush free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 2632.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Gent's Watch and Chain



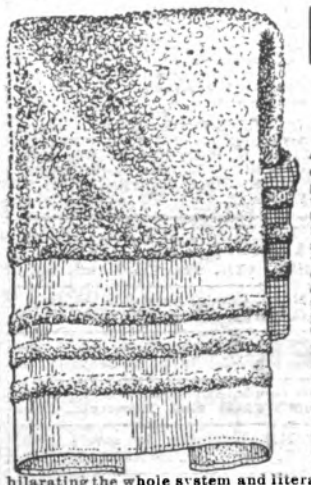
Premium No. 3996

For A Club Of Six!

A WATCH that any man or boy may feel **proud** to carry, and an excellent timekeeper. It is not an expensive watch because it is not in a **gold or silver case** but for practical every-day use it is just as good as a watch that costs $10.00. In fact, we have such faith in it that we send with every one **A guarantee which is just as binding as that given with any watch no matter what make.** It has a handsome polished **nickel case** a thick **crystal** which will stand all sorts of rough handling without becoming broken; the movement is the **best American made, stem wind and stem set,** the **dial** is pure white with **large plain easily read figures.** We have already given away thousands of these watches and they never fail to please and satisfy. Now is the time for you to secure one of these handsome, guaranteed watches before the price of them goes up still further as it is pretty sure to do in the near future. We will send you this watch exactly as described, **together with a handsome chain,** if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each we will send you this guaranteed watch, also a handsome chain free by Parcel Post, prepaid. **Premium No. 3996.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Pair Of Turkish Towels



Premium No. 7323

For Three Subscriptions

AFTER bathing there is nothing quite as fine as a good **rub down** with a **Turkish towel,** in fact it is the **best** towel for all purposes, whether for the bath- or guestroom or for everyday family use in the lavatory, in kitchen or pantry. They absorb the water much more readily than other towels and the **thick, heavy fleece-like surface** imparts to the body a delightful feeling of warmth and well-being, exhilarating the whole system and literally making one feel like "jumping over a high board fence." These towels are also fine for **baby's toilet** as they will not hurt the tender skin. The towels we offer here are **genuine Turkish** towels—not the imitation kind—and are **17 inches wide and 36 inches long** which is a good convenient size for all-round family use. They are of good weight, well made and finished. We will make you a present of **one pair** of these fine Turkish towels upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you one pair (2) of these towels free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7323.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Tapestry Table Cover



Nearly One Yard Square

Premium No. 6643

Given For A Club of Three

THIS beautiful, fringed Tapestry Table Cover is nearly **one yard square** which is a size large enough for any stand or small table and is very elaborately made up in **handsome colors** on an interwoven background which is of a color that **harmonizes** with the fringe which extends entirely around the cover. Add one or more of these beautiful colored covers to the furnishings of any room and it will **enliven and cheer up the whole atmosphere of your home.** They are just as durable as they are handsome and taken altogether are something any woman should be pleased to own and display. We will send you this Table Cover, exactly as described, if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this Tapestry Table Cover free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6643.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Boys! Girls! Look—See Who Is Here!

The "Comfort Twins"

American Made Unbreakable Dolls With Life-like Indestructible Composition Heads!



DON'T they look as if they were out for a good time? And wouldn't you like to have them to play with? The little boy's name is **Johnnie,** his sister's name is **Josie** and they make the most charming pair of twin dolls you ever saw. They are entirely different from the ordinary doll having a **life-like head** made of an indestructible composition, a **new style cloth body** and the latest improved **jointed arms and legs** which never get out of order. **Neither doll can be broken** because both head and body are indestructible. They are **over a foot tall** with rosy cheeks and blue eyes and dressed just as you see them in the picture. **Josie** has on a cute red-and-white checked dress with a handsome blue sash and trimmed with lace around the neck. **Johnnie** is dressed in pretty blue-and-white checked rompers with lace trimming and blue belt. You can dress and undress these dolls as often as you please, make them stand up or sit down or bend over and by moving their arms and legs around in different positions you can get them to look exactly as if they were walking, running, stretching out their arms, waving their hands, in fact **they will cut up most any antic** that might be expected of a real live healthy two-year-old baby boy or girl. They look so **life-like** in their baby clothes with their happy smiling faces you would almost think they **were** alive and ready to talk to you in that baby language so dear to the heart of every little doll mother. We are sure no little boy or girl ever had a doll that could furnish quite so much real satisfaction and enjoyment as either one of these two handsome twins. You may have either doll—your choice of either **Josie** or **Johnnie**—or both of them free as a COMFORT premium as we have bought a quantity of them to be distributed in this manner. Remember these are **real American made unbreakable dolls**—not paper "cut-outs" or "rag" dolls—with a strong durable stuffed cloth body, jointed arms and legs and an **indestructible composition head** that will not break. They will last a long time.

We Will Give You Both Dolls!

FOR seven one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each and we will send you **both** dolls—Josie and Johnnie—free by parcel post prepaid. (Premium No. 7247). Or for four one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each we will send you one doll—your choice of Josie (Premium No. 7244), or Johnnie (Premium No. 7254, free by parcel post prepaid. When ordering **be sure to give the premium number** of doll or dolls wanted.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Engraved Gold Bracelet



FOR ONE SUBSCRIPTION

THIS Round Bracelet with artistic engraving and unique **Spring Fastening** is the most attractive pattern we have seen this season. Not too large but large enough and as it is perfectly round, it fits well and becomes all ages. There is a demand for bracelets of enormous size, but this style is medium large and nearly **three inches in diameter;** we consider it a beautiful pattern. This bracelet is the very latest style so you will want one while fashionable, and as we guarantee fit and wear, you need not hesitate to order.

Offer No. 4501 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this handsome Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid.

Offer No. 4501 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4501.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Twenty-eight Large Size Pages



Crochet and Tatting Book

Premium No. 7321

Containing Sixty-three Beautiful Photographic Reproductions of New Fashionable Designs In Crochet And Tatting With Full Instructions For Making.

For One Subscription

EVERY woman who is interested in crocheting and tatting should have a copy of this new book written by Winifred Worth and containing many designs used by the nuns in convents **never before published.** The book is of good size, measuring 8 inches by 10½ inches, printed on fine quality coated book paper and consists of 28 pages on which are shown **sixty-three** large, clear **photographic illustrations** of the prettiest edgings, beadings, insertions, towel ends, doilies, etc., and a splendid variety of new, dainty designs in tatting **with complete instructions for making them.** The art of combining Venetian crochet and tatting also is fully explained.

Among the many beautiful crochet designs illustrated and described are the **clover leaf, Irish, picot, cross-bar, half-shell, half-wheel, K-stitch** and **filet** edgings; **festoon, Irish, fence-row, picot** and **shell** beadings; **mile-a-minute, half-shell, clover leaf, filet** and **monkey-face insertions; butterfly wings, Van Dyke Point, nuns' pattern** and many others. The tatting motifs are varied and beautiful, consisting of beadings, edgings and insertions for **table mats, bedspreads, curtains, guest towels, coin-purses, night-gown yokes, bath towels, sash curtains, ribbon holders, plate doilies,** etc., etc.

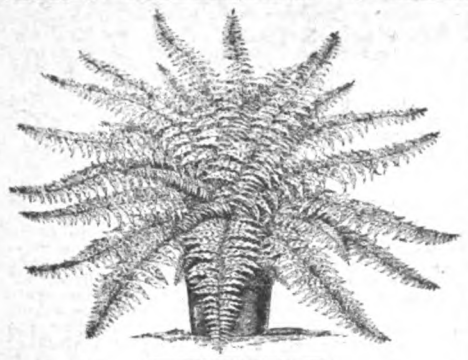
This book also gives sizes of hooks best adapted for the different sizes of crochet threads, the abbreviations of all of the principal crochet stitches and terms used in tatting and tells how the different stitches are made such as the **chain stitch, double crochet, half treble, double treble, treble crochet, cluster** and **open mesh** stitches.

We will send you free and postpaid this book of the loveliest fashions in beautiful lace and tatting work with simple and complete directions which you can easily follow upon the terms of the following special offer:

Offer No. 7321A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this book of crocheting and tatting designs with directions free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7321B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and ten cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this crocheting and tatting book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7321.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Four Beautiful Ferns



PREMIUM NO. 6112

Given For Two Subscriptions

OF all indoor foliage plants, none give more **lasting pleasure and satisfaction** than these popular house ferns. They need but little care and live indefinitely, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the largest, handsomest varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt,** the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SILK MUSLIN SCARF

Premium No. 3313



A dainty shoulder throw and head covering for Summer, or for evening wear the year round. For trimming Summer Hats there is nothing so practical or so easily and attractively arranged. Each Scarf is two yards long and 24 inches wide, with deep hemstitched edge, and we have them in white, black, light blue and light pink.

For every-day use such a scarf is indispensable and for car or boat riding, pleasure or otherwise one or more of these scarfs will be found useful. Being ready to wear, the saving of time in hemstitching is worth something to every woman, and the busy Mothers will find them so convenient for a quick method of trimming the children's hats. **When ordering be sure to mention color wanted.**

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this Silk Scarf free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 3313.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

German Silver Mesh Purse



Premium No. 7362

The Latest Style

Given For Two Subscriptions!

THIS is the new "Gate Top" mesh purse with a ten-inch wrist chain, made throughout of **German Silver,** handsome, stylish, and **perfectly safe for the carrying of money and other valuables.** A slight pull with the forefinger of each hand instantly opens the purse, a gentle pressure with thumb and finger closes it. Our illustration shows the purse closed. When open the top is as large as the bottom, or in other words, two inches in diameter. When closed it leaves an opening only three-fourths of an inch wide over which the brightly polished German silver cover snaps down tightly so that the contents of the purse cannot possibly become lost. This dainty purse is now extremely fashionable so we have purchased a quantity for the benefit of those of our lady and girl readers who like to be up-to-date in these little accessories. You can have one of them free by taking advantage of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this handsome and stylish German silver mesh purse free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7362.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Children's Happy Hour

Matilda and the Frog

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

MATILDA was out playing with her blue and white striped romping suit on one day when suddenly her mamma came to the door and called out:

"Come home dearie, right away. I have a big surprise for you."

Matilda hurried to the house as quickly as she could, and there stood her cousin Ella, whom she had not seen for two years.

My, but they were glad to see each other. For a full minute all you could hear was kissing and joyful cries.

When, at length, their warm greetings were over, the city child said: "Gracious, Tildy, but you have grown."

"So have you," laughed our dolly friend and when they stood back to back and measured they proved to be exactly the same size. Wasn't that queer?

Ella had brought every member of the family a nice present and Tildy's was a pretty basket, made by real Indians. She was so pleased over it that she did not know what to say so she just kissed her cousin again and hugged the basket as if it were a doll.

"It would look beautiful if it were filled with flowers," said her mother and this gave the children an idea.

"Let us go out and fill it," said they, in one breath.

Ella was clad in white and looked just grand, so Matilda slipped off her rompers and put on her pink gingham dress.

"Be careful now," warned her mamma, as they started off toward the garden, "don't go too far and don't be gone more than a half hour."

"All right," they replied, and soon were lost in a tangle of rose bushes.

Every time they tried to pick a rose a big bumble bee would nestle in it and scare them away. Ella grew impatient and scolded them but they buzzed more loudly and she was afraid if she said another cross word they would sting her. At last they found a long branch of a climbing rose lying on the ground and as there were no bees on it, they picked enough to fill their basket. Their fingers were bleeding from the thorns and Ella cried a little and wished she had never come to the country but Tildy consoled her and they went to the lily pond and washed their hands in it and sat down and watched the pretty gold fish frisking about. It was just lovely there but soon, alas! their half hour was up and they had to start for home.

When Ella stooped over to pick up the basket, she screamed in terror, for there, right in the middle of their nice bouquet was an ugly frog. Oh, it was dreadful. Neither one would pick up the basket and the horrid intruder refused to hop out of it.

At last Matilda thought of a scheme. They got a long branch and ran it under the handle and each picked up an end and carried the flowers that way. When they had gone a little distance they could hear Tildy's mother calling so they started to run. All excitement, they tried to tell her about the frog, but when she looked in the basket it was not there.

"See," said the mother, "you thought it awful because you were scared but the truth is, the poor frog was scared, too, and just ran away for its life."



Paste the entire picture on a piece of cardboard (using boiled flour paste) and smooth, with the hands, from the center towards the edges. Put it in a large book to dry and let it remain there at least three hours. Cut out each dress and hat with scissors and color them with crayons, chalk or water colors. The romping suit should be striped blue and white; the flour suit should be pink with red flowers; the basket brown and the flowers in it pink and red with green leaves; the traveling suit has a red coat and yellow striped skirt. The hats match the suits. The little extending tabs are bent back to hold the dresses on and the dotted line on each hat is slit through, with a knife, and then pressed down over the head to hold it on. The ends of the strip upon which the doll stands is bent back at the ends, to make the doll stand alone.

The Order Of the Black Eagle

"I SHOULD like to know," said a man of diplomatic experience, "just how January 17th and the following Sunday were celebrated in Berlin this year. I have seen no mention of it in any of the newspapers and I fancy there was not as much doing in that line this year as during peace years. On the 17th occurs the celebration of the founding of the Order of the Black Eagle, the highest in Prussia and the most coveted order in all Germany. This order was founded in 1701 and includes only one class, conferring hereditary nobility and the rank of knight and lieutenant general. It is the only order in which the original idea of the order of chivalry is unchanged. Every year on the date named the Chapter is solemnly assembled and all knights created during the previous year are officially received. This is really a magnificent display of that pomp and panoply of which the Kaiser is so inordinately fond and nothing is omitted that will add to its gorgeousness. To the reception all the great functionaries of the court, all generals, admirals, ministers, princes and the entire entourage that goes to make up the splendor of empire in its capital are invited and all appear unless absolutely prevented. In fact, nothing short of Providence can keep them away. And everybody must wear all the gold and glitter that can be hung upon him. Guests of the very highest rank are invited at high noon, the others of lesser rank coming at a quarter before twelve. When all are assembled, the Master of Ceremonies—in my time he was that Count Eulenberg who afterwards retired in disgrace, you may remember—informs the Kaiser who puts on the mantle of the Order in an adjoining apartment, and, preceded by the princes, goes into the room where all the knights are ranged in pairs, the younger ones to the front and they are presented to their Emperor. Then the grand procession is formed and marches to the Hall of the Knights, where the display is simply dazzling. The most megatherian and spectacularly splendiferous circus parade ever seen in this country is a drab compared with it. Here the Kaiser in the brilliant red mantle of velvet worn by the knights ascends the throne to a fanfare of trumpets and the investiture of the knights proceeds, each step more glittering than the next. Each new knight puts on the red mantle when he is fully invested, the Kaiser puts the collar of the Order around his neck, consecrates and embraces him and he is turned over to his fellow knights for their congratulations. During all this ceremony the Kaiser stands bareheaded on the steps of the throne and the trumpeters never let up a minute. When this is over the Kaiser and his knights proceed to the Chapter Hall where a meeting behind closed doors is held, the Kaiser presiding, after which there is a banquet attended only by knights of the Order.

"So much for the Black Eagle direct. Then on the Sunday following comes as a supplement to it the celebration of the Coronation and of the Order which takes place at the Imperial Palace and is a popular affair participated in by all classes of society. All who already wear orders are present and the newly decorated receive the insignia of the various orders, the ladies being assembled in a special room where they receive the order of Louise. All this is done in the anterooms of the palace and from these the guests go to the chapel where seats are reserved for them. Then enters the Kaiser preceded by the Master of Ceremonies, pages, and great Court officials. He is accompanied by the Empress. A chapel service follows after which the guests return to the ante-rooms. All the newly decorated pass before the Emperor and Empress bowing as they move along. Next comes a big dinner in the White Hall where as many as a thousand guests may be present and it is the most democratic affair which is known in Prussian official circles for guests are seated without reference to rank and a Lieutenant-general may elbow a night watchman or an Admiral be side by side with a mechanic and they eat together and talk together on the friendliest terms. Of course, at the imperial table there is not so much informality. After the dinner, speech-making is in order and this is one of the times when the Kaiser becomes a spell-binder and a spread-eagle orator to his infinite delight. When this is all done, and it is not soon over, a social season winds it up with everybody having a word or two with the crowned heads and going home with all sorts of leavings from the tables to take to the children. The spirit of this dinner is just about as far removed from the spirit of the Black Eagle as could be imagined, yet nobody seems to see any incongruity in it. On the contrary they seem to think the autocracy of the Eagle makes possible the democracy of the dinner, which you must know is peculiarly a German sense of proportion.

"As I said in the beginning, I fancy the celebration this year was not as it was in peace years, and I am pretty certain, even if there were any celebration at all, that the dinner part of it was omitted for obvious reasons."

FIRST SHIP AUCTION IN U. S.—Two ships under construction were sold at auction in New York, one to the Russian-American line for the sum of $500,000; and the other, a cargo steamer, to the Universal Transportation Co., for $600,000. This was the first ship auction ever held in the United States.

COTTON BOLL-WEEVIL.—Despite the most careful and intelligent methods of cotton cultivation, the boll-weevil pest is gradually spreading into new territory at the rate of about 50 miles each year. The advance is toward the east and north. It is feared that the entire cotton section will become infested before a way is found to stamp out the pest effectually.

30 DAYS FREE TRIAL



Total cost only $7.50 by Our 7 MONTHS TIME Purchase Plan

to prove to you that this magnificent Royal has the Sweetest, Purest, Loudest and Clearest tone—to prove to you that it is as large and handsome as the trust machines that sell at $25.00—to prove to you that it has the strongest motor, the best reproducer and tone arm and the most ingenious devices to start, stop and control the music. Shipped with a supply of 10-inch double disc records of your selection, so you can enjoy the finest entertainments for one whole month. Return the outfit **AT OUR EXPENSE** if for any reason you do not wish to keep it. Drop a postal for our big list of unsolicited testimonials, record book and other literature. They are free.

S. H. DAVIS, 62-H 6101 May St., CHICAGO

AGENTS: $38 A WEEK

Startling new hosiery proposition—unheard of. GUARANTEED FOR ONE YEAR



Must wear 12 months or replaced free. Agents having wonderful success. Price sold 60 boxes in 12 hours. Mrs. Fields 109 pairs on one street. Noble made $35 in one day. Sworn proof. Sold only through agents. Not for sale in stores. A hosiery proposition that beats them all. Big money sure. Your territory still open. Write quick for terms and samples.

THOMAS HOSIERY CO. 530 Elk St., Dayton, Ohio

ALL FREE



Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone and 22-inch chain, one Nethersole Bracelet to fit any arm and these four gold plated Rings, ALL GIVEN FREE for selling only 12 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c each. Write for Jewelry today. Address

Eagle Watch Co. Dept 65 East Boston, Mass.

Voice Thrower 10 cts



Learn to throw your voice into a TRUNK under the bed, out in the hall or anywhere. Lots of FUN fooling the Teacher, Janitor, Policeman, Parents, Neighboros, or Friends

The Ventrilo

is a little instrument that fits into the mouth out of sight. BOYS or Girls can use it. NEVER FAILS! A 32 page book on **Ventriloquism** sent with the **VENTRILO** for **TEN Cents.**

Royal Novelty Co. Dept 98, SO. NORWALK, CONN

LOVERS' BUDGET FREE

To get acquainted with you, we will send our great LOVERS' BUDGET, consisting of—12 Love Letters, 14 Flirtation Signals, 7 Fortune Telling Secrets, 10 Funny Readings, 1 New Gypsy Fortune Teller, 12 Flirtation Cards, 11 Parlor Pastimes, 260 Jokes & Riddles, 73 Toasts, 40 Amazing Experiments in Magic, 6 Comic Poetry, also bargain sheets of solid gold filled rings, for only 10c to help pay advertising.

THE AUCTION CO., DEPT. 78, ATTLEBORO, MASS.

SILK WONDERFUL BARGAINS. 4-Pound Bundles of beautiful Silk Remnants for fancy work quilts, portieres, pillows etc. SEND 10 CENTS for big package of large lovely pieces. Agents wanted to sell silk, velvet and other remnants.

UNION S. WORKS, 207 FACTORY ST., BOONVILLE, N. Y.

32 NICE POST CARDS different sorts, and a Good Magazine for one year. The WHOLE THING for only ten cents.

ROBERTS & CO., 326 MADISON ST., CHICAGO

FREE Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 5 years, for selling 20 art and religious pictures or 20 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice.

GEO. GATES CO. Dept. 225 Chicago

CARDS Send 5c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Bean Catcher and list of 2000 Songs given Free. OHIO CARD CO., 114 Cadiz, Ohio.

Large Shaggy Teddy Bear

The Best Playmate A Boy or Girl Ever Had



Premium No. 6993

10 Inches High And Full Jointed

FOR A CLUB OF THREE!

EVERY little boy and girl wants a **Teddy Bear** and here is an opportunity for every father or mother who reads COMFORT to get one without expense. "Teddy" looks exactly as you see him in the picture above. He is a big shaggy fellow, 10 inches **tall,** made of rich, handsome brown plush, paws lined with felt, carefully stitched and finished and his head, arms and legs are jointed in such a manner that you can place him in almost any position. He will stand up, sit up, stand on his head, go on all four feet, in fact, you can make him assume all kinds of positions that are so **comical and lifelike** that it makes the children scream with delight just to look at him. "Teddy" is so well made that no matter how roughly he is handled he cannot become broken and with ordinary care should last for years. We will send you "Teddy" free if you will accept the following special

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this big shaggy Teddy Bear free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6993.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Slim Jim, Sebastopol, Cal.—What the nature of a skin disease is can only be determined by a physician who can examine it personally, so you must go to a doctor to know if you have eczema, and if you have, what kind it is and what treatment is necessary. (2) Ask him about the pain around your heart. Guessing at it we should say it was indigestion, which also causes fainting spells in aggravated cases. Indeed, there are few things indigestion will not do to make the human lot worse than it is, and in the vast majority of cases the humans are to blame for having indigestion. A little care in prevention by proper food and eating and nearly every human being would never have indigestion. Possibly you may not have indigestion; we are only guessing, but the doctor who sees you can tell and be sure to ask him all you have asked us.

A. C. W., Minot, N. Dak.—We do not know the preparation, but as it is put out by a thoroughly reliable company, and is oil it will act as a lubricant and laxative. We prefer vegetable to mineral oil, but any oil is more or less laxative, if taken in quantity.

Mrs. W. W., Steelton, Pa.—Lemon juice being an acid is supposed to be useful in rheumatic disorders and to a slight extent, possibly, this may be true, but the excessive use of lemon juice may cause precipitation of uric acid and thus produce stone in the bladder. When you add cream of tartar, more acid, and then follow the direction of your friend, evidently not a physician, and drink as much of it in hot water every day as you can, the chances are that you will be dead long before you can cure the rheumatism. A little lemon juice before meals in a glass of hot or cold water will check the formation of acid and relieve or prevent acidity of the stomach, and lemonade, unsweetened, is a refreshing drink in feverish conditions, but gulping down large quantities of it as your friend suggests will not do your rheumatism much good. As rheumatism is thus far practically incurable, why don't you consult a doctor and learn of something for its prevention and relief? That would be the sensible thing to do.

X. Y. Z., Brese, Ill.—You are another one of the COMFORT blind folks who will not see that your eyes are too valuable to be treated by an ignorant person when they are not in a healthy condition. Only a physician who can examine them can tell what treatment is necessary and you must see a physician, or presently you can't see anything. When you see him ask him about the other ailments.

Mrs. J. D. W., East Tallahassee, Ala.—For the chafed and itching places under your arms try cocoa-butter, rubbed in thoroughly night and morning. Get it in a half pound cake at your drug-store. It's a good family remedy to use on the skin of grown-ups and children. Talcum powder is also good for the chafing, but you cannot use it very successfully if you use the butter.

Inquirer, Norwood, Ga.—Try the juice of half a lemon in a glass of hot water before meals, or a pinch of soda in half a glass of hot water after meals, and if the regurgitation continues, you will have to diet yourself and put into your stomach only such food as it can digest.

Mrs. J. W., Carlisle, Ky.—As between Florida and Arizona climate for catarrh, we should recommend Arizona as the air is much drier there and dry air is the remedy for catarrh. What the expense would be depends upon yourself, but you could not safely start with less than two hundred dollars, if you intended merely to go there and come back again. What you should do is to move to Arizona and stay there, for there is no cure for catarrh but climate.

Mrs. C. R., Whitestone, N. Y.—The intermittent partial paralysis of your daughter's arm is due to disordered nerves, we should say, from this distance. What causes the nerve disorder we will not guess at and you should take her to a hospital in New York City and have the experts there give her the proper examination and treatment. The longer you delay the more difficult it will be to restore her to a normal condition.

A. C., Stamford, Conn.—If your hands are so fat that it makes you clumsy in playing the piano, you should consult a music teacher who probably has had just such cases to treat. Constant practise we should think would reduce the flesh, as it will in other parts of the body, and frequent massaging might do some good, but ask the music teacher first.

S. R., Columbia, Tenn.—The recurrent pain in your calves and not elsewhere may be a form of rheumatism, but this could only be determined by the personal examination of a physician. You know that while rheumatism may affect any part of the body, it is merely the expression there, of something out of order somewhere else and there is where you must go to remove the cause, which sometimes may be removed and sometimes not. (2) The only cure, if there is a cure, for catarrh is climate and if you live in a catarrhal climate and have catarrh no medicine will do anything for it except temporary relief. The climate being the cause you must get away from the cause. Go where the air is the driest, hot or cold, as you please.

H. M. R., Farina, Ill.—You are another one of those COMFORT mothers who think they know more about the treatment of ailing children than any doctor does, and you are doing your utmost to ruin the future health prospects of your child. Take the little one to a physician and get the proper advice and treatment. If you don't, the child will strangle some day and it will be your fault.

Brown Eyes, Pendleton, Ky.—If your examining oculist told you your eyes were all right, why are you so anxious to try the various remedies suggested by ignorant persons? You need treatment of sight other than eyesight.

A. J., McLeansboro, Ill.—The only cure for tuberculosis that COMFORT knows of is diet and right living conditions and we cannot give that to you in specific terms in the space we have. Many persons with consumption not too far advanced have arrested its development, have been cured and lived out their allotted time by following the rules of modern treatment. A change of climate may be beneficial. Thus far no medicinal remedy for consumption has been discovered, though scientists have given it more study, than any other disease to which flesh is heir. The treatment is well known. Consult your doctor or go to a tuberculosis sanitarium.

Worried, Ravenna, Nebr.—Some people have some slight coughing through most of their lives and nothing much comes of it, except annoyance and a little discomfort. Whether such coughs could have been prevented at the beginning, nobody knows and so long as no serious results follow, nobody seems to care. But when such coughs develop into other throat troubles, bronchitis, especially, it is time to take notice. Bronchitis is painful and dangerous in its severe forms and it sometimes goes into consumption. The home treatment and the strange medicines that you ask about are not proper treatment and you owe it to your own comfort and safety to have a physician, after careful examination, prescribe for you properly. The pains in the lungs are mild symptoms of disorder which should be attended to in time. They are not dangerous, but are warnings of danger. Go to your doctor for his advice and follow it strictly.

Mrs. T. B., Winthrop, Ark.—Your husband is troubled with what is sometimes called "winter itch," the legs and often the arms itching in most annoying fashion and appearing only in cold weather. It is caused by irritation of the nerve terminals on the skin and a remedy that seldom fails is cocoa-butter, an excellent skin food at all times. Get a half pound cake at the drug-store and rub it on the skin night and morning, or at any time if the itching shows itself. Relief follows quickly and the butter will keep the itching in check as long as it is used. Many elderly people are troubled with this itching in cold weather and cocoa-butter should be kept in the house for handy use. It costs about fifty cents a half pound in city drug-stores.

Mrs. H. F., Plant City, Fla.—You will never get rid of your catarrh in Florida where you were born to it. If your husband is a good carpenter and a steady man he will have no trouble in finding work in Arizona or Colorado and you should go to either one of those states where the air is dry. Don't sell your Florida place, but rent it and try the dry air climate. You can't be told what place is best for your health and his work, and you will have to go and find out for yourself.

Mrs. L. C., Montezuma, Iowa.—There is no specific remedy for nervousness because nervousness is due to so many causes that no one remedy will apply. Strictly speaking there is no remedy and the only treatment is by a physician who can learn what by examination the cause is and treat that. Your feet burn and feel creepy as a result of disordered nerve terminals, but nothing much can be done until the cause of the disorder is known and the proper treatment prescribed.

The Biggest 25c Worth in the World! Are you Interested in Bargains? Two Million Words—for 25c

My dear friend:

If your best friend discovers a REAL BARGAIN—doesn't she tell you about it?

I think she does—and I think she, or some other friend, will be glad if you will tell HER of the biggest, best, 25c worth in the whole world—A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO COMFORT.

* * * * * * * * * *

Take this March issue for example—then take ANY OTHER magazine at any price. Oh, yes, some of the more expensive ones are printed on shiny paper and have multi-colored covers and advertisements. But COMPARE the READING MATTER of COMFORT with the 50c and 75c magazines—story by story, department by department. Compare the amount of matter, the number of pages, the size of the pages, and then ask yourself "Compared with COMFORT, are these higher priced magazines even of EQUAL VALUE?"

* * * * * * * *

Let's make a comparison. The March 1917 issue of COMFORT isn't completed as this is being written, but take the last March issue which was the same size, and compare the amount of matter in it with that in a prominent 50c magazine and with that in another which is now 50c but is soon going to 75c.

(The figures given represent the number of words in an issue. For instance, in the regular monthly departments COMFORT carried 66,224 words in March—over ten times as many as one of the others, etc.)

	COMFORT	One 50c mag.	Other 50c mag.
Regular dept's run every month	66,224 words	6,557 words	13,743 words
Continued stories	26,690 "	7,291 "	9,605 "
Short stories	5,557 "	7,339 "	9,921 "
Useful articles—articles telling how to make work easier.	15,979 "	6,102 "	6,217 "
Articles of general interest.	5,823 "	3,421 "	3,030 "
Total number of WORDS in issue	120,273	30,710	42,516

Notice that in this issue COMFORT gives its readers a lot more matter than BOTH the others put together—and notice especially how much more continued stories, regular monthly departments and helpful articles COMFORT gives—nearly FOUR times as much of this matter as EITHER ONE.

* * * * * * * * *

Once we kept a record for a year of the number of words of reading matter in COMFORT and in all the other monthlies that cost as LITTLE as COMFORT. Our magazine carried TWO MILLION words that year All but three or four of the others were over a MILLION words BEHIND COMFORT—think of that—50% behind!—and some of them did not even have one quarter as much.

* * * * * * * * *

Yes, and the QUALITY of our reading matter is even MORE remarkable than the QUANTITY.

It has ever been the purpose of COMFORT to be USEFUL as well as entertaining—to make a magazine that would be essential to the health, prosperity and happiness of its readers. Through years of experimenting, eighteen regular departments have been developed, each in answer to a vital need among our people and all combining with the fiction and the educational articles to make COMFORT a magazine of supreme value and service to its subscribers.

* * * * * * * * *

Just take this March issue. It has EIGHTEEN regular, monthly departments. No magazine at anywhere near COMFORT'S price has anywhere near as many—OR AS GOOD.

Turn to pages 24 and 25 in this issue and note there the two big pages of tatting and crocheting submitted by COMFORT'S workers, edited by Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson—with 17 fine illustrations. This department describes new things to make, teaches crocheting, knitting, sewing and all kinds of needlecraft.

And note the cooking articles—those in the regular COMFORT'S Sisters' Corner (a mothers' department—and something more, a community of interests section, a forum in which our women readers discuss topics of public interest and matters pertaining to the home)—together with the special articles: Uncle Sam Tells How to Feed the Children (illustrated) and Fish—How to Select and Cook it (illustrated.)

Another strong monthly feature is the fashion department—on pages 16 and 17 of the March issue.

Note that this issue has eight useful articles—articles telling its subscribers how to live easier, pleasanter, more efficient lives—treating of such subjects as Efficiency in the Kitchen, A Sweet Pea Venture, Household Conveniences, Short Cuts in House Cleaning, Use of Paint on the Farm, etc., etc.

In this issue there are four continued stories—and every installment a BIG one, three short stories, two fine feature articles—yes, and the Wheel-Chair Department—itself a monthly feature through which COMFORT has, with the help of its subscribers, given away 395 wheel chairs to deserving cripples. Also don't forget Uncle Charie's League of Cousins banded together, under COMFORT guidance for mutual help.

Even the cover is used to advantage, not to carry a "pretty" picture but to show illustrations of the article about kitchen efficiency—pictures that are helpful and entertaining.

* * * * * * * * *

Through the twenty-eight busy and happy years I have been publishing COMFORT I have never before written my subscribers a letter of just this sort.

I do NOT do it how because I NEED subscriptions—for this has been the MOST successful year of our history in getting subscriptions and renewals.

I do it because there is always room for a friend's friend on my subscription list—and because I want to get their names there before I am forced to RAISE the subscription price. This rise in price MUST COME SOON, I am afraid Paper has doubled in price—so has ink. Labor is costing more. So is every item that goes into the publishing of a magazine. Hundreds—yes THOUSANDS of publications have raised their subscription price since the war started. I do not care to reduce the size of COMFORT or lower its quality. So it may be that I shall soon have to RAISE THE PRICE.

You are conferring a favor on your friends to get them to subscribe while the price is still 25c a year.

And I think they will want to subscribe. If so, perhaps you will find the blank below convenient in sending in the subscription.

Your friend, W. H. GANNETT.

PLEASE SEND THE SUBSCRIPTION IN ON THIS BLANK

I well know that lots who read the above letter have never asked ANYBODY to subscribe to ANYTHING in all their lives.

You do not have to begin now. Just take the copy of COMFORT you now hold in your hand—lay it down before your friend and say just these words: "You can get THIS MAGAZINE TODAY for JUST 25c a year."

Won't you get their subscription—without asking?

In return, I will gladly send you, free and prepaid, any one-subscription premium you may care to choose from COMFORT or any of our catalogs. But I think you will do it even more as a FAVOR TO A FRIEND than to earn a premium. I think you will do it because you want some friend to share the amusement, instruction, help and happiness that can be derived from a year's subscription to COMFORT.

Please be sure to tell your friend that COMFORT is designed to amuse and entertain, to please and educate, but chiefly that it is designed to HELP—to show every subscriber how to live a better, fuller, happier life. Tell them that COMFORT publishes nearly TWO MILLION USEFUL WORDS of reading matter each year—for a price of only 25c.

Dear Mr. Gannett, I am enclosing 25c to pay for a one-year subscription to COMFORT for:

(Please put subscriber's full name and address here:)

_____
(Name) (Street and number or R. F. D. number) (Box Number)

_____
(Post Office) (State)

As a reward for sending in this subscription I am entitled to Premium No. _____

(Please put YOUR OWN complete name and address here)

_____
(Your Name) (Your street and number or R. F. D. number) (Box Number)

_____
(Post Office) (State)

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Second Inauguration of President Wilson

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21.)

onlookers this will present one of the most appealing and popular features of the parade—these little maids with their rosy cheeks and bright eyes so full of enthusiasm and so earnest about doing their best. Then will follow women's organizations from all over the country with their banners, which joined the Woman's Wilson Union for this purpose, and the women employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Preceding each governor, a float carrying state coat of arms and representing the activities of the state or in some way characteristic of it will be wonderfully attractive. These were planned, and will be provided and equipped by the women of the states, it being the original idea to have all of the forty-eight states thus represented, but on account of conditions, the committee were gratified to have such a display from the states which voted for the President. Altogether the Woman's section will be a distinct and pleasing feature and serve to show the results of energetic cooperation on the part of the women interested who receive no financial help save what they raise themselves.

Floats representing the playground activities of the children of the District and those from the various civic organizations, the munitions plants, the children representing the efforts of the Child Labor people in freeing the youngsters from the horrors of the factories and mills, the various men's political organizations are to be much the same as in many previous parades, but spectators will feel a pang of regret in not seeing Col. William F. Cody's (Buffalo Bill) familiar figure on horseback with the delegation of Indians from the reservation at St. Francis, South Dakota.

Among the other notable features of this parade, many of which have come to be recognized as an essential part of every four-year ceremonial are the Annapolis cadets, West Pointers, Virginia Military Institute delegation, the Washington High School cadets, of whom there are fifteen hundred this time with their own band; about two thousand Tammany Hall members, and various Indian delegations in their native garb.

Pennsylvania, along with its state delegation and its governor, is to send a snappy little Boy Scout band from Lewiston. To liven the step of these marching hosts five hundred bands will discourse music and here, there, everywhere the busy Washington Boy Scouts will be on duty, serving as guides, guards, messengers, aids to police and physicians as well as doing endless duty in first aid.

Still other notable features which will claim a large share of attention will be the organized state militia and District National Guards just back from Mexico, also the Civil War veterans and Spanish war soldiers.

Greater efforts than ever have been devoted to the construction of the Court of Honor and the evening fireworks display.

The Court of Honor, which will extend from the Treasury to the State Department Building, with stands on both sides of the avenue from Madison to Jackson places, is to be most beautiful and artistic. The design accepted was made by a local architect and the treatment is classic throughout, formed by a series of columns on both sides of the street and festoons of evergreens and electric lights connecting them. Tall columns of elaborate design with smaller, simpler ones form a series. The larger units consist of a base supporting four columns, surmounted by an entablature. Projecting above it a staff from which will flutter a flag. In the center of the columns a small cedar tree of conventional shape and an urn holding vines and flowers surmount the smaller units. On both sides of the avenue at the intersection of Madison and Jackson places are large arches of classic design, the arch openings being of sufficient size to permit the passage of vehicles. The portion of the stand occupied by the President in reviewing the parade is even more elaborate for there the design follows the lines of the portico of the White House, fluted columns supporting a pediment.

The mounted escort to the parade will be worthy of note. Each U. S. Senator was requested to designate two men or women to represent his state in this mounted section. Civic and trade organizations and churches were asked to supply four persons to represent their organizations. This section supplies its own mounts and paraphernalia, all very interesting and effective.

On inauguration night Washington will be a veritable electric fairyland. A daylight of electricity will bathe the public buildings all of which will bear only the Stars and Stripes as decoration instead of various flags of other nations as in the past, and millions of arc lights, incandescent lights, and giant searchlights will make the city most brilliant while the avenue will be one continuous blaze of brilliancy and color. The fireworks on the grounds of the Monument will be marvels of pyrotechnic skill and art.

The most interesting of all new features of this inauguration will be the marvelous exhibit of government department activities. By joint resolution of both houses of Congress the executive department and various establishments of the government in Washington were authorized to give an exhibit from Feb. 26 to March 10 of their activities and methods of transacting business. Dubbed, "Uncle Sam at Work," this is to be arranged and managed by the various chiefs of the departments assisted by the Federation of Citizens' Association of Washington. Among the exhibits are rare growths, freaks of fruit of the vegetable world from the Department of Agriculture, displays from the Indian service, Bureau of Education, Reclamation service, pension bureau, bureau of mines, patent office. The Treasury Department shows paper money and stamp making, the making of the gold and silver coins at the mints and also a collection of counterfeits. The life-saving methods of the Coast Guard are shown and all the wonderful displays of the museums are enlightening and educational. The Dead Letter Office, with its freaks of the mails, is another popular feature and the War Department presents the always interesting methods of defense, destructive engines of war and the variety of uniforms worn by our soldiers since the Revolution. The Navy department shows the models of our dreadnoughts, battleships, submarines and other fighting craft. The purpose of this and the invitation sent out by Congress to the people of the United States to visit Washington at this Inaugural and become acquainted with the workings of the government, was for the education of the masses in the things they should know about their own government. To aid in this most worthy project all of the trunk line railroads have extended the time limit of their reduced tickets so that all visitors may tarry in the Capital from a week to ten days.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents. Steady Income. Large manufacturer of Handkerchiefs and Dress Goods, etc., wishes representative in each locality. Factory to consumer. Big profits, honest goods. Credit given. Send for particulars. Freeport Mfg. Co., 60 Main St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Agents: Get An Easy Seller. Sanitary All-Metal Bread and Pastry Board and Rolling Pin is making big hit. Make $25 to $10 every week. Smith, Ohio, sold 38 one day. Profit $19.00. Sells at sight. No talking necessary. Free Sample to Agents. Write quick for appointment and territory. Union Mfg. Co., 182 Main St., Cambridge, O.

Big Textile Mills want ambitious men and women everywhere to show latest dress fabrics, neckwear, hosiery, underwear and woolens, 400 styles. Easy sales. Values beat stores. Many making over $30 weekly. All or spare time. Complete sample outfit starts you. Steadfast Mills, 31 Remsen St., Cohoes, N. Y.

Newest Moneymaker! 11 piece toilet set selling like blazes at $1.00 with 24 carving set Free! Enormous Profits! Tremendous hit! Randall sold 30 one day. Success sure. Pierce Co., 505 Pierce Bldg., Chicago.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free. William Ragsdale, East Orange, N.J.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 586 Broadway, New York City.

Agents! Quick Sales! Big Profits! Outfit Free! Cash or credit. Sales in every home for our beautiful Dress Goods, Hosiery, Underwear, etc. Write today. National Importing & Mfg. Co., Dept. DB, 420 Broadway, New York.

Women Make Money introducing Priscilla Fabrics, Hosiery, Underwear, Dresses, in spare time. Beautiful samples furnished free. Fitzcharles Co., Dept. 166, Trenton, N. J.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 131 Locust, St. Louis, Mo.

We Pay $36 A Week and Expenses To men with rigs to introduce poultry compound. Year's contract. Imperial Mfg. Co., Dept. 9, Parsons, Kans.

$1000 Per Man Per County Strange invention startles world. Agents amazed. Ten inexperienced men divide $40,000. Korstad, a farmer, did $2,200 in 14 days. Schleicher, a minister, $195 first 12 hours. $1,200 cold cash, made, paid, banked by Stoneman in 30 days; $15,000 to date. A hot or cold running water bath equipment for any home at only $6.50. Self-heating. No plumbing or waterworks required. Investigate. Exclusive sale. Credit given. Send no money. Write letter or postal today. Allen Mfg. Co., 342 Allen Bldg., Toledo, O.

Earn $50 to $100 monthly distributing Parker Hosiery to regular repeat customers in your home town at mill prices. All or spare time. Protected territory. Credit given. G. Parker Mills, 2733 No. 12th St., Phila., Pa.

Man To Wear Fine Suit, act as agent. Big pay, easy work. Banner Tailoring Co., Dept. 489, Chicago.

$50 Weekly and up selling Mexican Diamonds. Exactly resemble genuine; Same Rainbow Fire; Stand tests; sell at sight; Repeat orders. Write for Sample Case offer free. Mexican Diamond Importing Co., G. Las Cruces, N. M.

Agents; Cooper made $314 last month, $91 last week selling "Kantleak" Raincoats. New proposition. We deliver and collect. Sample coat Free. Comer Mfg. Co., 16 Opal St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agents' 1917 Sensation. NoRKA Brand new process guaranteed Raincoats. We deliver and collect. Sample outfit free. The New London Mfg. Co., New London, Ohio.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 98c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

Agents, Make War-Time Profits, build permanent business with our Big line Perfumes, Creams, Extracts, Spices, Medicines. Catalogue free. Western Laboratories, 1900K Van Buren, Chicago.

Agents $60 a week to travel by Automobile and introduce our 300 candle power coal-oil lantern. Write for particulars of our free auto offer. Thomas Co., 819 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

$150.00 Salary For 60 Days Work Paid Woman Or Man in each town to distribute Free circulars and take orders for White Ribbon Concentrated Flavoring. J. S. Ziegler Co., 7D., E. Harrison St., Chicago.

Men and Women; $1500 to $3000 Yearly taking orders for over 90 Household Articles. Outfit Free. Big Chance. Full Particulars, Duo Factories, Dept. B. 40, North Java, N. Y.

We Pay $80 Monthly Salary and furnish rig and expenses to introduce guaranteed poultry and stock powders. Bigler Company, X-314, Springfield, Ill.

Would $150 Monthly, Auto of your own to travel in, as General Agent, handling remarkable sellers, Lightning Patch Vulcanizer, Shock Absorber, and Anti-Thief Combination Auto-Switch Lock, thief proof, interest you? Then address Dept. K I, U. S. Manufacturing Co., Wolcott, Indiana.

Agents—Make $40 weekly selling Raincoats. Sample coat free. Write today. Goodyear Mfg. Co. 800 Lillis Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Joy Broom Holder—Clean Broom, sure grip. Joyful Homes. Joyful Agents making good. Sample 10c. American Utensil Co., Baltimore, Md.

Agents—Make a Dollar an Hour. Sell Mendets, a patent patch for instantly mending leaks in all utensils. Sample package free. Collette Mfg. Co., Dept. 452-B, Amsterdam, N.Y.

Spiral Spring Curtain Rods; fit any window; put up in minute; sample 10c; circulars free. Moore Co., 40 Jerome Ave., Cincinnati.

AGENTS WANTED

Man Or Woman To Travel for old-established firm. No canvassing; $1170 first year, payable weekly, pursuant to Contract; Expenses advanced. G. O. Nichols, Phila., Pa., Pepper Bldg.

Guaranteed Hosiery Selling From Mill earns $5 a day for our representatives. No Capital or experience needed. All or Spare Time. A. Weber Mills, Nicetown Station, Phila., Pa.

Would $150 Monthly as General Agent for $150,000 corporation and a Ford auto of your own, introducing Stock and Poultry remedies, Dips, Disinfectants, and Sanitary products interest you? Then address Royonium Co-Operative Mfg. Co., Dept. 110, Monticello, Ind.

Agents Make Big Money. The Best line of food flavors, perfumes, soaps and toilet preparations, etc, ever offered. Over 250 light weight, popular priced, quick selling necessities in big demand-well advertised-easy sellers-big repeaters. Over 100% profit. Complete outfits furnished free to workers. Just a postal today. American Products Co., 9615 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Custom Raincoats. Reliable and Guaranteed. Largest Assortment. Best Commissions. Free Outfit. Write Today. Consolidated Raincoat Co., Desk 5, Boston, Mass.

Agents—New Invention: Ventilated chemical indoor closet, for country, village and suburban homes; no plumbing; no waterworks; no cess-pool; absolutely odorless; thirty days' free trial guarantee. Every village and farm home a customer. An order at every house. One agent made $112.00 commission in eight hours. Agent's outfit free. Exclusive territory contract. Write today for full particulars of this biggest winner ever offered to salesmen. Address, Shafer Mfg. Co., 449 Colton Bldg. Toledo, O.

Agents: Screen door check. Demonstrate and sale is made. Stops the bang and saves the door. Wonderful summer seller. Demonstrating sample free. Thomas Mfg. Co., 1319 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

Women to distribute toilet goods to friends and neighbors. $1 a dozen for your trouble. Sample free. Daley Mfg. Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Stop Here—just out—Eisen Regular for Ford Headlights. Selling like wildfire everywhere. Gives splendid driving light at low speed—keeps bulbs from burning out—works entirely automatically. Needed on every Ford. Big profits quick. Listen: Hopkins, Tenn. cleared $16.20 first day; White, Michigan, $134.00 one week. No experience or capital needed. We show you how; sales guaranteed. Hurry—don't delay. Write now for special information. Address Eisen Instrument Co., 346 Valentine Bldg., Toledo, Ohio.

Walk in, demonstrate, take money. Article sells itself. Double money on every sale. Write Lindsay Co., 22 Brattle Sq., Boston, Mass.

Agents—A one-cent post card will put you in touch with an $80 a week proposition selling Aluminum Utensils and Specialties direct to the consumer. Don't let one cent stand between you and prosperity. Div. B.B.P., American Aluminum Mfg. Co., Lemont, Ill.

Ladies—We pay $2.50 daily, pursuant to contract, distribute free circulars take orders for Regal Shields. Experience unnecessary. Particulars Free. Regal., D 6, Kalamazoo, Mich.

One Thousand Dollars Reward if this is not the greatest money-making house-to-house proposition. N. R. G. Laundry Tablet washes clothes in 10 minutes, without rubbing. Contains no Lime, Lye, Paraffin Wax or other injurious chemical and cannot possibly injure the clothes or hands. Nothing like it on the market. Positively the wonder of the age—sells for 15c, enough for 5 family washings. We supply free samples and guarantee the sale of every package you buy. Just leave the free sample with the housewife and, when you call again, she is eagerly awaiting to become your steady customer. Secure territorial rights at once, or you will regret it. A 1c postal brings sample and full particulars. Farquhar-Moon Mfg. Co., Desk D210, 140 W. Van Buren St., Chicago, Ill.

Men-Women. Nice, clean reliable business. Cedar Safe Garment Bags to put away winter clothes. Make $30 week. Waks Mfg. Co., Dept. 24., Cincinnati, O.

Aristo Nonrub Washing Tablets. Big Seller, Wonderful product. Nothing equal. Samples free. Schubert, 8201A So. Halsted, Chicago.

Sell California Rosebeads. Swell line. Big profits. Catalog free. Mission Bead Company, A2819 West Pico, Los Angeles, Calif.

$61.50 Weekly, introducing and selling a new gas light burner for kerosene lamps. Beautiful light. No chimney. No mantle. Samples free. Luther Mfg. Co., Dept. 296, Cincinnati, O.

$1,000.00 For Your Next 100 Days. Spot Cash. New money-making invention for agents, general agents, managers. Recently invented. 1,000,000 already sold; 200 more salesmen wanted at once. Amazing automatic Compressed Air Washing Machine. Washes tub of clothes in six minutes. No cranks to turn or levers to push—no rubbing. Works like magic. Price only $1.50—makes sale at every house; 200% profit. L. Palmer, Glen Allen, Ala., put out on trial 108 machines, sold 107. Profit $107.00. Write now. Wendell Co., 1175 Oak St., Leipsic, O.

Wanted: In every locality responsible party to handle a money making proposition during spare time. Territory to be assigned at once. Write for full particulars, Postoffice Box, 303, Canton, Ga.

TYPEWRITERS

$2.50 A Month buys standard typewriter. Send for Special prices. Free trial. Guaranteed. H. A. Smith, 315-231 N. 5th Ave., Chicago.

TOYS

Reely-Trooly Dolls. Materials for 6 prettiest cloth dolls ever produced. Children make them, all different. At any toy store or send 25c. Reely-Trooly Co., Boston, Mass.

PIGS FOR SALE

O. I. C. Hogs, All Ages, Large Prolific kind. Ped. Furnished. Pair pigs $15. W. D. Ruebush, Macomb, Ill.

GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

Game Of Letters—Amusing and fascinating. Great aid in spelling. 10c by mail. Ampere Book Co., 47 B'way, Ampere, N. J.

POULTRY

Poultry Paper, 44-124 page periodical, up to date, tells all you want to know about care and management of poultry, for pleasure or profit; four months for 10 cents. Poultry Advocate, Dept. 112, Syracuse, N. Y.

Egg-o-hatch applied to eggs during incubation strengthens the chick and weakens the shell. It supplies free oxygen, absorbs the carbon dioxide and softs the shell. Makes better hatches of stronger chicks. Booklet free. Sample, treats 100 eggs, 10 cents. Package, treats 600 eggs, 50 cents, postpaid. Geo. H. Lee Co., 509 Lee Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

Chicks Reds, Rocks, Leghorns (Brown & White), Cochins, Wyandottes, Orpingtons. Nearly a million Hillpot Quality Chicks shipped last year. Catalog Free! W. P. Hillpot, Box 6, Frenchtown, N. J.

50 Varieties Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Guineas. Low prices to make room. Cat. Free. Dell Walrath, Box A, Janesville, Minn.

Giant Bronze Turkey Eggs $4.00 per 10 R. C. Red, Wh. & B. P. Rock, $1.00 per 15. Henry J. VanDyke, Gettysburg, Pa.

Day Old Chicks for sale cheap. 10 Varieties. Hatched by one of the oldest Hatchers in the country. Circular Free. Old Honesty Hatchery, Dept. C, New Washington, O.

Heavy Laying S. C. White Leghorns. Price list of Chicks and Setting eggs free. Write N. V. Fogg, Box 4590, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

Day Old Chicks 10c up. Hatched and delivered right. 23 varieties. Catalog free. Mammoth Hatchery, Box K-38, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

HOME WEAVING

Looms—Only $8.50—Big money in Weaving rugs, carpets, etc., from rags and waste material. Be sure to send for free loom book. It tells all about Weaving and our wonderful $8.50 and other looms. Union Loom Works, 272 Factory St., Boonville, N. Y.

MALE HELP WANTED

Be A Detective—Earn $100 to $300 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

No Strike: 8 Hour Days. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 828 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

Be A Government Farmer. Good pay. Steady, interesting job. Fine locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 3F, St. Louis.

The Way To Get A Gov't Job is through the Washington Civil Service School. We prepare you and you get a position or we guarantee to refund your money. Write to Earl Hopkins, President, Washington, D. C. for Book FK. 1450, telling about 292296 Gov't Positions with lifetime employment, short hours, sure pay, regular vacations.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

Detectives—Earn big salaries. Easy work. Write National School of Detectives, 489 Fifth Ave., New York, Room 525.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

Will Pay reliable Woman $25.00 to distribute Free (not to sell) 200 pkgs. Borax Soap Powder among friends. No money required. A. Ward Company, 732 N. Franklin St., Chicago.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Be A Government Matron. Good salary. Interesting work. Beautiful locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8M, St. Louis.

$18. Week expenses advanced. No canvassing. Women to travel, appointing agents for flavors in tubes. Experience unnecessary. Reliable Mfg. Co., C, Como Bldg., Chicago.

Big Money for Women in Their back yard! Any woman with a few square feet of ground can add many dollars to their income by working amazing, unusual and unique plans. No mushroom—ginseng "dope." New ideas in outdoor work that you probably never heard of. Other women coining money—so can you. Write for free details. W. L. Allen, Allentown, Pa. Box 106.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Free Scholarships in Resident Nursing Course. Low rates for home training. Send for free book. Philadelphia School for Nurses, 2227 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Dress-Forms—make your own. Easy, cheap. Instruction booklet sent for $1.00. Patented process. Geo. Weant, Ponca City, Okla.

SCHOOLS

Telegraphy—Wire & Wireless & station Agency Taught. Largest School. Catalog Free. Dodge's Institute, L St., Valparaiso, Ind.

Stenographers are wanted. Shorthand in 30 lessons. Home study. Positions assured. Write for booklet C and special terms. Am. School of Phonography, Sta. A, Cleveland, O.

The American School of Aviation Announces a new correspondence course in aeroconstruction and design. A thorough training in aeronautical engineering. American School of Aviation, Dept. 3043, 431 South Dearborn Street, Chicago.

ROOTS, HERBS, ETC.

Cash Paid for all kinds Medicinal Roots, Barks, Herbs. Easily gathered. Write for circular. Grund Co., Logan Sta., Philadelphia, Pa.

$5 A Day Gathering Evergreens, roots, and herbs. 10c. brings book and war prices. Particulars free. Botanical-B. New Haven, Conn.

Our Book Describes the 200 most valuable Roots, Herbs, etc., used in medicine; How to gather, prepare, War Prices; and address of Buyers postpaid only 20c. Ginseng Company, West Milan, N. H.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Free For Six Months My special offer to introduce my magazine, "Investing for Profit." It is worth $10 a copy to any one who has not acquired sufficient money to provide necessities and comforts for self and loved ones. It shows how to become richer quickly and honestly. Investing for Profit is the only progressive financial journal and has the largest circulation in America. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200; write now and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 408, 26 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago.

ENTERTAINMENTS

Plays, Speakers, dialogues and entertainments; catalogues free. Address Dept. A, Ames Pub. Co., Clyde O.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

Old Coins and Stamps of all kinds. From $1.00 to $1000.00 cash paid for some to 1912. Keep all old money and stamps. Send 4c. Get Large Illustrated Coin and Stamp Circular. You have nothing to lose. Send now. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

$4.25 Each Paid for U. S. Eagle Cents dated 1856. Keep all money dated before 1895, and send 10c at once for New Illustrated Coin Value Book, 4x7. It may mean a fortune. Clarke & Co., Coin Dealers, Box 20, LeRoy, N. Y.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel, 232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Invent Something. It may bring wealth. Free book tells what to invent and how to obtain a patent through our Credit System. Waters & Co. Succeeded by Talbert & Parker 4206 Warder Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Four books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg., Wash. D. C.

Attention—Patents. You will like my easy Plan. Write for free booklet. C. L. Drew, 7 Victor Bldg., Wash. D. C.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis, Mo.

INVENTIONS

Inventions Commercialized on cash and royalty basis. Inventors and manufacturers write at once. Adam Fisher Mfg. Co., 3091 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

Write Photoplays $75 each. Send for free booklet "How to Write Moving Picture Plays." Universal Pub. Co., 317 Fergus Falls, Minn.

Help For Beginners. Good income writing Photoplays, Stories, Poems. Full instructions. Sample Scenario and list of publishers 50c. Tilden Co., 153 Barr St., Lexington, Ky.

Write For Free Copy "Hints to writers of Photoplays, Stories, Poems." Also catalog of books. Atlas Pub. Co., 26, Cincinnati.

REAL ESTATE

Small Missouri Farm $10 Cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes: Highly productive land; close to three big markets. Write for photographs and full information. Munger, D-104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles, poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1106 Washington, D. C.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn while you learn. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of members we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 a month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Salesmen Wanted—Reliable Men That can furnish team and wagon to travel in the country and sell old established line of medicines, flavorings, spices, soaps, toilets, condition powder, etc. Permanent work. Pay Big. Write today for free copy of "Opportunity." It tells how. Seminole Medicine Co., Boone, Ia., Box 228.

Tobacco Factory wants salesman; good pay, steady work, promotion; experience unnecessary, we give complete instructions. Piedmont Tobacco Co., Box C-19, Danville, Va.

500 Salesmen Wanted, sell Magic Motor gas; $10 per day; one quart, price $2, equals 50 gallons gasoline in mileage. Write today for territory. Auto Remedy Co., 3 Evans St., Cincinnati, O.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Will Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct free—and sell on Commission. Big rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31, Auburn, N. Y.

HELP WANTED

Gov't Wants Clerks, $75 month. Spring examinations. Sample questions free. Franklin Institute, Dept. W 12, Rochester, N. Y.

Be A Detective Earn $100 to $300 per month; easy work; we show you; Write Wagner, 1243 Lexington Ave., New York, Dept. 413.

Wanted Men to become chauffeurs. $25 week. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. W 812, Rochester, N. Y.

Stop Daily Grind Quit Slaving. Plate tableware, Silver mirrors Home. Sure income. Clarence Sprinkle, Dept. CC, Marion, Ind.

Men—Women wanted, Government Clerks, $75 month. List positions free. Franklin Institute, Dept. W 9, Rochester, N. Y.

Women Be Dress Designers. $18 to $50 week. Sample lessons free. Write immediately Franklin Institute, Dept. W 850 Rochester, N. Y.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

A Little Farm Complete for $350. With comfortable little bungalow live stock, flock of chickens, poultry house and set of implements. Ready to move into and go to work. Only ten of these ready-made little farms available on Little Planters Colony at Richmond Heights in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Write quick for full description and easy terms of payment. F. H. LaBaume, A. & I. Agt., N. & W. Ry., 269 Arcade Bldg., Roanoke, Va.

Choice Ten Acre Tracts for poultry, vegetables, fruit, near town. Best county in Michigan. Only $250. $5 down, $1 monthly. Large tracts for general farming. Write for big booklet. Swigart Land Co., A1248 First National Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

FARMS WANTED

Wanted. Hear from owner good farm for sale. Cash price, description. D. F. Bush, Minneapolis, Minn.

FARMS FOR SALE

Money-Making Farms, 15 states, $10 to $50 an acre; stock, tools and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue. E. A. Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3027, New York.

Montana 640-Acre Homesteads—New law just passed. New towns, business opportunities. Send 25c for maps and information. Address, U.S. Commissioner, Outlook, Montana.

New York State "Money Making" Farms. Write the Farm Specialists for Free Bulletin No. 4. Burris Realty Co., Elmira, N.Y.

FARM LANDS

Uncle Sam is watering a farm for you in Salt River Valley, Arizona, where you will live longer and better, and make more money with less work. Read our Roosevelt Dam folder free on request. C. L. Seagraves, Industrial Com'r AT&SF Ry., 1946 Ry. Exchange, Chicago.

California Land $1.00 Per Acre Cash. Balance purchase 90c. month per acre. Immediate possession given. No taxes. No interest. Level San Joaquin Valley. Only four hours from San Francisco. 5 acres up. Clear; ready to plow. Open ditch irrigation $1.00 acre per annum. Particulars, maps, photograph, free. Stevinson Colony, Desk B, 785 Market St., San Francisco.

Productive Lands, Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 14 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

BOOKS

Our Book of 10,000 Recipes, Formulas etc., is worthy of investigation. Prepaid $3. M. Reichardt, Marvell, Ark.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Guaranteed Watch Or Gold Plated bracelet free to boys and girls for placing sample packet seeds with friends. Eckert Seed Co., B-74, Cly, Pa.

Eastman Camera with instructions Free for selling 12 bottles Vanilla Flavoring Extract. Send today. Grandma Extract Co., Auburn, N.Y.

Sell 12 Pieces Of Jewelry at 10c each, keep 40c, send me 80c. I trust you. Listen: every one wishing to make money do not miss this opportunity, these are bright, snappy articles and will sell at sight, something everybody uses. V. F. Hunter, Barton, Vt.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

Life of Christ on 50 beautiful, colored post-cards. Sent for $1.00, post-paid. Send a two-cent stamp for one sample-card. National Sales Co., 919 Milwaukee Av. Chicago, Ill.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

Do You Take Pictures? Write for free sample of our large magazine, showing how to make better pictures & earn money. American Photography, 840 Pope Bldg., Boston, Mass.

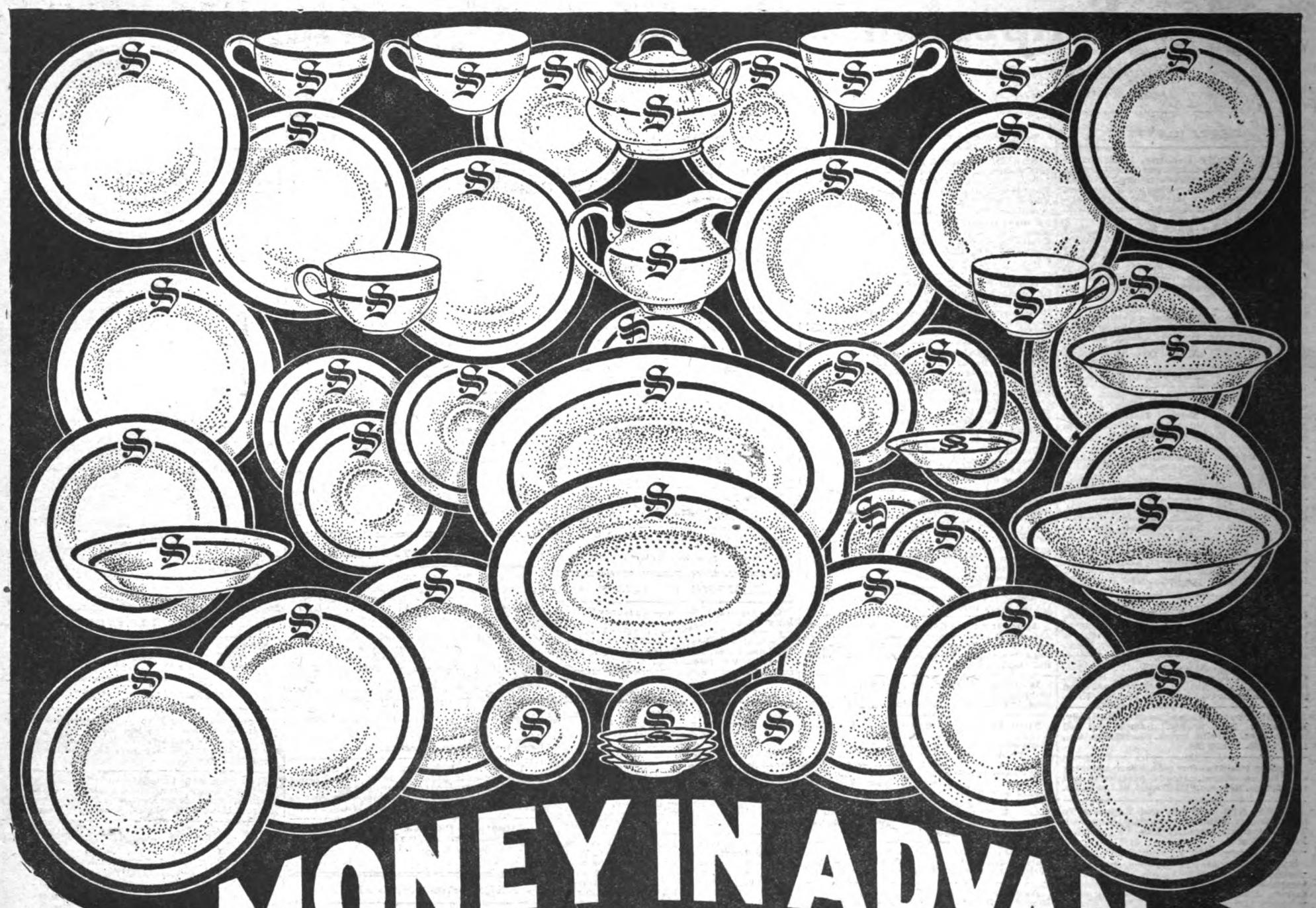
LAME PEOPLE

The Perfection Extension Shoe for any person with one short limb. No more unsightly cork soles, irons, etc., needed. Worn with ready-made shoes. Shipped on trial. Write for booklet. Henry J. Lotz, 313 Third Ave., New York.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

$35.00 Profit Nightly. Small Capital Starts You. No experience needed. We teach you the business. Catalog free. Atlas Moving Picture Co., 407 Franklin Bldg., Chicago.



NO MONEY IN ADVANCE

This is without doubt the grandest Dish Bargain ever made. Beautiful 48-Piece Gold Decorated, Gold Monogram Dinner Set. Only 10,000 Sets are to be sent out on this amazing NO-MONEY-IN-ADVANCE offer. These 10,000 sets will be snapped up mighty quick and when they are gone, no more are to be had. Therefore **act at once.** Don't miss this chance. Never again such an opportunity to secure a complete 48-Piece Gold Monogrammed Dinner Set on such terms as these. Remember, **your own initial in beautiful Old English letters in gold on every dish.** No illustration can begin to do justice to this magnificent set of tableware. The only way that you can judge its pure white appearance, the exquisite beauty of the Gold Decoration and Gold Initials, and the supreme quality of the ware itself, is for you to see it. That is why we will send you the complete set without a cent in advance—without any deposit of any kind—without even a promise from you to buy—so that you can see for yourself what a wonderful bargain this really is.

Pay Only 60c In Ten Days

For this Handsome 48-Piece Gold Decorated Monogram Dinner Set. Don't send a cent in advance. The coupon at the bottom of the page is all that's necessary. We will at once send you one of these amazingly beautiful, full and complete 48-Piece Dinner Sets for six people. If you decide that they are the most elegant set of dishes you ever saw, send us only 60 cents in 10 days after arrival. Then pay us 65 cents a month for five months thereafter, until our special limited bargain price of only $3.85 is paid in full. If, for any reason, you don't wish to keep the set, return it at our freight expense both ways.

Every one who has seen these dishes says they are the biggest value for the money they ever saw. Think of it—only 8c apiece for real gold initialed, gold decorated tableware! Every piece of full size for family use, made of strong, pure white porcelain, exquisitely decorated with gold strippings and handsome Old English gold individual monogram (your own initial) with embellishments in gold.

NO REFERENCES ASKED

You need send no references, no guarantee, no remittance—just send the coupon below and we will at once send the dishes to you, no waiting, no delay, no C. O. D. We mean exactly what we say. You keep the dishes and make your first payment of ONLY 60c after you have had them 10 days and pay the balance at 65c a month for five months until you have paid us our Special Bargain Price of only $3.85

No one except Hartman can make such an offer. We are the largest homefurnishers in the world, selling remarkable bargains of all kinds on the easiest payment Credit Terms ever before offered. This mammoth Mail Order House with its $12,000,000 purchasing power numbers among its satisfied customers more than 1,500,000 families living in every state in the union. Any Bank, any Express Company, will tell you that Hartman is responsible and will do exactly as claimed.

We will have an enormous sale on this grandest of all bargains, so do not delay but send in the coupon below at once for your dishes, so you will not be disappointed. We have only 10,000 sets to offer. Send no money—simply send coupon.

JUST SEND THE COUPON

This Beautiful Set Consists of

48 Pieces of Snowy-white Porcelain Ware with Band of Gold around outside edges and Neat Gold Stripe Decoration as illustrated. Beautiful Old English Initials are also in Gold to harmonize perfectly. The 48 pieces are 6 Dinner Plates. 9⅛ in.—6 Breakfast Plates, 7¼ in.—6 New Style Deep Soup Coupes (not old style soup plates)—6 Tea Cups—6 Tea Saucers—6 Fruit or Sauce Dishes—6 Butter Dishes—1 Deep Open Vegetable Dish, 9¾ in.—1 Meat Platter, 11½ in.—1 Meat Platter, 9¾ in.—1 Sugar Bowl and Cover (2 pieces) and 1 Cream Pitcher.

Your Initial In Gold on Each Piece

S A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

This letter shows exact size on dishes.

Individual Monograms shown above are small reproductions of those on dishes. Write in square at lower left hand corner of coupon the one initial you wish. These monograms are in the latest Old English style, and look rich and beautiful. If the initial you select is not the same as initial in your name, we will understand that you are sending for this Beautiful Dinner Set to present it to someone. This 48-Piece Dinner Set makes a beautiful gift—one that will be remembered and appreciated as long as used. **Send your name and address NOW—TODAY! Send no money!**

SEND THIS COUPON— DON'T SEND MONEY

HARTMAN FURNITURE & CARPET COMPANY,
3964 Wentworth Ave., Dept. 553, Chicago, Ill.

Send at once, complete 48-Piece Gold Decorated Gold Monogram Dinner Set. If found satisfactory, I will pay you 60c in 10 days after dishes arrive and pay the balance 65c a month for 5 months until your special price of $3.85 is paid. Otherwise I will return dishes.

Write in this space initial wanted.

Name.....

Address.....

Write full name and address above—very plainly.

HARTMAN FURNITURE AND CARPET COMPANY

3964 Wentworth Avenue, Dept. 553, CHICAGO, ILL.

EASTER NUMBER

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

April, 1917

VOL. XXIX

No. 6



Something wrenched his heart as he saw her clasp the big lily tenderly in her small arms.

A shrill screaming suddenly rent the air, then a chorus of distressed bird notes

The Sermon on the Mount

See Story Page 3

Published at AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Copyright 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 10.

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN.

How to Deal with Exhorbitant Food Prices Is a Problem of Vital Consequence

RECENT food riots in New York and other large cities in which mobs of infuriated women, mostly of foreign extraction, have attacked the stalls of the provision dealers and the push-carts of the street vendors of vegetables, destroying their goods by sprinkling them with kerosene or dumping them into the street, though not a proper or effective method of lowering prices, should serve as a warning that something must be done to relieve the stress of the present situation and prevent a recurrence of such conditions.

Although there is a scarcity of some kinds of food due to partial crop failure, there is plenty of good, nourishing food in this country to feed all our people, and there is no necessity or justification for the exorbitant prices that city people have to pay. Under present abnormal conditions, caused by the world war, prices of all commodities necessarily range higher than usual because of decreased production, increased consumption, higher wages, scarcity of laborers and diminished purchasing power of the dollar consequent on the enormous influx of gold from abroad; but all these causes combined do not account for the excessively high food prices now prevailing. Market manipulation by speculators and middlemen's profits and expenses are responsible for far too great a part of the price paid by the consumer for the necessaries of life.

The fault is with our bungling, extravagant and inefficient system of distribution which results regularly in making the consumer pay for farm produce more than three times as much as the farmer receives for it. To be exact, on the average the farmer receives only thirty cents on the dollar of the retail price for which his produce is sold at the stores while the other seventy cents goes to middlemen whose handling adds nothing to the value of the goods. That is bad enough, but if there happens to be a short crop or a prospect of an unusually large demand the speculators step in and by cornering the market drive prices up to satisfy their own greed.

The Federal and State authorities are pursuing their usual fruitless investigations and all manner of absurd and ineffectual measures are being urged as remedies for these evils, and among others that the speculators be prosecuted, that the exportation of food be prohibited, that the government seize the food supplies, that the cities establish municipal markets and go into the grocery business, that the government regulate food prices, that the farmers strain every effort to plant and raise as large crops as possible and that the city people turn their back yards and vacant city lots into vegetable gardens, and that, in aid of this last project, school gardens be established and the children be instructed in gardening.

In the interest of thrift, economy and morality and as a means of healthful recreation and profitable employment of leisure hours of parents and children let all the back yards and vacant city lots be planted and cultivated; let us have the school gardens and school instruction in gardening. Idleness during the long summer vacation is one of the demoralizing influences that the city child has to contend with, and the care of the garden will help to solve that problem and may prove interesting enough to keep the father away from the saloon after work hours. These objects make it well worth while besides value of the produce in supplying the table and cutting down the cost of living. This is excellent as far as it goes but it will not go far in beating the middlemen and speculators.

The theorists who urge the farmers for the general good of the community to plant every acre possible this spring should understand that this is not such a simple proposition as it seems. It involves extra expenditure for labor, seed and fertilizer. Fertilizer and hired labor are costly and the latter is scarce and maybe not obtainable, and with the hazard of crop failure and the danger of ruinously low prices in case of excessively large crops where is the inducement for the farmer to incur the risk of the extraordinary expense of planting and cultivating an exceptionally large acreage? The other propositions are too fantastic to merit serious consideration.

The one rational method of solving the problem, now and for all time, is to cut out the useless middlemen which incidentally will abolish the speculators. And the only practical way to do this is for the farmers to organize everywhere and market all their products exclusively through cooperative stores and selling agencies of their own to be established in all the cities and large towns. This would leave no opportunity for speculators to operate, and it would give the farmers a larger profit and the consumer lower prices by dividing between them the excessive profits of the middlemen and extinguishing their needless expense.

Agricultural Interests Need Organizing

AGRICULTURE is the largest, most important and most poorly organized industry in the United States. The good work of the Grange deserves universal and hearty support but it needs to be supplemented by more thorough and extensive organization through local, county and other subsidiary unions of farmers, for the better protection of their rights and the promotion of their interests along certain special lines. Cooperation is the key note of success in any business and most of all in farming.

The citrous fruit growers' association of California and the apple growers' association of the Northwest have proved the value of cooperation in standardizing and marketing farm produce; grain elevators owned and operated by associated farmers are profitable to their owners and make the communities in which they exist independent of the speculators, and official reports show that the farmers in certain localities have saved a large per cent of cost by cooperative buying of commercial fertilizer, stock feed and other materials requisite for agricultural operations. There should be a market expert attached to the Agricultural Department of each State, as there is in some States, for the special duty of instructing and assisting the farmers' cooperative associations in buying and selling. The "county agents" are rendering valuable service in impressing the farmers with the importance of cooperation in all their activities. Carl Vrooman, U. S. Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, recently said:

"These county agents are teaching the farmers how to build a new civilization out in our rural communities—a civilization based upon a greater principle than that on which the past has builded; a civilization built on the great principle of cooperation; cooperation of farmer with farmer, neighbor with neighbor, of farmer with business man. The great practical advance in agriculture can no more be realized and brought to fruition by the Ishmaelite and the individualistic, than an individual could create a great metropolis like New York. The farmer of the future just like the urban dweller of the future must have the social vision, must realize he is a man living in a community with other men and must work together with those other men in pursuance of their common interests.

"I know that farmers are suspicious. Each of them thinks the other has shortcomings, and of course they are right. Very often farmers refuse to work together on that account, but more and more they are coming to learn that a man who is a real man is willing to take a chance upon the fundamental honesty and feeling of fair play of his fellow men, to get together with them and work out their common destiny with the same enthusiasm that in the past they have put into their individualistic enterprises.

"When our farmers and bankers and our business men and all of our other citizens are able to get a national point of view, arising to a national consciousness of the possibilities before the American people, possibilities which were never equalled in the history of the world, to the possibilities which in the last fifteen months have increased a thousand per cent, they will discern a new land of promise. When they get to looking at those problems from a social point of view and learn to subordinate their own little, petty, personal, selfish ambitions, in other words, when we as a nation have learned to dominate the hog and tiger in our nature and be human beings, patriotic human beings, then there will clear up before us vistas of wealth, vistas of opportunities compared with which everything in the past is as twilight and shadow."

Arming Our Merchant Ships

SINCE January 31, when Germany proclaimed ruthless and indiscriminate war on neutral shipping, the steamers of our large transatlantic fleet have remained tied at their docks in dread of threatened attack by German submarines, and in consequence our European mail service is interrupted, our foreign commerce is paralyzed and our railroad freight traffic is impeded by the congestion of loaded freight cars that can not be discharged at the seaport terminals. This blockade of American commerce has become intolerable, and to break it the President has ordered the Navy Department to arm our merchant ships with guns and provide them with gun crews for their protection against German submarines, and on March 12 officially announced this to be the policy of our government. If Germany persists in carrying her threat into execution the first meeting of an armed American merchant ship with a German submarine will precipitate war between the two nations—and this is likely to happen before this edition reaches our readers. Our ships will use their arms only in self-defense, and therefore the grave responsibility of choosing between war and peace still rests with Germany.

The Liquor Forces Lose Another Trench

CONGRESS closed its recent session without taking final action on a large number of important measures which should have been adopted, but it did enact two laws which will have a far-reaching effect in curtailing the illegal traffic in intoxicating liquor One is the so-called "Bone Dry Law" which forbids, under severe penalties of fine and imprisonment, the shipment or transportation of intoxicating liquor from any part of this country into any State that prohibits the manufacture and sale of liquor. Liquor to be used for mechanical, medicinal or sacramental purposes is excepted.

The weak point in all our State prohibitory laws has been that liquor dealers in another State were privileged, under the laws of the United States, to ship as much liquor as they chose into a prohibition State regardless of State laws to the contrary, with the result that the liquor dealers, distillers and brewers in the wet States have done a thriving mail-order business in supplying intoxicants to the residents of the dry States. This nuisance will cease when the new Federal law goes into effect on the first day of next July and Uncle Sam exercises his mighty power over interstate commerce in aid of the enforcement of State prohibitory laws. The twenty-two States which have adopted prohibition laws will then become dry in fact as well as in name. The other law supplements the foregoing by forbidding the use of the mails for circulating liquor advertisements or soliciting liquor business in prohibition States.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. *We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.* If you do not get your magazine by the 20th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we *must* have your *former* address, as well as your *new* address to make the change. Be sure to send *both*. We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second class mail matter. **Copyright, 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.**

The Sermon on the Mount

By Joseph F. Novak

See front cover illustration.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"Christ hath arisen! Oh, mountain peaks, attest—
Witness resounding glen and torrent wave!
The immortal courage in the human breast
Sprung from that victory—tell how oft the brave
To camp midst rock and cave,
Nerved by those words their struggling faith have borne,
Planting the cross on high above the clouds of morn!"

Mrs. Hemans:—*Easter Day in a Mountain Churchyard.*

WITH hands clasped to his temples, Vandeventer Peyton sat at his desk, his thoughts garish, his eyes wild. Down below in the street, he heard the yelling of newsboys announcing the crash of the Western Investing Syndicate. Wasn't it a nightmare, or something of the sort? Surely it could not be true! Surely the Syndicate which he had formed, financed and promoted was not really up against the wall! It could not be! Yet that was what the boys in the street were yelling about.

It meant that he had failed, that at twenty-eight his life was a wreck. Could he withstand the sneers and jeers of the men whom he had defied when they attempted to thwart him? They had succeeded in doing what they had threatened, and when his own money gave out at the crucial time, confidence of the stockholders in the Syndicate went too, quarreling arose in their ranks, legal barriers were thrown up, not destructive in themselves, but which would require lawsuits to remove.

He had sought to borrow money on the property of the Syndicate, for its assets were well in excess of its liabilities, but his endeavors had been in vain, and without money in a thing of that sort, all other endeavor is useless.

From the looks of things, the only plan seemed to be to abandon the project, let his successors snatch the fruit of his labor, while he could have the pleasure of beginning all over again.

The horror of it! The horror of being obliged to do that! But need he? Only a little brute courage was needed, one little commandment needed to be forgotten, and the turmoil of life would be over.

He sat up. Why hadn't he made up his mind to *that* before? Yes, he'd do it. Tonight he could settle what few matters he had in hand and as for the Syndicate, the courts would take care of that. He hoped that when the stockholders and the world in general found out that his scheme was a legitimate one, and that the crash was the result of his enemies' plot, those who wronged him might enjoy a little conscientious drubbing—if indeed they did possess such things as consciences.

His mind was beginning to be unbalanced, yet his actions for the next half hour would not have been evidence of it, for with his usual alertness, he glanced over sundry papers, checking up a column of figures here, making a note there.

When everything was arranged to his satisfaction, he drew forth some stationery, and picking up his pen, he prepared himself to write.

To only one person, and that was Lucille.

Lucille! She came to him then, in his mind's eye, in all the beauty of her young womanhood. How he loved her, and how vividly he now recalled the day she had promised to be his. But she had been reared in luxury and certainly he could not hold her to her engagement, when he was a poor man, a bankrupt, and a failure. It would not be just to her. She possessed too great a fortune in her own right to expect her to give it up, and he would not allow himself to be supported by her means.

He knew too, why she loved him; it was for his strength, his aggressiveness, his push, his fearlessness, and the fact that he was looked upon as a man who was constantly doing great things. He had always been rated a success—and now this!

But he would end it all.

Through the windw which faced the west, the dusky sunbeams of an April sun penetrated. The dusty, fiery globe was sinking to the horizon, so significant of the setting of the sun of his success, he thought. A soft breeze came in, soft yet somewhat polluted with the conglomerated smells of city streets. But it held the promise of spring, and the revivication of the earth.

He watched the sun until it finally disappeared, then in the twilight, he wrote his letter.

"Dear Lucille:

"When you receive this, I shall be where the trials of life do not vex us. My shame at my disgrace, unmerited, has unnerved me, and I cannot face life. If I were really guilty of intentional wrong doing, I might brazen it out, the swindler is always awaiting the day of his undoing, but being as I am, innocent, a thing which no one will believe, I take this means of making men forget. One flare of sensationalism, and all will be over.

"Do not mourn for me, dearest. I cannot ask you to share my disgrace, nor shall I. To live without you, I cannot.

"I shall be found at pretty little Mount Hope. You know the place—it was there I first told you I loved you, and you accepted me. Life began there for me, so shall it end there. Good by, sweetheart, good by, VAN."

When he had done writing, he folded the letter deliberately, and put it into an envelope and placed it in his pocket. He put on his light overcoat, and stood for a moment in the semi-darkness of his office, looking about for the last time. That office! Sometimes he had almost hated it and yet now he felt as if he were leaving an old friend. Then he went out, locked the door and stepped into the elevator and soon was in the street.

There was the *feel* of spring in the air, and the streets were damp and somewhat muddy. The light breeze was changing to a high wind, brisk, but warm nevertheless.

He walked along as if in a daze until he came to a glistening front of a florist shop. Within the electric-lighted depths of its windows were banks of blooming Easter lilies, together with many other brilliant blooming plants.

Easter! Easter lilies! He had forgotten that on the morrow, nearly two thousand years ago, the world's Redeemer had risen. It had always been his custom to send Lucille a floral token of the day, and he had almost forgotten to do so on this, the last chance he would have. But fortunately the matter was brought to his mind, and he went to the open door.

As he did so, he nearly upset a little midget in nondescript clothes who had been admiring the beautiful lilies banked in the window. He noted her longing look.

"Would you like one of the lilies, child?" he asked.

She looked up at him shyly and bashfully chewed a handkerchief which might once have been white.

"I dunno," she managed to ejaculate.

"Well, come, I'll buy you one," he answered, and taking her by the hand, they went into the shop where he bade her make a selection. He refused to buy the little one she timidly pointed out, asked her if she wouldn't prefer the great big one with eight glistening lilies crowning a stalk of green leaves, and immediately bought it for her.

Something wrenched his heart as he saw her clasp the big lily tenderly in her small arms, and march away with a face shining with joy.

"I'll make the child happy, if nothing more, before the end," he thought to himself, as he saw her turn a corner and disappear.

Then he ordered a great sheaf of cut lilies sent to Lucille, and that done, he went to his home, located in the suburbs.

After his meal, which he scarcely touched, he sat out upon the piazza of his home, swinging gently to and fro in the porch swing that hung there in the darkness. The day had been unusually warm, and out in the street the children were calling to each other and chasing about, joying in the liberty from winter wraps.

But Vandeventer saw naught of awakening. To him, the hand of fate seemed to be pointing to the other extreme. "The end, the end," the swing seemed to creak drowsily.

At length he tapped a small bell, and Samson, his valet appeared.

"I am going away tomorrow, Samson, and I do not know just when I shall return. I think I had better pay you as I will have to dispense with your services. And by the bye, I want you to carry a letter to Miss Elviert. Here it is," and he placed it in his man's hand.

Samson acknowledged the charge.

"I want the letter delivered at 10 o'clock tomorrow; not a moment earlier, you understand?" His eyes fixed themselves upon the valet who seemed to shudder beneath the penetrating gaze. "You will not forget?"

"I shall remember," the valet said.

"Very well," Vandeventer replied. "I shall depend upon you. Take this for your services; it will keep you until you find new employment. I appreciate your faithfulness, and am sorry that I must dismiss you."

He placed a roll of bills in the man's hands.

"But Mr. Peyton!" expostulated the valet. "This is so sudden; so unusual! Can't you take me with you?"

"No, Samson, it's a journey I must make alone. Good night."

He rose from the porch swing, and without another word went to his room and though he disrobed and threw himself upon his bed, it was not to sleep for his mind was filled with the task he had set for himself, and he lay wide-awake and sleepless during the night as he planned every detail.

Then as the morning grayed, he arose and dressed himself with care. He wondered, if indeed, it were himself contemplating the rash act; he wondered how others had planned the dreadful deed, those others who had gone the same route before.

Finished dressing, he stepped to his dressing table and from it took a revolver. He examined it, then satisfied that it was in shape, he dropped it into his pocket and crossed the room to the window.

Throwing it up high, he looked out.

His home stood at the end of a pretty street laid along the ridge of a small hillock, and from his window he could look afar off over the gardens and lawns which surrounded the suburban homes. These lay sleeping under a soft blue haze, the haze that precedes the coming of the sun. A quiet, mysterious hush lay upon everything; then in the east flashed a red streak, illumining the clouds which took on rainbow tints.

In the distance came a cock's crow, it was answered by another, then came a chorus, which presently died down again.

And now the sun arose for his journey across the sky. The tree tops' tender green quivered in the soft zephyr that sprung up.

As Vandeventer looked, he felt himself on the brink of eternity. And for an hour he stood there, that feeling ever upon him, yet ever lodged in his mind was the dreadful thought of the deed to be done.

He glanced at his watch. It was five o'clock. Tossing it back into his pocket, he left the room.

So engrossed was he that he did not notice that Samson quietly watched him from the deep shadows of the hall.

Vandeventer went through the house which still slept, to the hall, and picked up his hat and cravanette. Putting them on, he went to his garage and soon had his machine's engine panting, and in a few moments more, he was leisurely rolling down the avenue.

The street looked lovely in the fresh spring morning. The terraced lawns were velvety green, and regiments of gay-colored tulips and crocuses colored the earth. In many windows, Easter lilies bloomed, ringing their bells behind the protection of plate glass.

Sweet was the morning; nature had combined those two harmonies, a late Easter and early spring in a country where spring was always early. Lowly dandelions dotted the grass, in the trees the sparrows quarreled, and robins and thrushes whistled and trilled.

"All nature is beginning life, and I am ending it. Ah, well, perhaps just as well in the beauty of the morning, than in the darkness of the night," and the thought caused him to shoot more speed into the car which had been moving along rather slowly.

After an hour of driving, he reached the Mount. It was a pretty little hill, rising majestically to command a view of the surrounding country. Its sides were grass grown, here and there a clump of bushes dotted it, on its crest was a cluster of poplar trees, already well leafed. One of these had been struck by lightning and now lay prostrate, forming a convenient seat.

Vandeventer drove the car into a clump of bushes bursting into leaf, and getting out, slowly walked up into the mount.

Soon he gained the top. From his point of vantage, he could see the road over which he had come, gently undulating here and there, lying white and clean in the sunlight, or losing itself behind a little coppice to appear again in the distance.

He turned from the road, and walked to the other side of the hill which commanded a view of pastoral beauty in which wound the river. He sat down upon the fallen tree, and gazed far off.

Never once had the dreadful thought, the determined resolution left his mind; nor made he any attempt to shake it off.

He felt into his pocket, and in a moment more he held the weapon of death in his hand. The sun glinted on its steel and cast off dazzling glares.

"Quick, have it over with," he murmured to himself. He stood up, threw from him his cravanette, coat and waistcoat. He tore the collar from his neck and bared his breast to the morning breeze. Right at his heart, the seat of life was the place, one muffled shot, perhaps not even a sensation of pain, and it would all be over.

He clutched at the shirt, plucked it away, and the revolver went up to seek its target.

A shrill screaming suddenly rent the air, then a chorus of distressed bird-notes. Distracted, he turned about. A flock of sparrows were chattering on the ground, while in their midst, a bright, but frightened eyed, trembling winged little creature lay pressed to earth.

It had fallen from its nest, and terrorized, it chirped, while the parent birds chattered and beat their wings in their helplessness.

"Poor little creature," he said, as he saw it, and glancing from earth to tree, he saw the nest. "Let me see, what does the Good Book say of you? *'Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your father.'"*

He laid down the revolver as he spoke, and picked up the little, scarcely fledged creature. It lay warm and trembling in his hand. Softly he stroked it, as it lay winking its bright black eyes at him.

"I guess this was what Christ meant when he spoke of sparrows not falling 'without your father.' Well, back into the nest for you."

As he started for the tree, with intention to climb it, a rushing sound came to him, and he turned as a girl, terror-eyed, rushed to his side.

"Oh, Van, stop!" she cried, catching his wrists. And then, he held his partially opened hands out to her, and she saw that he held just a little fallen sparrow.

"Oh, Van, what are you doing?"

"Just putting a little sparrow back into its nest. *'One of them shall not fall without your father.'"*

"What does it mean?" she cried, but Vandeventer only swung himself up to the branch of the tree, and in a moment more, the little sparrow was in his nest again, while the parents chirped in glee.

Now he came down, and to the girl's side. Then suddenly, as if a great light had burst upon him, he drew his hand bewilderedly across his forehead and slowly hid his naked breast and throat.

"Lucille, how did you get here? How did I get here? Ah, that!" and he caught up the revolver.

"Van, Van!" she cried. "Don't!" She caught the weapon from him. "Don't you realize what you are doing?" She dropped the revolver into her bag, then went on, as she wound her arm caressingly about him:

"Samson brought your letter to me this morning after you had left your home. He said you had acted so very queerly, and had stipulated the hour when your letter was to be handed to me, and so felt that something was wrong. When I read it, I hurried after you. Oh, how could you think for a moment to take what God alone has the right to take from you, your life?" She shuddered.

Then with a gentle caress, she went on:

"Don't think I am censuring you, dear, for I know what an ordeal you have passed through, and what is before you, but let me, in my love, uphold you through it all. I promised you, here in this spot, that I would ever love you, that naught but death could part us. Here on the day of our engagement I as solemnly vowed to myself, as on our wedding day I shall openly declare, to love and stand by you whatever the future would bring. I love you, Van, I love you more than any riches you could bring me. In a moment of this kind, how one realizes that naught but love is worth while in this world."

She put her arms about his neck, and pressed her lips to his breast. The sweetness of her presence drove away that black bride, death, whom he had so dangerously courted.

The cloud was passing from his brain, and as in a dream between sleeping and awakening, he beheld her, the woman whom he loved, but of whom he had feared to ask a worldly sacrifice.

"I was mad, dear," he said slowly, hesitatingly, "I didn't know what I was doing. Beset with the one dreadful thought, it fed itself upon me, until hypnotized. I felt I must perform its dictates. But you have broken the dreadful spell, you and the little fallen sparrow. It was Christ's Sermon on the Mount, over again."

"It is His Day," the girl said solemnly, "it is Easter Sunday, the day of His Resurrection. It is a resurrection for you, too, for the old discouraged self has died, the new self has risen to live! I care only for you and your love. We will face the future together, you and I. You are innocent, disgrace is not yours. I do not care what the world will say. My happiness lies only with you. All I have—it is yours, yours to use and to prove that my faith is well founded."

Again she slipped her arm about his body, seeming thus to infuse new life, new spirit, into the big frame that once knew no discouragement nor fear.

And he felt how generously she gave, and his heart stirred within him, and as he looked into the brilliant eyes turned to his, and saw only her deep love and sympathy for the dreadful ordeal through which he had passed, a strong determination formed in his mind, a determination to make good. He had slipped, slipped dangerously, but now he would show himself the man he always had been, and would glory in the tremendous task of again "making good."

He drew her into his arms.

"Dare I say it?" he murmured, "will God forgive the sin, if sin it is? For you—I say it reverently—you are my redeemer. Not a sparrow shall fall without its father. Nearly two thousand years ago were the words spoken, and they held good today. Had not the sparrow——"

She gently put her fingers to his lips, and kept back the dreadful supposition.

"Let us go now," she said gently. She held up his long coat which he slipped on and buttoned up to his neck. She picked up his collar and tie, and held them tenderly, and Van as he noted this, saw the tenderness of heart a woman exhibits toward the inanimate things of the man she loves. He felt she already had a wife's claim upon him.

He slipped his arm about her.

"Lucille, dearest," he said softly, "I cannot leave you out of my sight for a moment. Can it be today, dear?"

She knew what he asked.

"Not today, Van," she smiled. "We'll need a license. But," and her voice was sweetly consoling, "it can be tomorrow."

In the glowing sun, over the new grass in which the tiny wind-flowers blew, they slowly made their way down the Mount.

Farmer's Wife Gets Fancy Prices for Produce in Attractive Containers

By Mary Harrod Northend

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

A STORY of how a farmer's wife proved the value of color in selling fruits, vegetables and flowers. It was just before the thirtieth of May. Two years ago the idea came to her and she carried it out sending a wagon loaded with baskets of pansies, English daisies, forget-me-nots and late tulips, into the market on Decoration Day. The baskets had



TULIPS IN COLORED BASKETS.

all been colored. A big boiler of dye was mixed with the desired color, after which it was carried into the shed, where the baskets were dipped into the dye with a stick. They were then put out in the sun to dry.

She purchased baskets with wire handles as she had noticed they sold more readily and were easy to carry. They were colored in dull blues, soft greens, and golden browns. The plants were then picked out carefully,—for a dull blue basket was chosen, the dainty, blue forget-me-not, and the pink English daisy formed a border. A golden brown basket was filled with different shades of yellow tulips, while the green baskets had the faces of the soft, velvety pansies in the purple shades, some so light as to be almost gray, while others were nearly black; in this way she gave each basket individual thought.

She sent twenty dozen to the market, looking after them as they were placed in the great farm wagon, seeing that the colors were correctly placed, for the appearance of the wagon must be given as much thought by her, she realized, if she would sell her merchandise, as the merchant gave to his store window.

Her husband had decided to drive the team into the city, stopping at the foot of the common. It was not long before the customers began to gather around the space about the wagon with its bright burden of flowers. The crowd reminded one of bargain day in a department store, here and there were seen on the street colored baskets in the hands of all classes of men and women, some of them being carried to decorate the graves of the loved ones, or to brighten the homes of the sick,—old and young alike seemed pleased, and to appreciate them.

When there were only a few baskets remaining, a florist rushed up to the farmer asking him how many baskets he had left. He purchased them all, asking how many more he could bring that afternoon. The farmer replied that he was sorry, but the scheme had worked out beyond their expectation and they had sold all the baskets they had colored, so that he would be unable to give the florist any more that day,—however he took a large order for later in the week.

Starting from this the wife of the farmer has built up quite an unusual business, thinking up attractive and odd ways of sending things to the market, for instance, she colored a few strawberry baskets, a delft blue, filling them with the clean, fresh leaves of the fruit. She then picked out large, firm, red berries, with about an inch and a half of the stem left on each one, filling the boxes with these. These brought fancy prices in the market and numerous telephone orders (as they are served at lunches for the first course, on bed of powdered sugar, the guest eating them from the stem). Other baskets were colored by her and sent to the market, with fruits of different variety,—for instance, a basket colored a light violet, filled with luscious bunches of purple grapes, with a few of the leaves, was very attractive.

The better class of market-men were enthusiastic over her idea. She is near a small city of twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and as one of the market-men remarked, "if she could send them into a large city, giving them the same attention, she would not be able to meet the demand for her work," but she is quite content, however, for last year she cleared between eight and nine hundred dollars and this year is expecting more.

She is now planning Christmas baskets, filled in the same way with cranberries, apples and popcorn, coloring the baskets and arranging them



PANSIES IN COLORED BASKETS.

with the fruits, and in among them will be greens gathered from the woods. She says she realizes, as never before, the value of color in everything when it is harmonious. Undoubtedly there are many opportunities of adding artistic touches along these lines that the average farmer does not have time to consider, but may be these suggestions will prove of interest, even if they are not considered practical by all. This is the experience that one farmer's wife has had on a sixty-five acre farm, situated in the heart of Essex County, in Massachusetts.

AN EASTER THOUGHT

JAMES TERRY WHITE

The lilies hear the Easter call,
And wake their promise to repeat:
Why should the cypress wreath appal?
Can aught to love and thee befall,
Where bides the impress of His feet?

Nerine's Second Choice

by Adelaide Stirling



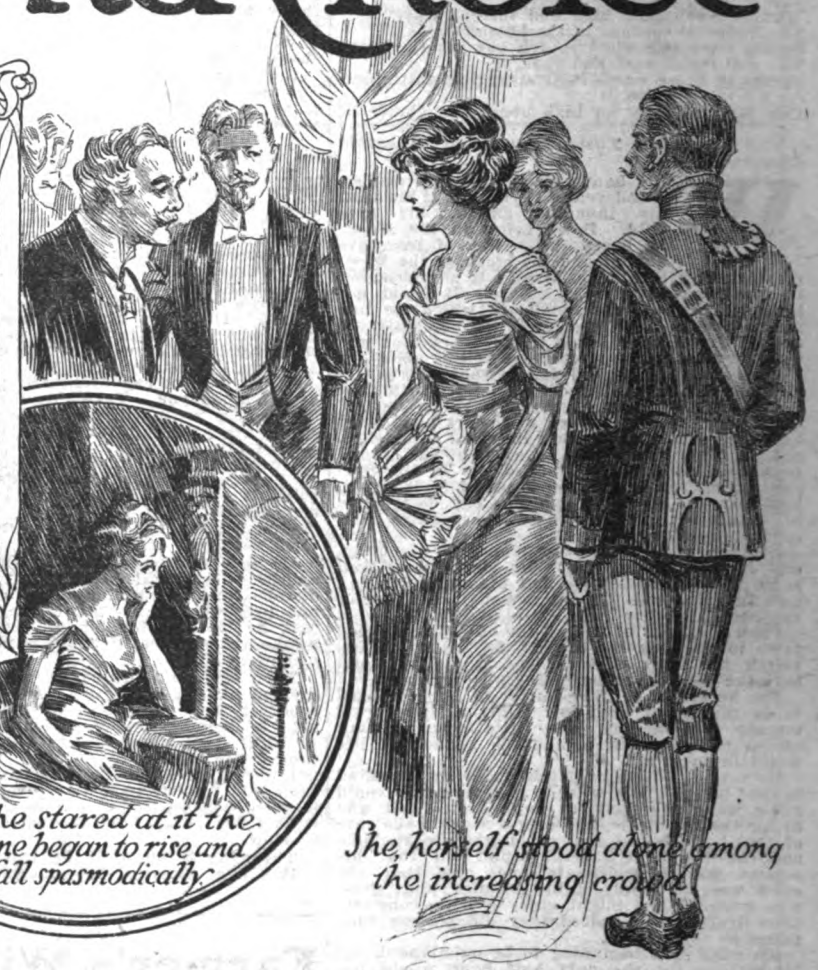
"There's no need to hold me," sullenly, "I'd just as soon tell you."



"You are ridiculously alike and most—oh! most terrifically different."



As she stared at it the flame began to rise and fall spasmodically.



She, herself stood alone among the increasing crowd.

Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

John Lispenard, cousin to Kit Belton's mother, marries a Canadian girl. Dying he leaves a widow, two girls, Agatha and Nerine, and one son Maurice. Mrs. Lispenard marries Clarence Mayne, an interloper. At her decease she leaves Clarence Mayne an income until the girls are of age. Lispenard house and money go to the male heir in the direct line. Clarence Mayne goes on a trip to Monte Carlo, Kit Belton comes on a visit, while Maurice Lispenard, denied the education which is his by right, walks from Liverpool, where he is learning to be a mechanical engineer, to be with Kit Belton. Jones, known to Maurice as Lister, is ordered to harness the horses, when they go to see Lord Satterlee in a game of football. Agatha recognizes him. He has attended St. Jude's that he might see her. Maurice invites Lord Satterlee to dine with him. A young maid, not familiar with the house, and suspicious, leaves him in the darkness. He gropes his way to Clarence Mayne's room, where Nerine finds him later. She picks up a fallen table. In a secret drawer she discovers a book with her mother's initials on it. Nerine and Agatha going for a walk meet Lord Satterlee who hopes to see them at the next dance. Returning to Mr. Mayne's rooms the next day Nerine discovers that they are occupied during his absence and detects a strange woman putting the Lispenard silver in a strong bag. Left alone Nerine substitutes stones and minerals and covers them with her silk skirt. The woman returns, there is a struggle and Nerine falls senseless.

CHAPTER X.

LADY SATTERLEE.

MR. JONES that wet evening had sauntered down to a public-house just opposite the railroad station, which was a favorite resort of his. He stood in the doorway out of the rain idly watching the passersby and wishing that a friend of his with whom he had an appointmest would be promptly on time.

Several people went by on their way to the station, little noticed by Mr. Jones, who took no interest in the traveling public. Suddenly a stout lady, carrying a large bag, came into view out of the streaming fog and passed, with a half mind to stop and enter the public-house, which made her pause just long enough to be recognized.

Mr. Jones was little and weazened and quick on his feet. He was down the street after the stout woman, and had clutched her before she had reached the brilliant electric lights of the station.

As she turned, startled and ready to scream, he addressed her.

"Shut up, now, Mary! Don't make no noise. I've caught you pretty well, my girl: Who was going home the first thing Tuesday morning? And where have you been ever since?"

"What's that to you?" said the woman. She had been drinking and her fingers had only an unsteady grip on the large bag she carried. It slipped out of her uneasy grasp and dropped with a thud on the pavement.

"What's this?" the man inquired, suspiciously. He picked it up in spite of her effort to be too quick for him, and its weight astounded him.

"You've been up at Mayne's," he swore, angrily. "Why did you write me that pack of lies about your going home at once? And what have you here?"

He looked at the bag. It was one of Mr. Mayne's, with his monogram in silver on its blue flap.

"It's mine!" the stout but untidy female returned, sharply making a quick grab at it, but uselessly.

"I think not."

Jones fumbled with the fastening and undid it.

"Why didn't you get a key while you were about it?" with a contemptuous glance. "And what's all this?" He ran his hand into the opening. Holding the bag cautiously, he withdrew into an alleyway and rummaged rapidly, while the woman fought quietly to wrench it away from him.

"Now be quiet, Mary," he ordered. "What the devil's this!" pulling out a stone, then another, and an end of purple silk. He stared wonderingly at them.

With an angry cry she snatched the articles and plunged her hands into the bag, furiously searching it.

"It's that girl!" She stamped her feet. "Curse her! She's got it—and I've been breaking my arm carrying a pack of rubbish!" She began to cry. "I hope she's dead," she exclaimed. "Why did I ever leave that window open on her?"

Jones shut the bag.

"You'd better just tell me all about it, or I'll walk you back to my stable and shut you up there till Mayne comes home." And he clutched her flabby arm with a grip she could not shake off for all her stout build and her anger. "Go on, now!" He shook her viciously, glancing round the dark alley to see that he was unobserved. "Look sharp."

"There's no need to hold me," sullenly. "I'd just as soon tell you. I've been fooled, and it don't matter now how much you know."

She leaned against the brick wall beside him and poured out her story. When she concluded he gave a low whistle.

"I almost wish you'd got off with the stuff; I owe that young whelp something. It would have melted into a good penny, too. But now that you've been caught there'll be a fine old row. Young Lispenard will tell the police, and things will look bad for me!"

He paused and reflected.

"Where'd you get the chloroform?" he sharply demanded.

"Off Mr. Mayne's washstand," she whimpered. "I knew he always had it for his asthma."

"Why did you want to go messing round with the silver?"

"So that he'd be blamed. I tell you I'm sick of him. I wish he was dead!"

"It wouldn't do you any good," Jones returned, quietly, "and all you've done is to make the place too hot for me. We'd better get away home and let Mayne know of your—nonsense. He won't want any police coming round after me—nor after you, either."

He picked up the bag and started for the station, hurrying his companion and swearing at her till she stopped crying and made her best pace beside him. He asked one more angry question as they hurried through the foggy street.

"Did you give the girl enough to do for her?"

"No; only just what Mr. Mayne used to take when the asthma kept him awake."

"I'm blessed if I know what to do," he muttered. "There's bound to be trouble, no matter how you take it!"

Arriving at the station he bought a ticket, hesitated, thought a second; then he pushed his companion into a second-class carriage and turned, bag in hand.

"I'm going to the telegraph office," was his only remark, but he was still there when the train went out of the station.

Mr. Jones was not astonished at being confronted by Jane on his return to his quarters over the coach-house with a message that Mr. Lispenard wanted him, but he was quite knocked out when throughout the long and stormy interview Miss Lispenard sat in the room, though apparently taking no part in the interrogatory.

"I know him better than you, Maurice," Agatha had said. "I shall know if he is lying or not when you could never tell." And she sat, placidly knitting, till Maurice, unsatisfied and angry, told the man to go.

Jones knew nothing about the bag or the inhabitant of Mr. Mayne's rooms. He had lost the latchkey of the side door. Yes, he might have dropped it in a public-house. He had been the worse for liquor one night; he might have taken it out of his pocket mixed up with loose coins and never seen it. But he would take his oath he had known nothing about the theft until he was told.

"Well," said Maurice, when the door had closed on the man, "what do you think of him?"

"I think that he really does not know anything about it. He may know who did it (did you see how he kept wiping his upper lip?) but I don't really think he had a hand in it."

Maurice lighted a pipe and smoked, silent and frowning.

"I tell you, Agatha," he said at last. "I've half a mind not to do anything about the thing. If we have Jones arrested on suspicion that means an end to our holiday at once! Mayne would come tearing back. And yet I don't at all like sitting by and having the devil's tricks played with my sister under my very nose."

The last thing Agatha wanted was to see Clarence Mayne return. Why, she did not even say to herself.

"If we could manage without a fuss it would be nicer," she returned, candidly. "But it is awful to think that some one may be walking about our house all the time and we not know it."

"Whoever it was, he is gone now, and I'll make it pretty hard for him to get back again! I tell you, Agatha, what I'll do. You can write to Mr. Mayne if you like," in answer to her look. "I don't care whether he knows or not, and I'll watch Jones. If I find out anything fishy we'll just run our friend in! Just now we've only suspicion to go on. The only trouble is that I may have to go back to work at any moment, and I can't leave you girls alone to go through any more chloroform business."

"There won't be any!" Agatha said, confidently. "Maurice, you don't think Mr. Mayne could have anything to do with that affair, do you?"

Maurice shook his head.

"Not from what Nerine says. And, besides, Mr. Mayne has absorbed all our income for years. A little silver more or less wouldn't be worth his while."

Are you going to sleep in Mr. Mayne's room?"

"Not I. I don't care what goes on in there. But I'm going to have a sofa across the door from our part while I'm here. Then I'll be pretty sure that no one gets in without my knowing. I say, Agatha, don't you let Jane know there's anything wrong. We don't want her talking about it. You see, we're rather in a hole about Jones. We can't dismiss him; he's Mayne's servant. If we told him to go he wouldn't. We can either accuse and prosecute him or do as I propose and keep dark. And I think that's the best way, on the whole."

"I can't write to Mr. Mayne," said Agatha. "I haven't his address—anything more, at least, than an idea of it—and I'm certainly not going to ask Jones." She rose, yawning, and stretched both her long arms over her head. "I'll tell the girls what you think and then we won't worry any more. Mr. Mayne may find out in time. I really can't tell him." And the usually conscientious Agatha, with pinker cheeks than was usual with her, left the room.

A couple of days passed without any event whatever. Satterlee's cake was put away in the cupboard to await his next visit, and the Lispenards walked and drove at their own sweet will, a slightly depressed Jones doing their bidding with a meekness which made them pretty certain that the stout lady of the bag had not been unknown to him, whether her object was or not. Mr. Mayne's henchman was not too comfortable, in truth, as to what that gentleman would do on his return, and it affected his appetite and his manners.

Into the calm atmosphere came a note to Maurice one morning which made Agatha color as she read it. She threw it across the table for public inspection.

Lady Satterlee was at the Highbury Hotel, and hoped that Maurice would bring his sisters to see her that afternoon.

"What do you suppose brought her?" she said, curiously.

"She's always going about the country with her maid and four dogs," Maurice returned, irreverently. "We'll go, of course. She's a very fine lady, indeed."

He left the room whistling, quite unconscious that the minds of the three young women had performed precisely the same leap into the futurity and jumped back again to the same conclusion.

That very afternoon the twins and Maurice—Kit having elected to stay at home—were ushered into Lady Satterlee's sitting-room in the Highbury Hotel. With an odd sensation, Nerine knew she had never been in a room like it before; that the old-fashioned interiors of the country houses to which she had paid state visits had never had one breath of the atmosphere lent to this ordinary hotel room by the mere passing visit of a woman of fashion.

An agreeable pinkish mist seemed to reign in the room, shed by two very pretty lamps. There were flowers and palms and a curious, delicate odor besides which was as balm to the girl's nostrils. At one side of the fire was a screen which looked all gold to dazzled eyes fresh from the dark wintry evening; in front of it was a tea table, and between the gold of one and the outspread silver of the other sat a woman who rose as they advanced.

Lady Satterlee greeted Maurice with effusion, the girls with moderation; he was that need of every-day life—a "nice boy;" they were the tolerated beings called "girls". Lady Satterlee was too modern to wish to cultivate girls.

As she got down into her comfortable chair again, interrupting her son's greeting to tell him to order some tea, Nerine had a clear impression of Lord Satterlee's mother.

Mother! She looked like his sister. Her artificial paleness, her terra-cotta hair, her exquisite eyes, her intricate and remarkable tea gown of apricot velvet, sable, and old lace, all stood out against the gold embroideries hung over the screen behind her like an old Italian picture.

"Where are the dogs, Lady Satterlee?" Maurice inquired as he handed around the teacups.

Lady Satterlee laughed, showing the whitest of lovely teeth. "Poor things! I left them. They are getting bored with traveling."

She had not stirred hand or foot to serve the tea, but as she took her cup from Maurice she nodded kindly and naturally at him. "I hear you've been entertaining Bobby. Awfully good of you; but your stepfather is away, he tells me, and I dare say you enjoyed it. I will come and dine with you myself when he is gone for good."

She had not taken the faintest apparent notice of the girls. Now she looked at them with calm and unveiled interest. "You are ridiculouslv alike and most—oh! most terrifically different," she said, taking in their beauty, their plain dress, their air, with one comprehensive look. "I should never mistake you."

Satterlee looked wonderingly at her.

"I don't see the difference," he said. "I did not know Miss Nerine from her sister at all at first."

"Your dear father, Bobby, was also extremely unobservant." She laughed at her son's glance at Agatha. So she was the attraction, and she had not half the character of her sister.

"I dare say, Miss Lispenard, that you have already discovered Bobby's density and the simplicity of his methods," she remarked. But it was Nerine's eye which understood hers and not Agatha's, though the latter answered.

"Now, about this dance," she continued, holding her cup in a hand whose magnificent rings glittered in the lamplight, to Nerine's fascination. "It illustrates Bobby's delightful simplicity so well," and she laughed kindly at her son.

"You might at least say 'his' dance; it doesn't sound so brutally indifferent," Satterlee interrupted.

"Well, his dance, then," affably. "I had not said three words to him before he launched out upon it. You know, Bobby, that you did not conceal for one second that my very opportune arrival was the reason of your great joy at seeing me."

"Well, one reason," Bobby assented, stretching his long legs well out in front of him as he took a vacant chair beside Nerine. "But I think it was you who congratulated me on providing at least an attempt at amusement for you."

Agatha looked at Lady Satterlee. Somehow, it had never occurred to her that a woman with a grown-up son could look forward to a dance from personal reasons, but then, it had not occurred to her either that at forty-four it was possible to look (in a dim light) like thirty.

Lady Satterlee read the girl's grave simplicity with one quick look of her big eyes.

"Miss Lispenard is thinking I should know better at my age," she said. "The fact is, I have not been to a dance given in barracks for an appalling period," she observed, giving her teacups to Maurice to refill. "Tell me, what sort of room do they propose we shall dance in? Once, in the dark ages, I ruined my very best frock dancing at a ball given by young persons like Bobby."

Agatha colored.

"But I don't know anything about the room, you know. We—Nerine and I—have never been inside the barracks in our lives."

"What? And you live in a garrison town!" They were refreshing, these girls, after the girls to whom she was accustomed.

"We don't go out much with Mr. Mayne," Maurice observed, dryly. 'We can't live up to his tone socially."

"But you do go out sometimes to teas, small dances?" said Lady Satterlee, interrogating Agatha, who only shook her head.

"We're not asked," said Nerine, truthfully. "I mean, as a rule, you know; and when we are, we won't go."

"But you will surely go with me to Bobby's party?"

Nerine sat upright in her chair.

"Do you really mean it?" she asked candidly, looking with bright eyes straight at this woman, who seemed to live in another world. "Shall we not be a nuisance?"

"To me"—gravely—"or to Bobby?"

Nerine colored.

"I meant to you," rather confusedly.

Lady Satterlee laughed. Her big eyes met Nerine's kindly, naturally.

"My dear girls," she said, "I shall be delighted to take you."

"It is very good of you to be troubled with us," Nerine said, gravely, "but it is not quite certain that we can go—that I can go, at least," making a feeble struggle.

Maurice frowned at her.

"Oh, you can go. We can all go," he declared, hastily, "unless Mr. Mayne comes back and forbids the banns."

Lady Satterlee broke out into a ripple of laughter.

"I wonder," she said, softly, and to no one in particular, "if I could not manage even Mr. Mayne?"

CHAPTER XI.

AT THE BALL.

"Where is Nerine?" inquired Miss Belton, appearing in the morning-room just at lunch time the next day, to find Agatha alone there, gazing rather morosely at the fire, over her darning basket.

"I've not seen her since breakfast, or Maurice either," her cousin returned, listlessly. "Lunch is ready; we won't wait for them."

Breakfast had been a stormy meal; one endless discussion, indeed, had raged ever since dinner the night before, and raged fruitlessly, storming the same ground over and over again without result. "The dance—they must go," from Nerine. "Of course they were going," loudly, from Maurice. "How could they go?" desperately, from Agatha. All this went on during the despondent silence on the part of Kit Belton, who sat miserable and self conscious because she could not give them frocks.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6.)

The Masked Bridal

by Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



She flushed with painful embarrassment, however, when a servant came in to wait upon them.

Edith was scarcely seated beside her when Emil Correlli made his appearance.

"See!-I kneel-I beg-I implore!"

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith. Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Edith Allandale, the only support of an invalid mother pawns a valuable watch. To redeem it she offers a five-dollar gold piece, paid to her by Royal Bryant, to the broker, who, dropping it into the drawer declares it a counterfeit and returns it. Going home her mother suggests it may be genuine and again Edith goes out to buy food and coal. While eating supper an officer enters, followed by the grocer who insists upon Edith's arrest for passing counterfeit money. She is hurried to the station house, leaving her mother in the care of Kate O'Brien. Edith writes to Royal Bryant explaining the situation. He redeems the watch, secures Edith's release and sends her home, where she finds her mother dying. After her death in reading letters, Edith learns she is an adopted daughter, the child of a dear friend, who believes she is legally a wife, until the father of her child admits his perfidy and deserts her. Edith writes Mr. Bryant, giving no address and goes to Boston, securing a position as companion with Mrs. Gerald Goddard. Edith discovers there is a skeleton in the family, when Mrs. Goddard accuses her of attempting to steal her husband's affections. Emil Correlli, Mrs. Goddard's brother is persistent in his attentions to Edith; she tries to avoid him and decides to leave. Mrs. Goddard begs her to stay. Edith, going to walk renders assistance to Mrs. Stewart, who is attracted to her and shows agitation when she learns she is a companion to Mrs. Goddard, and if she needs a friend to come to her. Edith is overtaken by Emil Correlli. Nearing Mrs. Goddard's house, a woman, unknown to Edith addresses Emil in a foreign tongue. Realizing that Edith thinks there is something mysterious in his relation to this woman he endeavors to set it right, renews his protestations of love, offers marriage and is staggered by her refusal. Mrs. Goddard unfolds a scheme which cannot fail to make Edith Allen his wife, but Emil must go away. Mrs. Goddard plans with Edith for a "mid-winter frolic," at their country home. The housekeeper, Mrs. Weld, overhears Mr. Goddard entreating his wife for a certain document. Mrs. Goddard proposes a theatrical performance entitled "The Masked Bridal." The guests arrive. Mrs. Weld takes a folded paper from Mrs. Goddard's jewel case; it vindicates her. Mrs. Goddard, having sent for Edith and seeing Mrs. Weld in an adjoining room devises a scheme to get her from meeting Edith to whom she explains that Miss Kerby and brother who have the leading parts, have been summoned home and requests Edith to supply Miss Kerby's place. Edith objects to what appears sacrilege. Over persuaded she consents and veiled and masked the ceremony is performed. When she hears Mrs. Goddard congratulate Emil she grasps the duplicity and nearly falls senseless. Mrs. Goddard, returning to the ballroom asks Emil to introduce his friend, Mrs. Stewart. Meeting her, Mrs. Goddard calls her husband, who recognizes in Mrs. Stewart his former wife.

CHAPTER XVIII.

"I SHALL NEVER FORGIVE EITHER OF YOU FOR YOUR SIN AGAINST ME."

THE morning following the great Goddard ball at Wyoming, found Edith much better, greatly to the surprise of every one.

At Emil Correlli's request, the physician had remained in the house all night, in case he should be wanted; and when he visited her quite early in the morning, he expressed himself very much gratified to find her so comfortable, and said she would do well enough without any further medical treatment, but advised her to keep quiet for a day or two.

This Edith appeared perfectly willing to do, and lay contentedly among her pillows, watching her kind nurse while she put the room in order, making no remarks, asking no questions, but with a look of grave resolve growing in her eyes and about her sweet mouth, which betrayed that she was doing a good deal of thinking upon some subject.

Mrs. Goddard came to her door immediately after breakfast, but Edith refused to see her.

She had told Mrs. Weld not to admit anyone; therefore, when the lady of the house sought admittance, the housekeeper firmly but respectfully denied her entrance.

"But I have something very important to say to Edith," madam persisted.

"Then it had best be left unsaid until the poor girl is stronger," Mrs. Weld replied, without moving her portly proportions and holding the door firmly.

"I have a message from my brother for her—it is necessary that I should deliver it," Mrs. Goddard obstinately returned. Mrs. Weld looked back into the room inquiringly.

"I do not wish to see any one," Edith weakly responded, but in a voice of decision which told the listener outside that the girl had no intention of yielding the point.

"Very well; then I wait until she feels stronger," said the baffled woman, whereupon she left.

Mrs. Weld spent as much time as possible with her, but she of course had her duties below to attend to; so, at Edith's request, she locked her in and took the key with her when she was obliged to go down-stairs.

Left alone, Edith fell into deep thought.

In spite of a feeling of despair which, at times, surged over her in view of the trying position in which she found herself, the base deception practised upon her, aroused a spirit of indomitable resistance, to battle for herself and her outraged feelings, and outwit, if possible, these enemies of her peace.

"They have done this wicked thing—that woman and her brother,'" she said to herself; "they have cunningly plotted to lure me into this trap; but, though they have succeeded in fettering me for life, that is all the satisfaction that they will ever reap from their scheme. They cannot compel me, against my will, to live with a man whom I abhor. Even though I stood up before that mutitude last evening, and appeared a willing actor in that disgraceful and sacrilegious scene, no one can make me abide by it, and I shall denounce and defy them both; the world shall at least ring with scorn for their deed, even though I cannot free myself by proving a charge of fraud against them. But, oh——"

The proud little head suddenly drooped, and with a moan of pain she covered her convulsed face with her hands, as her thoughts flew to a certain room in New York, where she had spent one happy, blissful week in learning to love, with all her soul, the man whom she had served.

She had believed, as we know, that her love for Royal Bryant was hopeless—at least she had told herself so, and that she could never link her fate with his, after learning of her shameful origin.

Yet, now that there appeared to have arisen an even greater barrier, she began to realize that a hope had not been quite dead—that, in her heart she had all the time been nursing a tender shoot of affection, and a faint belief that her lover would never relinquish his desire to win her.

But these sad thoughts finally set her mind running in another channel, and brought a gleam of hope to her.

"He is a true and honorable man," she mused. "I will appeal to him in my trouble; and if any one can find a loophole of escape for me I am sure he will be able to do so."

When Mrs. Weld brought her lunch, she sat up and ate it eagerly, resolved to get back her strength as soon as possible in order to carry out her project at an early date.

"If you feel able to talk about it now, I wish you would tell me exactly how they managed to hoodwink you to such an extent. Perhaps I may be of some service to you, when the matter comes to a crisis," the woman remarked, as she studied the sweet face before her with kind and pitying eyes.

And Edith related just how Mrs. Goddard had drawn her into the net by representing that two of her actors had been called away in the midst of the play and that the whole representation would be spoiled unless she would consent to help her out.

"It was very cleverly done," said Mrs. Weld, when she concluded; but she looked grave, for she saw that the entire affair had been so adroitly managed, it would be very difficult to prove that Edith had not been in the secret and a willing actor in the drama. "But do not worry, child; you may depend upon me to do my utmost to help you in every possible way."

The next morning Edith was able to be up and dressed, and she began to pack her trunk, preparatory to going away. The guests had all left on the previous day, and everything was being put in order for the house to be closed for the remainder of the winter, while it was stated that the family would return to the city on the next day, which would be Thursday.

Edith had almost everything ready for removal by noon, and, after lunch was over, sent word to Mrs. Goddard that she would like an interview with her.

The woman came immediately, and Edith marveled to see how pale and worn she looked—how she had appeared to age during the last day or two.

"I am so glad that you have decided to see me, Edith," she remarked, in a fondly confidential tone, as she drew a chair to the girl's side and sat down. "My brother is nearly distracted with grief and remorse over what has happened, and the attitude which you have assumed toward him. He adores you—he will be your slave if you only take the right way to win him. Surely, you will forgive him for the deception which his great affection led him to practise upon you," she concluded.

"No," said Edith, with quiet decision, "I shall never forgive either of you for your sin against me—it is beyond pardon."

"Ah! I will not intercede for myself—but think how Emil loves you," pleaded her companion.

"You should have said, 'think how he loves himself,' madam," Edith rejoined, "for nothing but the rankest selfishness could ever have led a person to commit an act of such duplicity and sacrilege as that which he and you adopted to secure your own ends. He does not desire to be pardoned. His only desire is that I should relent and yield to him which I never shall do."

As she uttered these last words, she emphasized them with a decided little gesture of her left hand that betrayed a relentless purpose.

"Ah!" she cried, the next moment, with a start, the movement having attracted her eye to the ring upon her third finger, which until that moment she had entirely forgotten.

With a shiver of repulsion, she snatched it off and tossed it into the lap of her companion.

"Take it back to him," she said. "I had forgotten I had it on; I despise myself for having worn it even until now."

"You are very hard—you are very obdurate," madam said, sharply.

"Very well; you can put whatever construction you choose upon the stand I have taken, but do not for a moment deceive yourself by imagining that I will ever consent to be known as Emil Correlli's wife; death would be preferable!" Edith calmly responded.

"Most girls would only be too eager and proud to assume the position—they would be sincerely grateful for the luxuries and pleasure they would enjoy as my brother's wife," Mrs. Goddard coldly remarked.

A little smile of contempt curled the corners of Edith's mouth; but otherwise she did not deign to notice these boasting comments.

"Edith, I beg that you will listen to me," madam earnestly pleaded, after a few moments of thought. "This thing is done and cannot be undone, and now I want you to be reasonable and think of the advantages which, as Emil's wife, you may enjoy. You are a poor girl, without home or friends, and obliged to work for your living. There is an escape from all this if you will be tractable; you can have a beautiful house elegantly furnished, horses, carriages, diamonds, and velvets—in fact, not a wish you choose to express ungratified. You may travel the world over, if you desire, with no other object in view than to enjoy yourself. On the other hand, if you refuse, there will be no end of scandal—you will ruin the reputation of our whole family—Emil will become the butt of everybody's scorn and ridicule. I shall never be able to show my face again in society, either in Boston or New York; and my husband, who has always occupied a high position, will be terribly humiliated."

"You should have thought of all this, madam, before you plotted for the ruin of my life; I am not responsible for the consequences of your treachery and crime."

"Crime! that is an ugly word," cried Mrs. Goddard.

"Nevertheless, it is the correct term to apply to what you have done—it is what I shall charge you with——"

"What! do you dare to tell me that you intend to appeal to the courts?" exclaimed madam, aghast.

She had fondly imagined that, the deed once done, the girl having no friends whose protection she could claim, would make the best of it, and gracefully yield to the situation.

"That is what I intend to do.

"And you utterly refuse to listen to reason?" Anna Goddard inquired, struggling hard for self-control.

"I utterly refuse to be known as Emil Correlli's wife, if that is what you mean by 'reason,'" said Edith, calmly.

"Girl! girl! take care—do not try my patience too far," cried her companion, with a flash of passion, "or we may have to resort to desperate measures with you."

"Such as what, if you please?" inquired Edith.

"That remains to be seen; but I warn you that you are bringing only wrath upon your own head. We shall never allow you to create a scandal—we shall find a way to compel you to do as we wish."

"That you can never do! It is my nature," she went on, after a slight pause, "to be gentle and yielding in all things reasonable, and when I am kindly treated; but injustice and treachery, such as you have been guilty of, always arouses within me a spirit which a thousand like you and your brother could never bend nor break."

"Do not be too sure, my pretty young Tartar."

"I rejected Monsieur Correlli's proposals to me some weeks ago," Edith resumed. "I made him clearly understand, and you also, that I could never marry him. You appeared to accept the situation only to scheme for my ruin; but, even though you have tricked me into compromising myself in the presence of many witnesses, it was only a trick, and therefore no legal marriage. At least I do not regard myself as morally bound; and, as I have said before, I shall appeal to the courts to annul whatever tie there may be supposed to exist. This is my irrevocable decision—nothing can change it—nothing will ever swerve me a hair's breadth from it. Go tell your brother, and then let me alone—I will never renew the subject with either of you."

And as Edith ceased she turned her resolute face to the window, and Anna Goddard knew that she had meant every word that she had uttered.

"Do you imagine you can defy us thus?" madam cried, laying an almost brutal grip upon the girl's arm, as she arose to abandon, for the time, her apparently fruitless task. "No, indeed! You will find to your cost that you have stronger wills than your own to cope with."

With these hot words, Anna Goddard swept angrily from the room, leaving her victim alone.

CHAPTER XIX.

"I WILL NEVER BREAK BREAD WITH YOU, AT ANY TABLE."

As the door closed after the angry and baffled woman, the portly form of the housekeeper entered the room from an apartment adjoining, where, as had been previously arranged between Edith and herself, she had been stationed to overhear the whole of the foregoing conversation.

"What can I do?" sighed the young girl.

"Nothing just yet, dear, but to try and get well and strong as soon as possible," responded Mrs. Weld.

"Did you hear how she threatened me?"

"Yes, but her threats were only so many idle words—they cannot harm you; you need not fear them."

"But I do; somehow, I am impressed that they are plotting even greater wrongs against me," sighed Edith.

"They will not dare——" began Mrs. Weld, with some excitement. Then, suddenly checking herself, she added soothingly: "But do not worry any more about it now, child—you never need 'cross a bridge until you come to it.' Lie down and rest a while; it will do you good, and maybe you will catch a little nap, while I go down to see that everything is moving smoothly in the dining-room and kitchen."

Edith was only too willing to heed this sensible advice, and, shortly after the housekeeper's departure, fell into a restful sleep.

She did not awake until it was nearly dark, when, feeling much refreshed, she arose and dressed herself, resolving that she would not trouble tired Mrs. Weld to bring up her dinner, but go down-stairs and have it with her, as usual.

The house was very quiet, for, all the guests having gone, there was only the family and the servants in the house.

Edith remained in her room until she heard the dinner-bell ring, when she went to the door to listen for Mr. and Mrs. Goddard and Emil Correlli to go down, before she ventured forth, for she had a special object in view.

Presently she heard them enter the dining-room, whereupon she stole softly down after them and slipped into the library in search of the daily papers.

She found one, the *Transcript*, and then hurried back to her room, lighted the gas, and sat down to read.

Immediately a low cry of dismay burst from her, for the first thing that caught her eye were some conspicuous head-lines announcing:

"A STARTLING SURPRISE IN HIGH LIFE."

These were followed by a vivid description of the festivities at the Goddard mansion in Wyoming, on the previous evening, mentioning the "unique and original drama," which had wound up with "the great surprise" in the form of a "*bona fide* marriage between the brother of the beautiful and accomplished hostess, Mrs. Goddard, and a lovely girl to whom the gentleman had long been attached, and whom he had taken this opportunity and very novel way of introducing to his friends and society in general."

Then there followed a *resume* of the play, giving the names of the various actors, an account of the fine scenery and brilliant costumes, etc.

The appearance of the masked bride and groom was then enlarged upon, an accurate description of the bride's elegant dress given, and a most flattering mention made of her beauty and grace, together with the perfect dignity and repose of manner with which she bore her introduction to the many friends of her husband during the reception that followed immediately after the ceremony.

No mention was made of her having fainted afterward, and the article concluded with a flattering tribute to the host and hostess for the success of their "Winter Frolic," which ended so delightfully in the brilliant and long-to-be remembered ball.

Edith's face was full of pain and indignation after reading this sensational account.

She was sure that the affair had been written up by either madam or her brother, for the express purpose of bringing her more conspicuously before the public and with the intention of fastening more securely the chain that bound her to the villain who had so wronged her.

Oh, it is a plot worthy to be placed on record with the intrigues of the Court of France during the reign of Louis the Thirteenth and Richelieu!" Edith exclaimed. "But in this instance they have mistaken the character of their victim," she continued, throwing back her proud little head with an air of defiance, "for I will never yield to them; I will never acknowledge, by word or act, the tie which they claim binds me to him, and I will leave no effort untried to break it. Heavens! what a daring, what an atrocious wrong it was!" she exclaimed, with a shudder of repugnance; "and I am afraid that, aside from my own statements, I cannot bring one single fact to prove a charge of fraud against either of them."

She fell into a painful reverie, mechanically folding the paper as she sat rocking slowly back and forth trying to think of some way of escape from her unhappy situation.

But, at last, knowing that it was about time for Mrs. Weld to have her dinner, she arose to go down to join her.

As she did so the paper slipped from her hands to the floor.

She stooped to pick it up when an item headed, in large letters "Personal" caught her eye.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6.)

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

Neither Kit nor Agatha had the heart to speak of the dance now; both in truth were glad to avoid the subject, and they ate their chops and mashed potatoes in a naturally grateful silence.

Suddenly the door swung open, and Nerine burst in, her eyes shining, her cheeks rose-pink from the sharp air. She bore an enormous package, which she placed tenderly on a chair, and behind her was Maurice, also wearing a calm smile of triumph, and also carrying a package.

"I went, I saw, I conquered!" cried Nerine, eying the surprised girls, who were staring at her across the half-emptied plates.

"How did you go?" said Agatha, stupidly; "and what on earth is in that parcel?"

"I went in the T-cart—driven by Mr. Lispenard, of Lispenard House"—with a smirk of mock respect at Maurice; "and if you ask where I went, it was to Stevens, the draper's. Here"—cutting the cords of her parcels—"are the spoils!"

Spoils indeed! Yards and yards of creamy, softest satin, white flannel to line it, filmy silky chiffon to cover the bodice and sleeves.

Agatha jumped up and looked with mingled anguish and pleasure at the simple materials, the like of which she had never owned in all her twenty years.

"Who—who paid for them?" she asked, faintly.

Maurice and Nerine exchanged expressive glances; then Maurice rose to the occasion.

"We charged them!" he said, magnificently. "They were delighted to have our custom."

"They really seemed to be," echoed Nerine, rather thoughtfully.

Agatha looked from one to the other.

"How much were the things?" she said sharply. "Tell me, Nerine! And who did you see in the shop? Was it Stevens himself?"

"Agatha's always so serious minded," Maurice remarked. "What does it matter of whom she bought them so long as we've got them? If it had not been for genius on my part, you'd never had 'em!"

Agatha stamped her foot; her placid eyes were blazing.

"Nerine, tell me all about it," she said. "I do not see how you could have been so mad as to go into debt for such things. If Mr. Mayne ever gets the bill, he will be so furious that he will probably put an advertisement in the papers warning people not to give us any credit!"

Nerine laughed with a comforting consciousness of merit.

"You old silly Agatha! Do you suppose I did not manage better than that? In the first place I had Maurice drive me—I thought it would look better than walking—then I went straight to Stevens himself and told him that Mr. Mayne was away and we were going to a dance with Lady Satterlee, and wanted gowns. I said we could not pay him till next year, and he said the money did not matter. Indeed, he waived the question as though it were one I shouldn't have mentioned."

Agatha looked relieved. Mr. Stevens was a kindly old man, who had sat next them in church when they were children and forced to attend every morning in the distasteful company of their stepfather. Many a sugar candy, flavored with peppermint and striped with strange colors, had he secretly handed into their pew to lighten the dullness of the sermon.

"We'll pay him long before a year," she said with determination.

"Oh, ages before!" Kit said, glancing at Maurice, and holding up the shimmering, pearly satin in seductive folds.

"I mean," hastily, "that I can lend you more money by and by."

"Stevens can wait," Nerine observed, as she made inroads on the lunch. "He expects to—thanks to my diplomacy."

Agatha sank limply down on the sofa.

"I don't see how you dared do it!" she exclaimed. Then her eyes kindled as they rested on the satin. "What a heavenly frock I can make out of that!" she said, devoutly, and Nerine laughed between two mouthfuls.

"Nothing to what I can make. I told you I meant to go to that dance, and I shall—in much glory and fine raiment."

And she gave Agatha that lovely liquid glance so full of mirth and sweet mockery, which had shown at once to Lady Satterlee the difference between the two girls.

That lady, piloted by her son, came to tea late that afternoon, and, with some languid interest as to whether her charges would be presentable or not, broached the subject of frocks. They need not wear anything fine. She herself would wear an old thing just fit to finish out at Bobby's ball.

"We will wear all we have," Nerine said, laughing, and that was all the information their chaperon received, for which she rather admired them.

The dressmaking operations were carried on in secret up in Kit's room, and never a thread or a clipping told the tale to Satterlee or his mother.

They were happy days which came before the dance—wildly happy to Nerine; she forgot in them the strangeness of the woman in Mr. Mayne's room; even the book she had safely hidden away. She grew lovelier each day; Lady Satterlee noted that keenly, and saw, too, what a revelation herself and her society were to the girl. Nerine fairly drank in the daintiness, the sweet scents, the luxury which surrounded the first woman of fashion she had ever known, and in return, Lady Satterlee liked her. Agatha was all very well if Bobby fancied her, but she had not the makings of a fine lady like Nerine, nor the air, nor the insolence, nor any of the possibilities of her sister. Lady Satterlee mused on the subject. Bobby was as much with one as with the other, as far as she could see, and if he were in earnest, he might as well take the pick of the bunch. Of course it would be a nuisance to have him married, but he had no need to marry money, and he was terribly susceptible, poor, dear Bobby! So perhaps it was best to let him do exactly as he wished. And then the dower house was really very charming—far more to her taste than Satterlee itself. She was quite resigned to the prospect of a Lispenard daughter-in-law, being in truth accustomed to treat Bobby's will as law, but she sincerely hoped it might be Nerine.

She much astonished her son by taking an active interest in the arrangements for the dance. She insisted on visiting the series of barrack-rooms which had been cleared out by Lord Satterlee and the three brother officers giving the dance, and she shed great sweetness and life on those toiling heroes.

She made several suggestions, which, of course, were adopted, and at last, with a mind at ease as to her comfort during the evening, she submitted to be driven back to her hotel and her dinner.

The Lispenards and Miss Belton were to dine with her at the hotel; afterward they would all drive over to the barracks together. Lady Satterlee smiled at herself as she looked in the glass and saw her maid fastening her diamond necklace. What a lot of trouble, too, she was taking for her Bobby!

Well seasoned as she was, she felt a strange thrill when her guests arrived. Agatha first, all in white, tall and straight, and perfectly arrayed from head to foot, every line of her distinguished; Kit in pale lilac over turquoise, with a turquoise velvet belt; and behind them—Nerine.

A new Nerine, whose black head was carried gloriously, whose cheeks were carnation-colored, whose gray eyes glowed softly under their black lashes like purple lights of love. What had come to the girl that she outshone them all? What had given that lovely curl to her sweet mouth, that clear elation to her eyes? Her arms, too, and her throat; it was hard to say where they and her white satin gown divided. The elder woman, looking at the girl in all the beauty of her twenty years, felt again that quick shudder. Just so, she remembered, had she been flushed and excited, just so had she gone to that prehistoric ball given "by young persons like Bobby."

"Bobby will meet us at the door," she said, as they all settled themselves in the carriage to start, Maurice on the box. "And then we shall have nothing to do but enjoy ourselves after I have shaken hands with two hundred people whom I don't know."

Agatha kicked Nerine softly.

"We won't know them, either," she said, forebodingly. "What on earth"—under her breath—"shall we do if we have no partners?"

But even Agatha's spirits went up as they got out after innumerable waits and jerks, at a door all covered with flags, and hurried through a narow passage lined with more flags, to the cloak-room, for they were early; they were the guests of honor, and Lord Satterlee stood outside, banging at the half-open door and beseeching his mother to hurry.

They got out at last, and into the ballroom. Nerine had a confused impression of an expanse of glittering floor, of flags caught up with trophies of bayonets round the walls, of a crowd of men in uniform, all of whom were introduced to her, and all put down their unintelligible names opposite a dance on her program.

Then some women arrrived, then more men: in a few moments the room was full, was packed,

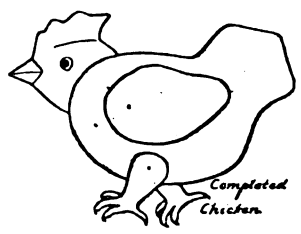
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

Easter Chicks That You Can Make

By Rosalie DeWolfe

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

AN Easter present that hasn't a chicken connected with it in some way or other is a very strange sort of Easter remembrance. The thousands of little yellow chicks all over the land are bringing Easter messages to thousands of boys and girls. Some are real live chickens that come to delight the little folks who live in the country; others are just little painted chicks that walk over the gay colored cards in the shop windows and down the covers of the picture books. Wouldn't you like to know how to make some cute little chicks yourself to send to your friends at the Easter season?



An Easter Chick that can Move Its Wings

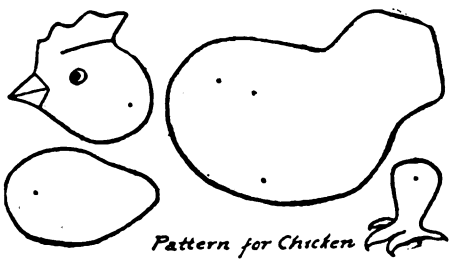
An Easter chick that can move its wings, its head and feet is not a complicated mechanical toy at all. Just a plain little made-by-hand pasteboard chicken that can do all these things if one only knows how to make it. Such a toy is a charming Easter gift for any little boy or girl who likes to see things go.

All the material you need for making him are some old pasteboard boxes, white if possible, some of the little metal fasteners such as are often used to keep papers together, your color box and a pair of sharp scissors.

Here is the pattern for this cunning toy. You see it is in four parts, head, body, wing and leg. Lay tissue paper on these figures and trace them off to be used as your own patterns. By using the pattern just as it stands, you will have a wee chick. You can enlarge it to any size you choose, remembering only that real chickens are never very large. When you have traced the outline, cut out around the edges and lay the pieces on your cardboard. Then mark around these edges. You will need to lay the pattern of the wing and the leg on twice. Cut out all the pieces and paint them a pretty, delicate yellow. Be careful that the edges are all covered with paint, so that chicky will not look unfinished. Prick little holes in the different parts at the points indicated in the diagram. Now it is time to make the body, wings, head and legs into one complete chick. Insert the little fasteners in the holes, securing them on the back but not too tightly. Put an additional fastener through the lower part of the body. To the backs of each fastener stick a bit of string; then bring all the strings together around the additional fastener at the base of the body. By pulling a string attached to all the combined strings, chicky will move his wings and his head very nicely.

An Easter Card from an Egg-Shell

This Easter card makes a pretty remembrance for Aunty, or some grown-up, although a little girl, too, would be pleased with one to hang above her desk. To make it, you will need



half of an egg-shell. One that has been broken for cooking will answer so there is no waste. Find some good, white cardboard, a few little feathers and some water colors. You may object that you can't get any feathers. If you don't live in the country, and own a chicken yard where the hens are always scattering their feathers or there isn't an old feather duster that is past usefulness, your chicken will have to get along without. Some of you may say you can't draw or paint, but you won't call *this*, drawing, it is so easy.

The foundation for the card is a piece of pasteboard five inches long by four wide. Cut the edges irregularly. Instead of using this foundation at first, it is a good plan to experiment with another piece of paper the same size. True the edge of the half egg-shell very carefully with very sharp scissors lest you crack it completely. This is to make the body of the little chick. Set it down on the practise sheet about in the middle. A head must be provided for this body. Above the egg-shell body, a little to the left, draw very lightly with your pencil, a one inch square. This is to be a help in drawing chicky's head so it should not be more than half an inch distant from the body. Inside the square make a circle which will touch the square at four points! Erase the faintly pencilled square and add a pointed beak at the left hand side and a dot of an eye inside. Now the chicken has a head. All that is necessary is to connect it with the egg-shell body by means of a neck. Two lines will make the neck. Sketch this on the practise paper. It will be easy to draw it on the good paper, after you have the idea. Two little feet are not difficult to add for they are just two pairs of straight parallel lines with four pointed toes at the end. Next paste the egg-shell securely in position on the square of paper you intend to use for your card and add the head, neck, bill, eye and two feet. Color the whole chick a delicate yellow with your water colors. But this poor chick is still wingless and tailless. It is for these that the feathers are needed. Give them a few touches of yellow paint and gum a tuft of feathers where the tail should be and a few more wings. If it is impossible to get feathers, draw a pointed tail and paint in the wings. Paint or print in pretty letters this little Easter message:

I've made this little chick to say,
I wish you joy on Easter day.

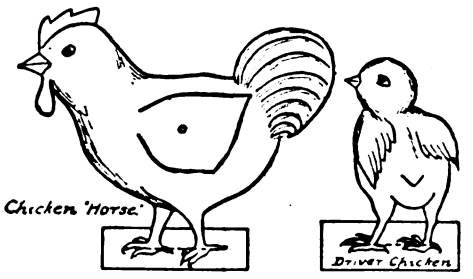
Add a loop of ribbon at the top by which this Easter egg chicken can be hung up.

Another Egg-Shell Chicken

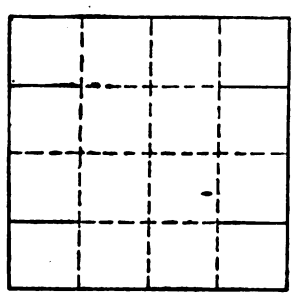
Another chick, one that will really stand on his feet, can be made from an egg-shell in much the same way as the Easter card chicken. For this you will need the whole shell instead of half. The valuable part of the egg need not be wasted. Prick a little hole in each end of the egg and blow its contents into a cup. Every bit of the yolk and white will come out in this way leaving the shell light and empty. Color the shell yellow with your water colors. Use the sketch of a head that you made before, in practising, as a model for this chicken's head. Writing paper rather thin will do for the head. There should be two thicknesses pasted together except at the bottom of the neck. Here two little flaps are left to turn back and fasten to the egg-shell. The chicken's head should be painted and his eye marked before it is attached to the body. His legs are two strips of paper pasted together with the flaps left open at top and bottom, at the top paste to the egg-shell, at the bottom to fasten to a little square cardboard standard. The legs should be stiff enough to support the egg-shell body. Wings and a tail are added in the same way as before. This little chick makes a dainty little favor for an Easter luncheon or an appropriate little gift for almost any one.

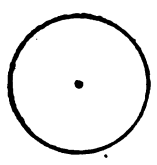
A Wagonful of Easter Chicks

This little wagon with its load of Easter chicks will serve both as a toy for a little friend or a favor for an older person. The body of



the wagon is made from a piece of drawing paper six and a half inches square. Light colored Manila wrapping paper will do very nicely. Fold the square in halves so that it becomes an oblong. Then fold it over in halves again, making it into a smaller square. Fold this smaller square in halves as before and again until what is left is a tiny square. Now open it all out and you will see that the paper is creased in sixteen small squares. Cut along one side of each corner square in such a way that if you kept on cutting along these same sides the outside strips would be cut off entirely. Do not cut them off, but bend up the four outside strips and paste the corners over so that a little box is the result. For wheels use pasteboard circles, two inches in diameter or paper disks that may be bought of the milkman. The thills are just strips of cardboard five and a half inches long and half an inch wide. Attach the thills and the two wheels through the same hole in corresponding sides of the cart by a small brass paper fastener. The big chicken that draws this little cart is traced from the chicken pattern and cut from rather stiff cardboard. Bend back that standard and fasten the thills to his sides with a paper fastener. You will see that the two-wheeled cart will balance nicely. The little passenger chicks are cut out in the same way from cardboard and painted yellow. Paste them inside the cart facing forward of course. Give your wagon a gay coat of paint or decorate it in any way that seems pretty to you. Festoons made of pale blue tissue paper fringed on the edges and fastened here and there around the sides of the cart make a very dainty trimming. From the hill of a little driver-chick in front end of the cart, stretch blue tissue paper reins to the horse-chick's head. Slip under his wing a little whip made of a toothpick wound with blue paper and ending in a little fringed tassel under. Two passenger chicks on opposite sides of the cart carry a paper banner raised on two toothpicks. The banner reads:





A Wagonful of Easter Happiness.

Just try some of these cute chicks and see what dainty Easter remembrances they make.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

Without imagining that it could have any special interest for her, she glanced in an aimless way over it.

Suddenly every nerve was electrified.

"What is this?" she exclaimed, and read the paragraph again.

The following was the import of it:

"If Miss Allendale, who disappeared so suddenly from New York, on the 13th of last December, will call upon or send her address to Bryant & Co., Attorneys, No. — Broadway, she will learn of something greatly to her advantage in a financial way."

"How very strange! What can it mean?" murmured the astonished girl, the rich color mounting to her brow as she realized that Royal Bryant must have inserted this "personal" in the paper in the hope that it would meet her eye.

"Who in the world is there to feel interested in me or my financial condition?" she continued.

At first it occurred to her that Mr. Bryant might have taken this way to ascertain where she was from personal motives; but she soon discarded this thought, telling herself that he would never be guilty of practising deception in any way to gain his ends. If he had simply desired her address he would have asked for that alone without the promise of any pecuniary reward.

She stood thinking the matter over for several moments.

At last her face cleared and a look of resolution flashed into her eyes.

"I will do it!" she murmured, "I will go back at once to New York—I will ascertain what this advertisement means then I will tell him all that has happened to me here, and ask him if there is any way by which I can be released from this dreadful situation, into which I have been trapped. I am sure he will help me, if any one can."

A faint, tender smile wreathed her lips as she mused thus, and recalled her last interview with Royal Bryant; his fond, eager words when he told her of her complete vindication at the conclusion of her trial in New York—of his tender look and hand-clasp when he bade her good by at the door of the carriage that bore her home to her mother.

She began to think that she had perhaps not used him quite fairly in running away and hiding herself thus from him who had been so true a friend to her; and yet if she remained in his employ, and he had asked her to be his wife, she knew that she must either have refused him, without giving him a sufficient reason, or else confessed to him her shameful origin.

"It would have been better, perhaps, if I had never come away," she sighed, "still it is too late now to regret it, and all I can do is to comply with the request of this 'personal.' I would leave this very night, only there are some things at the other house that I must take with me. But tomorrow night I will go, and I shall have to steal away, or they will find some way to prevent my going. I will not even tell dear Mrs. Weld, although she has been so kind to me; but I will write and explain it all to her after my arrival in New York."

Having settled this important matter in her mind, Edith went quietly down-stairs, and returned the paper to the library, after which she repaired to the tiny room where she and Mrs. Weld were in the habit of taking their meals.

The kind-hearted woman chided her for coming down two flights of stairs, while she was still so weak; but Edith assured her that she really began to feel quite like herself again, and could not think of allowing her to wait upon her when she was so weary from her own numerous duties.

They had a pleasant chat over their meal, the young girl appearing far more cheerful than one would have naturally expected under existing circumstances. She flushed with painful embarrassment, however, when a servant came in to wait upon them, and gave her a stare of undisguised astonishment, which plainly told her that he thought her place was in the dining-room with the family.

She understood by it that all the servants knew what had occurred the previous night, and believed her to be the wife of Emil Correlli.

But nothing else occurred to mar the meal, and when it was finished Edith started to go up to her room again.

She went up the back way, hoping thus to avoid meeting any member of the family.

She reached the landing upon the second floor and was about to mount another flight when there came a swift step over the front stairs, and before she could escape, Emil Correlli came into view.

Another instant and he was by her side.

"Edith!" he exclaimed, astonished to see her there, "where have you been?"

"Down to my dinner," she quietly replied.

"Down to your dinner?" he repeated. "If you were able to leave your room at all, your place was in the dining-room, with the family, and," he added, sternly, "I do not wish any gossip among the servants regarding my—wife."

"You will please spare me all allusion to that mockery," she bitterly, but haughtily, retorted.

"It was no mockery—it was a *bona fide* marriage," he returned. "You are my lawful wife, and I wish you, henceforth, to occupy your proper position as such."

"I am not your wife. I shall never acknowledge, by word or act, any such relationship toward you."

"Oh, yes you will."

"Never!"

"But you have already done so, and there are hundreds of people who can prove it," he answered, hotly.

"It will be a comparatively easy matter to make public a true statement of the case," said the girl.

"You will not dare set idle tongues gossiping by repudiating our union!" exclaimed the young man, fiercely.

"I should dare anything that would set me free from you," was the dauntless response.

"You would find very few who would believe your statements," he said; "for, besides the fact that hundreds witnessed the ceremony last night, the papers have published full accounts of the affair, and the whole city now knows about it."

"I know it—I have read the papers," said Edith.

"What! already?"

"Yes."

"Well, what did you think of the account?"

"That it was simply another clever piece of duplicity on your part, the only object of which was the accomplishment of your nefarious purposes. I believe you yourself were the author of it."

Emil Correlli started as if he had been stung. He did not dream that she would attribute the article to him—the last thing he could wish would be that she should think it had emanated from his pen.

Nevertheless, his admiration for her was increased tenfold by her shrewdness in discerning the truth.

"You judge me harshly," he said, bitterly.

"I have no reason for judging you otherwise," Edith coldly remarked; then added, haughtily: "Allow me to pass, sir, if you please."

"I do not please. Oh, Edith, pray be reasonable; come into Anna's boudoir, and let us talk this matter over amicably and calmly," he pleaded.

"No, sir; I shall discuss nothing with you, either now or at any other time. If," she added, a fiery gleam in her beautiful eyes, "it is ever discussed in my presence it will be before a judge and jury!"

"Yes, Anna told me you threatened that; but I hoped it was only an idle menace," he said. "Do you really mean that you intend to file an application to have the marriage annulled?"

"Most assuredly—at least, if, indeed, after laying the matter before the proper authorities, such a formality is deemed necessary," said the girl.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

DON'T LET all the PRIZES GET BY you, ENTER NOW and GET YOUR SHARE

April is the last month of COMFORT'S Grand Subscription Prize Contest. This is your last chance to win the prizes. You may win two big prizes this month if you enter now. You have as good a chance as anybody to win an April monthly prize and you may win a Grand Prize, too, besides premiums or cash commissions that pay you big for a little effort. Start today.



This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

THE letter below from "COMFORT Reader" and several similar requests, which are not printed, prompt me to give the readers a page from one of Uncle Sam's many valuable books, and the sisters are asked to supplement this by giving their own personal ideas along the lines suggested.—Ed.

Outfit for the Baby

It is very apt to be the case, especially with a first baby, that the mother wastes a good deal of vital energy in the preparation of an elaborate layette, only to find that many of the garments are outgrown before they are worn. On this account it is much more economical, not only of materials but of the mother's strength, to make only a few very simple garments at first. Later, when the baby is older, such a wardrobe as the mother desires may be added, but for a little baby plain garments of the softest materials procurable are the most suitable.

Large dealers now supply the entire outfit for an infant, and in many cases it is an economy to buy one of these layettes complete.

In preparing for the newborn several principles should be kept in mind. The first is that the garments must be warm without being unduly heavy; another, that they must be loose enough to provide for perfect freedom of the muscles; the third is the desirability of perfect simplicity; and the fourth that of cleanliness. Adornment serves no other purpose than to gratify the mother's taste.

The Baby's Clothes

The following list includes all the garments that it is necessary for any young infant to have for the first few weeks of life; later, if a more elaborate outfit is desired, other garments may be added:

Three abdominal bands, six by eight inches wide and twenty inches long, soft flannel strips, unhemmed. Three shirts, size two, wool and cotton, or wool and silk, not all wool. Four flannel skirts. "Gertrude" style. Three nightgowns or wrappers of outing flannel, buttoned in front. Eight white slips. Three knit bands, with shoulder straps, part wool. At least four dozen diapers. Cloak. Cap. Carriage blanket of crocheted or knitte wool. Three pairs of socks, if in summer; three pairs of long white merino stockings, if the weather is cold.

Nursery Equipment

The essential articles for the baby's nursery are a comfortable bed and the things that will be needed in his toilet. The following list will be found to include the essential items:

An old soft blanket. Four dozen safety pins of different sizes. Some old soft towels. Soft wash cloths. Hot-water bag, with flannel cover. Talcum powder. Castile soap. Olive oil. Two ounces of boric acid.

A crib. If desired, a clothes basket makes a good bed. A basket or box that may readily be moved about is a great convenience. The mattress for any sort of a bed may be made from table felting, which, when folded a few times, makes a very soft, smooth bed and has the great advantage over the ordinary mattress that it may be washed and boiled and dried in the sun.

Additional Conveniences

Below is a list of additional articles that will be found convenient in the care of the baby:

Bathtub, tin, galvanized-iron ware or rubber. Drying frames for shirts and stockings. Bath apron of Turkish toweling or outing flannel. A low chair, without arms. Baby scales. A low screen, to protect the baby while it is being bathed. A low table on which to bathe and dress the baby. *U. S. Dept. of Labor.*

DETROIT, MICH.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been a subscriber of COMFORT for some time and am much interested in all parts of the paper.

I wonder if I might ask you or some of the sisters to put in the paper an outfit for a new born baby, which is to be born about the middle of the summer; also how to make the clothes and what kind of goods to use.

I am not very good at dressmaking but know I could do some sewing if I had the instructions.

I would be very much obliged to you if you will do this for me, and perhaps many others would like to see the same thing in print.

COMFORT READER.

MOSINEE, WIS.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Just move over a little, please, and let another schoolma'am enter your happy circle. How many teachers are here? Not very many I think. I always look for the teachers' letters first, when I'm reading COMFORT Sisters' Corner. I don't find many of them though I like to read the descriptions of the many sisters, so I'm going to give you a slight idea how I look. I'm very tall and have blue eyes, dark hair, fair complexion, and wear glasses. I've been a teacher for eight years and have seen the bright and the dark sides of teaching. What troubles me most in my schoolwork is teaching geography. I always found that to be a difficult subject to teach.

What I want, is to have the teachers in the different states help me a little in this matter by letting their pupils correspond with mine. If any of the teachers would write to me I'd send them the names and addresses of some of my upper form pupils.

I think this would help make geography real to them.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9.)



With the use of Royal Baking Powder, fewer eggs are required and in some recipes, may be omitted altogether.

Just add a small quantity of Royal, about a teaspoon, in place of each egg omitted and you will obtain excellent results and effect great economy. The following recipes are practical illustrations:

A new and economical way to make a fine sponge cake



SPONGE CAKE

1 cup sugar
½ cup water
2 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon flavoring
3 eggs
1 cup flour
⅛ cup cold water

The old method called for 6 eggs and no baking powder

DIRECTIONS:—Boil sugar and water until syrup spins a thread and add to the stiffly beaten whites of eggs, beating until the mixture is cold. Sift together three times, the flour, salt and baking powder; beat yolks of eggs until thick. Add a little at a time, flour mixture and egg yolks, alternately to white of egg mixture, stirring after each addition. Add ⅛ cup cold water and flavoring; mix lightly and bake in moderate oven about one hour.

Eggs are not necessary to make these excellent muffins



EGGLESS MUFFINS

2 cups flour
1 cup milk
4 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
2 tablespoons sugar
½ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons shortening

Makes 18 muffins

The old method for plain muffins called for 2 eggs

DIRECTIONS:—Mix and sift dry ingredients, add milk and melted shortening and beat until smooth. Bake in greased muffin tins in hot oven 20 to 25 minutes.

A delicious, inexpensive dessert easily made at home



JELLY ROLL

1 cup sugar
1 egg
3 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
6 tablespoons hot water
1½ cups flour

The old method called for 3 eggs

DIRECTIONS:—Mix and sift dry ingredients; stir in well-beaten egg; add hot water; beat well until smooth; pour into large well-greased pan. Batter should be not more than ¼ inch thick for cakes to roll nicely. Bake in slow oven. Turn out on sheet of brown paper, well dusted with powdered sugar. Beat jelly with fork and spread on cake. With sharp knife trim off all crusty edges and roll up while still warm by lifting one side of the paper. To keep the roll perfectly round, roll up in cloth until cool.

Booklet of recipes which economize in eggs and other expensive ingredients. Sent free on request.
Address: ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 130 William Street, New York

Royal Baking Powder is made from Cream of Tartar, derived from Grapes, and adds none but healthful qualities to the food.

NO ALUM NO PHOSPHATE

ROYAL BAKING POWDER SAVES EGGS

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

The Quality of Meats

IN order to become a good judge of meats it is very helpful to have a few lessons from an experienced buyer. The different cuts will thus be easily learned, but the quality of the meat depends on so many factors, as the age of the animal, the breed, and the method of fattening, that it is easy to make mistakes in choosing, and the buyer will often be wise in accepting information from the dealer, if he is one who prides himself on keeping first-class meats. Having found such a one, the customer who wishes to save time and money will continue to buy of him. The very large amount of meat which some housekeepers provide is not necessary. In general it is better to use a reasonable amount of that which is in prime condition rather than to economize on the quality. The meat is easily supplemented by other dishes, and the whole meal will thus be better balanced than would be the case if a larger amount of inferior meat were provided. Although not generally understood, it is just as important that the cheaper cuts of meat, as well as the dearer ones, should come from a well-fattened animal.—*U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.*

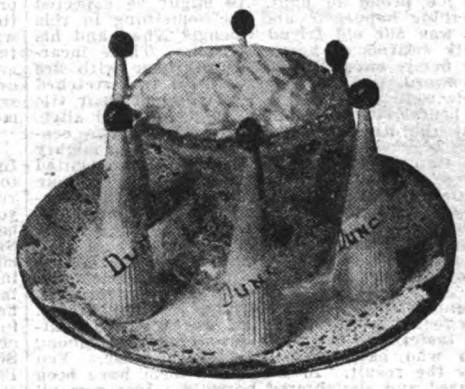
TOMATO BISQUE.—One pint of tomatoes, one pint of sweet milk, one level teaspoon of salt, a little pepper, one tablespoon of butter, one half teaspoon of soda, one half cup of bread or cracker crumbs. Stew the tomatoes one half hour, add soda, stir until the froth disappears, then strain. Add crumbs and seasoning. Just before serving stir in a pint of boiling milk.

SOUR MILK GRIDDLE-CAKES.—To one cup of flour add one teaspoon of sugar, half a teaspoon of salt and one cup of sour milk to which half a teaspoon of soda has been added and one well-beaten egg. Beat well together. Grease griddle with a piece of salt pork and drop in batter a spoonful at a time, and unless it sizzles as soon as it touches the griddle the iron is not hot enough. As soon as cake is full of bubbles it is ready to turn. Serve with syrup or butter and sugar.



SOUR MILK GRIDDLE-CAKES.

APRIL FOOL SHERBET.—Juice of four lemons, one quart of boiling water, one pint of sugar and the whites of two eggs. Scrape the yellow of one lemon rind into the boiling water, add sugar and let stand at boiling point till clear. Add lemon juice. When cold pack in freezer, three parts ice finely chopped to one part coarse salt. Let stand fifteen minutes, then turn freezer slowly, and when partly frozen add the whites of eggs beaten stiff and dry; then finish freezing.



APRIL FOOL SHERBET.

To serve, heap a glass dish with the well frozen sherbet, place it in center of tray, and surround it with ice cream cones turned upside down and topped with a cherry. On each cone print the word "Dunce" and serve sherbet in cones. If cones cannot be obtained, make them of thin cardboard and line with two thicknesses of paraffin paper.

SMOTHERED ROUND OF BEEF.—Cook four slices of fat salt pork in frying pan till fat is extracted, then add one sliced onion and cook until light brown. Remove onion and in the flavored fat cook brown on both sides a two or two and a half pound slice of round of beef. Pour in enough boiling water to just cover the meat, add the onion, cover and let simmer till tender, then transfer the meat to a heated platter. Cook two tablespoons of flour in two tablespoons of water, add gradually one cup of strained beef liquor, season with pepper and salt, cook and stir till thick and pour around the meat.

DRIED BEEF AND CREAM.—Cut into small pieces enough dried beef to make one and one half cups. Have in readiness a pint of rich milk, one and one half tablespoons each of melted butter and flour, and one egg. Put the milk on the stove in a double boiler and when it reaches the boiling point, add the butter and flour which have been well blended, and stir until it forms a thick, smooth cream. Put the prepared beef into a strainer, pour through it a quart of hot, but not boiling, water, drain, stir it into the cream and let it heat thoroughly before serving. Stir the egg well into the mixture and add salt and pepper to taste. Serve with baked potatoes.

HOT ROAST HAM, CIDER SAUCE.—Soak ham in cold water, wash and put in kettle with one half cup each of onion and carrot, two sprigs parsley and four cloves. Cover with cold water, bring to boiling point and simmer until tender. After two hours add one quart cider. Allow ham to cool in liquor, remove, take off skin and bake one hour.

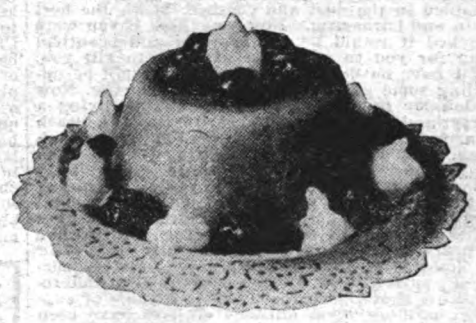
CIDER SAUCE.—Melt three tablespoons butter, add four tablespoons flour and two cups ham liquor. Bring to boiling point, add four tablespoons cider and a little pepper.

SCALLOPED SAUSAGE.—Arrange half-a-dozen slices of sausage in the bottom of a baking dish, pile on top mashed potato which has been well seasoned with salt, pepper and butter, and into which a cup of hot milk has been beaten; dot with bits of butter and bake half an hour in a hot oven.

BAKED SAUSAGE.—Arrange the rounds of sausage in a shallow baking dish, pour around them a little stewed and seasoned tomato and bake till brown.

FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

CHOCOLATE PUDDING.—Bring two cups of milk to a boil in double cooker. Slowly stir in four even tablespoons of corn-starch wet with one third cup of cold milk; add half a cup of sugar, pinch of salt, and three heaping tablespoons of grated chocolate melted with two tablespoons of sugar; cook twenty minutes, stirring frequently. When slightly cool, beat in one teaspoon of vanilla, and fold in the stiffly beaten whites of four eggs. Put into mould, and when ready to serve, turn out on plate and garnish with alternate mounds of whipped cream and cherries, and surround a mound of whipped cream with cherries on top.



CHOCOLATE PUDDING.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9.)



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

HOP up onto my lap and snuggle down close. This is a critical period in the history of our country and of the world, and the letter and comments that follow should be studied by all of you with profound interest.

East Northfield, Mass.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have thought long and seriously on the subject of war and self defense and I have come to the conclusion that before I would take the life of any human being, I *would die myself*. As long as there is breath left in my body I shall stand to this decision. Is there any one who dares to say it is cowardly to die a martyr's death for righteousness sake?

Lovingly yours, COUSIN C.

The lady who wrote the above letter and requested that her name be withheld was once a student at Northfield Seminary, founded by the famous evangelist Dwight L. Moody. Cousin C., like so many of those who are afflicted with acute pacifism, has gone all astray on the subject on which she feels so deeply. But that is not her fault, as nearly all the other pacifists go off half cocked and always explode before they know what they are exploding about, and before they have thoroughly informed themselves on the subject which has aroused their too abundant emotions. Cousin C. is one of those peculiar people who if attacked would make no defense. She would allow the other fellow to kill her, but she would never kill the other fellow, and she and all other pacifists believe that that is the correct stand to take, the stand that would be most pleasing in the sight of God. Well if everybody thought as Cousin C. does everything would be perfectly lovely. We could cheerfully become non-resisters, for there would be no evil in the world and no enemies to resist. If no one was disposed to attack anyone else there would be no need for self defense. But for the love of Mike what are you going to do when you live in a world where a good half of the people, and that half the worst half, is always looking for a chance to wipe the other half, which is the good half, clean off the earth?

Now what would happen to us if we allowed rats and mice, roaches, bedbugs and all other forms of vermin to run riot all over our homes? You know what would happen. They would have possession of the home and we would be on the outside. If we did not fight the bugs and insects we'd have no crops. If we didn't fight cold we'd freeze to death. If we didn't fight fire we'd burn to death, and if the good people in the world don't resist the bad ones, the human vermin, the good people will soon be wiped out, and the criminal and degenerate, the vile, the murderers and the bloodthirsty will soon rule the world.

Now take a brief survey of the past and see what man has come up from. In the dawn of our race upon this planet, men and women lived in trees and caves and ran wild in the swamps and jungles, terrorized by the mighty beasts that roamed around them. In those days every man's hand was against his neighbor's. There was no marriage, no family life. Then man got interested in the babe a savage woman bore him. That made him interested in the mother, and the two of them found a common shelter and that was the first home. The woman stayed "home" while the man went out and killed wild animals for food, or slaughtered his neighbor and dragged him home to his cave and made a meal of him. Thus family life began. Children grew up and brought more children into the world, and the family became the clan. Instead of one man going out to kill the wild men and mammoth beasts that roamed the jungle, the family or clan went out, and in time the mastodon and the sabre tooth tiger and other of their species disappeared, and man turned from hunting to husbandry; the clan became the tribe, the tribe became the nation, and the first duty of a nation in those days as it is in these, is to protect its citizens and make life and property safe. A government that does not do this is no government at all, but is a farce, a humbug and a breeder of anarchy.

And now a common interest and a common danger has made nations go further, and today we find groups of nations, fighting other groups of nations. When this war ends we shall probably find the whole world divided into two camps, and we shall be forced into one camp or the other and our isolation and selfish aloofness will be a thing of the past. Now my dear Cousin C., I am confident you would fight rats and mice and would even shoot a mad dog if it attacked you and you had a gun in your hand. Self preservation is the first law of nature and life is as sweet to the pacifist as to anyone else. In this world there are the forces of darkness and the forces of light, the forces of evil and the forces of good. You are arrayed on the side of good. The forces of evil are things that cannot be argued with. They must be fought and crushed. If you do not do your part in crushing them, somebody must do it for you, or all that is holy, beautiful and godlike in this world will be trampled in the dust and crushed 'neath the heel of sin and barbarism. Now you think if you were attacked it would be an inspiring and beautiful thing for you to allow the attacker to kill you, and I have no doubt you think you would be upholding some glorious principle by so doing. Now pardon me my dear, you would not be dying a martyr's death, you would be dying the death of a worm, the death of a craven and a poltroon. You'd be utterly wasting every good thing that God had put into your body and by your ignoble death, you'd be aiding in the destruction of all that millions of real martyrs in the past, have sacrificed their lives for. You seem to forget that for you to live in peace and comfort and worship God after the dictates of your own conscience and to surround yourself with all the conveniences and refinements that this present age is capable of supplying millions upon millions of lives have been sacrificed, and rivers and oceans of blood have been shed. You are willing, selfishly willing, though you do not realize it, to take every advantage of all this terrific sacrifice, but you are not willing to do one single thing yourself to help in the perpetuation of those things which you enjoy and accept as a matter of course, things others have fought and died for so that we might benefit by them. Yes, you will say, I am willing, I am willing to go and preach love to the world. That I do not doubt, but there comes a time in the affairs of men and nations when the forces of evil will not listen to talk and when only physical resistance to evil counts. You I know devoutly believe in the Prince of Peace, the Christ. Now why did not Christ go and talk to the money changers in the temple? For good and sufficient reasons. He knew the time for talking had past and the time for doing had arrived. He did not hesitate to use force. You of course will say that force settles nothing, though it settled King George's rule on this continent and put an end to black slavery and drove Spain from Cuba. Evidently Christ thought that force was a necessary and righteous thing to use at times or he would not have resorted to it. He knew when to fight as well as when to talk, and He didn't hesitate to fight when the time came, and if you would uphold the precious things He taught and the precious principles He promulgated, you must be ready, not to waste your life, but to fight valiantly as a Christian soldier should against the armies of darkness.

I have no doubt that in the Northfield Seminary there is a copy of that beautiful old picture, the Puritan maiden going to the meeting-house on Sunday, with her Puritan lover by her side. And you will all please note that the young Puritan carries a gun over his shoulder. You know what that gun was for? It was to protect the maiden and himself from marauding Indians. Every New England farmer at one time had to have his rifle by his side when he worked in the fields. The Puritan maid and her lover were just as good Christians as you are Cousin C., and infinitely more level headed and practical. They were dealing with realities and facing facts, something people who hold your views, alas, will never do. If it had not been for that gun the Puritan carried over his shoulder there would be no semi-Christian civilization on this continent today. Northfield would not be sending forth its Christian missionaries. Instead the Redskin with his painted face, his blanket and his bow and arrow would be master of this, the fairest continent on the earth. Why is there any Christianity or sham Christianity on the face of the earth today, or any civilization either? Only my dear, because men have been willing to fight and die for ideals, beliefs and principles. When Rome grew soft and voluptuous, hordes of barbarians swept in from the north and overwhelmed her, and the Roman Empire crumbled and Europe was plunged back into centuries of darkness. It was for a time touch and go as to whether it should be Mahomet or Christ, occidental or oriental in Europe. Charles Martel in the eighth and John Sobieski in the seventeenth century rolled back the tide of Moslem invasion. If Henry Ford, Bryan, Professor Jordan and yourself, my dear Cousin C., and a lot of other cloud dwellers had been on the job, the Moslems would have overwhelmed Europe, the Christian maidens would have been huddled into harems and the Christian gentlemen would have been converted into slaves, eunuchs or fertilizer. Those two events are beacon lights of history. Write them down on the tablets of your memories. Here is another. The Greeks at Marathon and Salamis hurled back the tide of Persian invasion. If Ford and Bryan had been on the job, the Persians would have been allowed to have their way and we should have had no Aristotle, Plato, Thucydides, Aeschylus, Herodotus, etc., to have made literature glorious and to have laid the foundations of such civilization as is ours to enjoy today. In the thirteenth century Persia had developed quite a remarkable civilization. It had schools and universities, philosophers and literary men and quite a remarkable culture. These gentlemen however, like Ford and Bryan did not believe in armies. They spent a lot of money in the newspapers of their time, advertising as Ford has done, their preposterous notions of peace at any price and national impotence. About this time along came that terrible monster Genghis Khan with his ferocious hordes of Mongols, and down went Persian civilization in the dust. Russia at that time was struggling bravely up toward civilization. It had adopted Christianity, but did not believe in armies and was too proud to fight. As might be expected something happened, and the something in this case was our old friend Ghengis Khan and his blo ly swarms of human locusts These incarnate fiends swept Russia to the bone with fire and sword, and for two centuries the wretched people were crushed 'neath the heel of their vile and brutal conquerors and simply skinned alive. What the Russians endured in those two centuries beggars description. It would be a mighty good thing for some of the people in the United States if they could have just twenty-four minutes of that kind of misrule, torture, degradation and torment that Genghis Khan handed out to the wretched Russians for two hundred years. Nothing short of a little experience of that kind will ever bring a certain class of badly balanced, peace paranoiacs out of the clouds of their folly. The Armenians are naturally a peaceable folk, surrounded by a bloodthirsty, warlike people. They foolishly listened to the prattle of the pacifists, instead of the more far-seeing men among them who bade them arm for defense. You know the result. A million of them have been tortured and slaughtered horribly. Just now all China trembles every time a Jap turns over in bed. If we listened to Ford and Bryan and a lot of othed half baked dreamers we'd all be wearing pigtails and working twenty-five hours a day for a handful of rice, and we'd be lucky if our conquerors gave us the rice. If you Cousin C. had had your way, you would be living, not in the land of the free and the home of the brave, but in the land of degradation and the home of the slave. We would have no Lincoln and Washington in our history, and you'd see slave pens of black men grouped around the Bunker Hill monument.

You will tell me that Christ said "Resist not evil." That was to be a personal and not a national matter. In the 18th Chapter of St. John, 23rd verse, Christ said to the man who struck Him: "Why smitest thou Me?" He did not turn His other cheek to be smitten, on the contrary He started an argument, and most arguments lead to blows. If you saw a burglar stealing your property or a rat eating your bread, or dirt and neglect killing one of your children, if you wanted to sit back and resist not the evil but let it take its course, I suppose you'd be privileged to do it, but if that property the burglar was about to steal had been placed in your hands for safe keeping, or that bread had been given you to sustain another's life, or that child had been placed in your care to raise in health and strength, you would be in duty bound to resist the evil unto the death. Those into whose hands we have entrusted the life and honor of this nation, are in duty bound to protect these shores from invasion, to keep our coasts inviolate, and to see that no well meaning, but utterly misguided dreamers hand the whole bunch of us over on a platter to the first military nation that feels disposed to attack us. Isaiah warned the Jews that there was trouble brewing for them and they turned a deaf ear to his warnings and listened to the soft talk of the false prophets and pacifists of that time and what was the result? They got Babylon and they got bondage, and that's what any nation will get in a world that is full of ambitious, fanatical, sacrilegious rascals and villains called kings, emperors, czars and kaizers. When these hyenas and the devilish system of misgovernment they represent are swept from the face of the earth, we can scrap our arms and settle international differences with talk and soft words, reason and common sense, instead of guns.

I would not my dear Cousin C. quote the Scriptures at all if you were not a pious young lady. Both the British and the Boers are very devout people and great Bible readers, and during their little scrap they daily hurled Bible texts at each other to prove one was right and the the other fellow wrong. When the war ended they were still at it. When one fellow found a text that justified his actions, the other fellow could always find another text that would refute his opponents.

However here are just a few texts that you can ponder over: "The Lord is a man of war, the Lord of Hosts is His name." "Blessed be the Lord my strength, which teacheth my hands to war and my fingers to fight." Now for the New Testament: "Think not that I come to bring peace on earth. I came not to send peace, but a sword." "I am come to send fire on the earth." You will find that in the 12th chapter of Luke, and in the 22nd you will find this: "And he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one." And St. Paul said: "If thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain; for he is a minister of God a revenger, to execute wrath on him that doeth evil." Dr. Lyman Abbott, than whom there is no better Christian or finer type of the real American living, writes as follows: "I am not therefore one of those who thinks that war is always wrong. I cannot think that Jesus Christ Himself inculcated the doctrine that force should never be used." Then he mentions that little instance of Christ's "militarism" in the temple, and continues as follows: "I am not afraid to follow Him, with whatsoever force it may be necessary for righteousness to put on, when uprighteousness has armed herself to commit wrong. I cannot think all war is wrong. If I did I should not want to look upon the Bunker Hill monument, for it would be monument to our shame; I should never want to speak the name of Gettysburg, for my lips would blister and my cheeks would blush; I should want to bury in a grave of oblivion the names of Washington and Grant."

Out of four hundred ministers of Christ in the city of New York who were asked to give their opinion on preparedness, three hundred and eighty were for all the preparedness we could get. Only twenty were non-resisters. In Europe by the way they put nonresisters in jail or in homes for the feeble minded. The proper place for them. It is foolish wasting one's time digging up Bible texts, and it is still more foolish to place a literal construction on these texts. The best way and the only fair way to do is to take Christ's teachings as a whole, and when we do that we can sum them all up in one word, and that word is righteousness, and righteousness must be upheld at all costs, for unless righteousness is upheld there can be nothing else in the world that can be worth while. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of righteousness and all else will be added unto you." In other words defend the right, fight the good fight, using every possible means in one's power to avert conflict, but never for one moment conceding one atom of any vital worth-while principle to wrong. That is the only way that a worth-while civilization can be established on this earth. As I have said before slaves can have peace, but only strong men can have justice and righteousness. It is up to you whether you want to become men or slaves.

Cousin C. here is a little story which will perhaps amuse you and others who think, or rather "emote" as you do. A Quaker was once held up by a thief. The thief knew the man was a Quaker and as the Quakers are non-resisters he thought he would have a cinch in robbing him. The thief swatted the Quaker on the right cheek, and the Quaker true to his beliefs promptly turned the left cheek to be smitten also. Having got both sides of his face smacked the Quaker addressed the thief thus: "My friend, I have permitted thee to slap both my cheeks, that's the Scripture, now I'm going to knock the stuffing out of thee, and that's the law," and the Quaker promptly proceeded to knock the stuffing out of the thief, with the result that an honest man was not robbed and a thief was thrashed and turned over to the law. Now Cousin C., take my advice and don't waste your life. If you are ever called to sacrifice that life, see that that sacrifice counts for righteousness instead of promoting wrong and dishonor.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

Enter Now—Last Chance—Win Two Prizes

This is the last month of our Grand Prize Contest. Two sets of prizes are offered. Enter now and every subscription you send this month will count toward both sets of prizes. You may win two prizes on the same club of subscriptions. Contests for April monthly prizes and for grand prizes close April 30, and subscriptions mailed on or before that date will count in both contests. Enter now and win two big prizes this month. Others have done it. Why not you?



She Couldn't Go; Her Corns Wouldn't Let Her

She remembered the agonies of the last dance. It kept her at home to coddle her touchy corns. She simply couldn't face the pain again.

How easy it would have been, what instant relief, if she had only known of Blue-jay. Blue-jay stops pain instantly. And the miserable corn is gone, roots and all, in 48 hours.

New shoes—smart styles—have no terrors to Blue-jay users. These soothing plasters, inset with a medicinal wax, have ended millions upon millions of corns.

BAUER & BLACK
Chicago and New York
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc.

Blue-jay
Stops Pain—Ends Corns
15c and 25c at Druggists
Also Blue-jay Bunion Plasters

BATESVILLE, IND.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Uncle Charlie just a word of thanks and appreciation for the books you recommended. Just finished reading the one on Woman Suffrage. Think it's the best I've read on the subject.

Wish more people were interested in reading. Ask someone if they have read a certan book and they tell you, "No, am going to see it played, won't bother to read it." No wonder minds become *rusty* when people would rather just *look*, than *think*.

It may interest you to know a friend of mine who has been in very poor health just wrote and said she couldn't express her thanks for your beneficial advice on indigestion in January COMFORT. She found almost instant relief from your remedies after several doctors failed to give her any help.

Thanking you for all the help and inspiration received from your writings,

I am sincerely yours, MISS EDNA STOCKINGER.

Edna, your letter tickles me all to bits. From it I learn I have helped one lady's mind and another lady's body and that is going some. It is only by results that our usefulness in this world can be measured. You have touched a very vital spot in modern day life in your comment on the disastrous influence of the movies on one-time book readers. Of course the intellectual will not be satisfied with just a look, but the people who only read to be entertained and who are interested solely in finding out whether Samantha Sauerkraut, the beautiful belle of Corn Cob Corners, Hick County, broke the heart of her rural lover, Hiram Boll Weevil, and eloped to New York with the son of the millionaire who boarded at the big summer hotel on the hill, and whether Samantha came home after being jilted by her wealthy lover and committed suicide on Hiram's grave, by cutting her throat with a fried tomato, or whether—or whether—well you know the rest. If you don't know the rest go to the movies, but don't look in a book; the book might start some of you thinking and that would be a terrible calamity. Anything that stops people from thinking is a calamity, and the movies are encroaching dangerously on the world of thought, otherwise the world of books. The nation that ceases to read will cease to think, and a nation that ceases to think will cease to live. Most of the present day movie pictures are mere mental anæsthetics. The eye goes on a drunk, while the brain goes to sleep. A man said to me the other day: "The movies are doing one good thing, they are helping to empty the saloon." "Yes," I replied, "and they are helping to empty people's brains." The saloon is bad enough heaven knows, but it has one advantage, you don't as a rule find it filled with women and children as you do the movies. About fifty per cent of the pictures you allow your children to see wouldn't be tolerated in European picture houses at any price. They have a drastic film censorship in Europe, and all the dirty, vile, hideous, lecherous, rotten side of life that our film makers dish up to drug the minds of film fiends and picture paranoiacs, are strictly tabooed. The trouble with every new invention, everything that might help, inspire, elevate and educate is, that it gets into the hands of an unscrupulous, vicious class of mad for profit hogs, who seek to exploit only the worst side of everything. They are familiar enough with the putrid side of human nature to know there is more ready cash in exploiting the salacious, the sensational and the obscene. In other words appealing to the lowest and most vicious instincts of the human animal, degrading instead of trying to uplift him, than in displaying the worth while, the artistic, the elevating and instructive. It is fine to think that in Kansas a generation is growing up that has never seen the saloon in operation and that knows nothing of alcohol and therefore has no craving for it; and it is simply hellish to think that we have here in our big cities and in cities that are not big, a generation growing up that knows next to nothing of books and has no desire to read. The mind is only too willing to get sluggish and lazy, just as the stomach is only too ready and willing to accommodate seductive and intoxicating drinks. The law says that no child under sixteen shall be allowed to enter a movie theater unless accompanied by friends or parents. This law of course like most American laws is

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.)

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

They can get ideas right from the different states in regard to climate, surface, industries, etc. If there is any way in which I can help in return I will gladly do so.

I have a small school this year, but for the four previous years I've had an enrollment of fifty or more. I found I was getting nervous and put the blame on the work in such an over crowded school, so this year I found a very peasant little school and enjoy it a great deal.

I'll answer all personal letters. Wishing COMFORT much success, I am, Very truly yours,

CLARA KENNEDY.

Miss Kennedy. Your request is a good one and I hope your pupils derive much help from the correspondence. Letter writing, even if confined to pupils in the different schools in the same town, awakens an interest that teaching, no matter how good, fails to bring forth. About the geography matter—maybe some other teacher will give you the benefit of her ideas.—Ed.

INDIANAPOLIS, 133 Downey Ave., IND.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Surely punishing a child for not saying its prayers will result only in harm! A great man has said, "A single grateful thought toward Heaven is the most complete prayer." How can grateful thoughts be instilled by punishment? Too often we observe the form of worship and neglect the spirit. Grateful thoughts may easily be aroused in a child, and yet the neglect is so common that many grow up to accept the blessings of life as a matter of course. Have the child watch the little birds at their loving patient toil of nest-building and caring for their little ones; help him care for a small garden, watch the unfoldment of the plants, rejoice over the rain and the sunshine; let him plant a tree so he will realize the long patient growth before fruit appears; examine with him pieces of coal, and show him how light and heat of wood of ages ago are stored up in the coal which now warms him; study with him all the works of nature, leading him to appreciate the time and patient, tireless, ceaseless effort needed to produce everything that he uses—and in due time his grateful thoughts toward Heaven *cannot be repressed*, for they will come from a heart full of gratitude to the Giver of all good!

To me, ingratitude is irreligion. In this connection I wish to speak of the Uncle Charlie Home Fund, for which I am enclosing four subscriptions to COMFORT. Sisters, are you satisfied with the progress of this work? We have long expressed in words our appreciation of Uncle Charlie—let us express it in a substantial way now that Mr. Gannett generously gives us the change. We must not fail in this plan for our faithful friend. It would be a disgrace to COMFORT'S six million readers—sisters, cousins, and all—if this great chance to help Uncle Charlie should pass by, *unheeded!* I heard of a sister whose neighbors and near relatives took COMFORT for years, but never mentioned it to her. It may be that your neighbors and relatives have never heard of COMFORT and Uncle Charlie. Get busy, then. Tell them before the day is over, and get their subscription for COMFORT and the Home Fund. And here is a fine chance to impress gratitude upon the minds of the young—they should help in this work for the friend who established the Cousins' League for them. Recently a young girl told me that she had read Uncle Charlie's Stories (a borrowed book), and had laughed till she cried over some of them, and that she had received more help in the use of English from Uncle Charlie's department than from all her teachers—but she was not lifting a finger for the Home Fund! Let us not delay or "let George do it." I am doing all I can, and am stirring up my friends and neighbors to enthusiastic work for this worthy cause. If all of us do the same, we will soon have a wave of enthusiasm that will sweep our whole COMFORT family—and we'll get that Home for our beloved Uncle Charlie.

With best wishes to all, CORDELIA HARRIS.

HONEA PATH, S. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have read COMFORT ever since I was a small girl, and I am now twenty-eight years old, but have never before written to the Sisters' Corner. My education is very limited; my futher died when I was fourteen years old and my schooldays came to an abrupt end.

Mrs. Aldridge's letter made me want to give my experience in regard to teaching a child its prayers.

Some years ago, six I think, I read a very touching letter in COMFORT from a heart-broken sister, whose name I do not remember, in which she gave the prayers she taught her boy—one I clearly remember:

"Four corners to my bed,
Six angels guard my bed.
Two to watch,
Two to pray,
Two to bear my soul away."

The child to whom she taught this prayer died, and when the little life was going out he repeated the last line, "Two to bear my soul away."

This letter made a deep impression on my mind. Our boy was a tiny baby then but when he grew old enough to lisp a single word, I began to teach him this prayer and tell him the story of the beautiful angels whom God sent to bear the soul of the little boy away. Somehow he was greatly interested in this prayer and asked for the story many times, especially when he retired and we repeated the prayer together. And here I wish to say the sweetest moments I have ever known was when Dorris said his "Good night prayers." I usually told him a story, or if he refused to say them I asked him if he didn't think Jesus felt very badly when he was forgotten, since He let the sun shine on us so brightly during the day, and gave us good health, and made us strong so we could run and play. Just suppose He had forgotten to do all those things for us? This gentle reminder never failed to bring results; he would repeat his prayers sweetly after this and ask for the story of "the little boy."

One Sunday night in August, 1915, we were at supper and I noticed he ate very little and before we were through eating he asked to go to bed. I undressed him very hastily and put him in bed, hurried through the short prayer, as I wished to return to the supper table. He asked for the story, as usual, and I hurried through with it but I noticed that he listened very attentively, and as I was leaving the room he called to me, "Mamma, the angels carried the little boy's soul away, didn't they?" The following Friday the angels carried his soul away. That was his last prayer, for that dread disease, diphtheria, closed the power of speech to the end.

The good we do will never be known to us—the sister who sent the letter to COMFORT six years ago, didn't know the results it would have.

MRS. C. G. COTHRAN.

Mrs. Cothran. Mere words cannot express my sorrow and sympathy for you, but, suffice to say, when I read your letter, tears came to my eyes and I breathed a silent prayer to Him "who doeth all things well" for strength to enable you to bear your sorrow, and I know that the sisters will all join me in this.—Ed.

GA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have long been a subscriber to COMFORT and it is a great pleasure to read each month the brave and helpful letters which the good sisters send. Often after reading some letter that appealed to me particularly I have considered writing but I felt that the other letters were so much better than anything I could write, but since reading "Mrs. Pete's" letter in January COMFORT I just have to write. Dear "Mrs. Pete" you have my entire sympathy in your trial. I feel that I am competent to tell you something which may help you, since I have been in your position myself and know how you feel. In my case my "partner" was a Francisco instead of Pete. I am very well acquainted with many of your husband's nationality and never knew one (though I suppose there are some) that did not make a splendid husband. I married a Spanish boy, seven years my senior, who had been in the United States only five years and the disappointments I had the first five or six years after our marriage could not be enumerated. I had always been accustomed to going around with my kin people and friends whenever I felt like it, and to Sunday school and church regularly but that did not suit my husband. Like yours, he was always kind and gentle but oh, how firm! It caused me many tears and much thought to win out but today, after twelve years of honest effort, I have one of the happiest homes and the best husband a woman could wish for, and I would not swap our four little Spanish-American soldiers for any other kind.

You just continue to be sweet and stay at home with good grace and get yourself interested in your husband's life and habits. Take up a study of the language spoken by your husband's family. You can master it if you but try. Don't, for your own

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)

EASTER LUNCHEON



By Ella Gordon

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

AN Easter lunch should be simple and kept in three colors; white, green and yellow. Yellow place cards should have "Easter Greetings" and an Easter lily in one corner, done in water colors. In the center of table have a decoration of Easter lilies, ferns and smilax, or, if these cannot be obtained, cut a round of cardboard and cover with yellow paper. Around the edge make a border of evergreen tips, and in the center arrange cotton chicks. Glass candlesticks with yellow paper shades add to the table decorations.

The following recipes are appropriate for an Easter meal and will assist in carrying out the



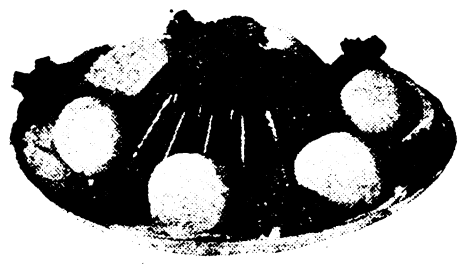
CENTERPIECE OF COTTON CHICKS AND EVERGREEN.

color scheme, yet are valuable the year through for noon and night meals.

Aspic Eggs

Make the jelly stock from one large fowl, or from beef and veal together. Cut the meat fine, cover with cold water and slowly bring to boil, then simmer three hours. Into a cheese-cloth bag put one cup of chopped turnip, onion and carrot, a little parsley and half a bay leaf and one tablespoon of salt; add this to cooking stock and simmer one hour longer. Strain, cool, and remove fat the following day. The stock is now ready for use unless it requires more salt and is not strong enough, in which case, reduce in quantity by simmering. Dissolve two tablespoons of granulated gelatine in as much cold water fifteen minutes, then dissolve with half a cup of boiling water. Add to one quart of stock and one tablespoon of lemon juice and strain.

Cook four eggs hard by covering with boiling water and keeping it just below the boiling point thirty minutes. Cover with cold water and let stand until cold. Cut eggs into slices quarter of an inch thick.



ASPIC EGGS.

Pour liquid jelly into mold two inches deep and let harden. In the center and at regular spaces around it, place a slice of hard-boiled egg. Cover this with the liquid jelly and let harden and so on until mold is filled. Decorate with hard cooked eggs shelled, or with eggs in shells tinted pink with beet juice, a sprig of fresh green on center and around edge.

Chicken in Aspic

Prepare chicken to roast, taking special care to tie so it will come out of oven looking shapely. Evenly tie wings, thighs and drum-sticks to body. Put into double cooker and bake chiefly by steaming, letting in the direct heat long enough to brown. Remove strings. Choose large enough mold to hold chicken and put in three inches of liquid jelly described in Aspic Eggs. Lay on the chicken when cold, then a little more



CHICKEN JELLY.

jelly and set on the ice until cold; then keep adding a little more and setting on ice until mold is filled.

Individual Chicken Pies

Two cups of sifted flour, five tablespoons of lard, five tablespoons of butter, two thirds of teaspoon of salt and ice water. Work salt and lard into flour and moisten with just enough ice water to form dough. Chill, and roll into three-cornered piece. Chill butter and press to one half the size of rolled dough, and place in center of dough. Fold dough toward center. Fold once more and set to chill again. Roll a little thicker



INDIVIDUAL CHICKEN PIES.

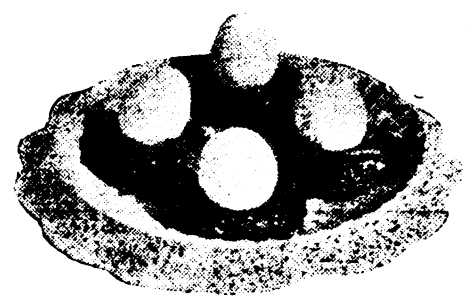
than for pies and cut into rounds six inches across; form into square cups by bringing up the edges, moistening a little with ice water and pinching into shape. Cut square of pastry for each top about two and one half inches across.

CHICKEN PIE FILLING.—Remove skin and cut chicken into small pieces but do not remove bones. Just cover with boiling water and simmer till chicken will cleave from bones, adding salt twenty minutes before chicken is done. Remove chicken from liquor and bone. Cut into inch pieces. Reduce liquor to one and one half cups by simmering and season with salt and pepper. Mix six tablespoons of flour with a little cold water and slowly add to boiling liquor. Cook five minutes and add chicken and cook very slowly fifteen minutes longer. It should be quite thick when done.

Bake pastry cups and squares to a rich brown and fill with the chicken. Place the square on top and garnish center with a cube of jelly.

Spinach Eggs

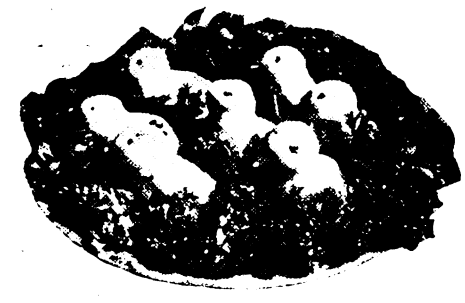
Pick over and wash spinach until no grit is found under the curled parts of leaves. Better than several washings in a pan of water, is to



SPINACH AND EGGS.

put it in half a tub of water and let it soak until crisp when the leaves will be considerably uncurled. Drain and put on to cook without water, slowly bringing to a boil, simmer till tender. Drain and chop fine. Season with salt, pepper and butter. Arrange in mounds and on the top of each place a hard-boiled egg, taking care not to disfigure egg in peeling. Serve with French or boiled dressing.

FRENCH DRESSING.—Mix one teaspoonful of salt with a dash of cayenne pepper and a pinch of white pepper and add two tablespoons of vinegar and four tablespoons of oil. Beat together and stir well just before serving.



POTATO CHICKS.

BOILED SALAD.—Melt three tablespoons of butter with one teaspoon of mustard, one scant teaspoon of salt, one tablespoon of sugar and a dash of cayenne pepper. Cook in double boiler five minutes and pour over three well-beaten yolks of eggs; add one half cup of hot vinegar, one cup of rich milk and the beaten whites of the eggs. Return to double boiler and cook till mixture thickens, taking care it does not cook long enough to curdle.

Potato Chicks

Take mashed potatoes when partly cooled and shape into chicks. Just before serving, put in very hot oven and heat through, and then use end of match whitled to a point for bills and a speck of egg yolk for eyes. Serve in a nest of parsley.

Egg Sandwiches

Mash four egg yolks that have been boiled hard and add one teaspoon of mustard, two tablespoons of vinegar and one even teaspoon of salt. Whip one and one half cup of cream and add to egg mixture a little at a time, and when smooth season with cayenne pepper. Spread between buttered slices of white bread.

Burpee's Seeds Grow



Five of the Finest Fordhook Vegetables

For 25c we will mail one packet each of the following Vegetables:

Bean—Fordhook Bush Lima, the most famous Bush Lima.
Beet—Black Red Ball, rich color, tender, fine flavor, early.
Corn—Golden Bantam, extra early, hardy, luscious and sweet.
Lettuce—Brittle Ice, large head, crisp and mild.
Radish—Rapid Red, quickest growing round red radish. Crisp and solid.

25c buys all the above. Five collections for $1.00, mailed to different addresses if so ordered.

As a Compliment to the Ladies, we include with each collection, a regular 10c packet of Fordhook Favorite Asters.

Burpee's Annual for 1917 is bigger and brighter than ever before. 204 pages. Thirty (30) varieties illustrated in color. Mailed free. Write for it today and please mention this publication.

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO.
Burpee Buildings Philadelphia

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

BROILED KIDNEYS.—Order veal kidneys with the suet left on. Trim, split, arrange in a buttered broiler and broil ten minutes. Remove to pieces of toast and pour melted butter over it, seasoned with salt, cayenne and lemon juice. Garnish with parsley.

BEET AND POTATO SALAD.—Cut five or six cold boiled potatoes into small cubes. Put a layer of these in salad bowl, sprinkle with minced onion, add a layer of cold boiled beets, also cut in cubes, then a sprinkling of chopped parsley. Proceed with these layers until the dish is full, pour dressing sufficient to moisten well over the whole and put on ice before serving. Garnish with slices of hard-boiled eggs, if liked.

PARSNIP SALAD.—Boil eight parsnips till tender, then cut them in rounds. Cover with finely cut parsley, and lay them in a bed of endive. Make a salad dressing of the yolk of one egg, one half teaspoon of mustard, braided into the yolk. Drop olive oil in, drop by drop, beating all the time. When of a wax-like consistency, add a pinch of cayenne pepper, a pinch of salt and a tablespoon of vinegar. When this is thoroughly mixed, beat the white of an egg to a stiff froth and stir into the dressing. Pour over parsnips.

FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

BRAN MUFFINS.—This is a doctor's recipe and is fine for constipation. One teaspoon of baking powder, one cup of flour, three quarter teaspoon of salt, two cups of coarse bran, one tablespoon of molasses, one tablespoon of butter, one cup of milk, sixteen pecans and twenty raisins. (Pecans may be omitted.) Mix the baking powder, salt, flour and then add the bran. Mix the molasses in the milk and add. Stir all together and bake in gem pans for about twenty minutes. Caution. Fine bran is of no value, coarse bran must be used. Eat three times daily.

MRS. V. O. VAN NORTWICH, Albion, Mich.

CREAM PUFFS.—One cup boiling water, one half to three quarters cup butter, boil, and stir in one cup flour; when cool add three eggs, not beaten. Mix well and drop by tablespoonfuls in buttered pans and bake in a quick oven twenty-five minutes. This makes one dozen puffs. When cool, split and fill with the following: One cup milk, one cup sugar, one egg and three tablespoons flour; stir in the hot milk. When cool, flavor and fill puffs.

MRS. M., Pennsylvania.

OLD-FASHIONED GINGERBREAD.—This recipe is delicious with a good coating of whipped cream, flavored to taste, and we like it much better than any fancy cake. Sift together, two and one half cups flour, one teaspoon soda, one half teaspoon salt and one and one half teaspoons ginger. Mix well together, one cup molasses, one half cup boiling water and four tablespoons melted butter. Add liquids to flour, etc., beat vigorously and bake thirty-five minutes in a moderate oven.

A Happy Mother, King City, Mo.

GINGERSNAPS. (Requested.)—One cup sugar, one cup molasses, one cup butter or meat frylngs may be used, one tablespoon ginger, one teaspoon of soda, dissolved in a little water, and as much flour as can possibly be stirred in (not kneaded); pinch off a piece about the size of a large marble, and roll in the hands, leaving a space between them in the pan to allow for spreading, which they will do when warm; bake in a moderate oven till a nice brown, and leave in the pan till they cool sufficiently to be snappy, which will be in a short time; to warm the ingredients will facilitate the stirrring: if the dough stands a day it will not hurt. The snaps will keep a long time.

MISS EVA JOHNSON, Ft. Spring, W. Va.



The Nation's Choice

for cleaning, beautifying and *preserving* fine furniture—

LIQUID VENEER

'Way ahead of greasy, dust-catching oil polishes. Imparts a remarkable, lasting lustre.

Endorsed by National Housewives' League.

Buffalo Specialty Company
Buffalo, N.Y. Bridgeburg, U.S.A. Ont. Canada

CROCHET BOOK FREE



Contains rare and beautiful designs for Edgings and Insertions. To introduce TEXAZILK, our new hard-twisted, mercerized cordoney (best for tatting, edging and initials), we will mail this Crochet Book Free and Postpaid to any lady sending only 10c silver or stamps for 2 full size sample balls

TEXAZILK

comes in size 70 only, in white, black, medium green, pink, rose, scarlet, light blue, delph, light yellow. Crochet Book is clearly illustrated so designs may be copied by anyone. Send at once and get this book FREE.

COLLINGBOURNE MILLS, Dept. 5356, ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Sew Your Seams With Collingbourne's Byssine

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

with blue gowns and pink ones, with pretty women eying the struggle for partners disdainfully, and plain ones casting tentative glances at each man as he passed by her.

The band began to play at the other end of the room very softly, but insistently. Nerine looked around for Agatha, but Agatha was gone; Kit, too, had found a friend from her own county, and departed; she, herself stood alone among the increasing crowd, looking at a card filled with names of strange men, not one of whom she knew from the other. Was this what people called pleasure—this why they went to balls?"

"Miss Nerine," cried a well-known voice behind her. "Oh, that's right. My mother says be sure not to dance this first dance, and that she will come for you." Then, more softly, "And don't forget me quite, will you? What will you give me? Quick! Here are more people. I must go! But what will you give me?"

What was the matter with her that she could not speak to him? In desperation she handed to him her scribbled card—only one dance on it free. One dance to give to a late-comer for whom she would wipe out every other name at the asking.

Would he ask her? She was trembling. Or would he only write his name in that mean, solitary little blank and go away?

"Why, you have nothing!" His voice was surely disappointed. "Nothing. Oh, yes, you have, Miss Nerine! There are the extras, three at supper time. I can have those?"

"Yes, you can have those."

Would she ever be able to keep that smile of indecent satisfaction off her face?—ever be able to hide from herself that a dead weight has rolled from her heart because a man has asked her for four dances instead of one? Her heart beat suffocatingly as he gave her back her card; the music the atmosphere, were going to her head like wine. More men came up and were introduced to her, and though she had no dances left, they stayed round her like moths at a candle. Lady Satterlee looked at her across the room, well pleased. There was a wife for Bobby, since he must have one. How self-possessed she was; what lovely mockery in her eyes, her smiling lips!

"Tell me something if you know it, Dora," said some one at her elbow. "Who is that girl there?"

Lady Satterlee looked round as one does at a familiar thing, half expected.

"Ah! here you are, back again," she said. "I thought after shaking hands with you I had done with you for the evening," with all her languid drawl.

"Then you flattered yourself, my dearest dear," with the self-same drawl, the self-same manner, only intensified into masculinity.

Lady Satterlee laid her hand on his arm.

"What a pity you are my cousin and ten years younger!" she observed, meditatively. "Do you wish to be made known to the young divinity in white satin? or would you prefer to stay here and call down contempt on my gray hairs by addressing me as dearest at the top of your voice?" she added walking slowly through the crowd as she spoke.

"I have very little choice, it seems," laughing. "By the way, Dora, dance with me a great deal, will you? I am deadly afraid of strange partners, and that boy of yours seems so terribly conscientious about my dancing."

"Dance with you? Oh, once or twice," with cool disdain. "But my object in coming here was to turn the head of Bobby's colonel in order that he may get leave next month."

"Probably." Mr. Fairfax of Fairfax, looked down on his cousin's terra-cotta love locks with indulgence. "I would not interfere for worlds with your domestic arrangements, but you, and you alone, brought me to this dance, and I really must be properly rewarded."

Lady Satterlee laughed.

"Dear Hughie," with a fleeting, exquisite glance, "how I should love you if you were not ten years younger, and I did not remember boxing your ears quite so often!"

Fairfax laughed; he had a pleasant laugh, and it attracted Nerine's attention, for they had all but reached her, where she stood among her admiring army.

"Ah, here you are!" cried Lady Satterlee, lightly. "I have brought my cousin, Mr. Fairfax, to be introduced to you. Mr. Fairfax—Miss Lispenard; to be qute correct, Miss Nerine Lispenard." (Not that it mattered; Hughie would never take her for her sister.)

Miss Lispenard looked straight into the eyes of Lady Satterlee's cousin, and remained perfectly unconscious. Yet they were remarkable eyes. Indeed, the whole man was remarkable, without any tangible reason. He was tall enough, broad enough, but so were scores of other men; Lady Satterlee, in moments of irritation, was wont to say that he looked like a brown bone, and walked like a North American Indian, which meant in English that he was burnt by many suns and always in hard and perfect training. His face was aquiline, thin, square-jawed, and lit by the keenest, sweetest eyes ever set in a man's head.

"I suppose I am too late to ask for a chance?"

"I have none left," Nerine returned, placidly, without a pang, since it did not matter in the least who had or had not any of her dances except those four of Satterlee's.

Satterlee's mother laughed rather proud of her pupil.

"Let me see" she said, taking the scribbled card where it hung on Nerine's finger. "Why not give Mr. Fairfax an extra, a supper dance?"

Nerine looked up, her cheeks suffused with a blush.

"Oh, I—I couldn't," swiftly; "they are all I had for Lord Satterlee, and——"

"Oh, Bobby!" drawled his mother.

"Of course Bobby!" Mr. Fairfax remarked, as he went off with Lady Satterlee. "So that is what you are doing here, you—and Bobby!"

"Hugh, I don't know at all," she returned, gravely. "Sometimes I think it is the sister—and I have taken such a tremendous liking to this one," quite wistfully, "and it is such a new sensation to me to be attracted at all by a girl!"

"So I should think!"—rather dryly, as he put his arm round her naturally and artistically small waist, and they swept smoothly out into the crowd of dancing people.

Maurice was there with Kit, both so young, so admirably mated, that even some of Mr. Mayne's allies regarded them softly.

Nerine was a lovely and radiant sight when Satterlee came to claim her for his first dance.

"I feel as if I had never been alive before!" she cried, laughing as they waited to begin dancing, his arm ready to clasp her waist, and her hand on his shoulder.

She gave a little sigh of pure delight when they had gone once round the room. The band was playing the waltz from "Faust," playing divinely, till each note vibrated keen and sweet on her heart. She danced smoothly, gracefully, without any sense of motion, in perfect rhythm and accord with her tall partner. The room was all a shimmering sphere of light and color to her; the scent of the violets in Satterlee's coat went to her brain, she was dancing into eternity, in pure rapture!

She lifted her eyes to her partner's face; it was the only thing she could see clearly in all the glittering, whirling room, and some things in it turned her cold.

If the music stopped and left her still dancing, she felt suddenly that she would fall.

"Oh, stop!" she cried, breathlessly. "I can't dance another step!"

"Tired?" Unconsciously he held her a little closer.

"No, no! Yes, stop!" she cried, unsteadily, peremptorily, and could scarcely breathe until she was out of the room, in the cool air of the passage away from that maddening, throbbing music. Once outside she put her hand to her head; it felt so odd—not dizzy, but strange. What was the matter with her? Somehow, she did not want to meet Satterlee's eyes.

"I—I have danced my hair into disorder," she said, with a faint smile. "I think I will go and put in some hairpins, if you won't mind waiting a minute."

And she promptly vanished into the dressing-room without waiting for an answer. His four dances all happened to come together; there were minutes and minutes in them; she could spare two or three of those golden moments just enough to get her breath back after that long dance.

She stood looking at herself in the glass, mechanically sticking in fresh hairpins. All the color had gone from her face; she looked pale—looked like Agatha, absurdly and exactly like her.

With a languid step, still more like her sister's, she went out into the passage to join Satterlee, but he was not there. She glanced up and down; something must have called him away, that was the worst of having your host for your partner.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss May will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

A DESIRE to conquer may be very dominant in the nature of those born between April nineteenth and May twentieth, when the sign of the zodiac is in Taurus. They are determined and unyielding; possess a strong brain and are capable of superior educational attainments, but should guard against rashness in accomplishing a purpose.



MISS APRIL.

Men born on these days may be great imitators. They possess unusual adaptability, an excellent memory, and great mental and physical endurance, which fits them well for public life. They possess fine business intuitions, but in social relations, are quite likely to be governed by their sensations, or influenced by their feelings. Their sympathies are readily aroused, and through this channel may be led to extremes. They should marry women who reason well, and can happily adapt themselves to change, should it become necessary through a varied business career. When young they are liable to over value their associates and be misled by them. They make strong church members and will warmly engage in the defense of a friend. They require to be by themselves for serious thought, and to be alone in making decisions of any kind, for if attempted in the presence of others, they will feel the influence of other minds and be more or less governed by them. They are hard students and will succeed in most lines of education.

Women born under this sign have the same sympathetic nature, and will keenly sense the joys and sorrows of husband and children. If necessary, they are capable of sacrifice without complaint. They easily adapt themselves to the customs of society, but care little for it. They require daily relaxation. When once sure they are right, they are very tenacious to carry it out, and cannot be controlled against their will. They should marry men of honor, capable of making strong home ties.

April Birth-stone is the Diamond, Symbol of Purity

The wearing of amulets to protect the body from harm is of ancient origin. The same custom prevailed through medieval days, and now in modern times we still have many proofs of a lingering faith in the efficacy of amulets.

Conspicuous among the prized amulets of recent years was the little gold charm attached to a gold chain worn by the late Mrs. Annie Yeamans, a woman of beautiful character. Mrs. Yeamans left special instructions that the little amulet be left on her body and buried with her.

Amulets have often been in the form of rings set with the birth-stone, and worn as a luck-bringer, not as a preventive from personal injury. The birth-stone for April is the diamond and symbolizes purity; meaning, to be beautiful within.

Some of the traditional uses of diamonds as amulets are of much interest. One of the latest Parisian oracles says the diamond should be worn on the left hand to attract good fortune.

The superstitious faith of the Russians is illustrated by an amulet in the form of a ring, said to be constantly worn by the Czar as a protection against the danger of assassination which hourly threatens him.

The great Athenian comic poet, Aristophanes, tells of a curious and amusing instance of the diamond's power as a bringer of good fortune: One of the characters in his comedy, "The Clouds," asserts to Socrates that he knows of a stone having the virtue of saving him from the payment of a claim of five talents, for which suit has be n brought against him. This stone was to be found in the stock of those who dealt in medicine, it was transparent and with it fire could be kindled. The philosopher, although familiar with the stone, fails to see how it could be made to help the defendant in a suit at law, and asks Striposiades what he proposes to do with it. The latter is not at a loss for an answer and declares that when the clerk proceeds to write down the charge on his waxen tablet, he, Striposiades, will hold the stone in the sun's rays so that its beam of light will fall upon the tablet and melt the wax, thus quite literally "wiping out the charge."

A writer of the seventeenth century writes with apparent sincerity of belief a wonderful tale to the effect that he had seen a marriage of two diamonds, the two crystals being so firmly drawn toward each other by mutual purity that when put in one place they would cling to one another as with an "unending kiss."

All good and lasting fortune comes from purity within. The mind may receive evil thoughts but, if unapproved, they will not harm, but rather strengthen the character. Wear the diamond as symbolic of this thought.

How to Make Miss April

Miss April reminds us of April showers; also of sunshine, daffodils and violets. She can very easily be made from white and green crepe paper. The doll has a white princess slip on, and the cape is of green. Fashion the umbrella by centering slender strips of wood, or wire at the end of an old umbrella handle or piece of wood; or with a wire cutter reduce the size of an old umbrella frame and cover it with bright yellow paper and twine the handle with purple. A very pretty effect might be obtained by making the umbrella to represent a huge spring flower.

CONTENTS

		Page
Editorial		2
The Sermon on the Mount	*Joseph F. Novak*	3
Farmer's Wife Gets Fancy Prices for Produce in Attractive Containers	*Mary Harrod Northend*	3
An Easter Thought Poem	*James Terry White*	3
Nerine's Second Choice (continued)	*Adelaide Stirling*	4
The Masked Bridal (continued)	*Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	5
Easter Chicks That You Can Make	*Rosalie DeWolfe*	6
Comfort Sisters' Corner		7
Comfort Sisters' Recipes		7
Comfort's League of Cousins	*Uncle Charlie*	8
Easter Luncheon	*Ella Gordon*	9
The Kingdom of Our Birthright		10
Crumbs of Comfort		10
Fifteen Minutes of Frightfulness	*Charles Baker Gilbert*	12
The Modern Farmer		13
Home Dressmaking Hints	*Geneva Gladding*	14
He that Loseth His Life (concluded)	*Maud Mary Brown*	15
Pancho Villa		15
In and Around the Home	Conducted by *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	16
Spring and Summer Hats and Some New Collars		17
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps		18
Pretty Girls' Club	*Katherine Booth*	19
Getting Your Money out of the Bank		19
The Doings of the Dapperlings	*Lena B. Ellingwood*	20
Churning by Dogs Under Fire		20
Bulk or Package For Economy or Health	*Prof. H. Crawford Burgess*	20
Poultry Farming for Women	*Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	21
Veterinary Information		23
A Corner for Boys	*Uncle John*	24
Information Bureau		25
Talks with Girls		26
Uncle Charlie's Home Fund		26
Home Lawyer		27
Manners and Looks		28
Children's Happy Hour		29
February Prize Winners		29
Eight Wheel Chairs in March		30
Family Doctor		30
"Yankee Doodle"		30
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities		31

May Comfort

with fine short stories and a lot of seasonable matter on topics of pressing importance will be a very interesting, instructive and valuable issue. Take no chance of missing it. Here are some of the

Special Features for May

"Her Veteran of '98"

A thrilling romance of a Spanish War hero who is as masterful in making love as in waging war.

"May-Day Festivities"

Tells many delightful ways in which May-Day is made an occasion of joyous celebration and sport.

"How to Use Eggs in Cooking"

Tells the food value of eggs and gives a large variety of recipes for making best use of them in cooking.

"A Family Stratagem"

A cute story of the winsome wiles and cunning artifice by which a stage beauty triumphs in a love affair.

Special, Low Rate for April Renewals

As an inducement to renew your subscription promptly this month we offer the special, low rate of 30 cents for a 2-year renewal. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album.

If the number over your name on the wrapper in which this paper comes is 343, or any less number, it means that your subscription should be renewed at once. Send in your renewal today, if you don't want to miss May COMFORT. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents fo a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name* .....

Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....

R. F. D. No. ..... *Box No* ..... *State* .....

April, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

Prayers do not make piety.
Society is a chain of obligations.
Nothing is more costly than sin.
Zeal without judgment is an evil.
Quick promisers are quick forgetters.
Not to repent of a fault is to justify it.
Being well satisfied is being well paid.
Before you marry have a place to tarry.
Don't pin your faith on another's sleeve.
Revenge may be sweet, but it is expensive.
Easy money is not the kind you have to borrow.
Wisdom is taught in the school of disappointment.
You may forgive, but you can never quite forget.
The truth sometimes never catches up with a lie.
A man of haughty spirit is daily adding to his foes.
There is no sense so uncommon as common sense.
Death is an end, but it breeds an infinite beginning.
Man lives only in himself, but God lives in all things.
A small person will sometimes stumble on a big idea.
Don't listen to scandal if you don't want to circulate it.
When you have mastered yourself, the others come easy.
You may use anger if you will, but do not let it use you.
The bad man looks worse when he tries to look like a saint.
A look may work your ruin, or a word create your success.
Walking is always good when you have something to ride.
Wealth conquered Rome after Rome had conquered the world.
There is a joy in sorrow that none but a mourner can know.
He that hath more than enough is a thief of his brother's rights.
The choicest pleasures of life lie within the ring of moderation.
Those who will not obey men are oftenest found disobeying God.
God is the fountain from which flows the river of our existence.
Speaking of doctors, the shorter the purse, the quicker the cure.
Don't refuse to open the door when you hear Oppor tunity knocking.
You will never get into Heaven if you don't try to take somebody with you.
A man may have money properly, so long as the money doesn't have the man.
The rich are trustees, under God, for the poor, and they are not always faithful.
You must pick up a good many stones to throw at every dog that barks at you.
Buy what you don't need and by and by you will have to sell what you do need.
Have more than you show; speak less than you know; spend less than you owe.
It is difficult to pick up many friends without making a few enemies along the way.
Self-preservation is the first law of nature and with some people it seems to be all the law there is.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

dear sake, listen to anyone who will tell you that if your husband does not wish to go to any place for you to go alone or with some friend of your family. You would be the one who would suffer most from such an arrangement.

I hope Mrs. Wilkinson has room for this for it may be of help to our troubled sister.

With love to Mrs. Wilkinson and the sisters,
MRS. FRANK.

N. J.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

First let me tell you that COMFORT was "wished" on me, a friend having had it sent to me and out of respect to her I looked over the first copy, not expecting to find anything of interest on account of the unattractive appearance of the paper and the quality of fiction it carried. But—I got as far as the second page and there read such an editorial as I wish we might see in some of the daily papers which are so subsidized by the "business interests" that they dare not print the truth. Then I went from one thing to another, lingering over the Sisters' Corner and winding up with one of the most pleasant and profitable hours I ever spent—with Uncle Charlie.

I have often had the desire to write you but feared that if once started I'd write so much you wouldn't think of printing my letter and as no poor mortal wishes to have his thought "jewels" find a grave in the editor's waste basket, I refrained. However, I'm going to take a chance this time as there are a number of letters in the January number that I'd like to answer.

First, I want to add a word to Mrs. Beegle's comment on hospitals. I have been in three different ones both my children having been born in a hospital, and what a saving in money, worry and work. My boy, who is now eleven years old, has been in the hospital three times, twice for operations and once for pneumonia, and he *likes* to go. All that one need do is to treat the nurses as human beings, trying to help make one well, and you will find that you receive the best and kindest of care. Mother love can never, in the case of serious illness, make up for professional knowledge and skill. A friend of mine recently buried her baby because she was afraid of hospitals. Few homes among the middle class and none among the poor are properly equipped to care for the sick.

There are some excellent letters on suffrage which I read with pleasure. I shall only take the time to say that I was a member of a "Junior Equal Suffrage League" at the age of twelve, which was eighteen years ago.

Mrs. Alerson has written an excellent letter on the feeding of children and I followed a similar course with mine; they are fine, healthy youngsters of eleven and nine, a boy and a girl. Some mothers pay more attention to the moral training of their children than they do to building sound bodies. Give a child a clean, healthy body and they will have wholesome minds. More evils are generated by improper feeding (meats and highly seasoned foods) than any other agency in youth. It is a well-known fact among students of dietetics that heavy meats and highly seasoned foods tend to abnormally develop the amative nerves in children just as much as drink and tobacco do later in life. Thumb sucking and the use of pacifiers have the same effect.

I want to touch on just one more subject and then I'll leave you.

There is just one thing for the married man or woman to bear in mind if he or she would get along amicably with "Mother-in-law" and that is: that she brought into the world, suffered for, trained and finally gave you your beloved. Whatever whims she may have, however you may differ in opinions, beliefs, etc., just remember that if you love your "better half" and are happy, you have "mother" to thank for your blessing. I had several obstacles to overcome to gain the love of my mother-in-law but for the past five years she has been my best friend and loves me as a daughter. I married an only son of a widowed mother and it took years for me to overcome, first, natural jealousy, which I conquered by never letting him become so absorbed in me as to neglect her. Then there was the question of difference in belief. She is what we call a "hard shell Baptist" while I grew away from the church years ago. However, I never attempted to influence him and while I became dissatisfied with the church, I believe in Christianity and try to lead as helpful and christian a life as I can, and I finally won her respect. I have never had an argument with her, always listen respectfully to what she says and as I had made and kept her boy happy for over twelve years, she can't help loving me. I am sending my children to her church, which, of course, pleases her and proves that I am willing to be fair. We are of different races, different creeds, different political opinion (she is a Southerner, while I was born in the South but of Yankee parents) and she is my mother-in-law, but we are the best of friends and hold each other's love and respect. The mother-in-law is only a problem when we make her so.

And now if you'll forgive me for taking up so much space I will say good by. With best wishes for you all, I am, Yours, MRS. J. M.

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I, too, am a reader of COMFORT and my mother was a subscriber for a number of years before me. I think it is far superior to any other magazine for the price. I look forward to its coming with pleasure. I always turn to the fancy work department first and then to the Sisters' Corner. Last, but not least, the COMFORT League of Cousins. How I laugh, sometimes at Uncle Charlie. I think if we would all be as cheerful as he this world would be a better place to live in.

As nearly all describe themselves I will, too. I heartily endorse it as we get a better idea of anyone thereby and feel more acquainted. I am five feet tall and weigh one hundred and ten pounds. Have dark brown hair, steel blue eyes and am dark complexioned. Am twenty-four years old. I have a twin sister. How many COMFORT sisters are a twin? Have been married nearly five years.

Will tell you of this city or what I know of it, as I have lived here only since last October.

Leavenworth is an old city, having been built before the Civil War. Its close proximity to Kansas City hinders its growing very fast. The population is estimated at about fifty thousand inhabitants. It is about forty miles north of Kansas City and about the same distance south of Topeka, the capital of the state. It is about midway between the two cities on the interurban line. The Missouri river separates this state from Missouri. Several railroads pass through here. The Union station is built on the banks of the Missouri river so we can look across the river and see Missouri soil. There are also quite a number of notable buildings here, the Federal prison, the National Military Home for disabled volunteer soldiers and the fort which stood during the war. Many acres of land have been appropriated by the Government for these buildings. Will tell you of the Military National Home at the Soldiers' Home.

The Military National Home is situated three miles south of Leavenworth on the electric car line. As I have just mentioned, the grounds of this home, which cover six hundred and forty acres, are appropriated by the Government. There are two depots, union and electric, a store, power house, two hospitals, two barber shops (my husband owns one of them) and the main dining-hall with a seating capacity of three thousand people. Six meals are served each day. About seventy-five girls are hired in this dining-hall. All help is paid by the Government.

The grounds are beautiful with flowers and shrubbery. The Floral Globe is a curiosity. It is made of the trunk of a tree, trimmed perfectly round to represent the globe and is covered with moss in the shape of the different countries of the world. It is just as natural a globe as one would wish to see.

The cemetery is also an interesting feature of the Home. It is estimated that about sixty thousand are buried there and it is being filled very rapidly. Each grave is marked by a tombstone. It is both beautiful and sad to see; just green grass (in summer) and the white tombstones as far as the eye can see. Each soldier is buried with the same honors, no difference whatever in the respect shown them. Three "taps" from the trumpet is sounded over the body at the cemetery, also music by the band. A salute of three volleys is fired by the firing squad after the body is lowered to its final resting place.

There are many more interesting things which I could write of the Home but my letter is rather lengthy so will close. Will come again sometime and tell you of the Federal Prison.

Wishing COMFORT's staff success,
Your COMFORT sister,
MRS. DORA WEAVER ROBISON.

Mrs Robison. Yes, indeed, come again and tell us some more interesting things. Descriptive letters are always enjoyed.—Ed.

WISCONSIN.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I want to tell "Mrs. Pete" that our lives are what we make them. I was married when only fifteen to a man of twenty-seven, and though I think I was much too young I am not sorry. I have been married nine years now and have a little boy, two years and a half old. I lived seven years with my mother-in-law. I am part English and part German while my husband is Bohemian, and though his mother speaks English poorly, we never quarrel. The first two years of my married life was a little like Mrs. Pete's. My husband wouldn't go anywhere with me, and I liked to go around to places of amusement, so sometimes went with his younger brother, who was only a little older than I. In fact, I went with him more than I did with my husband until he showed signs of being jealous and then I stopped and stayed at home and am staying there yet but, dear Mrs. Pete, it is ten times better to give up a little of your pleasures than to give up your husband if you really and truly love him. Don't you think so? It was a number of years before I learned enough of their language so I could understand it but now I can, and maybe when you have been married nine years instead of two, you will think as I do. I suffered much, but my baby and husband are worth everything to me.

I do not believe in divorce and don't think that anyone else does who reads the Bible. But if a divorce is really necessary, don't marry again.

I will leave my address with Mrs. Wilkinson so if this letter goes in print and anyone wishes to write to me, they will send it in her care.

I remain, a COMFORT sister,
"Old Man's Darling."

ARCOLA, GA.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

In reading the January COMFORT I came to Mrs. Walter Alverson's letter where she wondered what was the reason so many women could not get along with their mothers-in-law. I will tell you what I think of the question. I believe in the first place that there is a whole lot of jealousy on the mothers-in-law's part. When they have been first for so many years it is hard to share their son's or daughter's affection with anyone else. When I married I thought I would be so kind to my husband's mother that she could not help loving me. Alas, I could do nothing to please her, try as I might and she caused me many heartaches and many sad hours.

Now *I* am a mother-in-law and I can say truly that my son's wife and I have never had one cross word or thought, and it has been over four years since they were married. I used to say to myself, "If ever I have a daughter-in-law I will surely try to treat her kindly and respect her wishes and rights." Mothers should not expect their son's wife to be as wise as they are, who have kept house for years and years. I have a cousin whose son married a dear little woman but she is a poor housekeeper. But just let anyone mention a word of it to *her* mother-in-law and they will come up short. She will not hear one word against her son's wife. She told me, "If my son is satisfied, let other people mind their own business." People say to her, "I never saw the like, you and your son's wife are always together, and don't you ever quarrel?" She replies, "No, I love her and when I wish she were a little different about some things, I remember I, too, am not perfect and have charity for others."

I have two dear grandchildren, a girl three and one half years old and a boy one year old. I never had any girls of my own, two boys were my portion, but I kept one for only six years, then God called him Home where he is waiting for mother.

I am raising a little step granddaughter. She is eleven years old.

My maiden name was Howe. If any of the sisters who see this, had or have that name, I should like to hear from them. I have lived in Georgia four years, but came from Pennsylvania. I am nearly fifty-three years old, and weigh one hundred and ten pounds.

With regards to all, I remain, Sincerely yours,
MRS. CORA B. ALLEN.

TIGRETT, TENN.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a subscriber to our dear old paper for several years and have received so much help and comfort from the Sisters' Corner that I have mustered up courage enough to ask admittance.

I want to say a few words for the benefit of the husbands who read our paper. I am sure there are many who read even our department, and enjoy it, judging by my own "hubby." Rarely do I get a chance at it until after he has read it from cover to cover.

Husbands, stop and think, are you sure you are doing all you can to make "her" happy, and that the pleasant smile she wears doesn't mask a heart that's longing for relief from household cares? Many a woman goes about with a heavy heart, though with a smile on her lips, because, it seems to her, the one who vowed to love and cherish her always has grown indifferent. He may not have—probably in nine cases out of ten he loves her as dearly as ever and would miss her more than tongue could tell if she were to be away from home even for a week or two, but he doesn't tell her so—there's the trouble. The expression of affection means everything to a woman. "Love lightens labor," is a true saying. No matter how many or how arduous our household cares they go on quickly and smoothly if we but feel our efforts are appreciated by those who love us, but how are we to know if they do not tell us? You know it isn't particularly pleasant to take things for granted or guess at them always. I believe that if husbands only understood how much it means to a wife to be told she is essential to the happiness of the man she loves, how much a little praise or appreciation brightens the day, this "oil of gladness" would not be withheld. It is only because they do not think; they are busy and feel they are showing their affection by providing for the family to the best of their ability.

But loving words cost nothing, and a kiss at the door—or behind the door—when the good man leaves for his day's work, fills a woman's heart with joy and puts a song on her lips which echoes through all the toilsome hours.

Just try this, husbands, and see if I am not right. It takes so little to make us happy—so little to give, so much to the one to whom given.

And we may all, dear sisters, apply this in a general way. Let us remember to show our good will and appreciation to husband, children, friends and neighbors. If we do this we can help smooth the rugged pathway of life in a wonderful way and make ourselves as well as everybody else happier.

I have been married five years and have one little girl, Demetra, three years old.

I will close, hoping that if this letter is published, and in time, some of the sisters will send me a letter shower on my twenty-second birthday, which is April 6th, and if there are not too many I will try and answer all.

Your COMFORT sister, MRS. ALBERT TINKLE.

Mrs. Tinkle. Here's hoping the husbands read your letter, or, at any rate, those who have grown careless and unappreciative—and maybe this rule would work *both* ways and "us wives" better look to our own conduct. Anybody guilty? —Ed.

EDGEWICK, WASH.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have so often wanted to write when some interesting topic has been under discussion, but somehow the time slipped away and a new COMFORT came, full of new letters and each one so much better than I could have written that I was glad I remained silent.

Just now, however, I must speak out to Mrs. Hanna and Mrs. Chris H. Bauer of Terre Haute, Ind. Sisters, as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he. So are we. You are both right in your separate views of the different possibilities of city and country life. The family whose heart is in the city should never attempt to work out their lives in the country and those who love nature, who live in the beauty thereof, who can turn the desert into blossom and can enjoy the silent and wonderful transition of the tiny seed to a full-grown plant, or the song of the wild birds as they carol to their mates, may find the city a very poor exchange. Yet to rear children in the city is just as the parents choose. They need not send the children to the streets for amusement any more than farmers need send theirs to the highways for that purpose.

I have in mind two fine young brothers who for six years alternately delivered an evening paper to me and I always recall their faces with pleasure. The elder completed his high school course and entered the university and no doubt by this time the younger is in college also; nor was this but one instance, for near me lived a building contractor with his family of six, besides his wife he had two sons and two daughters, all lovely young people and the parents told me their children had never played an hour in the street. Instead they were given amusement in the home until such time as they were able to take up positions with salaries.

The city offers many clean positions which children can fill after school hours, and which are not of a nature to overtax their strength or impair their health, and the judicious wife will somehow save a little for a future crisis, so you see it is very well that some of us are farmers and other of us flat dwellers.



Only $1.00 and after trial!

YES, the New Edison — Mr. Edison's great new phonograph with the Diamond Stylus reproducer and your choice of all the brand new Diamond Amberol Records on **free trial without a penny down.** Now, on this offer, you can have the **finest,** the **best** that money can buy at a price very much less than that at which imitations of the genuine Edison are offered. Seize this opportunity. Send the coupon now.

Rock-Bottom Offer Direct Let us send the New Edison to your home on free trial. Entertain your family and friends with your favorite records — everything from Grand Opera to the latest city song hits, Comic Vaudeville and roaring Minstrel Shows—then if you choose send the outfit back to us at our expense. But if you wish to keep Mr. Edison's superb new instrument, send us only $1.00 after the free trial. Pay the balance on the easiest kind of monthly payments. Don't miss this wonderfully liberal offer.

Catalog FREE

Get our New Edison catalog. Your name and address on a post card or letter (or just this coupon) is enough. No obligations in asking for the catalog. Find out about this offer—**while this offer lasts.**

F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3044 Edison Block Chicago, Illinois
Canadian Office: 355 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

To F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3044 Edison Block .·. Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:—Please send me your New Edison Catalog and full particulars of your free trial offer on the new model Edison Phonograph.

Name.....

Address.....

Suffragette and Antis, we Washingtonians have the ballot, have had these many years and still we are just the same as ever, it's like a new hat, soon old, nothing to disturb the even tenor of life, unless it be an office seeker.

We enjoy COMFORT Sisters' Corner very much for we learn of the different possibilities in different sections of the United States.

Respectfuly your sister, MRS. F. D. ROBERTS.

NORTH CAROLINA.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a subscriber for years and could not get along without COMFORT which is a great help to me. I cannot tell which department is the most useful and entertaining to me, for I find much of value in all of them. I read the stories, which are always good, then the Sisters' Corner and when I get them all read I feel so hungry for more letters that I turn to Uncle Charlie's department and devour his letter, the cousins' and his replies. Now, as I feel very much satisfied, I lay my paper aside and let my mind digest what mental food I have taken from all the departments mentioned.

Now Uncle Charlie, don't get jealous because I read your department last for doesn't the dessert come last? That is what Uncle Charlie's department is termed by me, "the dessert."

After I have digested what I have taken, then comes a variety of the different departments not read and I finish up with "Crumbs" as my finishing dessert. Yes, I am very fond of Crumbs, especially "COMFORT Crumbs," for they make an excellent pudding.

Sisters, you all write splendid letters. I enjoy reading them and wish I could write as interestingly and were competent to discuss some of the important subjects mentioned.

The mother-in-law question is one that I would like to solve, but it is quite difficult, as people are so opposite in their views. But I say this, my sympathy is with the mother-in-law and it reaches out to the stepmother, too.

Then there is another poor sister who needs all your sympathy; she is the despised "grass widow." You who talk of divorce being such a sin, think of a poor, weak woman being bound to a man that angels could not live with. Would divorce make the matter worse or would it better it any? I cannot see that the trouble would be mended by a divorce but I believe it would give the woman more confidence in herself.

May God's blessing rest on the entire COMFORT staff and on the COMFORT sisters.

Would be pleased to get letters from the sisters. I leave my name and address with Mrs. Wilkinson.
Mater.

EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA.

DEAR SISTERS:

Though often impelled with a desire to write, I never have, and now it is really Mrs. Alta Beegle's letter that prompts me.

I was in the hospital the latter part of July and in August. I had never been in one before except to see my precious brother who had a broken leg. If we had sent him there sooner we doubtless would have saved him unutterable pain and perhaps the loss of his leg finally. It had gotten to the place where it had to be taken off or lose his life. But, he lived, and got well and strong, only to leave us suddenly, and without warning in December last. And, when I think how I came to the land of sunshine, for happiness and health, and some wealth, why it all seems a mockery to me. I dare not plan for the future lest something arise to confront and mock me. Happiness? Why, I have so often written back to those I love in the far Southland and told them I was so unutterably happy—too happy to last. It was true. Happiness is a myth—we pursue it and think we have found it—reach out after it, and it bursts like a bubble. I have my happy times and then something crashes down on me, and I am afraid to seek it further. When I look into the future I cannot imagine any special joy in thinking of the good things it could bring to me. I get in a melancholy mood and feel that nothing is worth while. Then, I try and arouse myself for the sake of those dear to me—who love and need me every day. But, when I think of my brother, I am so bitter toward an unkind fate. I do not blame it on God. Not his tragic death. Since then I cannot seem to right about face and plan for great things as was my wont. As for wealth, I just want enough to make us comfortable, and secure for old age. And enough to buy some poor one a wooden leg oftentimes, wheel chairs for those who need them, and for others food and clothes. For others, money for an education, but in California it seems to me the very poorest stand a splendid chance for good educations. I love California—even as he did who came before me, blazing the way as it were. He was a wonderful boy and carried on a man's size job, with one leg a wooden one.

Now for the hospital. If ever I am ill again I hope to be so fortunate as to enter its doors again. I loved every nurse I came in contact with. I was there five weeks. And this is the hottest place imaginable—the Imperial Valley. But, I lay there and played "make believe" I was in the mountains at a summer resort taking a rest cure along with my other treatment. One nurse was a Scotch lassie, and her smile was like the sunshine, as quick and ready as could be. Her feet seemed to never tire of running, or going at a rapid rate along the corridor. To myself I called her "My bonnie Scotch Lassie." Then, there was the nurse from London, with lots of good, common sense. I thought it was grand to have nurses from the auld countries. And a San Diego girl who was so beautiful, we called her the "Pretty One." Then, the nurse who might have been just a high school girl, without her uniform; she was a dear. And last, but not least, I come to the Sisters of Mercy who run the hospital. I revered and loved them every one. Those dear, pure faces, I took every opportunity to gaze upon. And, words cannot tell how kind they were and good, nor how much I grew to love them. And, when trouble came, there arose before me the sweet face of one of them, so calm, as if used to the sadness of life, so I called her over the phone. "Just to hear your voice," I said. She knew and understood, I'm sure.

And here is my advice. When you are ill and can do so, by all means go to a hospital and be cured. If you go in time, you are apt to be. It is the putting it off until something sets in that is dangerous. It certainly was a Godsend to me. I was taken good care of. Before we knew anything about hospitals we had that ignorant feeling toward them that so many have, but since my brother's and my own experience we are grateful for them.

Now for a change of subject. I voted for Wilson and prohibition, and feel it is my just heritage that I do vote. They wouldn't let me in the South—not those men—too many women are slaves in the farm country in the Southern states. Some of them do not know that they are, a few are gradually rubbing their eyes, and thinking, but some go on in ignorance and indifference.

Now, I do not say that all women in the South are slaves, for they are not, but I have lived among the different people of that country, my work and playtime allowed me different fields, and I was observing. So, I married a Southern boy, and we agreed there'd be no bossing, that each would do as we pleased. We agreed on a lot of things beforehand, and we have never yet agreed to disagree. For pure, courteous, old-fashioned chivalry, hunt and find it in the Southland. For true, pure old-fashioned modesty in the young womanhood hunt for and find it in the South. You will find it everything, but it grows as naturally there as does the rosy cheek and bright eyes of the Southland's virtuous girls. There are pleasures there not to be found elsewhere, but give me the Imperial Valley yet a while. I love this Western air and the freedom it allows its women. I like the Western idea of its women being pals to their men. And the school system here cannot be equaled in many places. Now, when I read the little fifteen-year-old Georgia girl's letter, I wanted to applaud her. I like the way she stood up for her state. Her loyalty was beautiful indeed. I am glad the school system is so good where she is. I guess she never has been in parts away back—and yet not so far from the place they call civilization! Away back where a few little dirty, half-starved looking children came to learn their A, B, C's. And a few more who needed to be in a home for feeble minded. And, again the parent (the man generally) who believed in bringing children to the world ever so often, and who then would plan for the time when they were old enough to work in the fields for him! Oh, yes, I knew him, too, and a recent letter from there gives me infinite joy—there is a law compelling him to send them to school! But a while back the thing that got next to sister and I the most was a woman writing to her beloved son. She comes of the good old blue blooded families, and indeed she has just reason to be proud of her ancestors and kin, since they went to make history in Georgia. Well, her son came to the Golden West to make his stake. He flittered about, and tried one thing and then another thing. He came expecting to find an uncivilized place like he read about in the good old days. He was surprised and doubtless disappointed to find it ahead of what he left behind. He said that the new schoolhouse they were building here, the second high school, was ahead of anything in the capital city there! But, his dear mother wrote her boy to come back to civilization! Well, we laughed! Oh, civilization, thou much abused and misused word! Are you bounded by East or West, North or South? Every place has its advantages and disadvantages. And here we find people from the different parts of the world. Good, bad, indifferent. Some of the best people on earth live here. While again there is no doubt either the right way or the evil in this new place. School is free, and the word free has no strings tied to it as it has in some places. In grammar school they furnish the books. No tuition to pay either. None to pay in High. If I were younger the pride of my days would be to enter high at this place. Oh, how my people do love these schools! There seems to be a magic about them indeed.

Yours, L. S. M.

MARION, IND.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

One of the most highly appreciated gifts I received in the past year was a subscription to COMFORT. I am enjoying it immensely, especially the Sisters' Corner. Shakespeare said that we "look behind us and before us but never around us"—a hint to value fully the present moment; and Dickens tells of the woman who was so wrapped up in the heathen of Boroboolah Gha, that she could never unwrap long enough to attend to the needs of her very large family. But neither the dramatist nor the novelist would have any reason to reproach our Sisters' Corner in any such way, for every sister seems alive to the needs and the opportunities of the *here* and *now*, in problems little and big. And how fast the problems come! It takes considerable mental activity to keep up with them for things are happening so fast in the world that like Alice in Wonderland, "you have to do all the running you can just to keep in the same place." But how fortunate we are, in having that master mind, Uncle Charlie, to encourage and inspire us, to help us clear away the difficulties, sorrows and evils that beset society!

As a slight token of my appreciation of COMFORT and of the great work done by Uncle Charlie, I enclose four subscriptions to be credited to the Home Fund, and will try to send more later. Sisters, have

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.)

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

a dead letter. The children wait outside the picture palaces and get some older person to take them in. They pass the price of their ticket to the older person who purchases two tickets instead of one and who of course never stops to think that he or she is breaking the law. In our libraries only so much fiction is handed out to the applicants for books. Our film censors should see that at least sixty per cent of the pictures thrown on the screen are of educational value. There is plenty of good and beautiful stuff in this world ready to be flashed before the eyes of dull-witted humanity, something that will make them less dull witted and sharpen their slumbering brains, things that will uplift instead of degrade, things that will send people scurrying to the libraries for more and more information concerning the subjects that have appeared to their eyes and stimulated their thoughts. The world is still intensely, densely ignorant. Our children learn little. They leave school early, and it is after they leave school that culture and knowledge and worth-while information must be acquired, if at all. That culture in the olden days came from reading. The young person who hadn't read Dickens, Scott, Hugo, Dumas, Thackeray, Cooper, Hawthorne, Charlotte Bronte, Washington Irving, and the works of a number of other great authors, was regarded as an ignoramus. Today these young people are getting their education from Charlie Chaplin and Theda Bara. Today they are putting on pictures that make a specialty of nudity. Mark Twain's jest about the lady who was dressed in a smile is a jest no longer. She is on exhibition in the movies the country o'er. The average child of today thinks of nothing, cares for nothing, but the nickel or dime that can be earned or stolen and converted into a seat at the movies. Their eyes are familiar with every form of vice and crime. Do you wonder this growing generation has no patriotism and no soul? The good we get from reading is not in the development of a story, it is in the delineation of character, the study of beautiful and inspiring language, the uplifting thoughts, the mental stimulus induced by close association with genius and greatness. Reading makes one acquainted with all the great minds of all the ages. We can walk, talk and live in daily association with the noble and the great. Our body is made up of what we eat, the mind of what we read. If you want a harvest you must sow the ground with seed, if you want culture and knowledge you must sow your brains with seed thoughts garnered from books in which have been stored the wisdom of the ages. My publisher informs me that his output of books has fallen off one half during the last few years, thanks to the movie and the auto, principally the former. Nearly all publishers have the same tale to tell. We want more readers, not fewer. Recently New York was treated to a magnificent production of Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor. That production was exquisitely artistic and beautiful and I sent Maria and the Goat to see it. But, alas! it played to empty seats, and had to be taken off. If the metropolis of the country cannot support one Shakespearean production, what can be expected of the rest of the country? When New York wants to be entertained it goes to the movies or to see such shows as "The Midnight Frolic," "The Century Girl," "In For The Night," "For the Love of Mike," "Up-stairs And Down," etc. What chance could Shakespeare possibly have in a mess like that? Well, I've put you mothers and fathers wise, the rest is up to you. Eternal vigilance is the price of more than liberty, it is the price of everything else that is worth while. I'm delighted Edna, to know that my advice on indigestion has helped your friend so much. There is a side to medicine that few seem to know anything about, and that is the patient's side. Doctors are all too busy chasing the dollar to study that side, and that is a side I know more about than most people. I'm not surprised that doctors did not help your friend, for though in America we have some of the very finest doctors in the world, the medical profession in the U. S. on the whole, at least eighty per cent of it, is woefully below the standards that obtain in Germany, Austria, France, England and other countries of the old world. It is a pity that it is so, but it is so. If half the preachers and half the doctors would go to road mending and make room for abler and more conscientious and better educated and more efficient men, both the body and the soul would have a better chance of being what they ought to be.

HYSHAM, MONT.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

As I thought I would write you for the first time, I have read so meny of the cousins' letters and they were so interesting. I came to Montana in 1908 and there was only one store and post-office combine. There were only sixteen pupiles to go to school, now there are two hundred and eighty-three. I am five feet one and a half inches tall, weigh one hundred pounds. Have blonde hair, gray eyes and light complected. Their are only four in our family. Guess my age between thirteen and seventeen. Hoping to hear from the cousins. GOLDIE BARTLEY.

Goldie, I am quite interested in your rediscovery of Montana. Montana is a big state and sparsely settled, but honestly I did think it contained more than one store and post-office combine, and I also thought there were more than sixteen pupiles going to school. In my days there were no "pupiles" in Montana. I suppose these have been imported in recent years. Maybe you are referring to a kennel instead of a school, and these "pupiles" are a new kind of pup. That's quite a jump from sixteen "pupiles" to two hundred and eighty-three and all this in seven years. Evidently there is no race suicide among the "pupiles" around Hysham, Montana. But honestly I can't understand what has become of Montana's population. I have a very distinct recollection some twenty-four years ago of seeing three people in Great Falls, and at least two and a half in Helena; and one Sunday morning I counted more than three hundred big, husky guys hanging on to the rail of a booze foundry in the smoky city of Butte, and there was a store and post-office combined in each of these populous and bibulous cities. This store and post-office combine would suggest that Uncle Sam was going into other lines of business beside that of selling stamps. It would even suggest that he was selling soap, though they did not use much of that commodity in Montana when I was there. Guns, poker chips and high balls were the staple commodities a quarter of a century ago. Now the poker chips and the booze have been canned, senatorial seat stealing has become a hobby of the past, and a lady, Miss Ranken of Missoula (God bless her) the first woman to represent her sex in Congress, will be doing her best to put our national pork and gab factory in order by the time this reaches your eyes. Some state Montana, even if it does fill the educational establishments of the seething city of Hysham with "pupiles," I shall be very glad to see Uncle Sam in the combine business, and if he will combine the telephone, telegraph and the railroads with the other lines of business in which he specializes, I shall be very grateful. Government ownership of public utilities has always been and will continue to be, my slogan. It is the slogan of every wide-awake, efficient country. Why not ours? Why should this country always lag behind in the procession of progress just to oblige a few two-legged hogs? If we are to meet the competition of the nations of the old world (and we shall have to meet it for they by the way are organized to the last shoe button) we shall have to have industrial preparedness, as well as naval and military preparedness, and that will mean that Uncle Sam will have to do a lot of things for public use which can be done a great deal better than they are now being done for private profit. If it is good for the telegraph to click in every post-office in Europe, it ought to be good business for it to be clicking in our post-offices. The goat says that Goldie means post-office and store combined, and not combine. Ah, Billy that makes a great difference, and it is about time that Hysham, Montana knew what a vast difference there was between that once innocent, but now, sinister word, combine, as applied to big business, and that still inoffensive word combined. Meanwhile Goldie you fill the Hysham schools with healthy pupils, and can the "pupiles," and when you get them canned, sit on the lid, for take it from me they are a dangerous bunch to have around.

BLACKSBURG, CAL.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I certainly enjoy reading your replies to the letters in COMFORT. The answers you give are so funny. My mamma has taken the COMFORT for over fifteen years. Everytime she gets it I read the letters in it. We live three miles from Blacksburg. My brother and I ride a mull to school it is very disagreeable in the winter it is light when we start out and dark when we get home. Uncle Charlie did you ever ride a mull? I have two sisters and one brother. They are younger than me. It is snowing. We have five inches of snow. If you was up here I would snowball you.

Your niece, MARY E. RENICK.

So Mary, you ride a "mull" to school do you? As one of my Irish Goats used to say "Pwhat's a mull?" I've heard of all sorts of animals, even that most fiendish of all animals the motor cycle but I never heard of a "mull." The Goat says he thinks you mean a mule and not a mull. I am very sorry to hear the mule is disagreeable in the winter. It seems to me a mule ought to be good tempered in the winter. In the summer any animal has good cause to kick, but a well-fed, well-groomed mule, ought to be in its glory in the winter time. I know I would think it a pleasure and a privilege if I had the job, Mary, of transporting you to school. One thing however I don't understand about that mull or rather that mule. You say it is light when you start out and dark when you get home. How is it the mule is able to change its complexion in that extraordinary manner in so short a time? The Goat says maybe you put face powder all over it when you start out in the morning, and that the powder gets jolted off while jogging around the road to and from school. The leopard changes its spots, but I never heard of a mule changing its color. Of course the mule will change its spots, if you build a fire under it, but as we are not allowed to build fires under animals, except when we are cooking them for the table, the mule does not change his spots very often. What's that Billy? Mary means the ride to school is disagreeable in the winter, and that it is light when they start out and dark when they get home? She refers to the color and appearance of the atmosphere and not to the mule? Oh, pshaw! Wouldn't that jar you? Well it's not my fault if people won't punctuate their letters, and are, as a consequence, misunderstood. People who write for publication, even boys and girls, should be careful to see that their letters make sense and not nonsense. The Goat says if ever the boys and girls of America start composing perfectly grammatical letters, my job will be gone. The Goat says I am living on the mistakes of others. That old bewhiskered villain is wise to me; but my conscience is clear. Half the world lives on the mistakes of the other half. The kings of Europe live on the mistakes of their fool subjects, the pork hunting politicians in Congress live on the mistakes and the blind stupidity of the pin heads who elect them. The lawyers and judges live on the mistakes of the lawless and criminal. The ministers, bishops and priests live on the mistakes, the errors and the sins of the wayward backsliders who support them. Rockefeller and Carnegie live on the ignorance, and stupidity of people at large. The only difference between myself and the other people I have referred to is that I am trying to correct the mistakes of humanity instead of trying to perpetuate them and get fat on them. So after all I'm not such a wretch as the Goat would make me out to be, and there is another thing to be said in my favor, I never rode a mull to school.

SHULLS MILLS, N. C.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Will you let a North Carolinian join your happy band. I live in the mountains of western North Carolina. Western North Carolina has the most beautiful scenery in the state. The Blue Ridge, which traverses the western part of the state is noted for its many beautiful peaks, mountains and valleys. Being thus situated, it affords a very healthful climate. Many people in the summer come up into the mountains and spend the summer at the beautiful little summer resorts, Blowing Rock, and Boone.

I think COMFORT is the best paper I ever read. I already have your story book, it sure is a treasure. I am going to get the others.

I am twenty years of age, fair complexion, blue eyes, weigh one hundred and twenty-five pounds. Uncle Charlie, I want to study for a trained nurse. People tell me it is a very hard job. I don't think there are many easy jobs these days. What do you think about it? I haven't decided where I want to go to yet. I know it takes lots of nerve. I think it takes nerve to do anything.

I wish some of the cousins were here we would go sleigh riding, the ground is covered with snow and you also, dear Uncle Charlie, you could sit in the middle and you wouldn't fall out.

Tell Maria and Billy the Goat, I think they are two sweet girls and wish I could run over and chat with them a while. As this is my first attempt, I will close. Your cousin, ADA WILCOX.

Ada, I am glad your climate is healthy. It seems to me all climates are healthy, for I never saw or heard of a climate going to the doctor and handing out a two spot, and I never saw one die yet. Gee, I wish I was a climate instead of a human "bean." Maybe some of you who are thoroughly acquainted with your state can tell me how it is that North Carolina is so chock full of invalids? A healthy climate ought to go a long way toward producing healthy people. About seventy-five per cent of our bedridden shut-ins are the victims of rheumatism. Rheumatism, like the goblins, is going to get you if you don't watch out, and North Carolina is full of rheumatism, and what North Carolina has not got in the way of rheumatism Virginia seems to have appropriated. From what I can find out from inquiry and observation, I have come to the conclusion that most people become rheumatic invalids from neglect. For that matter however, it is neglect that kills most people. Rheumatism however usually takes from thirty to forty years to kill its victims. It is less merciful or more merciful than tuberculosis according to a person's point of view. However, if you people who get a twinge of rheumatism would immediately get busy and cure the attack in its infancy, our shut-in columns would contain fewer names of people in need of help. If you get a twinge of rheumatism in the joints rub the affected parts immediately with oil of wintergreen and always have plenty of flannel on hand so as to keep the parts good and warm. I don't need to tell you to cut out meat, for I imagine with meat at its present price, few of you ever get any to eat. When you feel the rheumatic twinges or any other twinges of pain, the causes of which you cannot locate, or any feverish conditions arising from grip, cold or rheumatism, take a cathartic in the morning. Whatever the ailment and whatever other remedy may be required it is necessary to keep the bowels free and active, and this alone in many cases is all the treatment needed. So Ada, you want to study for a trained nurse do you? What an awfully obliging girl you are? You must think a great deal of that young lady you are going to study for, but what kind of a nurse do you think she will make, if you do the studying she ought to be doing herself? You bet trained nursing is a hard job and it cannot be done vicariously. Billy the Goat says he had one of those vicarious things at home, but it died. There is a great demand at the present time for trained nurses, especially in New York. Don't however come to New York with the idea of taking up nursing unless you are a high school graduate, and can work like a horse for three years, be ready to get an attack of diphtheria, which few nurses escape, and be exposed to all sorts of contagion. You also want to have the heart action of an athlete and the self control of a Roman matron, for unless you have a face like a cream puff that has been trodden on, the young house doctors won't give you much peace. I spent six years in hospitals and institutions and, believe me, there is not much that I don't know about them. Meanwhile, Ada, Billy the Goat says you should train to be a nurse, but don't train *for* a nurse. Never encourage laziness by doing for others what they should do for themselves.

302 Shelby St., Silver Grove, NEW ALBANY IND.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have been reading your letters for a good while and should like to join your merry circle. I should like to correspond with someone. I belong to the Aloha Club. I like to read. I am in the sixth grade. I have brown hair, brown eyes and dark complexion. I go to Silver St. school. I can hardly wait till Monday, that is when we have our school test. I just love them. This is Sunday afternoon and I feel so lazy and stupid I can't do anything. I wish someone would write me and tell me what to do for laziness. I don't want to do this and I don't want to do that. I don't want to take my music lesson. Well as I have written enough for the first time I think I will stop.

Your niece, DOROTHY RODGERS.

So, Dorothy, you want a cure for laziness do you? The best one I know would be to have a little visit from Billy the Goat. He has butted the laziness out of quite a few people. If Billy's horns scientifically applied, do not get results, you might pay a visit to where the spank weed grows. Before I spanked the laziness out of you, Dorothy, I'd try and find out if you were in good health. Inertia and disinclination to work is as often due to sickness as it is to sloth and ignorance. Laziness is often the result of overfeeding as well as underfeeding. The wrong kind of diet too, and especially a badly balanced diet may lead to inertia. Humanity is constitutionally lazy. Most of us would rather have the other fellow do what we ought to do ourselves. We go through life on the principle that it is much better to have George do the things we ought to do. We are always seeking excuses for pushing our bur-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

Fifteen Minutes of Frightfulness

By Charles Baker Gilbert

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT was Sunday morning. "Well, what of it?" you ask impatiently. Much, in this instance; had it been a weekday, Jones would have been down at the office when the cat—but wait, let's tell it properly.

Jones was an exceedingly diffident young bachelor who rented the third floor front room in the widow Brown's home. In his timid, bunny-hearted way, he was in love with the charming young widow, but the mere thought of proposing to her scared him out of his so-to-speak wits. On more than one occasion, the widow, who had already decided that he was to be next, had endeavored to make it easy for him, but invariably Jones had retreated in deadly terror.

Ten o'clock, Sunday morning, found Jones sitting in his room, deeply absorbed in the *Morning Howl's* account of a sensational murder and suicide that had taken place in that very neighborhood the night before. He had just reached this delectable detail:

"On entering the kitchen, the police found the bodies of husband and wife lying together in a pool of blood. A smoking revolver, gripped in the man's hand, told the tale. Smith and his wife had separated some months previously. To support herself, Mrs. Smith had rented a furnished house and taken roomers. Smith, fancying that the male lodgers were attentive to his wife, called at the house about nine o'clock last night, and after a violent scene, heard by several neighbors, shot her twice, then sent a bullet through his own——"

Bang!

Jones dropped the paper, catapulted from the chair and started for the window. Half-way there, his starboard pedal extremity encountered a torn place in the carpet, sending him sprawling. In his fall, he clutched the lace curtains of the window, tearing them down; the pole followed suit, plunging into the water pitcher; the whole mess landing on Jones most delightfully.

"—— —— —— —— ——" (His remarks deleted by censor.)

Bang! Bang!!

Those surely were pistol shots; this time they seemed to come from the floors below. Jones scrambled to his feet, surveyed the wreckage about him, then scurried out of the room, half fell down the stairs, and rushed madly through the second floor rooms. They were all empty—no sign of a disturbance of any kind.

Down the first flight of stairs he stumbled and into the darkened parlor, where he fell over something soft. The yell that followed made every hair of his head stand on end! Only the cat, wakened from her nap by the disturbance—now backed into a far corner, green eyes glaring balefully, hissing like the traditional stage villain. Jones loathed cats—this one in particular. Another time he would have hurled something at it; the present situation however left no time for such pleasantries. With a muttered imprecation on all cats, he rose cautiously, groping his way out of the gloom. In the dining-room he found no clue. Reaching the kitchen, the door of which was closed, he had just laid his hand on the doorknob when——

Bang! Bang!! Bang!!!

Jones jumped at last a foot in the air. His heart nearly jumped out of his mouth. Jumping Jupiter! Everything jumped!

Those shots had certainly been fired in the kitchen! Seizing the knob, he found the door locked. "Mrs. Smith!" he shouted—"Mrs. Smith!!!!"

No answer—or did he fancy that he heard a sound resembling a dying gasp? And now, to his utter horror, a dark red stain slowly started seeping under the door! Some people cannot endure the sight of blood; Jones belonged to this class. He gulped, stared dumbly at the dull patch of red slowly advancing, then he dashed wildly out of the house to find a policeman.

To state that he failed in his search is so utterly bromidic that we hesitate to impart the information; truthfulness however, compels the assertion. With trembling steps he returned to the house of horror and tore the telephone receiver from its hook.

"Hello! Hello!! Hello!!! Police Headquarters—quick! Murder just committed here—what? Get off the line—Get off! How's that? This is Police Headquarters? Come at once—murder just happened—murder and suicide both, I think—hurry up! Where? Oh, Lord! I forgot—Seventeen-eight-five, West thirty-seven Street—hurry!"

Waiting for the arrival of the police, Jones paced up and down the little parlor like a caged beast. (We believe this is the correct way to pace in such cases; at any rate, he paced). Twice he strode out towards the kitchen, but each time the sight of that gruesome red stain oozing under the door sent him back shuddering.

"Ugh!" he gulped "Good Lord!"

What *could* it all mean? Was this another murder case similar to that in the paper? Mrs. Smith was a widow—at least so he had been informed by no less a personage than that charming young woman herself. Her husband had been dead these three years—at least so she had told Jones. She had one little daughter, Dorothy, a chubby, flaxen-haired tot of five summers—had the little girl been murdered too?

It was horrible. More, it was inconvenient. Jones mentally pictured himself figuring in a sensational murder case. Perhaps he would even be charged with the crime. It was simply appalling!

"So she was a *grass* widow!" he groaned. Further remarks were prevented by arrival of the police—a Sergeant and two patrolmen. With a shudder, Jones pointed in the direction of the kitchen, then followed the bluecoats with trembling footsteps.

They halted at the closed door, where that ominous dull red stain hinted of nameless horrors beyond.

"Break open that door!" thundered the Sergeant.

As the door gave way, a shrill little feminine scream issued from the parlor. Wheeling in amazement, Jones beheld the widow in street attire, with Dorothy clinging to her skirts in fright.

"Whatever *is* the matter?" gasped the widow. "What are these policemen doing here?"

Coming closer, her gaze fell on the now exposed interior of the kitchen, which indeed resembled the scene of a bloody conflict—walls and floor spattered with dull red.

"*Oh, my catsup!*" she screamed. "Half the bottles exploded, and I worked so hard over it!" She began weeping hysterically.

The men stared stupidly at one another for a moment; then a broad grin spread over the Sergeant's face.

"It's all right, Mum—this young fellow's nutty, that's all! Come on, men!" The police tramped out, leaving poor Jones to face the music alone!

Trembling with mixed emotions, he turned to the widow; he found her regarding him with amusement, in spite of her tears.

"You're as white as a sheet!" she laughed nervously. Then—"Dorothy, let that catsup alone—go right up stairs this minute, and change your dress!" Dorothy disappeared, licking her tiny fingers.

Jones turned once more to the widow. "Well?" she queried.

"Mrs. Brown—Stella—I thought——" he stammered in utter confusion, turning from deathly pallor to a rich red that rivalled the catsup in hue. Great drops of perspiration broke out on his brow. Would he *never* be able to say it?

It was abominable!

With a herculean effort he tried again. "I—er—you see, I—well, I thought you had been murdered—like a woman I read about in this morning's paper, and—well, I just couldn't stand it, Stella!" he finished lamely.

"You poor dear!" murmured the widow. "You cared that much?"

For Mr. Jones, the room was rocking. Suns, planets, comets, whole constellations and solar systems flashed before his dizzy gaze. His lips parted, but he found himself speechless; his knees knocked together painfully.

And then, in a flash, an inspiration came to him. Now or never! If words failed him, so much the worse for words!

Bracing himself for a last, grand, superhuman effort, he took one stride and swept her into his arms!

With the Fingers! Corns Lift Out Without Pain

Corns and Calluses Stop Hurting at Once and Lift off Without One Bit of Pain.

This tiny bottle holds the wonder of wonders. It contains an almost magical drug discovered by a Cincinnati man. It is called freezone. It is a compound made from ether.



Apply a few drops of this freezone upon a tender, aching corn or a hardened callus. Instantly the soreness disappears and shortly you will find the corn or callus so shriveled and loose that you just lift it off with the fingers.

You feel no pain or soreness when applying freezone or afterwards. It doesn't even irritate the skin.

Just ask in any drug store for a small bottle of freezone. This will cost but a few cents but will positively rid your poor, suffering feet of every hard corn, soft corn, or corn between the toes, or the tough calluses on bottom of feet. If your druggist hasn't any freezone he can get it at any wholesale drug house for you. Edward Wesley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Learn Music AT HOME!



Lessons Free

New Method—Learn To Play By Note—Piano, Organ, Violin, Banjo, Mandolin, Cornet, Harp, 'Cello, Guitar, Piccolo, Clarinet, Trombone, Flute or to sing. Special Limited Offer of free weekly lessons. You pay only for music and postage, which is small. Money back guarantee. No extras. Beginners or advanced pupils. Everything illustrated, plain, simple, systematic. Free lectures each course. 16 years' success. Start at once. Write for Free Booklet Today—Now.

U. S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Box 12, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York City

Delivered TO YOU FREE

No other concern will offer you such values or such terms. Make your choice from

44 styles

colors and sizes in the famous "Ranger" line of bicycles *freight prepaid* to your town. Sent on approval for *30 DAYS' FREE TRIAL*. From our new big catalog select the particular style of RANGER bicycle you desire. We pay return charges if you decide not to keep it. You get one month riding test at our expense. LOW FACTORY PRICES direct to you from the largest, oldest and most successful bicycle concern in the country.



TIRES

Lamps, Horns and parts for all bicycles at *half usual prices*.

Send No Money

but write today for this big free catalog, also full particulars of new *30-day free trial offer*. Do not buy until you receive it. *WRITE NOW.*

Electric Lighted RANGER Motorbike

We want a Rider Agent in Every Neighborhood

MEAD CYCLE COMPANY Dept. F-3, Chicago



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Spring Care of the Work Horse

IT should be remembered that in the spring the work horse is *soft* after the confinement and lack of labor of the winter season; consequently he should be gradually fitted for hard labor. Just as the athlete has to specially prepare himself for a race or severe test of endurance, so the muscles of the work horse should be got into fit condition for work by exercise, grooming or brisk massage and proper feeding.

Shedding of Hair

At this time of the year the horse is shedding his winter coat of hair, or should be doing so, and this preparation for summer commonly is associated with discomfort, weakness or actual sickness. To help the horse get rid of his coat it is well to stop feeding heating corn and substitute whole oats, wheat bran and oilmeal. The change in feed should, however, be made gradually, for all sudden changes of feed are liable to cause indigestion.

Clipping

If the hair is tardy in shedding it is a good plan to heavily blanket the horse and trot him until sweat is induced. The hair then comes off in great rolls, adhering to the blanket, and the work is completed by brisk use of the curry-comb and handy brush. In cases where such measures do not loosen the coat clipping should be resorted to at once, but if a horse is clipped at this time he should be regularly clipped every spring. It is rare, indeed, for the coat to assume normal polish after clipping has been done; still the practise is a good one, when the horse can be properly blanketed, as it tends to prevent cough, bronchitis or even pneumonia, often caused by sweating and then chilling in the stable.

Partial Clipping

When the condition of the weather will not permit complete clipping of the coat, and a horse is doing poorly, sweating in the stable or showing any symptom of indigestion, partial clipping should be done. This consists of clipping the hair from the legs, above the knees and hocks, and from the belly and on the sides to a line with the breast collar and breeching straps. The hair left on the legs protects the skin and helps to prevent "scratches" or "mud fever" where the horse has to work in wet, slush or mud.

Toughening the Shoulders

At this time it is also well to "toughen" the shoulders for work "in the collar." Nothing surpasses cold water with the addition of two teaspoonfuls of salt per pint, as a lotion for this purpose. Used regularly three times a day it will prevent collar and back-pad sores and at the same time have the desired "toughening" effect. If something stronger is required, as indicated by the appearance of scalded, galled or sore spots where the harness bears and rubs, use a solution of one teaspoonful of tannic or gallic acid and a pint of cold soft water, or a strong tea of white oak bark, or water containing all the powdered alum it will dissolve. Then keep the collar clean and dry and dust its bearing surface with talcum powder before putting it upon the horse.

Caring for the Feet

Attention to the feet also is of prime importance. If the horse has to work hard upon the road or on land that is not of the black prairie type it is best to shoe his feet and to reset the shoes once a month. The hind feet need not be shod if the horse has to work only upon the land, but they should be kept properly trimmed by timely use of the rasp.

In conclusion it may be added that it is best to keep the work horse off grass in the spring, to supply him with cold, pure drinking water before meals and when at work in the field, and to see to it that his stable is kept clean, well ventilated and darkened against flies in hot weather.

Spring Campaign Against Weeds

The fight against weeds should begin early in the season. Later on they have become strong and vigorous and soon get beyond control. A little thought and work now will mean both money and labor saved later on.

Prepare all work land, whether fall or spring plowed, as early as the weather will permit. This makes weed seeds sprout and show above ground before the crop is planted, and harrowing will kill most of them. This treatment is especially successful in combating such weeds as Russian thistle, pigweed, goosefoot, cocklebur, milkweed, common ragweed, giant ragweed or kingshead, and mustard. In fact any of the common annual farm weeds which are perpetuated by means of seed alone can be effectively fought in this manner, though their control is almost impossible later in the season, especially in grain fields, due to their rapid growth and early seeding habit.

If a second crop of weeds develops in the grain fields harrowing is safe and entirely satisfactory until the grain is two inches high. In dry areas this practise is even beneficial to the grain crop, since it sets the grain back very little and forces a more extensive root growth, kills the weeds, and leaves a moisture conserving dust mulch that will not easily be blown away by the wind.

Danger from Grain Smuts and Blights

A recent circular of a middle west experiment station warns against impending danger from smuts and blights in grain. Owing to the cold wet season grain smuts and blights were unusually severe in 1915. The seed oats and barley, then, that will be sown the coming spring will have an abundance of smut spores or "germs" under the hulls, in the furrows, and even inside the kernels. If such seed is sown without first killing the spores, loss from smut is sure to occur and unless prevented will be heavy this year.

HOW TO KILL SMUT.—The Formalin Seed Treatment is the best and most effective for general use on the farm. The cost is extremely low—14 to 15 cents a pound (pint) if purchased in quantities of five gallons or more. The solution used is made up as follows: One pint Formalin (Formaldehyde 40 per cent) in 30 to 35 gallons of water. Mix well. Barrels or tanks are not injured by the formalin and may be used for holding the solution when soaking or dipping the seed. The solution may be used several times, but preferably not more than four or five times.

CAUTIONS TO BE OBSERVED.—Always run the seed through a good fanning mill before any treatment is given. This will remove many of the blighted kernels, the spore balls, many of the free smut spores and dirt.

2.—Avoid freezing the wet grain. Freezing would lower or destroy germination.

3.—When the seed has been treated and is yet damp and swollen the seeder or drill should be set to sow one half bushel (barley or wheat) to three quarters bushel (oats) more to an acre than the usual amount. Soak the seed in the solution in loosely filled burlap or gunny sacks for two hours. Drain on slats over the barrels or tanks to prevent wasting the solution. Dry by spreading on a clean floor, stir occasionally with rake or shovel. It will dry faster if the wind can blow over the wet grain. Sow as soon as the seed will run freely or dry thoroughly and store in clean bags or bins until it is planted. Barley requires a two-hour treatment to kill the leaf stripe and loose smut diseases.

TREATMENT BEST FOR OATS, WHEAT AND RYE.—Dip the seed, in loosely filled burlap or gunny sacks, into the solution and soak for *five minutes*. Drain and pile the oats or wheat on a clean floor or canvas and cover with sacks or canvas for two hours. It is best to leave rye covered from four to six hours. This covering is important as it prevents too rapid evaporation of the formalin. It is difficult to dry oats if long treatment is applied.

Cultivating the Orchard

It is a well-known fact that ordinary farm crops cannot be successfully grown without tillage. No one expects to produce a good crop of potatoes or corn without giving careful cultivation. Why then should we expect to grow apples, peaches or any fruit without the same care?

Tillage improves the physical condition of the soil, saves moisture and hastens growth. Cultivation also destroys weeds and other pests that may prove of great injury to both trees and fruit. If the trees are choked with grass and robbed of their proper nourishment by weeds they cannot be expected to produce first-class fruit.

While the time and amount of tillage depends upon local conditions it can be stated as a general principle that orchards should be kept free from grass and weeds by clean cultivation during the early part of the season at least.

If it is desirable to add a fertilizer in the form of green manure the orchard may be seeded to clover with oats as a nurse crop. The oats should be cut very early for hay, since their ripening takes a large amount of both moisture and plant food to produce a crop of grain. The growing clover will take nitrogen from the air and, if plowed under, this nitrogen will be added to the soil. If desired, rye or barley may be sown instead of oats as a nurse crop or the clover may be sown under favorable conditions without the nurse crop. However, if clover seed is sown alone it should not be sown on weedy land as the weeds will choke the young clover plants.

If the old orchard has ceased to bear, try plowing it up this spring and giving it thorough cultivation as a part of your plan to help it to produce a crop of fruit.

Watch for Shot Hole Borers

These pests attack orchard trees by boring just beneath the bark. They are first discovered when the trees are pruned in spring. Peach trees attacked by borers exude gum at the point where the injury is made.

When first detected the trees should be treated with a wash made as follows:

One gallon of commercial lime sulphur to eight gallons of water or

Stiff whitewash to which has been added a quart of crude carbolic acid to each twenty-five gallons.

This should be applied to the trunk and large limbs with a whitewash brush and to the small ones with a power spray.

Seeds for Late Planting

In selecting seeds for late planting remember to get *good* seeds. These should be fresh seeds, not over two years old. The corner grocery may keep this kind of seeds but without you know your grocer and can take his word you are likely to get old seeds. Besides, dealers who sell seeds to grocers often palm off poor seeds on them. Even though your grocer may be perfectly honest you may get bad seeds from him. The best way is to take them home and before planting test each package according to directions given in former numbers of COMFORT'S Modern Farmer. In this way you may be sure that the seeds you plant will grow and you will run no risk of losing a crop through planting poor seed.

BE SURE THEY ARE PURE.—With certain seeds, especially the clover and grass seeds, are often found many impurities. Before purchasing these examine them with a glass for bad seeds or weed seeds which they may contain. It is far better to buy pure seeds and make your own lawn mixture than it is to buy many of the widely advertised lawn mixtures and sow dandellons and quack grass and English plantain on the lawn.

TRANSPLANTING.—Many plants, especially those grown from very small seeds, do better if twice transplanted. They should first be sown in pans or boxes and as soon as they are an inch high "pricked out" in flats an inch or two apart each way. Flats are shallow wooden boxes about three inches deep and 18 or 20 inches square filled with good rich growing soil.

When the plants are ready to be set in the open ground, the soil in the flat should be thoroughly soaked and the plants removed without disturbing the roots too much. Besides making it possible to start plants early, before the outside conditions are suitable, transplanting increases the vigor of plants by promoting root growth. However, only those plants developing branching roots can be easily and successfully transplanted. Single tap-rooted plants like cucumbers and melons transplant with the greatest difficulty. Starting such plants in little squares of sod and then setting plant, sod and all out when conditions are suitable is the best way of transplanting such plants. They may also be grown in paper pots and transferred to the outside in the same way, removing the paper carefully after the plant is set in the earth.

Vegetables out of the Ordinary

The Udo

This vegetable was brought into the country about ten years ago from Japan where it is cultivated for both its roots and its young shoots. The only use yet made of it in this country, however, is for its shoots which are cut and used much the same as asparagus. The shoots are blanched before cutting by placing around them an ordinary drain tile.

In taste the udo is somewhat like parsnip. Raw it has a pine taste which is removed by cooking in cold water and parboiling later in two or three waters. It is prepared and eaten much the same as asparagus.

Witloof Chicory

This is a salad plant grown extensively in Europe where it has attained great perfection.

In America it can be grown successfully either from seed or from roots which may be forced in early spring. The seed may be sown in May or June and the roots, to be used for early forcing, harvested about the last of October. It is cultivated during the summer months much the same as any other garden vegetable. The rows should be about a foot apart and the plants should stand about ten inches apart in the row. The best methods of growing chicory for market are discussed in Bulletin No. 418 of the Experiment Station at Geneva, New York.

Poisoning Vermin

Gophers and prairie dogs may be most easily poisoned in the spring when they first leave their burrows after hibernating during the winter months. At this time they will ravenously eat almost any kind of poisoned bait because food is scarce, and each adult animal killed now, before the young are born, is equal to half a dozen killed later in the season.

For prairie dogs and pocket gophers use potatoes or apples as bait. Slit each piece with a knife and insert a bit of sulphate of strychnine about half as large as a grain of wheat. Drop the baits into the mouths of inhabited burrows where it is out of reach of stock. One bait in each hole is sufficient. An average of ten acres of very badly infested ground can be treated each day by one experienced man.

Common gophers and "flickertails" should be poisoned with grain treated with strychnine. One of the best formulas is as follows:

Dissolve one and one half ounces of sulphate of strychnine in a quart of hot water. Add a quart of syrup—molasses, sorghum, or thick sugar and water—and a teaspoonful of oil of anise. Thoroughly heat and mix the liquid, and while hot pour over a bushel of clean wheat and mix thoroughly. Stir in two pounds of fine corn meal, the quantity depending upon the amount of excess moisture present. Allow the mixture to stand over night, taking care that there is no leakage from the containing vessel. Distribute early in the morning. One bushel of poisoned grain will suffice for 1,000 to 1,200 holes. Use one teaspoonful for each burrow. Drop directly into burrows. As strychnine is one of the most deadly poisons the utmost care must be taken to keep it away from all domestic animals and make sure that it is out of the reach of children.

Dirt Roads

Notwithstanding all arguments to the contrary, the dirt road is the best road,—not the poor dirt road or the sand wallow, or the mud hole, but the good dirt road properly built and maintained.

The dirt road is the best road because it is the cheapest to build. A good road can be built from the earth in place for less than one third the cost of macadam or one tenth the cost of concrete road. It is both easiest and quickest to build as the material is on the ground, does not have to be hauled and seldom must be moved more than a few feet.

The big problem of good roads efforts is not the construction but the maintenance of these roads. Earth roads are quickest, easiest and cheapest to repair and if properly built will wear longer than stone roads. Like the construction material, the repair material is always close at hand.

HOW TO BUILD A GOOD DIRT ROAD.—There are two simple rules for building a good earth road which if followed will give very satisfactory results. They are:

1. Get the water off and keep it off.
2. Keep the surface well packed.

Of course it is not always easy to follow these rules, the lay of the land and the character of the soil itself being the two factors which must be contended with.

HOW TO GET THE WATER OFF.—The earth road should be carefully surveyed and levels run and grade stakes set. The water, when the land is shaped to the grade stakes, should run rapidly off and find an outlet so that it will not stand in ditches by the side of the road. If it does it will work back under the roadbed and soften the track.

The road should be crowned in the middle at least two feet above the surface runs, or ditches beside the road. These surface runs should not be more than two rods apart and should be kept so clean that water runs, never stands, in them.

Beneath these surface ditches and from four to six feet nearer the track should be laid lines of tile three feet below the surface. The size of these tile will depend upon the distance from the outlet,—the farther the distance the larger the tile. In all low and wet places cross tiles should be laid beneath the track or connect the two main lines. The surface runs will carry off the excess rain water and the tiles will drain out the excess soil water from beneath the track and make a hard, dry roadbed.

HOW TO KEEP THE SURFACE HARD.—A dry roadbed is the first essential to a hard surface. But loose soil will absorb a large amount of water, hence loose soil should never be left on the roadbed. Whenever it is necessary to repair the track or put on fresh soil it should be immediately rolled down with a heavy roller. After heavy rains which have a tendency to soften the track, thus causing ruts, a King road drag should be run over the surface to level it off and fill up the ruts.

With a hard surface and a dry and well-drained roadbed, a dirt road will cost less to keep in repair than the best stone road.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

DECAY OF ORGANIC MATTER.—We have debated the following question in our school but can find no answer to it. The question is: "When organic matter rots why does some go to make coal and some to make soil?" Miss H. H., Barnhart, Mo.

A.—Organic matter which goes to make coal does not rot. It is buried so deeply that the air is cut off and, being under great pressure and subjected to intense internal heat of the earth, gas is driven off and carbon—coal—remains. If it "rotted" it would go to make soil. The chemical process is difficult to explain in a few words. Rotting is a process of disintegration by combining with the oxygen of the air, a kind of slow burning.

FOOD VALUE OF OAT HAY.—What is the comparative food value of oats cut while green and cured and fed in the winter as hay, especially as a milk producer?
H. G. E., Holland Patent, N. Y.

A.—Oat hay is better than Timothy, about as good as well cured clover, but not so good as Alfalfa for producing milk.

ONION MAGGOT.—I have no success in raising onions. I planted about one half pound of seed last year and when the plants were large enough to be thinned they turned yellow and died. On pulling them up I found a lot of white worms eating the roots and bulbs. What is the cause? Is there any preventive or remedy?
MRS. J. P., Cle Elum, Wash.

A.—Doubtless your onions were attacked by the onion maggot, the larvæ of a fly. These grubs are hard to get at. The best remedy is to place sand soaked in kerosene near the base of the plants along the row. Use one cup of kerosene to one pail of sand. This is impractical for large fields, of course.

GETTING RID OF THISTLES.—Kindly tell me how to treat a small area that is over-run with thistles.
J. G. Z., Stratford, Conn.

A.—This depends on the kind of thistles. Ordinary bull thistles, if kept cut back and not allowed to blossom, will be killed in two years because they are biennials,—that is, they take two years to mature. It will probably be necessary to cut them a year or two longer since the seed in the soil may not all grow the first year. Canada thistles must not be allowed to produce any green leaves. They spread by the roots. Frequent plowing and harrowing every time green leaves appear, or shading by sowing a heavy crop like hemp or Alfalfa will destroy Canada thistles.

GRAFTING CHERRY TREES.—I would like to know all about grafting cherry trees—in what month it should be done, how long to cut the scions and how far back to cut the limbs they are to be grafted on.
MISS B. Y., New Castle, Pa.

A.—Send to the Experiment Station, Ames, Iowa, for Bulletin No. 10, "Cherry Trees on Their Own Roots," by J. L. Budd. Methods of propagating cherries are described in this bulletin.

WIREWORMS AND ONIONS.—Will wireworms eat onions?
R. R., Freeport, Ohio.

A.—Not as a rule. You are probably troubled with onion maggot. See answer to a similar question on onion maggot in this column.

KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.—I want to write to the Kentucky State Agricultural Experiment Station for some bulletins on farming, but nobody here seems to know where it is located. Will you kindly give me the address?
M. C., Augusta, Kentucky.

A.—The experiment Station is located at Lexington and the officials will be glad to send you bulletins on request. Address your letter to the Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Lexington, Ky. Also write to U. S. Secretary of Agriculture for list of bulletins published by the U. S. Government for free distribution. Look the list over and then write for such bulletins as you are interested in.

FALL RYE WITH OATS.—I wish to plant about twenty-five acres to fall rye for next year. I have heard that it can be planted in the spring with oats, cut the oats when ripe and thus have the rye ready for next year. We often have difficulty here in getting the oats off the ground in time to plant the rye the same fall, so if I can plant the rye with the oats

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 25.)

$2.25 a Month Buys a Genuine KIMBALL ORGAN At Factory Prices.



FREE Music Instruction by our New Diagram System if you write at once.

We will send them to reliable people anywhere, on our extremely easy payment plan.

Operating the largest piano and organ factory in the world—the Kimball system positively saves you $25 to $50 on strictly first-class organs.

Send for Money-Saving Plan and Free Catalog

Under no circumstances can you afford to buy or consider any other organ until you have our money-saving proposition. Our half-century's manufacturing experience, our financially strong guarantee mean much to you.

W. W. KIMBALL CO., 3054 Kimball Hall, Chicago.

Please send me FREE your 1917 Organ Catalog, factory distributing prices and the Nation's Home Songs with words and music FREE.

Name_____

City_____ State_____

St. or R. F. D._____

"Always Does the Work and Does It Right"

ROUGH ON RATS



Unbeatable Exterminator of Rats, Mice & Bugs
Used the World Over. Used by U. S. Government
It Can't Fail—It's All Exterminator
Stop Fattening Rats, Mice & Bugs!
On your food or on Catch Penny ready-to-use substitutes—whose bulk is inert flour and grease.
Why Trap Rats & Mice, One By One,
while those uncaught rapidly increase!!!
END THEM ALL TO-NIGHT WITH a 25c box of ROUGH ON RATS
The Recognized Standard For Half a Century
At Drug & Country Stores.

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!



$24 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Light running, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.

30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.

ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12) 2182 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO



Ballard's Bran
IDEAL DRUGLESS LAXATIVE

At your Grocer's. If he does not have it, send us his name and address with 35c (West of Denver 40c) in stamps for trial package.
BALLARD & BALLARD CO.
Station C Louisville, Ky.

Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business



Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars. **Star Drilling Machine Co.**
675 Washington St., Akron, Ohio

LEPAGE'S GLUE HANDY TUBES
A HOUSEHOLD NECESSITY

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Spring Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



IN these days when housework has been elevated to Domestic Science, and much of its drudgery is lightened by efficient tools and appliances, one will find every good housekeeper equipped with comfortable house dresses and aprons.

A splendid "betwixt and between" model is the cover-all apron, that may serve as a house dress, and which is especially comfortable in warm weather. It may be worn loose or the fullness may be held at the waistline by a belt. Such models are nice in percale, drill, linen, seersucker, gingham and chambrey.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

2013—Ladies' Apron Dress.—This model may serve as a house dress. Percale, gingham, seersucker, crepe, lawn, alpaca are good for its development.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires five yards of 36-inch material for a 34-inch size.

1780—Ladies' Breakfast Sack and Cap. Dimity, lawn, chambrey, gingham, crepe, batiste or percale could be used for these models.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large, and requires three and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for the sack and seven eighths yard for the cap for a medium size.

1723—A Neat and Practical Apron Model. The pockets may be omitted.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It is nice for gingham, chambrey, lawn, percale, alpaca and sateen. The medium size will require five and one eighth yards of 36-inch material.

1795—A Practical and Easily Developed Outfit. The dress is good for all wash fabrics, and also for serge, and other woolens. The pattern includes all three garments.

Cut in five sizes; two, three, four, five and six years. It requires seven eighths yards for the drawers, one and one half yard for the underskirt, and two and one eighth yards for the dress, of 36-inch material, for a four-year size.

2006—Ladies' House Dress with reversible closing, with or without chemisette, and with sleeve in wrist or elbow length. Seersucker, chambrey, gingham, lawn, cashmere, flannelette, alpaca, brilliantine and percale are nice for this style.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires seven and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2005—Ladies' Shirt-waist, with or without yoke. Linen, taffeta, satin, batiste, lawn, or flannel are good for this model.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1854—An Attractive Apron Model. The apron is good for gingham, percale, lawn, cambric, sateen or drill. If desired the back portion of the bib may be omitted.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires four and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1777—A Set of Smart Dress Accessories. Batiste, lawn, organdy, net, lace, mull and linen are all good for these models.

The pattern including all styles is cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires for No. 1 one and one quarter yard; for No. 2, seven eighths yard, for No. 3, three quarters yard of 27-inch material for a medium size.

1980—Night Dress in high or low neck, and with sleeve in either of two lengths for ladies and misses. Muslin, batiste, nainsook, lawn, crepe, silk and flannelette, could be used for this model.

Cut in three sizes; for misses, 16, 18 and 20 years; and in six sizes for ladies, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It will require five and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for an 18-year size, or five and five eighths yards for a 38-inch size.

2002—Boys' Russian Suit, with or without revers, collar and shield. Serge, cheviot, velvet, corduroy, linen, seersucker, percale and galatea are good materials for this model.

Cut in four sizes; two, three, four and five years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

1751—A Charming Spring Frock. The dress is good for lawn, dimity, crepe, checked or striped taffeta, batiste or voile.

Cut in four sizes; 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires four yards of 44-inch material for the dress with ruffles, and three yards without ruffles, for a 14-year size.

2004—Junior Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Serge, gabardine, plaid suiting, or shepherd check, would be nice for this style. Taffeta, corduroy, or velvet are also nice for this model.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14, and 16 years. It requires five and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a 14-year size.

1988—Waist. 1976—Skirt. A Neat, Attractive Dress for home or calling. The waist is cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. The skirt in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires two and one half yards of 44-inch material for the waist, and five and one half yards for the skirt for a medium size. *Two* separate patterns 10c *for each* pattern.

1767—A Stylish Dress for the little miss. Plaid gingham, striped seersucker, or figured percale are nice for this style. The sleeve is in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires four and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for an eight-year size.

1801—Girls' Apron and Cap. For a complete dress covering, for comfort and ease, the model here shown is ideal. The pocket is big and comfortable.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires two and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 10-year size, for the apron, and three quarters yard for the cap.

2000—Ladies' Dress, with body lining. Gray satin, with lace for the vest and fancy buttons for trimming is here shown. The sleeve is finished at wrist length, with a smart cuff.

Cut in six sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. It requires six yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2003—Ladies' Dress. This style is nice for black or blue satin, gabardine, cheviot, shepherd check, chiffon cloth, velvet and corduroy.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1778—A Simple, Popular Model. This is a pretty style, easy to develop and nice for all kinds of wash materials. The sleeve may be in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires four and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

1990—Ladies' Apron and Sleeve Protector. Drill, linene, linen, lawn, alpaca, percale and brilliantine could be used for this style.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires five yards of 36-inch material for the apron, and three eighths yard for the sleeve protector.

1764—Boys' Middy Suit. This design is a popular style, good for wash and woolen goods. The blouse is provided with an adjustable shield.

Cut in five sizes; three, four, five, six and eight years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 27-inch material for a four-year size.

1997—A Simple, One-piece Model with sleeve in either of two lengths. Lawn, nainsook, batiste, flannelette, albatross, cashmere and silk are good for this style.

Cut in five sizes; six months, one, two, three and four years. It requires two and one half yards of 36-inch material for a two-year size.

1985—Ladies' Combination Corset Cover and Drawers. For this style, cambric, lawn, batiste, crepe, silk and linen are nice.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

1995—Ladies' Four-piece Skirt in raised waistline. Serge, gabardine, velvet, satin, broadcloth, cheviot, jersey cloth, plaid and mixed suiting, are all good for this style. The pockets may be omitted.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

2001—Ladies' House Dress, with or without back yoke, and with sleeve in either of two lengths. Gray and white striped seersucker, is here shown. The skirt has roomy pockets and is a three-piece model.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2008—Waist. 2010—Skirt. A Smart and Serviceable Dress. One could combine striped or plain gingham or suiting for this design.

The skirt pattern is cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. The waist is in the same sizes. It will require six and three quarters yards of 36-inch material to make skirt and waist of one material, in a 16-year size. *Two* separate patterns 10c *for each* pattern.

1998—Dress for Misses and Small Women. The dress has a fitted body lining, to which the skirt is gathered. The outer waist may be finished separately or tacked over the lining.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires six and one half yards of 36-inch material for an 18-year size.

1949—Ladies' Skirt, with or without yoke belt. This style is nice for satin, velvet, serge and gabardine, also for broadcloth, mixed and checked suiting.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires four and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 24-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated



☞USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash,

(or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me

Patterns No._____ Size (or Age)_____ No._____ Size (or Age)_____ No._____ Size (or Age)_____

Name_____ State_____

Post Office_____ R.F.D. No._____ Box No._____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

we done our utmost to help along this good work? It is so very easy for us to say that we appreciate and love Uncle Charlie—but remember, "words without deeds never to Heaven go!" Let's put our creed into our deed and not be guilty of paying our tribute to Uncle Charlie in that cheapest of coin—*words, words, words!* Don't let a day pass without trying to get a "sub," for, remember, it is only by the effort of every one of us that we can get that Home.

Best wishes to all, MINNIE BRUBAKER.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Now that the "in-laws" subject has come up, I'm just itchin' to tell you sisters how I'm tangled up with them. But just as long as I keep within the law I fear neither mother-in-law nor father-in-law and I have two of each.

You see my husband's parents are divorced and each have married again. Dad-in-law's second wife died and he has chosen a third. Hubby and I stood up with them to be married so you can see I get along nicely in that quarter. That made three mothers-in-law that I have had to meet, battle with and overcome. But I do think a daughter-in-law gets the worst of it most of the time; still there are times she is to blame, for any hard feelings, etc. For remember, sisters, you are taking mother's son away from her and she is inclined to be a bit jealous; wondering if you are cooking his meals as she has always cooked them, keeping his socks and clothes mended, or if you squander his hard-earned money, which she has taught him to save. She might even want to come and manage your home for you or tell you how to do it. Now it doesn't cost a penny to listen to advice or experiences, so if mother-in-law has some to give with each visit, just drink it all in and use it, if you see fit, or show her where you can improve upon one of her suggestions. You sisters would take to heart all your mother's advice, wouldn't you? Well, why not your mother-in-law's? Remember she has her son's welfare at heart, as your mother has yours.

And fathers-in-law, why they don't bother me a bit. Seems to me they just give a kiss and greeting and then settle down to their pipe and paper, saying to themselves, "let him paddle his own canoe, as I have had to paddle mine."

But if you sisters find visits going from bad to worse, just inform the "in-laws" in the nicest kind of way, that when you married your husband, you didn't marry the family. Learn to control your tongue and keep your opinions to yourself. It's an awful job sometimes, sisters, but it pays.

I have sifted this all out from personal experience and perhaps it will set a few sisters, who have the "in-law" trouble in either slight or severe cases, to think and act upon my simple remedy.

Here's good luck to one and all of COMFORT's readers. MRS. A. H. REYNOLDS.

MICHIGAN.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have long been a reader of COMFORT but never thought I could help anyone so have been content to read the letters and say nothing.

But in the February COMFORT I found a case similar to mine and I am going to write and say to "Lonely One" that she doesn't need to fear. For six years I thought just the same as she does and most likely would think that way yet had not a friend asked why we did not have any children, as we were both very fond of them and she thought we should have a large family. Then I told her of the fears I had. I only wish that "Lonely One" could have someone talk to her as that true woman talked to me. She told me I would lose all fear and think only of the time when I would be so happy with my little baby, and she was right. In less than a year I gave birth to a fine little boy and two years later to a baby girl. They are both in school now and the house is lonely without them. I wish it were so we could care for more, then the house wouldn't be lonely very long.

So, "Lonely One" take heart, and let us know before long if there isn't a sweet little one to some day call you mother.

With very best wishes to COMFORT's staff and to the sisters, I remain, A COMFORT sister.

OHIO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT most of the years since the days of Aunt Minerva and her Owls. It is one of the two papers in the home I remember when a child. The stories of frontier life on the Western plains, Ozark Hills and surroundings that I read at that impressionable age I did not forget. Now I sometimes wonder if that early reading did not have an influence on my later ambitions. From the early teens I've had an almost unconquerable desire to live in the West. Anything relating to that section of the country was more interesting to me than from any other place. I believe that many parents do not understand that a child's early impressions are clearest and deepest that their minds or lives are molded by what they see and hear while children.

I heard of a mother who had two sons that wanted to be sailors. As it was against her wishes she could not understand why they did. An educated friend asked to see the boys' sleeping-room. There on the wall was a large picture of a marine scene, showing a beautiful ship. The friend said, "You need look no further. That explains it."

I know a large family where more than half the children are teachers. I often wondered why, but when I saw their respect, almost reverence, for an aged uncle, who, as a teacher, had been held up as an ideal to them in their childhood, it was explained. It almost seems as if some of them will follow his example and teach fifty years.

I think many parents shape their children's future unconsciously. I have known several cases that make me sure of it. Our own family for instance. We lived in an excellent neighborhood and owned our farm. Our parents worked hard and managed to advantage, but we children were given the idea that farm life was drudgery. It was not that we did not like the work, but other lines of work were held up as being easier, more pleasant, better paid and more desirable. In our family of seven children not one farmer by choice!

In contrast to Georgie's opinion, I think country life is superior to city life for children. I do not mean the child of wealthy parents who is bought up scientifically and guarded by nurses, tutors and chaperons. I mean wherever children congregate on streets, alleys, etc., out of sight and hearing of parents. A country child's company is easier controlled. And why should the secrets of nature be "awful?" A child's mind can be made to see things in a natural way if his education is begun in time. Nothing gave our three-year-old son more delight than to watch and help care for hatching chicks. I answered his questions the best I could and in a way suited to his understanding. He has had seeds and examples of plant fertilization explained. What his father told him about the barnyard babies was, and is yet (even if he is older), as interesting to him and as innocent and matter-of-fact as the baby chicks he watched or the seeds he planted and watched grow, blossom and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17.)

He That Loseth His Life

By Maud Mary Brown

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

PART II.

TAKING a moment to steady her leaping nerves, Diana went back to Mrs. Randall. She was relieved when people began to leave. At last the three were alone as they had been in the beginning—but with a difference. Diana had seen the ghost.

"Slip into a *peignoir* and join me in my boudoir," Hermione said when she and Diana had reached home. "We will have our dinner there. You look ill, Diana. Don't contract nerves on the brink of matrimony, child."

Dinner over, Hermione settled herself by the fire. "Now, Diana, out with it," she began.

But Diana professed not to know what her cousin meant.

"Oh, yes, you do, my dear," Mrs. Randall insisted.

"I am tired——"

"It isn't altogether that. Diana, do you love Gilbert Garth enough to be willing to spend the rest of your days with him?"

"Why, Cousin Hermione!" Diana cried. "Of course I care for Gilbert. But even if I didn't, I've promised, haven't I?"

"I should rather die than to see you unhappy as a result of your visit to me. If you find that you don't care enough—and you must be very certain, Diana—break with him at once and we will go to Palm Beach for the remainder of the season. For marriage without love," she added with conviction, "is a miniature hell."

"Thank you, Cousin Hermione," Diana responded bleakly. "I know you have my interest at heart. But now, if you will excuse me, I think I will go to bed."

In her room, Diana huddled over her fire but it neither warmed nor comforted her. She recalled Garth's face as he turned from his unbidden guest. She remembered Randall's look of friendliness as he piloted her out of the crush.

She began to be afraid. Had she been more analytical she would have discovered that, for Garth, she had only a negative admiration for his excellence which she had warmed into love at the freshly-kindled fires of youth.

Over and over, with that sinister tableau in Garth's hall in her mind, Diana fought with herself.

The woman, she told herself was one of the blackmailing hangers-on of the underworld who prey on rich men. To break with Garth because of what she had seen would be childish and unjust. Besides, she had promised. And to a Leigh, a promise was a solemn thing.

She finally crept into bed and lay with wide-open eyes far into the night.

Diana had a brilliant wedding on a bright morning of the new season. Andrew came up to give her away. Being a doctor, he could arrive only at the last moment, and Diana had no opportunity to see him alone till, home from the church she drew him aside from the high-spirited crowd.

"Di, I hope you're going to be happy," Andrew said fondly.

"But you doubt it?"

"Don't misunderstand your country brother. I'm dazed with all this glory."

"Do you like my husband, dear?" It was out at last.

"They are calling you, honey. This may be our last chance for a quiet word together. If life batters you too hard, girl, let me know. But don't give up too easily. Battering puts iron into character. Now it's good by, dear. Come down to brighten us up as often as you can."

As he bent to kiss her, tears welled into Diana's gold-flecked eyes. She went to her room to change, her spirits curiously depressed.

Felice served her so gently that Diana was touched and before leaving the room she laid her hot cheek against the maid's hand, closing her smarting eyes.

"You've been awfully good to me, Felice."

"But no! It is madame who is good. I would die for you," she added with fierce tenderness.

Randall was the last to wish Diana Godspeed before she ran, under fire of flowers, to the waiting car.

"It's absurd to anticipate the impossible, but if you should ever need the service of a friend, you can count on me to the last," he said, her hands in his.

"I shall remember. And thank you, Barry."

When, after a couple of months, the Garths returned to overlook the work on their new house, Diana's eyes were weary with life and dark with fatigue. From a gay and expansive girl she had developed into a reserved and mysterious woman.

Of no one did she make a confidant. Hermione tried to mother her, but Diana's indifference was chilling. Randall who had entirely abandoned the haunts of pleasure, watched, his face stern.

Almost at once they went to Westchester and Diana was grateful for the change. To be in the country among intimate, growing things, appealed to her new mood.

Randall's farm, The Shack, adjoined Garthmore. It was a modest place for, as wealth is measured, Randall was a poor man.

Randall was at the farm before the Garths came up to Garthmore to remain. He had developed a belated enthusiasm for a farming project which was forming in his active brain.

"I repeat what I said to you before our marriage," Garth said to Diana a few days after their arrival. "I don't like Randall and I will tolerate no intimacy between you and him."

Diana made no reply.

A few days later, Diana went to town, why she scarcely knew. Certainly the city with its hot, crowded streets did not lure her and none of her friends was in town.

Disinclined to shop and ennuied with the new house, she dismissed her car and strolled idly up the avenue and presently she turned into a side street.

As she walked eastward a woman claimed her attention. Something in the drooping shoulders and groping walk revived a smothered memory and, hastening her pace, she came abreast of her and, turning, looked her squarely in the face.

"Caroline!" she cried after a second's scrutiny. "Caroline Bart!"

The woman stopped and peered closely into Diana's face and Diana saw that her sight was impaired.

"Why, if it isn't—*is* it little Diana Leigh?"

"I never dreamed that you were in New York," cried Diana. Her glance swept the other's threadbare garments. "You are in trouble, Caroline. Take me where we can talk."

"I've a room near the elevated," Caroline replied. "Come with me if you like. What do you know about me?"

"Oh, very little. I always thought you and Andrew were in love, though I was pretty young to speculate about romance when you lived next to us."

By this time they had entered a narrow hall and were laboriously climbing steep stairs.

"Go on," the older woman commanded.

"And then I went away to school. The boys wrote me about your father's death and your giving up the place; they told me never to mention your name to Andrew. I never did. That's all I know, Caroline."

"Andrew and I quarreled about my coming to New York."

"But you came. And it hasn't treated you well. New York is like that. Could you tell me about it, Caroline?"

The woman hesitated and then, in the noise-shaken, impoverished room, she began to talk.

"You won't tell Andrew?" she said at last. "I could not bear that."

Her sight was too uncertain to detect Diana's pallor. The smothered memory was alert.

"Caroline," she asked abruptly; "did you go to—his rooms again?"

"Once—just last spring. I was crazed. I asked him to loan me some money. You see, I had ruined my eyesight embroidering for a shop and a specialist had just told me that, to save my sight, I must have a delicate operation. I could manage that in a charity hospital, but the year of idleness after it is a different matter. And so—I went to him. I thought perhaps he owed me that. And he told me to get out!"

Diana thought rapidly. It seemed incredible that Caroline had not read of her marriage until she remembered the weak eyes. She had had no eyesight to waste on the newspapers. Her ignorance made it easy for Diana.

She rose finally. "Have you anything here that you particularly care about?" she asked. "If you haven't, let's make a present of everything to the janitress. I am going to take you home with me right away. You shall have your operation and as long as you need to recover from it. I have married, Caroline, and my husband has a great deal of money. You need have no uneasiness on that score. Come."

Too weak and tired to protest much, Caroline gathered together her scanty clothing and by late afternoon she and Diana had reached Garthmore.

Having established Caroline in a comfortable suite, Diana went slowly down the stairs, her face white and thoughtful. She wondered if she had been hasty in bringing Caroline here; if, considering Garth's implacability, her impulse might not react against Caroline in the end.

She gave no sign of the uneasiness she felt as she and Caroline dined together in the latter's room. Garth had telephoned that he had been detained and for a brief respite, Diana was grateful.

Having seen Caroline tucked into bed Diana strolled down the stairs once more. She wished desperately to get Barry Randall's advice, and as the shadows lengthened and dusk finally fell, she threw a long cloak over her light gown and, gathering up her skirts, she flew across the fields to The Shack.

She espied Randall through a French window as she approached the house. In Norfolk jacket and knickerbockers, a black pipe in his mouth, he bent over his plans.

It was all so like her old home in the South that her throat swelled painfully.

As she crossed the threshold, three dogs rose to give her a drowsy welcome.

"*Hello,* Diana!" Randall rose hastily to greet her. "Where's Garth?"

"I am alone, Barry. I had to come to ask your advice. I seemed to wish to ask no one's else. You remember you promised to be my friend."

"And I'll prove that I am by taking you home instantly."

"No!" Rapidly she related her experiences of the day and when she had finished they stood facing each other, palpitant, yearning. She knew that his arms ached to hold her and almost she felt a slight injury that he did not obey the urge.

As they stood there, silent, Felice unceremoniously entered the room.

"Mr. Garth, he is arrive', madame, and is searching for you. I think he is on his way here by the lower path." She fled.

"You'd better hurry, Diana," Randall said easily. "I'll attend to your husband."

A half-hour later Garth found his wife sitting in a remote corner of the rose-garden. It was hot and he had hurried and his gorge rose at her coolness.

"Come to bed instantly," he began.

"Don't let me detain you," she answered, and her voice sounded like the whistle of a blade.

The next morning Garth had left for town before Diana was down. She had slept little and more than ever the course she had taken seemed unwise.

She knew that Randall would communicate with her as early as possible; indeed, he already had telephoned that he would be over so soon as the soil experts whom he had summoned should have left.

Caroline was resting in bed. Diana could settle herself to no occupation, but, nerves overwrought, she wandered from room to room of the big house.

Finally a telephone shrilled in the hall and she sprang to answer it. She listened, replying in startled, hushed monosyllables and when the conversation was finished, the receiver dropped from her nerveless hand and she clung to the table for support

In an instant she was galvanized into action. She ordered the racer to be brought around from the garage; she rang for Felice and told her to get her street clothes ready without delay; then she turned to the butler who was rubbing his hands nervously.

"Roberts Mr. Garth has been hurt in his car—how badly they do not know yet. Whether or not he can be brought home is uncertain, but get his rooms ready and have quarters prepared for the nurses. I'll call you up from town."

Into Felice's hands she placed Caroline and in twenty minutes she was racing toward town.

She felt like a frightened child when they took her to the room where her husband lay. He looked up as she entered—looked up and smiled. It was a softer, more spontaneous smile than she had ever before seen on his lips.

It was hard to believe that he was seriously injured for, except for his pallor, there were no signs. "Internal injuries," the surgeon who had spoken to Diana outside, had said.

"I'm glad for your sake, Diana, that I am not all messed up," were Garth's first words.

"Gilbert!" she cried.

"Don't you care," he comforted her; "I saved that little shaver."

He was not boasting; he was merely happy. "If I hadn't gone into that elevated pillar, I'd have done for him."

"It was splendid." She was on her knees at his side.

"It is a good thing to go out with at least one good deed to one's credit," he continued.

"Mr. Garth," protested the nurse, "the doctor——"

"Beat it, nurse," Garth interrupted. "I had nothing to say about my entrance to this life but I propose so far as possible to stage my exit. There are some things I must say to Mrs. Garth, so beat it."

Again that curious, transfiguring smile played over his face as the nurse, smiling in return, left the room.

"Diana, I am going to be brief, but there are some things I want you to know before I go. My parents died before I was three, and I was brought up by a great-aunt. My father had been a voluptuary and she was determined that I should have no inclination to follow in his footsteps. Until I was seventeen I had governesses and tutors—all of them ugly and scrawny-bosomed women.

"Of other children and my relations to them I knew —nothing. Great-aunt was afraid that boys would corrupt me and that girls would arouse in me a premature sex interest. I was selfish, tyrannical, emasculated before I was plunged into college."

"Dear, ought you to——"

"It doesn't hurt at all. Can you imagine the hell that college was to me? I was absolutely alone. In all the life about me I had no part. I thought at first that money could buy popularity, but I was mistaken. Those four years brought out all the cruelty in my nature."

"Don't think of it now; think of what you did for that poor boy today."

"The first good deed in over thirty years! No, not the first. It is that other one that I want to talk about Diana. There's a woman somewhere in New York whose name is Caroline Bart. I want you to find her and take care of her. One night, eight years ago, I took her to my rooms——"

"I know."

"I did the best I could for her. I liked her and I knew that she liked me and the knowledge seemed to warm my heart. I gave her champagne—she had been drenched to the skin. I didn't think; I had seen our girls drink quarts of it."

"Yes," Diana breathed, her eyes on his.

"It sent her to sleep, to dream, and in the morning she thought——"

"Yes——"

"Why, the girl had been as safe as my own sister would have been! Her accusations maddened me. It was one more disappointment added to an already long list. And so I let her believe that I had wronged her. It was devilish! I slipped a bank note into her coat pocket and sent her out into the streets thinking—that. It has been like an ugly scar all these years. Yet, when she came back to me, just before we were married, I spurned her again."

"I know, dear. Caroline is at Garthmore now. I will look after her."

Garth manifested no surprise. Perhaps he was too close to the solution of the Great Mystery to puzzle much over lesser ones.

"And now we come to you. I've been pitiless and hard, Diana."

She tried to deny it but he silenced her.

"I took advantage of your inexperience. I knew that you did not love me. You thought you must because everybody told you that I was a moral contrast to the others. I mistrusted that you really loved Randall. I know that he loves you."

Diana's face went into her hands.

"I've been out after him, but I haven't succeeded. Diana, he is a decent man."

The nurse thrust her head into the room, but Garth smiled her away.

"Life is a complex thing," he went on. "You can no more judge a man by one vice or one virtue than you can judge a symphony by the individual bars of its music. And I'm betting that the Great Judge knows that. He'll take the separate acts of a life and weigh them. By that method, I shall not enter the new existence *cum laude*, but I've saved a life and I've set Caroline Bart right at last. Those two things ought to help, eh, Diana?"

It was becoming more difficult for him to talk.

"You'll have sons," he went on; "teach them to—be big—by all the standards."

Diana was weeping and Garth placed a weakening hand on her bowed head.

"Thank you dear," he said. "And now, perhaps you'd better call the—nurse."

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

When it was all over they put Diana to bed and Hermione, in charge at Garthmore, sent for Andrew.

Caroline, radiant now, and with her eyes growing stronger as her health and happiness returned, was Diana's greatest comfort.

Barry Randall, gaunt and silent, haunted Garthmore. Nurses flitted through the halls. Now and then a specialist came up from the city.

Not until the autumnal haze dimmed the Weschester hills did youth assert itself and Diana begin to gain. Andrew had gone back South taking Caroline with him. They had been quietly married at Garthmore.

Diana lay on a *chaise longue* on a piazza one late September day; in her black frock she looked young, frail, and very lovely.

She turned expectantly as Randall's step sounded on the walk.

"This is good," she greeted, a thin hand outstretched. "Barry, I want to tell you what Gilbert told me the day he died."

Silently Randall drew a chair to her side. When Diana had finished he rose and walked to the end of the piazza.

"It is rather a tragic story, isn't it?" he asked, coming back. "And no one suspected that he suffered. At the last, though, it was rather splendid. He went out by a more heroic route than it is given for most of us to take. And he chose it deliberately. Gad! It was fine, Diana! He wrote *finis* to his book of life with a flourish. Isn't there something somewhere to the effect that he who loseth his life shall find it?"

Diana nodded, her eyes on the distant hills.

"By this time next year," she said, "I want Garthmore running as a vacation home for poor children. I am sure he would like that."

"Yes," Randall acquiesced, "I am certain Garth would like that—now. But you, Diana?" He came to her side and stood looking down at her.

"I should wish to be—near, to overlook it," she faltered.

"The Shack—could you be satisfied with its simplicity?"

The gold-flecked brown eyes met the gray ones and their souls rushed together.

"Draw up that table, please," she said when their composure had returned. "Together we will plan the Gilbert Garth Memorial."

He obeyed, his face transfigured.

Pancho Villa

THE formal passing from the stage of Mexican affairs—for a time at least—of that picturesque figure, Pancho Villa, the bandit chief who rose in three short years from the position of a social outcast to the foremost rank in his country, practically military dictator, and who waged vigorous warfare against all who disputed his rule is a significant event in Mexican history. The last 4,000 men garrisoning the state or Chihuahua surrendered to representatives of Carranza at El Paso on the American side of the line, and it is said that the rebel chief has now with him but 400 men. Practically all the leaders who remain faithful to him have sought sanctuary on the soil of the United States. Villa himself, it was announced by the state department, would be allowed to enter our territory and permitted to remain here so long as he observed our laws. It is difficult to believe, however, that so restless a character as Villa will consent to remain aloof from the insurrectionary plots that are bound to crop up in Mexico, no matter how wisely Carranza may govern the country. Villa's trade is war and rapine. He has never had any other. He has tasted power, and the taste will be bitter in his mouth until he can raise the cup to his lips again. It will be strange indeed if, after the striking military successes he was able to obtain, he should be willing to accept the fact that his military career is ended.

For the present, it is true, Carranza is too strong, but later on when the inevitable legislation the new president undertakes has dissatisfied this class, it is more than probable that Villa will bob up again.

As a natural military genius his fate is of much interest to all soldiers. Some of his dispositions and conceptions in his early campaigns, when he could rely upon enthusiastic support from his troops, were strikingly original. He was a splendid commander of mounted infantry and knew well how to manage the Mexican cavalry to this end. He also turned the limited railways of Mexico to best advantage in his struggles with his opponents, but his chief claim to merit seems to have been his readiness to listen to advice from the trained military officers whom he constituted his staff and principal lieutenants.

Mexico is full of surprises, not one of the least of these is a glimpse into the home occupied by Villa when in power.

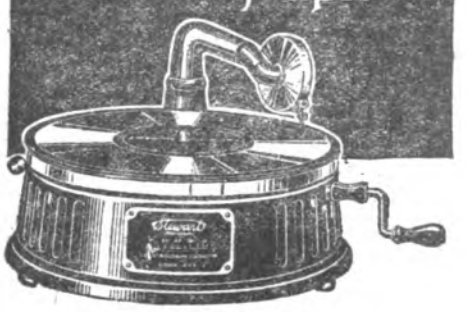
To enter a room that looked as if it might have been lifted from a French chateau and sat down in war-torn Mexico was very startling. It was all gold and palest blue satin, with long French mirrors, carpet of cream velvet, satin damask hangings in harmonious tones, graceful baskets of artificial flowers on gold pedestals, their handles tied with broad, blue ribbon bows, were conspicuous in the room.

But more conspicuous than the flowers, the joy and pride of every Mexican home at that time was a full length picture of the master of the house, General Francisco Villa.

TO INCREASE BIRTH RATE.—In order to promote large families, the government of Wurttenburg, Germany, has drafted a bill under which parents living in poor circumstances will be given financial aid from the state, after the birth of the fourth child.

RARE COLLECTION.—The Library of Congress at Washington now contains about 40,000 printed volumes of rare Chinese works. Among these are said to be the three largest books in the world. Some of the volumes listed were printed nearly 500 years ago.

Wonderful Stewart Phonograph



ONLY $6.50

Thousands and thousands of homes are being made happier by the music and enjoyment of the Wonderful Stewart Phonograph.

This phonograph has taken the country by storm.

No one can understand how we can make it for such a rock bottom price. Yet we do, and it's all that we claim for it. Big production is the answer.

Thousands of people who paid $40 and $50 for a phonograph are advising all their friends to buy a Stewart for only $6.50.

One woman from Maine writes:

"The Stewart Phonograph is a revelation to me. It plays as well as any of the high priced phonographs. And I know, for I have used them all."

Another family in California writes:

"The Stewart Phonograph is a wonder. We play it and dance to its beautiful, rich music every night. It will certainly drive the gloom from every home."

We have thousands of letters like these.

Every home should have a

Stewart Phonograph

It plays records of any size, any make or any price.

And while it plays all the records just like any of the big, expensive machines, it is light enough to carry around with you any place.

You can take it in your automobile or in your boat, or out in the barn for a big dance.

And my, what wonderful dances you can have.

Shove the chairs in the corner—push back the rugs—start the Stewart Phonograph, and the dance is on.

It's lots of fun—dancing at home with the Stewart Phonograph giving you a good, snappy tune. Everybody enjoys it—even the old folks.

Its modest price of $6.50 astonished the whole world. The quality of its music and the beautiful lifelike tones are astounding thousands of people.

Finished in antique green, the Stewart Phonograph is as handsome and harmonious an ornament as you have ever seen.

If you cannot secure one from your dealer, fill out the coupon right now. Send $6.50 in check, or money or express order. If, at the end of ten days, the phonograph is not perfectly satisfactory or if you are in any way dissatisfied, send it right back and we will return your money.

Here is the coupon. Fill it out now.

10 Days' Trial Comfort April, 1917

Stewart Phonograph Corporation,
2869 N. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.

Enclosed please find $6.50 for which please ship me at my expense one Stewart Phonograph immediately.

It is understood that if I am not satisfied with the phonograph at the end of ten days I can return it and get my money back immediately.

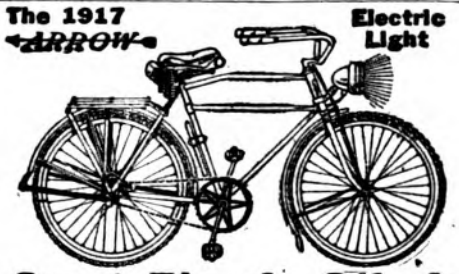
(Remit by check, draft, or money order.)

Name.....

Street Address.....

City..... State.....

The 1917 ARROW Electric Light



Great Bicycle Offer!

Write for catalog. Wonderful 1917 Arrow—new motorcycle type—shipped no money down. Pay small amount each month while you ride. Write for our special, rock-bottom offer.

Write Today Flak Thorn Proof Non-Skid Tires, motorcycle stand; many new features. Send for free catalog.

ARROW CYCLE CO., Dept. 3044 California & 19th St., Chicago, Ill.

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or **stitches** each drawn with the hook through the **preceding** one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop **on hook,** insert hook in work as indicated, draw **loop** through thread over, and draw through **both loops;** d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, **insert** hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Terms Used in Knitting

K. knit plain; o. over; o. 2, over twice; n. narrow 2 stitches together; p. purl, meaning an inversion of stitches; sl. slip a stitch; tog. together; sl. and b., slip and bind; k. p. knit plain; stars and parenthesis indicate repetition.

Filet Crochet Yoke

(Rose Design)

THIS handsome yoke made of medium fine crochet cotton, No. 12 steel crochet hook, and crocheted closely will result in a yoke for 36- or 38-inch garment. Crocheted loosely of the same cotton, or if a coarser cotton is used, the result will be a yoke of larger size.

The work is begun in the center of the back and worked back and forth to the division shown in the diagram of the pattern. Here a chain is made from the end of the last row of the back, and the entire front is then worked after which chain across the opposite side, work the remaining half back and join to first row of work.

Then complete points on either side of the yoke.

Begin center back with ch. 52 sts.

1st row.—1 d. c. in 9th st. from hook, ch. 2, skip 2 sts., 1 d. c., 3 d. c. in next 3 sts., this makes 1 blk., ch. 2, 1 d. c., ch. 2, 7 d. c. in next 7 sts. (2 sps. and 2 blks.), 1 sp., 4 blks. (13 d. c.), 3 sps., ch. 6, turn.

If one is careful in making this first row, and in each succeeding row places the blks. and sps. over each other correctly, the pattern will come out right. Remember that a space is 2 d. c. with ch. 2 between and a blk. 2 d. c. with 2 d. c. instead of the ch. between. From this point each row will simply be given in blks. and sps.

2nd row.—4 sps., 3 blks., 4 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., ch. 6.

3rd row.—3 sps., 4 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 5 sps., ch. 6.

4th row.—6 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 3 sps., ch. 9.

5th row.—1 d. c. in last d. c. in previous row. This makes the extra sp. shown on the neck or top of the 5th row of the diagram in the back. 15 more sps.

In making sps. over blks. always sk. 2 d. c., 1 d. c. on 3rd double. After making last d. c. in this row, turn, sl. st. over 1 sp., ch. 6. This shortens row 1 sp. and directions for doing so will not be given again.

6th row.—1 d. c. on 3rd double of 5th row, 3 more sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 3 sps., ch. 6.

7th row.—3 sps., 4 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., ch. 6.

8th row.—5 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., ch. 9 to increase 1 sp. as in 5th row.

9th row.—2 more sps., or 3 in all, 3 blks., 4 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., turn shorten 1 sp., as in 5th row.

10th row.—4 sps., 2 blks., 4 sps., 3 blks., 2 sps., ch. 9. Increase 1 sp.

11th row.—7 more sps., 2 blks., 6 sps. ch. 6.

12th row.—6 sps., 3 blks., 7 sps., ch. 9. Increase 1 sp.

13th row.—3 more sps., 4 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., ch. 6.

14th row.—6 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., ch. 9. Increase 1 sp.

15th row.—3 more sps., 2 blks., 3 sps., 1 blk., 7 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

16th row.—6 sps., 3 blks., 7 sps., ch. 9. Increase 1 sp.

17th row.—5 more sps., 2 blks., 9 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

18th row.—12 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps. Increase 1 sp.

19th row.—6 more sps., 1 blk., 9 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

20th row.—9 sps., 2 blks., 5 sps. Increase 2 sps. by making ch. 12, 1 d. c. in 9th st. from hook, ch. 2, 1 d. c. on last double of previous row.

21st row.—7 more sps., 1 blk., 8 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

22nd row.—8 sps., 2 blks., 7 sps. Increase 2 blks., as before.

23rd row.—5 more sps., 2 blks., 10 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

24th row.—10 sps., 1 blk., 7 sps. Increase 3 sps. by making ch. 15, 1 d. c. in 9th st., ch. 2, sk. 2, 1 d. c., ch. 2, 1 d. c. on d. c. in previous row.

25th row.—6 more sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 8 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

26th row.—9 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 7 sps. Increase 3 sps.

27th row.—2 more sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 10 sps. Break thread, join to opposite end this row and ch. 97 sts, turn, 1 d. c. in 9th st.

Front of Yoke

1st row.—7 more sps., 4 blks., 8 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

2nd row.—10 sps., 1 blk., 8 sps. Increase 1 sp.

3rd row.—6 more sps., 3 blks., 8 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

4th row.—6 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 7 sps. Increase 2 blks.

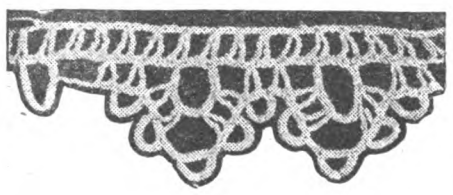
5th row.—4 more sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 8 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

6th row.—6 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 6 sps. Increase 1 sp.

7th row.—6 more sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 3 blks., 3 sps.

8th row.—8 sps., 1 blk., 8 sps. Increase 2. sps.

9th row.—8 more sps., 1 blk., 7 sps. Decrease 1 sp.



CROCHETED TORCHON EDGING.

10th row.—6 sps., 1 blk., 10 sps. Increase 2 blks.

11th row.—10 more sps., 1 blk., 6 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

12th row.—5 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 10 sps. Increase 2 sps.

13th row.—4 more sps., 3 blks., 3 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 5 sps. Decrease 2 sps.

14th row.—4 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 6 blks., 4 sps. Increase 2 sps.

15th row.—3 more sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 3 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

16th row.—4 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 4 sps. Increase 2 sps.

17th row.—3 more sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 5 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps.

18th row.—4 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 5 sps. Increase 2 sps.

19th row.—5 more sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 3 blks., 5 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps.

20th row.—2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 6 sps., 4 blks., 7 sps. Increase 2 blks.

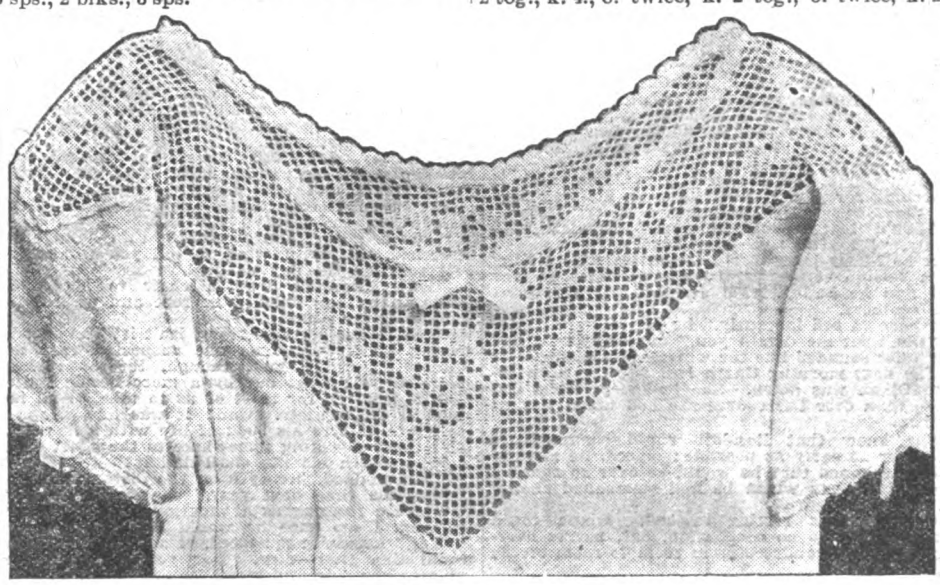
21st row.—5 more sps., 3 blks., 8 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 3 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

22nd row.—4 sps., 1 blk., 18 sps. Increase 2 sps.

23rd row.—3 more sps., 4 blks., 7 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps.

24th row.—4 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 7 blks., 5 sps. Increase 2 sps.

25th row.—6 more sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., 4 blks., 3 sps., 2 blks., 3 sps.



FILET CROCHET YOKE.

26th row.—4 sps., 3 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 3 blks., 5 sps. Increase 2 sps.

27th row.—4 more sps., 4 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 11 sps.

28th row.—10 sps., 3 blks., 3 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 4 blks., 6 sps. Increase 1 sp.

29th row.—6 more sps., 5 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 7 sps.

30th row.—6 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 6 blks., 1 sp., 4 blks., 8 sps.

31st row.—8 sps., 4 blks., 1 sp., 6 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 6 sps.

32nd row.—7 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 4 blks., 9 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

33rd row.—7 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 3 blks., 7 sps.

34th row.—6 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 4 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 6 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

35th row.—6 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 6 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 4 sps., 2 blks., 6 sps. Increase 1 sp.

36th row.—6 sps., 2 blks., 6 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 3 blks., 8 sps. Decrease 1 sp.

37th row.—9 sp., 1 blk., 10 sps., 1 blk., spaces to end of row.

This completes the rose. Now finish the front, working in the pattern to match the side just finished, but reversing the design as shown in the finished yoke.

After finishing the row which corresponds with the first row of the front, chain as before explained and finish the back, joining to the first row.

The points on either side can doubtless be copied from the diagram as it will make no material difference if one varies either the design or the shape somewhat.

Finish the neck by a beading of 2 treble crochet, ch. 3, 2 trebles in every other space. Outline bottom of the yoke by 1 double in the end of each row, ch. 2, 1 double. Add scallop of 9 d. c. and 3 picots under each ch. and finish neck in the same way.

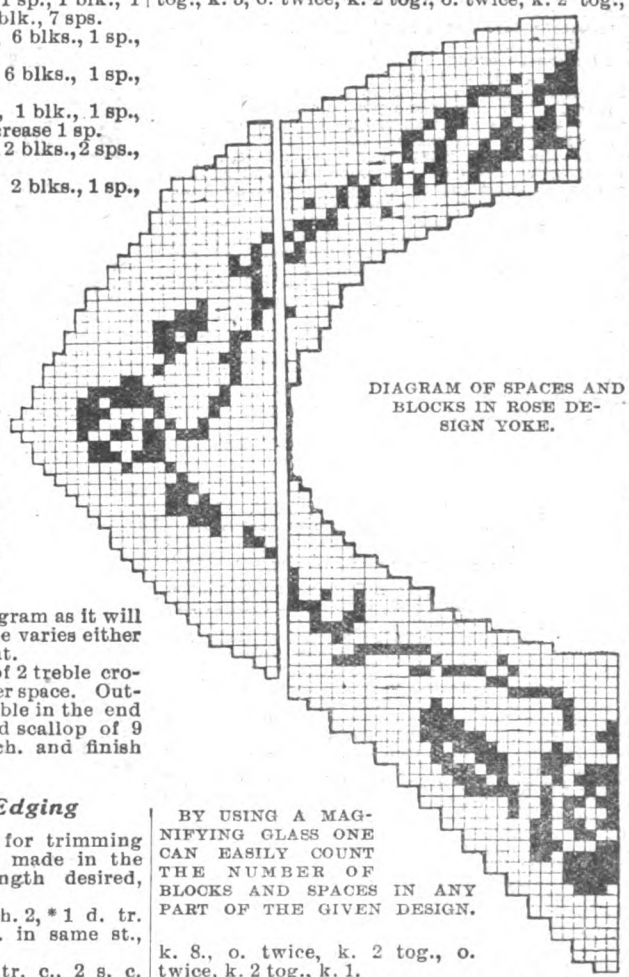


DIAGRAM OF SPACES AND BLOCKS IN ROSE DESIGN YOKE.

BY USING A MAGNIFYING GLASS ONE CAN EASILY COUNT THE NUMBER OF BLOCKS AND SPACES IN ANY PART OF THE GIVEN DESIGN.

Crocheted Torchon Edging

This pattern is very pretty for trimming children's cotton dresses. It is made in the length. Begin by chaining length desired, turn.

1st row.—1 d. tr. c. in 5th st., ch. 2, * 1 d. tr. c. in next 4th st., ch. 1, 1 d. tr. c. in same st., ch. 2, repeat from *.

2nd row.—2 s. c. between 2 d. tr. c., 2 s. c. under ch. 2. repeat working over 4 groups of trebles, ch. 15 catch over third group of trebles with sl. st., turn and under this ch. 15 work 17 s. c., then s. c., over 6 groups of trebles as in beginning this row, ch. 15, sl. st. over fifth group of trebles and repeat in this manner to end of row. Break thread and begin next row at same end as this row.

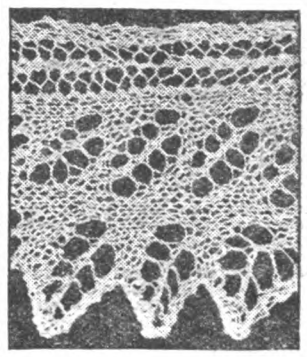
3rd row.—Group trebles between first and second group of trebles, another group between second and third group, ch. 1, 2 d. tr. c. with ch. 1 between in 4th st. of loop made in last row. Ch. 2, group trebles in 7th st., ch. 15, sk. 3 sts., group in next st., ch. 2, group in 3rd st. Now 2 groups of trebles between groups of 1st row, then 2 groups ch. 15, 2 groups on next loop. Repeat to end of row. Break thread.

4th row.—Begin work same end as last row. 2 s. c. over first 2 groups of trebles, ch. 10, sl. st., between first and second groups trebles, turn, 10 s. c. under ch., s. c. over and 2 sts. beyond next 2 groups of trebles, ch. 10 sl. st., back, 10 s. c. on ch. 10. Now 10 s. c. under ch. 15, a loop of ch. 10, s. c. to between next 2 groups, a loop of ch. 10, s. c. and a loop between the points. Repeat around each point in this way.

Rose Leaf Lace

Cast on 24 stitches.

1st row.—Sl. 1, k. 2, o., k. 2 tog. o. twice, k. 2 tog. o. twice, k. 2, tog., k. 5., * o. twice, k. tog. repeat from *., k. 1.



ROSE LEAF LACE.

2nd row.—Sl. 1, k. 2, p. 1, k. 2, p. 1, k. 7, sl. 1, k. 2, sl. 1, k. 4, o., k. 2 tog., k. 1, o., k. 2 tog., k. 1.

3rd row.—Sl. 1, k. 2, o., k. 2 tog. k. 1, o., k. 2, tog., k. 3, o. twice, k. 2 tog., o., twice, k. 2 tog., k. 6, o., twice, k. 2 tog., o., twice, k. 2 tog., k. 1.

4th row.—Sl. 1, k. 2, p. 1, k. 2, p. 1, k. 8, sl. 1, k. 2, sl. 1, k. 5, o., k. 2 tog., k. 1, o. k. 2, tog., k. 1.

5th row.—Sl. 1, k. 2, o., k. 2 tog.. k. 1, o., k., 2 tog., k. 4., o. twice, k. 2 tog., o. twice, k. 2, tog., k. 7, o. twice, k. 2 tog., o. twice, k. 2 tog., k. 1.

6th row.—Sl. 1. k. 2, p. 1, k. 2, p. 1, k. 9, sl. 1, k. 2, sl. 1, k. 6, o., k. 2 tog., k. 1, o. k. 2 tog., k. 1.

7th row.—Sl. 1, k. 2, o., k. 2 tog., k. 1, o., k. 2 tog., k. 5, o. twice, k. 2 tog., o. twice, k. 2 tog., k. 8., o. twice, k. 2 tog., o. twice, k. 2 tog., k. 1.

8th row.—Sl. 1, k. 2, p. 1, k. 2, p. 1, k. 10, sl. 1, k. 2, sl. 1, k. 7, o. k. 2 tog., k. 1, o., k. 2 tog., k. 1.

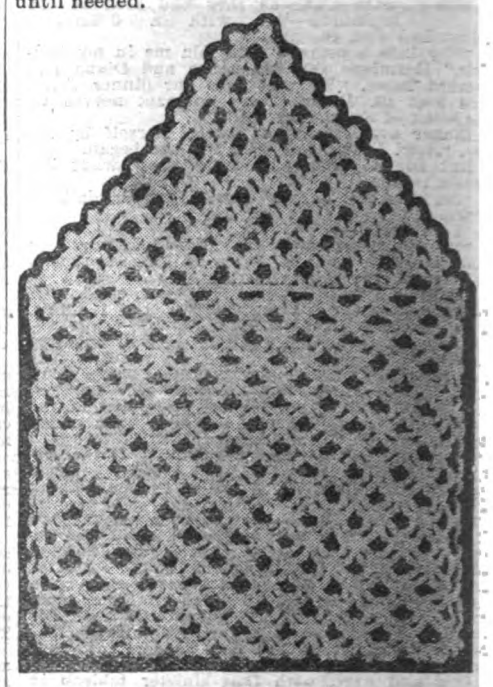
9th row.—Sl. 1, k. 2, o., k. 2 tog., k. 1, o., k. 2 tog., k. 24.

10th row.—Cast off all but 23 on one needle, 1 on other needle, k. 17, o., k. 2 tog., k. 1., o., k. 2 tog., k. 1.

M. M. H.

Napkin Envelope

This handy article is especially designed as a case to keep sets of napkins together and fresh until needed.



NAPKIN ENVELOPE.

For this a soft mercerized cotton nearly as coarse as a darning cotton was used.

Begin with ch. 80, turn.

1st row.—1 s. c. in 11th st. from hook 2 s. c. in next 2 sts., ch. 6, sk. 5, 3 s. c. in next 3 sts., ch. 6, sk. 5, 3 s. c. in next 3 sts., repeat to end of row which should close with group 3 s. c., ch. 1, turn.

2nd row.—2 s. c. on 2 s. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c. under ch. 6, ch. 3, 1 s. c. in center of 3 s. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c. under ch. 6, ch. 3, repeat, ending row with 1 d. c. on s. c., ch. 4.

3rd row.—1 s. c. under ch. 3, 1 s. c. on s. c., 1 s. c. under ch. beyond, ch. 6, 3 s. c. made in same way, ch. 6, repeat across. End row with 2 s. c.

4th row.—1 s. c. on s. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c. under ch. 6, ch. 3, 1 s. c. center of 3 s. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c. under ch. 6, ch. 3, 1 s. c. repeat across. End row with 2 s. c., ch. 1.

5th row.—1 s. c. on s. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c. under ch. 6, ch. 3, 1 s. c. on 3 s. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c. under ch. 6, repeat.

The manner of work should now be clear. Continue thus until one has a piece of work about 12 inches long, or twice the width of the work. Then work off to form the pointed flap, by completing one less figure in each row, as shown clearly in our illustration. Break thread. Fold pocket together, join thread to bottom of one side, ch. 5, 1 s. c. in opposite side, ch. 5, 1 s. c. in first side, repeat, when top of the side is reached, work 5 s. c. under end ch. of the flap, 1 picot, ch. 5, 1 p., repeat around the point, then work down the other side of the envelope joining the two sides with chains as explained.

MRS. A. O. L. WERTMAN.

Wing Edging

Ch. 16, thread over twice, pick up 5th st. of ch. from hook, taking up both loops of st., thread over and through 2, over and through 2, retaining 2 loops on hook.

* thread over twice and pick up next ch., over and through two, over and through two, over and through two more, repeat from * 5 times then thread over and through 8 loops on hook. Ch. 1, through 2 loops on hook.



WING EDGING.

This completes the solid wing. Ch. 5, 1 tr. c. in ring * ch. 1, 1 tr. c. in ring and repeat from * until there are 7 trebles. This forms open wing. The beading along the edge is now made; 1 d. c. in first ch. after the first wing made, 1 d. c. in next st., ch. 1, sk. 1, ch., 1 d. c. in each of 2 remaining chs., * ch. 3, turn, 1 d. c. in 2nd d. c., ch. 1, sk. 1, 1 d. c. in each of the 2 d. c. of previous row. Repeat from * twice, ch. 7, fasten between 2nd and 3rd treble of open or second wing, turn, ch. 4 and make solid wing same as before, follow with open wing and rows of beading.

MRS. H. B. ELLISON.

Fancy Work Hints

An easy way to commence a piece of filet crochet and have just the correct number of spaces is given by Mrs. M. F. Whitcanack as follows: Instead of making the usual long chain, ch. 7, turn and make 1 d. c. in the first st. of ch., ch. 5, 1 d. c. under ch. 7. ch. 5, 1 d. c. under ch. 5, repeat until completing number of squares needed, then ch. 5, 1 d. c. on d. c., ch. 2, 1 d. c., etc., as usual.

Tatting Book Notice

In response to the demand and for the benefit of our readers who are interested in tatting, we have issued a 16-page booklet of special designs by COMFORT workers.

This Tatting Book illustrates very plainly just how the work is to be done, by showing the various position of the worker's hands, which are accompanied by explicit directions for the different movements used in making the stitch.

It also contains a complete range of patterns, from the simplest edgings and insertions to handsome designs worked with one and two threads, including patterns for doilies, centerpieces, scarfs, lingerie, waists, yokes, collars, infants' and boudoir caps, bags, etc.

We will send a copy of this book free for one new yearly subscription at 25c or for renewal of your own subscription and ten cents extra 35c in all. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.)

mature. If children can confide in their parents and know their questions will be answered truthfully and not put off with a "wait till you are older," or be told an untruth, they won't be so apt to get together and see who knows most. Your son won't think it great to ask or tell the boys what information his father has truthfully given him. So will mother's daughter keep her modesty till mature years and self confidence will show the results.

I don't wonder Georgie didn't like country life as she described it. Also I think, in most cases, an older person's memory reverts to scenes of childhood.

As for schools, I'd rather have my boys get a rural school education and have liberty at home to use hammer, saw and nails and other tools, than to spend months wheedling at some object in a city training school. When old enough to choose their life's work there will be schools accessible, if necessary, to train for that.

With electric lights, heating plants, piped hot and cold water, bathrooms, well-equipped laundries, etc., why aren't country homes as desirable as city homes? And after half an hour in the bathroom why isn't "my John," after a day's work in cornfield or woods, as desirable a companion as the city man who has spent the day in artificially heated and lighted rooms amid surroundings or company not as desirable or enjoyable as the trees, brook and flowers, or horses, sheep and cattle. How many city men can take their little ones along when they go to work and have them in sight half a day as can the farmer who goes to plow and lets his little son and daughter enjoy the change and try to keep up with daddy with the soft earth under their little bare feet. This sounds awful, I suppose, to city ears, but I've seen it so often and the children were healthy and happy. "I was once a barefoot" child, fleet and strong, with health and rosy cheeks that were the envy of my friends. When I was eighteen years old I used to long to live in the town or city. Later when I spent some time there I was very homesick and longed for country scenes, and when I came to choose where my home would be it was the country. Have you guessed my work before marriage? Ten years a teacher of primary grades, and some years all grades in country schools. I saw the difference between children who were carefuly reared or those who "jus' growed."

Much has been said on Woman Suffrage. A short time ago I heard a young lady say, "I am a———." She knew nothing of party issues. It was just the "party that father belongs to is mine too." I think to vote intelligently, a person needs to read and hear everything important on all party issues, not to merely say they are on the side that has been handed down from father to son, as has been so much in the past. I don't think a mother has time for this. Her life is too full, or should be, of children and home. If women try to wrestle with problems that worry the men near election times, or all times, for that matter, what of baby problems then? A woman's greatest duty is motherhood—not only physical, but training in the best way till maturity. She has too many problems near the heart to say she can do more for the child by voting than by studying the child mind. Of course women could make as good, if not better, laws but to all good laws there is nearly always some drawback somewhere. Laws, no matter how good, won't give a child a true mother if she studies politics instead of "childology." There is a difference between "housekeepers" and "homekeepers."

I don't like to admit the *equality* of woman. I believe in her superiority. The woman who clamors for the ballot lowers herself in my estimation. I had rather be the mother of good men than make good laws. You say, "Why cannot I be both?" I say to do justice to one you can't to the other. Would women want to be soldiers in battle? I would not want to be another Joan of Arc, even if I have been made to believe that some of my ancestors were kin to her. As a nation we revere Frances Willard, yet it is said in her later years that she was heard to say she would give all the glory and honor of her work for a pair of baby arms, she could call her own, to encircle her neck. There is more real happiness and contentment in the life of a good wife and good mother than in all the public life of all the public women on earth. And a good woman's influence is greater if she exerts it rightly than if she voted twenty times. A true, honest woman does not need to vote to have her rights. I am "old-fashioned" enough (if that is the term to use) to think a woman's shrine is the heart of her husband instead of the ballot box and public office or publicity. I've heard enough disputing and wrangling by men over political questions to disgust me. Would not such make strife between husband and wife if they have different political views? My opinions do not always agree with the men folks on political questions that I have read about, but I think it does me more good to read latest ideas on child training, and let political questions go.

With best wishes to all COMFORT readers,

Fidelity.

SALISBURY, R. R. 6, N. CAR.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Here I am at the age of twenty the mother of a dear, little girl. My baby is seven months old. Perhaps some will say why did you marry so young? My husband is fifteen years my senior, and to me the dearest man on earth. We have been married most two years. Baby and husband shall be my subject in this letter of advice and request for information.

I began preparation for motherhood by reading all the good books and magazines on that subject I could get. When my baby was born I suffered but little. She was a bright little thing and I have tried to make her grow the brighter by caring for her in a scientific manner. She has never been sick an hour and it is no trouble for me to do my work. She is taken up only when it is necessary. She has her little crib and there she kicks and coos all day long. If she cries it is when she hurts herself, which rarely happens. My neighbors often remark, "What a good baby." I attribute it all to the manner in which I care for her. But there is much for me to learn and I read the sisters' letters with interest. I am afraid I might make some mistake and spoil baby and all I have succeeded in accomplishing. I would be only too glad to receive advice from G. H. of California, who has specialized in babies.

Every lover will not make a good husband nor does difference in age have so much to do with it every time. The man, who is broad minded enough to see two sides of a question, and who realizes woman is the weaker vessel and who tries to lighten her burdens, be she wife, mother, sister or sweetheart—that man has the material in him for a good companion. God blessed me with such a man and he is young because I am young. He feels that I should not settle down to a life of drudgery and loneliness. He says I should keep the roses in my cheeks for his and baby's sake. He is always more than anxious for me to go to places and we often take drives together. Or he will care for baby and I drive to some of the neighbors. Here is a point for young girls who read this. Is your lover a Christian young man, beside having the virtues I have mentioned? If so, fifteen years your senior doesn't amount to much. My husband is always talking to me of his class of young men in Sunday School and their devotion to him (their teacher) and the S. S. work. "His boys," as he calls them, share their secrets with him and seek his advice in lovers' troubles, and many other ways and affairs of their own. My husband says, "They have got to be good husbands and citizens.

Love to all the sisters. MRS. A. D. DAVIS.

JOPLIN, R. R. 5, Box 124, MO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

As it has not been very long since my last letter was published I hope I will be pardoned for asking admittance again.

I have read several replies to my letter on the divorce question which appeared in the October number.

Of course every sister has a right to her own opinion but I cannot endure to be called an infidel so must rise up and defend myself.

Miss Doble, I am not an infidel, neither do I profess to know the Bible by heart or to understand each and every verse therein and I do not believe there is anyone, no matter how good a Christian they may be, who can say they understand the Holy book through and through. And I want to ask you if you ever discovered that other place where it says: "When a man hath taken a wife and married her and it come to pass that she find no favor in his eyes—etc.," perhaps you will say, "Oh that's in the old book." It's the Bible isn't it?

Yes, I have read Matt. XX.9; but it's Matt. XIX. that says, "Whosoever shall put away his wife except it be for fornication and shall marry another committed adultery and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery." I do not doubt a word of that and yet I cannot see where I have sinned as my second husband was not "put away" by any woman, and neither was I "put away" for "fornication." Instead it was I who put away my husband and I was justified in doing so by the laws here on earth as well as by the laws of God, according to Deut. XXIV. 1 2, 3, 4.

No indeed. I am not offended. Are we not asked to express our opinions?

Spring and Summer Hats and Some New Collars

This season's styles are such that any woman can trim her own hat fashionably and becomingly and make dainty collars that give a touch of elegance to her costume.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.



No. 4. Russian turban, with band of wide satin ribbon, folded in center with flat bow at back. Trimmed with straw ornament and stitches in heavy crochet silk.

So many different varieties of hats are worn this season that it is pretty safe to say that almost every sort of shape is in fashion. Sailor hats are prime favorites but these sailors are rather larger than they were last year and the brims often roll up on the edge a trifle. The very prettiest of these hats have brims bound with the same silk or satin or sometimes cotton crepe that forms the band as shown in illustration No. 1. This not only gives white or light colored straw a pretty touch of color, but it is also a great economy because it preserves the edge of the brim from cracking and chipping away as a straw hat so often does. Then there are attractive hats, both large and small with down-turning brims in the mushroom style. There are turbans and toques, small hats almost like sections of stove pipe with tiny brims. These are called Russian turbans. Boat-shaped hats and hats that look a good deal like a man's derby are also seen. These last are not very lovely to my mind, but the vast majority of hats are both pretty and sensible and best of all they are very easy to trim at home, for almost all garnitures are put on very flat and there are no outstanding bows or aggressive bunches of flowers to puzzle the home milliner.

One of the very prettiest of the brand new ideas in millinery is the ribbon covered hat as shown in cut No. 2. This lends itself to most delightful color schemes and makes it easy for any woman to get a hat in the colors most becoming to her complexion. In these hats the entire crown and upper part of the brim is covered with rows of narrow ribbon. The illustration shows one of the most attractive ex-



No. 1. Satin or velvet bound sailors in large shapes are popular, and collar and cuffs of dimity or net add to the appearance of a plain dress.

amples. This style of trimming is best adapted to the brim that is either perfectly straight or that turns down slightly. Suppose you wish your color combination to be black and the pretty shade of new blue that is now so popular. Then buy an ordinary black straw hat in either of the shapes just mentioned and a piece or two pieces, according to the size of the hat, of inch wide grosgrain ribbon in this pretty blue shade. Then starting in the center of the crown sew this round and round letting one edge lap a little over the one just beneath almost as if you were braiding a hat with straw. Do not full it but just hold it easy. When you get to the brim full the ribbon a little more than you did on the crown and let about an eighth af an inch of the last row extend beyond the edge of the brim. You now have a hat blue on the top with a becoming facing of black straw underneath. The further trimming of these ribbon hats is very slight. Sometimes a row of button moulds connected by a twist of silk cord bringing in the color of the straw brim is all that is used. Thus in our blue and black hat the crown could have straw braid put on in little button-shaped rolls as shown in the illustration. On young girls' hats of this sort often several colors are used at the same time. A very beautiful hat for a young girl of seventeen has ribbon of pale blue, pale rose and canary yellow put on in alternate rows with a brim of blue Milan straw showing underneath.

These ribbon-covered hats are suitable for young or young looking middle-aged women ac-



No. 3. The high-crowned sailor with narrow brim is becoming to many faces, particularly if worn with smart collar of organdie or sheer linen, simply trimmed with tucks.

cording to the colors used in the ribbon. A fresh-faced woman with iron-gray hair had a purple straw hat covered with black grosgrain ribbon and a tiny wreath of violets matching the color of the straw brim trimming the hat around the crown. The effect was beautiful against her silvery hair.

Another pretty hat that is to be worn a good deal this season is of Leghorn or Milan straw trimmed simply with a band of inch and one half or two-inch velvet ribbon, above which is placed a small wreath of mixed flowers. Sometimes the brims of such hats are left plain and sometimes they are flatly covered on the top with satin which is brought over the edge and forms a facing from one inch to two inches deep according to fancy underneath the brim, but many of this sort have the brim left plain. Very pretty and inexpensive spring and summer hats can be made by covering a light frame with colored linen, pongee or some of the attractive novelty cottons in crepy weaves. The hat can be entirely covered with the material or it can be faced with black in the form of silk, satin or velvet if this contrast is considered more becoming.

Then there is the high-crowned sailor with the



No. 2. Ribbon covered hat, one of the latest and prettiest novelties, shown in silver gray faille ribbon with rose pink straw under brim.

narrow brim that some girls find so becoming as shown in illustration No. 3. A very simple and stylish way of trimming such hats is to face the brim top and bottom with fancy silk and put a wide band of the same material around the crown. The new fancy cotton crepes, khaki krill or even linen of a prettily contrasting shade from the hat can be so employed.

The Russian turban, as it is called, must by no means be forgotten. This is one of the most popular hats of the season, though it is rather misbranded for it is not a turban nor is it especially Russian. Perhaps it may have had in the beginning a far-away resemblance to some of their high caps. Often these turbans are brimless, but by far the prettiest have a tiny brim either straight or turning down a trifle as shown in illustration No. 4. Trimming such hats is a very easy matter. A band of ribbon will do it, or the crown can have two or three appliqued figures set on it, or it can be embroidered in flowers or conventional designs right on the straw. Then there are the flower-trimmed hats which are always with us every spring and summer. This year these are trimmed simply with a slender wreath of roses or mixed flowers, or flowers and fruit put around the crown just at the foot of a band of satin or velvet ribbon. Often on high-crowned hats the wreath of flowers or perhaps flat single flowers are sewed against the crown at the top of this band.

There never was a year when so many white collars were worn and as this is a very pretty and not at all extravagant fashion it is a pity that more women do not adopt it. It is especially becoming to young girls and young women though any woman, no matter what her



No. 5. One of the very newest shapes in this season's collars. Made of organdie, fine white net or Georgette crepe.

age may be, always looks well in a low collar if she has a plump neck. The most fashionable shape of the new collar is some variety of the sailor. Such collars are made of organdie, plain net, sheer linen or pique, and very dressy ones for handsome frocks are often of white Georgette crepe or wash satin. Collar and cuffs of pique, linen, duck or organdie are made perfectly plain or embroidered. Such collars are often made with scalloped edges and a heavily embroidered conventional motif design in each corner, both front and back, with the cuffs finished in the same way. For linen suits or wash dresses the embroidery is done in colored mercerized cotton. One of the nicest things about these pretty collars is that they are very easy for any woman to make at home and often can be manufactured of bits of lace or net that one already has in the house and so be no expense at all. But before beginning to plan out the material it is best to get a pattern that fits one perfectly around the neck. You can buy such patterns, but it seems scarcely worth while spending the money, for any woman with even the slightest ingenuity can cut one herself from brown paper or even newspaper by just looking at the illustrations. By experimenting a few minutes she can get it just the shape she wants. It is best to fold the paper in the center and cut it double so when it is opened each side will be exactly alike. Then, when your pattern is perfect, all you have to do is to lay it on the material. If there are to be tucks around the collar allow extra width and length for them as shown in collar in illustration No. 3. The new collars are suitable for both young and middle-aged women, but as a rule the older women wear the smaller-sized sailor collars, leaving the big collars that hang away down the back to the young girls.

It is surprising how up-to-date one of these fresh pretty collars makes even an old frock appear, and they are so easy to launder, too, that there is no reason for not having almost every dress and blouse set off by such a dainty and pretty finish. Net and lace collars can be simply washed out and ironed without starch if desired, while the organdie and linen collars look better with a little starch. I always use a trifle of elastic starch which I can mix in warm water and use without boiling it. Boiled starch can of course be used if one prefers, but be careful not to get such collars too stiff as that spoils the appearance. They should be only about as stiff as new material so they will look fresh and crisp.

If you have not quite a big enough piece of net to make the sort of collar that you fancy see if you cannot find somewhere a piece of wide lace insertion. You can make the bottom of the collar of this and then edge the whole thing with narrow lace and the effect will be very pretty indeed and no one will realize that the insertion was put in to "piece out." Or if you have not any insertion perhaps you have a piece of wide edging lace not long enough to go all around the collar, but plenty to run twice across the back. A fashionable way to use this is to lay it selvage to selvage with a strip of the plain net an inch wide between and then trim the sides and front of the collar with a narrow edging lace. Or if desired the bottom strip of wide edging can have an inch strip of net run between it and the bottom of the collar and the narrow lace can be run all around. These collars are so inexpensive and so easy to make that there is no reason why any woman should not have several to wear with her spring and summer clothes. But when she makes them she must be sure to put all the trimming that she uses on very flat. Lace on these collars should never be fulled around the edge, but laid on like a band trimming and the corners should never be fulled but mitred flat to give the fashionable effect as shown in illustration No 5. A dainty effect is obtained by the use of net and lace, for collar and cuffs, as shown in illustration No. 1.



The best emollient yet discovered for burns, sores, cuts and skin troubles of all sorts.

Vaseline

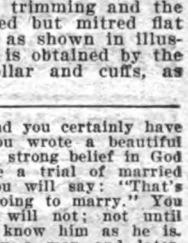
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

PETROLEUM JELLY

Always reliable—an invaluable remedy to keep about the house.
Avoid substitutes.
Put up in handy glass bottles. At Drug and General Stores everywhere. Send postal for free illustrated booklet full of valuable information.

CHESEBROUGH MFG. CO.
(Consolidated)
4 State Street New York City

The Pullastic
ADJUSTABLE HAT LINING REG.



Makes Any Hat *Fit* Any Head—Comfortably

No cutting, or sewing necessary. Merely tack it in with six stitches. Sold at millinery and notion departments. If your dealer does not sell them send 25c. and we will forward you either a white or black Pullastic lining.

The Pullastic Co., 49 East 21st Street, New York

You are young and carefree and you certainly have lots to learn; just the same you wrote a beautiful letter and I admire you for your strong belief in God and I hope you will never have a trial of married life such as I had. Perhaps you will say: "That's all right, I'll know who I am going to marry." You may think you know, but you will not; not until after you are married will you know him as he is. Just suppose you were to marry a man and later, find, you could not endure him, even though you tried ever so hard. Could you, a young woman, go on and be a loving wife to him and live with him until death parted you? I mean of course, if you had just cause to dislike him. Then suppose he were to leave you and you had no means of support except by your own daily labor and you came to know another man and day by day as you watched him you could see so much good in him; things you had never seen in your husband to admire, then if he should ask you to come to him, let him share your trouble, help you to forget the past and start anew, that he could give you a good home and be a good husband to you, would you, knowing you loved him, refuse, and go on and live alone and work hard the rest of your life? What would become of you when you were old? Could you then say your life had been well spent?

I still say it's perfectly right to get a divorce and remarry, either man or woman if they have just cause and I am no infidel either.

Hoping I have not made my letter too long, I will close with best wishes to all, MRS. C. SMITH.

PUTNEY, W. VA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

This is my first letter to COMFORT, although I have been a constant reader for eighteen years.

Mrs. Walter Alverson's query in the January number, in regard to the animosity that almost invariably exists between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law embraces a subject that is the cause of as much misery perhaps, if not more, then any other one subject under the sun. Some not only succeed in making themselves miserable but the one whom they are both so anxious to make happy (?) is driven almost to desperation by the attitude his wife and his mother have taken toward each other. To sum up the causes, the mother generally doubts the ability of her son's wife to administer to his comforts, and make his home as pleasant as she had always made home for him. Then she begins to give her daughter-in-law advice and the benefit of her experience, which the daughter-in-law resents. Then too I have seen young wives insanely jealous of any display of affection from their husband toward his mother and vice versa. Therefore if each one would endeavor to overcome those selfish, jealous principles and the mother-in-law would remember that she was once a daughter-in-law, and the daughter-in-law would realize that in all probability she would be a mother-in-law in the years to come, I think the son and husband would soon cease to be a bone of contention for the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law to grumble and growl over.

Best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and the sisters,
MRS. COZBI BLOUNT.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 25.)



$3,000.00 IN ONE YEAR

This Bunch of Tires Will Make Several Dollars Profit

Make it repairing automobile tires. Punctures and blowouts are common. Tires need retreading and vulcanizing.

EACH AUTO SOLD MEANS MORE TIRES TO MEND.

Auto tire repair field a hundred times bigger and better than old bicycle days. Johnson, Tex writes, "I made as high as $18 profit in one day." Investigate today. Ask for FREE catalog.

HAYWOOD TIRE AND EQUIPMENT CO.
710 Capital Ave. Indianapolis, Ind.

Deafness



Perfect hearing is now being restored in every condition of deafness or defective hearing from causes such as Catarrhal Deafness, Relaxed or Sunken Drums, Thickened Drums, Roaring and Hissing Sounds, Perforated, Wholly or Partially Destroyed Drums, Discharge from Ears, etc.

Wilson Common-Sense Ear Drums

"Little Wireless Phones for the Ears" require no medicine but effectively replace what is lacking or defective in the natural ear drums. They are simple devices, which the wearer easily fits into the ears where they are invisible. Soft, safe and comfortable.

Write *today* for our 168 page FREE book on DEAFNESS, giving you full particulars and testimonials.

WILSON EAR DRUM CO., Incorporated
823 Inter-Southern Bldg. LOUISVILLE, KY.

MONITOR SELF HEATING IRON



MAKES IRONING A PLEASURE

Proved the "World's Best" by over 850,000 satisfied users. No hot stove—no drudgery. Heat regulated instantly. Better, easier ironing in half the time at half the cost. Nickel plated.

AGENTS MEN AND WOMEN $30 to $50 Weekly

No experience needed. All or part time. Positively the easiest, fastest selling, Lowest Priced and best known iron made. Liberal Terms. Exclusive territory. Sample Outfit Free to workers. Write today.

The Monitor Sad Iron Co., 880 Wayne St., Big Prairie, O.

AGENTS A Big Seller Now - Patented

SCREEN DOOR CHECK



Splendid summer seller. Low Priced. Stops the bang and saves the door. Easy sales. Big profits. Big demand. A sale in every home. Dozen can be carried in pocket. Demonstration sample free to workers.

THOMAS CHECK CO. 7130 East St. Dayton, Ohio

Get This Car



And The AGENCY For Your Territory

Drive a new 1918 Model Birch Motor Car. Pay for it out of your commissions and make big money on sales. Special offer now. Write quick for Big Free Book and full information. Address Ralph Birchard, Pres.

BIRCH MOTOR CARS, Dept. 420 81 E. Madison St., Chicago

NOW $2.00



$2 down brings brand new Rex (*10 years' guarantee*) built because world's greatest merchandise house wanted a better machine. Typewriter prices smashed! Write for "Typewriter Secrets." *A revelation!*

Rex Typewriter Co., Dept. 2044 Steger Bldg., Chicago

REVERSIBLE **"Linene"** TRADE MARK



Send 2 Cents in U. S. stamps to pay postage and we will send you FREE a SAMPLE COLLAR of our New Style "Copley." State size wanted. REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. E, Boston, Mass.

Wonderful New STEREOSCOPE

Premium No. 6462



With 100 Views

For A Club Of Two!

Lions, Tigers, Bears and all kinds of Wild Animals, Home Scenes, Domestic Pets and Happy Childhood Days. Here is something **as good as a circus** for the children **the year round**—an indestructible, new style **Stereoscope** made of **all metal** with powerful, magnifying **lens**, and with it we give you **free** a big collection of **100 Views of home scenes, domestic pets, farm scenes,** all kinds of **trained and wild animals, hunting scenes,** views from the **Arctic** and **tropical** countries, and **happy childhood scenes**—the biggest and finest assortment of the most **delightful and entertaining** stereoscopic views for children ever gotten out. Boys and girls need not be obliged to hunt for something to occupy their active minds indoors with one of these Scopes at hand because it will give them a never-ending, joyful **entertainment** keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. Aside from the pleasure they will derive from the **fifty** beautiful **scenes of home life,** the **fifty** exciting **animal views** will furnish them with a **regular circus, the lions, tigers, bears, buffalo,** and all kinds of **wild and savage animals** as well as **horses, dogs, cats** and other domestic animals standing out **real and life-like** when looked at through this Scope. Any boy or girl would be delighted to have one of these wonderful Stereoscopes together with the big collection of 100 entertaining and exciting Views that come with it and knowing this we have purchased a large quantity of them direct from the factory and because we bought so many we got them at a price **low enough** to enable us to **give them away** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this Stereoscope with 100 Views free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6462.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

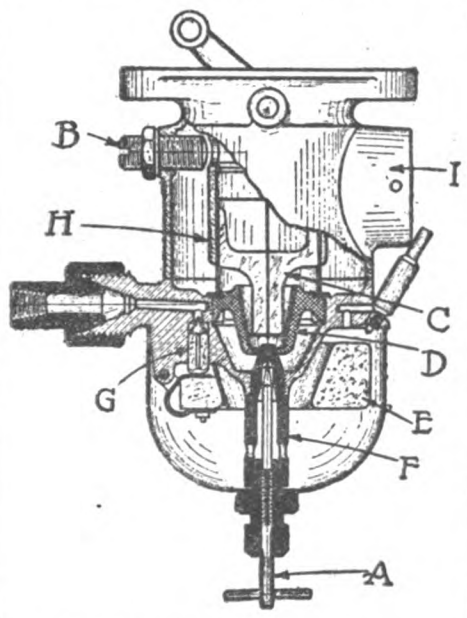
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

Model D Johnson Carburetor

THE next carburetor entering into the discussion is the Johnson Model D, manufactured by the Johnson Bros., Detroit, Mich., and adopted as standard equipment on all four cylinder Reo pleasure cars and several other makes. In principle, it is somewhat a departure from most of the conventional types inasmuch that it incorporates no auxiliary air valves. One of its outstanding features is simplicity, it being very compact, easily cleaned and adjusted. The unique feature is the sliding sleeve which performs practically the same function as does the common auxiliary air valve except that it relies upon gravity rather than spring tension. As the speed of the motor increases the suction created by the pistons in the cylinders increases proportionately. When the suction becomes great enough the sleeve is drawn upward thus allowing air to come into the mixing chamber under the sleeve and prevent the gasoline-air mixture from becoming too rich at high engine speed. From the accompanying sketch it will be noted that the carburetor has two jackets, the inner one of which is cut away at the bottom. When the sleeve is in its normal position the inner jacket is securely closed making it necessary for the air to enter the mixing chamber at the small opening at the bottom of the strangle tube. As above explained, when the sleeve is caused to rise another opening is made for the admittance of air into the mixing chamber.

Should at any time the operator believe the carburetor to be in need of adjustment, he should first satisfy himself that each cylinder is developing high compression, the valve lifters not set too closely, and a hot spark is being delivered at each plug. Unlike a number of other makes of carburetors with the Johnson it is first necessary to make the high speed setting and then the low. Turn the needle valve, A, to the right or up until it contacts lightly with its seat. To make certain that the needle valve is fully



MODEL D JOHNSON CARBURETOR

A—Spray Needle. B—Low Speed Screw. C—Sliding Sleeve. D—Strangle Tube or Choker. E—Cork Float. F—Nozzle. G—Inlet Needle. H—Inner wall (Note Cut Away at Botton). I—Air Inlet.

shut off release the clamp screw that locks the indicator arm and turn the needle by the small lever at the bottom.

Next turn in the slow speed screw, B, until it is entirely closed thus leaving the carburetor entirely shut off. Turn the needle valve, A, to the left exactly one and one quarter turns and lock the indicator arm so that it stands at the center of the scale. Start the motor and allow it to run idle until the water in the radiator is at the normal running temperature. Next ascertain that the strangle tube control rod is not broken and that the control lever on the dash or steering column, as the case may be, is at the position marked "Run." With the spark lever advanced about one quarter of its total travel; snap the throttle lever open quickly and, if the motor does not miss or backfire, turn the indicator arm to the right, or toward "lean," one scale division at a time, repeating the quick opening of the throttle lever until the motor does backfire. Then turn the indicator arm to the left, or toward "Rich," one scale division at a time until the backfiring ceases. You have then obtained the intermediate and high speed setting.

The next step is to fully retard the spark and throttle levers and screw out the throttle lever stop screw until the speed of the motor with closed throttle is brought down as low as possible. If the motor does not operate smoothly on closed throttle turn the slow speed screw, B, to the left or out until it does. Make all adjustments as above advised with the choker wide open.

As previously stated, simplicity is one of the chief assets possessed by this make of carburetor. To clean the float chamber and nozzle the float chamber can be easily removed without disconnecting the instrument from the motor. First note the position of the needle valve and turn it lightly to its seat in order to determine what fraction of a turn it is open so that it may be replaced in the same position. Next remove the needle valve with packing nut and lock nut, after which the float chamber may be taken off for cleaning. To remove the inlet needle, first take out the pin on which the float actuates, remove the float and the needle will fall down. To remove the nozzle pass a large nail through the cross holes and use in the same manner as a wrench. To clean the nozzle, wipe out the central hole with a soft handkerchief passed over a match as it is of vital importance that this part of the instrument is clean and free from any obstruction. Before replacing hold the small end of the nozzle to the light to determine that the orifice and channel are clean. The nozzle is carefully calibrated to flow the correct amount of fuel and should not be injured or otherwise altered.

Selecting the New Car

The automobile industry has reached a stage where practically all cars manufactured are capable of smooth running, therefore the initial demonstration should not be given too much importance. However, as it is customary and about the only way a prospective buyer can get a line on the car it will be well for the reader to take note of the following suggestions. The salesman will no doubt demonstrate a car which has been carefully looked over daily by the shop mechanics and is therefore primed to do its best. If the car which is being demonstrated cannot meet your requirements do not accept excuses for its failure by statements to the effect that there is some minor detail out of adjustment and if fixed would improve the performance of the car wonderfully. If a salesman has the nerve to demonstrate a car which is not operating properly, he is deserving of losing the sale.

First select a course with which you are perfectly familiar, one which takes in a steep grade or two, a few rough places and finally a road which is very smooth. Before starting on the demonstrating take note whether all tires are fully inflated or soft and that the top is up. Soft tires tend to take the jar out of rough roads thereby reducing rattles which would otherwise show up. If the top is down the operation of a somewhat noisy car will seem quiet. When the steep grade is reached request the operator to leave the high gear engaged and run the car as slowly as possible without causing the motor to labor. Then ask him to gradually increase the speed. This will give some idea as to the pick up qualities of the car and the amount of power in reserve. Especially notice whether the car is hard riding when the rough places are reached. Compare the action of this car with others you have watched. When the smooth stretch is reached ask the operator to open the throttle wide and carefully watch the speedometer to determin the speed reached. Finally ask the demonstrator to stop the car in the shortest distance possible when operating at a speed of 25 miles per hour. You will then have a fair idea of the material which has been put into the car.

One Cause for Run-Down Battery

Corrosion on the storage battery terminals resists the flow of current from the generator thus resulting in the starving of the battery and many times damage to the generator. To insure against such an occurrence the owner should remove the battery cables, carefully clean the terminals and then smear lightly with vaseline. If you are experiencing electrical trouble investigate this condition at once.

Interesting Figures

Sometime ago an interesting article appeared in a Western newspaper concerning a unique record held by a farmer as a milk hauler. This farmer had hauled milk continually from April 18th, 1892, to October 6th, 1913, a period of 21½ years. During this time he hauled 4,244,762 pounds of milk, traveled 46,834 miles, and made 3,969 trips. One team was used most of the time, and he still has one of the original horses with which he started. This record reached the attention of a number of truck manufacturers who at once started to figure the saving which would have been possible had this farmer employed a motor truck as a carrier instead of the slow-going horse whose working capacity is limited. It was first determined that the cost of the man and team's time was worth $12,911.20, this of course including the cost of wagons, harness, upkeep, etc. It was then accurately figured that the same hauling could have been done over the same route at a cost of $4,542.35 thereby effecting a saving of approximately $8,368.85. These figures indicate the saving on milk haulage alone and do not take into consideration that the time saving would have permitted the farmer to do hauling for other persons in the spare time or put the vehicle to work on other jobs he might have on his own place.

Questions Answered

IGNITION TROUBLE.—My Ford touring car (1915 model) pops and miss-fires and does not give light. It has a new magneto. Several mechanics who have examined it have failed to locate the cause of the trouble. It pops worse running idle; will not speed up. Can you tell me the cause of it acting so?

MRS. M. G. S., Troy, N. C.

A.—In view of the meager details with which we have been furnished it is impossible for us to attempt to form a diagnosis of your trouble. It may be possible that the magneto plug is broken or that the new magnets were not properly installed. Our suggestion to you would be to have the job looked over at the nearest Ford service station. If they can't help you, write to the Ford Motor Co., Detroit, Mich.

FORD REAR AXLE.—Is it necessary to take the rear axle housing and differential apart in order to take the rear axle out of a Ford car, or can it be pulled out of the housing and differential the same as a full-floating rear axle? J. J., Stanley, Wis.

A.—The rear axle used for Ford cars is what is commonly referred to as the semi-floating type. If it is found necessary to remove an axle shaft the rear of the car must be jacked and the entire rear axle assembly taken out from under. The shaft cannot be pulled from the housing as can the axle shafts used in connection with a full floating rear axle. As it would require going to great length to describe each step which must be taken to remove the shaft, would suggest that you write the Ford people for a diagram of the rear axle. If you cannot decipher the diagram, you might consult the nearest automobile mechanic. Anyone acquainted with the semi-floating type of rear axle should be able to make clear any matter in which you might be in doubt.

NO. ONE SPARK PLUG FOULS.—No. one spark plug of my 1915 model Ford gets so dirty with cylinder oil that I have to clean it every few miles although I keep the oil as low as possible in the crank case. One cylinder will go dead for a while, then suddenly begin firing again. Can you tell me how to remedy the trouble? I. V., Standish, Mich.

A.—From all appearances oiling trouble in the first cylinder appears to be characteristic of this make of car. A very good mechanic with whom the writer is acquainted readily overcomes a trouble such as you relate by drilling three 3-16-inch holes equidistant in the lower piston ring groove. Such an arrangement forms a ready channel for the return of the oil to the crank case. From observation we note that this is becoming common practise on many higher priced cars. The experiment is at least worth a trial as it cannot possibly result in damage to the motor.

AUTO VARNISH, IGNITION, ETC.—What is the best way to apply a coat of auto varnish? The paint is good but the finish has been taken off by washing and polishing with oil. What kind of varnish is best for the purpose? (b) Would you advise the battery ignition system (spark produced by current from storage battery in place of magneto? (c) How long should a storage battery last? H. F., Gallipolis, Ohio.

A.—The first part of your letter was referred to the foreman of the paint department of one of the largest automobile factories in this country who advised that if the paint on the body of your automobile still retains a good color the best policy would be to carefully rub the present finish with a piece of soft felt that has been sprinkled with powdered pumice. When rubbing keep the body well wetted so as not to scratch into the finish. Next apply a coat of Stewart & Mowry rubbing varnish. When thoroughly set rub with pumice as above described. You can then apply a coat of Stewart & Mowry finish varnish leaving the job stand in a room free from dust until the varnish is thoroughly hardened. Regarding the use of battery ignition instead of magneto, we would not recommend the change unless it is your intention to install a generator connected with the engine to keep the storage battery fully charged. A magneto given the proper attention will give satisfactory service almost indefinitely. From this distance would advise that if your magneto is not at present affording satisfactory service that you return same to its maker with instructions to place it in perfect condition and return to you as soon as possible. Answering your third question (c); if you mean how long will a storage battery run before it requires recharging; that depends on how much it is used. At the most it will be extremely short and therefore believe that you can do no better than to have the present magneto placed in the best of condition and allow same to remain to furnish the ignition current.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

Unfurling the big white fan lent her at the last moment by Lady Satterlee, she stood leaning unconcernedly against the doorway. It was a chilly place to wait, and presently she shivered.

Looking up, she saw Mr. Fairfax standing opposite her, regarding her with an indifferent glance, as though he had already forgotten who she was. It amused her, but she did not speak to him, as she had meant to do on first seeing him; it was scarcely worth while, either, since Satterlee would be back in a moment.

Just then she caught sight of the half-open door of a little room which had been carefully arranged by Lady Satterlee for her own special benefit. It looked warm, comfortable, inviting, and if she stood just within the doorway she could see her partner approach.

She walked slowly down the passage, and Fairfax looked after her.

The room was warm when she reached it, and she trailed her white gown across it to the fire, shivering a little. How long, how very long, Satterlee was! If he wanted her now, he could find her; she would not hang herself out into the passage to attract his attention if he had forgotten her.

With a sudden feeling of being very tired, she seated herself in one of two chairs standing by the fire. A few minutes elapsed; then she turned her pretty head to look impatiently at the door. The one lamp in the room was certainly getting dimmer; surely it could not be going out. As she stared at it the flame began to rise and fall spasmodically. Lady Satterlee had lighted it at five o'clock to see the full effect of her bower of bliss and lit it had been ever since, and as the last drops of oil burned it quietly expired.

Nerine rose with a little indignant stamp of her foot. "The lights are out, and the play is over!" she said grimly to the dull, red fire. "As for Lord Satterlee, he can find another partner—I am going!"

Tall, pale with indignation, she was the very image of Agatha as she turned to leave the room just as her missing partner entered it.

TO BE CONTINUED.

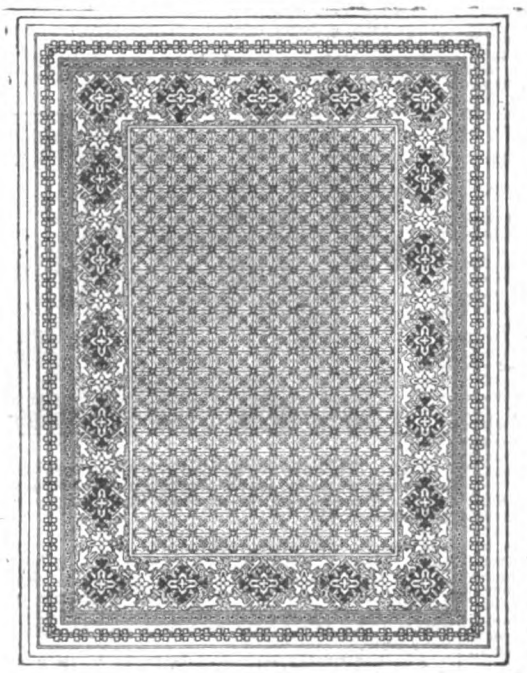
We Will Give You This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling romance by Adelaide Sterling. It is a beautiful story having a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compels the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine. To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

We are sure our readers will enjoy this delightful story which will run as a serial in COMFORT through the remainder of the winter and the spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Congoleum Rug

Premium No. 7206

Given For A Club Of Six!

A YARD and a half long and one yard wide. Water cannot rot it, sun cannot fade it. It lies **flat** on the floor without nails, tacks or paste and positively will not **curl up** at the edges. The Congoleum Rug is something new. It is not oil-cloth or Linoleum or made of grass, fiber or fabric—it is not like any other floor covering in the world. It is absolutely **waterproof,** not affected by heat or cold, neither fades nor rots indoors or out. When you wash the floor or porch you can wash the Congoleum rug at the same time without taking it up. You can leave it outdoors the year round, and it will not rot, fade or get that dingy look that other rugs do after exposure to sun and wear. In doors you can use it on your bathroom, hall, pantry or kitchen floor, under the refrigerator or stove or in any room in the house. No matter **where** you place it it will outwear a dozen ordinary rugs and give years of service. These rugs come in many different designs and beautiful combinations of colors and we have selected the one illustrated herewith as the most suitable for **all-round** purposes. It will make an attractive appearance regardless of whether you use it as a porch rug, or in hall, kitchen, pantry or chamber. We are positive that every woman who secures one of these rugs will want more of them at once so we have arranged to supply you with as many as you may need upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one Congoleum Rug free by express or parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7206.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Your Feet and Mine

FEET are trying possessions, at times, as all of us know who have ever been bothered with corns or chilblains or bunions or callous spots or aching arches. Of course all these things come from our not having treated our feet properly—but that's no consolation, is it, girls?

One of the queer things which sometimes happens to feet is the growth of huge, horny nails, so thick no ordinary scissors can cut them. Very ugly they are, and often painful.

Do you want to know how such nails are produced? Well, quite often from wearing shoes too short. A friend of mine who had this trouble, recently purchased a new pair of shoes. Clerk after clerk tried to fit his foot, but did not succeed. Finally one of the head men came, looked over the foot carefully, then produced a pair which snugged in nicely at instep, but were much longer than the shoes my friend had been wearing.



RUB VASELINE BETWEEN OR ON THE TOES WHEN A CORN SEEMS TO BE COMING.

"But I've always worn sevens," said my friend.

"Yes," said the shoe man, "and they've always been too short for you!"

"But I don't have any trouble with my feet—except one corn."

"They're too short, just the same," said the shoe man.

And, later, when my friend went to a chiropodist to have his shrieking corn removed, she looked at his huge horny nails. "You've been wearing too short shoes," she said, and my friend, who had been complaining to high Heaven about those nails, subsided into a thoughtful silence.

He buys eights, now, every time!

If you have horny nails, buy a pair of nail clippers to keep them trimmed, and always soak them in warm soapy water to which a little tincture of benzoin has been added, before clipping. You can sometimes file them a little thinner, with the ordinary nail file carefully used. And at night you should annoint them with olive oil or vaseline, slightly warmed, and well rubbed in. Use, also, a polishing powder two or three times a week. You can use either very fine emery powder, or just oxide of tin, perfumed with a drop or two of oil of violets. A cut lemon rubbed over the nails every other day or so is also good. Let the juice dry on.

As to corns, of course the only way to do is to get them out "by the roots." Cutting or paring does not cure a corn. Yet I have known very mild corns kept painless for years by gentle rubbing from time to time with toilet pumice stone and nightly annointing with vaseline well massaged in.

When a corn has been taken out, your toe needs careful attention, for it is sensitive, and the first thing you know you will be having trouble again. Soak the foot at night in hot water—not for more than a minute or two—then rub in vaseline generously. In the daytime, before putting on your hose, barely soften the skin with vaseline.

Always take pains, after daily bathing, to rub the crevices between the toes thoroughly dry. Careless drying, and failure to rub away little cast-off flakes of skin, often cause cracked skin between the toes, corns, or other uncomfortable conditions.

In summer, vinegar added to your warm bath-water is good for perspiring or swollen feet. It cleanses and acts as an astringent. After bathing very thoroughly, then dust on the following powder:

For Moist Feet

Powdered alum, one half ounce; powdered orris root, one half ounce; powdered rice, two and one half ounces.

Answers to Questions

Happy.—If you are five feet and ten inches tall, you should weigh about one hundred and fifty pounds, but being only seventeen years old you would naturally not reach this full weight. Your weight of one hundred and twenty-five, however, is too little, and you should build yourself up. As to the "nettle rash" for which you have been treating with your physician, of course the thing to do is to obey his instructions. In the meantime, be very careful about your diet. Watch yourself carefully, and if you find any food does not agree with you, drop it at once. Drink eight to ten glasses of water a day (everybody should do this, ill or well), and see that the bowels move freely. To aid this latter, soak six prunes over night in a tumbler of water. Eat them in the morning, masticating thoroughly, and drink the juice. Eat spinach, onions, asparagus, celery and other vegetables. Take soups, drink milk, cut out rich desserts, gravies, and cut down on meat for a time to see how that works. Try drying your bread in the oven until it will break, then toasting it—it is really good! Chew every particle of food until it is liquid before swallowing. Be very careful about your lunch. A bowl of soup, some cereal and cream, with toast is a good lunch; or an egg chocolate, a baked apple and cream (though you may find the apple does not agree with you), some boiled rice. Perhaps you have been eating too much meat, and also fried foods, such as fried potatoes, fried meat, griddle cakes, etc. Cut all these out. Your meat, such as you eat, should be roasted or broiled. Fish will probably prove good for you, broiled or baked. Your potatoes should be baked or boiled until dry and mealy. Let me know how you get along. As to making the hair black, I cannot recommend that you try to dye it. This is rarely successful. Why do you want to change it? As a matter of fact, we all of us a.e given just the complexion which goes with our own particular hair, and when we dye the latter our faces are more than apt to look most peculiar. Then dye wears off, and also the hair grows, so that the new portion of hair is the old natural color instead of the dyed color, and it is almost impossible to make dyed hair look natural. Take good care of your hair as it is, wash it frequently, brush it daily, air it and sun it and keep it in perfect order, and it will grow in life and color.

A. P. R.—You do not tell me your age, so I cannot tell just how far under weight you are, but I am safe in saying most emphatically that seventy-six pounds is way, way below the proper weight for five feet four inches. You must set to work to gain. Drink plenty of milk, eat cream on everything you can, eat plenty of potatoes, rice, bread and butter but no biscuits, hot breads or griddle cakes). Don't eat fried foods or salt meats. A good breakfast for you would be an orange or some grapefruit, or melon or berries, or a baked apple or pear or even some apple sauce. Then a great big bowl of cereal with cream—oatmeal that has cooked in a double boiler at least an hour, a big dish of rice, or some of the prepared uncooked cereals, with cream and sugar. With this eat crisp buttered toast and two soft-boiled eggs. If you want something to drink with your meals, take milk or a cup of cocoa or chocolate. Drop tea and coffee for the present. For dinner eat baked, mashed or boiled potatoes—preferably baked—with plenty of butter, some baked or broiled meat (not pork or veal, but beef, lamb or mutton, or chicken or turkey or fish) and a green vegetable. And for dessert eat a baked apple or a custard or fresh berries or melon, or sliced orange or grapefruit, or corn-starch blanc mange with cream, but not pies, cakes or rich puddings. For lunch do not eat meat, but anything you want in the vegetable line or fruits. In cooking eggs, they must be soft cooked—not over three minutes, if boiled. See what I say to "Happy" about drinking water, and do the same. Also look after the bowels.

Blanche.—I am sorry it is against the rules of this department to answer letters by mail. I am not permitted to do so, because all of our readers are interested in every question and every answer, and the problem of one of our readers may be the problem of many. The exercise for reducing the bust is: Standing erect, with shoulders dropped and chest up, extend the arms in front on a level with the shoulder palms together. Now throw them violently backward, without dropping them below shoulder height, as if trying to make them meet in the back. Throw them forward again, till palms meet, and repeat fifteen or twenty times.

Any exercise for the arms is apt to be good for reducing a full bust or developing a thin one.

Miss T. S.—I am sorry that I do not know to what advertisement in COMFORT you refer. Look through recent issues, as probably the advertisement will be repeated.

Emma L.—The lotion for darkening hair, to which you refer, is as follows: Put an ounce of garden sage (new sage, dried) and an ounce of green tea, in an iron kettle, and pour over it a quart and a half of boiling water, rain-water if possible; simmer over a low flame until it has been reduced to one third its amount, then remove from fire and let stand in the kettle until next day at the same hour. Strain through cheese-cloth and put in stoppered bottles or jars. While simmering on the stove the kettle should be closely covered.

B. E. M.—Both blackheads and enlarged pores come from improper care of the skin, and probably the use of too much soap and hot water, with not enough attention to rinsing. Use a complexion brush (camel's hair) which you can buy at your druggist's or by mail, and scrub the face thoroughly each night with warm soapy water. Then rinse in warm water several times, finally in cool, and lastly in cold. In the morning do not use soap or hot water, but barely tepid water. During the day do not use more than tepid water, and no soap, and always end by dashing cold water on the skin. You can make up some "beauty bags" of cheese-cloth, two by three inches, half filled with rolled oats, and dip one of these lightly in the water to use as a washcloth. It will keep the skin soft, and cleanse it satisfactorily. The cold water will help to close the pores. Using hot water on the face of course opens the pores, and in time they become permanently enlarged; for this reason, always close them by dashing on cold water, but be sure, first, that they are entirely clean or you will have an obstinate case of blackheads.

Mrs. G. W. L.—Salicylic acid for moles is moistened with alcohol or glycerine and bound upon the mole for thirty minutes. The acid eats away the mole. After one application, wait two days, then apply again, and after another two days, apply for the third time. The mole will probably be disposed of by then. You cannot be too careful, however, in the treatment of moles, as they often produce dangerous sores. If I were you I should try the acid on a small mole and note carefully its condition after the first application. Your own good sense will tell you whether it is advisable to continue it.

"Hazel Eyes."—I am using this nom de plume for you, as it is against the rules of this department to answer inquiries by mail. (See answer to Blanche.) A good color for you to wear is the exact color of your eyes, or a golden brown. Almost any good warm brown will be becoming, but have it with as yellow a tone as possible. Orange is a good color for you, combined with other colors—any yellow should be good. You can wear olive green with slight touches of yellow or turquoise blue; or wine color with a slight accent of dark moss green. Mahogany will be becoming, and you can use small "notes" of old-rose or sage-green with this color. Soft fawn color is good for you, bronze brown, corn-yellow. Always remember that the exact color of eyes and hair is excellent and brings out their color, and that such color may be used in the trimming of a gown. For instance you could wear the fawn-color costume, with girdle, collar, hose, the color of eyes or hair. Do you see?

Peg.—To make the limbs larger—by which I suppose you mean the legs—practise the following exercises: With hands on hips, fingers pointing forward, thumbs back, throw chest up, put heels together, toes slightly pointed out. Now, keeping the back perfectly straight, begin to rise slowly on the toes until



PUMICE STONE IS GOOD TO WEAR AWAY CALLOUS SPOTS AND FOR CORNS.

you are resting just on their tips; then gradually lower the heel to the floor again. Repeat fifteen or twenty times. The descent to the floor should be as gradual as you can make it, thus exercising the muscles in the calves of the legs.

Another Leg Exercise

Standing with heels together, stomach well held in, and chin up, clasp the footboard of a bed with both hands. Now lift the heels from the floor, and keeping them so, slowly squat, bending the knees but keeping the trunk of the body perfectly upright. Do not let the heels touch the floor, but when you have squatted until your body is almost if not quite resting on your heels, begin to rise again with only the aid of your hands, which are, of course, still clasped to the footboard, and of your toes. Breathe in as you rise, expel breath slowly as you squat. Repeat ten or more times.

Married.—The "little holes" in your face are probably nothing more than enlarged pores. Read my answer to "B. E. M.," and follow instructions. The "wrinkles" each side of the nose are sometimes caused by physical conditions—pain, etc. Look after your general bodily condition. Build yourself up in health and strength. See answer to "A. P. R." if you can gain in flesh, your wrinkles will probably fill out. It would be a good idea to massage the face nightly before retiring, using some good cold cream on your finger-tips. A particular movement likely to be of help in regard to these side-of-the-nose wrinkles is to put the finger-tips of each hand at the point of the chin, bring them up on cheek and toward ears with a sweeping movement—the whole palm of the hands will be on chin and cheek as the hands are moved up and back. This draws the skin away from nose and toward ears. Massage for two or three minutes in this way. A wrinkle lotion which may be applied, unless the skin is very dry, is as follows: Rose-water, three ounces; milk of almonds, three quarters ounce; powdered alum, one half dram. Put the alum in the rose-water until dissolved, and then stir in the almond milk a little at a time, keeping the liquid constantly in motion.

Mrs. F. S.—You can procure the lactic tablets of your druggist or by mail of any large drug house. If you expect to reduce successfully, you must also cut out fat-building foods. This means potatoes, rice, bread and butter, cream, milk, fat meats, gravies and sweet things. What can you eat, then? Oh, lot of things. You can eat all lean meats, fish, chicken, turkey, all green vegetables, such as string beans, spinach, asparagus, onions, peas, celery, lettuce, etc. And you can eat practically all fruits—except bananas. Take the juice of a half or whole lemon in a glass of cool water half an hour before breakfast every day. Eat grapefruit or oranges or pineapple, etc. for your breakfast, soft-boiled eggs, salt mackerel or other salt fish. For lunch eat green vegetables, fruits. For dinner, lean meats, vegetables and fruits. Also do not eat between meals, and do not drink at your meals. If you will eat only a moderate amount of these non-fat-building foods three times a day, I think you will not only stop gaining but will begin to reduce in weight at once.

A. M. R.—No, indeed, peroxide and ammonia will not make the air grow. The peroxide is a bleach and makes the hair lighter, while the ammonia dries up the roots in time. I do not know anything of the proprietary remedy to which you refer. Electrolysis is, of course, the surest and quickest way to kill hair, but one must be in or near a large city and go to a skilled operator. The peroxide and ammonia is harmless and, while slow, is effective. It takes quite a long time, however, with daily applications.

L. E. S.—I think this is the formula for gray hair, to which you refer:

To Darken Gray Hair

Pyrogallic acid, one quarter ounce; rectified spirits, one half ounce; hot distilled water, one and one half ounces.

Dissolve the acid in the water and when cool add the rectified spirits. When applying to the hair, use a soft brush and dip it in a small portion of the mixture to which twice the quantity of soft water has been added and a very little rectified spirits. Repeated applications must be made. My own advice about the use of any dyes by amateurs is—*don't do it!* It is hardly ever satisfactory—the dye adheres unevenly, wears off in patches, and the hair looks streaky and shows plainly that it has been colored artificially, while not looking attractive enough to excuse the effort. A lotion which can be used on the hair, and is not a dye, properly speaking, yet does gradually darken it, is as follows: Rust of iron, one dram; old ale, one pint; oil of rosemary, twelve drops. Put in a bottle, cork loosely and shake daily for twelve days, at intervals. After it has finally settled, pour off the clear portion, being careful not to let sediment run through also.

Mrs. H. S. A.—See answer to "Blanche." Your hair needs frequent shampooing, but first it must be heavily anointed with olive oil, gently rubbed in to the scalp. Tie up the head at night in a towel, and wash the next day with a liquid made by shaving a hand-size cake of Castile soap into a quart of boiling water over a flame, and letting it boil until thoroughly dissolved. Rinse time and time again. If any soap is left in the hair, it will clog up the skin and cause dandruff. Do not use a fine comb on the hair, nor a stiff brush. Massage the scalp gently every night by placing the fingers flat against the scalp and moving the scalp back and forward on the skull. Do not move the fingers back and forth, but hold them firm, pushing the skin which will carry the fingers along with it without altering their position. If I were you, I should rub some olive oil or vaseline into the scalp every two or three days, at night, being careful not to get it on the hair itself. This will soften the dandruff. It will of course make your hair look greasy, but you would better stand that for a while than run the risk of losing your hair. Wash the hair once in two weeks and dry in the sun. Take the hair down every night and braid very loosely, after shaking and airing it. And don't forget that your hair cannot be healthy if your whole body is not. If you are below weight, thin or pale, run down in any way your stomach or bowels out of order, your hair will suffer also. Keep the bowels open daily by drinking eight to ten glasses of water daily, and by eating fruits every day of your life—oranges, grapefruit, pineapple, berries, melons, apples, prunes, figs—as well as plenty of green vegetables. And exercise outdoors and indoors regularly.

Dickie.—You need to build yourself up a little to make your hair grow. See what I had to say to "A. M. R." and "Mrs. H. S. A." as to diet, etc. Get plenty of sleep—eight to nine hours every day of your life, with plenty of fresh air in your room, winter and summer. Do not put the oil on your scalp, as I advised Mrs. H. S. A., except just before your shampoo, say once in three weeks. Massage the scalp every night, just to stimulate the circulation and induce the little oil cells to do their work. And be careful about exercise, water, and the condition of the bowels.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Getting Your Money Out of The Bank

IF the bank rendered no other service to the community than to protect its valuables it would render a useful one; but it would be a mouse-trap proposition, you could only go one way; but the bank makes it easier to get money out than in, and in the outgoing process assumes risks and renders benefits too often lost sight of in the busy whirl of business.

We take many things for granted and live in a matter-of-fact age. We want our morning paper at the breakfast table with never a delay and with little thought of what it costs to collect, transmit, type, print and deliver the news. We want our train on the dot or we get impatient. We want our milk and our coal, blizzard, or no blizzard. We likewise expect the bank to do our business smoothly, efficiently, and without thought of the cost or the risks attending.

When your bank hands you a check book, it gives you license to draw as many checks, in as large or as small sums as you wish, with the only provision (except in certain cases where a minimum balance is required) that you do not overdraw, and promises to honor your checks as presented as long as your balance is sufficient to pay them.

Whether you want to pay your creditor in the next block, or a thousand miles away, the checking privilege of a bank account permits you to make your payment with ease, safety and despatch.

When you mail your check your trouble is over and the bank's has just begun, for the bank warrants to you three things, all for your own protection and at its own risk. It is well to know them.

It guarantees (*a*) That it will pay only the checks *you have signed*. If your name is forged and the bank pays the check, it cannot charge the amount to your account; (*b*) That it will pay only in the sum originally drawn. If some one gets your check and raises the amount, making it apparently a genuine check, the bank can only charge the amount in which you originally drew the check, unless it can show you were grossly careless in so drawing that you invited fraud. Therefore be careful to draw your checks properly; (*c*) To pay to the party to whom you ordered the amount paid and none other. If the check gets into the hands of strangers who forge the indorsement, so that the party to whom you ordered the money paid does not get it, the payment is at its risk, and you are harmless.

All this is ultimately for your good as a depositor. You know that your account cannot be drawn against except on your order. You know that the party you want to receive payment gets it. You get back the most perfect voucher known to the business world. Many a dispute has been settled and loss and law suit avoided by producing bank vouchers that told in no uncertain way that payment had been made according to the intent of the drawer. Therefore for your own good you ought to keep your money in a bank and draw it out by check.

AMERICAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION.



Gray Hair and Safety

Mary T. Goldman's Gray Hair Color Restorer is the original preparation for safely and quickly restoring the natural color to gray, faded and bleached hair in a few days. Leaves the hair clean, fluffy and natural.

Free Trial Package and special comb. Test it on a lock of hair. This test will prove more than anything we could say in an advertisement. Write now and *be sure* to tell the original color before it turned gray. Was it black, dark brown, medium brown or light brown? Regular $1.00 size at your druggist's or I will fill your order direct. Clever imitators, not being able to imitate the preparation itself, have copied our labels almost word for word. To be safe and sure, remember the name.

MARY T. GOLDMAN, 405 Goldman Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.
Established 50 Years!

WOMEN!

Make $3 to $5 cash in an hour's time taking a few orders for Baking Powder among your friends to be delivered through your grocer. No money to be invested nor goods to be handled. No experience necessary. Write quick for full details and instructions.

E. B. MARSHALL CO.
231 HURON ST. MILWAUKEE, WIS.



You Can Have Beautiful Eyebrows and Lashes

by applying "Lash-Brow-ine" nightly. It nourishes the eyebrows and lashes, making them long, thick and luxuriant, adding wonderfully to your beauty, charm and attractiveness. "Lash-Brow-ine" is a guaranteed pure and harmless preparation, used successfully by thousands. Send 25c (coin) and we will mail you "Lash-Brow-ine" and our beauty booklet prepaid in plain sealed cover. Beware of worthless imitations.

Maybell Laboratories, 4008-84 Indiana Ave., Chicago



Pink Cameo Ring FREE

Cameos are set in fine gold filled ring. Guaranteed for three years. To introduce new Ring Bargains, will send post paid, your size, upon receipt of 12c to pay advertising.

The Auction Co., Dept. 141 Attleboro, Mass.

Solid Gold Lavalliere set with genuine Diamond on solid gold neck chain and 60c. Cash Commission given for selling fine perfume at 10 cents a bottle. Extra presents for prompt work. Write for perfume. J. C. Dimick, Portsmouth, N. H.

18-Inch Linen Centerpiece

Premium No. 7782.



Given For Two Subscriptions

THIS is another one of the fortunate purchases we made before the price of imported linen reached its present high figure to say nothing of the difficulty in getting it now at any price, as the supply in this country is getting low and absolutely none is being imported. This unusually attractive design is stamped on white Irish linen and is to be worked in solid and eyelet embroidery with buttonholed edge. While the design is a little more elaborate than some of the other centerpieces which we offer yet it is well worth all the time and labor you put in to it on account of the fine material and it is something that will retain its handsome appearance and give years of service. We will send you this 18-inch white linen centerpiece free upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you this pure linen centerpiece free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7782.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1917, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

EXPLANATORY.—This story tells the strange things that happen to five-year-old Simmie-Sammie Smith and his sister Pittysing, nearly two years older, through the sly pranks of Nattie, the "Smallest Dapperling of All." The Dapperlings are kind-hearted, gay little elflike beings who ride on rabbits and never let themselves be seen by human eyes because of their belief that, if seen, it would bring some terrible calamity upon them. For this reason their queer little houses are always built into the hillside, and are so made, with doors and windows in front and grass growing on the backs, that they can be turned around to face out when the Dapperlings are by themselves; but as soon as anybody comes in sight the houses are whirled around so that only the grass-covered backs are seen and, as these look like the rest of the hill, you would never know the houses were there. They also have an underground assembly hall with an opening in the top covered with moss and concealed in a clump of thistles.

CHAPTER VII.

A MID-SUMMER ARBOR DAY

THE Dapperlings, each with a small, bright knife in hand, were cutting the grass on their hillside. It was slow work, for they knelt on the ground, and taking three or four grass-blades in one hand, cut them off close to the ground with their knives.

However, they didn't call it work. They just made play out of it, and called it fun, which, as you know, makes a great difference.

They always kept someone on guard, to let them know if any people were coming near. This time it was Pertwee. Nearly half the grass was cut, and they were thinking they would have it done by sunset, when Pertwee came running up and said, "The children are coming."

Then all the Dapperlings went into their houses, and the houses were turned around into the hill.

Pittysing and Simmie-Sammie were playing Arbor Day. They each had two tiny trees, which they had pulled up by the roots—two maples, one wild cherry, and one apple tree. Simmie-Sammie had the little fire shovel, and Pittysing a garden trowel.

"We'll set them out here on the hillside," said Pittysing. "The holes must be dug deep enough to hold all the roots. Won't it be fun to watch 'em grow? Our very own trees! Just think how big they'll be Simmie-Sammie, by the time you're a man. Perhaps you'll come here with your children some day and pick apples off this little apple tree, and while the children eat 'em, you'll tell how you and I set out these teeny mites o' trees, long, long ago!" Pittysing's eyes held a dreamy, faraway look.

"Tell a stowy 'bout it," asked Simmie-Sammie.

"Sometime," promised Pittysing, remembering what they had come to do, "but now we've got to dig holes for the trees, or there won't ever be any apples to pick."

Grasping the trowel, she went to work.

"This grass looks pretty funny to me," she said; "just's if somebody'd run a lawn-mower over it."

The Dapperlings, inside, were listening. And they didn't feel very happy. I tell you, it was a pretty serious thing to them—having holes dug right into their houses!

"Something's got to be done about it, and done quick!" Lulie Wye told the others. "Can't anybody think how to get those children away from there?"

Nobody seemed to. They just stood there, staring at each other.

Then they jumped, for Pittysing's trowel hit the roof of the house where they were talking, making a little hole. And some dirt fell through.

Lulie Wye covered her face with her hands, and sank down on the floor.

"Our beautiful village!" she moaned, "It will all be spoiled. Oh, me! Oh, my!"

"We may be killed if we stay here," old Shandle-Spinx said in despair. "To the assembly hall, if you would save your lives!"

Outside, they heard Pittysing saying, "It's too hard there. I struck a rock or something. I better find a softer place to dig."

Zipzang had been thinking hard.

"Leave it to me," he said. "Pertwee, you come with me. Skippywink and Todken too. "I have a plan."

"But you can't go out, can you?" asked Nattie.

"We'll push open the trap-door and get out that way." And off they ran.

Shandle-Spinx stood on a table under the trap-door in the assembly hall, and Zipzang climbed on his shoulders. He pushed the trap-door up a little way, just enough to climb through, and when he was outside held it open for Skippywink, Todken and Pertwee. Making their way carefully through the thistles, they scurried off into the woods straight to the rabbit corral.



"CATCH 'EM! CATCH 'EM!" PITTYSING SHOUTED.

"What's the idea?" gasped Skippywink, as they ran.

"Stampede rabbits—part of 'em!" Zipzang flung out. He was running too fast to say much.

"Rabbits! well—of all the—foolish, scatter-brained—"

"You'll see!" Zipzang told them. "Hurry!"

"How'll you—catch 'em again?"

"Come back—feeding time!"

Pittysing found a nice, soft place, lower down on the hill than any of the Dapperling houses. She dug a little hole, jammed the roots of the little cherry sprout into it, and patted down the dirt.

Simmie-Sammie was digging away, his round face red and sweaty.

"*I* don't give up for wocks!" he boasted. "I'm a-goin' to dig this one wight out."

So he tried.

But, oh, dear! it wasn't a rock he was digging into! It was a Dapperling house!

His shovel wasn't very strong, and the handle broke, which was a mercy, for in another minute, crash! would have gone Lulie Wye's best china cupboard, filled with all sorts of curious and dainty things.

"Well, you've done it now!" cried Pittysing. "Did you ask mamma if you could take that shovel?"

Then they both forgot that they were playing Arbor Day, forgot the trees, and even the broken shovel. For down the hill came running a slender gray rabbit—then another, and another—five, six of them—their long ears laid back, their round eyes bulging.

"Catch 'em! catch 'em!" Pittysing shouted. "Run, why don't you?"

Seeing the children, the rabbits half stopped, swerved, and ran toward the Mill Brook.

Pittysing's shabby sandals pattered off in a frantic attempt to catch up with them, and Simmie-Sammie came puffing along far behind, but doing his best.

Of course you don't need to be told who won the race. Rabbits can run faster any day than a seven-year-old girl. They were soon out of sight, springing over the Mill Brook and bounding along through the bushes, only to cross the brook again higher up, and go back to their corral.

Pittysing and Simmie-Sammie had to stop and rest a while, for they were out of breath, and their faces were pretty near purple after such a chase.

Then they went home to tell their mother and father about it, and coax their father to set a trap and catch a rabbit for a pet.

"Oh, how I would love one!" cried Pittysing, clasping her hands and skipping excitedly from one foot to the other. "We could build a little house for him in the dooryard, and we'd be so GOOD to him he couldn't help getting tame."

The next day was rainy, so the children stayed in the house; but the day after, their mother wanted the trowel to fix a flower bed, and they went to look for that and the broken shovel.

"I'm glad *I* didn't break that shovel," said Pittysing. "If you hadn't been trying to show off, Simmie-Sammie, you'd have found a soft spot to set your tree, and it wouldn't have been broken at all."

"Did *I* want to play Arbor Day?" demanded Simmie-Sammie. "No, I never! I wanted to catch that shiny little gween snake, an' take him home to show mamma, but you wouldn't! An' then he went an' slided himself under the stone wall, where I can't ever catch him. If you hadn't maked me play Arbor Day, I wouldn't bweaked the shovel—so it's all your fault."

When they crossed the brook and came to the pasture hillside, there wasn't any trowel there, nor any shovel, either. The children hunted around for some time, but had to go back home without them.

Their mother used the mixing spoon and butcher knife to fix her flower bed, and told them that if they carried things off again without asking, and lost them, they would have to pay for them out of their own money.

But the next time they went down to the Mill Brook, what do you think was the first thing they saw? The trowel, lying on the barrel-top table. And there, under the table, was the fire shovel, all mended, just as strong and nice as ever.

Shandle-Spinx had mended it, for he said, "It was too bad for their happy little game to be stopped, and I'm so glad they didn't spoil all our houses I shall at least mend the shovel for them."

You think Zipzang was a bright little Dapperling to save their village by stampeding the rabbits, don't you? Well, so do I.

The Dapperlings play a cute trick on the children while blueberrying. Read it in May COMFORT.

Churning by Dogs Under Fire

SO much that has been told about the war appeals to lovers of animals, more especially the dogs and horses, but the story told by a recent visitor to the war base is of much interest. Outside many cottages in northern France a wheel some six feet in diameter may be seen fixed into the wall, the purpose of which seems rather puzzling, even after one has seen a lurcher like dog enter it and in squirrel fashion set it continually revolving for about an hour. At the other end of the wheel's axle, inside the dwelling-room, a churn is fixed, which is filled with milk every morning, and always at the same moment the dog arrives, steps into the wheel, causes it to revolve its needful hour, steps out when the hour is ended, and goes his way to play like other dogs, leaving the family to enjoy the fruits of his labors when they return in the evening.

One morning, so the story goes, man began to show his intelligence by pouring a hail of shells on the village, stripping the roofs from the cottages or converting them into little mounds of ruins. The inhabitants fled precipitately, in too great terror to affix the churns to the wheels. But that made no difference to the dogs, nor did they consider that the shells concerned them at all. Punctually to their hour they stepped into the wheels and began to turn them. At a corner of the market place three such wheels were visible. A dog was in each of them when the action was at its height, and the houses were crumbling about the men who were endeavoring to defend them. But the brave dogs went on as though the hurly-burly were no concern of theirs. The fragments of a shell struck one of the wheels and all but put it out of action, a splinter of spoke acting as a brake against a wall. The dog stopped in amazement at so unexampled a circumstance, and then, seeing the other dogs still at work, set himself to overcome his difficulty and succeeded presently by a succession of bounds in making his cargo rotate uncertainly. A shrapnel bullet hit him while thus engaged, and he collapsed without a groan on the floor of his wheel. A few moments later one of the other houses was hit and the dog and wheel disappeared under the debris.

The third dog completed his churning, trotted out of his wheel and nothing more was seen of him.

Muzzles for cats during night hours are proposed by Assemblyman Savage of Meriden, Conn. Mrs. Annie Muller of the humane society protests that they will hang themselves.

Bulk or Package For Economy and Health

By Prof. H. Crawford Burgess

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

HOW many times we hear people—who do not know what they are talking about, nor give serious thought to the subject—say, "This high cost of living is all on account of paying for tins and paper boxes and fancy wrappers."

It is not my purpose to discuss the high cost of living in this brief article, but I will say that there is no truth in the claim that package goods have increased this cost. Economic conditions such as the cost of labor, machinery, transportation and many other things of that nature have, it is true, caused some increase in prices.

However, when it comes to the difference between bulk goods and package goods I can only say that there is a very, very little difference in the cost of them and that such increase in cost is more than ten times offset in one item alone—*"clean living!"* which means health to say nothing of the saving on doctor's bills.

I remember and some of my readers may also remember, when nearly everything came in bulk. Tom, Dick and Harry came into the store and reached into the cracker barrel and took one. What was the condition of his hand? What had he been handling? His hand brushed against other crackers. We carry more germs on our hands than anywhere else.

Now look at our crackers—in damp-proof, dust, dirt and germ proof packages—absolutely pure and sanitary.

Would you go back to the old bulk style?

You can get oatmeal in bulk a little cheaper than in the package, not much, but perhaps a penny cheaper on enough for twenty breakfasts. "Boy, bring in a sack of oatmeal!" And the boy does. He drags it across the storeroom floor and the grocery floor and the dust gets through the mesh of the sack and he dips the scoop into the sack up to his wrist—he's just been currying down the horse—and weighs out what you want. And you've saved almost a cent in a week.

Or you can have your breakfast cereal handed to you in a cardboard carton, lined with prepared paper through which no dirt or dust or liquid can percolate. It is absolutely clean and healthy and you are not taking a chance!

Will you have the man claw out several handsful of dried apples from a barrel, or will you have them in a neat clean package? Remember he has to claw into them in bulk with his nails. Not pretty talk, but think it over.

It is just such examples as these, and I would name them by the hundred, that explain what I mean when I say that package goods mean clean living.

You can buy a certain brand of "maple syrup" in bulk. It is a little cheaper than the good syrup that comes in bottles or tins with screw tops bearing the producer's name. But how about it? Are you sure of it? If you don't like it who's to blame? Not your grocer. He couldn't test everything. And there's another point in favor of package goods—the maker's name is on them. And you do not think a manufacturer is going to put out an inferior lot of goods and stick his name on it, do you? Certainly not. That isn't good business, and if it isn't good business it means a loss and our manufacturers are not in business for loss.

If by any chance you get inferior goods in package you take it back and your dealer will make it right and then your dealer will communicate with the manufacturer and say, "Look here, are you trying to spoil my business? A good customer of mine brought back this package I am sending you. Look it over and let me know if I may expect any more of that poor quality. If so I'll get another brand."

And the manufacturer will make good because he lives solely by such men as your alert provision dealer. If the dealer cannot satisfy his customers with one brand he'll get another. All these things happen and the result is that practically all of our standard goods, whether in tin cans, tin boxes, glass bottles, glass jars, crocks cardboard boxes or any other form of package, are so well known that we are absolutely sure of them.

"Send me over two packages of so-and-so's gelatine," you telephone. Why? Because you know all about it. If you ordered it by bulk you would say, "is it good?" and then you wouldn't be sure until you tried it. And when you've got your gelatine in the mould and trying to make it clear and harden and it won't, it's no time and in no condition to exchange.

Go into your own store—I take it for granted that you deal with reliable people—and pick out any of the package goods. Did you ever find any impurities, any dust, dirt or any foreign matter or any spoiled goods in boxes, bottles, cans and jars?

I don't believe you will find anything like that twice in a lifetime. Remember that in these days machinery takes the place of hands and fingers. Machinery mills the grain and rolls it and puts it in ovens to be cured and fills and seals the packages and no hands have touched it and no germs are in it. Besides, many kinds of food deteriorate rapidly and sooner or later spoil if exposed, as bulk goods are, to dampness, air and insect pests.

And when you come to think of it, this plan of putting goods up in packages that are germ proof is only following, or copying nature. The banana is in a germ-proof package, its skin. The shell of the nut is its germ proof package. The husks of the corn are germ proof, air and moisture proof. Why not, then be as careful as Mother Nature in putting up our food?

You may buy some goods in bulk and thereby save a few dollars in a whole year. And the chances are you may get some impurities, adulteration or disease germs in it that will make you ill and your doctor's bill and loss of time, to say nothing of your suffering, will be quite a heavy sacrifice for your attempted economy.

Where's the profit?

To sum it up, this question of bulk versus package, I would say that the package way is the clean way and the clean way is the health way and the health way is long life, true economy and real thrift.

Goods today cannot be distributed expeditiously, safely, cleanly and satisfactorily except in the package way. Do not allow anyone to tell you that the package way is not economical. It is the safest, surest, most comfortable and truly the sanest way to buy your goods.

Among Homes of Rich

Mrs. C. J. Walker, an Indianapolis negress, who has acquired enormous wealth through sale of an advertised preparation, has bought a $75,000 lot in the most exclusive section of Long Island.

The lot is opposite property formerly occupied by Helen Gould and close to a mansion owned by John D. Rockefeller. Mrs. Walker's income is said to be in the neighborhood of $200,000 a year.



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

The Newly Hatched Chick

THE coming year's success depends largely on the number of chicks which can be carried through from hatching time to the eighth week in vigorous health. It is the chick that grows in frame and vitality during these first weeks, that makes the heavy layer and the plump table bird later in life. It is estimated that not seventy-five per cent of the chickens hatched on the general farm live to be four weeks old, even when hens are being used to do the incubating and brooding, and not more than fifty per cent when incubators and brooders are being used, and it is due solely to the want of knowledge on the part of the person who has them in charge. Given a hundred chicks from eggs laid by healthy birds, and hatched in an incubator which has been properly operated, the losses should not exceed five per cent.

It must be understood that the first two weeks are the really critical time in a chick's life. If they get stunted or upset during that time no amount of care afterwards can counteract the damage done to their constitutions. Of course, the first consideration in caring for incubator chickens is the brooder. The continuous house, heated by hot water pipes and divided into small runs with a hover in each, is the one employed in large poultry plants, and is undoubtedly



PORTABLE HOVER—CAN BE USED IN HOME-MADE COOP.

the best, but such a brooder house is expensive to erect, and not practical for a small poultry keeper. Next comes the outdoor colony brooder with two compartments, in one of which is a hover heated by a lamp. The outer, or exercise compartment is warmed only by the air from the hover compartment, and so, of course, is much cooler than the hover compartment, but still warm enough for baby chicks to play in during the coldest weather. Such brooders are complete in themselves, being thoroughly stormproof, and can be placed in any convenient sheltered place. They cost from nine to fifteen dollars.

Next in order comes what is known as the portable hover—a metal, drumlike affair, heated by a lamp, and which costs about six dollars, and is very convenient, because it can be used in any homemade coop.

Last of all comes the fireless brooder, several makes of which are now on the market, and range in price from two and a half to five dollars, but they can be made at home for about fifty cents each, when empty cases can be had from the grocery store, or a dollar if lumber has to be brought.

The first requisite is a box two feet square and seven inches deep, with a lid at least five inches deep. Or if you can get two strong boxes the same size, which are six or seven inches deep, take off the lids, and use one of the bottoms as a lid. Put two hinges at the back, and a hook and eye at the front. Cut a hole three inches square in the center of the front for the chicks to run in and out of. At both ends of the lid or top box, make half inch holes three inches apart and an inch from the top. Then make a frame to fit inside the box and rest on the cleats; cover it with burlap, and then cut a long strip of felt, flannel, old blanket, or any soft woolen material. It does not matter so much what it is so long as it is warm and woolly. It should be about four inches wide. Make cuts one inch apart the entire length, leaving about half an inch as a heading. Then stitch the fringed material to the burlap, commencing in the center of the frame and going round and round, the rows to be about an inch apart. At first, put the frame on to the cleats in the lower part of the brooder, with the fringed material hanging down, to make a comfortable covering for the chicks. After the babies are about two weeks old, the frame must be put on to the frame in the top part of the box, which will lift the ends of the material about three inches from the floor of the brooder.

At first, when the screen is in the lower part of the brooder, fold a piece of cotton batting and fit carefully over it, filling in the entire space to the edge of the box. In the top half, put a layer of excelsior about an inch and a half deep, then fill in with cotton batting to the edge. The burlap on the frame being porous, and the cotton batting ditto, allows a perfect system of ventilation from the front opening to the holes in the top part of the brooder. Of course, when the frame is moved to the top part of the brooder, some of the cotton batting has to be removed, but by that time the chicks have grown considerably, and furnish a great deal more animal heat than they did at first.

After the babies are about four weeks old, it is well to take out the frame with the fringed woolen material attached, and use another frame covered with burlap, which is to keep the cotton batting in place.

Before using the brooder, give it a coat of whitewash, and cover the floor with sweepings from the haymow, or finely cut hay, to make a warm carpet for the chicks to stand on. Of course, such brooders should be well housed in a light, dry place. A good coop can be made out of a piano box or large dry-goods box. A piano box can usually be got for about two dollars from any store that sells pianos, and will, with the addition of a couple of small windows and paint or roofing paper, make it water proof. It makes a good house in which to keep two or three such small brooders, or the same number of portable lamp heated hovers.

If the weather is still cold, the room or coop in which the fireless brooder is being used must be heated in some way, otherwise the chicks will become chilled when they run out to feed and take exercise which is necessary for their health. If the coop being used is an ordinary colony size, three by six, and not more than two and one half feet high, a good-sized lantern will heat it to about sixty degrees, which is the right temperature for little chicks to play in. Keep the floor of the coop covered to the depth of four or five inches with sweepings from the haymow, or finely chopped hay. Be careful that the material used is always clean and dry. Never under any circumstances use anything that is in the least mouldy or musty, for the spores which cause several deadly diseases are bred in mould.

If an outdoor brooder or portable hover is to be used, light the lamp and get the temperature under the hover up to 90 degrees with a moderate flame, at least a day before the chicks are to be put into it, so that you can be sure that the lamp is running evenly. A thermometer comes with all such brooders and hovers, so it is easy to regulate the heat. When chicks are put into the hover, the heat from their bodies will run up the temperature to 100—perhaps more—but don't alter the flame of the lamp. The chicks can push their heads out of the curtain which encloses the hover, and get cool air if they need it, so there is no danger of their being overheated if the lamp is properly adjusted to keep the empty hover at 90 degrees.

When the hatch is all over in the incubator, take out the trays, eggshells and any moisture pans which may have been used, and leave the chicks in the machine for twenty-four hours before moving them to the brooder. If the incubator has side ventilators, they can be opened to their full extent; if not, the door of their machine can be fixed so that there is the tiniest space for ventilation if the heat goes above 101. If the brooders have been used before, they should be disinfected as advised for incubators in last month's COMFORT.

Now, having the chicks housed, we must consider the feed and care for the tiny creatures. Always remember, in looking after chicks, that they are infants, and as sensitive to cold, neglect or improper feeding as a human baby. You know that when a baby is clean, warm and well fed, it will be contented and happy, but let anything go wrong with it, and it squirms and cries. Well, it is just the same with chicks. Go into a brooder house in the evening, when they are settled down for the night, and if everything is all right, they will be lying stretched out, and you will hear little twittering sounds of perfect content. If the brooder is not warm enough, or the day's food has contained anything irritating, they will be standing up, huddled together, and uttering sharp little sounds, which are unmistakable cries of trouble. Cultivate the habit of noticing such signs, and be guided by them, for a happy chick is a healthy chick, and a healthy chick makes a profitable bird.

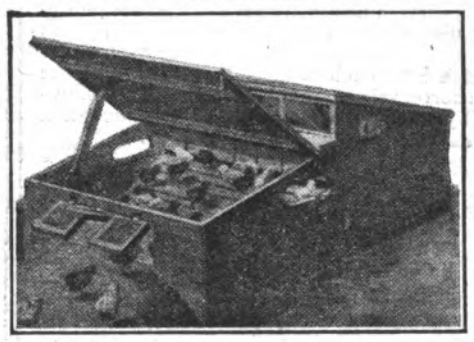
Chicks must have nothing to eat for the first thirty-six hours, for just before they break their shell, the remaining part of the yolk is drawn into the chick's body, and must have time to digest and be assimilated before any other food is introduced, or the digestive organs will be overtaxed, and bowel trouble is likely to result.

If chicks are put into a compartment brooder, shut the small door which communicates with the outer compartment, and keep them confined to the compartment where the hover is, for the first two days. If the portable hover is being used, stand it in a box, or make a screen of cardboard or fine mesh wire, about three inches wider all round the hover, so that the chicks can come from under the curtain and have that small space to play in, yet not be able to wander off into cold corners, as they are apt to do before they have learned to accept the hover as home.

With the fireless box hover, make some sort of a small enclosure in front of the opening, and gently shoo them back into the box every hour or so, for there is no warmth to attract them to this kind of a hover, and it is wise to do some little teaching of this sort, even with a heated hover, especially at bedtime, for there is always danger of some foolish little fellows getting sleepy, and forgetting which way they ought to go.

The fireless brooder of the dimensions given will accommodate fifty chicks for two weeks, and twenty-five after that age. But remember that it takes at least twenty-five chickens the first week to make such a "mother" warm enough to keep them comfortable as it depends entirely upon the animal heat from their bodies.

As soon as they are placed in a brooder, scatter some fine gravel or very finely cracked poultry grit. I like the gravel that is sold for caged birds for the first two or three days, as it is bright, and attracts the little fellows to pick it up, and in ths way they get the material that is needed to enable the gizzard to grind feed when it is given to them. After the thirty-six hours' fast, put a small pan of sour skim-milk before them, and, to teach them how to feed, pick up one or two and dip their bills into the milk. If a few commence to eat, the others will follow suit. Of course the milk, like the water that is given to chickens, must be in dishes that are partly covered to prevent them getting into it. For the sour milk, we use small fruit saucers, with a strip of board put across the top, so that



OUTDOOR BROODER WITH TWO COMPARTMENTS—HOVER IN ROOM.

there is only a small opening left on each side of the dish.

At the end of half an hour, the milk is taken away, and two hours later they have their first real food, which consists of stale bread which has been dried in the oven and put through a meat chopper. One cup of this is mixed with two eggs which have been boiled hard, cooled, and chopped, shell and all. About one third of the mixture is poured along a narrow board and given to fifty chicks. If any is left at the end of half an hour, it is removed. The following day, sour milk and the above mash is alternated at intervals of two hours. After that, the sour milk is left before them all the time, the mash given in small quantities every two hours.

On the fourth day they have water given them for the first time. The fountain is left in the coop for half an hour in the morning, and the same length of time at about 2 p. m., and a little rolled oats, which has been broken fine, is scattered on the floor of the coop.

The fifth and sixth days are the same as the fourth, except that the dish of water is left before them all the time. After the sixth day we commence to use rolled oats instead of the dry bread in the mash, and liver or lean meat which has been parboiled, gradually takes the place of the egg, and chick feed is scattered on floor three times a day. All these changes must be accomplished very gradually from the sixth to the twenty-eighth day, and, of course, the quantity given must be increased, for chicks are very fast growers. In fact, there is no young creature, except squabs, that grows so rapidly during the first two weeks of its life, as a chicken, and for this reason, chicks require an abundance of easily digested, nutritious food, and to keep the digestive system in proper working order, it must be supplied in small quantities very frequently.

After the fourth day, never leave mash before them more than fifteen minutes at a time, and don't make more than is needed for one day at a time, or it may sour and cause trouble; besides which, if it is left before them all the time, they will have no inducement to scratch and hunt for the chick feed.

From the fourth to the eighth week, we keep a dry mash before them all the time in self-feeding hoppers, for they will not eat this as greedily as they do the soft mash. Give them all the fresh green stuff they will eat at noon. Young Alfalfa and clover leaves are good. If you have neither, use the green sprouts of oats.

The dry mash is the same as that used at the New Jersey Experiment Station, and is composed of the following grains:

Wheat bran, 50 pounds; gluten feed, 10 pounds; corn-meal, 10 pounds; ground oats, 10 pounds, meat scraps, 10 pounds; dry ground bone, 10 pounds.

The Great Value of Skim-Milk

I wish to call special attention to the value of sour skim-milk in baby chick feeding. Sour milk is very palatable; it also contains much food value in its casein, which is a form of protein or nitrogen. The greatest benefit, however, lies in its disinfecting qualities. The lactic acid present kills and prevents the multiplication of intestinal bacteria. White diarrhea is one of the most dangerous of these forms. In order to get the greatest benefit from sour skim-milk it should be given the youngsters to drink from the very first day, being given in a closed vacuum fountain, so that the chicks cannot get their feathers soiled with it. It should be changed daily and the vessel kept perfectly clean. Experiments conducted at the Connecticut Experiment Station have proven its great value. Experiments conducted at the New Jersey Station show that where sour milk is used as mentioned, the percentage of mortality was very materially reduced over pens that did not receive it. Also the skim-milk chicks made a gain in weight of over 28 per cent more than those receiving no milk. Since these conclusive tests it is needless to say that we are feeding skim-milk (sour) to all of our young chicks during the brooding period with the greatest success.

Wheat Bran a Valuable Chick Feed

Wheat bran is a valuable adjunct to the chick ration. It is especially palatable and rich in protein. It has a high ash content (phosphoric acid) and is fairly bulky, which makes it useful to mix with finer and more concentrated feeds. Wheat bran aids digestion through the presence of a ferment "diastase" which it contains, and is mildly laxative.

Provide Plenty of Ash for Bone

The chick during its early growth makes bone rapidly; for this reason plenty of ash must be provided. Extensive experiments show the great value of bone in ration. Dry granulated bone contains about twenty-five per cent of phosphoric acid, and about the same amount of protein, and can be secured by the hundred pounds for a little over two dollars.

The same series of experiments showed conclusively the great need of animal material in the ration for growing chicks. Flocks fed moderate quantities of meat scrap made by far the greatest and fastest gains, and were much healthier than flocks from which all animal material was withheld. The food nutrients from animal sources seem in practise to be more readily available than the same nutrients from vegetable sources. Large quantities of meat or concentrated animal protein feeds should not be fed, especially early in the brooding period, as the forcing which results is apt to cause a relatively high mortality.

Plenty of green feed in the form of lettuce leaves, sprouted oat tops, green clover or Alfalfa, must be supplied. Such material is termed succulence, carrying as it does, a high water content. It adds to the palatability of the ration, making it more digestible and keeping the chicks hungry and healthy.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

G. G. S.—There are two varieties of Muscovy ducks. The colored ones are glossy black and white; the head and neck slightly more black than white. The back, breast and body, lustrous blue black, sometimes broken by a few white feathers. The face red and crinkled, like a turkey's neck. The White Muscovy is all white, with the same kind of red face. They are handsome birds; weigh about ten pounds when full grown, but not so good for egg production or table use as the Indian Runners and Pekins. Their habits are the same as those of other ducks.

A. W. S.—Raising only twenty-five chickens from three hundred is indeed dreadful. I am inclined to think that instead of pip, the chickens had brooder pneumonia, and that the dry, hard tongue was caused by the feverish breath passing over it. The spores which cause this disease are sometimes present in the egg before it is hatched. Eggs that have been laid in dirty nests or in mouldy material become contaminated through the shell. Incubators and brooders which have been put away at the end of the season without being thoroughly cleansed, or which have been stored in a damp place, are likely to be infested with aspergillus fungii, the spores of which are inhaled by the chicks, and may affect the eggs in an incubator. Always disinfect incubators and brooders after each hatch. (See March number of COMFORT.) Doctoring is of no value if the disease once develops. The only course is to prevent an outbreak, by cleaning, scrubbing and disinfecting everything, and being extremely careful that the hay sweepings, or whatever is used for bedding on the floor of the brooder, is perfectly sweet and free from mould and dust. If the young turkeys are with turkey hens, give them nothing but sour milk, as they will pick up plenty of food for themselves on range. If they are with common hens, apply the methods recommended this month for the first week of a chicken's life, only give nothing but sour milk for three days.

M. P.—I am glad to be considered a friend by our COMFORT readers, and to help them with their poultry problems whenever I can. Personally, I prefer White Wyandottes, and think them the best general purpose fowl. But if you prefer colored birds, Rhode Island Reds or Plymouth Rocks are equally good layers and table birds. Better get the two settings of eggs from different breeders, and use the cockerels from one setting to mate with the pullets from the other, and the following year mate the old roosters with their daughters, and the young cockerels to the old hens.

J. M. T.—Possibly the chicken-house is draughty, and the chickens get cold in their eyes when on the roost. As all colds are likely to develop into roup, which is contagious, you should separate the sick birds from the rest of the flock, and shut them up in a separate coop. Clean and disinfect the chicken-house and everything in it. Dissolve one teaspoonful of permanganate of potassium in a quart of water, and for use dilute one tablespoonful with three of water. Bathe the sick bird's head, face and eyes with it twice a day. Feed lightly on nourishing food. Stale bread soaked in milk and squeezed dry is good.

O. S. F.—All imported drugs have gone up so much in prices during the last year, that I advise you to depend on ordinary sour milk. To hasten the souring process, we use liquid rennet.

L. H. R.—The turkey is suffering from pip. The hard scales can be pulled off if the point of a wooden skewer or some such instrument is used. After it is removed, rub the tongue twice a day with a mixture of honey and borax. Repeat three or four days, and feed soft food. Administer a dose of Epsom salts two mornings in succession. About twenty-five grains will be right for a full-grown turkey. Also read answer to A. W. S.

H. H.—Young turkeys must not be allowed to run on the ground where other poultry is in the habit of congregating, and they must be free from lice and mites. When common hens are doing the hatching, it is well to put them on china eggs in a small coop, take them off the nest every night, and dust them thoroughly with insect powder. After three or four good treatments they can be removed to another clean coop, and given the turkey eggs. Powder them thoroughly once every week while they are sitting and brooding. Read latter part of the answer to A. W. S.

M. Y. S.—As you are sure the original brood of turkeys were not related, you can use the young gobbler this year. I don't like to use turkeys for breeding that are less than a year old. Turkeys commence to lay as soon as the weather gets warm in the spring, lay a clutch of eggs and then get broody just as a common hen does. If they are not allowed to set, they will commence to lay again in two or three weeks, but they seldom lay as many eggs in the second clutch. I can't account for the soft-shelled eggs, unless the bird was old or out of condition. The young turkeys dying in the shell might have meant want of vitality, or an old hen leaving her nest just at hatching time. I like well-matured birds for breeders. We have one White Holland turkey who is eight years old. She laid forty-seven eggs last year, all of which hatched. A gobbler may be useful for ten years, but I never keep one after the fifth year. If gobblers and hens are on free range, there should be about ten hens to one gobbler. If, however, the gobbler is kept in a yard during the breeding season, a fresh hen can be turned in to him every morning, and in this way you can mate twenty or thirty hens to a gobbler. Read the poultry department in the February and March numbers of COMFORT. It would help you about incubator chicks dying in the shell.

L. M. W.—Your objection to the non-freezing water fountain, which I described in one of the early winter issues of COMFORT, has not been met by us, but we fill up the drinking vessels with warm water three times a day during cold weather.

F. F.—There are many reasons for feeding mash in the morning and whole corn at night. First, mash is more quickly digested, and sustains the nervous system of the bird during the hours when they are taking active exercise. Second; birds should never have more than half a feed of such concentrated material as ground corn, or they will become too fat, and at night they want a full feed. If this is moist mash, it becomes cold in the crop, and the birds are uncomfortable during the night. Whole corn, on the other hand, generates heat. We always mix a little small grain, such as wheat, Kafir corn or oats, with the corn which is fed broadcast on the litter in the poultry house. The corn being large, is picked up at once, and the birds go to roost with a full crop, and are kept comfortable all night, and when they get up in the morning, there is something to scratch for, which insures them taking active exercise that will set the blood in curculation and tone them up for the whole day.

N. B.—I was very much interested in reading your letter, but unfortunately the want of space will prevent our publishing it.

(Editor's Note.) Several correspondents have asked for catalogues and books on raising poultry. We have no such material to circulate. If you want any help or information, I shall be very pleased to give it if you will write, stating what it is you wish to know.

SUNSWICK BUFF ORPINGTONS



have been bred for many years to produce type, color, size and heavy egg production. Sunswick Buffs have demonstrated their quality by hundreds of winnings at America's leading shows.

PRICES
Special Sale of Cockerels—Excellent Breeders—
$3, $5 and $10 each
Hatching Eggs—$3, $5
$10 and $20 per Setting. $15 per 100
Baby Chicks, 50c. each.
Send today for Catalog and Mating List
SUNSWICK POULTRY FARM, Rufus Delafield, Owner
Box D, South Plainfield, N. J.

PIGEONS PAY
Better Than Chickens
Young pigeons (squabs) bring 40 to 60c each when 3 to 4 weeks old. Big demand in city markets. Each pair of pigeons easily clear $4 per year. Always penned up. Very little space and money needed to start. Free Book explains all.
MAJESTIC SQUAB CO., Dept. 65, ADEL, IOWA.
FREE BOOK

150 EGG Incubator and 150 Chick Brooder Both for $11
Made of California Redwood, covered with asbestos and galvanized iron, copper tanks, double walls, self-regulating, complete, ready for use. 30 days trial. Money back if not O.K. Order direct. Catalog free.
Ironclad Incubator Co., Box 21 Racine, Wis.
Freight paid east of Rockies

Hackett's GAPE CURE
It's a powder. Chicks inhale the dust. Whole brood treated at once. Money back if it fails. Package 35c. postpaid. Safe, Simple, Certain. Address HACKETT'S GAPE CURE CO., HILLSBORO, Md., Dept. A.

POULTRY and SQUABS for PROFIT
Write for Foy's Big Book FREE—an encyclopedia of poultry information—written by a man who knows. Leading varieties of poultry and pigeons in natural colors. Low prices on fowls and eggs. FRANK FOY, Box 5, Clinton, Iowa.

130-Egg Incubator and Brooder Both $10
Freight Paid East of Rockies
Hot water; double walls; copper tank; best construction. Write for free catalog.
Wisconsin Incubator Co., Box 16 Racine, Wis.

SQUAB BOOK FREE
Make money breeding PR squabs. 1917 prices highest on record. Squab book free, telling money-making experiences. How to sell by parcel post. $6 to $8 doz. Write at once. PLYMOUTH ROCK SQUAB CO., 206 HOWARD ST., MELROSE HIGHLANDS, MASSACHUSETTS.

PFILE'S 66 VARIETIES
farm-raised Land and Water-Fowls. Eggs in season. Incubators. Illus. Catalog and "Grower's Guide," 2c. An honest deal. Write today. HENRY PFILE, Farmer-Poultryman, Box 644, Freeport, Ill.

Tells why chicks die
E. J. Reefer, the poultry expert, 004 Reefer Bldg., Kansas City, Mo., is giving away free a valuable book entitled, "White Diarrhoea and How to Cure it." This book contains scientific facts on white diarrhoea and tells how to prepare a simple home solution that cures this terrible disease over night and actually raises 90 per cent of every hatch. All poultry raisers should certainly write Mr. Reefer for one of these valuable FREE books.

SMYTH'S 60 INCUBATOR
ALL STEEL
ON 30 DAYS' FREE TRIAL $3.92
HOLDS FULL 60 EGGS



To quickly popularize SMYTH'S All Steel 60 Egg Incubator, we will sell 5,000 at only $3.92 each. Guaranteed to hatch as large a per cent of strong, healthy chicks as any incubator made, regardless of name, make or price. Made of polished steel; with double walled air chamber, 1917 improved disc regulator, tattletale thermometer visible through glass damper, best safety metal lamp, heat distributing drum around outer edges, water jacketed heat flue and automatic heat regulation insuring even temperature and moisture in every part of egg chamber, and proper heat to eggs all the time. Full directions with each incubator. SEND $1.00 deposit and we will send you this high-grade, latest improved SMYTH'S all steel 60 egg incubator by express, subject to examination. Pay balance $2.92 and express charges to agent after you find the incubator perfectly satisfactory and the greatest incubator bargain in the world, then take it home and TRY IT 30 DAYS at our risk and if you do not find it as good a hatcher as you ever saw or heard of, regardless of price or make, or if for any reason you are dissatisfied, return at our expense and we will refund your $3.92 and freight charges. If you want incubator sent by PARCEL POST send $3.92 and enough money extra to pay the parcel post postage and we'll send on same liberal trial offer as above. Shipping weight 19 lbs. We make very low prices on larger incubators, brooders, and poultry supplies of all kinds in our big free Incubator Catalog sent you free upon request. Order incubator or catalog today.
JOHN M. SMYTH MDSE CO. 703-717 Wash-ington Blvd. CHICAGO

If I Send You this Suit



made to your measure, in the latest style, would you be willing to keep and wear it, show it to your friends and let them see our beautiful samples and dashing new styles.

Could you use $5.00 a day for a little spare time? Perhaps I can offer you a steady job. If you will write me a letter or a postal card at once and say *"Send me your special offer,"* I will send you samples and styles to pick from and my surprising liberal offer.

Address: L. E. ASHER, President
BANNER TAILORING CO. DEPT. 567, CHICAGO



Catch Fish, Eels, Mink and Muskrat in large quantities SURE-with the new, folding, galvanized STEEL WIRE TRAP Catches them like a fly-trap catches flies. All sizes. Parcel post or express. Write for price list of fishermen's specialties and booklet on best fish bait ever known. Agents wtd.
WALTON SUPPLY CO., K-61, St. Louis, Mo.



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
A toilet preparation of merit.
Helps to eradicate dandruff.
For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair.
50c. and $1.00 at druggists.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

dens on to somebody else and that someone else is usualy trying to do the very same thing we are trying to do. If the whip of necessity didn't lash humanity into action most humans would lie down and die of indolence. Environment has a great deal to do with the individual and national character. Take the Scotch and Irish for instance. They are as the poles apart. The Scotch have to hustle like the deuce to get a living out of their rocky and barren soil, and they have a climate that is inclined to be rigorous, a climate that keeps them alert and active. The Irishman has a rich soil and plenty of warmth and moisture. He can smoke his pipe while the soil works for him. He has plenty of time to play and dream while the Scotchman hasn't. The Irish climate is conducive to emotion rather than motion. Unless motion and emotion are nicely balanced there is bound to be abnormal results. Thus it is that the Irishman is a little too emotional and the Scotchman not emotional enough. Buckle in his History of Civilization discusses this matter very interestingly. If you don't want to take music lessons Dorothy, for heaven's sake cut music out. The tasks we have to be driven to do should never be forced upon us, not in childhood at least. Only children who love music should be taught music. We have to suffer enough agony in this world without being forced to listen to the hideous racket fond parents force their unmusical children to spring on poor, unsuspecting visitors who are compelled to listen while Mary Jane or John Henry stumble over their one and only half memorized piece, and oh, what an awful piece it usually is! Dorothy, remember the work of the world has to be done by somebody, and you have positively got to do your share. Some day when we get civilized everyone will have his allotted task to do and he will have to do it. Those who won't work will have to starve, for the charity that keeps the poor contented and the lazy alive, has been a curse all through the ages, and it is a curse of which we shall rid ourselves as soon as justice dawns on the earth. Until that day comes Dorothy I will arrange with Billy the Goat to supply you with some energizing pills, the chief ingredients of which are ambition, hard work, efficiency and stick-at-iveness. Take one of these pills every hour twice a day in water and see the water is not over your head, for its dangerous for lazy people to get into deep water.

GOLCONDA, ILL.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have been a reader of COMFORT and also a member of the "League of Cousins" for several years. Although I know I have been a very unworthy cousin, I do certainly enjoy your editorials and replies. It seems to me almost impossible for a person afflicted as you are to hold onto your fun and humor and do such a noble work as you are doing. I am well and strong but it doesn't take much pain and sorrow to drive away my sunny disposition. I am a farmer and a farmer's son. Have lived here on a bluff overlooking the Ohio river all my life almost. It is a grand view, but rather an inconvenient place to get at.

I would rather farm than anything else, for I like farming. I have farmed in Missouri and now my father has purchased an island fifteen miles below Cario which I intend to farm. I have dark hair and eyes, am five feet eight inches short, weigh one hundred and sixty pounds, am twenty-three old and single. The best way to be as long as a fellow has a home.

May God bless you in your work. Give my love to Maria and Billy the Goat.

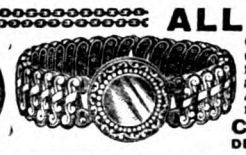
I have all four of your books. Yours for success,
WALTER E. DYER.

Thank you Walter, for your kind appreciation of my monthly stunt in these columns. I'm sorry I can't agree with you in the stand you take about single blessedness and hugging the family roof tree. If your father and mother had thought as you do, you probably would not be on this earth today. In a couple of years' time you ought to have a home of your own and you won't know what real life and real manhood are until you cut loose from your mother's apron strings and break away from the windward side of Pop's whiskers and seek out the girl of your choice and yourself become a homemaker. For every man that is single there is a woman denied her right to wifehood and motherhood. I would tax and tax heavily every man capable of supporting a wife, who remained single after the age of twenty-seven. If the man who remained single kept clean and virtuous, the single man would be less a menace than he is today. Menace, Uncle Charlie? I never realized a single man was a menace. Of course you didn't but a little thought will tell you that he is. There is no menace of the single man amongst savage tribes, for directly the young people are capable of reproducing their species, they have to marry. We don't want to copy savages, though we can learn even from them. We constantly hear people referring to this as a "swift age" and heaven knows it is a swift age, and getting swifter every minute. Once upon a time, and not so many years ago either, if a man wanted female companionship he had to marry. Today he can get not only companionship but practically all he wants of the opposite sex without incurring any obligations. Woman, a generation or two ago, was a thing of mystery to the average male. He stood almost in awe of the fair creature of whom he saw so little. All that is a thing of the past. Economics conditions have pushed women out of the home and made them dependent on other men for a living. Men wanted cheap labor and women supplied the need. Woman is a wage earner, but her wages are seldom sufficient to make her economically independent. So tens of thousands of women have to lean heavily upon man for support. It is among the leaners or those who have no one to lean upon, that the single man, and too often the married libertines as well, have preyed as a wolf preys on the sheepfold, and it is to better the condition of these women, and for that matter of all women—the millions who have no real homes and no protection—that I have pleaded and fought for the ballot, the most powerful instrument in the world for the uplift and betterment of all humankind. Familiarity too often breeds contempt, and now that men and women are daily rubbing shoulders in the business world, it is not to be wondered at that the old-time respect and even reverence for women, in the cities at least, is becoming a thing of the past. If there is a big fire, or a big earthquake, or anything that holds up the orderly process of law and order, out come the ghouls, the thieves and the criminals and begin to rob and loot. Woman in the ages past was man's toy and his slave, seldom his companion. Now that the struggle for existence has become so keen, and the sexes daily fight on the battlefield of life for a crust, the old animal instincts of men are ready to assert themselves, the vampires and libertines are on the job, and though all men are ready to protect their own, they are still more and more ready to prey upon those who are not their own. The average fellow will tell you that life is too uncertain and marriage too expensive a proposition for him to take a wife, so he stays single, and he and his girl chum fill the dance halls, the cabarets, the restaurants, the theaters, the movies, and they crowd the summer hotels and the beaches, and they drink alcohol as a fish swallows water, and puff cigarette smoke in each other's faces, and they go home in the small hours of the morning, or they don't go home at all, and the whole bunch of them prostrate themselves at the altar of pleasure, growing more reckless and more indifferent to the conventions every day of their lives, until disease and dissipation push them into the background; their places being immediately filled by another and

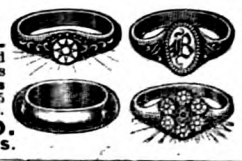
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)



ALL THESE FREE



Gold plated Locket set with im. Diamond and 22-inch Neckchain, one Gold finished Signet Extension Bracelet, fits any arm, and these 4 beautiful Rings ALL GIVEN FREE for selling only 15 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. Write today.



COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO.
DEPT. 39, EAST BOSTON, MASS.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

"Edith—what can I say to win you?" he cried, after a momentary struggle with himself. "I swear to you that I cannot—will not live without you. I will be your slave—your lightest wish shall be my law, if you will yield this point—come with me as my honored wife, and let me, by my love and unceasing efforts, try to win even your friendly regard. I know I have done wrong," he went on, assuming a tone and air of humility; "I see it now when it is too late. I ask you to pardon me, and let me atone in whatever way you may deem best. See!—I kneel—I beg—I implore!"

And suiting the action to the words, he dropped upon one knee before her and extended his hands in earnest appeal to her.

"In whatever way I may deem best you will atone?" she repeated, looking him gravely in the face. "Then make a public confession of the fraud of which you have been guilty, and give me my freedom."

"Ah, anything but that—anything but that!" he exclaimed, flushing consciously beneath her gaze.

"Your appeal was but a wretched farce—it is worse than useless—it is despicable," she said.

"Will nothing move you?" he passionately cried.

"Nothing."

"By Heaven! then I will meet you blade to blade!" he cried, furiously, and springing to his feet, his eyes blazing with passion. "If entreaties will not move you—if neither bribes nor promises will cause you to yield—we will try what lawful authority will do. I have no intention of being made the laughing stock of the world, I assure you; and, hereafter, I command that you conduct yourself in a manner becoming the position which I have given you. In the first place, then, tomorrow morning, you will breakfast in the dining-room with the family—do you hear?"

Edith had stood calmly regarding him during this speech; but, wishing him to go on, if he had anything further to say, she did not attempt to reply as he paused after the above question.

"Immediately after breakfast," he resumed, with something less of excitement, and not feeling very comfortable beneath her unwavering glance, "we shall return to the city, and the following morning you and I will start for St. Augustine, Florida—thence go to California and later to Europe."

The young girl straightened herself to her full height, and she had never seemed more lovely than at that moment.

"Monsieur Correlli," she said, in a voice that rang with an irrevocable decision, "I shall never go to Florida with you, nor yet to California, neither to Europe; I shall never appear anywhere with you in public, neither will I ever break bread with you, at any table. There, sir, you have my answer to your 'commands.' Now, let me pass."

Without waiting to see what effect her remarks might have upon him, she pushed resolutely by him and went swiftly up-stairs to her room.

The man gazed after her in undisguised astonishment.

"By St. Michael! the girl has a tremendous spirit in that slight frame of hers. She has always seemed such a sweet little angel, too—no one would have suspected it. However, there are more ways than one to accomplish my purpose, and I flatter myself that I shall yet conquer her."

With this comforting reflection, he sought his sister, to relate what had occurred, and enlist her crafty talents in planning his next move in the desperate game he was planning.

TO BE CONTINUED.

TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 60 Packages Soap Powder FREE



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only 5 doz. pkgs. of our famous washing powder FREE among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. **NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO**



If You Are A Woman Who Loves Crochet And Tatting Here Is A Set Of Books You Will Be Delighted To Own!

ANY ONE of these books alone is a veritable **treasure house** of the newest, most beautiful designs. The seven books combined form a **complete library** in which you will find any pattern in crocheting and tatting you could possibly ask for. You will fairly revel in the many handsome designs shown. There are edgings, beadings, insertions and laces for every conceivable use. The illustrations are **actual photographs** of the finished work and show every thread so plainly that they are almost as good to work from as the directions themselves. The directions are adapted for either beginner or expert. They tell **stitch by stitch** how each pattern is worked, also the quantity and size of material required and the correct sizes of hooks to be used. Following is a description of each book which is **8 by 10½ inches** in size with the exception of Volume I which is **9¼ by 12 inches. Please order by numbers and titles.**

Volume 1 contains a beautiful assortment of crocheted yokes for combinations, envelopes, nightgowns, corset covers, etc.—**fifteen** all different, exquisite patterns superbly illustrated by **photographs** with complete directions for working including quantity and size of material required, and correct size of hooks to use.

Volume 2 is a real treasure book of handsome crocheted edgings and insertions suitable for handkerchiefs, underwear, dresses and a multitude of other uses,—**thirty-three** different designs, all illustrated by **photographs** with full directions including a complete table of all the principal stitches used in crocheting and how to make them.

Volume 3 tells how to crochet Cluny laces. It contains **eighteen** lovely patterns in Cluny insertions and laces for centerpieces, library scarfs, boudoir caps, corset cover yokes, piano scarfs, curtains, chemises, envelopes or combination suits. Each pattern is illustrated by an actual **photograph** and the directions for making are full and explicit, including quantity and size of material, and size of hooks required. This book also shows all the principal crochet stitches and tells how to make them.

Volume 4 contains **twenty-five** handsome patterns in artistic crochet for yokes, boudoir caps, candle shades, baby bonnets, bedspreads, doilies, library scarfs, pillows, centerpieces, portiere medallions, curtains, etc., etc. Complete directions are given for working each and every design, including quantity and size of material and size of hooks required. The illustrations are **actual photographs,** all the principal crochet stitches are also named and full instructions given for making them.

Volume 5 consists of **twenty-five** patterns in novelty crochet, including mile-a-minute and clover leaf crocheted yokes, primrose and sunflower yokes; doilies, centerpieces, boudoir caps, unique edges and insertions for serving trays; novelty aprons and collars. Each design is illustrated by an **actual photograph** and the directions for working include a complete list of all the different crochet stitches, and how to make them.

Volume 6 is devoted entirely to tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet, containing a varied and beautiful assortment of tatted handkerchief edges, edgings, and insertions, tatted yokes, boudoir caps, towel edges, medallions; yokes, breakfast caps, centerpieces, edgings and lace in Maltese crochet and yokes in Irish crochet. The patterns are illustrated by **actual photographs** and the directions for making include the different stitches in tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet and how to them, as well as quantity and size of material and size of hooks required.

Volume 7 shows a variety of **thirty** handsome crocheted designs each one illustrated by a **photograph** of the real work showing just how the finished pieces look. There are rose, sunflower, periwinkle, and Venetian yokes; boudoir caps, monkey face library scarf and lace pillow; large and small baskets, hat pin holder, jewel box, vanity tray, coin purse, utility bag, star fish doily, pineapple centerpiece; edgings and insertions in pillow lace; daisy edging; spider, bell, rick-rack, novelty and coronation braid laces. Full directions accompany each design including quantity and size of material and size of hooks to be used, also all the principal stitches used in crochet and how to make them.

We advise you to order all seven of these splendid books before the assortment is broken, but if you do not care for the whole library at this time we have arranged the following **special offers** which give you the privilege of selecting any **two** or any **four** of the books as well as all seven of them. **When ordering however, be very careful to state the number of each book desired.**

Offer 8011A: For one 1-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8011B: For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8012: For two 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you **any four books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8013: For three 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you the **complete library** just as described above—**seven different volumes in all,** handsomely bound, printed on high-grade paper and containing nearly **200 beautiful photographic illustrations** of all that is new and pretty in crochet and tatting designs with **complete directions** for working. **When ordering please be sure to mention number of each book wanted.**

Address COMFORT Augusta, Maine.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Pocket Flashlight



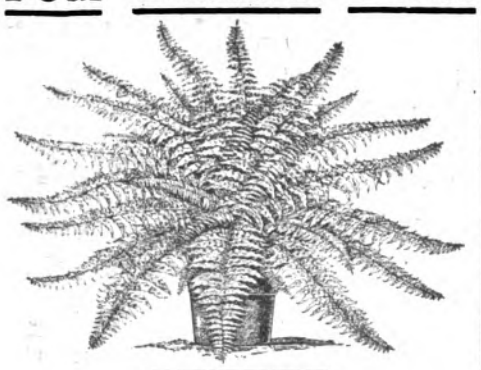
Given For A Club Of Three

THERE are so many occasions when a flashlight is a necessity it would be impossible to name them all but there is one thing sure—**it is the handiest and safest means of illuminating ever devised.** We offer here one of the best pocket flashlights made. It is known as the "Eveready," which is certainly an appropriate name as it **is** always ready when you want to use it. But the greatest feature of this flashlight is its **safety** around inflammable material. In the house it lights up the darkest rooms or clothes closets, dark corners in the basement, in the garret; it may be used around **gasoline, or powder,** in the stable, in the barn, even in the hay mow, and **there is not the slightest danger of fire.** It throws a shaft of steady brilliance right in the teeth of wind or rain. The mere pressure of your finger starts and stops the light at your will and it is so small and compact that you can carry it around **in your vest pocket** where it does not take up any more room than a cigarette box. The "Eveready" is beautifully finished in **polished nickel** with a hinged bottom which opens to replace the battery and is equipped with a push button as well as a sliding switch for a flash or continuous light. It is equipped with a Tungsten battery and bulb and gives a surprisingly powerful bright light and the battery with average use will last **from two to four months.** When one battery becomes exhausted you can easily buy another one anywhere as they are on sale in every city and town in the United States. Or, if you prefer, we will furnish you with additional batteries **free of cost** in return for a few subscriptions to COMFORT. We will send you this flashlight **with battery and bulb complete,** ready for business as soon as you receive it, upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one "Eveready" flashlight as described above free by Parcel Post prepaid. **(Premium No. 7083.)** We can also supply you with extra batteries for the "Eveready" at the rate of one battery free for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each. **(Premium No. 7092.)**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Four Beautiful Ferns



PREMIUM NO. 6112

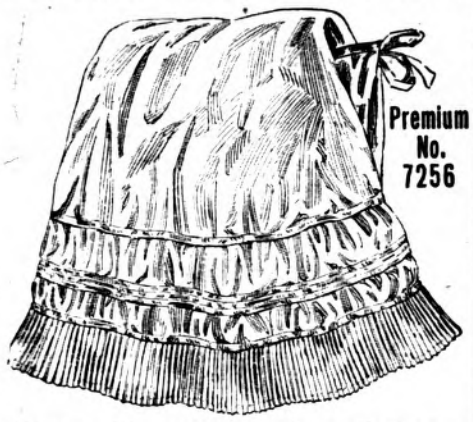
Given For Two Subscriptions

OF all indoor foliage plants, none give more **lasting pleasure and satisfaction** than these popular house ferns. They need but little care and live indefinitely, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the largest, handsomest varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt**, the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Panne Satin Petticoat



Given For Six Subscriptions

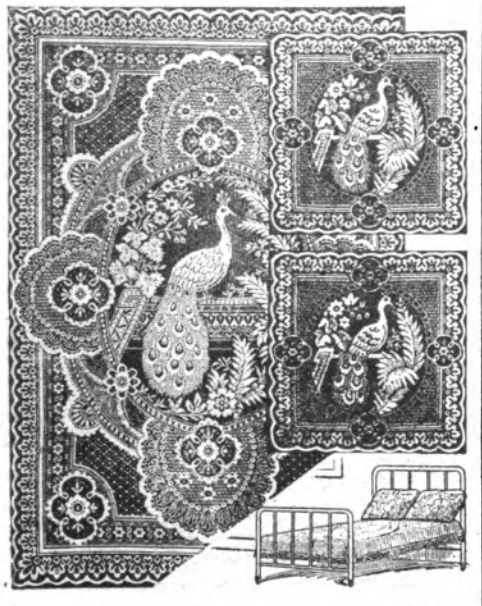
THIS is one of the best bargains we have been able to offer this season. These handsome latest style **colored** petticoats are made of finest quality mercerized **panne satin** which has all the sheen and brilliancy of the highest grade satin. They are well made in every respect with finished seams and come in a variety of different flounces one of which is shown above, but all of them are popular, up-to-date styles and will surely please the most exacting taste. We have them in colors of **green, blue and black,** and in sizes **from 36 to 44. When ordering be sure to specify size and color wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three three-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these fashionable high-grade panne satin petticoats free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention what size and color you desire. Premium No. 7256.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Three-Piece Lace Bed Set

Premium No. 5036



Yours Prepaid For A Club Of Six!

NEW PATTERNS in bed sets are constantly coming out but none has ever equalled in popularity this beautiful **peacock design** which is always desirable, extremely fashionable and something every good housewife is anxious to possess. The peacock on the spread is **very large and stately** with a graceful, natural spread of tail feathers and the same design, only smaller, appears in both shams, so that the complete set **matches perfectly** and presents a picture that is both beautiful and satisfying to look at. The spread is **full size,** measuring 85 inches long and 60 inches wide; the shams are each 28 x 32 inches, and the material is fine quality, pure white Nottingham lace which washes well and wears well. Any woman could easily pay $5.00 for a set that would please her no better than this one **which will cost you nothing** if you are willing to do us a slight favor. We will make you a present of this beautiful three-piece lace bed set in the new popular peacock design if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each we will send you this complete bed set free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5036.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

VETERINARY INFORMATION



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

GADFLY GRUBS.—Can you tell me what to do for my sheep? They have a hoarse cough. The head seems to be stopped up with a profuse discharge of mucus from the nostrils. At first they eat but little, jerk their heads, clinch their jaws together, grit their teeth, and froth at the mouth, just before they die, which is from three to five days. E. S.

A.—There is no doubt that gadfly grubs are causing the discharge and head jerking, but death seldom results from that cause alone. More likely the prolonged feeding of Timothy hay is to blame. It is poor feed for a pregnant ewe. Feed clover or Alfalfa hay, and add roots or silage and bran. Make the ewes take active exercise daily. There is no cure for the grubs but they may be prevented by smearing pine tar on the noses of the sheep in flytime in summer.

ITCHING SKIN.—My horse has some kind of a skin trouble, or else it is in his blood. It started a year ago from what I thought a foul stall. His hair came off under his front legs up near his body. He bites himself until the hair comes off in spots. He seems worse when heated. He is in fine condition. MRS. L. W.

A.—You are correct in thinking that wet and filth in the stall will start such a skin trouble. Do away with such conditions, and also have the stable light and well ventilated. Have the horse clipped and then apply to affected parts of the skin as often as found necessary a mixture of two ounces of flowers of sulphur, one half ounce of coal tar dip and one pint of cottonseed oil. Have the horse work or take active exercise every day.

CARPITIS.—My ten-year-old mule has a growth as large as a teacup on knee joint. It is as hard as bone. She limps some and her leg bends out quite a little when not in motion. Is there anything that will take this growth away or give her better use of leg? R. T. R.

A.—A bony growth (exostosis) is present and cannot be removed. Puncture-firing and blistering by a competent veterinarian might somewhat relieve the lameness. If you cannot have this done try the effects of oleate of mercury rubbed in once daily. First remove the hair.

KICKING HEIFER.—I have a heifer two years old this month. She will freshen in July. She was gentle when I put her in pasture last May. When I stabled her in October she would hook at me and if I touch her she kicks. When I clean the stable she kicks at the shovel. I can pat her back but cannot touch her stomach or udder. MRS. P. W. R.

A.—Put hobbles on the cow in a box stall and milk her or go through the motion of milking at the usual time twice daily. Perhaps a wide strap around the hind legs above hocks will suffice.

SHOE BOIL.—My horse has a shoe boil which swells up every spring and causes her to be very lame for a short time. After it discharges a while it goes down to a small bunch, about the size of an egg and does not trouble her again until the following spring. Can you tell what will remove it permanently? P. W. B.

A.—You should have the shoe boil amputated by a surgeon. This is a very simple operation. And after the wound heals the shoe boil should not return. If possible allow the horse a well-bedded box stall in the stable.

SKIN TROUBLE.—My mare has a breaking out on her shoulders where the collar works back on her sides and on top of her shoulders. The hair is off in spots and the skin is thick. She rubs herself until it bleeds. MRS. B. C.

A.—Clip the mare each spring. Meanwhile clip the hair from her belly and up to a line with the straps of the breeching and breast collar and also from the legs above knees and hocks. Every three days apply to the affected parts a mixture of two ounces of flowers of sulphur and one half an ounce of coal tar dip in a pint of cottonseed oil. If the trouble persists give one half an ounce of Fowler's solution of arsenic night and morning until about one quart has been used; then gradually discontinue the medicine, taking a week or more to the work.

GREASE HEEL.—I have a saddle horse that has something wrong with his feet. One ankle is swollen. There are rough scales along his leg. Greasy pus runs out of his heels, and he has a high fever in hock joint. Please give remedy. J. L. V.

A.—As well as we are able to judge from your meager description the horse has grease heel. Do not wash the parts but paint them once daily with fish oil. Wipe the parts clean now and then.

GARGET.—I have a fine Jersey cow seven years old that has been giving stringy, lumpy milk. One quarter of udder has lumps in it. R. J.

A.—There is no remedy, the udder having been ruined by infective mammitis (garget) and the milk is unfit for any use and the trouble liable to be spread from cow to cow by the milker's hands. Such a cow should be isolated and fed for slaughter if a tubercular test has shown that she is free from tuberculosis. It is quite possible that tuberculosis of the udder is present.

BLOODY MILK.—Please give cause and treatment for cow that gives blood out of one teat when it is milked nearly dry. (2) Give treatment for colic in horses. A. E. C.

A.—Growths in the milk duct of the teat bleed at milking time and the only possible remedy would be to have them removed by operation. If you cannot have that done dry off the milk secretion in the affected quarter. (2) There is no general remedy for colic which is of five or six different kinds. If you care to describe the symptoms of the kind you mean we shall be glad to prescribe. A pint of raw linseed oil containing an ounce each of turpentine and laudanum is useful if inflammation of the bowels (enteritis) is not present.

WRYNECK.—I have a mare eleven years old that has a ridge on the right side of her neck and it seems as though the left side was drawn around. She holds her head to the left side and down close to the ground. She has no use of her right leg. MRS. A. H.

A.—Fracture of vertebra of the neck causes just such symptoms as you describe and that would result from an injury and prove incurable. If there is no possibility of an injury the disease is a form of rheumatism known as torticollis or wryneck, and improvement may follow if you can give one half an ounce of salicylate of soda three times daily in feed. Sabol would be a better remedy in two dram doses but is too dear at present to be profitably given.

LAME JACK.—Is there a remedy for a Jack that is two years old and whose front legs are stiff and when he lies down has to be helped up? MRS. O. U.

A.—Such a case is most unpromising as the Jack either has rickets, similar to bow legs in a child, or osteo-porosis, commonly termed "big head." Support him with strings and feed well on oats, bran, corn and mixed hay.

STRONG MILK.—I have a young Jersey cow that was fresh last June, it being her second calf. She will be fresh the middle of May. She gives a half gallon of milk at each milking. It is very strong tasting and will not sour easily. It becomes bitter before it sours and is very hard to churn, making strong butter. MRS. E. C. G.

A.—It will be necessary to dry off milk secretion as treatment will do no good. The milk should be normal in every way when the cow calves again.

LAME SOW.—I have a sow one year old. She has nine pigs two months old. She has been lame for three weeks and is getting so stiff she can hardly walk. What is the matter and what can I do for her? MRS. A. T.

A.—Wean the pigs at once as the drain and strain of sucking them is affecting the sow in the way described. This trouble most commonly affects pampered sows that are over fed on corn and kept confined. It doe snot attack sows that are fed mixed rations, and made to take abundant exercise every day. Rickets commonly are present.

TUMOR.—I have a broncho seven years old with a sore shoulder. It has calloused and left a lump about the size of an egg. It will heal over when I do not work her. When I do it gets raw again. Can you tell any way to get rid of this without an operation? W. R. S.

A.—Have the tumor cut out by a surgeon. That is the only successful treatment in such a case.

THIN MARE.—Please tell me what to do for my mare? She is very thin and will not fatten. (2) What can I do to rid her of lice?

A.—Have the teeth attended to by a veterinarian and also clip the horse if the coat is long and rough. Afterward feed well on whole oats, wheat, bran, ear corn and mixed hay. (2) Dust horse infected parts with a mixture of equal quantities of pyrethrum or sabadilla powder, sulphur and powdered tobacco leaves.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22.)

more youthful bunch of feather brained moths. They call this city New York, they call the big city at the southern end of Lake Michigan, Chicago. There is a better name for these big wildernesses of bricks and mortar. They should call New York Hell Number One, and Chicago Hell Number Two, and so on down the line. I know whereof I speak. In a month or two I will give you the vice report of one of our big eastern cities. I would have given it to you last year, but I was afraid it would spoil your Christmas dinner and make you think that God had turned His back on the world. Now Walter set up your home and make it the right kind of a home. That will mean that two human beings at least will be contributing the best that is in them to the upbuilding of the nation and the race. There are millions trying to shipwreck civilization and make the world a cross between a jungle and a barnyard, a sewer and a slaughter house. Don't you be one of these Walter. Anyone can be a hog, but it takes character, conscience and will power to be a man. The world needs men. It has a the hogs it can use. It is the lack of men, real men that makes life such a rocky road for humanity to travel. So get busy Walter, and do your duty.

PERRYOPOLIS, R. R. 2, PA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

We have taken COMFORT for a number of years. I read your answers and sermons every month and think they are fine. You are certainly doing a good work. I am sixteen years old, and passed the eighth grade examination for high school two years ago; but have not had the opportunity to go, as it is about three miles from my home.

I do not think much of the high school anyway for the teachers they send out do not amount to very much. I would like to get into your bookcase Uncle and make use of some of your histories. I am fond of reading and like to soar above the Laura Jean Libby grade of fiction. Most of the girls near my home would not look at a history if they did not have to. They think more of their looks and beaus. It is a disgrace to humanity the way some of them act. My father gives me many lectures on socialism. I have been trying to get him to pay tuition for me at the Belle Vernon High School so that I can go there. We are poor people Uncle and you know it takes money for an education.

I am sending for your book of poems and thought I would have a little chat with you. I would like to make you a visit and have a real talk with you, as most of the people I talk to think of nothing but gossip, and do not get down to good common sense they can do the talking, but have nothing said when they get through. (God knows that's true. Uncle C.)

Wishing you success and happiness and with love to Maria and Billy, I am, ELIZABETH PEARCE.

P. S. I thought your November sermon was great. It certainly ought to awaken every man and woman. I missed the December number but have renewed.

Elizabeth, yours is a dandy letter. You express yourself well and your handwriting is perfect. When I get a letter from a girl like you my heart beats faster and my eyes blink with delight. I'm so sick of the inanities, stupidities and frivolities of this crazy age. I am as full of fun as a wagon load of monkeys, but oh, I do get so sick and tired of listening to the idiotic prattle of the average young person, and I might add to the average middle-aged person. There never was a time when there was so much that was worth while to be talked about and discussed and there never was a time when people had such a gorgeous opportunity to stock their foolish and empty noddles with worth-while thoughts and golden nuggets of knowledge and wisdom as right now. The world is simply flooded with glorious literature. A few dollars will buy a library that all the gold in the world could not have secured a few centuries ago. Of course you country cousins don't have the chance to pick up the book bargains that we do who live in the cities. But even when good books are brought to people's attention, not one in two hundred are in the least bit interested. Carnegie's idea in spreading the country with libraries, full of good books, was to start people thinking. The Bible says: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and all the rest shall be added unto you." Carnegie should have put across the entrance to his libraries: "Seek ye first the kingdom of books and knowledge and all else will be added unto you." If I could choose the reading of the world for just two months I could set the clock of civilization forward a thousand years. Elizabeth is fond of history. So am I. I love it. There are a few high spots that stand out in histories just as Pike's Peak soars above the surrounding plains. If you get acquainted with these beacon lights of history and the effect that they have had on moulding the future and swaying the destinies of nations, all the jumble of events that crowd the pages of the past quickly take shape and form, and the record of man's doings on this planet becomes easy to visualize, grasp and understand. It is the history of peoples not the history of kings that one wants to study. Maybe when this war is over I can tell you about some of these beacon lights. Some nations have progressed far along the broad and glorious highway of democracy while others have lagged behind. Why did some progress and why did others lag behind? Now I would like to put that question to every teacher in every schoolhouse in America, and I'll bet you that not one teacher in five thousand, let alone one scholar, could give an intelligent answer; and yet the whole thing is so easy and so simple. The history of every nation that is the worth-while part of it, could be told in a column of COMFORT, and almost in a paragraph or two. Well, histories as a rule are not written to open people's eyes and put humanity wise to man's age-long struggle for liberty and a worth-while existence. History is written to hypnotize the reader with a false sense of national glory and racial importance, written to befog, daze and obscure the vision instead of clear it. There is a little that is worth while in the histories of all countries, but very little. If all histories were truthfully written there would be few patriots. How many of those who read and study the Bible know anything about it? How many know when and how it was constructed and who put it together. If those who get hot about the gills when discussing the war in Europe knew a little about the history of the peoples engaged in that struggle, they might be able to discuss that war intelligently, and you can't discuss it intelligently until you know what is back of it all. I'm sorry Elizabeth, that you cannot come and browse among my books. On the two shelves of the bookcase immediately opposite me are the following books: "Rawlinson's Ancient Monarchies," "Larned's History of the World," an invaluable work, "Ridpath's History of the United States," "Creasy's Fifteen Decisive Battles," a wonderful work; "Green's History of the English People," "Buckle's History of Civilization," "Gibbon's Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire." On the shelf below that, I have "The Story of a Piece of Coal," "The Story of The Planets," "Story of the Solar System," "The Story of the Alphabet," "Story of Primitive Man," "Story of the Stars," "Story of the Mind," "Story of Germ Life," "Story of Animal Life," "Story of Books," "Story of the Earth," "Story of Extinct Civilizations," etc., These are books that I know you would be greatly interested in. My only regret is that I cannot help you read and understand them, for I do love to aid in developing a mind like yours; a mind which is turning towards the light, a mind hungry for knowledge, yearning for the best the world has to give. God give us more such minds, for alas, they are pitifully few.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26.)



for Whooping Cough, Spasmodic Croup, Asthma, Sore Throat, Coughs, Bronchitis, Colds, Catarrh.

Don't fail to use Cresolene for the distressing, and often fatal affections for which it is recommended.

It is a simple, safe, effective and drugless treatment.

Vaporized Cresolene stops the paroxysms of Whooping Cough and relieves Spasmodic Croup at once.

In Asthma it shortens the attack and insures comfortable repose.

The air carrying the antiseptic vapor inspired with every breath, makes breathing easy, soothes the sore throat, and stops the cough, assuring restful nights.

Cresolene relieves the bronchial complications of Scarlet Fever and Measles and is a valuable aid in the treatment of Diphtheria.

Cresolene's best recommendation is its 37 years of successful use. Send us postal for Descriptive Booklet.

For Sale by Druggists

Try Cresolene Antiseptic Throat Tablets for the irritated throat, composed of slippery elm bark, licorice, sugar and Cresolene. They can't harm you. Of your Druggist or from us 10c in stamps.

THE VAPO-CRESOLENE CO. 62 Cortlandt St., New York or Leeming-Miles Building, Montreal, Canada

Mr. Edison's Wonderful Phonograph

Only $1.00 = $1 After Free Trial



Yes, you may keep this new Edison—Thomas A. Edison's great phonograph with the diamond stylus—and your choice of records, too, for only $1. Pay the balance at rate of only a few cents a day. Try the New Edison in your own home before you decide to buy. Send no money down. Entertain your friends with your favorite records.

Write Today For Our New Edison Book. Send your name and address for our new book and pictures of the New Edison phonographs. No obligations.

F. K. BABSON, *Edison Phonograph Distributors*

9044 Edison Block, Chicago, Illinois

"DON'T SHOUT"



"I hear you. I can hear now as well as anybody. 'How?' With the MORLEY PHONE. I've a pair in my ears now, but they are invisible. I would not know I had them in, myself, only that I hear all right.

"The Morley Phone for the **DEAF** is to the ears what glasses are to the eyes. Invisible, comfortable, weightless and harmless. Anyone can adjust it." Over one hundred thousand sold. Write for booklet and testimonials.

THE MORLEY CO., Dept. 766, Perry Bldg., Phila.

Bush Car Delivered Free

Ride in a Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales, my agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back.



Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. H. Bush, Pres. Dept. 404.

BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois

NEW SANITARY **FEATHER BEDS** $8.25 NOW ONLY



FULL WEIGHT 40 POUNDS. 1 pair 6-lb. Pillows to match, $1.15. Selected, New, Live, Clean, Sanitary Feathers. Best Featherproof Ticking. Sold on money back guarantee. **DO NOT BUY** from anyone at any price, until you get the **BOOK OF TRUTH,** our big new catalog mailed **FREE.** Write a postal card **TODAY.** Agents wanted.

American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk 208 Nashville, Tenn

For neuralgia

Sloan's Liniment KILLS PAIN

Penetrates without rubbing

Watches—Razors, Etc. During April and May only. Our **Railroad** pattern **Watch Locomotive** on dial and back **Guaranteed** 5 years. Our famous **Hollow Ground Razor,** cuts any Beard. Barbers **Strop.** Box of **Havannah Cigars.** All for **$2.68 Postpaid.** Your money back if not satisfied. **Gash Mail Order Supply Co.,** Horse Shoe, N.C.



New Feather Beds Only $5.40

6-Pound Feather Pillows $1.00 per pair. Satisfaction guaranteed. Write for free catalog and our wonderful free offer. Agents wanted. Southern Feather & Pillow Co., Dept. 200, Greensboro, N. C.

THIS FORD FREE



Send Us No Money

JUST YOUR NAME

You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars. I have given away dozens of them. You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away, and say: "I want to get one of your Ford cars." A post-card will do.

RHOADS AUTO CLUB
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

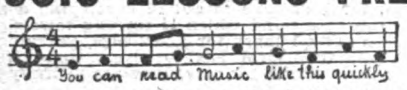


MAKE YOUR BIKE A MOTORCYCLE

at a small cost by using our Attachable outfit. FITS ANY BICYCLE. Easily attached. No special tools required. Write today for bargain list and free book **FREE BOOK** describing the SHAW Bicycle Motor Attachment. Motorcycles, all makes, new and second-hand, $35 and up.

SHAW MANUFACTURING CO.
Dept. 15, Galesburg, Kansas.

MUSIC LESSONS FREE



At Your Home. Write today for our booklet. It tells how to learn to play Piano, Organ, Violin, Mandolin, Guitar, Banjo, etc. Beginners or advanced pupils. AMERICAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 15 Lakeside Bldg., Chicago.



Initials or date **Engraved Free** Friendship or Anniversary RING your size, for 12c., both for 23c. Warranted Sterling or Rolled GOLD.



Monogram Jewelry Co., 119 Nassau Street, Dept. 94. New York



AUTOMATIC FISH HOOKS
Catches two fish to common hooks one. Fish are caught by even touching bait. Ask today for our ONE HOOK FREE OFFER.
ZAUN NOVELTY CO., Dept. 3, Wichita, Kan.

PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D.C. Advice and books free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best services

UNCLE CHARLIE'S

Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address
UNCLE CHARLIE,
care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Birthstone Rings

Genuine Gold Filled



Guaranteed For 5 Years





Given For A Club Of Two!

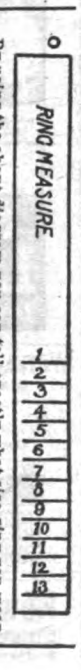
THE most popular lady's rings worn today are these beautiful birthstone rings. Not only is it considered lucky to wear one of them but they are now and always will be exceedingly stylish. We are able to illustrate only three of the rings but there are **twelve** in all—a different stone for each month of the year and of course you should wear the stone that is symbolical of the month you were born. The following is a list of the twelve rings, names of the stones, the month to which one applies and its symbol.

No. 7632. January, The Garnet, Symbol of Power.
No. 7642. February, The Ameythyst, Symbol of Pure Love.
No. 7652. March, The Bloodstone, Symbol of Courage.
No. 7662. April, The Diamond, Symbol of Purity.
No. 7672. May, The Emerald, Symbol of Immortality.
No. 7682. June, The Agate, Symbol of Health and Long Life.
No. 7692. July, The Ruby, Symbol of Charity.
No. 7702. August, The Sardonyx, Symbol of Happiness.
No. 7712. September, The Sapphire, Symbol of Constancy.
No. 7722. October, The Opal, Symbol of Hope.
No. 7732. November, The Topaz, Symbol of Friendship.
No. 7742. December, The Turquoise, Symbol of Prosperity.

Each ring is guaranteed genuine 12-Karat gold filled which looks exactly like solid gold and will wear for years. **In fact we absolutely guarantee each ring for at least five years.** The rings themselves are perfectly plain, the stones are solitaires and perfect imitations of the real gems. The setting of each ring is the ever popular "Tiffany." As a Christmas, Birthday or all-the-year-round gift for wife, mother, sweetheart or sister nothing could be more appropriate and acceptable than one of these beautiful guaranteed rings set with the birthstone of the person to whom it is given. And not only the women and girls but men and boys as well are now wearing them.

Please do not class these rings with the cheap "electro-plated" rings that turn brassy after they have been worn a month or two. Remember that every one of them is guaranteed to be 12-Karat gold-filled and positively warranted for five years. If you want a handsome birthstone ring for yourself or some dear friend or relative you will make no mistake in taking advantage of this offer at once. **When ordering be sure to specify the size and number of ring wanted.** You can easily tell just what size ring you wear by following the directions at the right.

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each, or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50c., we will send you one of these beautiful gold-filled birthstone rings by parcel post prepaid. **Please be sure to give size and number of ring wanted. Address**
COMFORT, Augusta, Maine



A Corner for Boys

By Uncle John

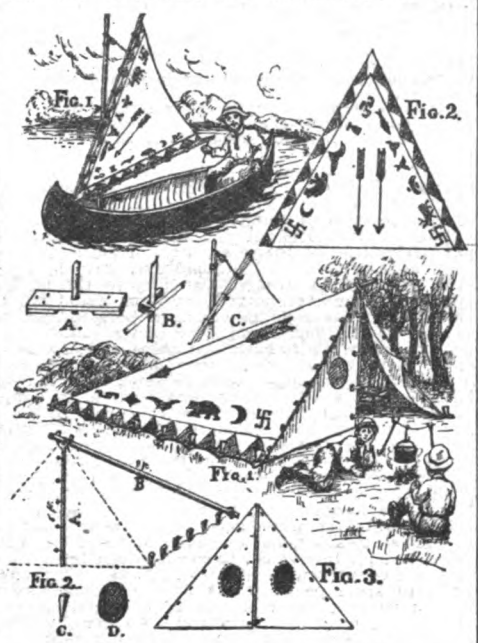
HELLO Boys! Step into my sanctum and sit down. You may leave the door open, for I dearly love sunshine and the scent of lilacs. How's fishing up your way? Any bullheads and sunfish biting? There ought to be. This weather is just right for them. It's right for mostly anything, I guess, except hard work. My, how I would like to get out my pole and line and loll with you on the grassy bank of some creek. In the springtime one always feels the call of the great outdoors, for spring is the childhood of the year and under its magic influence, we all become as little children. Responsibility slides off our shoulders and we want to romp and play. Perhaps our souls are really being renewed and made young again like the fields and gardens, or maybe it is that the surfeit of beauty on all sides creeps into our minds and literally crowds out pettiness and spite and fear. At any rate, we feel a distinct urging to be happy and optimistic and it is our duty to obey it. To do this, we do not actually have to neglect our work and go rambling. Spring abides everywhere, even in our hearts.

Indoor Game

To make an otherwise dull evening, at home, enjoyable, I advise you to try the game of "Turn-over." Two players participate. Each is provided with a sheet of paper and a pencil. To begin, a word of ten or more letters is chosen by mutual consent and each player writes it down at the top of his sheet. The one having first turn, usually the younger, writes one letter on his own paper and covers it with his hand. The letter must be in the word chosen, and the paper must remain on the table while it is being written. The left hand of the writer is used to conceal his efforts and false motions are made with the pencil to further deceive and mislead the layer who tries to guess what letter has been put down, by calling out, "Turnover 'g' or 'r'," or whatever one he may name. If he guesses correctly, he crosses that letter out of the word on his paper. If he fails to guess the right one, the other player crosses the letter written, out of his word. Thus, the object is to cross out all the letters in your written words before your opponent succeeds in doing so with his. Towards the end of contest keen interest develops. The letters are used only as often as they appear in the selected word and, when crossed out, may not be used any more. It is when only a few remain that a tense desire to win takes possession of you.

A Sail Tent

Decorating a canoe sail is a novel and practical idea. This is shown by Fig. 1. The letter "A" shows the base of the mast; "B" is the home-made fork by means of which the sail is swung round the mast; "C" shows how the sail is secured by rope and pulley to the top of the mast, and how it is lowered. Fig. 1 shows how the sail, mast and boom may be used



SAIL BY DAY, TENT AT NIGHT.

for tenting. The additional part needed is the front of the tent. Fig. 3. Oval-shaped pieces of screen are stitched on to insure ventilation. Fig. 20 is a flat view of the sail. When it is stretched over the supports shown in Fig. 2, the base is fastened to the turf with short stakes "C" which fit through the rope loops used for reefing the sail. It is an extremely simple plan and will be useful to campers and canoeists who like to paddle to some distant point and stay over night. If you study the illustrations for a few minutes, I do not see how you can fail to understand the idea of decorating a sail and if needs be making a one night tent out of it.

Horseshoe Game

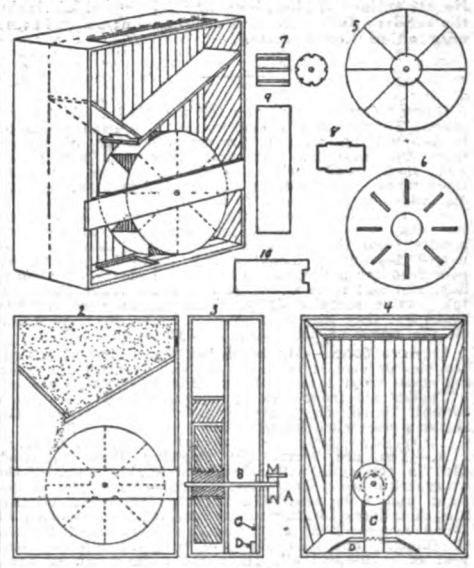
The universally liked game of "Horseshoe" can be condensed into an indoor sport that will furnish capital amusement on a rainy day. If a table top is used for the playing ground, matches, stuck down between the leaves, will serve as stakes. The distance between them should be as great as the length of the table will permit the important point, being to allow a foot of space, between the table edge and the stake. Another way of arranging stakes is to force nails through folded newspapers and protect the table from the protruding heads by folding the paper back over them. If played on the floor, a rug may be the field and upright pins the pegs. Miniature horseshoes, one inch wide and two inches long, may be cut out of a piece of stiff leather or cardboard. The game is most interesting when played by four as this obviates moving back and forth. One member of each opposing team remains at each stake to pitch against each other. Scoring is done in the ordinary way: the nearest shoe to the peg counting one, a "ringer," four and a "leaner," three. If the two shoes nearest to the stake belong to one side, two points are credited to them. A game is finished when one side scores twenty-one points. If the player having first pitch, in the final set, completes the twenty-one points, it does not count until the other opposing has thrown his two shoes. This point frequently causes disputes.

Queer Occupation

In India and other countries of the far East, where the weather is extremely warm, it is the custom of hotel proprietors to hang over each bed a large, stiff square of some light material like thin wood or woven fibre. They are called "punkahs" and their purpose is to cool the sweltering guest beneath them, by swinging back and forth, fan fashion. They are operated by ropes tied to the beam from which they are suspended. The ropes pass through holes in the wall and then over various pulley blocks to the street in front of the building. Here, young natives, called "punkah boys," monotonously jerk the ropes all through the night. It is very uninteresting work but, if the youngsters lapse for a minute or two, the man in bed will instantly note it, by the discomfort he experiences, and will viciously pull the "punkah" as a signal to go on with the fanning. The poor lads are only paid a few cents a night, but this is considered good wages in India, and in front of every fair-sized hostelry, dozens of them may be seen busily plying their queer trade.

Sand Motor

This sand motor consists of a paper paddle wheel mounted in such a way that sand can be dropped upon the paddles and thereby cause the wheel to turn. It is shown complete in Fig. 1. After sliding off the paddles, the sand drops through the hole in the bottom of the box and is fed again into the top hole. The box has a partition in the middle through which the shaft and pulley protrude, and the latter may be



SAND MOTOR.

belted to a toy or any light object that goes around. A box about ten inches square, made of cardboard or very light wood may be used. Heavy cardboard, fastened with glue, is the best material to use for all other parts. Dimensions are a matter of choice. Fig. 2 is a front view and Fig. 3 a side or sectional view. In Fig. 4, "C" and "D" are small wood blocks that make a support for the pulley. To make the wheel, cut out two disks like 6, eight paddles like 3, one wood hub like 7 and two outside covering disks like 5. The end projections of the paddle pieces fit into the hub, and the side projections into the slots in the disks 6 and are bent down and glued. Disks, without slots, like numeral 5 are then pasted to cover the paddle ends that are bent down. The parts 9 and 10 form the sand feed. It is a neat toy when finished and very amusing.

Foolish Questions

Most of us are addicted to the habit of asking foolish questions. If a friend comes in out of the wet we just naturally ask, "Is it raining out?" An acquaintance of mine detests this sort of nonsensical inquiry and frequently vents his spleen on innocent offenders. He works in a large office and one day was just about to make an important entry in a ledger when his elbow touched the ink bottle and a huge blot was the result. A fellow worker, noticing his discomfiture, ventured sympathetically, "What's the matter did you spill ink?" "No," came the gruff answer, "my fountain pen had a hemorrhage."

Riddles

When is beer like a bear?
When it is (a-brewin') a Bruin.

Who sees the most, a man with only one eye or a man with two eyes?
The man with one eye, because, in addition to everything else, he sees the other man's two eyes, while the latter can only see his one.

If a couple of Chinamen and a crazy man fell off a train, what would the conductor report?
Lost; two washers and a nut.

What is bought by the yard and worn by the foot?
Carpet.

April Puzzle

Nine objects are represented by the pictures shown below. When they are written down in a certain order, the initial letters will spell some-



thing relative to the month of April that boys enjoy very much. Try your luck and see if you can make out what it is.

Answer to Puzzle

Apple	Football
Pig	Opera glass
Revolver	Owl
Ivy	Lock
Lounge	

The initial letters spell *April Fool.*

Well, this is all the space allowed me this month, but I think it contains enough to keep you happily employed until I write again. If you want to accomplish anything worth while in this life, you must cultivate the quality of "initiative." It is an ugly looking word but, withal, a most important one. It means the ability to get started; the knack of transmitting your mental plans into action. Every man of brilliant achievement has loads of it, but not all were born with it. Some of them saw the need of it when they were young and developed it from a small nucleus. Strange to say, when you use a thing of this kind, it grows bigger and stronger every day. What a blessing it is that this is so.

UNCLE JOHN.

Engraved Gold Bracelet

FOR ONE SUBSCRIPTION



THIS Round Bracelet with artistic engraving and unique **Spring Fastening** is the most attractive pattern we have seen this season. Not too large but large enough and as it is perfectly round, it fits well and becomes all ages. There is a demand for bracelets of enormous size, but this style is medium large and nearly **three inches in diameter;** we consider it a beautiful pattern. This bracelet is the very latest style so you will want one while fashionable, and as we guarantee fit and wear, you need not hesitate to order.

Offer No. 4501 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this handsome Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid.

Offer No. 4501 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4501.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

EBONIZED BRUSH, COMB AND MIRROR SET



THREE ARTICLES IN BOX

Premium No. 2605

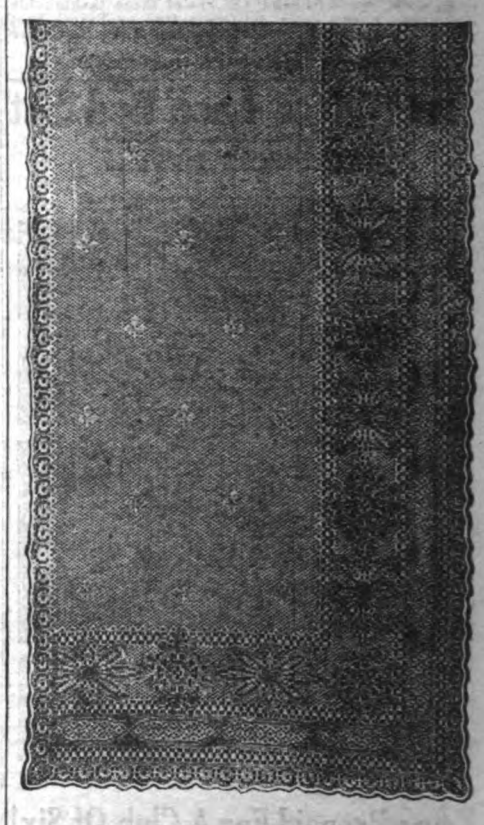
Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Five!

Latest Pattern Silverine Shields for Monogram. Beveled Mirror and Fitted Case. There does not live a girl whose heart would not fairly jump with joy at the sight of this swell **dull black finish set.** A man's heart is pleased, realizing well the beauty of work in the brush with its fine white bristles, the excellent fitted beveled mirror and finely made comb. A woman is still a girl, only grown up, and to think of really owning this set seems in many cases the realization of some fairy's dream.

The Brush is nine inches long, 2¾ inches wide, firmly set with white bristles, with shield of Silverine. **Mirror** is eight and one-half inches long, 4½ inches wide on back, with a four-inch clear, finely **beveled** glass set with rich Ebonyoid frame. **Comb** is seven inches long, 1½ inches wide, with fine and coarse teeth. We will guarantee that there is not one person in one hundred who can tell this set from real $12.00 Ebony, so closely has the rich, black, dull finish been represented. **When ordering be sure to state that you want set No. 2605.**

Club Offer. For only five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send this Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 2605. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Lace Curtains



Nine Feet Long
Thirty Inches Wide

Premium No. 4094

Given For A Club of Four

THESE Nottingham lace curtains are **thirty inches wide and three yards long** and are designed after the **latest up-to-date pattern, with handsome wide border and firm well-finished edge.** These beautiful curtains are suited to any room in your house whether it be parlor, sitting-room or chambers and there is an air of elegance and refinement about them which will dress up any home no matter how richly furnished it may be. We guarantee that every woman who accepts this offer will be proud of these curtains—proud of their real beauty and value and proud of the fact that she secured them without paying out one cent of money. We are now giving away these curtains free upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one pair of these curtains free by Parcel Post prepaid. Or we will send you two pair for a club of seven one-year subscriptions, or three pair for a club of ten. **Premium No. 4094.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



125-Pc. DINNER SET Free

This picture shows a few pieces of the complete 125-Pc. New Gold and Floral Decorated Dinner Set No. 1176 we give Absolutely Free for taking only a few orders for our high grade Extracts, Toilet Articles, Soap, etc. King's New Selling Plan cuts your work in half and you get twice as much now as we ever gave away before. Write quick for our large New 1917 Catalog, Order Blank, etc., mailed free. King Mfg. Co., Dept. 416, St. Louis, Mo.

FRECKLES

Now Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as the prescription othine—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots.

Simply get an ounce of othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Advt.

German Silver Mesh Purse

Given For Two Subscriptions

THIS is the new "Gate Top" mesh purse with a ten-inch wrist chain, made throughout of **German Silver,** handsome, stylish, and **perfectly safe for the carrying of money and other valuables.** A slight pull with the forefinger of each hand instantly opens the purse, a gentle pressure with thumb and finger closes it. Our illustration shows the purse closed. When open the top is as large as the bottom, or in other words, two inches in diameter. When closed it leaves an opening only three-fourths of an inch wide over which the brightly polished German silver cover snaps down tightly so that the contents of the purse cannot possibly become lost. This dainty purse is now extremely fashionable so we have purchased a quantity for the benefit of those of our lady and girl readers who like to be up-to-date in these little accessories. You can have one of them free by taking advantage of the following

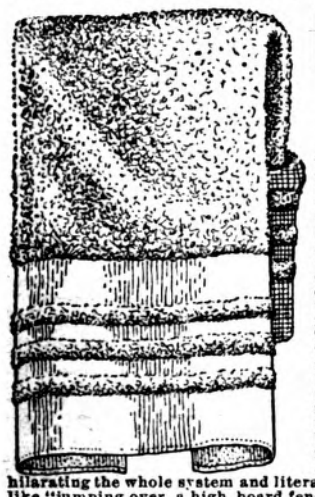


Premium No. 7362

Club Offer. For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this handsome and stylish German silver mesh purse free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7362.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Pair Of Turkish Towels



Premium No. 7323

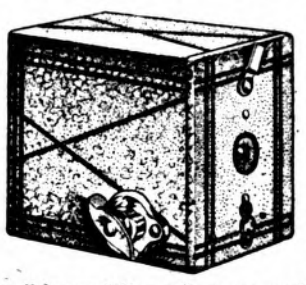
For Three Subscriptions

AFTER bathing there is nothing quite as fine as a good **rub down** with a **Turkish towel,** in fact it is the **best** towel for all purposes, whether for the bath or guestroom or for everyday family use in the lavatory, in kitchen or pantry. They absorb the water much more readily than other towels and the **thick, heavy fleece-like surface** imparts to the body a delightful feeling of warmth and well-being, exhilarating the whole system and literally making one feel like "jumping over a high board fence." These towels are also fine for **baby's toilet** as they will not hurt the tender skin. The towels we offer here are **genuine Turkish** towels—not the imitation kind—and are **17 inches wide and 36 inches long** which is a good convenient size for all-round family use. They are of good weight, well made and finished. We will make you a present of **one pair** of these fine Turkish towels upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you one pair (2) of these towels free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7323.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7314

For a Club of Four!

We will also include free of charge **one Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known **"Premo" camera,** made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.,** therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out **again in broad daylight,** so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book,** all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free by Parcel Post, prepaid,** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or two 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. **Premium No. 7314.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. H. E. B., Cathlomet, Wash.—The total vote of New York City at the November, 1916, election was 697,431. The total vote from Chicago has not yet been received at this office, though the total presidential vote of Cook county was 847,602.

W. M. R., Farina, Ill.—Montana has 16,649,725 acres of public lands, surveyed and unsurveyed, which are subject to entry and settlement, and Wyoming has 28,528,492 acres. How much of this is worthless, we do not know, but we do know that much of the land of those states, while good enough in other particulars is useless because of its inaccessibility. No matter how big and fine crops a farmer may raise, if he can't get them to market, he might as well not raise them. Write to Commissioner of the Land Officer, Interior Dep't, Washington, D. C. for detailed information. We wish to say in this connection that the man with good business sense will pay more and get improved land. Twenty-five years or so ago the homesteader could sometimes get hold of a good thing, but they are very scarce these days. The trouble is all the good ones near markets, railroads and other forms of civilization have been taken. But sometime the railroads will be extended to reach all out-of-the-way lands that are worth having.

J. B. S., Gashland, Mo.—Why don't you read COMFORT more closely and understandingly? Time and again we have told inquirers that the so-called needles to find gold, hidden treasure, and such things, are frauds and the Government would not permit the use of the mails to sharpers offering such fakes for sale. Because you live in Missouri, do you have to be shown?

Mrs. Cora Colhour, Realitos, Texas, lives seventy-five miles from a library and her greatest deprivation is lack of reading matter and if any of COMFORT'S readers have any old magazines they are through with, she will be very grateful for them. She is not able to buy new magazines. Here's a chance for COMFORTERS to help a lonely sister who is worth helping.

B. L. B., Ruthana, Ky.—We cannot advise you definitely on the subject of farmers securing government loans under the new laws and we suggest that you and all other COMFORT inquirers seeking such information go to their nearest local banks and get it direct and authoritative, at the same time getting information and advice from the banks that could not be secured elsewhere, and are absolutely necessary in securing needed loans.

Mrs. M. B., Green Valley, Wis.—Farms in the eastern states, particularly in New England, may be had at very reasonable prices and ready to live on, but they are not such farms as you have in the West and most of your farming will be in fruits, vegetables, eggs, chickens and such things for local markets. But there is money in that sort of farming, if the farmer knows his business and attends to it. These farms are small ones, ranging from ten to fifty acres. There are larger ones, up to two or three hundred acres, but they are not so near markets and the usual farming is carried on on them, but not many farmers are rich on the larger farms. Land varies in price from $50 an acre up to large figures in special localities for small farms. Land may be bought for less than fifty dollars an acre, but it is not always the lowest priced land that is the cheapest in the end. Good land at low prices may be had in Virginia and other Southern states, east. We insist always that persons buying farms on which they expect to live, first look them over and understand what they are getting and what are the living conditions. The best farm on earth is worse than the worst, if you are better satisfied on the worst. With potatoes selling for nine dollars a barrel potato farms in Maine are in demand at fancy prices.

Mrs. S. R., Cedar Glades, Ark.—Properly packed you can send almost anything through the mails by parcel post. Ask your postmaster. The color you see on the top of the water is no doubt oil, as it is very common all over the country. The thing to know certainly about is is there enough of it down in the ground to justify sinking a well for it. We know of several oil springs, so called because the water is so impregnated with oil, but in fifty years nobody has been able to discover the other indications necessary before sinking a well, and no well has been sunk. Yours may be different, but with the urgent need of oil now prevailing, if your section of country has it beneath the surface the oil men would be there with their drilling machines.

A. B., Merrick, Okla.—Your own state has a mother's pension law providing for indigent women whose husbands are dead, or insane, or prisoners in any state institution. Make inquiry of any of your town or county officials for particulars. Other states have such laws, but you are eligible only in your own state.

L. H., Burleson, Texas.—You are much nearer New Mexico than we are and you should make a trip over there and look about for a location to teach school. Good teachers are in demand, but they are not employed by mail, so letters you might write will not be worth much, especially as you have no certificate. We certainly can't tell you where to go.

J. G., Grape Vine, Texas.—The way to sell stories to COMFORT or to any other magazine, is to mail them to the editor with postage for their return in case they are not accepted. Send one to The Threshold, Ridgewood, N. J., which wants fiction material from new writers rather than the experienced ones.

Miss B., New York, N. Y.—If none of the cements at drug-stores will hold your alabaster clock pieces together, try a cement made of half pint of vinegar and half pint of skimmed-milk. Mix this curd with the whites of five eggs well-beaten and sufficient powdered quicklime to form a paste. If this will not hold, you had better buy a new clock. P. S. If you don't need so much, you can cut the proportions down to what you want.

Mrs. J. B. L., Sandford, Fla.—We have no lists of private or class educational institutions, either in Arizona or New Mexico, or any other state. The only way to secure such information, or lists if they exist, would be to write to State Superintendent of Education, at the capital of the state you want to know about. That is local information to be had only on the premises, so far as we know.

R. B., Dayton, Iowa.—Gunpowder cannot be made in small lots. A regular factory is required for its manufacture, and the process is very dangerous.

W. F., Natchez, Miss.—The "coon dog" is a product of science, not nature. That is, any sensible and courageous dog can be taught to hunt coons, though only a few ever become so expert as to be entitled to the name. Get any good breed of dog when he is young and take him to the woods and fields where you can train him. Most people who have good coon dogs will not sell them, so you must train your own.

E. C., Darby, Pa.—Most magazines which accept verse pay for it, but some do not, though they require as high a standard as those that do, so it is not easier to get in free than to be paid for it. As a goodly number of COMFORT readers wish to see themselves in print, either in prose or verse, regardless of the pay they may get, we suggest that all such try their literary efforts on their local publications, newspapers or otherwise. Much verse is printed this way and some famous poets and prose writers got their start in their local papers.

Mrs. W. S., Levels, W. Va.—Your red and white striped corduroy cannot be washed successfully as it will run. Possibly an expert laundry might do it, but that is not sure. Have it dry-cleaned.

J. S., Montgomery, Minn.—You don't recharge your dry battery, but even if you could, it would cost much more than to buy a new one. You can get one at the nearest garage, or dealer in electrical supplies.

S. J. R., Oakhurst, Texas.—We suppose your "Twelve old days" refer to the twelve days after Christmas, January 6, when the feast of the Epiphany is celebrated. The Epiphany is a Christian festival commemorating the manifestation of Christ to the Magi at Bethlehem. (2) Florists grow long stems on roses by confining the plants at the beginning in close frames, or boxes, so that they will grow to the light before branching out. They also, with some clip off the lower branches and confine the whole strength of the plant to the main stem. On this one rose will grow much larger than if the plant's strength went to several.

R. E. S., Starks, Fla., writes that skunk odor may be removed by dipping the garment in gasoline and hanging in the open to dry. As many as three dippings may be required in severe cases. Mrs. L. B., Salt Lake City, Utah, says it may be done by hanging the clothes or skins on wire and burning cedar boughs under them, making a strong smudge, but being careful not to injure the skins by the heat. Miss V. R., Hammersville, Ohio, also suggests the burning cedar treatment. L. G., Blandon, Pa., says if a thin layer of common salt is spread over the affected parts and left for three hours, the odor will be gone. Any COMFORT sufferers trying these remedies will please report results to us.

The Modern Farmer

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

it will be a great help. Fall rye is one of our surest crops here. Oats usually do not make a very heavy stand. What do you advise?

C. A. T., Van Tassell, Wyo.

A.—Such a plan will not succeed. The rye may ripen before the oats. Sow the rye in the fall, or rye and oats may be sown together and cut when ripe, but it is a better plan to seed together spring wheat—Marquis wheat preferred—and oats. We mix two of oats and one of wheat and sow two and one half bushels per acre on good ground.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE IN AGRICULTURE.—Do you publish books on Scientific Farming, Stock Raising and Dairying? If so, what is the price of your full course? If not, please tell me where I can obtain such a course. I always read the "Modern Farmer" page with interest.

X. Y. Z., Sheridan, Mich.

A.—We do not publish or sell any books on farming. The free bulletins published by the Federal government supplemented by those issued by the State Experiment Stations pretty thoroughly cover every branch of agriculture including stock-raising and dairying. Also many of the state agricultural colleges and experiment stations give free extension courses which are equivalent to correspondence courses in the science of agriculture. Write to the Extension Division of the State Agricultural Experiment Station, Lansing, Michigan, for bulletins and advice; also to Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for list of free government bulletins, and after studying it send for such as you are interested in.

FEEDING MOLASSES.—Have read that molasses is recommended as cheap feed for a horse. Directions called for one quart of molasses mixed with three quarts of hot water and then thoroughly stirred into corn meal, wheat bran and cut hay to make one feeding; same to be fed night and morning. With molasses at ten cents a quart two feedings a day would cost $1.40 a week, which I do not think very cheap. Is it meant for two quarts of molasses a day to be fed? A. S., Lyndon Station, Wis.

A.—Blackstrap molasses may be bought cheaply in some places near sugar refineries and then is used for horses, not so much because it is cheap as for the reason that it is wonderfully effective in plumping up a thin horse and especially one that has been troubled with harness galls and sores. It is a cheap remedy in such cases even at ten cents a quart. Two quarts a day is the quantity commonly fed.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

OHIO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I would like to give my ideas on some of the subjects in a recent number of COMFORT.

Mrs. Reynolds thinks when we get birth control we will be a nation to be envied and I think the devil will have gained a patent on one more of his inventions. God says, in the third chapter of Genesis, 16th verse, "I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children." Mrs. Reynolds thinks we should not shrink from the laws of man but we can shrink from the laws of God. If God did not give us our children, who did? You may have given them their little bodies but who gave them their souls?

I ha e four children, two boys, aged seven and five years, and two girls, aged three years and eight months. I think God gave them to me and I would as soon take one of their little lives now as to have taken it before they were born.

As far as the penitentiaries and asylums and such places are concerned, we have just as many in them that came from small families as came from large.

There are hundreds of women in our country that are controlling the size of their families. What for? Because they do not want the responsibility children bring and they want more time for their own pleasure.

My dear sisters, I fear that when we stand before the Judgment Bar of God, with our lives an open book, that birth control will send more souls to hell than whiskey will.

Just a few words on Georgie's letter. If they had a forty-acre farm and things were not sanitary, it must have been their own fault. She says in the city they are compelled to keep their yards clean. We do not need a law to make us clean our yards, do we? If our children live close to nature it is easier to teach them right about such things. Your city children live close to things that are contrary to nature. Our boys can get manual training, that is of some account, on the farm. Our girls can learn domestic science in our own kitchens and will not only be good cooks, but good housekeepers as well.

Where are some of our good, old-fashioned mothers? Let us hear what you think of birth control.

With best wishes for COMFORT and all the sisters,

A Happy Wife and Mother.

Poems Requested

The following poems have been requested by readers of COMFORT and sent for publication.

An Overworked Reciter

Once there was a little boy, whose name was Robert Reece,
And every Friday afternoon he had to say a piece.
So many poems thus he learned that soon he had a store
Of recitations in his head, and still kept learning more.
And now this is what happened: He was called upon one week,
And totally forgot the piece he was about to speak.
His brain he cudgled. Not a word remained within his head!
And so he spoke at random, and this is what he said:
"My beautiful, my beautiful, who standeth proudly by.
It was the schooner Hesperus—the breaking waves dashed high.
Why is the Forum crowded? What means this stir in Rome?
Under a spreading chestnut tree there is no place like home!
When Feedom from her mountain hight cried, 'Twinkle, little star.'
Shoot, if you must, this old gray head, King Henry of Navarre!
Roll on, thou deep and dark blue castle crag of Drachenfels;
My name is Norval; on the Grampian Hills, ring out, wild bells!
If you're waking, call me early, to be or not to be;
The curfew must not ring tonight. Oh, woodman, spare that tree.
Charge, Chester, charge! On, Stanley, on! And let who will be clever!
The boy stood on the burning deck, but I go on forever!"
His elocution was superb, his voice and gesture fine;
His schoolmates all applauded as he finished the last line.
"I see it doesn't matter," Robert thought, "what words I say,
So long as I declaim with oratorical display!"

Sent in by E. M. B., Concord, N. H.

$1 a week buys a



Black Beauty Bicycle

At Factory Prices—on Approval—NO MONEY DOWN

Let us send you (freight prepaid) a Black Beauty on trial. If you don't like it, return at our expense. If you do like it, you pay only $1 a week.

Guaranteed For Five Years by the largest exclusive Cycle House in America. **WRITE TODAY** for Black Beauty Color Catalog showing all sizes and styles.

Haverford Cycle Co., Est., 1896, Dept. H, Phila., Pa.

57¢ PAPERS A BIG ROOM

Just think—only 57c for enough beautiful 4 color bronzed side wall, ceiling and border to paper a big room. Write today for our Free Book of over 100 big samples of wall paper and see this dandy paper. Also, our exquisite 1917 papers, consisting of plain and rich, heavily embossed gold, oatmeal, grass cloth, leather, tiffany, silk and creton effects at 6c to 40c a double roll of 16 yards. Finest varnished tiles, 35c a double roll. Combination matched with cut-out borders ready for hanging at 1 1-2c a yard up. Wall paper for all rooms direct to you cheaper than dealers buy at in carload lots. Don't wait. **Get samples now**—today—and see our beautiful art paper and marvelously low prices.



PAINT On Free Trial All kinds for everything; try it at home; if it suits keep it, if not return at our expense. **Lowest prices** you ever saw; 124 colors. Write for Paint Book and see.

JOHN M. SMYTH MDSE CO. 703-717 Wash-ington Blvd. **CHICAGO**

YOU CAN HAVE THIS



wholly visible (42 key) single shift typewriter, **for your own,** if you will show it to your friends and let them see wherein it **excels other $100 typewriters,** and tell them of our most liberal offer ever made on a strictly modern, typewriter and a **Woodstock** at that. By post card or letter simply say *"Mail Particulars."*

WOODSTOCK TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. A631. CHICAGO, ILL.

$3.75 SUIT NO EXTRA CHARGES



Made to measure in latest style. Not $3.75, not even $1, not even one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. **No Extra Charge** for fancy swell styles, extra big, extreme peg-tops, pearl buttons, fancy belt loops, no extra charge for anything, all free. Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. Write and say *"Send Me Your Offer"* the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges.

KNICKERSOCKER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 618 Chicago, Ill.



Crippled and Deformed

We have successfully treated thousands of sufferers of acute and chronic joint and bone diseases; bodily deformities of infantile paralysis, hip joint diseases, spinal curvature, club feet, fractures, etc., without drug surgery or plaster casts. Our wonderful method is approved and endorsed by the world famous surgeon—

Prof. ADOLPH LORENZ of Vienna

Send for descriptive booklet

Roth Orthopedic Institute, 162 F West 75th St., N. Y. C.

An "If" for the Girls

If you can dress to make yourself attractive,
Yet not make curls and puffs your chief delight;
If you can swim and row, be strong and active,
But of the gentler graces lose not sight;
If you can dance without a craze for dancing,
Play without giving play too strong a hold,
Enjoy the love of friends without romancing,
Care for the weak, the friendless and the old!

If you can master French and Greek and Latin,
And not acquire as well a priggish mien;
If you can feel the touch of silk and satin
Without despising calico and jean;
If you can ply a saw and use a hammer,
Can do a man's work when the need occurs,
Can sing when asked without excuse or stammer,
Can rise above unfriendly snubs and slurs;

If you can make good bread as well as fudges,
Can sew with skill and have an eye for dust;
If you can be a friend and hold no grudges;
A girl whom all will love because they must;
If sometimes you should meet and love another
And make a home with faith and peace enshrined,

And you its soul—a loyal wife and mother—
You'll work out pretty nearly to my mind
The plan that's been developed through the ages,
And win the best that life can have in store.
You'll be, my girl, a model for the sages—
A woman who the world will bow before.

Elizabeth Lincoln Otis, in Rehoboth Sunday Herald.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27.)

7 Geraniums 25 cts. Choice Coleus, or Salvias, or Begonias 2 for 10c. 6 for 25c, 14 Gladiolus 25c, 7 Cannas 25c, 9 Tuberoses 25c postpaid. **The Burdwin Greenhouses BOX 1018, Athens, N. Y.**

ELECTRIC FARM, HOME & MOVIE LIGHT & POWER PLANTS. LIGHTS, HOME COMFORTS & POWER SERVICE. Power & Fan Motors. Storage & Medical Batteries. Dynamos. Engines. Phones. Belts. Motion Picture Machines. Catalog, 3cts. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, Ohio.

Large List, Dialogs, Entertainments, Recitations, Drills, **PLAYS** Catalogue Free. T. S. DENISON & CO., Dept. 6 Chicago, Ill.

Silver Tatting Shuttle



Given For Three Subscriptions

MADE of **solid sterling silver** beautifully finished and polished. A new idea is the hook at the end as shown in above illustration which easily and quickly **picks up the loops.** The illustration shows how the shuttle is held in the hand and the little arrow points to the patent hook in the act of picking up the stitch or loop. The free end of the thread goes through a small hole on the inside of the shuttle. A further description of this handy little device is hardly necessary for every woman who does tatting will see at a glance how really indispensable it is and how greatly superior to anything else ever designed for the same purpose. Being made of genuine sterling silver, you can have your jeweler engrave it with any monogram or initials desired. One of these shuttles engraved in this manner makes a very acceptable gift for any woman or girl who is a tatting worker. We will send you this tatting shuttle free upon the terms of the following.

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each we will send you this sterling tatting shuttle free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7833.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

APRIL showers bring May flowers, they tell us, my dears, but unless you live quite a ways down South you will find, if you are not careful, that they also bring sore throat, cold in the head and a few other disagreeable things of that nature, so if you are wise you will be friendly with April, but not familiar. However, it's a cheerful month and if you can keep your dispositions in the cheerful April condition, you and everybody else will have a lot more sunshine around than if you didn't. I could say a lot more on this subject, but there's work to do and that crowds out the talk. So here's at it.

The first letter I open is from Rosy Cheeks, Bar Harbor, Maine, that very fashionable place in summer, and she wants to know if I think she would be happy if she married the young man who is now equally attentive to her and her chum, but she thinks she could win him. What she is most afraid of is that her chum will be around after she is married and maybe her husband will take notice of the chum. Now, girls, isn't that a fine condition of mind to be in about getting married? Even before she marries the man, she doubts him and yet she is willing, apparently, to take the chances and marry him! Is it any wonder that there are so many unhappy marriages when they begin like that?

Sunbeam, Oklahoma City, Okla.—Do not give him your picture until your mother says you may give it; and if he gives you his, which he must do before you give him yours, show it at once to your mother. I think she will know what to do to quiet your throbbing heart.

Brown Eyes, Hugo, Minn.—Don't drop the friendship of the nice young man, but hold fast to it—hold fast until you are twenty-two and he is twenty-nine, which is only seven years and you will then be just the right age to make the friendship permanent.

Blue Eyes, Rocky Point, N. C.—Some children are unfortunate in their parents, and about as often as some parents are unfortunate in their children and how it is to be remedied I don't know. If your parents will not let you have young company as other young people do, and some day you get into bad company simply through hunger for what is your natural food, nobody can be blamed except themselves. They should realize this as you are growing up and give you such opportunities of association as all young people should have, if they are expected to become the right kind of grown people. I can't help you and I wish I could.

Edea, Greenville, S. C.—I am not much in favor of Jew and Gentile marrying, but if you love the Jew and do not love the Christian, both of whom want you, you may be happier not to marry the Christian. Now, my dear, you may choose as you please.

Blue Eyes, Shelton, Nebr.—I thought, my dear, I had said so many times that love cannot be won, that nobody would ever ask me again, but you do and as innocently and ignorantly as though you really thought you could win the young man's love who doesn't care enough for you even to talk to you. He couldn't love you if he tried to. Why don't you love some other man who loves you? You can't, can you? Of course not, for love goes its own way. If it happens to be your way, all right. If not, you must suffer.

G. G., Wise, Va.—Be polite and pleasant whenever you meet the young man you want to call on you, and when you find that he is responsive, ask him to call. That is perfectly proper, but you mustn't be gushy about it, and if he doesn't call, don't ask him again, though you may be even friendlier than ever when you meet him. If he wants to come, he will, and if he doesn't, you shouldn't want him.

Betty, Morgan, Minn.—As you have your doubts about loving him well enough to marry him, and he is afflicted with the vice of gambling, I think you would be wise not to marry him. Gambling is just about as difficult to live with as drunkenness and it is about as hard for the man to quit it. As between a gambler and a drunkard for a husband, the chances are about even, and only a fool girl will marry either if she knows in advance what they are.

Troubled, Sulligent, Ala.—The way for you to treat this young man who treats you any way he pleases and pleases most to make you suffer by his neglect, is to decline to have anything to do with him. He is mean and jealous and inconsiderate and likes another girl better than he does you. How much worse do you want him to be before your self-respect is aroused? If he is the first you ever loved, maybe with this experience you will do better next time. Try it and see.

Two Girls, Sweetwater, Tenn.—Better be sure of the new friend, before you give up the old. (2) If you want to go through life without daring to speak to any other man except your husband, marry the jealous man. They're awful, and jealous women are no better.

Woful, Post City, Texas.—The easy and sensible way out of your trouble about the one you want and the one your parents want, is to announce definitely that you will not marry anybody until you are twenty-one. In four years, the two young men will have plenty of chance to prove which is the one for you. If both stay true that long, take the one you want.

Troubled, White Salmon, Wash.—I don't approve of cousins marrying, as a rule, but when two second cousins really love each other and not to marry would mean unhappiness for both, I am willing to concede a little, and you have my blessing if you marry your second cousin. There is no law against it. (2) Engaged couples may kiss each other and often do. Sometimes too often. (3) The engagement ring may be given at any time after the engagement.

Blue Eyes, Gulfport, Miss.—You did very properly in kissing him when he asked you to marry him and you agreed, but I can't tell whether you will be happy or not, though I sincerely hope you will. Nineteen and twenty-four may be a little young, but you will outgrow that in a few years.

V. I. B., Phoenix, Ariz.—You may ask your correspondent for his photograph, but you should not exchange with him, unless you happen to have a snapshot of yourself which is very informal and not like a regular photograph. I don't like the idea of a girl giving her photograph to a man, because men sometimes abuse such a privilege. Not often, but often enough to make girls very careful. You may ask him to visit you after his school closes. But don't fall in love with him, until he is in love with you, or you will be mighty sorry.

Broken-hearted, Penhams, Va.—You think he loves you because you so greatly love him. Sensibly though, if he really loved you, don't you know he could not have any desire to forget you, as you say he has? You've lost your heart, but don't loss your head, and try to use common sense in judging the young man.

M. E. D., Colton, Tenn.—Sometimes sweethearts, who are really and truly sweethearts who fully understand each other and will marry by and by, I think may properly kiss each other good night, and as you seem to be this kind, I shall give my consent. Whether a man loves a woman as much after he has kissed her as he did before, I cannot say. That may depend on the significance he attaches to the kiss. My chief objection to kissing is that it is very apt to become promiscuous and vulgar if indulged in indiscriminately.

F. M., Modesto, Cal.—Until you are engaged to a young man you can have just as many beaus as you can attract and none of them has any right to object. When you are promised to one, it becomes different and that one may properly object to others. (2) Obey your father about the elderly foreigner. You know your father ever so much better than you do the other one.

Inquirer, Grayson, Ky.—You did right in not promising in advance to be the young man's "steady company" when he left school. There is ample time for such a claim when he can be present and take care of it. In the meantime, my dear, while he is at school, don't you think you could put in a little more time on your grammar and spelling which seems worse when written as nicely as you write. For example, how could you ever spell it, "interdoction?" And why should you say "he never has went with but two girls?" If his school is doing him any good, one of your letters would give him hysterics.

Daisibell, Spencer, W. Va.—Eighteen is too young for a girl to marry, when she is educated, but really, when one of that age doesn't write and spell any better than you do, she shouldn't marry till she can improve her mind somewhat. It would be a shame for you to marry and have children who would write and spell as their mother does. Think of that and don't marry yet a while.

Darling, Pike, Ga.—The only way to carry on a correspondence properly is to wait just as long to answer a letter as the young man waited till he answered yours. And you'll do that, if you don't like him better than he does you. Ask your parents if they don't think you are too young to have beaus. If they don't, they don't know much about raising girls right.

Puzzled, Lexa, Ark.—Girls of sixteen are likely to think they will die if they don't get the one they love, but deaths from that cause are very few. If your young man of eighteen is really making $100 a month in Arkansas, he is a genius that your father should be glad to have in the family, instead of wanting to kill him if you run away with him. Suppose you wait until you are twenty-one.

Blue Eyes, Bagley, Minn.—Now and then a young man goes to see a girl because he likes her and wants to talk to her, without trying to kiss her and make love to her. But this kind is scarce, and if you have found one, don't be asking me why he doesn't try to kiss you and make love to you, but do everything you can to continue his good impression of you as a girl of sense and character. Just now, I am inclined to think he is mistaken and I know he would think so too, if he could read your letter to me.

There, my dears, your questions are answered, with the usual exceptions, and I haven't scolded any more than was necessary, have I? However, scolding is like salt in our food, and some must be used or things won't taste right. But the salt is good and so is the scolding. So run along now and get ready to begin the summer girl season. Isn't it just too sweet for anything? By, by.

COUSIN MARION.

Uncle Charlie's Home Fund

THE sum of $261.00, contributed by 434 people through donations and subscriptions, was added to Uncle Charlie's Home Fund in February, bringing the total up to $1,141.00 contributed by 1,548 readers of COMFORT. The largest single contribution for the month came from Mrs. Ida Jones, New Moorefield, Ohio, who, though living in a country district, sent in a number of subscriptions, sold 50 poems and story books and contributed $5.00 in cash.

While Billy Sunday can roll in the luxury of the $8,000.00 automobile presented him by the "trail-hitters" of Detroit less than one in a thousand of those who read Uncle Charlie's inspiring talks have contributed a cent or lifted a finger to help provide him with a home.

I trust that the Easter spirit will move you to give a substantial token of your appreciation of Uncle Charlie's noble work.

Again let me remind you how you can help:

1. By cash donations.

2. By purchasing Uncle Charlie's books (see advertisement.)

3. Those who cannot spare the money for a cash donation or for purchase of his books can contribute by getting subscriptions to COMFORT in aid of the "Uncle Charlie Benefit Fund" and instead of taking the club premium or cash commission themselves direct that it be credited to the fund. In such cases I will pay over to Uncle Charlie one half of the subscription price of all subscriptions sent for this purpose. The regular cash commission on COMFORT subscriptions is 40 per cent, but for Uncle Charlie's Benefit Fund I will allow 50 per cent. Another way to help him and benefit yourself is to get up a subscription club and take one of his books as your premium.

In one or other of these ways every COMFORT reader who wishes to do so can help swell the fund for Uncle Charlie which has my hearty approval and will have my assistance.

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.)

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for April

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Mrs. Martha Bell, Buffalo Rural East Route, Springfield, Ill. Fifty-nine years of age. Suffers from rheumatism and catarrh. No means of support. Send her a dime shower. Mrs. Sarah E. Joyce, Spencer, R. R. 1, Va. Widow, sick and helpless. Depends on the charitable for support. Well recommended. Send her some help. Louis Cornier, 51 Tallman St., New Bedford, Mass. Invalid. Has spinal trouble and fistula. Needs operation, but is without means. Well recommended. Who will help? J. E. Simpson, North Bradford, Maine. Fifty-three years of age, crippled from rheumatism. No means of support. Send him some cheer. Clayton Weedon, Ladysmith, Wis. Helpless cripple. Don't overlook him. Elijah Bowens, Henrietta, Ky. Old man. Sick, poor and helpless. Send him some cheer. John Ipson, Smith, R. R., N. C. Eighty-two years of age. Blind, poor and helpless. Send him a dime shower. Mrs. Lucy Webster, Quebeck, Tenn. Invalid. Needy and worthy. Send her some of the sympathy that buys bread. S. T. Barney, Cornersville, Ind. Invalid. Send him some cheer. Mrs. Emma R. Craig, Stella, Va. Invalid widow with two small children. Needy and worthy. Send them some help. Mrs. Luersie Raper, Quebeck, Tenn. Widow with one little girl four years old. Would appreciate second-hand clothing for the child. Mrs. Ella S. Whitcomb, Hyde Park, Vermont, invalid. Would appreciate quilt pieces, silk or worsted. Ruth L. Potter, Charington, Pa. Crippled girl sixteen years of age. Would appreciate reading matter, such as magazines, etc., and cheery letters, no financial aid. Earl Silkworth, Bee Creek, P. O. Box 15, Ill. Invalid. Would like cheery letters and reading matter. Mrs. James Traverse, Waterbury, Vt. Invalid. Would appreciate reading matter. Miss Pearl Leas, 301 Shelby St., New Albany, Ind. Invalid, would like cheery letters. Frieda Schultz, Amboy, R. R. 3, Box 33, Minn. Invalid. Would like cheery letters. Mrs. John Findlay, Mapleton, R. R. 1, Kans. Seventy-three years of age. Would appreciate a picture postal card shower.

Here is a chance for you to do good, a chance for you to lay up treasure in heaven, where no bank robber can swipe it. The Christianity that is worth while consists in helping others. If you don't help others you are a mighty fine hypocrite, but you are no Christian. Help me in this work.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

Uncle Charlie's Poems the Best Spring Medicine in the World!

There is no spring medicine that compares with Uncle Charlie's Poems. They make the sluggish blood course through the veins like a mill race, for the best tonic in the world is a hearty laugh; and there are a thousand laughs in Uncle Charlie's Book of Poems. You owe it to the children if not to yourself, to get immediately a copy of this exquisitely dainty book, bound in lilac silk cloth, containing splendid illustrations of the author and his faithful Maria, and a sketch of his life. Free for a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. Yours for an hour's easy work. Don't be left out in the cold, but start your clubbing today.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book Is a Whole Entertainment in Itself!

Uncle Charlie's Song Book supplies a complete musical entertainment for church, parlor or concert room. Twenty-eight songs for every and all occasions; comic, sacred, coon and novelty songs, with full music for voice and piano. On the handsome cover appear several splendid photographic pictures of Uncle Charlie. Five dollars' worth of music, free for a club of only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. These premiums count towards our grand cash prize competition. Both books free for a club of six. Work for them today.

30 DAYS FREE TRIAL



Total cost only **$7.50** by Our 7 MONTHS TIME Purchase Plan

to prove to you that this magnificent Royal has the Sweetest, Purest, Loudest and Clearest tone—**to prove to you** that it is as large and handsome as the trust machines that sell at $25.00—**to prove to you** that it has the strongest motor, the best reproducer and tone arm and the most ingenious devices to start, stop and control the music. Shipped with a supply of 10-inch double disc records of your selection, so you can enjoy the finest entertainments for one whole month. Return the outfit **AT OUR EXPENSE** if for any reason you do not wish to keep it. Drop a postal for our big list of unsolicited testimonials, record book and other literature. They are free.

S. H. DAVIS, 62-K 6101 May St., CHICAGO

FRIENDSHIP LINK AND BRACELET RIBBON FREE



STERLING SILVER WARRANTED ROLLLD GOLD

We start your friendship BRACELET by giving you one LINK absolutely FREE, engraved with 3 initials; also a beautiful velvet ribbon to wear Links on while your friends, as a token of their sentiment, give you other Links with their initials. (Links Grecian or Plain 8c. each.) For FREE LINK send this clipping stating your initials and if Rolled Gold or Silver wanted.

Friendship Jewelry Co., 83 Chambers St., Dept. 79, New York.



Overland FREE

Send me your name at once if you live in the country or town under 10,000, for my new easy plan for winning this New 1917 OVERLAND Touring Car, or $850 in cash. It will surely appeal to you. No money needed. I have already given away 40 autos. If you want one write today for full particulars.

C. F. ALDRICH, Dept. B St. Paul, Minn.

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet BX 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW. **EARL HOPKINS, Washington, D. C.**

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.



DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU? Agents wanted to sell glasses. Send for catalog. COULTER OPTICAL CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.



$1.50

6 YEAR GUARANTEE

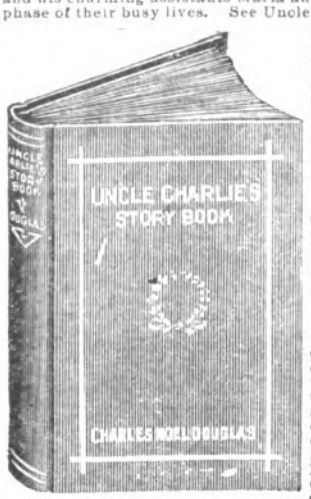
Sample Watch Free

Genuine full standard size railroad style watch with locomotive on dial and locomotive handsomely engraved on back. Full nickel plated case, extra dust proof. Arabic numerals on dial, heavy R. R. style figures. Genuine American make, stem wind and set, fully GUARANTEED for 6 YEARS. To advertise our business and introduce this wonderful watch and our great catalogue of Elgin, Waltham and Hampden watches we will send this elegant watch to any address by mail postpaid for ONLY $1.50 and if you sell two of these watches we will give you ONE SAMPLE WATCH FREE for your trouble. Send this advertisement with $1.50 and watch will be sent by mail postpaid, or send $3.00 for two and we will send ONE EXTRA WATCH FREE. Order today as this offer may not appear again. Address R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 538 So. Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, half-tone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

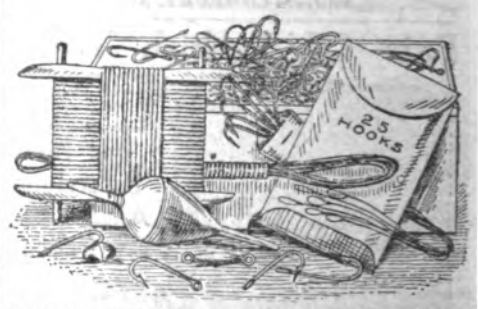
Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.

38-Piece Fishing Outfit

Premium No. 2862



FREE FOR A CLUB OF TWO

BOYS—no need for you to wait until you have enough money to buy that fishing outfit you want—we will give you this dandy Outfit **absolutely free.** It contains **everything** you see in the above illustration—in all **38 different pieces**—each one of which is guaranteed to be strictly high-grade and of the very best quality. There are **Two Dandy Fish Lines,** one of them on a fine **Wood Winder** equipped with **Hook and Sinker** all ready for business, and the other is a **Special Braided Line.** Then there are **25 Assorted Fish Hooks,** of all sizes for all kinds of fishing, **6 High-Grade Snelled Hooks, 1 Adjustable Cork Floater or "Bobber", and 1 Ringed Sinker—38 pieces in all.** When you get this splendid Outfit you will have all the fishing tackle you need with exception of fish pole to do all kinds of fishing with, as the lines, assorted hooks in different sizes, etc. are adapted for **brook, river, lake or pond fishing.** And remember that we guarantee everything in this Outfit to be strictly high-grade and just what you would want to buy in any store, although the 38 separate pieces, if bought outright, would cost you at least **one dollar.** We will send you this splendid Fishing Outfit **absolutely free,** if you will accept the following offer and know that you will be pleased and delighted with it.

Club Offer. For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you this 38-Piece Fishing Outfit packed in a good, strong box free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 2862. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

26-Piece Daisy SILVER SET

Premium No. 6808

Sent To You Prepaid For A Club Of Eight

WE have in the past made many offers of table ware, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer a **complete set of 26 Pieces** in return for such a small club of subscriptions. And please don't think that because we **are** giving away this set on such liberal terms that it is plated on a brass base and consequently will change color and have that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. This Set which we offer you here is plated on a **white metal base** therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will not show signs of wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—**6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife.** Each piece is **full regulation size** for family use, the handles are handsomely **embossed and decorated** with the beautiful **Daisy design** which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and the bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and **bright polished.**

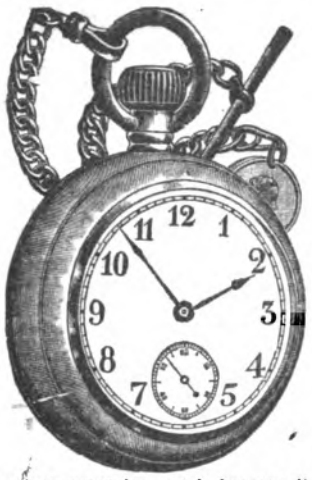


WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to offer it as a premium for so few subscriptions. It is by far **the greatest value** we have ever offered, in fact we are so **sure** that it will please and satisfy all who accept this offer **we are going to guarantee every Set sent out for a period of five years.** We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Daisy Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or four 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this 26-Piece Daisy Table Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 6808.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Gent's Watch and Chain

Premium No. 3996

For A Club Of Six!

A WATCH that any man or boy may feel **proud** to carry, and an excellent timekeeper. It is not an expensive **watch** because it is not in a **gold or silver case** but for practical every-day use it is just as good as a watch that costs $10.00. In fact, we have such faith in it that we send with every one **A guarantee which is just as binding as that given with any watch no matter what make.** It has a handsome polished **nickel case** a thick **crystal** which will stand all sorts of rough handling without becoming broken; the movement is the **best American made, stem wind and stem set,** the **dial** is pure white with **large plain easily read figures.** We have already given away thousands of these watches and they never fail to please and satisfy. Now is the time for you to secure one of these handsome, guaranteed watches before the price of them goes up still further as it is pretty sure to do in the near future. We will send you this watch exactly as described, **together with a handsome chain,** if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each we will send you this guaranteed watch, also a handsome chain free by Parcel Post, prepaid. **Premium No. 3996.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

This Handsome Bible



OVER 800 PAGES,

Illustrated With Colored Maps

ALTHOUGH this Bible is small enough to be carried conveniently in the hand or in the pocket or handbag, yet it is **complete and unabridged** containing full books of both the **Old and New Testaments,** and in addition there are several **colored maps** illustrating different interesting portions of **Palestine** and surrounding country. It is 5½ inches long, 3¾ inches wide and one inch thick, beautifully bound in flexible pebbled black leatherette and contains over **eight hundred pages,** with round corners and finished with red edges. The name "Holy Bible" is stamped on the front cover. This is an unequalled opportunity for Sunday School workers, teachers, in fact **all Bible students** at home or in church to secure a small yet **complete** Bible without cost and we feel that among COMFORT'S readers there must be thousands who have been waiting for us to make just such an offer as this. Remember that you are not going to receive a small, cheap, paper-bound book, but a splendidly made Bible, finely printed, handsomely and durably bound, and absolutely refined and perfect in every detail. We will send to any address this fine Bible exactly as illustrated and described upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this Bible free by mail postpaid. **Premium 4413. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Twenty-eight Large Size Pages



Crochet and Tatting Book

Premium No. 7321

Containing Sixty-three Beautiful Photographic Reproductions of New Fashionable Designs In Crochet And Tatting With Full Instructions For Making.

For One Subscription

EVERY woman who is interested in crocheting and tatting should have a copy of this new book written by Winifred Worth and containing many designs used by the nuns in convents **never before published.** The book is of good size, measuring 8 inches by 10½ inches, printed on fine quality coated book paper and consists of 28 pages on which are shown **sixty-three** large, clear **photographic illustrations** of the prettiest edgings, beadings, insertions, towel ends, doilies, etc., and a splendid variety of new, dainty designs in tatting **with complete instructions for making them.** The art of combining Venetian crochet and tatting also is fully explained.

Among the many beautiful crochet designs illustrated and described are the **clover leaf, Irish, picot, cross-bar, half-shell, half-wheel, K-stitch** and **filet** edgings; **festoon, Irish, fence-row, picot** and **shell** beadings; **mile-a-minute, half-shell, clover leaf, filet** and **monkey-face insertions; butterfly wings, Van Dyke Point, nuns' pattern** and many others. The tatting motifs are varied and beautiful, consisting of beadings, edgings and insertions for **table mats, bedspreads, curtains, guest towels, coin-purses, night-gown yokes, bath towels, sash curtains, ribbon holders, plate doilies,** etc., etc.

This book also gives sizes of hooks best adapted for the different sizes of crochet threads, the abbreviations of all of the principal crochet stitches and terms used in tatting and tells how the different stitches are made such as the **chain stitch, double crochet, half treble, double treble, treble crochet, cluster** and **open mesh** stitches.

We will send you free and postpaid this book of the loveliest fashions in beautiful lace and tatting work with simple and complete directions which you can easily follow upon the terms of the following special offer:

Offer No. 7321A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this book of crocheting and tatting designs with directions free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7321B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and ten cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this crocheting and tatting book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7321. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

C. T. S., New Mexico.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that all property acquired after marriage except such as is acquired by gift, bequest, devise or descent, or such as may be purchased by money acquired before marriage, or the income of property acquired as above stated, is community property and that upon the death of the husband, after payment of debts and expenses, the wife would receive one half of such community property absolutely and in the absence of a will one quarter of the balance of such community property, the remaining three eighths of such community property going to the children of the decedent in equal shares.

Mrs. C., Ohio.—Under the laws of Oklahoma, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a man, leaving no will, and leaving no widow, child or descendant, and leaving no father, his whole estate after payment of debts and expenses would go to his mother in preference to his brothers and sisters.

Mrs. C. D. H., Texas.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a will must be signed by the testator himself, or in his presence by his direction, and unless wholly written by himself, by two witnesses in his presence; we do not think a mere statement in a letter as to the method the testator intended to dispose of his property could be probated as a will.

Mrs. F. C., Louisiana.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that it is possible to obtain a good title to real estate through a possessory ownership or through tax sales, but we can form no opinion as to whether this has been done in the case you submit, on the information you send us. (2) We think if your deed was recorded, you can now procure a certified copy of the same.

Mrs. H. H., Montana.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a widow and one child as his only heirs at law and next of kin, his estate, subject to the payment of debts and expenses, would go in equal share to such wife and child; we think such child is entitled to such share regardless of the fact that he is a child of decedent by a former marriage.

Mrs. D. H. W., Kentucky.—We do not think your husband has any legal right to keep you from visiting your friends and relatives to a reasonable extent, nor do we think you can legally compel him to spend all of his leisure time at home.

Miss F. E. E., Virginia.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a surviving widow and two children by such widow, the widow would receive dower of a one third interest for life in the real estate, and one third of the surplus, after payment of debts and expenses, of the personal property absolutely; we do not think the remarriage of the widow would affect her interest in the estate; we think proceedings to sell the real estate, belonging to an infant, would create an expense, and that if the infant is nearly of age it might, in some cases, be advisable to delay the sale until such time.

Mrs. D. W. B., Pennsylvania.—We do not think that, the fact that the property owned by your husband is subject to a mortgage, would in any way affect the validity of a will made by him, except that he can dispose of no greater interest in the property than he himself owns.

Mrs. A. F. S., Georgia.—We think that if you dispossess your tenant, such proceedings would break your lease and relieve your tenant from the future obligation thereunder, but that such proceedings would not relieve such tenant from the obligation for the payment of such rent as may be due you up to the time of the dispossess proceedings.

Mrs. L. K., Minnesota.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that it is possible to word a deed for the purchase of real estate by a husband and wife, so that the whole property, upon the death of one, will become the sole property of the survivor; we can form no opinion, however, as to the particular deed you mention, without an examination of the same; we think you should have it examined by some local authority.

A. S., Mississippi.—If your debtor refuses to pay you, and if your note is now due, or over due, we think you should proceed against him to enforce the payment by an action in your local courts.

Mrs. W. H., Texas.—Upon your statements, we are of the opinion, first, that it depends upon the terms of your lease as to just what repairs or improvements you can compel the landlord to put on property; second, we think that if your chickens trespass upon your neighbor's property and destroy his crop, he would be entitled to recover such damages from you as he suffered by reason thereof. Of course, if his crop is upon land for which you pay rent, and there is no agreement reserving his crop rights from your lease to this property, you might be entitled to recourse from the landlord by reason thereof; third, we think that your husband would be entitled to reasonable compensation from the person for whom he performed the service you mentioned. Just who this person is, your statements do not make clear to me; fourth, we think that your husband's claim for the money he loaned the negro would be against the negro himself and not against his employer, and that it would first be necessary for him to proceed against his debtor before he could try to recover monies due his debtor from someone else.

L. C., Iowa.—We are of the opinion that it depends upon the ingredients of your medicine or compound as to just what legal requirements would be necessary before marketing the same. We think in any event, if it contains drugs, it would be necessary to comply with the requirements of the Department of Agriculture under the Pure Food and Drug Act, and further requirements in case same contains certain drugs or contains alcohol. We think it advisable for you to take this matter up with some local authority with whom you can go in greater detail.

Mrs. E. T., Ashland, Ill.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that children may be disinherited by will, provided, of course, the testator possesses testamentary capacity, is not under undue influence and provided the will is legally drawn and executed and expresses his true intent.

Mrs. S. B. M., Waynesboro, Pa.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, first, that children may be disinherited by will, but that such children would, of course, have the right to contest the will of a parent, in case the parent lacked testamentary capacity or if undue influence was exercised upon such parent in connection with the making of the will or if the will was not legally drawn or executed or did not comply with the law, or did not express the testator's true intent; second, under the laws of your state, upon the death of a married man leaving no will and leaving a widow and children or descendants, his widow would receive one third of the real estate for life and one third of the personal property absolutely, the balance going to his children in equal shares, the descendants of any deceased child taking the parent's share.

E. H. W., Fairfax, Mo.—Upon your statements, we are of the opinion, that it depends upon facts not stated in your communication as to whether the sale of the land you mention conveyed good title. We think you should have the records examined to ascertain in just what manner this land was sold. We think the same could be sold legally in case your mother left a will naming the executor and giving him power of sale of same. We think also that in case she died intestate her minor heirs' interest in the land could have been legally disposed of in a proceeding brought for that purpose. As to just how this land was left and the manner in which the same was sold, you do not inform us and as above stated, we think you should have the records examined to ascertain this information. Of course, if your father only had an interest in this property and undertook to convey the whole title of the property, we think it quite probable that the present holder now has a defective title.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.)

A Tramp's Philosophy

I've been round this country from Texas to Maine,
And mostly with nary a red;
I've walked it for miles in the wettest of rain,
And slept on a board for a bed.
But I've learnt a few comfortin' facts by the way,
While living this queeer life of mine,
And the principal one of the lot let me say,
Is, "It's better to whistle than whine."

I know that the Winter's a-comin' on fast,
I'm aware that a home I ain't got;
I see that the clothes I'm a-wearin' won't last
Till I reach a more torrider spot,
But nobody yet has discovered in me
Anxiety's tiniest sign;
And it's just 'cause I learnt in my youth, don't you see,
That "It's better to whistle than whine."

It strikes me somehow that it's mighty durn queer,
That fellers much wiser than me,
Keep kickin' because this terresteral sphere
Ain't jest what they want it to be,
Their parents have filled them with Latin and Greek,
But their logic ain't equal to mine,
Or else they would know every day in the week
That "It's better to whistle than whine."

—*Sent in by J. J. F., Lynn.*

Rock-a-bye

Baby is sleeping so cozy and fair,
While mother sits near, in her old oaken chair,
Her foot on the rocker the cradle she swings,
And though baby slumbers he hears what she sings:

CHORUS.

Rock-a-bye baby, on the treetop,
When the wind blows the cradle will rock,
When the bough breaks the cradle will fall
And down will come cradle, baby and all.
Rock-a-bye, rock-a-bye, mother is near,
Rock-a-bye, rock-a-bye, nothing to fear;
For angels of slumber are hovering near,
So rock-a-bye, rock-a-bye, mother is near.

Grandma sits rocking close by the fireplace,
With snowy white hair and a smile on her face;
The years have gone fast, yet it does not seem long
Since she rocked baby's papa to sleep with that song.
Dear little baby, there's joy and there's pride,
Long may it be so, whatever betide.
The kitchen, the cradle, in tender refrain,
Each echo in mem'ry that lullaby strain.

Sent in by P. A. R., Haverhill.

A Warrior Bold

In days of old, when knights were bold,
And barons held their sway,
A warrior bold, with spurs of gold,
Sang merrily his lay,
Sang merrily his lay;
"My love is young and fair,
My love hath golden hair,
And eyes so blue, and heart so true,
That none with her compare.
So what care I, though death be nigh,
I'll live for love or die,
So what care I, though death be nigh,
I'll live for love or die."
So this brave knight, in armor bright,
Went gayly to the fray:
He fought the fight, but ere the night,
His soul had pass'd away,
His soul had pass'd away.
The plighted ring he wore
Was crushed and wet with gore,
Yet ere he died he bravely cried:
"I've kept the vow I swore,
So what care I, though death be nigh,
I've fought for love and die,
So what care I, though death be nigh,
I've fought for love, I've fought for love,
I've fought for love, for love, for love I die."

—*Edwin Thomas.*

Sometime We'll Understand

Not now, but in the coming years,
It may be in a better land,
We'll read the meaning of our tears,
And there, sometime, we'll understand.

CHORUS.

Then trust in God through all thy days;
Fear not, for He doth hold thy hand;
Though dark thy way, still sing and praise;
Sometime, sometime, we'll understand.

We'll catch the broken threads again,
And finish what we here began;
Heaven will the mysteries explain,
And then, ah, then, we'll understand.

We'll know why clouds instead of sun,
Were over many a cherished plan;
Why song has ceased when scarce begun;
'Tis there, sometime, we'll understand.

Why what we long for most of all,
Eludes so oft our eager hands;
Why hopes are crushed and castles fall,
Up there, sometime, we'll understand.

God knows the way, He holds the key.
He guides us with unerring hand;
Sometime with tearless eyes we'll see;
Yes, there, up there, we'll understand.

Maxwell N. Cornelius, D.D.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 28.)

NO MONEY NEEDED



This suit is yours without a penny's cost. Just send us a postal or letter today. Let us show you how to get it by our easy plan. No experience needed. Be our agent and make

$10 to $15 a Day

in your spare time. It is dead easy—you never saw a nobbier suit or a more stunning pattern, cut in very latest style. Your choice of 60 fabrics and 32 styles. Drop us a postal card for heavy pattern book, inside information about styles, self-measuring blanks, etc. DON'T WAIT. We prepay Delivery Charges. **Mail Postal NOW!**

American Woolen Mills Co.
Dept. 407 Chicago

"I can earn $2 a day at home"

You may say that, too—if you want more income. Easy to learn. Steady work at home *the year round.* Send 2c stamp for information. Write today, to Auto-Knitter Hosiery Co., Inc., Desk 95-W, 147 Franklin Street, Buffalo, N. Y.



HAIR-DYEING COMB

Produces any shade by simply combing, without staining the scalp; perfectly harmless, durable, undetectable. Saves time and money, and is the only practical way of coloring the hair. Write for particulars.
H. BIENECK, Dept. D, 1821 Gleason Ave., New York.



TYPEWRITERS

SOLD or RENTED anywhere at ¼ to ½ Manufacturers' Prices, allowing Rental to Apply on Price. FREE TRIAL. Instalment payments if desired. Write for circular 29.
TYPEWRITER EMPORIUM, 34-38 W. Lake St., Chicago



WHITE ROSE FACE BLEACH

Will make your Complexion as white as the virgin snow. 2-cent stamp for free particulars. Address
MME. BOGETT,
Box 490, Desk 4, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FACE

But Your Nose?



IN THIS DAY AND AGE attention to your appearance is an absolute necessity if you expect to make the most out of life. Not only should you wish to appear as attractive as possible, for your own self-satisfaction, which is alone well worth your efforts, but you will find the world in general judging you greatly, if not wholly, by your "looks," therefore it pays to "look your best" at all times.

Permit no one to see you looking otherwise; it will injure your welfare! Upon the impression you constantly make rests the failure or success of your life. Which is to be your ultimate destiny? My new *Nose-Shaper,* "Trados" (Model 22) corrects now ill-shaped noses without operation, quickly, safely and permanently. Is pleasant and does not interfere with one's daily occupation, being worn at night.

Write today for free booklet, which tells you how to correct ill-shaped noses without cost if not satisfactory.

M. TRILETY, Face Specialist 823 Ackerman Bldg., Binghamton, N. Y.

Beautiful Silk Pieces

Premium No. 5561



Remnants of real silk, in all shapes, sizes and colors. They are **carefully trimmed and just what you need for making up beautiful quilts, tidies, pillow tops and all kinds of "crazy patchwork."** We will send you a **big package** containing **one hundred** of these beautiful **silk pieces** besides a **piece of plush and 5 skeins embroidery silk in different bright colors.** If you order **at once** we will also send you, **in addition** to everything else, an **Instruction Book with eight full-page illustrations** showing how to ornament seams of crazy patchwork and other work where fancy stitches are used. It tells you how to put pieces of patchwork together **to get the best effect,** how to **cover up seams** with fancy stitches, how to **join the edges,** etc. This book illustrates over **one hundred and fifty** of these besides containing full and explicit directions for working the **Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille embroidery, ribbon work, plush or tufted stitch** also directions for **Kensington painting.** Remember you get one big lot of these Silk Remnants (100 pieces), 5 skeins Embroidery Silk, one piece of Plush, and an Instruction Book, as above described, all sent to you **free by Parcel Post prepaid** if you will accept either one of the following offers.

Offer No. 5561A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you one package of these Silk Remnants, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 5561B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you one package of these Remnants free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5561.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

6 Months To Pay 6

Tailor-Made-To Order



This is the most sensational Tailor-Made-to-Order Suit Offer ever made. You can now have any suit you want—cut and fit in the very latest style—from your own choice of the season's latest patterns—and take **six months to pay** for it, if, after trying it on, you desire to keep it. Furthermore, we will make you any suit you may want on receipt of

Only $1.00

Write name and address on postal for free book which explains full particulars of this offer. No matter what price, style or pattern suit you want we will make it to your order and send it to you on receipt of Only $1.00. After suit arrives and you are convinced that it is the biggest bargain you ever saw or heard of, pay the balance of our rock-bottom price on the easiest, most liberal credit terms ever devised. We also

Save You $15 to $25

We buy all our materials in enormous quantities, **direct from the mills**, at rock-bottom prices. We do our own designing, cutting and tailoring. And by making every suit in our mammoth establishment and **selling direct to the man who wears** the clothes we eliminate all waste and save you the dealer's profits.



Big Style Book And Cloth Samples FREE

Send for this wonderful free book. It shows latest styles in men's garments and a wonderful assortment of actual fabrics—the very pick of foreign and domestic mills. Mail postal for Free Book and Samples today.

STANLEY-ROGERS CO.,
1015 Jackson Blvd.,
Dept. 522 Chicago, Ill.

AUTOS GIVEN AWAY
YOU CAN GET ONE

SEND FOR MY FREE PLAN

If you want a brand new 1917 Overland Touring Car, fully equipped, without spending one penny, write for my remarkable plan today. Dozens of inexperienced men and women everywhere have secured automobiles free by my plan. You can be next. You need no money, nor experience. Easy spare-time work among your friends will bring you an auto. The only condition is, that you live on a farm or in a town of LESS than 10,000 population. Opportunity awaits you. Act now! Write me a card, saying, "Send me your free plan by which I can get an Overland Auto without cost." Address:

A. H. Wichman, 608 2nd Av. S., Minneapolis, Minn.



BIRTH STONE RINGS FREE
14K Gold filled, guaranteed to give satisfaction, with stone for any month, to introduce our catalogue. Send 12c to cover cost of advertising and mailing. Send size.
EagleJewelry Co., Dept. 51, East Boston, Mass.

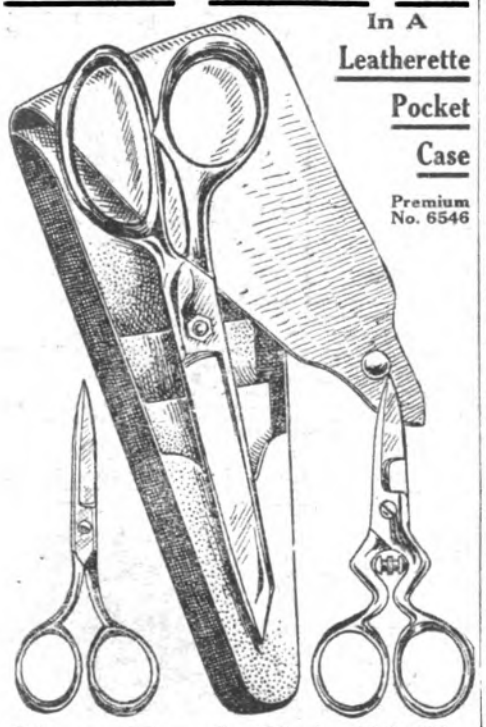
BE A DETECTIVE

Earn from $150.00 to $300.00 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. LUDWIG, 121 Westover Building, Kansas City, Mo.

3-Piece Scissor Set

In A Leatherette Pocket Case

Premium No. 6546



Given For A Club Of Six

This handsome and useful **3-Piece Shear-and-Scissor Set** is something actually needed in every home. The Shears are **8 inches long**, made of the very best steel, highly tempered, and **handsomely nickel plated.** They are ground down to a **sharp keen edge** which will last almost indefinitely without resharpening. The Buttonhole Scissors are also made of fine quality steel **4 1-4 inches in length** with a patented **gauge** as shown in the illustration. By simply screwing this gauge one way or the other any desired size buttonhole can be instantly made without loss of time or trouble. The Embroidery Scissors are **4 1-4 inches long**, made of the same high quality steel, and beautifully nickel plated. The complete assortment comes in a handsome **leather pocket carrying case** which fastens with a ball-and-socket device. This case makes it very convenient to carry all three pieces in the pocket or in shopping or traveling bag. This is one of the most useful premiums we have ever offered and we expect a great demand for it among COMFORT's lady and girl readers who have lots of **sewing and home dressmaking work to do.** We will send you this **3-Piece shear-and-scissor set** in handsome **leather case** exactly as above described **free** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or three 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you this 3-Piece Shear-and-Scissor Set free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6546.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Manners and Looks

"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Flossie Baldwyn, Miss.—Your letter begins: "I am writing you in regard of how to catch a beaux," and basing our reply upon the other portions of your letter, we should say that it is not a "beaux" that you should catch, but a spelling-book. And when you catch it, Flossie, don't let it get away from you until you have conquered it from start to finish. This isn't etiquette, but it is what you need.

Bride-to-be, Podopholine, Tenn.—Orange blossoms in the bridal veil should be real, but if real ones cannot be had, the artificial will answer, as nobody can tell the difference except by examination. If the bride is in full wedding dress and veil, the groom must also wear the full regalia, day or evening, as the hour is. We extend our very best wishes.

Anxious, New Haven, Mo.—A fifteen-year-old girl's best etiquette is her mother.

Ignorant Miss, Noris, Ky.—The lady is not introduced to the gentleman, but the contrary, so you should not say you were introduced to a gentleman. In response to the usual "I am pleased to meet you," merely bowing will be enough, or "Thank you," if you feel you must say something. Of course, it is always proper to make any pleasant response that you think of, but most people are too stupid to think of anything original to say. When a traveling salesman introduces another to you, you should say something not stereotyped, for these Knights of the Road are always appreciative of novelties. Any bright young woman ought to be able to make an appropriate response without being told how.

Puzzled, Frankewing, Tenn.—When a gentleman is introduced to a lady she should speak first as recognizing the introduction, but introductions are so frequently made in such an informal manner that the niceties are not always observed, and it makes very little difference. Etiquette is not intended to make people stiff and formal, but easy and natural. (2) There is no particular "better age" for a girl to marry, but she should not marry until she is mentally and physically matured. This condition varies in different girls, and we may remark that some of them never do reach it.

Sadness, Nasaville, Tenn.—The man of twenty-four is younger than the woman of the same age, and if your young man doesn't realize this and is merely dallying along with you, it would be the part of wisdom for you firmly but respectfully to discontinue the affair. Possibly that might bring him to a realizing sense of your rights in the premises. Still, if he has to be shown, we think you would prefer a different kind of man as a life partner.

R. G., Elihu, Ky.—If you have to be taught out of a book how to act when you go to call on a lady, don't go. Books of etiquette have a value in a general way, but the finer details of association can only be acquired by practise. If you meet young ladies at church, or picnics, or dances, or any of the other social functions of the community, you will learn how to act properly and when you make a call you will act that way without reading it out of a book. A book you could read for general information in social matters is "Twentieth Century Etiquette." (2) When a gentleman is introduced to a lady he does not shake hands unless she offers her hand first.

A. A. G., Andover, S. Dak.—The United States is called Uncle Sam. (2) St. Peter's in Rome is generally credited with being the largest church in the world. (3) A shaving kit would be a suitable present next Christmas for the young man, though this is a little early for Christmas shopping. (4) It really is not proper to go home with a young man from an entertainment to which he might have taken you if he had cared to go to the trouble. By going home with him, you simply pardon his bad manners and selfishness.

Brown Eyes, Philadelphia, Pa.—A girl of sixteen or three of them, should be accompanied by a chaperon when going to a public skating-rink. Brother or father will answer if they attend to their duties. A public skating-rink is not the best place for a young girl, with, or without, a chaperon. (2) Before going to the party ask your mother what time you should come home and do what she says. (3) Written invitations ordinarily mean more formal affairs and they should be sent in sealed envelopes. For informal affairs among friends, almost any form of invitation—the phone is quite the thing these days—will not be objected to if a good time is promised.

Three, Kola, Miss.—Unless the lady is feeble and needs assistance to rise, it is not necessary for her escort to assist her when the minister asks the congregation to rise. (2) A girl of twenty should not have a calling beau if she does not know what to say when he tells her he has enjoyed her company. She might tell him it was more than she could truthfully say of his.

Miss L., Powell, Ky.—Ladies do not usually say anything to the gentlemen whom they do not want around expressive of their feelings, but they administer snubbing and underhand treatment which the gentleman of average comprehension will understand and not come around. If that treatment does not produce desired results, the lady may express herself frankly and end the acquaintance. Etiquette rules do not prescribe the proper language to be used on such a delicate occasion. Say what you please and as forcibly as you please, if it is a very stupid case. The real gentleman does not have to be told.

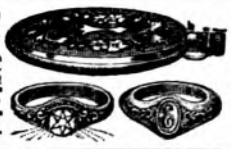
Snow Bird, Billsboo, N. C.—The gentlman may assist the lady to put on her rubbers, but she can better manage her gloves without his assistance. (2) As you were so careless as to leave your gloves at home on a cold night, it was polite of your escort to offer you his, and proper for you to accept them. (3) If the lady lets a gentleman wear a ring she loans him it makes no difference whose the ownership may be. The lady is responsible for the property. That is one reason we object to the exchange of rings. Would you like to see a ring of yours you had loaned a gentleman, on some other girl's finger? But it happens that way.

Lonely Wife, Dorchester, Texas.—Any person of human feeling, whether etiquette, or not, would suppose that your husband, after working away from home all week, would be only too glad to be at home Sunday with his wife and baby boy. He may love you, as he says he does, but he doesn't realize what love is, and we suggest to you that every Sunday, just as he starts off on his outing, you start off with the baby in another direction, taking a lunch along with you. If you are not at home when he gets back, no matter, let him be lonely for a while. It will do him good and we think two or three treatments of this kind will cure him of his outing habits and teach him the real value to him of his wife and baby. Don't quarrel with him, or complain, but cheerfully go your way for Sunday as he does for his. That's enough.

H. H. H., Great Falls, Mont.—As all the young people nearly who live in the country go to the local dances, there should be nothing improper in it. But if the dances are in town and you will meet all kinds of young men, most of them not the right kind, you are safer at home. At the country dances we have known, everybody knew everybody else and everything was all right. (2) The best dances that a young girl can dance are those for which she doesn't have to educate her modesty in modern manners, before she can dance them. Before dancing any of the newer dances, look at them for a while and if they jar your delicacy, don't learn to dance them, because it is merely teaching your modesty to be callous. (3) A seventeen-year-old girl, out of school, may have a Sunday caller, if her mother does not object.



ALL THESE FREE



Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone, 22-inch chain, Handsome Watch **GUARANTEED TIME-KEEPER**, one Nethersole Bracelet to fit any arm and these 2 gold plated Rings **ALL GIVEN** for selling only 24 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c each. Write for Jewelry today.

FREE

COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO., Dept. 265 East Boston, Mass.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27.)

Best Ways of Doing Things Around the Home

Grass stains can be removed from white material by washing the stained garments in spirits of camphor.

To remove ink stains, soak the spot in sweet milk. As soon as milk gets dark, change and use fresh.

To make lamp chimney and tumblers stronger, boil them for a couple of minutes in water.
MRS. E. H. IRON, Minn.

When I bake pies or cakes I take my pancake turner and slip it under the pans to put them in and take them out of the oven and thus I seldom burn my fingers.

Here is a recipe for quarreling. Take a root of sassafras and steep in a pint of water and put in a bottle. When your husband is in a quarrelsome mood, fill your mouth with this and hold it there till he goes away or is better natured. A sure cure.
MRS. G. C. MCLAUGHLIN, Oil City, Pa.

Here is a good washing fluid. At a drug-store get two ounces salts of tartar, two ounces of carbonated ammonia, one pound of borax and a can of good lye. Put in a stone jar and add four quarts of water. Take one cup of this solution and put in boiler of water, add half cake of washing soap, wet clothes and put in boiler and boil. They will not require rubbing unless very soiled.

BLACK INK. (Requested.)—Gather oak balls before they get hard, usually the last of July or the first of August, from green oaks. Press out the juice, strain through cheese-cloth into a can, drop in a dozen rusty iron nails and let stand in can two days. Strain and add a small amount of alcohol. I have some made twenty years ago and it is good yet.
MRS. HARRIET POOL, Yreka, Cal.

Remedies

To cure headache, take a teaspoon of cinnamon with water.
MRS. E. H. IRON, Minn.

BOILS.—Draw to head with a poultice of soap and sugar. Also is effective on corns.

When baby is constipated, give a teaspoon of sweet cream. This is a fine remedy.
MRS. B. T. OSBORNE, Vedalia, Ga.

CATARRH OF STOMACH.—Buy ten cents' worth of gum arabic, and let a small piece dissolve in the mouth five or six times a day.

RUSTY NAIL WOUNDS.—Immerse wound in hot strong salt water, then smoke with wool or woolen rags for half an hour; after this apply equal parts of turpentine and lard and bind with a clean white cloth. Equally good for any form of blood poison.
FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

Requests

How to can mixed vegetables for soup.

Cure for epileptic fits.
MRS. NOVA ALCORN, New Liberty, Mo.

The poem, "Tommy's Prayer."
MRS. W. C. BEEWER, Bennett, N. C.

Will some sister send me the book entitled, "Anne of the Island." I will return favor.
MABEL HENDRICKSON, Iron, Minn.

Mrs. John F. Wisler, Salona, P. O. Box 34, Pa., would like the July, August and September numbers of COMFORT for year 1915.

Mrs. C. C. Bates, Castalian Springs, Tenn. would like to hear from someone who has taken the milk diet. Will return postage.

Mrs. L. M. Cook, Otwell, Box 80, Ark., would like the name of "the liquid and bright specks" used on crepe flowers; also address of the "Illustrated Companion."

Will someone please send me all of last year's papers, beginning with the March number of COMFORT. Will return favor any way I can.
MRS. C. A. WOODROUGH, Moore Haven, Fla.

Mrs. C. I. Simmers, Hildebrand, Oregon, would like poem containing the lines:

"Yan's old man owned a lottery shack,
Restaurant front and game out back;
Sat at his desk and glared through his specs,
At the guide's and tourist's rubber necks."

Silk Ribbon



Premium No. 7852

Your Choice Of Pink, Blue, Black, White, Red And Green

Two Yards For A Club of Two!

It is just what you need for **hair ribbons** for the children and for trimming dresses, **hats**, articles of fancy work, etc. The quality is the **best.** It is 5¼ inches wide and comes in **pink, blue, black, white, red** and **green.** We purchased several thousand yards of this fine silk ribbon to give away as a premium and we will be glad to send you as many yards as you want upon the terms of the following special offer. **Be sure to mention color wanted when ordering.**

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents, we will send you two yards of this guaranteed all silk ribbon **free** by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 7852.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SILK MUSLIN SCARF

Premium No. 3313



A dainty shoulder throw and head covering for Summer, or for evening wear the year round. For trimming Summer Hats there is nothing so practical or so easily and attractively arranged. Each Scarf is two yards long and 24 inches wide, with deep hemstitched edge, and we have them in white, black, light blue and light pink.

For every-day use such a scarf is indispensable and for car or boat riding, pleasure or otherwise one or more of these scarfs will be found useful. Being ready to wear, the saving of time in hemstitching is worth something to every woman, and the busy Mothers will find them so convenient for a quick method of trimming the children's hats. **When ordering be sure to mention color wanted.**

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this Silk Scarf free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 3313.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

AGENTS
Get Next to This!



A Big Money Maker

A WORLD BEATER

The biggest, fastest, snappiest sellers in the world. A big box of the finest Toilet Soaps, and give a pair of Patented Tension Shears *free* with each sale. Hundreds of other Big Snaps. Makes selling easy. Beginners cleaning up $5 to $6 a day. Start while new. Outfit furnished free. Write today.

AMERICAN PRODUCTS CO., 7715 3rd St., CINCINNATI, O.

MEN WANTED



We positively teach you at home by mail to earn $25 to $50 weekly as Chauffeur or Repairman. Students assisted to positions. Best system, lowest price. MODELS FURNISHED. Write for Free Book. PRACTICAL AUTO SCHOOL, 70-F, Beaver St., New York.

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers." **RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.**

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties, Catalog Free. **D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.**

MONEY Made quickly by smart men. T. ARTOL CO., 115 Nassau St., N.Y.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Information of my son John Rilley Stephens, last heard from at Hoxy, Ark. Notify his mother, Mrs. Lucy Sherrod, Kennett, Mo.

Information of whereabouts of James Edwin Martin, age twenty-seven years. Last heard of near Laramie, Wyo. Please notify his mother, Mary Martin, Bedford, Iowa.

Information of George Spliethof. Notify Mrs. P. H. Bradley, Moorefield, Nebr.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Miss Cora Yelm, Genoa, Nebr. Margaret Alice Martin, Windsor, P. O. Box 614, Vt. A. V. Causey, Guinda, Cal. Miss Kathleen Fuller, Mechanicville, Box 896, N. Y. Thelma J. Nymeyer, Globe, Box 1992, Ariz. Chas. E. V. Ryan, 225 Franklin St., Janesville, Wis. John W. Murphy, 407 Main St., Barnhill, Ohio. Mr. F. W. Lontensock, Magna, Box 243, Utah.

Find Rich Treasure in Magazine

Illinois man and woman find 210 helpful, money-earning, money-saving, better home-making, entertaining and educational suggestions in one copy. While they last, they will send free to any reader of this paper a complete list of the 210 helpful suggestions, also a free copy of the magazine. Address John & Kate, 149 W. Ohio St., Room A, Chicago. (Adv.)

Become A Mother

Every Expectant Mother Should Learn

the truth without mystery from the pen of a doctor that made the trials and tribulations of motherhood his life's work and study. Teaches you how to insure the health and comfort of the prospective mother and child—safeguards the domestic and spiritual welfare of parents and makes their happiness complete—how to care for the baby and the hundred and one facts you should know to keep baby healthy and vigorous.

Written in plain and simple language and fully illustrated. Unfolds the secrets of healthy motherhood so often revealed to most parents too late.

Special Offer—This book for years sold for $2.00 but the present edition fully illustrated, printed on good paper (over 400 pages 7x5 inches in size) handsomely bound in cloth with gold lettering on cover if ordered promptly is **offered for 60c postpaid—subject to return if dissatisfied after examination and your money back. (only one to a reader.) You'll never regret sending for this book TODAY.**



EYD PUBLISHING CO.,
700 Lincoln Bldg., Buffalo, N. Y.

Tapestry Table Cover



Nearly One Yard Square

Premium No. 6643

Given For A Club of Three

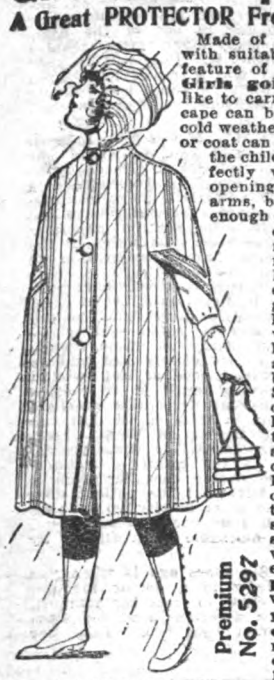
THIS beautiful, fringed Tapestry Table Cover is nearly **one yard square** which is a size large enough for any stand or small table and is very elaborately made up in **handsome colors** on an interwoven background which is of a color that **harmonizes** with the fringe which extends entirely around the cover. Add one or more of these beautiful colored covers to the furnishings of any room and it will **enliven and cheer up the whole atmosphere of your home.** They are just as durable as they are handsome and taken altogether are something any woman should be pleased to own and display. We will send you this Table Cover, exactly as described, if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this Tapestry Table Cover free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6643.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Girl's Waterproof Cape

A Great PROTECTOR From WIND and RAIN



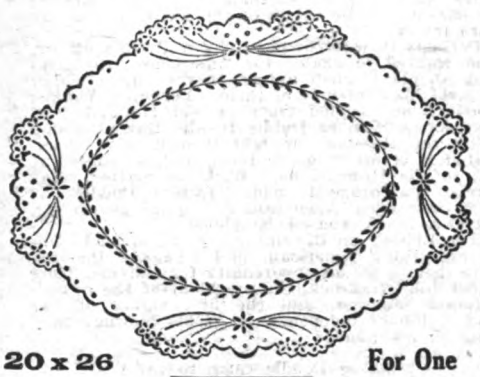
Premium No. 5297

Made of striped rubberized cloth with suitable lining, and the best feature of this cape is the hood. **Girls going to school** do not like to carry an umbrella, and this cape can be worn either in hot or cold weather. If in winter a sweater or coat can be worn underneath, and the child is not only dry but perfectly warm. There are two openings in the cape for the arms, but the garment is large enough so the books or packages can be carried underneath, which makes it much **better than a Rain Coat.** The shoulders are shaped so as to give it a very attractive look. This cape comes in a very dark drab color with lighter drab stripes. They are so pretty any girl will be proud to wear one. Sizes 6 to 14 years. When ordering better order it larger than necessary so to have it of sufficient size to go over a heavy coat or other garments. **Boys** can easily get up clubs and thus get one of these Rain Capes for their sisters. **Girls** like to get subscribers to COMFORT where they can so easily **earn such a sensible premium** so as to keep warm and dry during the rainy season. **When ordering be sure to mention size wanted. It comes in sizes from 6 to 14 years.**

Special Club Offer. For a club of only seven one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you by parcel post one of these serviceable Rain Capes. **State size wanted. Premium No. 5297.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Handsome Tray Cloth



20 x 26 Inches — **Premium No. 7841** — **For One Subscription**

We call the above one of the handsomest designs in a tray-cloth we have yet seen to say nothing of its large size, which is **20 x 26 inches** and yet in spite of its size it does not require an unusual amount of work to finish it. The stitches themselves are simple as it may be worked either in solid or eyelet embroidery with buttonhole edge. It looks the neatest when worked all in white, although one or more colors may be used if desired. This extra large, attractive tray-cloth comes stamped on pure white "Butcher cloth" which in reality is very fine linen finished cotton—a material which has the appearance of pure linen and will if anything give longer service. We will make you a present of this tray-cloth upon the terms of one of the following special offers.

Offer 7841A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25c we will send you this handsome tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7841B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 10c additional (35c in all) we will send you this tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7841.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN

Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Two

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome Pendant and Chain illustrated herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch genuine **rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the **rolled-gold plate** pendant is also made of **your own birthstone** and set with your own birthstone and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond,** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald,** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are solitaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or for one 3-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7342.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Children's Happy Hour

Chub, the Pet Pony

Copyright, 1917 by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

SOME little children like dogs better than any other kind of pets, others prefer kitten, or squirrels or rabbits, but Tom and Della just dearly loved Shetland ponies. They didn't have one either, for their parents were not rich, but every night they prayed for one and every morning they looked anxiously out to see if it had come while they were sleeping. They never doubted for an instant that it would come and resolved to do everything in their power to deserve it. They always cheerfully gave the coziest chairs in the house to grandma and grandpa and other visitors, and they never yelled out loud or made noise when older folks were trying to talk nor made a fuss about going to bed or getting dressed up or taking medicine or things like that. Of course they loved to romp and run outdoors and indeed they made plenty of noise, too, which is natural enough and quite proper for tots when they are at play, but once inside, I just wish you could see how nicely they behaved. Not once did they forget to say, "Thank you," when things were passed to them at mealtime nor "Please," when they wanted a second helping.

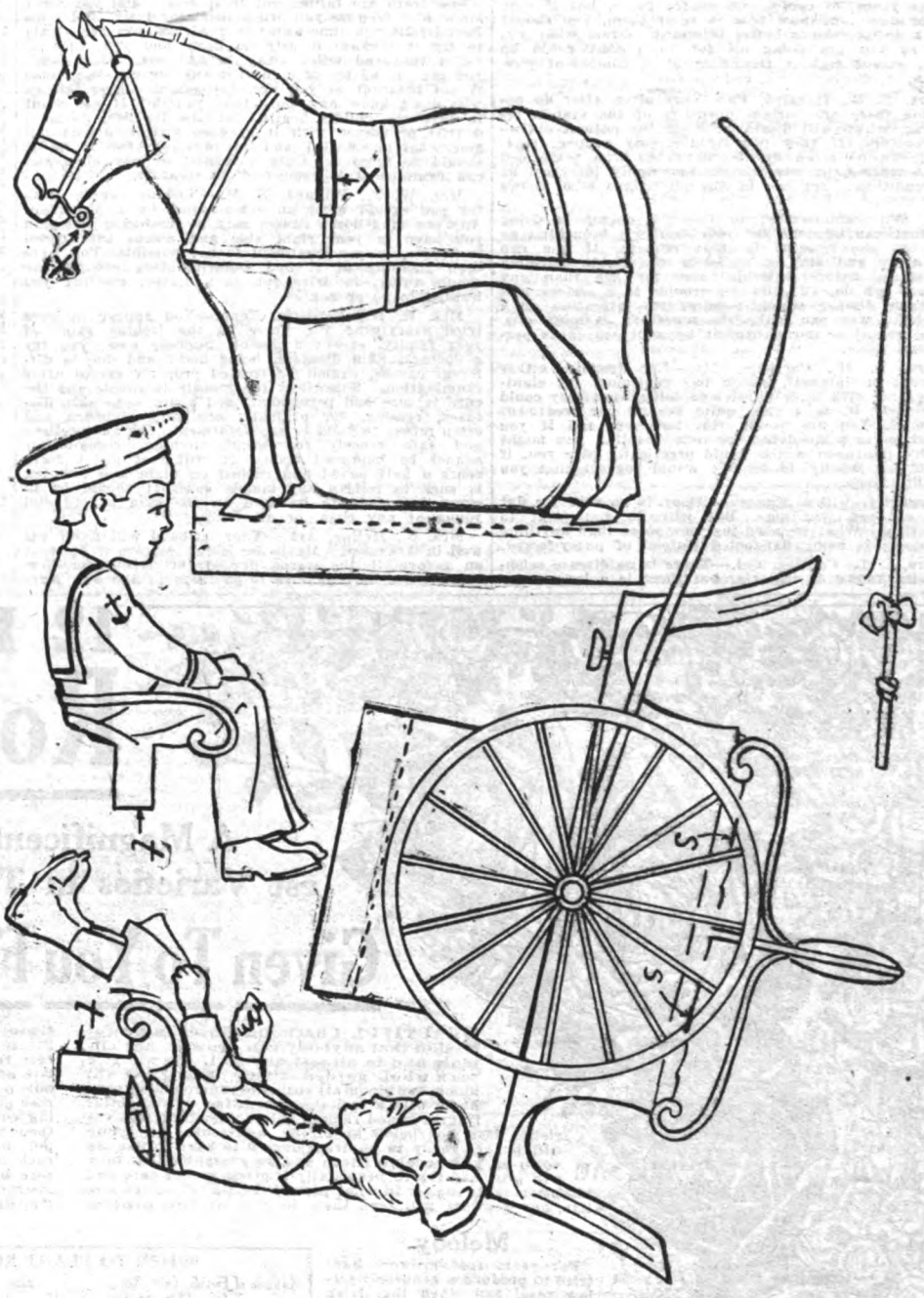
All this time, in a distant city, was a sad, lonely pony by the name of "Chub," who longed to have a little girl and boy for his masters. Chub's owner was a harsh, brutal man and made him haul heavy loads of coal and wood all day and beat him cruelly if he paused to get a breath. He loved children because they patted his thick mane and fed him apples and candy and, sometimes, when the big man would let a youngster sit on the seat and drive, Chub was as happy as he could be. One sultry evening after he had worked even harder than usual, his thoughtless driver locked him in the rickety stable and never gave him anything to eat or drink. Poor Chub whinnied and whinnied but all in vain. Presently it began to rain and he could hear the cool water splashing into the barrel that was just outside his stall window. This made him frantic to quench his thirst, and he pressed against the door to get out and was overjoyed to find that it was not locked. The rope, by which he was tied, held him fast only a little while for his teeth were strong and sharp and he easily chewed it through. Once free he took a long, delicious drink of the fresh water and felt much better. Slowly he ambled away, eating grass where he could find it along the ditches and by morning he had reached a dense woods where it would be very hard for anyone to find him. At first he thought it would be nice to stay there and be perfectly free, but he soon became lonesome and he also missed his regular feed of grain and hay, and he resolved to go further and seek a real home. I cannot say how long he traveled, but it must have been weeks, and the soft grass of the meadows and the growing grain he had munched had made him sleek and fat. Now Tom and Della were so sure of having their prayers answered that they had actually fixed one corner of the barn for their dream pony and every night when a storm threatened they left the door open. On a certain cloudy night a storm did come and the thunder and lightning were fearful. Chub was lonesome and scared and he found the open door and snuggled in. In the morning the children found him and were overjoyed. He was just as glad as they, and before noon their uncle had fixed up a cart and harness and he was trotting merrily before them. After three days of perfect bliss the bad man came to claim him and Chub shivered all over and the children wept.

"What do you use the pony for?" asked their father.

"To haul coal," answered the man.

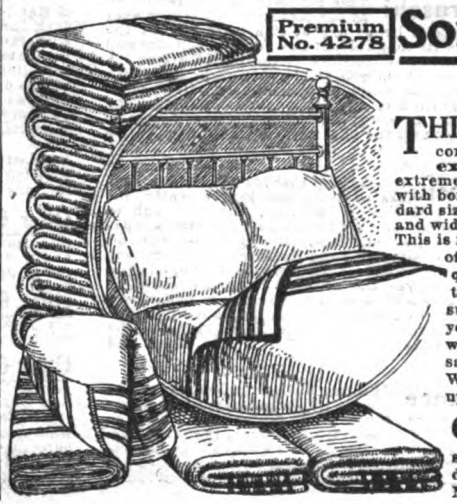
"He is not strong enough for that, but I will give you a horse, that is, if you leave him with us," offered their daddy.

After some delay the offer was accepted and now you can see Tom and Della riding in their pony cart any nice day. But really, don't you think the dear little souls deserve their good luck?



Pony Cart Cut-Out Directions

Tom and Della have a dear little pony and a brand new cart and they want you to put it together and see how they look in it. The first thing to do is to paste the entire picture on a smooth piece of cardboard, using cooked flour paste, and dry it for at least two hours in the middle of a big book. You next cut out each of the five objects and color them with crayons, chalk or paint. The pony will stand if you bend the long strip under him at the dotted line. The shafts of the cart go in and out of the slots "x." The girl and boy sit back to back. The extending flaps "t," "t" fit into the slots "s," "s." The whip may be inserted into the slot "s" also, in the front seat.



Premium No. 4278 Soft Warm Bed Blankets

Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Eight

THIS IS an offer which no good housewife can afford to overlook. It is your opportunity to secure as many large comfortable bed blankets as you may need **without a cent of expense.** These fine double blankets are six feet in length extremely well made and finely finished. The color is white or gray with border. Please notice that they are large enough for any standard size bed being of sufficient length to come up well on the pillow and wide enough so that they may be snugly tucked in at the sides. This is in reality one of the best bargains in a premium we have ever offered due to the fact that we buy these blankets in large quantities direct from the mill at a specially low price and therefore are enabled to offer them for a very small club of subscriptions. When you think of this big warm blanket on your bed or lying on a closet shelf ready for use when wanted, we believe that you will want to start a club at once for the sake of securing one or more of them free of all cost to you. We will gladly send you one or more of these splendid blankets upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or four 3-year subscriptions at 50 cents each, we will send you one of these fine, double bed blankets free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Prem. No. 4278. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

BIG DOLL and DOLL HOUSE FREE



This **big, beautiful doll** stands nearly **2 feet tall.** She has **3 dresses** and **3 hats** in gay colors, and can be **dressed and undressed. A big house** of heavy cardboard with **swinging** doors and blinds, also in **bright colors,** comes with her. **Girls,** send for only **12** of our fine **sealed package handkerchiefs:** sell them at **10c** each; return our money and we will send you your big doll and doll house by parcel post. All charges paid by us.

THE FAY-MORTON CO., East Boston, Mass. Dept. 120

FREE TO ANY LITTLE GIRL.

WRITE TO-DAY

AGENTS: $40 A WEEK

Wonderful New Hosiery Proposition



Guaranteed ONE YEAR Must wear 12 months or replaced free. Agents having wonderful success. H. W. Price sold 60 boxes in 12 hours. Mrs. Fields 109 pairs on one street. G. W. Noble made $35 in one day. Sworn proof. Sold only through agents. Not for sale in stores. A hosiery proposition that beats them all. Your territory still open. Write quick for terms and free samples.

THOMAS HOSIERY CO. 5930 Elk St. Dayton, Ohio

ALL FREE



Gold plated Locket set with sparkling stone and 22-inch chain, one Nethersole Bracelet to fit any arm and these four gold plated Rings, **ALL GIVEN FREE** for selling only 12 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c each. Write for Jewelry today. Address

Eagle Watch Co. Dept 65 East Boston, Mass.

CARDS Send 2c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelopes, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Bess Catcher and Issuer 2000 Songs given Free. **OHIO CARD CO., B14 Cadiz, Ohio.**

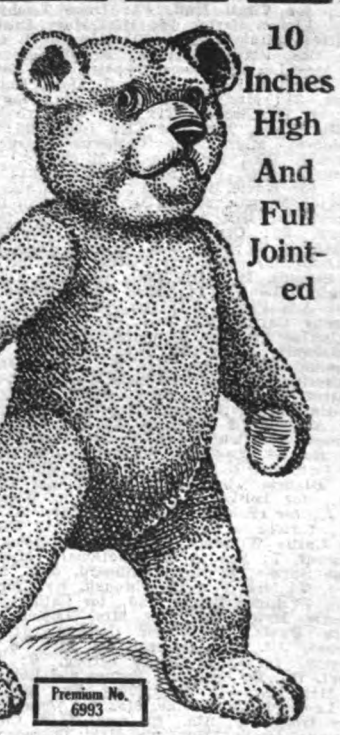
LOOK YOUR BEST. Make sure of smooth white arms, face and neck in spite of sallowness, blotches, freckles, blackheads etc. If you want to be charming and attractive—Don't pay 50c but send 10c at once for sealed Package, which will transform your appearance instantly. Warranted **TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927A, Boston, Mass.**

February Prize Winners

Mrs. G. N. Baillio, La.,	1st Prize (Doubled)	$60.00
Mrs. T. S. Strong, Iowa,	2nd Prize (Doubled)	40.00
Mrs. H. E. Logan, Texas,	3rd Prize (Doubled)	20.00
L. E. Henderson, Ark.,	4th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
Lewis F. Fults, Tenn.,	5th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
Mrs. Effie Lind, Nebraska,	6th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
Mrs. Mattie Albin, Missouri,	7th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Miss Ruth Wright, N. Mex.,	8th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
M. G. Christensen, Minn.,	9th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Jas. R. McCready, Pa.,	10th Prize	3.00
Robert Chaffan, Colo.,	11th Prize	2.00
J. A. Anderson, Neb.,	12th Prize	2.00
Mary Sandess, Va.,	13th Prize (Doubled)	4.00
Rudolph Fischer, Pa.,	14th Prize	2.00
Mrs. Alice Warner, Minn.,	15th Prize	2.00
Mrs. L. E. McCarver, N. C.,	16th Prize (Doubled)	4.00
Mattie Woodruff, Ga.,	17th Prize	2.00
Florence Tuell Adams, New York,	18th Prize	2.00

Large Shaggy Teddy Bear

The Best Playmate A Boy or Girl Ever Had



10 Inches High And Full Jointed

FOR A CLUB OF THREE!

EVERY little boy and girl wants a **Teddy Bear** and here is an opportunity for every father or mother who reads COMFORT to get one without expense. "Teddy" looks exactly as you see him in the picture above. He is a big shaggy fellow, **10 inches tall,** made of rich, handsome brown plush, paws lined with felt, carefully stitched and finished and his head, arms and legs are jointed in such a manner that you can place him in almost any position. He will stand up, sit up, stand on his head, go on all four feet, in fact, you can make him assume all kinds of positions that are so **comical and lifelike** that it makes the children scream with delight just to look at him. "Teddy" is so well made that no matter how roughly he is handled he cannot become broken and with ordinary care should last for years. We will send you "Teddy" free if you will accept the following special

Club Offer. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this big shaggy Teddy Bear free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6993.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

8 Wheel Chairs in March

403 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

The eight March wheel chairs go to the following applicants to bring a ray of sunshine into their dreary lives. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Madie Hanis, Middleton, Tenn., 200; Virgil Huff, R. R. 1, Grant City, Mo., 128; John Clark, Cedar Grove, Ind., 117; J. R. Claxton, Buffalo Gap, Texas, 108; Lottie Berry, Ellenwood, Ga., 102; Mrs. Lyman T. Carter, Eureka, Utah, 101; Mrs. Nina Beach, Buckhorn, N. Mex., 92; Tavie Culpepper, Lake Park, Ga., 91.

Madie Hanis, age 16, is crippled by tuberculosis of the bone from which she has suffered a long time. The disease has progressed so that she has not been able to walk the past year.

Virgil Huff, age 15, is so paralyzed that he has not walked or talked during the last eight years. His mother's health is broken by taking care of him and she expects the wheel chair will be a great help to her and comfort to the boy.

John Clark, a little crippled boy who is almost helpless. Miss Hilda Doerflien sent the entire 117 subscriptions for his chair all in one bunch.

J. R. Claxton, age 33, crippled the last four years by broken back, is much in need of a wheel chair. Has wife and two children.

Lottie Berry, age 17, crippled from birth and is almost helpless. Her mother, who has eight children and does all her own work wrote me; "If anybody in the world needs a wheel chair it is Lottie, and you don't know how it will be appreciated."

Mrs. Carter, age 30, widow, is almost helpless as the result of spinal trouble and is in great need of the wheel chair.

Mrs. Beach, age 43, is crippled by rheumatism so that she has not been able to walk for four years. She has a husband and four children.

Tavie Culpepper, age 10, is crippled from her hips down, caused by typhoid fever seven years ago.

Remember that I have a host of other shut-in applicants that need your help to get them wheel chairs. Don't neglect them this month. Let us get as many as possible out into the April sunshine.

We have a fine Roll of Honor this month. Your name would look well there next month.

Sincerely yours,
W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Subscription price is 25 cents, but if sent in clubs of five or more for the Wheel-Chair Club, I accept them at 20 cents each.

COMFORT Wheel Chair Far Nicer Than She Expected

COLUMBIA, N. C.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I received little Millie Catherine's chair Feb. 3rd., in good condition, charges all prepaid, and I wish to extend my sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to you for so nice a chair, and also to each and every one who so kindly helped me to get it. It is much nicer than I expected or scarcely dared hope for, and dear little Catherine is perfectly delighted with it. She seemed to understand from the very first sight of it that it was hers, and will point it out and beg to be rolled in it. It will be such a comfort to her and a great help to me. It arrived just three days before her birthday, Feb. 6th, so I call it her birthday present, and it surely is a grand one.

May you live long to send out many more chairs to poor little helpless children and shut-ins. I will send you little Catherine's picture in her chair soon as I can get one. Thanking you again, I am,

Most gratefully yours, MRS. A. W. BARNES.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

W. E. Driver, Tenn., for Madie Hanis, 200; Miss Hilda Doerflien, Ind., for John Clark, 117; M. A. Huff, Mo., for Virgil Huff, 63; Irene Temby, Utah, for Mrs. Lyman Carter 47; Miss Mary Lanier, Ga., for Dollie Virginia Lanier, 40; Edward H. Obert, N. J., for Mrs. Phillis Garrison, 39; W. M. Butter, La., for Mrs. Lusinda Sissons, 34; Mrs. Nina Beach, N. Mex., for own wheel chair 32; J. T. Doss, Tenn., for Allen Doss, 31; Mrs. Robert Gray, Ala., for Paul Huye, 30; J. R. Claxton, Tex., for own wheel chair, 27; Dollie Jones, Tex., for Cleo Jones, 25; Mrs. W. I. Paddock, Minn., for Catherine Barnes, 22; Eva Mitchel, Tex., for John B. Mitchel, 21; Mrs. Maud Morgan, Colo., for Preston Morgan, 21; Mary Berry, Ga., for Lottie Berry, 21; Fannie Walker, Okla., for Preston Morgan, 20; R. M. Terry, Tex., for Mrs. Jane Terry, 20; Mrs. Josie Rowland, Ark., for Mrs. Jane Terry, 20; Ola Williams, Ala., for Johnnie May Heatherly, 17; Mrs. L. J. Taggart, Ohio, for Catherine Fraisure, 17; Mrs. Sarah King, La., for Mrs. Lucinda Sissons, 16; Mrs. Della Kitchens, Ga., for Dollie Virginia Lanier, 14; Mrs. Nellie Floyd, S. C., for Miss Ada Pigate, 13; Mrs. Glen Groseclose, Va., for Eugene Catron, 12; Mrs. W. L. Bearden, Ga., for Catherine Fraisure, 10; Mrs. Ovilla Empey, Utah, for Community Chair, 10; Pearl Brennan, Kansas, for Preston Morgan, 10; Mrs. W. I. Paddock, Minn., for Catherine Barnes, 10; Bessie Wiseman, Va., for Lewis Walter Kellison, 9; Mrs. Frank Parks, Wyo., for Adella Porritt Alliston, 9; Mrs. J. G. Covin, Wash., for Arabella A. Sherrod, 8; Mrs. James Trefethen, Kansas, for Ben Brown, 8; Mrs. Hurt Mitchell, Va., for Roland Chewning, 8; Mrs. J. M. Shelnut, Ark., for Catherine Barnes, 8; Leavel & Willie Martin, Fla., for Blanche Hardin, 8; Leavel and Willie Martin, Fla., for Leithor Darter, 7; Mrs. Wicoff Barkalow, N. J., for Catherine Barnes, 7; Mrs. J. J. Culpepper, Ga., for Tavie Culpepper, 7; M. A. Williams, Ark., for Callie Williams, 7; Viola Meyersick, Kans., for General, 7; Mrs. A. C. MacDonald, Mich., for Catherine Barnes, 7; Mattie Hibbard, Ark., for Buel Hibbard, 7; Mrs. T. S. Scarbrough, Ky., for Mollie Graham, 7; Linda Bigger, Ind., for Catherine Barnes, 6; Bonnie Mylen, La., for Mrs. Lusinda Sissons, 6; Kate Davis, Okla., for General, 6; Mrs. Lizzie Freese, Ill., for General, 6; Mrs. S. A. Strong, Oregon, for Nada Pearl Strong, 6; Mrs. Z. M. Creel, Ill., for Catherine Barnes and Roland Chewning, 6; Mrs. Elizabeth Vandenburg, Va., for Anne Horton, 6; Leonard Schiefelbine, Mo., for General, 6; Johnnie May Heatherly, Ala., for own Wheel Chair, 6; Mrs. Thomas Drake, Mo., for Mrs. Lucinda Sissons, 6; Mrs. L. E. McCarver, N. C., for General, 6; Miss Edna Harrer, Pa., for General, 5; Mrs. T. B. Christian N. Mex., for Mrs. Nina Beach, 5; J. R. Anderson, Fla., for Catherine Fraisure, 5; Mrs. Ora Ashley, Okla., for General, 5; Mrs. R. Burgess, Mich., for Floid Ledbetter, 5; Mrs. Lila Valentine, Ark., for Callie Williams, 5; Mrs. Maude Waggoner, Kansas, for Preston Morgan, 5; Mrs. Ida Stumbaugh, Ohio, for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. Albert Shirley, Pa., for General, 5; Mrs. Dan Johnson, La., for Mrs. Lucinda Sissons, 5; Mrs. J. M. Bullard, Ala., for Mrs. Sallie Pearson, 5; Mrs. Annie Walling, Texas, for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mr. J. S. Boyd, Texas, for Catherine Barnes, 5; Miss Agnes Smith, Ohio, for General, 5; Miss Dell Bigler, N. Y., for General, 5; Mrs. J. A. McKenzie, Mass., for General, 5; Mrs. E. C. Keenan, Ill., for Maggie Ruth Heflin, 5; Myrtle Helms, Pa., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. A. C. Jennings, Texas, for General, 5; Mrs. J. R. Williams, Texas, for Mr. Jim Claxton, 5; Miss Ruth Martin, Wash., for Catherine Barnes, 5; Miss Ruth Martin, Wash., for Roland Chewning, 5; Mrs. Emmet Cochran, Oregon, for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. Emmet Cochran, Oregon, for Roland Chewning, 5; Mrs. Lillian Stobs, Ill., for Catherine Barnes and Roland Chewning, 5.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. C. R., Newman, Cal.—There is no cancer remedy yet discovered in all the research of all the scientists who have been, and still are, trying to find one. Cancer is one of the twelve leading causes of death by disease in this country and is on the increase, having risen from sixty-three per one hundred thousand of population to about eighty in 1815.

M. G., Owingsville, Ky.—You say you suffer severe pains in the side when you walk or ride or work, even when you laugh, and you have suffered these pains for a long time, but have never seen a doctor because when the doctor was around you were not suffering and didn't say anything to him about it. Now, suppose instead of asking a doctor a thousand miles away to guess at what is wrong while you are suffering, you go to your doctor at home when you are not suffering and get his advice and proper treatment. There may be nothing serious, but there may be, and the longer you wait the worse it will become.

Mrs. M., Bear Lake, Mich.—Your doctor was right about pimples going away of themselves, and there was no cure for them, but those are the pimples on the skin of young people. Pimples that continue after full maturity come from different causes and are usually some form of skin disease, like acne. Just what causes yours, of course, we cannot guess, but if your doctor does not know how to treat them, you should find a doctor who is better informed. From what you tell us you are doing all for them that could be done, except regular treatment by a competent physician.

Mrs. E. R., Hazzard, Pa.—Very often after an operation there are various disorders of the system resulting, which will disappear when the patient entirely recovers. If they persist, the only proper treatment can be given by the physician who performed the operation, or one who is thoroughly informed as to condition. See one of the physicians who knows your case.

T. W., Summerville, S. C.—The doctor is doing all that can be done for your mother's bronchitis as long as she remains in that climate. If she can get away and stay a while in the North Carolina highlands, nature will do more for her than any doctors can do. (2) Bladder trouble is a serious and stubborn disease which requires the attention of a physician who can make the necessary examinations. Home remedies and treatment by mail are of no permanent value.

Mrs. B. M., Carthage, Mo.—Eye trouble, either external or internal, which has continued for eighteen years, with three physicians doing what they could to remedy it, is a case quite beyond our treatment by mail. You are young yet, however, and if you would go to a specialist, or to a hospital, you might receive treatment which would practically cure you, if it did not wholly do so. We would suggest that you try St. Louis.

Inquirier, Miller, Kansas.—There is no cure for flat feet of long standing. But why do you want to cure them? What we need just now more than anything in people is being flat-footed instead of pussy-footed.

Mrs. L. T., Corning, Cal.—There is no disease scientifically known as malaria, but there is a large number of ailments which are given that name. Climatic conditions may be malarial and many disorders result, usually called malaria in the patient. But as there is no specific malaria there is no specific medicine and you must see a doctor and find out what really is the matter before any treatment can be suggested.

W. C. B., Cresskill, N. J.—As cataract of the eye is to be remedied only by a surgical operation and it is entirely within the eye, we can hardly recommend goose grease as a remedy. Did the person who told you that goose grease was good for cataract have any idea what cataract is?

H. T., Cullman, Ala.—Making a long distance guess at what troubles your throat we should say from the symptoms you give, that some foreign substance may be imbedded there, or some abrasion of the surface which the usual sore-throat remedies will not reach. Suppose you have a doctor make an examination to find out definitely what is wrong.

D. W. W., San Francisco, Cal.—If the excessive perspiration has been with you always, that is your natural condition, and it would be injurious to your health to prevent it. If it is the result of other causes, and nervousness sometimes has that effect, it should be rendered normal, but nothing can be done until the cause is known. To learn that, you must consult a physician personally.

B. F. A., Louisville, Ky.—Thanks for information, but we know several people who wear cotton socks, or stockings, and never wore wool, who are troubled with perspiring feet. The average foot is less liable to excessive perspiration when in cotton than in wool, and many who wear wool would be relieved if they wore cotton, but cotton alone is no cure for a real case of perspiring feet.

Mrs. M. H., Cadillac, Mich.—Wens are not to be absorbed by application of medicine, but by massaging. Some so-called small wens are absorbed, or dissipated, by a sharp blow from a mallet. If those on your head are so small that they never trouble, except when you get to thinking about them, perhaps you had better stop thinking about them until they grow large enough to make you think. Then take them to a doctor for treatment.

M. E. W., Bremen, Ga.—Evidently the child has nasal catarrh, and now is the time to cure it if at all but not by home remedies, patent medicines, or your own ignorance. Have a good doctor, who knows more about catarrh than your previous one, to examine the child thoroughly and prescribe properly for it. Maybe it can be cured in that climate and maybe not, but the longer you put it off, the more difficult it will become.

Mrs. A. K., River Rouge, Mich.—You are another one of those mothers who shouldn't try to raise children. Here you have a child over two years old whose teeth are falling out from decay, and you don't know why because you brush them carefully, and some friend tells you lime-water is good and you are afraid to try it because it may do harm and you come to us, a thousand miles away to find out. Why don't you get the advice of a local dentist or physician who is not ignorant as you are, instead of asking friends who don't know any more than you do? If you want to save the child's health, perhaps its life, go to a dentist or doctor with it at once and have him tell you what is needed and to prescribe for it as it should be treated. Only a dentist or physician who can examine it is competent to treat it.

Mrs. W. T., Willard, N. M.—Nothing can be done for you except after an examination by a physician. Any one of a dozen causes may be producing the pain you have in your right side and unless that cause is known, proper treatment is not possible. You have been guessing at it and suffering long enough, we should think, to drive you to a doctor, whether you wanted to go or not.

Mrs. E. M., Newbern, Tenn.—You appear to have tried everything you knew on the itching skins of your family, except a doctor. Suppose now, you try a doctor. Skin diseases, being many and due to different causes, cannot be treated properly except after examination. Sometimes the remedy is simple and the cure is sure and permanant, and again some skin diseases, eczema, for example, are very stubborn and often refuse to yield to any treatment. As an excellent and safe remedy for simple itching, cocoa-butter cannot be improved upon. It will cost about forty cents a half pound and rubbed on night and morning is sure to relieve any simple case. It should be in every household to be used on the skin of old and young at any time, or all times.

Mrs. S., McRae, Ark.—Your husband will never get well in Arkansas. Maybe he might improve if he went on a farm in the warm, dry air of Arizona or New Mexico, but he will have to go there to find out. Anyway, he cannot possibly be worse off than where he now is. That is the only advice we can give under the circumstances.

COMFORT Reader, Paterson, N. J.—Many people are subject to flushing of the face and redness and burning of the skin when coming in out of the cold, but most of them have so many other worse troubles that they do not bother about it. Unless it is your normal condition, you may find a remedy, but you will first have to find out what the cause is. Possibly you are nervous, or over-conscious, or high-tempered. Are you?

Young Mother, Polkton, N. C.—If you have indigestion, as your doctors have told you, you need not be surprised at having almost everything else disagreeable, or at least think you have, as dyspepsia acts that way. The gas on your stomach gives you the heart pain and the gas comes from fermentation of the food you eat, instead of assimilation of it, which latter is what it should do. Prevention, not cure, is the rule to follow, and you should prevent indigestion by eating digestible food. That you must learn by dieting yourself and refusing to eat what will hurt you, however much you may like it. Begin on a diet of eggs, rice, cooked fruit, brown bread, or hard toast, no red meats—lamb and chicken may be eaten sparingly—drink no tea or coffee, but plenty of water though not at meals. Watch your diet closely and add to it or take from it, as you feel good or bad results, and never swallow a mouthful until it is chewed to a pulp. There are numerous dyspeptics who are troubled with their digestion in spite of all that can be done, but you may not be one of these. Indigestion is the result of nervousness in some people, but in more, nervousness is the result of indigestion. It is not what the doctor does for such a patient that counts most, but what the patient does for himself, or herself. So it is largely up to you. (2) As to the worms, ask your doctor about them, as they don't seem to be amenable to treatment by mail.

Mrs. L. K., Witt, Ill.—Six years ago is when you should have taken your baby to a doctor for her difficult breathing, but you chose to treat her yourself, and now at seven, she is in a serious condition from what might have been cured long ago. Take her to a doctor at once.

"Yankee Doodle"

UNLESS we except "Dixie," "Yankee Doodle" is probably the most popular national song we have, and it is the oldest too. We have been using it since 1775, and yet there is considerable doubt as to where we got it. They made a search at the library of Congress several years ago and more than a dozen different theories about the origin of the words and music were found.

Perhaps it was composed by a British officer, who wanted to shame the Americans, and who took an old English nursery rhyme, upon which to mold his contempt of them. Perhaps "Yankee Doodle" was copied from an old Holland harvest song, "Yankee Diddle Doodle Down." Some think the Hessians brought it over with them, and it is credited to the Irish, and, strangest of all, to the Hungarians. Well, no matter what foreign parentage it had, "Yankee Doodle" is now thoroughly American, and quite grown up, after a much abused babyhood.

The British, in Revolutionary times, made fun of everything American, and "Yankee Doodle" gave them quite an opportunity for ridicule. They hated John Hancock, the president of the constitutional congress, and the first signer of the declaration of independence. This is what they sang in his honor:

"Yankee Doodle came to town
For to buy a firelock;
We will tar and feather him,
And so we will John Hancock."

They complimented Mrs. Hancock as well, in the following words:

"Madam Hancock dreamt a dream,
She dreamt she wanted something;
She dreamt she wanted a Yankee king
To crown him with a pumpkin."

12 Everblooming Rose Bushes

A Magnificent Collection Of The Newest Varieties In The Most Beautiful Colors

Given To You For A Club Of Two!

BEAUTIFUL Charming Roses in profusion that anybody can grow in any climate and in almost any soil. We will give you **a whole garden** of them free and they will bloom and bloom **all summer**, surrounding your home with **a veritable paradise** of delightful **fragrance and radiant colors.** The different varieties described below are strong, well-rooted **one-year old** bushes ready to be transplanted to your garden **as soon as you receive them** and we guarantee that **they will grow and thrive beautifully if given proper care and attention.** No matter in what part of the United States you live, our growers will send them to you **at the proper time to plant** according to the schedule printed below. Please remember, however, that these dates may vary from **ten to fifteen days** in event of an extremely early or late spring, so you need not become anxious if they should not reach you just on the date named in schedule. The rose growers who supply us are perfectly familiar with planting conditions in your locality and you may depend upon them to forward the roses to you at the best time for you to put them in the ground. Following is a brief description of each of the different varieties of beautiful ever-blooming rose bushes given you **free** on this great offer. Complete instructions on how to plant and care for roses will be included **free of charge.**

Melody

For years rose growers have tried to produce a genuinely yellow rose, and when this Irish beauty was introduced, it was hailed with delight for it represented a new color in its class and has now become the greatest of all yellow roses for the home planter. It grows to perfection in any ordinary garden soil in all localities and from the time it is planted in the early spring, it bears continuously great numbers of lovely flowers of immense size, which stand out well from the plant, giving it a regal appearance and stamping it as the most extraordinary rose of its color. The color is a lovely shade of **yellow**, deepening to **apricot** in the center; in fact, it is a rose of sterling merit, which has proved hardy in all localities.

WHEN TO PLANT ROSES.

Latitude of Florida, Calif., Tex.,	after	Feb.	1
" " Ariz., Okla., So. Car.,	"	Mch.	1
" " Wash., Tenn., Va.,	"	"	15
" " Nev., Kans., Md.,	"	Apr.,	1
" " Iowa, Ohio, W. Va.,	"	"	15
" " Mont., Mich., N. Y., and all New England States		May	1

Frau Karl Druschi

This brilliant rose is renowned as the best snow-white rose ever produced. The foliage is heavy and of rich texture; but the glory of this plant, is its magnificent flowers, huge in size and produced with the greatest freedom on long stiff stems. A single plant will produce hundreds of bloomers, which are full, very deep and double. The color is marvelously white, positively without a suggestion of any tint or shade of color. The fragrance is exquisite; in short this glorious Rose seems to have been endowed with all the charms and grace of the entire rose family.

Maiden's Blush

A beautiful rose for bedding or decorated purposes just recently introduced. It is very vigorous and healthy, hardy enough to withstand all climates and quickly forming a handsome shapely bush the first season planted. It will thrive in most any soil or situation, clothing itself with beautiful ornamental foliage and having the vitality necessary to produce the handsome double flowers all through the season. Everyone exclaims over its exquisite beauty and after having seen it in bloom, we can well appreciate their enthusiasm. The delicate blendings of colors is almost impossible to describe, rose tints in the center of the flower gradually shading off into pale blush and creamy white.

Etoile De France

This rose has been selected from the almost unlimited number of hardy red roses, because it seems the acme of perfection. The bush grows upright, covered with beautiful, bronzy, green foliage, which is not subject to insect attack. The growth is so luxuriant and lusty that great masses of beautiful crimson roses are borne all summer. This is one of the finest of all garden roses.

Radiance

This wonderful new everblooming rose is one of the most beautiful varieties ever introduced. We want every lover of beautiful roses to plant Radiance for there is no other like it, either in color, growth, or beauty. It is the ideal garden rose, thriving in practically any soil under the most adverse conditions to a perfection seen in no other rose. The splendid flowers are produced in amazing profusion. They are immense in size, and the color is a beautiful blending of shades of carmine rose with opal and coppery reflections, extremely brilliant in effect, exquisitely beautiful but most difficult to describe. Radiance is the premier garden rose of today, and its numerous charms will delight you.

Red Dorothy Perkins

This is the most valuable addition to the popular class of Rambler roses ever produced. Its magnificent foliage is fine, dark and glossy, remaining intact to unseasonable weather and withstanding all diseases. This quality alone assures an ornamental climber which is nearly evergreen and its graceful pendulous habit will place it first among pillar roses. The marvelous production of bloom is really sensational; it is produced in great clusters; each individual rose being perfect in form and very double, the color being deep intense scarlet which retains its vivid brilliancy as long as the flower lasts.

OUR GUARANTEE

THESE roses are all strong healthy plants **on their own roots** and will be packed in **damp moss** and sent to you by Parcel Post prepaid so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as when they left the greenhouse. You may accept this offer with the perfect assurance that these beautiful ever-blooming roses will grow and develop into rare specimen beauties. If any fail to grow **we hereby guarantee to replace them for you free of all cost.**

Premium No. 6722

We will send you twelve of these rose bushes (two of each variety) or six bushes (one of each variety) on the terms of the following special offers:

Offer 6722. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each or one three-year subscription (not your own) at 50 cents we will send you **twelve** of the above described rose bushes (six different varieties) **free** by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 6722.**

Offer 6721 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you **six** of the above described Rose Bushes (six different varieties) free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6721.**

Offer 6721 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents, and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **six** of the above described Rose Bushes (six different varieties) free by Parcel Post prepaid **Premium No. 6721.** If you want us to fill your order **immediately** be sure to say so in your letter otherwise the roses will not be mailed to you until the proper time arrives for you to plant them in your garden. **Premium No. 6721. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents To Travel By Automobile to introduce our 250 fast selling, popular priced household necessities. The greatest line on earth. Make $10 a day. Complete outfit and automobile furnished free to workers. Write today for exclusive territory. American Products Co., 9615 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents Wanted—To advertise our goods by distributing free sample to consumer. 90 cents an hour. Write for full particulars. Thomas Mfg. Co., 519 North St., Dayton, O.

Agents—Make a Dollar an Hour. Sell Mendets, a patent patch for instantly mending leaks in all utensils. Sample package free. Collette Mfg. Co., Dept. 452-B, Amsterdam, N.Y.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 98c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

Agents—Steady Income. Large manufacturer of Handkerchiefs and Dress Goods, etc., wishes representative in each locality. Factory to consumer. Big profits, honest goods. Credit given. Send for particulars. Freeport Mfg. Co., 60 Main St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 131 Locust, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

$50 Weekly and up selling Mexican Diamonds. Exactly resemble genuine; Same Rainbow Fire; Stand tests; sell at sight; Repeat orders. Write for Sample Case offer free. Mexican Diamond Importing Co., G. Las Cruces, N. M.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 586 Broadway, New York City.

Agents! Quick Sales! Big Profits! Outfit Free! Cash or credit. Sales in every home for our beautiful Dress Goods, Hosiery, Underwear, etc. Write today. National Importing & Mfg. Co., Dept. DB, 425 Broadway, New York.

Newest Moneymaker! 11 piece toilet set selling like blazes at $1.00 with $1 carving set Free! Enormous Profits! Tremendous hit! Randall sold 30 one day. Success sure. Pierce Co., 505 Pierce Bldg., Chicago.

Earn $50 to $100 monthly distributing Parker Hosiery to regular repeat customers in your home town at mill prices. All or spare time. Protected territory. Credit given. G. Parker Mills, 2733 No. 12th St., Phila., Pa.

Agents to sell best raincoats made. Write quickly to Hart Supply Co. 1429 Locust, St. Louis, Mo.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free. William Ragsdale, East Orange, N.J.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Agents: Screen door check. Demonstrate and sale is made. Stops the bang and saves the door. Wonderful summer seller. Demonstrating sample free. Thomas Mfg. Co, 1319 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

Men and Women wanted to sell our products. The best sellers on the market. Big demand. 50% profit. Details free. Arnold Supply Co., Dept. 10, Bedford, Pa.

Agents—Make $40 Weekly Selling Goodyear Raincoat. Sample coat free. Goodyear Mfg. Co., 800 Lillis Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Make 100% Profit on quick selling newest type hornless phonograph selling $4.50 upwards. Best low priced machine, plays all kinds and sizes records. Write for proposition. Strobel-Wilken, 61 West 23rd St., New York.

Agents wanted to sell rope machines. 45,000 machines sold. If you are not making $10 per day, write the New Era Rope Machine Company, Plymouth Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.

Custom Raincoats. Reliable and Guaranteed. Largest Assortment. Best Commissions. Free Outfit. Write Today. Consolidated Raincoat Co., Desk 5, Boston, Mass.

Photo Pillow Tops, Portraits, Frames, Sheet Pictures, Photo Plates, Pennants, Paper Mache Frames. Rejects credited. Prompt shipments; samples & cat. free to agents. 30 days credit. Jas. C. Bailey Co., Desk G1, Chicago, Ill.

Agents Make $5.00 to $8.00 a day selling never fail Iron Rust and Stain Remover, and 126 other fast sellers. Exclusive territory. Credit given. Sample Free. Sanford-Beal Co., Inc., Newark, New York, Dep't. 6.

Soap Agents Make more money selling Linro Products. Coffee, Flavorings, Spices, Soaps, Perfumes—135 other items. Big commission. Exclusive territory. Freight allowed. Free Sample Case. No deposit required. Write for catalog today. Linro Company, 120 Linro Bldg., St., Louis, Mo.

Agents, I want 100 men to act as my agents and take orders for "Kantleak" Raincoats. I paid Eli Bridge $88.95 for one week's spare time. Cooper $314 last month. Wonderful values. A dandy coat for $3.98. No money required. No delivering or collecting. Sample coat and complete outfit all Free. Big season just starting. There's a thousand dollars in this for you if you grab it quick. Write now. Comer Mfg. Co., 201 Opal St., Dayton, Ohio.

One Thousand Dollars Reward if this is not the greatest money-making house-to-house proposition. N. R. G. Laundry Tablet washes clothes in 10 minutes without rubbing. Contains no Lime, Lye, Paraffin Wax or other injurious chemical and cannot possibly injure the clothes or hands. Nothing like it on the market. Positively the wonder of the age—sells for 15c. enough for 5 family washings. We supply free samples and guarantee the sale of every package you buy. Just leave the free sample with the housewife and, when you call again, she is eagerly awaiting to become your steady customer. Secure territory at once, or you will regret it. A 1c postal brings sample and full particulars. Farquhar-Moon Mfg. Co., Desk E210, 140 W. Van Buren St., Chicago, Ill.

Agents Our Household Articles Are needed in every home. (On sale in N. Y. Dept. stores.) Write. Kearney, Bible House, N. Y.

My Friend, this is what you're looking for—small article, big demand, sells readily, big profit. Write me today. A. Westphal, 79 Lake St., River Forest, Ill.

AGENTS WANTED

Man Or Woman To Travel for old-established firm. No canvassing; $1170 first year, payable weekly, pursuant to Contract; Expenses advanced. G. O. Nichols, Phila., Pa., Pepper Bldg.

Would $150 Monthly as General Agent for $150,000 corporation and a Ford auto of your own, introducing Stock and Poultry remedies, Dips, Disinfectants, and Sanitary products interest you? Then address Royoleum Co-Operative Mfg. Co., Dept. N2, Monticello, Ind.

Stop Here—just out—Eisen Regulator for Ford Headlights. Selling like wildfire everywhere. Gives splendid driving light at low speed—keeps bulbs from burning out—works entirely automatically. Needed on every Ford. Big profits quick. Listen: Hopkins, Tenn., cleared $16.20 first day. McFarland, Nebr., made $3492.00 in 17 weeks. Siler, Okla., sells 12 a day—profit $20.00. No experience or capital needed. We show you how. Sales guaranteed. Hurry, don't delay, write now for special information how YOU can make money. Address Eisen Instrument Co., 620 Valentine Bldg., Toledo, Ohio.

Agents—Big hit; 6 piece Aluminum Cutlery set. New specialty, delights housewives. Big profits. New premium offer clinches sales. Aluminum Cutlery Co., Div. 10, Sag Harbor, N.Y.

Agents—Salary or Commission, $100 a month guaranteed. Can make $300 to $500 a month. Anthony Fisher, Salt Lake, Utah.

Blaxit Safely While Hot. New stove polish, works without soiling the hands. Agents Wanted. Boss Mfg. Co., New London, Ct.

Sell Raincoats direct from factory. Largest assortment shown. Biggest commissions. Free outfit. Buckeye Mfg. Co. Fl Lincoln Bldg., N. Y.

$61.50 Weekly. Introducing and selling a new gas light burner for kerosene lamps. Beautiful light. No chimney. No mantle. Samples free. Luther Mfg. Co., Dept. 300, Cincinnati, O.

Agents—A one-cent post card will put you in touch with an $80 a week proposition selling Aluminum Utensils and Specialties direct to the consumer. Don't let one cent stand between you and prosperity. Div. B.B.P., American Aluminum Mfg. Co., Lemont, Ill.

Gentlemen: Mason sold 18 Spray Pumps and Auto Washers one Saturday. Profits $2.00 each. Write Rusler Co., Johnstown, Ohio.

Flower Bead Necklaces Selling like hot cakes. Agents coining money. Send for Catalog and Proposition. Mission Bead Co., AA 2819 W. Pico, Los Angeles, Calif.

A New, Novel, and Clever Invention; Wonderfully attractive; a market in every home; good profits; big demand; particulars free. Shomescope Manufacturing Company, 538 W. 13th. St., Kansas City, Mo.

Ladies. We pay $2.50 day to distribute Free circulars; take orders for Regal Shields. Particulars Free. Regal Co., D 16. Kalamazoo, Mich

Oh! You Freckle Girl and others! $15 Weekly demonstrating Masola. Whitens and beautifies complexion. No equal. Demand enormous. Fascinating work. Package for workers. Write, Masola Co., Dept. M, 4215 Champlain Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Would $150 Monthly, Auto of your own to travel in, as General Agent, handling remarkable sellers, Lightning Patch Vulcanizer, Shock Absorber, and Anti-Thief Combination Auto-Switch Lock, thief proof, interest you? Then address Dept. N 1, U. S. Manufacturing Co., Wolcott, Indiana.

Agents—Soft Drinks in powder. Just add cold water; ready instantly, delicious, healthful, every one wants them. Sells thirty glasses 25c. Trial 10 Glasses 10c postpaid. Chas. H. Morrissey Co., 4417 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

HELP WANTED

Wanted: Men—Women. 18 or over. $75 month. Government Jobs. List positions free. Franklin Institute, Dept. A 9, Rochester, N.Y.

$20 to $35 per month extra money to any employed person without interfering with regular work. No selling, no canvassing. Positively no investment. Unemployed need not apply. Address The Silver Mirror Co., Inc., 211 W. Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.

Become Chauffeurs. $25 week. Learn while earning. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. A 812, Rochester, N. Y.

POST CARD CLUBS

12 Postcards Washington, D. C., free membership in Card Club 25c, silver. (Membership 10c). Capital League, Box 1539-K, Wash., D. C.

MALE HELP WANTED

Wanted. Men and women to qualify for Government Positions. Several thousand appointments to be made next few months. Full information about openings, how to prepare, etc., free. Write immediately for booklet C. G. 1450, Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Be A Government Farmer. Good pay. Steady, interesting job. Fine locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8F, St. Louis.

Railway Mail Clerks Wanted. $75.00 month. Sample examination questions free. Franklin Institute, Dept. A 12, Rochester, N.Y.

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 828 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

Be A Detective—Earn $160 to $300 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

Detectives—Earn big salaries. Easy work. Write National School of Detectives, 489 Fifth Ave., New York, Room 525.

500 Men Wanted at once 20-40 for Electric Railway Motormen and Conductors. All parts U. S. $60-$100 monthly. Experience unnecessary. Send stamp for application blank. National Railway, Dept. 192, Kansas City, Mo.

Wanted:—Reliable, trust-worthy man to take orders for fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, roses, etc. Apply today. Permanent. First National Nurseries, Rochester. N. Y.

POULTRY

Day Old Chicks 10c up. Hatched and delivered right. 23 varieties. Catalog free. Mammoth Hatchery, Box K-28, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

50 Varieties Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Guineas. Low prices to make room. Cat. Free. Dell Walrath, Box A. Janesville, Minn.

"All About Eggs." New Book about making better hatches and stronger chicks, making hens lay more and regularly: preserving eggs absolutely fresh for higher price market; packing, shipping, marketing, etc. Free on request. Lee Complete Poultry Library (5 books) postpaid for 5 cents in stamps. Write today. Geo. H. Lee Co., Box 509, Omaha, Nebraska.

Day Old Chicks for sale cheap. 10 Varieties. Hatched by one of the oldest Hatchers in the country. Circular Free. Old Honesty Hatchery, Dept. C, New Washington, O.

Baby Chicks: Cheaper than Hatching Eggs. We specialize in Rocks, Leghorns & Reds. 20th Century Hatchery, Box 154 New Washington, O

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Eastman Camera with instructions Free for selling 12 bottles Vanilla Flavoring Extract. Dept. M, Grandma Extract Co., Auburn, N. Y.

ENTERTAINMENTS

Plays, Speakers, dialogues and entertainments; catalogues free. Address Dept. A, Ames Pub. Co., Clyde O.

TYPEWRITERS

$2.50 A Month buys standard typewriter. Send for Special prices. Free trial. Guaranteed. H. A. Smith, 316-331 N. 5th Ave., Chicago.

Startling Values in Typewriters $10 to $15 up. Rebuilt as good as new. All makes. Shipped on trial. Write for our "Easy Ownership" offer No. 136 D. Will save you money. Whitehead Typewriter Co., 186 N. LaSalle St., Chicago.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

INVENTIONS

Inventions Commercialized on cash and royalty basis. Inventors and manufacturers write at once Adam Fisher Mfg. Co., 2091 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

FARM LANDS

Uncle Sam is watering a farm for you in Salt River Valley, Arizona, where you will live longer and better, and make more money with less work. Read our Roosevelt Dam folder free on request. C. L. Seagraves, Industrial Com'r AT&SF Ry., 1946 Ry. Exchange, Chicago.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Free For Six Months—My special offer to introduce my magazine, "Investing for Profit." It is worth $10 a copy to any one who has not acquired sufficient money to provide necessities and comforts for self and loved ones. It shows how to become richer quickly and honestly. Investing for Profit is the only progressive financial journal and has the largest circulation in America. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200; write now and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 406, 26 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago.

ROOTS, HERBS, ETC.

Cash Paid for all kinds Medicinal Roots, Barks, Herbs. Easily gathered. Write for circular. Grund Co., Logan Sta., Philadelphia, Pa.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

$4.25 Each Paid for U. S. Eagle Cents dated 1856. Keep all money dated before 1895, and send 10c at once for New Illus'td Coin Value Book, 4x7. It may mean a fortune. Clarke & Co., Coin Dealers, Box 20, LeRoy, N. Y.

Will Pay $10.00 to $750.00 for certain $5.00 gold without motto. We want and offer cash premiums for all rare dollars, halves, quarters, dimes, nickels, cents, paper money and stamps. Send 4c now. Get our Large Coin Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

Write Photoplays! $75 each. Send for free booklet "How to Write Moving Picture Plays." Universal Pub. Co., 318 Fergus Falls, Minn.

Write For Free Copy "Hints to writers of Photoplays, Stories, Poems." Also catalog of books. Atlas Pub. Co., 26, Cincinnati.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$35.00 Profit Nightly. Small Capital Starts You. No experience needed. We teach you the business. Catalog free. Atlas Moving Picture Co., 497 Franklin Bldg., Chicago.

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

$20 to $50 Nightly. Complete outfit, machine, Film. Everything furnished on Payment Plan. Catalog free. Moving Picture Sales Co., Dept. CC, 540 Plymouth Place, Chicago.

FARMS FOR SALE

Money-Making Farms, 15 states, $10 to $50 an acre; stock, tools and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue. E. A. Strout Farm Agency, Dept 3027, New York.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Will Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct free—and sell on Commission. Big rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31, Auburn, N. Y.

LAME PEOPLE

The Perfection Extension Shoe for any person with one short limb. No more unsightly cork soles, irons, etc., needed. Worn with ready-made shoes. Shipped on trial. Write for booklet. Henry J. Lotz, 313 Third Ave., New York.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis, Mo.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

Make Easter more interesting. Life and death of Christ told in pictures on 50 beautiful colored post-cards—Easier to understand and explain. $1.00. Post-paid. Send a two-cent stamp for one sample-card, beautiful poem "Obedience", and other information. National Sales Co., 919 Milwaukee Av., Chicago.

HOME WEAVING

Looms—Only $8.50—Big money in Weaving rugs, carpets, etc., from rags and waste material. Be sure to send for free loom book. It tells all about Weaving and our wonderful $8.50 and other looms. Union Loom Works, 272 Factory St., Boonville, N. Y.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 841 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Patents—Send Sketch. Free Opinion and Certificate of Patentability. Free Book, "How to Obtain a Patent and What to Invent." Patents secured through Credit System. Talbert & Parker, 4206 Warder Bldg., Wash., D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel, 233 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Attention—Patents. You will like my easy Plan. Write for free booklet. C. L. Drew, 7 Victor Bldg., Wash. D. C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Four books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg., Wash. D. C.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn while you learn. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of members we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 a month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Tobacco Factory wants salesman; good pay, steady work, promotion; experience unnecessary, we give complete instructions. Piedmont Tobacco Co., Box D-19, Danville, Va.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

A Little Farm Complete for $350. With comfortable little bungalow, live stock, flock of chickens, poultry house and set of implements. Ready to move into and go to work. Only ten of these ready-made little farms available on Little Planters Colony at Richmond Heights in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Write quick for full description and easy terms of payment. F. H. LaBaume, A. & I. Agt., N. & W. Ry., 289 Arcade Bldg., Roanoke, Va.

Farm Seekers be Independent! Small or large tracts for general farming, stock, poultry, vegetables, fruit. Best part Michigan. Near towns, schools. $15 to $25 an acre, $5 down, $4 monthly. Write for literature free, full information. Swigart Land Co., A1248 First Natl. Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Women—Start Dressmaking business at home. $25 week. Write for free sample lessons. Franklin Institute, Dept. A 860, Rochester, N.Y.

Given To Any Woman. Beautiful 100 piece gold dec. dinner set for distributing (not selling) only 5 dozen packages. Diamond Dust Soap Powder free among friends. No money or experience needed. New Method Company, 730-738 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Ills.

Be A Government Matron. Good salary. Interesting work. Beautiful locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8M, St. Louis.

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Big Money for Women in Their backyard! Any woman can add many dollars to their income by working amazing, unusual and unique plans. No mushroom—ginseng "dope." New ideas in out door work that you probably never heard of. Other women coining money—so can you. Free details of this, also of new, money making, poultry plans. W. L. Allen, Box 108, Allentown, Pa.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Free Scholarships in Resident Nursing Course. Low rates for home training. Send for free book. Philadelphia School for Nurses, 2227 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Not a Peddling Proposition—but something any lady would be proud to handle. Beautiful embroidered Flouncings, Bedsets, Boudoir Caps, Pillow Cases, Laces. Write for Agents proposition. A. Frey Mfg., 327 Mount Road, West Hoboken, N. J.

PHOTO FINISHING

Kodak Films Developed, 10c. per roll, any size. Prompt attention given mail orders. Prints 2½ x 3½ to 3¼ x 4¼ 3c.; 4 x 5 to 3¼ x 5½, 4c. J. M. Manning, 1062 Third Ave., New York City, Box. S.

Any Roll Film developed 5c. Prints 3½ x 5½ and smaller 3c. 24-hour service. National Photo Works, Omaha, Nebr.

Your Kodak Films Developed 5c. a Roll. Prints 3c. each. Expert workmanship. Washington's best equipped studio. The Sport Mart Inc., Dept. C. Wash., D. C.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles, poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1145 Washington, D. C.

REAL ESTATE

Small Missouri Farm $10 Cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes; Highly productive land; close to three big markets. Write for photographs and full information. Munger, D-104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

Something Coming to Him

Two of the clock, and a cold and chilly night. The wind whistled eerily round the corners of the streets, and the sky overhead was clouded and threatening. A policeman coming steadily along, saw a suspicious-looking man loafing about outside a certain house. For some time he watched, and then determined to solve the mystery.



"Here, you!" he said, advancing suddenly, "whatcher hanging about this house for?"

The loafer turned his weary eyes on the questioner as he replied:

"I'm only waiting for the lady inside to get to sleep, Constable. We're married."

A Lovable Woman

The young doctor and his friend, the drug clerk, were sitting at the club window when a richly dressed woman passed, the Indianapolis Star relates.

"There goes the only woman I ever loved," the young M. D. sighed.

"So?" the other asked. "Then why don't you marry her?"

"Can't afford it," the doctor replied; "she's my best patient."

Perfect Fit

"Yes, grandma, I am to be married during the bright and gladsome spring."

"But my dear," said grandma, earnestly, "you are very young. Do you feel that you are fitted for married life?"



"I am being fitted now, grandma," explained the prospective bride sweetly. "Seventeen gowns!"

Why Not?

Jimmie giggled when the teacher read the story of the man who swam across the Tiber three times before breakfast.

"You do not doubt that a trained swimmer could do that, do you?"

"No, sir," answered Jimmie, but I wonder why he did not make it four and get back to the side where his clothes were."—Awgwan.

Served Him Right

"I admit I was found in the possession of firearms," said the prisoner. But it's only a joke of mine, my lord."

"Explain yourself," said the Magistrate.

"Why, I put two pistols in my pocket when I go out to a friendly gathering. Then I start talking of aeroplanes."

"Well?"

"Then I say my life was once saved by parachutes."

"Yes."

"And then I pull out the pistols and say, 'Pair o' shoots,' Ha, ha! See?"



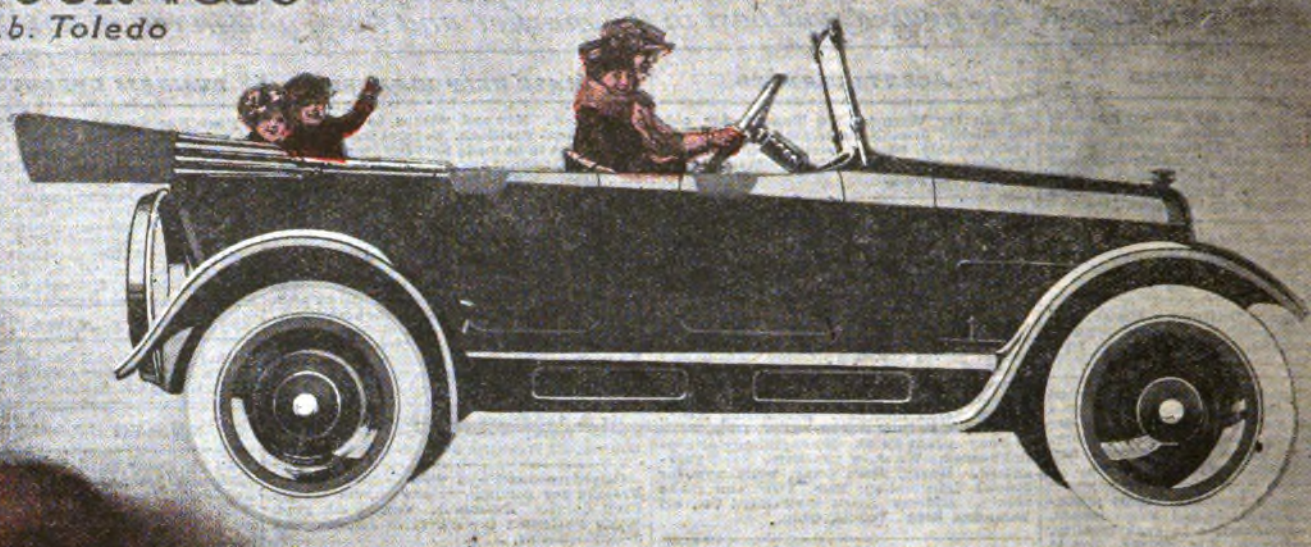
PAIR O' SHOOTS

"Yes, I see. Did you make that joke yourself?"

"Yes, my lord."

"Two years' hard labor!"—Tit-Bits.

LIGHT FOUR $665
BIG FOUR $850
f.o.b. Toledo





Overland

TRADE-MARK REG.

—two minds with but a single thought

Every indication points to a demand very much in excess of the possible supply of automobiles this year.

We are prepared.

This year we apply the economies of vast production for the first time to a ***complete*** line of automobiles—an end toward which we have been working for eight years.

Light Fours, Big Fours, Light Sixes and Willys-Knights, including the marvelous Willys-Knight Eight, are built and sold with

—***one*** executive organization,
—***one*** factory management,
—***one*** purchasing department,
—***one*** sales force,
—***one*** group of dealers.

There is now an Overland or a Willys-Knight for every class of buyer.

Every one of these beautiful cars is a better car—better in appearance, in performance and in riding comfort.

One of them is the car of your dream under the evening lamp.

See these cars now. Get a car yourself this spring.

Light Four		Light Six	
Touring -	$665	Touring -	$985
Roadster -	$650	Roadster -	$970
Country Club -	$750		

Big Four		Willys-Knight	
Touring -	$850	Four Touring	$1285
Roadster -	$835	Eight Touring	$1950

All prices f. o. b. Toledo
Subject to change without notice

Catalogue on request. Please address Dept. 964

The Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio
Manufacturers of Willys-Knight and Overland Motor Cars and Light Commercial Cars
"Made in U. S. A."

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

VOL. XXIX — MAY 1917 — NO. 7



HER HERO OF '98

See story on page 8

Published at AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Copyright 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 10.

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

United States Enters the Great Conflict to Rid the World of the Curse of Military Despotism

WE are now at war with the enemy of mankind. The conflict was not of our seeking. We did all that we could to avoid it without sacrificing our national honor. War was forced upon us by that military despotism which is striving by the most cruel means in defiance of the law of nations and the common rights of humanity to subject the world to its tyrannical will. Long and patiently had we suffered destruction of lives and property which it had treacherously instigated and executed in our midst through its spies and diplomatic representatives; it had secretly attempted to induce Mexico and Japan to join it in war against us by promise of helping them to conquer and permanently hold a part of our territory; and finally, when its armed forces engaged in open hostilities against us we could not do otherwise than resort to arms, for there was no other means of defense.

President Wilson stated the situation correctly when, before Congress on the second day of April, he asserted that by the indiscriminate sinking of the peaceful ships of all nations the German government was waging war against all nations, against mankind. He was right in saying that submarines are outlaws when used as Germany has used them against merchant ships, and especially in causing the slaughter of men, women and children who were passengers on such ships, and that the situation, aggravated by a long series of plots and intrigues against our peace and safety, had become unbearable. He was absolutely right in charging that a state of war already had been thrust upon the government and people of the United States by the German government, and he was in duty bound to ask, as he did, that Congress recognize that fact by a formal declaration and provide the means "to bring the German government to terms and end the war."

The President draws a sharp distinction between the German people, with whom he says we have no quarrel, and their autocratic government which he accuses of having swept them into the world war without their previous knowledge or approval. For the German people he expresses friendship and sympathy and the hope that they will soon follow the recent example of the Russian people by establishing a democratic government in place of the despotism which now oppresses them and is a pest to the peace-loving democracies of the world. He is convinced that "Prussian autocracy could never be our friend," that "no autocratic government could be trusted to keep faith," and that "a steadfast concert for peace can never be maintained except by a partnership of democratic nations." "We are about to accept the gage of battle with this natural foe to liberty," he declares, "to fight thus for the ultimate peace of the world and for the liberation of its people, the German people included."

There are hopeful indications that many of the people in Germany are beginning to see the matter in much the same light as the President views it, and are likely to take the reins of government in their own hands as a step toward peace. The sooner they do it the better, for England, France and Russia, like the United States, have resolved never to make peace with Prussian militarism.

In England and Italy government by the people is as complete and as firmly established as in America, for the kings and nobles which these countries still retain to gratify their love of pomp and pageantry are mere puppets long since shorn of all governmental power. Autocratic government is a survival of the dark ages and is out of joint with twentieth century ideals. The people of Russia have swept it away and have emerged into the light of freedom under the energizing stimulus of war. Germany and her allies are the only European nations over which autocratic rulers hold sway, and their thrones are tottering.

It is a world-wide conflict of autocracy against democracy that we have entered, and it cannot end until the curse of military despotism is wiped off the face of the earth. The issue is vital to the most sacred rights and broadest interests of humanity and there can be no compromise. In order to give substantial foundation to the hope that this is to be the last great war it must be fought to a finish whereby permanent peace shall be assured in the establishment of government of the people, by the people and for the people in every civilized country.

Through the ages war has been the price paid by humanity for every important upward step. World conditions that stood as obstacles in the path of progress and could not otherwise be removed made the present war inevitable sooner or later. It has come in our time and we must bear our share of the burden. Do not credit the pessimistic prediction that this war, unspeakably frightful though its devastation be, will be a setback to civilization. It will purge the world and clear the way for a new and better order of things. The cause of liberty will be triumphant throughout Christendom, it will bring universal religious tolerance, it will end forever the bloody and barbarous reign of the degenerate Turk. Europe, chastened and poorer in things material will be richer spiritually while the leveling of caste will broaden and strengthen the bond of human interest and sympathy between the social classes.

And we Americans will be bettered by the lessons we shall learn and the sacrifices we shall have to make. Thrilled with patriotism and aroused to a deep sense of devotion we shall place service above greed; constrained by necessity we shall learn to eliminate waste for which we are notorious as a people, thrift will take the place of extravagance, and the seriousness of the work before us will have a sobering influence and turn our thoughts and aims to something better and higher than the mere pursuit of pleasure, and not the least of our benefits will be the national blessing of uniting the various elements of our diversified population in a common cause, a common interest and a common purpose.

Military Necessity that the Farmers Raise Large Crops as Possible

THERE is a world-wide shortage of food that, unless relieved by larger and better harvests the coming season in America, threatens higher prices and short rations for the people and serious difficulty to the government in carrying on the war. It has assumed the proportions of a national crisis, and to meet it the government has supplemented the general movement for the planting of vacant city lots and back-yard and school gardens with an urgent appeal to the farmers to do their utmost to raise as large crops as possible this season as a patriotic duty under stress of military necessity. The military experts on both sides agree in the opinion that the war has reached a stage in which the determining factors are food and ships—food for the people, food for the armies in the field, freight ships to transport the food and war-ships to convoy and protect them from submarines.

Although we are to raise a large army to join the forces that are fighting the Germans on French soil, it will not be drilled and equipped for service under a year. Meanwhile France and England have as many soldiers in the field as they can feed under present conditions, and the food problem, both for their armies and for their civil population in those two countries, is becoming more difficult. Neither country is self-sustaining in time of peace, and now that so many of their men are engaged in the pursuit of war the farming there is carried on largely by women and children, which has resulted in diminished food production. The deficiency has been and must continue to be supplied mostly from America. Our phenominally large harvest of 1915 rendered this an easy and profitable task last year, but the short harvest of last year together with the loss of so many ships sunk by submarines makes it a troublesome proposition at present. The German and Austrian ships which we have taken over with those we have and others we are building, and the defensive activities of our navy are confidently relied on to care for the transportation question satisfactorily. So the basic question of winning the war comes back to the American farmers.

The American farmers never have failed and never will fail of patriotic devotion. They are not asked now to meet the foe with their rifles as they did most valiantly at Lexington of old; in the present war they can render their country no less patriotic and more effective service in the wheat field, the corn field and the cotton field with the plow, the cultivator and the reaper in repelling the threatened invasion of the land by famine, the gaunt, irresistible enemy that stalks beside war. Nor will they miss their reward, for prices are high and are bound to range higher for their products. Stern measures are to be invoked to prevent speculation in food stuff, and it is proposed to have the Federal government, if necessary, take over the products of the farms to protect the people from extortionate prices and ensure fair remuneration to the farmers.

Must Stop Food Waste or We Shall Suffer Want is Government's Warning

EVEN though our best efforts at production are aided by favorable growing weather the results are likely to be inadequate, and in case the season proves unfavorable the consequences will be disastrous unless we economize and conserve our present supply by cutting out all preventable waste. We are the most wasteful people in the world. Our waste has always amazed and shocked Europe whose economists have often told us that a European family could live well on the food that an average American family wastes. The necessity for reform is so pressing that our government, through its department of Agriculture, has launched a vigorous campaign to stop the waste of food in our homes—a needless, wicked waste estimated at seven hundred million dollars' worth a year.

The world's food supply is short and is bound to continue so for a year or more. Unless you wish to pay higher prices next fall and winter and suffer the pinch of hunger, too, stop wasting food. One difficulty in doing so is that waste has become so habitual with us that much of our wastefulness escapes our notice—is not recognized as such—and we do not know how to check it. Write to the Department of Agriculture, Office of Information, Washington, D. C., for its valuable and instructive free bulletins on economical use of foods and saving waste.

Watch for and Report Enemy Spies

OUR country is flooded with enemy spies intent on destroying lives and public and private property and instigating treason. They have done much damage. Hundreds of them are under arrest, but thousands are still at large—sneaking, treacherous, skulking, murderous foes more dangerous than open enemies. It is the duty of every loyal citizen to be on the watch for them and promptly inform the local authorities and the war Department, at Washington, of any persons whose conduct or talk is suspicious. Remember, they are not all Germans; they may be of any nationality—*Some are native Americans.*

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. *We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.* If you do not get your magazine by the 25th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we *must* have your *former* address, as well as your *new* address to make the change. Be sure to send *both*. We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second class mail matter. Copyright, 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or stitches each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through both loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Terms Used in Tatting

D. s. double stitch; p. picot; l. p. long picot; s. p. shorter than usual picot; ch. chain, a succession of double stitches made with two threads; pkt. picot and knot together. * indicates a repetition.

Attractive Tatting Designs

TATTING, which has in the past couple of years been steadily winning its way into popular favor as a trimming is supposed to have originated in China, though in the last centuries it has been more generally made in Ireland than elsewhere, the female population of entire villages being engaged in its manufacture.

Old photographs of Adelaide Niellson show her in a tatting-trimmed skirt, and for this tatting which was a flounce almost eighteen inches wide, the sweet voiced singer paid one-hundred dollars per yard.

Tatted Collar

For this collar first make a row of tatting as shown in No. 1, the length of the neck-band of the collar. Make rings of 7 p., chs. 2 p., join 2nd picots of rings.

No. 2, for next row is the same excepting lower edge of rings are not joined.

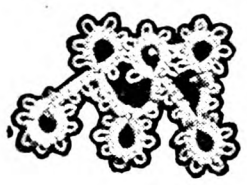


NO. 1.

These 2 rows should be joined as made by center picots, of rings.

Then the entire piece is edged with 7 p. rings and scallop. The scallop on the ends and bottom are of 5 ps. and along top 3 ps. Rings are joined together but simply to rings in last row.

Another border of 7 p. rings and 5 p. scallops is added to ends of collar. The rings joined only at 4th p. to center p. of scallop in last row.



NO. 2.

Beginning at corner, make ch. 3 p., 7 p. ring, ch., 7 p. ring join to scallop in last row, repeat around to opposite corner then finish end with rings and scallops.

No. 3. Medallion for corners and center of back. Begin with ring 6 p., surround with 6 rings of 10 p., with scallop between each of 7 p.

Place medallions as shown to fill front corners make scallop 5 p., 7 p. ring, scallop, ring scallop. To fill corners on the lower edge make scallop 5 p., 7 p. rings, then 3, 5 p. scallops, join to rings in last row.

On each side medallion in back fill in with five, 5 p. scallops and 5 rings 7 p. each.



NO. 4.

No. 4. Ring and point for edge. 7 p. ring, ch. 2 p., then with shuttle alone, 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., close, ch. 2 p, ring.

This is made in 2 rows. First one 7 p. ring, ch. 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., with spool thread small ring of 3 p., ch. of 1 p., ring 3 p., ch. 1 p., ring 7 p., join to first ring at 2nd p. of each. Repeat.

Ivy Leaf Lace

A medium fine cotton was used for this sample. The leaves are made first as follows ch. 8, join; ch. 12, turn, 1 d. c. in 4th st., ch. 1, sk. 1, tr. c. in next ch. 1, sk. 1, d. c. in next ch. 1, sk. 1, s. c. in next, ch. 2, 2 d. c. in ring. This completes the foundation for the first section of leaf.

2nd section.—Ch. 17, d. c. in 5th st., (ch. 1, sk. 1, tr. c. in next) twice, ch. 1, sk. 1, d. c. in next ch. 1, sk. 1, d. tr. c. in next, ch. 1, sk. 1, d. c. in next ch. 2, 2 s. c. in ring.

3rd section.—Ch. 23, d. c. in 5th st., (ch. 1, sk. 1, tr. c. in next) three times (ch. 1, sk. 1, d. c. in next) twice ch. 1, sk. 1, d. tr. c. in next (ch. 1, sk. 1 d. c. in next) twice ch. 2, 2 s. c. in ring.

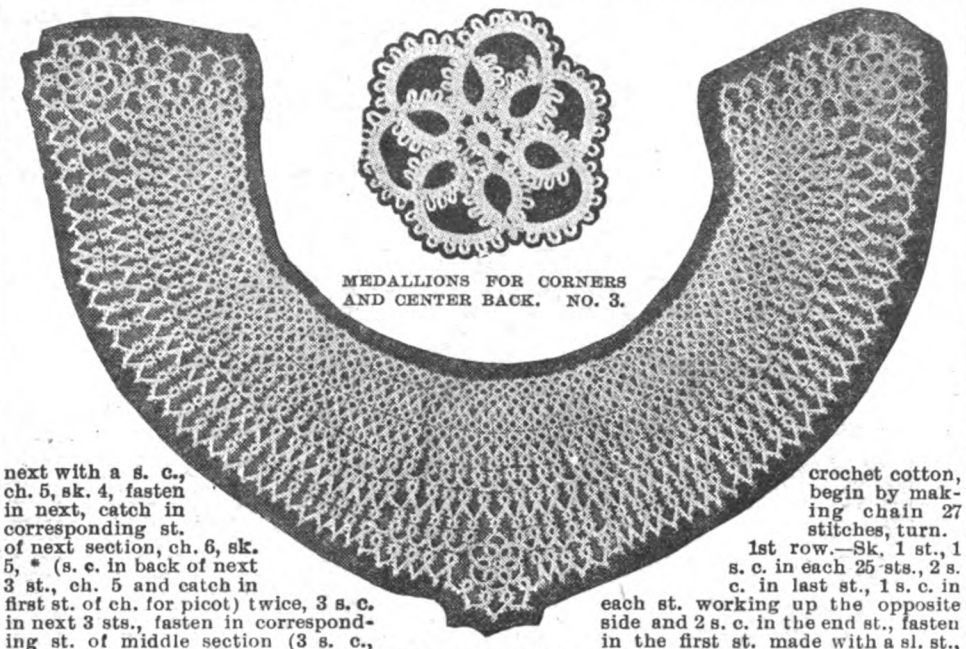
The fourth section is like the second.

Fifth section is like first with four doubles after it instead of two.

2nd row.—2 s. c. in first 2 st. of first section d. c. in next st. and 1 tr. c. in each st. around the section working in back loop and widening in middle of section by putting three tr. c. in same st. so the edge will lie flat. Finish section as began with d. c. and 2 s. c. Work 2, sl. sts. in 2 s. c. in ring and continue around each section in same way. After fifth section make 2 sl. st. in 2 d. c. of ring, ch. 15 for stem, turn, sk. 1, s. c. in each of nine st., ch. 6, sk. 1, s. c. in each of five st. then s. c. in each of 5 st. remaining of original ch. Fasten in st. next to first section and break thread.

Make as many leaves as required and join with a picot edge thus:

Fasten thread in end of short arm of stem and catch in upper side of first section where it will lie flat, ch. 6, sk. 4 d. c. and fasten in next with a s. c., ch. 5, sk. 4, fasten in next, catch in corresponding st. of next section, ch. 6, sk. 5, * (s. c. in back of next 3 st., ch. 5 and catch in first st. of ch. for picot) twice, 3 s. c. in next 3 sts., fasten in corresponding st. of middle section (3 s. c., picot) 7 times, 3 s. c., catch in next section (3 d. c., picot) 3 times, 3 s. c., fasten in last section, s. c. in each st. to top of section and fasten in middle st. of second section of next leaf. Repeat from *.

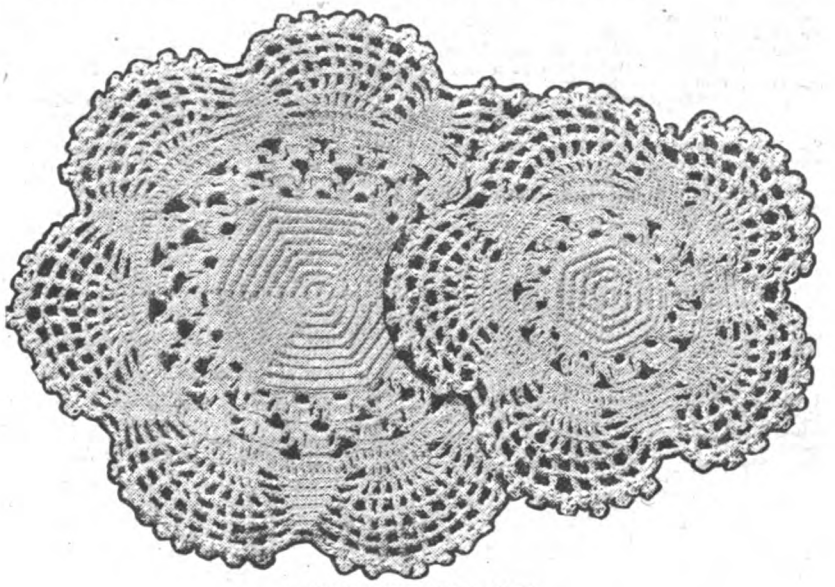


MEDALLIONS FOR CORNERS AND CENTER BACK. NO. 3.

TATTED COLLAR.

For the heading—Fasten thread in last section of top leaf, ch. 3, catch in end of stem * ch. 2, picot (a picot (p) in heading is made by ch. 3, fasten in 3rd st. from hook) ch. 2, p., ch. 2, sk. 3, fasten in next, ch. 2, p., ch. 2, p., ch. 2, fasten at branch or angle of stem ch. 2, p., ch. 2, p., ch. 2, fasten in other end of stem, ch. 2, p., ch. 2, p., ch. 2, fasten in leaf, ch. 2, p., ch. 2, p., ch. 2, sk. 3 d. c. of leaf, fasten in next ch. 2, p., ch. 2, p., ch. 2, fasten two sections of leaf together, ch. 2, p., ch. 2, p., ch. 2, sk. 3 d. c., fasten in next ch. 2, p., ch. 2, fasten in next leaf, ch. 2, fasten in end of stem, ch. 3 fasten between p. of third from last ch., ch. 3, fasten in middle of next ch. back, ch. 2, p., ch. 2, p., ch. 2, fasten in middle of ch. forward and repeat from *. The next two rows are simply ch. 2, p., ch. 2, p., ch. 2, fastened between p. of last row. The last row which straightens the edge is ch. of 4 caught in each ch. of last row.

Leaves made in this way may be used in a wide variety of ways, in lace edgings as shown, as outline for collars, doilies or scarfs and of



CROCHETED TABLE MATS.

silk as an applique pattern for hat bands, dress trimmings, sofa pillows, etc.

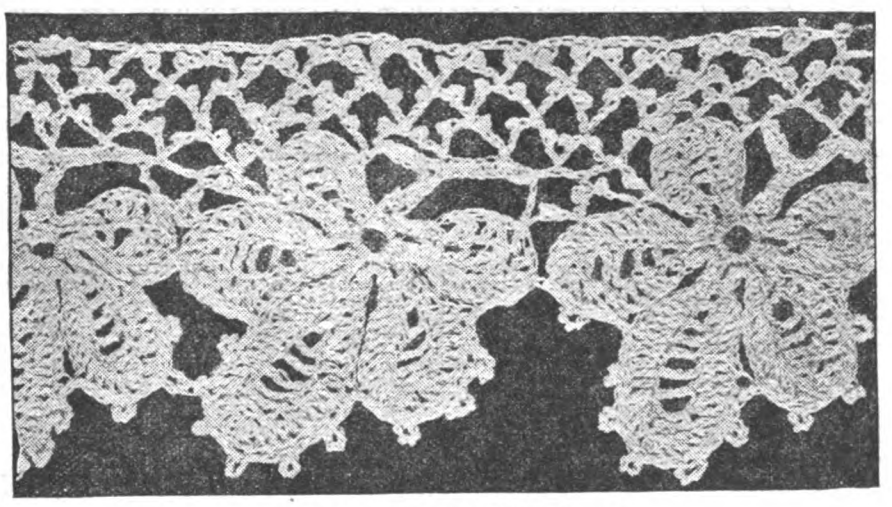
MRS. VIOLA LOGUE.

Will Mrs. Logue please send her full address to the editor.

Table Mats

This unusually effective pattern for crocheted mats is a particularly good design for hot dishes, as the center is very close and solid.

When making a set of mats the number may vary but for a small family seven makes a very good set; two large round ones, one large oval



IVY LEAF LACE. Mrs. Viola Logue.

one, two medium-sized ovals, and two small round or oval ones as preferred.

The only difference in making these round and oval mats is that the oval ones begin with a chain in the center, longer or shorter according to the size of the mat desired, while the round ones are begun in the center by joining a chain in small ring.

For an oval mat of medium size, using coarse crochet cotton, begin by making chain 27 stitches, turn.

1st row.—Sk. 1 st., 1 s. c. in each 25 sts., 2 s. c. in last st., 1 s. c. in each st. working up the opposite side and 2 s. c. in the end st., fasten in the first st. made with a sl. st., turn.

2nd row.—Ch. 1, then working down the side just finished and taking up only the half of the st. farthest from you, make 1 s. c. in the first st., 2 s. c. in the next, then 1 s. c. in each of the next 23 sts., 2 s. c. in next, 1 in next st., 2 s. c. in end st., 1 s. c. in next st., then 2 s. c. 1 s. c. in next 23 sts., 2 s. c. in next st., sl. st. to first st. in this row, turn and work back over the side just finished as follows.

3rd row.—Ch. 1, 1 s. c. in each first 3 sts., 2 s. c. in next, 1 s. c. in each of 24 sts., 2 in next 1 s. c. in each next 2 sts., 2 s. c. in next st., 1 s. c. in each next 2 sts., 2 s. c. in next st., 1 s. c. in 24 sts., 2 s. c. in next st., 1 s. c. in each next 2 sts., join as in last row and turn. This turning of the work is what forms the ribs.

4th row.—Ch. 1, 1 s. c. in each of 3 sts., 2 s. c. in next, 1 s. c. in 24 sts., 2 s. c. in next 1 s. c. in 3 sts., 2 s. c. in next, 1 s. c. in each next 3 sts., 2 s. c. in next, 1 s. c. in 24 sts. 2 s. c. in next, 1 s. c. in each next 3 sts. and join and turn.

Continue working in this way until there are 6 ribs on each side of the foundation chain. Be careful always to widen by working 2 s. c. in one of the 2 widening singles of the previous row, and always take up only the back loop of each st. in each round.

Border of Mats

Begin the first row with a ch. 4 and continue to work in the same direction instead of turning as before; Skip over 2 sts., 1 s. c. in each of the next 4 sts., ch. 4, sk. 2, 4 s. c. Work once around in this way finishing with 4 s. c. on last 4 sts., 11 groups 4 s. c. in all.

2nd row.—Ch. 3, 4 d. c. under ch. 4, ch. 3, 2 s. c. on 4 s. c. in last row. Work once around in this way, finishing with 2 s. c. on 4 s. c.

3rd row.—Ch. 4, 4 s. c. on 4 d. c., ch. 4, 4 s. c. on next 4 d. c., repeat all around. In working this row if one crochets loosely chains of 3 may prove long enough, but the work should neither draw nor be full, so chains should be made just long enough so the work will lie flat. End this row with a ch. and then 1 s. c. under first ch. 4.

4th row.—Ch. 3, 4 d. c. under ch. in last row, ch. 3, 2 s. c. on 4 s. c. in last row, ch. 3, 4 d. c. under next ch., ch. 3, 2 s. c. on 4 s. c. Work all around in this way. The 5th row is the same as 3rd row; end with 4 s. c. on 4 d. c.

6th row.—Ch. 3, 1 d. c. in each st., ending with a d. c. on the first d. c. made in this row.

7th row.—Ch. 3, sk. 1 d. c., 9 s. c. in next 9 d. c., ch. 3, sk. 2 d. c., 9 d. c. on next 9 d. c. Repeat from the beginning of this row all around.

8th row.—Ch. 3, 8 s. c. on 9 s. c., ch. 3, 1 d. c. in first d. c., ch. 1, 1 d. c. in 2 d. c., ch. 1, 1 d. c., ch. 1, 1 d. c., ch. 1, 1 d. c. Repeat, making 9 d. c. in all, then repeat from the beginning of this row, all around.

9th row.—Same as last with exception of making chains 2 between each of the 9 d. c., and working only 7 s. c. on the 8 s. c.

10th row.—Same as 9th with exception of making chains 3 between d. c. and working only 5 s. c. on 7 s. c.

11th row.—The same as last except that only 3 s. c. are worked on the 5 s. c. Finish with sl. st., under ch., then ch. 4, 1 sl. st. under ch. other side of 3 s. c.

12th row.—Ch. 3, 1 s. c. between 1st and 2nd d. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c. under same ch. This forms picot. Ch. 3, 1 p. between next 2 doubles. Finish the edge by working all around in this way.

Round Mats

Begin these with ch. 5, join in ring, fill with singles and reverse each row in center to form ribs as in oblong mats.

In 4th round work 2 s. c. in the first st. and at five other points, thus dividing the round into 6 equal parts.

Work 7 or more ribs in this way according to the size of the mat then finish with border.

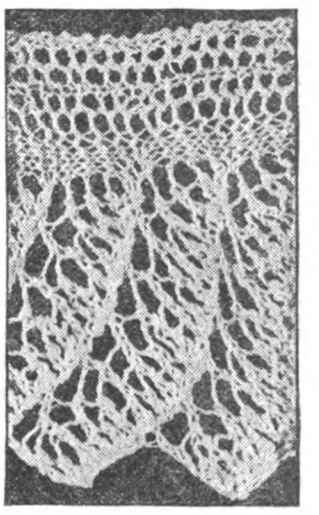
Knitted Point Lace

Cast on 23 stitches.

1st row.—K. 2, o, twice, purl 2 tog., thread back, k. 1, o. twice, purl 2 tog., k. 4, o. twice, k. 2, together 6 times.

2nd row.—K. 2, p. 1, this is knit first of loop and purl last half, 6 times, k. 4, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 2.

3rd row.—K. 2, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 4, o. twice, k. 2 in 1, 9 times.



POINT LACE. (KNITTED.)

4th row.—P. 1, 9 times, k. 4, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 2.

5th row.—K. 2, p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 4, o. twice, k. 2, tog., 13 times, k. 1.

6th row.—K. 3, p. 2, k. 2, p. 1, 12 times, k. 4, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 2.

7th row.—K. 2, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 4, o. twice, k. 2 in 1, 20 times.

8th row.—K. 2, p. 1, 20 times, k. 4, o. twice p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 2.

9th row.—K. 2, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 4, k. 2 in 1 to end of the row.

10th row.—Cast off 7, k. 2 in 1, 11 times o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 1, o. twice, p. 2 tog., k. 2.

Repeat from 1st row.

M. M. HAWLEY.

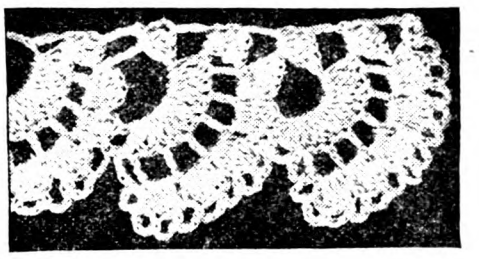
Shell Edging

Ch. 12, join in ring, ch. 3, turn.

1st row.—Into ring work 15 tr. c., ch. 3, turn.

2nd row.—3 d. c. in first st., ch. 2, sk. 2, 1 d. c., * ch. 2, sk. 2, 1 d. c., repeat from * making 6 spaces in all, ch. 2, turn.

2rd row.—3 d. c., 1 s. c. in first sp., 1 s. c., 3 d. c., 1 s. c. in each of the next 4 spaces, ch. 5, 1 d. c. in last st. of last row, ch. 3, turn.



SHELL EDGING

4th row.—Shell 3 d. c. under ch. 5, ch. 8, sl. st. to center second shell, ch. 3, turn.

5th row.—12 tr. c. under ch. 8, ch. 3, 1 tr. c. in last st. of last row.

6th row.—Same as 2nd row. Repeat pattern for the length desired. After completing last scallop ch. 3, turn, 1. s. c. in first d. c., ch. 3, sk. 1, 1 s. c., repeat along edges and up side of each scallop to the next scallop, thus giving picot like edge shown.

Tatting Book Notice

In response to the demand and for the benefit of our readers who are interested in tatting, we have issued a 16-page booklet of special designs by COMFORT workers.

This Tatting Book illustrates very plainly just how the work is to be done, by showing the various position of the worker's hands, which are accompanied by explicit directions for the different movements used in making the stitch.

It also contains a complete range of patterns from the simplest edgings and insertions to handsome designs worked with one and two threrds, including patterns for doilies, centerpieces, scarfs, lingerie, waists, yokes, collars, infants' and boudoir caps, bags, etc.

We will send a copy of this book free for one new yearly subscription (not your own) at 25c., or for your own subscription or renewal and ten cents extra 35c in all. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Masked Bridal

by Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



"How very strange," Edith remarked, in astonishment



"Look here; perhaps this will tell you better than any other form of introduction"



"I have told you the truth" responded Edith.

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Edith Allandale, the only support of an invalid mother pawns a valuable watch. To redeem it she offers a five-dollar gold piece, paid to her by Royal Bryant, to the broker, who, dropping it into the drawer declares it a counterfeit and returns it. Going home her mother suggests it may be genuine and again Edith goes out to buy food and coal. While eating supper an officer enters, followed by the grocer who insists upon Edith's arrest for passing counterfeit money. She is hurried to the station house, leaving her mother in the care of Kate O'Brien. Edith writes to Royal Bryant explaining the situation. He redeems the watch, secures Edith's release and sends her home, where she finds her mother dying. After her death in reading letters, Edith learns she is an adopted daughter, the child of a dear friend, who believes she is legally a wife, until the father of her child admits his perfidy and deserts her. Edith writes Mr. Bryant, giving no address and goes to Boston, securing a position as companion with Mrs. Gerald Goddard. Edith discovers there is a skeleton in the family, when Mrs. Goddard accuses her of attempting to steal her husband's affections. Emil Correlli, Mrs. Goddard's brother is persistent in his attentions to Edith; she tries to avoid him and decides to leave. Mrs. Goddard begs her to stay. Edith, going to walk renders assistance to Mrs. Stewart, who is attracted to her and shows agitation when she learns she is a companion to Mrs. Goddard, and if she needs a friend to come to her. Edith is overtaken by Emil Correlli. Nearing Mrs. Goddard's house, a woman, unknown to Edith addresses Emil in a foreign tongue. Realizing that Edith thinks there is something mysterious in his relation to this woman he endeavors to set it right, renews his protestations of love, offers marriage and is staggered by her refusal. Mrs. Goddard unfolds a scheme which cannot fail to make Edith Allen his wife, but Emil must go away. Mrs. Goddard plans with Edith for a "mid-winter frolic," at their country home. The housekeeper, Mrs. Weld, overhears Mr. Goddard entreating his wife for a certain document. Mrs. Goddard proposes a theatrical performance entitled "The Masked Bridal." The guests arrive. Mrs. Weld takes a folded paper from Mrs. Goddard's jewel case; it vindicates her. Mrs. Goddard, having sent for Edith and seeing Mrs. Weld in an adjoining room devises a scheme to get her from meeting Edith to whom she explains that Miss Kerby and brother who have the leading parts, have been summoned home and requests Edith to supply Miss Kerby's place. Edith objects to what appears sacrilege. Over persuaded she consents and veiled and masked the ceremony is performed. When she hears Mrs. Goddard congratulate Emil she grasps the duplicity and nearly falls senseless. Mrs. Goddard, returning to the ballroom asks Emil to introduce his friend, Mrs. Stewart. Meeting her, Mrs. Goddard calls her husband, who recognizes in Mrs. Stewart his former wife. Recovering from the shock Edith talks with Mrs. Goddard, who implores her to see Emil and forgive his deception. She listens to his entreaties and later his commands and utterly refuses to ever break bread at his table.

CHAPTER XX.

EDITH RESOLVES TO MEET HER ENEMIES WITH THEIR OWN WEAPONS.

THE morning following her interview with Emil Correlli, when Edith attempted to leave her room to go down to breakfast, she found to her dismay, that her door had been fastened on the outside.

An angry flush leaped to her brow.

"So they imagine they can make me bend to their will by making a prisoner of me, do they?" she exclaimed, with flashing eyes and scornful lips. "We shall see!"

But she was powerless just then to help herself, and so was obliged to make the best of her situation for the present.

Presently some one knocked upon her door, and she heard a bolt moved—it having been placed there during the night. Then Mrs. Goddard appeared before her, smiling a gracious good morning, and bearing a tray, upon which there was a daintily arranged breakfast.

"We thought it best for you to eat here, since you do not feel like coming down to the dining-room," she kindly remarked, as she set the tray upon the table.

Edith opened her lips to make some scathing retort; but, a bright thought suddenly flashing through her mind, she checked herself, and replied, appreciatively:

"Thank you, Mrs. Goddard."

"Ah! she is beginning to come around," thought the wily woman.

But, concealing her secret pleasure at this change in her victim, she remarked, in her ordinary tone:

"We shall leave for the city very soon after breakfast, so please have everything ready so as not to keep the horses standing in the cold."

"Everything is ready now," said Edith, glancing at her trunk, which she had locked just before trying the door.

"That is well, and I will send for you when the carriage comes around."

Edith simply bowed to show that she heard, and then her companion retired, locking the door after her, but marveling at the girl's apparent submission.

"There is no way to outwit rogues except with their own weapons—cunning and deceit," murmured the fair prisoner, bitterly, as she began to eat her breakfast. "I will be very wary and apparently submissive until I have matured my plans, and then they may chew their cud of defeat as long as it pleases them to do so."

After finishing her meal she dressed herself for the coming drive, but wondered why Mrs. Weld had not been up to see her, for, of course, she must know that something unusual had happened, or that she was ill again, since she had not joined her at breakfast.

A little later she heard a stealthy step outside her door and the next moment an envelope was slipped beneath it into her room; then the steps retreated, and all was still again.

Rising, Edith picked up the missive and opened it, when another sealed envelope, addressed to her, in a beautiful, lady-like hand, and postmarked Boston, was revealed, together with a brief note hastily written with a pencil.

This latter proved to be from Mrs. Weld.

"Dear Child," it ran, "I have been requested not to go to you this morning, as you are particularly engaged, which, of course, I understand as a command to keep out of the way. But I want you to know that I mean to stand by you, and shall do all in my power to help you. I shall manage to see or write to you again in a day or two. Meantime, don't lose heart.

"Affectionately yours,

"GERTRUDE WELD.

"P. S.—The inclosed letter came for you in last night's mail. I captured it for you."

With an eager light in her eyes, Edith opened it and read:

"Boston, Feb. —, 18—.

"MY DEAR MISS ALLEN:—I have learned of the wretched deception that has been practised upon you, and hasten to write this to assure you that my previous offer of friendship—when we met at the time of the accident to my coachman—was not a mere matter of form. Again I say, if you need a friend, come to me, and I will do my utmost to shield you from those who have shown themselves your worst enemies, and whom I know to be unworthy of the position which they occupy in the social world. Come to me when you will, and I promise to protect you from them. I cannot say more upon paper.

"Sincerely yours, ISABEL STEWART."

"How very kind and yet how very strange!" murmured Edith, as she refolded the letter. "I wonder who could have told her about that wretched affair of Tuesday evening. I wonder, too, what she knows about the Goddards, and if I had better accept her friendly offer."

She reflected upon the matter for a few minutes, and then continued:

"I think I will go to New York first, as I had planned, see what Mr. Bryant can do for me, and ascertain the meaning of that strange personal; then I think I will come back and ask her to take me as a companion—for I do not believe that what I shall learn to my financial advantage will amount to enough to preclude the necessity of my doing something for my support. I suppose I ought to answer this letter, though," she added, meditatively; "but I believe I shall not dare to until I am safely away from Boston, for if my reply should fall into the hands of any member of this family, my plans might be frustrated."

She carefully concealed both notes about her person, and then sat down to await orders to go below.

A little later Mrs. Goddard came to her and said they were about ready to leave for the city, and requested her to go down into the hall.

Edith arose with apparent alacrity, and madam noticed with an expression of satisfaction that her bearing was less aggressive than when they had last met.

She followed Mrs. Goddard down-stairs and seated herself in the hall to await the signal for departure.

Presently Mr. Goddard came in from outdoors. He started slightly upon seeing Edith, then paused and inquired kindly if she was feeling quite well again.

Edith thanked him, and briefly remarked that she was, when he startled her by stooping suddenly and whispering in her ear:

"Count upon me as your friend, my child; I promise you that I will do all in my power to help you thwart your enemies."

He waited for no answer, but passed quickly on and entered the library.

Edith was astonished, and while, for the moment, she was touched by his unexpected offer of assistance, she at the same time distrusted him.

A few minutes later the carriage was driven to the door—the snow having become so soft they were obliged to return to the city on wheels—when Mrs. Goddard came hurrying from the dining-room where she had been giving some last orders to the servants, and bidding Edith follow her, passed out of the house and entered the carriage.

Edith was scarcely seated beside her when Emil Correlli made his appearance and settled himself opposite her.

The young girl flushed, but, schooling herself to carry out the part which she had determined to assume for the present, made no other sign to betray how distasteful his presence was to her.

Upon their arrival in town, Mrs. Goddard remarked to Edith:

"I have been obliged to take, for a servant, the room you used to occupy, dear; consequently, you will have to go into the south chamber for the present. Thomas," turning to a man and pointing to Edith's trunk, "take this trunk directly up to the south chamber."

Edith's heart gave a startled bound at this unexpected change.

The "south chamber" was the handsomest sleeping apartment in the house—the guest chamber, in fact—and she understood at once why it had thus been assigned to her.

It was intended that she should pose and be treated in every respect as became the wife of madam's brother, and thus the best room in the house had been set apart for her use.

She knew that it would be both useless and unwise to make any objections; the change had been determined upon, and doubtless her old room was already occupied by a servant, to prevent the possibility of her returning to it.

Thus, after the first glance of surprise at madam, she turned and quietly followed the man who was taking up her trunk.

"But, on entering the "south chamber," another surprise awaited her, for the apartment had been fitted up with even greater luxury than previous to their leaving for the country.

Upon the bed there lay an elegant seal-skin garment, which, at a glance, Edith knew must have been cut to fit her figure, and beside it there was a pretty muff and a Parisian hat, while over the footboard there hung three or four beautiful dresses.

"Do they suppose that they could buy me over—tempt me to sell myself for this gorgeous finery?" the indignant girl exclaimed. "They must think me very weak-minded and variable if they did."

But her curiosity was excited to see how far they had carried their extravagant bribery; and, going back to the dressing-case she drew out the upper drawer.

Notwithstanding her indignation and scorn, she could not suppress a cry of mingled astonishment and admiration at what she saw there, for the receptacle contained the daintiest lingerie imaginable.

There were beautiful laces, handkerchiefs, and gloves, suitable for every occasion; three or four fans of costly material and exquisite workmanship; a pair of pearl-and-gold opera glasses.

More than this, and arranged so as to cunningly tempt the eye, there were several cases of jewels—comprising pearls, diamonds, emeralds and rubies.

It was an array to tempt the most obdurate heart and fancy and Edith stood gazing upon the lovely things with admiring eyes while, after a moment, a little sigh of regret accompanied her resolute act of shutting the drawer and turning the key in its lock.

"What a pity to spend so much money for nothing," Edith murmured regretfully, when she had concluded her inspection. "It is very evident that they look upon me as a silly, vacillating girl, who can be easily managed and won over by pretty clothes and glittering baubles. I suppose there are girls whose highest ambition in life is to possess such things, and to lead an existence of luxury and pleasure—who would doubtless sell themselves for them; but I should hate and scorn myself for accepting anything of the kind from a man whom I could neither respect nor love."

She gave utterance to a heavy sigh as she closed the drawer and turned away from the dressing-case; not, however, because she longed to possess the beautiful things she had seen, but in view of the difficulties which might lie before her to hamper her movements in the effort to escape from her enemies.

"I suppose I must remain here for a few hours at least," she continued, an expression of anxiety flitting over her face, "and if I expect to carry out my plans successfully I must begin by assuming a submissive role."

She removed her hat and wraps, hanging them in a closet; then, going to her trunk, she selected what few articles she would absolutely need on her journey to New York, and some important papers—among them the letters which her own mother had written—and after hastily making them up into a neat package, returned them again to the trunk for concealment, until she should be ready to leave the house.

This done, she sat down by a window to await and meet, with what fortitude she could command the next act in the drama of her life.

Not long after she heard a step in the hall, then there came a knock on her door, and madam's voice called out:

"It is only I, Edith; may I come in?"

"Yes, come," unhesitatingly responded the girl, and Mrs. Goddard entered the room.

"How do you like your new quarters, dear?" she inquired, searching Edith's fair face with eager eyes.

"Of course, everything is very beautiful."

"And are you pleased with the additions to the furnishings?—the chair, the work-table, and writing-desk?"

"I have never seen anything more lovely."

"I knew you would like them," said madam, "they are exquisite, and Emil is going to have them carefully packed, and take them along for you to use wherever you stop in your travels. And the cloak and dresses—aren't they perfectly elegant? The jewels, too, and other things in the dressing case; have you seen them?"

"Yes, I have seen them all; but—but I am very sorry that so much money should have been spent for me."

"Oh, the money is of no account, if you are only happy," Mrs. Goddard lightly remarked. "And now," she went on eagerly, "I want you to dress yourself just as nicely as you can, and be ready, when the bell rings, to come down to lunch, as it becomes—my sister. Will you, dear?" she concluded, coaxingly. "Do, Edith, be reasonable; let us bury the hatchet, and all be on good terms."

"I—I do not think I can quite make up my mind to go down to lunch," Edith faltered, with averted face.

Madam frowned; she had begun to think her victory was won, and the disappointment nettled her. But she controlled herself and remarked pleasantly:

"Well, then, I will send up your lunch, if you will promise to come down and dine with us, will you?"

Edith hesitated a moment; then, drawing a long breath, she remarked, as if with bashful hesitancy:

"I think, perhaps—I will go down later—by and by."

"Now you are beginning to be sensible, dear," said madm, flashing a covert look of exultation at her, "and Emil will be so happy. Put on this silver-gray silk—it is so lovely, trimmed with white lace—and the pearls; you will be charming in the costume. I am sorry I have to go directly after lunch," she continued, regretfully, "but I have a call to make, and shall not be back for a couple of hours; but Emil will be here; so if you can find it in your heart to be a little kind to him, just put on the gray silk—or anything else you may prefer—and go down to him. May I tell him that you will?"

"I will not promise—at least until after you return."

Madam could have laughed in triumph, for she believed the victory was hers.

"Well, perhaps you would feel a trifle shy about it," she said, good naturedly, "it would be pleasanter and easier for you, no doubt, if I were here, so I will come for you when I get back. Good by till then."

And with a satisfied little nod and smile, madam left her and went down-stairs to tell her brother that his munificence had won the day and he would have no further trouble with a fractious bride.

CHAPTER XXI.

A MYSTERIOUS STRANGER PAYS EDITH AN UNEXPECTED VISIT.

Edith listened until she heard madam descend the stairs, when she sprang to her feet in a fever of excitement.

"Oh, how I hate myself for practising even that much of deceit!" she bitterly exclaimed; "to allow her to think for a moment that I have been won over by those baubles. Although I told her no lie, I do intend to go down by and by if I can see an opportunity to get out of the house. But I did so long to stand boldly up and repudiate her proposals and all these costly bribes. Dress myself in those things!" she continued, with a scornful glance toward the bed; "make myself look 'pretty and nice,' with the price of my self-respect, and then go down to flaunt before the man who has grossly insulted me by assuming that he could bribe me to submission! I would rather be clothed in rags—the very sight of these things makes me sick at heart."

She turned resolutely from them, and, drawing the stiffest and hardest chair in the room to a window, sat down with her back to the allurements around her and gazed out upon the street.

She remained there until her lunch was sent up, when she ate enough to barely satisfy her hunger, after which she went back to her post to watch for the departure of Mrs. Goddard.

The house stood upon a corner, and thus faced upon two streets—the avenue in front, and at the side a cross-street that led through to Beacon street. Thus, Edith's room being upon the front of the mansion, she had a wide outlook in two directions.

Not long after stationing herself at the window, she saw Mrs. Goddard go out, and then she began to wonder how she could manage to make her escape before her return.

She knew that she was only a prisoner in the house in spite of the fact that her door was not locked; that Emil Correlli had been left below simply to act as her keeper; and, should she make the slightest attempt to escape, he would immediately intercept her.

She could not get out of the house except by the front way, and to do this she would have to pass down a long flight of stairs and by two or three rooms, in any one of which Emil Correlli might be on the watch in anticipation of this very proceeding.

There was a back stairway; but as this led directly up from the area hall, the door at the bottom was always carefully kept locked—the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)



The COMFORT Sisters' Corner

This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

NO lengthy discourse of mine on Mothers and Mothers' Day could express so much as the following article, "Kissing Mother," written by Eli Perkins, which I hope will be read by our girls and boys and applied every day in their home life.—Ed.

"Kissing Mother"

A father, talking to his careless daughter, said:

"I want to speak to you of your mother. It may be that you have noticed a careworn look upon her face lately. Of course, it has not been brought there by any act of yours, still it is your duty to chase it away. I want you to get up tomorrow morning and get breakfast; and when your mother comes, and begins to express her surprise, go right up to her and kiss her on the mouth. You can't imagine how it will brighten her dear face.

"Besides, you owe her a kiss or two. Away back, when you were a little girl, she kissed you when no one else was tempted by your fever-tainted breath and swollen face. You were not as attractive then as you are now. And through those years of childish sunshine and shadows, she was always ready to cure, by the magic of a mother's kiss, the little, dirty, chubby hands whenever they were injured in those first skirmishes with the rough old world.

"And then the midnight kiss with which she routed so many bad dreams, as she leaned above your restless pillow, have all been on interest these long, long years.

"Of course, she is not so pretty and kissable as you are; but if you had done your share of work during the last ten years, the contrast would not be so marked.

"Her face has more wrinkles than yours, and yet, if you were sick, that face would appear far more beautiful than an angel's as it hovered over you, watching every opportunity to minister to your comfort, and every one of those wrinkles would seem to be bright wavelets of sunshine chasing each other over the dear face.

"She will leave you one of these days. These burdens, if not lifted from her shoulders, will break her down. Those rough, hard hands that have done so many necessary things for you will be crossed upon her lifeless breast.

"Those neglected lips, that gave you your first baby kiss, will be forever closed, and those sad, tired eyes will have opened in eternity, and then you will appreciate your mother; but it will be too late."

MONTANA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Here comes a very puzzled woman to your department, asking your help, though I hardly know how to express my wants.

I live in the average small town; that is, we have our few rich people, a few very poor ones, but the majority are in comfortable circumstances, though all are working people. General conditions are no worse than in a great many small towns and country places but it seems to me they could be improved. Our schools are as good as the average and I think that the parents could take a greater interest in their children and their health than they do. I don't mean by this that they are uncared for or neglected to any material extent and many of my neighbors would be shocked if they even knew my thoughts about them. Isn't there some way for me to awaken them to a sense of their responsibilities without making myself conspicuous or arousing their enmity? At the same time I'm admitting my own ignorance of a great many things and I want more than all else to give my children (I have three) the best possible care.

I know this is a lot to ask of you and the sisters, but it means so much to me—and the children of our community. Dissatisfied.

Dissatisfied. You couldn't have chosen a better nom de plume. Just think what a commonplace, unprogressive world this would be if everyone were satisfied with things as they are and content to drift on as they had for years with no thought of bettering themselves and conditions. Why don't you get some of the most prominent townspeople interested in a Baby-week Campaign? The U. S. Dept. of Labor, Children's Bureau, has gotten out a very interesting booklet on this which they send on application. In the meantime I'll give you brief extracts that may be of help to you.—Ed.

Baby Week Campaign

Some communities celebrated the whole week; in others baby week lasted one day or three or five days. The seven-day programs usually ran about as follows: Flag Day, Baby Sunday, school day, fathers' day, outing day, visiting day, and birth-registration day. Baby Sabbath was also celebrated in many cities.

This general program was varied in some towns by a tag day; one featured a rural mothers' day, one a merchants' baby booster day, one a recognition day (when business houses put out flags and everyone interested was asked to wear a flower), and one had a baby button day. In North Dakota the general plan was to call flag day advertising day, and concentrate that day on letting everybody know what was coming. The program of a middle western city was: Baby Sunday, daddy's day, mother's day, the baby's day, home day, welfare day, parade day.

Expenses varied all the way from about four thousand dollars spent by one middle western city to thirty-five cents spent by a Southern village, and nothing at all spent for a baby week which had an enthusiastic constituency from both city and country.

Flag day was usually the first day of the celebration. The object of flag day was to see that every house where a baby lived put out a flag and kept it flying throughout the week. One Missouri town, on the other hand, asked the parents to wear flags instead of flying them from the windows. The flags adopted by the different towns varied widely, though many towns did not design a special flag for the occasion but used small American flags.

Baby Sunday was generally observed by an announcement of baby week and its purposes from the pulpits of various religious bodies. In some cases sermons on baby welfare were preached. Physicians were invited to occupy pulpits on Sunday evening in several communities.

Fathers' Day. In manufacturing towns fathers' day was celebrated by holding shop meetings with good speakers to address fathers on the whole question of what the community owes to its babies, with special reference to local conditions, good and bad. Several towns were successful in getting physicians to address fathers' meetings on the social evil and its effect on children.

The outing day proved popular in towns which celebrated later in the year than March. The usual plan was for the committee to collect all the automobiles it could borrow and fill them with mothers and babies. One city made a combination of outing and visiting day; parties of mothers and babies were taken in automobiles to visit baby camps maintained in one of the suburbs.

Parades, sometimes combined with visits to infant-welfare stations, were reported from several cities. Boy Scouts and members of Little Mothers' Leagues, trained nurses and others who were helping in the celebration were among those who marched in parades. Banners and labels voicing local needs were used effectively.

Here is a newspaper report of a successful parade held in Louisiana:

Babies to right of us,
Babies to left of us,
Babies in front of us,
Babies enough to dazzle us,
God bless 'em,
So say we, all of us.

Baby-Welfare Exhibits

The many exhibits held during baby week in 1916 had one or both of the following aims: They showed the need of infant-welfare work in a particular community, or they gave mothers information regarding the proper care of babies and children.

An exhibit on the dairy inspection system was prepared by a city chemist in Texas. He showed the visitors clean and also dirty milk under the miscroscope. The exhibit in a Pennsylvania city included material about pure food, with a special demonstration by girls from the domestic-science classes of the public schools. At the same exhibit boys of the manual training classes made and demonstrated small models of a dirty dairy, a clean dairy and a playground.

The exhibits on the care of the baby frequently included demonstrations. At one Rhode Island exhibit a woman showed how patterns for baby clothes should be laid on the material to cut to the best advantage. The proper way of bathing and dressing a baby was frequently shown. Some communities added to the interest of this demonstration by having a live baby for a subject instead of an India rubber one.

One Kansas town had an exhibit in fashioning layettes—old-fashioned ones, with very long dresses and elaborate embroidery, and inexpensive modern ones.

Aside from material of an educational nature, the baby weeks of 1916 produced a little litera-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.)

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

Bill-of-Fare Making With Cheese as the Central Food

SINCE meat has so generally been the chief protein food of a meal, and the kind selected usually has determined the choice of vegetables and condiments, it is not strange that very many housekeepers should be inexperienced and consequently unskillful in planning meals in which cheese is substituted for meat when for any reason they may desire to make such a change. In seeking skill they might take a suggestion from the experiments to which reference has been made, and also from a case investigated and reported by the Office of Experiment Stations, of a man who lived for months upon a diet of bread, fruit and cheese, and who remained in good health and active, and did not weary of the monotony of the diet.

The first two articles of the diet mentioned, namely, the bread and the cheese, could have been taken in such amounts as to constitute what is usually considered a balanced ration, i, e., in such amounts as to supply the right quantity of muscle-forming foods in comparison with the energy value. The bread and cheese taken with the fruit, however, make a ration which is well balanced not only in the older and more widely accepted sense, but also in the more modern sense that it makes an attractive and palatable combination of foods, as well as a balanced ration, and thus favors digestion. The watery and refreshing fruits or succulent vegetables with their large supply of cellulose are a pleasant contrast to the concentrated and fatty cheese.

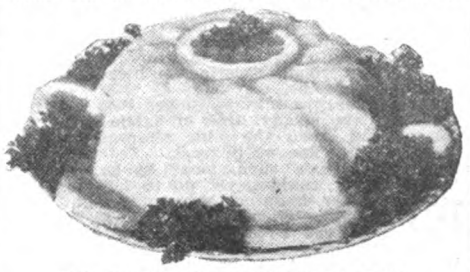
Housekeepers would probably find that if in planning menus of which a cheese dish is the chief feature they were to take pains to supply also crisp, watery vegetables, water cress, celery, lettuce served with a dressing or with salt alone, or simple fruit salads, and would give preference to refreshing fruits, either fresh or cooked, rather than to what are known as heavy desserts, they would in general be more successful in pleasing those who are served.

There is another point also to be considered in combining cheese with other foods. Whether it is raw or cooked it is likely to be somewhat soft, and so seems to call for the harder kinds of bread—crusty rolls or biscuit, zweiback, toast, pulled bread, rye bread, the harder brown breads, or crackers, and some of the numerous crisp ready-to-eat cereal breakfast foods. Brittle cookies, too, seem more suitable than rich, soft cakes or puddings for the dessert in such meals.

—U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

DELICIOUS CHICKEN.—Cook chicken till nearly done, in salted water, cut into small pieces and place in a baking dish. Soak two slices of stale bread in cold water, add a little flour, and mustard, sage, pepper and cinnamon to taste; mix, make into balls and place around the chicken; add the water in which the chicken was cooked and place in oven for half an hour. ANNIE LEWIS, Ager, Cal.

FISH SOUFFLE WITH HOLLANDAISE SAUCE.—Use leftovers for this very appetizing dish. One cup of cold boiled fish mixed with one cup of fine white bread crumbs and one half cup of rich milk or cream. Mix



FISH SOUFFLE WITH HOLLANDAISE SAUCE.

together, add pepper and salt to taste, two teaspoons of lemon juice, and the well-beaten yolks of two eggs. Mix again and add the egg whites beaten stiff. Pour into a buttered baking dish, and bake in a moderate oven about thirty minutes. Turn over on a hot dish and surround with sauce. Garnish with parsley and lemon slices.

SAUCE.—Place sauce pan at first where the stove is just warm. Put in quarter of a cup of butter, one saltspoon of salt, pinch of pepper, dash of cayenne, one quarter of a cup of cold water, and the yolks of two eggs. Beat together with a spoon, increasing the heat all the time, and when hot (not boiling) place in larger pan of hot water, stirring constantly until it thickens. Add one tablespoon of lemon juice and serve immediately.

SALMON LOAF.—Add to one can of salmon, two eggs, well beaten, one tablespoon melted butter, seven soda crackers, ground fine, juice of one lemon, and salt to taste. Bake in loaf and serve with mayonnaise.
MISS ESTELLA FRAVER, Hammondsport, N. Y.

HOME-MADE COTTAGE CHEESE SALAD.—Very carefully dish sour milk into a cheese cloth bag which is made



HOME-MADE COTTAGE CHEESE SALAD.

of two thicknesses. Hang in sun until all the whey has drained through. Season with salt and a little butter or cream. To one cup of cheese, add one third cup of finely broken walnut or pecan meats. Form into balls, sprinkle with a dash of red pepper and chill. Arrange on lettuce leaves prepared with French dressing.

COCOANUT DROPS.—One pound of grated cocoanut, one half pound powdered sugar and whites of six eggs, beaten to a stiff froth. Mix well and drop into buttered tins and bake. Add any desired flavoring.
MRS. MINNIE BLACKBURN, Friendship, Tenn.

NOODLES.—To one egg, beaten lightly, add salt to taste, then sufficient flour to roll as thin as paper. Roll as for a jelly roll. Cut in thin slices, shake out and flour, add to your soup and let simmer fifteen minutes. If you wish to use noodles as a vegetable, double the quantity, say use two eggs.

RYE BREAD. (Requested.)—One sifter or five and three quarters cups white flour, two sifters of rye flour, six cups warm water, two yeast cakes, dissolved in some of the water, one half cup melted lard, two tablespoons salt, four tablespoons sugar and one half teaspoon soda. Mix all together at night. Knead down in the morning. When light, divide into four loaves and let rise again in the pans.
MRS. J. B. SILLIMAN, Patchague, N. Y.

PIEPLANT BUTTER.—One gallon of cut up pie plant, one pound of seedless raisins six oranges, cut fine, and two pounds of granulated sugar. Put the fruit in a preserving kettle and when boiling well add the sugar and stir frequently until it is almost smooth. This will make two and one half quarts of butter and when tightly sealed will keep indefinitely. It is of fine flavor and being mildly laxative is health giving. IVY J. NEFF, Burrows, Ind.

HAM AND EGGS ON TOAST.—Trim slices of bread into rounds, toast and sprinkle with ground ham. For each slice of toast beat the white of one egg to a stiff froth, adding a little salt. Cover the bread with this, making a little cavity in the center in which place the



HAM AND EGGS ON TOAST.

yolk of an egg; add a little salt and pepper and a small piece of butter and leave in a hot oven until the whites are a delicate brown. Garnish with parsley.

DARK COOKIES, WITHOUT EGGS.—One cup molasses, one cup shortening, two thirds cup brown sugar, one cup sour milk, two teaspoons soda, one teaspoon ginger, one teaspoon salt and flour enough to make a soft dough.

MRS. LILLY WILBER, Ruby, Wis.

INEXPENSIVE SPICED CAKE. (Excellent.)—Break two eggs in pan, add one cup sugar, beat well; one half cup syrup or sorghum, one half cup butter (or less of lard), teaspoon each ginger, allspice, cloves and cinnamon, one teaspoon soda, salt to taste (pinch), stir and beat all together good; add teacup buttermilk, stir briskly until well mixed; add flour until very thick stirring while adding; bake one hour in slow oven.
LILLIE D. ELDRIDGE, Chiricahua, Ariz.

EGGLESS CAKE.—Crumb together one and and one half cups of sugar, two and one half cups of flour, one half teaspoon each nutmeg, cinnamon and allspice, one tablespoon of lard and last of all add one cup of buttermilk or sour milk and one teaspoon of soda.
ANNIE LEWIS, Ager, Cal.

CHOCOLATE CAKE.—One half cup lard, melted, two eggs, well-beaten, one cup sugar, three squares unsweetened chocolate, one half cup flour, one quarter teaspoon salt, one cup chopped nut meats, one teaspoon vanilla. Bake in hot oven twenty minutes.
Subscriber.

STEAMED APPLE PUDDING.—Mix and sift two cups flour, four teaspoons baking powder and one half teaspoon salt: work in two tablespoons butter, and add three quarters cup of milk, toss on floured board, pat and roll out, place four apples pared, cored and cut in eighths in middle of dough and sprinkle with one tablespoon sugar mixed with one quarter teaspoon each, salt, nutmeg; bring dough around apples and lift into buttered mold. Steam one and one half hours. Serve with sauce.

BAKED APPLES.—Wipe the apples with a damp cloth and remove the cores. Fill the cavity with butter and sugar and sprinkle cinnamon over them. Bake until soft and serve with cream and sugar.

APPLE FRITTERS.—Sift one and one half teaspoons baking powder with one and one third cup of flour, add a little salt, two thirds of a cup of milk, a well-beaten egg and two apples which have been peeled, cored and either chopped or cut into small slices. Drop by spoonfuls into boiling fat and when cooked drain on brown paper and roll in powdered sugar or the sugar may be omitted and the fritters served with any good liquid sauce.

APPLES STUFFED WITH NUTS.—Core the apples. Fill in the space with a mixture of finely chopped nuts, sugar and cinnamon to taste. Bake and serve with whipped cream.
FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

ONE CRUST LEMON PIE.—Use the grated peel and the juice of one lemon. (After grating off peel remove the white, tough covering beneath it, then rub the lemon on the grater until all the juice is pressed out.) To this add one cup of hot water, one teaspoon cornstarch blended with a little water, one cup sugar and boil till it thickens; when cool, add the well-beaten yolks of two eggs. Bake crust separately (pricking it several places with a fork that it may not blister.) When done fill with the lemon jelly and cover with a meringue made of the well-beaten whites of the two eggs, and two tablespoons of sugar. Brown in oven.

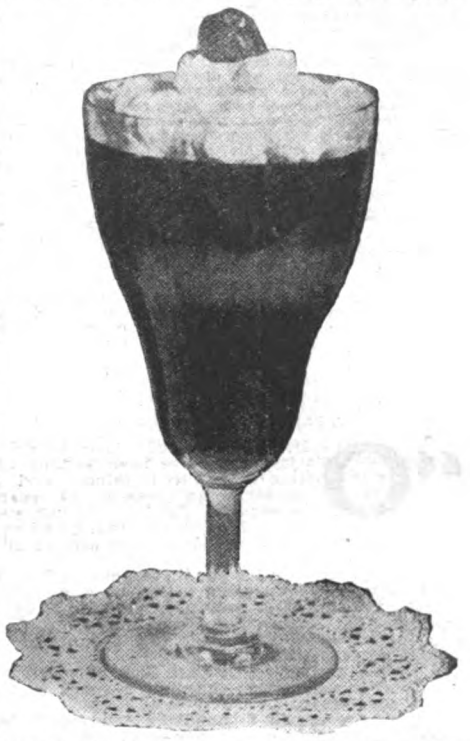
MRS. P. S. HENDRY, Loxley, Ala.

CHERRY SPONGE.—One half envelope Granulated Sparkling Gelatine, one half cup cold water, one tablespoon lemon juice, one and one half cups canned cherries, one cup canned cherry juice, one half cup sugar and whites of two eggs. Soak gelatine in cold water five minutes and dissolve in hot cherry juice. Add cherries, stoned and cut in halves, and lemon juice. When mixture begins to set add whites of eggs, beaten until stiff. Turn into mold, first dipped in cold water, and chill. Garnish with whipped cream, sweetened and flavored with vanilla and chopped cherries. Other canned fruits may be substituted for cherries.—Ed.

JELLY ROLL.—Five eggs, two cups sugar, cream together and add a tiny pinch of salt and soda, two teaspoons baking powder, three and one half cups flour and thin down with a cup of boiling water. Bake in layers, spread jelly on while hot and roll.
MRS. J. H. MORRIS, Tuscumbia, Ala.

GINGER COOKIES.—One cup butter, one cup sugar, one cup molasses, one half cup cold coffee, two teaspoons soda and enough flour to make a soft dough. Roll out and bake in a moderate oven.
MRS. J. C. LARIMER, Usk, Wash.

FRUIT CREAM.—Take one box of Granulated Sparkling Gelatine, four lemons, sliced, a little stick of cinnamon, and a pint of cold water. Divide it in halves after adding four cups of sugar. To one half add a half pint of hot currant jelly. To the other



half, a half pint of hot water. Strain, place a silver spoon into the bottom of a glass and fill it one third up with the currant liquid. When that is cool add half of the lemon jelly and when set, fill the glass with the currant. Top this with whipped cream and a cherry.

SODA CRACKERS. (Requested.)—To fourteen cups flour add one cup shortening, four teaspoons cream of tartar, two teaspoons soda. Rub these well into the flour, and add three cups water. Work thoroughly, beat with rolling pin; roll thin and sprinkle lightly with salt, rolling salt lightly into dough. Cut in any desired shape and bake in quick oven. Half this recipe makes sufficient quantity for ordinary use.
MRS. RAY R. PINKERTON, Hauser, Oregon.

KNOX SPARKLING GELATINE



Has Nothing to Hide

You are insured a clear, transparent jelly made from the best material when you use Knox Sparkling Gelatine.

I know both yourself and family will be pleased if you try the recipe for Maple Rice Pudding which is printed below.

Mrs. Charles B. Knox.
President.

Maple Rice Pudding

Soak ½ envelope of KNOX SPARKLING GELATINE in 1 cup of milk ten minutes and dissolve in 2 cups of hot boiled rice cooked dry Add 1 cup of granulated sugar or brown sugar, maple sugar or maple syrup and ½ teaspoonful of salt, 1 cup chopped nut meats, if desired, 1 teaspoonful vanilla, and when cool fold in 1 cup cream, beaten until stiff. Turn into mold which has been dipped in cold water. When firm, remove from mold and serve.

Recipe Book Free

Our book "Dainty Desserts for Dainty People" will be sent for your grocer's name. If you wish a pint sample enclose 4 cents in stamps.

CHARLES B. KNOX GELATINE CO., Inc.
425 Knox Ave., Johnstown, N. Y.

NERINE'S SECOND CHOICE

by Adelaide Stirling



With a sharp gesture she put Lady Satterlee's soft white fan up across her agonized, whitening face.



Nerine, in her old blue dressing gown, was leaning over the bannisters at the head of the stairs.



"I do not think I am the proper person to tell it to you. Good-night."



Maurice gave utterance to a prolonged whistle.

Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

John Lispenard, cousin to Kit Belton's mother, marries a Canadian girl. Dying he leaves a widow, two girls, Agatha and Nerine, and one son Maurice. Mrs. Lispenard marries Clarence Mayne, an interloper. At her decease she leaves Clarence Mayne an income until the girls are of age. Lispenard house and money go to the male heir in the direct line. Clarence Mayne goes on a trip to Monte Carlo, Kit Belton comes on a visit, while Maurice Lispenard, denied the education which is his by right, walks from Liverpool, where he is learning to be a mechanical engineer, to be with Kit Belton. Jones, known to Maurice as Lister, is ordered to harness the horses, when they go to see Lord Satterlee in a game of football. Agatha recognizes him. He has attended St. Jude's that he might see her. Maurice invites Lord Satterlee to dine with him. A young maid, not familiar with the house, and suspicious, leaves him in the darkness. He gropes his way to Clarence Mayne's room, where Nerine finds him later. She picks up a fallen table. In a secret drawer she discovers a book with her mother's initials on it. Nerine and Agatha going for a walk meet Lord Satterlee who hopes to see them at the next dance. Returning to Mr. Mayne's rooms the next day Nerine discovers that they are occupied during his absence and detects a strange woman putting the Lispenard silver in a strong bag. Left alone Nerine substitutes stones and minerals and covers them with her silk skirt. The woman returns, there is a struggle and Nerine falls senseless. Leaving Nerine unconscious, and going to the station with the bag she is met by Jones, who discovers the stones in the place of the silver and hurries the woman away. Returning to the coach-house Jones receives a summons from Maurice, who puts him through a rigid interview. Agatha is suspicious that Mr. Mayne is in the plot. Maurice, with his sisters, calls upon Lady Satterlee who thinks they are alike, yet different. Satterlee admits not knowing one from the other at first. Preparations for the dance go on and Nerine is wildly happy. Lady Satterlee, as hostess, invites the Lispenards and Miss Belton to tea, preparatory to the dance, where Nerine, her heart beating happily, promises Satterlee three extra dances at supper-time, refusing one to Mr. Fairfax, Lady Satterlee's cousin. Dancing one of them, she retires to the dressing-room to arrange her hair. Satterlee, not returning she walks down the passage to another room, and indignant at his apparent neglect and the image of Agatha, is about to leave the room when he enters.

CHAPTER XII.

A BLUNDER IN THE DARK.

"OH, you are here?" Satterlee cried joyfully. "I've been looking after a hundred things, and I haven't an instant to spare now; but Fairfax told me you were here by yourself, and I had to, really had to"—laughing—"come around and speak to you."

"I wasn't waiting for you," she answered, coldly. Was he not even going to say he was sorry?

"Oh, I know that you never did as kind a thing as that for me, but I couldn't go on dancing, talking to stupid people, till I had had at least one more with you."

He came nearer, with that look of open joy on his face which was somehow a shock to his silent companion.

"Were you afraid I should be annoyed?" Her voice was grave against her will. Why could she not bring even the ghost of a smile on her lips?

"I did not know; how could I? But you are not annoyed, are you?"

Was she? She turned away slowly instead of answering him, and stood leaning against the mantelpiece, looking at the fire. Annoyed? If her heart did not beat so frightfully, perhaps she could tell him.

"I ought to be annoyed," she said, unsteadily.

"But you are not?" triumphantly. He was close to her now, and he laid his hand on her shoulder. She could feel it warm and strong through its thin kid glove. "Darling"—how soft, how young his voice was—"you won't send me away for one minute, will you? I had such hard work to find you at all."

"You were long enough about it."

"I know. Some things I had to see to, and I must go now. But not until you turn your head and look at me."

"It is nearly dark; you could not see me."

"I don't need to, Agatha, darling!" He spoke with suppressed emotion—quietly, tenderly.

Agatha!

How she saved herself from giving a tell-tale start, Nerine did not know, but she did so to save herself. She even spoke to him, quite naturally.

"It i not Agatha—it is Nerine." Somehow her lips shaped the words, but, oh! thank heaven for the blessed dark that so nearly hid her face! With a sharp gesture she put Lady Satterlee's soft white fan up across her agonized, whitening face.

So it was Agatha after all. Fool! fool that she was to have ever thought anything else!

"Nerine!"

After that one word, Satterlee stood dumb. A thousand things rushed over him—first and foremost the humbling thought that she had been engaged to him for these very present supper dances, and that on being called away by a servant to speak about some arrangements he had forgotten her and them, totally and utterly.

"I owe you a thousand apologies," he stammered. "I thought you were still in the dressing-room."

"I was cold, so I came here to wait, and the light went out." Not her worst enemy could have heard her voice falter. "You must forgive me if I let you think I was Agatha, you were so certain you could always distinguish us," she added, with a smile more brave than merry.

"You must think me a beast!" he said, remorsefully, "to keep you waiting so long. But I think I am not quite myself tonight. Agatha, half an hour ag said she would marry me, and I am so happy that I am afraid I have forgotten everything else."

"Agatha said she would marry you!" with mechanical repetition. Her heart did not trouble her now by beating too fast; she almost felt as if it had stopped. For the first time she turned and looked him squarely in the face.

"Then I must congratulate you, for there is nobody in the world so nice and dear as Agatha!"

No Lispenard of them all had ever been braver, yet she was thankful again that he could so dimly see her face as he answered her.

"I know. I'm not half good enough for her."

"How did you come to imagine she was here?" with a sudden curious desire to turn the knife in the wound.

"I asked Fairfax if he had seen her, and he said she was here. I wanted"—awkwardly—"just to speak to her for one second, just to make sure that I had not been dreaming."

"And you forgot all about me! Well, I forgive you. I think"—with hidden bitterness—"that while I have been waiting I have been dreaming myself. It got so dark."

Her lip was trembling now with the strain. Another minute more and she would cry. Not she; time enough for such ludicrous self-abuse when she got home to her bed; there would be plenty of leisure then to realize her humiliation, to see how easily she had deceived herself. Why, whenever she should be in want of amusement, through her lifetime, she would only have to look back and see what a ninny she had made of herself during the past month.

"Come," she said. "Let us go and find Agatha." Her voice grew soft as she uttered her sister's name.

Dear Agatha! It had not been her fault, but in spite of herself, the girl's face hardened as she looked at her future brother-in-law. How many times, when talking to her, she wondered, had he been imagining that she was Agatha? Her humiliation turned her cold and sick; the room was close, too, from the smell of the extinguished lamp. With a little imperious motion of her head to Satterlee, which bade him follow, she swept out into the passage.

"Will you dance?" he said, rather meekly, catching up with her, "or come and have some supper?"

Dance! She shivered; perhaps if it had not been for that waltz with him she had not been so near, so horribly near, betraying herself. As for supper, she felt as if she could never eat again; but since one or the other it must be, she would go to supper.

As she entered the crowded supper-room, Lady Satterlee beckoned to her from the far end, where she sat with three or four men waiting on her.

"I thought you were lost," she said, gayly, pushing aside her voluminous skirts to show a chair beside her.

How pale the child looked! What had happened to her pretty color? Too wise to say so, she nodded authoritatively at Fairfax.

"Soup and some champagne, Hughie!" Then she looked at her son. What could Bobby have been doing? Had Nerine refused him? But it took only one glance at his face to make her quite certain that nobody had refused or in any way displeased Bobby.

CHAPTER XIII.

A HUMILIATED MAIDEN.

Nerine looked like an actress who had just finished playing a heavy and exhausting role. If she had been acting, her part was far from being finished. There was the rest of the dance, and they stayed to the very end; there was the long drive home, and, worst of all, there was the getting home.

Arriving at Lispenard House, she raced upstairs in front of the two other girls and banged into her cold bedroom. Would she ever get out of this hateful white satin gown she had been at such pains to procure? Nerine tugged at the hooks and eyes so neatly hidden under her arms. What a blessing that the bodice did not lace and force her to wait for Agatha! She huddled the full skirt and the quaint, big-sleeved bodice into the huge, half-empty wardrobe, grimly glad to get them out of sight. She felt more like her old self when she was wrapped in her shabby old flannel dressing-gown, and pulling the hairpins out of her long, black hair. Presently she would have to talk to Agatha, to Kit; have to echo their raptures over the ball, that festivity of dust and ashes; and there was nothing like brushing out long, thick locks to hide a white and weary face.

She was combing recklessly when Agatha opened the door.

"What! Undressed already?" cried that damsel in languid surprise. "Come along into Kit's room and help me out of my grandeur. Jane has kept up the fire and left hot chocolate on the hob for us."

"Where did she get it?" she asked, unkindly. "Steal it from Mr. Mayne?"

But she moved, brush in hand, to her door; since things must be faced, it might as well be now.

"It's Kit's," Agatha returned. "Do you suppose I would eat Mr. Mayne's things?"

She stepped out into the corridor after Nerine, her white satin skirt held carefully over her arm, and stood transfixed in that draughty passage.

Nerine, in her old blue dressing-gown, was leaning over the banisters at the head of the stairs, her long hair streaming from her bent head like a witch's. From below came the sound of voices in animated conversation. At the well-known and mincing tones of the second voice, Agatha dropped her carefully-held skirts.

"Mr. Mayne!" For a minute she could say no more. She joined Nerine, where she stood in breathless silence, and the two listened.

It was Mr. Mayne. There was no doubt of that, and he and Maurice were now talking in subdued tones in the lower hall.

"Come by the late train, the sly old dog!" Nerine whispered. "And caught us neatly." She leaned over a little more. "They're beginning to quarrel!" She swept her hair from her face and eyed Agatha fairly. "Don't let us have a row just now—you go down!"

"Me? Oh, I can't," beginning to quake. "You know I never can do anything with Mr. Mayne."

"I can, then," Nerine answered grimly. "Come and get me into my dress, Agatha." And she flew back to her room, twisting up her long, black hair as she went.

It took only a minute to get into her gown, and wit the steady light of battle in her eyes she walked down the wide staircase, tall and stately in her fine white frock.

With Agatha's engagement to be announced tomorrow, it would never do to let Mr. Mayne get the upper hand of Maurice tonight. There had been a time when she had quailed before her silken mannered stepfather, but that was over.

She sailed majestically up to the little, carefully-dressed man who stood by Maurice in the dimly-lighted hall, and was for the first time conscious that she towered over him.

"How do you do?" she said, calmly. "I suppose you were surprised to find us all out."

Surprised! Mr Mayne put up his eyeglass in wild amazement at the vision of the confident young woman in white satin who had taken the place of his shrinking and serge-clad stepdaughter. He could absolutely find no voice to greet her.

"Lady Satterlee took us to her son's dance," she pursued; "but if we had expected you tonight we would have left a message for you."

A message! Mr. Mayne staggered mentally.

"I telegraphed to Jones, therefore my rooms were prepared in spite of your—your extraordinary absence," he said, frostily.

"Yes?" she replied, interrogatively and politely, as she seated herself on a stiff oak chair and glanced thoughtfully at her stepfather. "Did Maurice tell you of the—the extraordinary thing which happened in this house during your absence?" she questioned, with precisely the same pause as Mr. Mayne's. "And can you explain it?"

Maurice stepped behind Mr. Mayne, a grin slowly dawning on his perturbed face. Good old Nerine! This was more fun than ten balls.

Mayne dropped his eyeglass, and for a minute was silent. Maurice had told him indeed; so had Jones, and he could explain it only too well. Was the girl's question an arrow in the dark, or had she found out anything? If she had, it was a black outlook for Clarence Mayne. He choked back the sharp retort on his lips, and spoke airily, as was his wont.

"Even I, my dear Nerine, cannot explain the inexplicable." His voice was not quite so even as he could have wished, and he coughed delicately. "Did you—ah—see the thief?" he asked. "Distinctly, I fancy."

There was for one second an ugly gleam in Mr. Mayne's eyes—only for one second—but the girl saw it, and as he looked quickly away from her she drew in her breath softly.

"He is frightened to death! He knows perfectly well who was in his room," she thought, with a flash of insight. "And he will be more frightened before we are done. Your day of small tyranny, my good man, is over in this house."

"I thought Jones might have had something to do with it," Maurice struck in during the pause; "but he swears he hadn't."

Mr. Mayne shook his head with smiling contempt; he had been prepared for this shot.

"Jones is very faithful—to me. I am convinced he had nothing to do with it."

Maurice laughed.

"Poor Jones has been between the devil and the deep sea lately," he said. "But you know more about him than I do, probably!"

"Well," said Nerine, quickly, for things looked too much like open war again, "no one will be able to be in your rooms now that you are back. Had you"—smiling sweetly—"a pleasant journey?"

"Very. A most enjoyable holiday."

If a gun had been fired in Mr. Mayne's ear it could not have caused him a more unpleasant start than did this little indifferent inquiry about his travels. It was a sign of very altered times indeed when Nerine faced him with polite phrases instead of standing before him mute, with downcast eyes, while he made sarcastic comments on her conduct and manners. An uneasiness which had crept over him as he listened to Maurice's story increased hugely at the altered manner of his stepdaughter. He had meant to take a high stand about their lawless doings, about Maurice's being there, and he had been at a white heat of rage at discovering that his emancipated charges had actually gone to a ball. But as he looked at Nerine all his carefully-prepared and cutting rebuke somehow came to nothing; it was he, not Nerine, who stood mute.

"Well, we have plenty of news for you if you have none for us—about the robbery." With a momentary hesitation Nerine rose and went smoothly on. "Come, Maurice, it is time to get to bed. I am tired, and you have to make an early start in the morning."

"You leave, then, in the morning?" Mr. Mayne was relieved.

"Now that you have returned to take charge of my sisters," Maurice answered gravely, and something in his manner, which smacked of increasing years and self-assertion, caused his stepfather a fresh access of that uneasiness.

He would send for Nerine again in the morning and make sure exactly what she had seen; in the meantime should he try to get at what Maurice had meant by that little remark about Jones? He would sleep the better if he knew that that meant nothing.

But it was not fated that his repose should be deepened, for Nerine had touched Maurice on the shoulder, and he was already half way upstairs without even a pretense of saying good night.

"I have more news for you, Mr. Mayne," she said sweetly, "but it will keep till tomorrow. And, besides, I do not think I am the proper person to tell it to you. Good night." And she was gone up the wide staircase.

Mr. Mayne spoke a rough word to himself in a polite undertone, and retired to his own part of the house. He had played a losing game at Monte Carlo and it seemed that he was doing the same thing here. He hugged the meagre shred of consolation left to him by assuring himself that it was fortunate that things were no worse. But it was a futile reflection for he was perfectly aware that he had not the least idea of how much was known by the Lispenards about their unpleasant visitor; and Jones, when questioned, gave replies which were those of Job's comforters, and only increased the uncertainty of his master.

"What do you think of him? Do you think he knows who was in his rooms?" Agatha said breathlessly as Nerine gained the up-stairs hall where she and Maurice stood waiting.

"I think he knows all about it," Nerine answered, "and he is terrified about how much we know."

"What news have you to tell him in the morning, and why are you not the proper person?" Maurice asked, curiously. "By Jove! you did manage him well! I could have shouted, 'Well played!' every time."

"News?" said Nerine. Her color faded a little, but she looked bravely at her brother. "Ask Agatha!" she added, significantly; and then with a suden consciousness of that strange stiffness coming about her mouth which she had felt there once before that night, she put up a swift hand and pulled out the few hairpins which were keeping up her thick hair. It was through that falling veil that she answered Agatha bravely.

"Who told you?"

"Lord Satterlee," gently. "I am so glad you are happy, Agatha!"

Maurice looked sharply at his sisters—one standing pale and beautiful, with her wild hair streaming over her, and the other flushed and confused.

"Don't smirk, Agatha!" he remarked, unkindly. "What does Nerine mean about Satterlee?"

"Tonight he asked me to marry him," Agatha said. "Maurice, you little wretch, how dare you tell me not to smirk?"

Maurice gave utterance to a prolonged whistle.

"Good for Satterlee," he said. "But look here, both of you. I always thought it was Nerine he liked."

If Nerine quivered, neither of the other two saw it.

"That is just where you were remarkably out," she observed, with a kind of grim humor, even through the fresh flood of shame which covered her at the remembrance of how near she had been to open humiliation tonight. She bent over and kissed her sister's cheek. "Wish her joy, Maurice," she said softly, and vanished into her own room to take off, for the second time that night, the white satin gown in the wearing of which she had had so little joy.

She was in bed and the room was quite dark when Agatha arrived from her conversation with Maurice.

"Are you awake?" she said, cautiously approaching the bed. "I wish you would not have your bath-tub left in the middle of the floor," bumping smartly against it. "Shan't I light a candle?"

"Haven't got one," wearily. "We can talk in the dark, Agatha."

"Oh, yes," replied Agatha, resting herself on the bed.

"Maurice is going in the morning, I hope," Nerine said, feverishly. "His presence here is useless while we are having a fuss about your getting engaged."

"Yes, he's going. Tell me, Nerine, were you surprised when he told you?"

"Who—Maurice?" she replied, artfully.

"No," laughing. "You know what I mean."

Nerine twisted her hands hard together in the dark.

"A little surprised," she said, huskily. "I—I didn't know you cared for him."

"You don't mean that you don't think he's nice?" questioned Agatha, anxiously.

Nerine winced.

"No indeed, I think he's charming. I think"—there were tears on her cheeks now, but they did not matter in this blessed darkness—"you are a very lucky girl." Oh! if Agatha would only go away and leave her! What should she do if

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.)

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

ture of their own, their own art, and even one song. These spontaneous products of a quick sympathy are not things which every community can hope to duplicate. Some of them can be reproduced, however, for the benefit of everyone. Minneapolis sends this verse:

Baby

(Dedicated to "Baby Week.")

Wee mite of pinkness with rosebud face,
The dew of unborn ages on thine eyes,
The heritage of eons, and the prize
Of kings and prelates. At thine elfin grace
Empires fall. Close in her soft embrace,
Madonna-like, the mother sanctifies
Her earthborn babe in wide-eyed, rapt surmise,
Glimpsing in him the sinews of the race.
A wraith, a gem from out the great unknown,
"A little bit of heaven" sent to men
Down through the rifts of blue, a blossom blown
From fields of asphodel beyond our ken,
Perchance the gates of heaven have slipped ajar,
And thou, the Christ-child's gift, hast come afar.
—*U. S. Dept. of Labor.*

LIPAN, TEXAS.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I am interested in letters on child rearing as I have a baby eighteen months old and I want to rear him right. We have never encouraged him in slapping or fighting but he seems to have a natural inclination to slap, and strike with anything he plays with. I have whipped his little hands to make him stop and also taken toys away from him when he strikes with them, but all to no avail. He also has a habit of biting other children when playing with them. These little habits make it very unpleasant for me when in company where there are children. We have tried various suggestions but with no success. I wish the sisters would advise me. What methods of punishment can I use on a child of his age? He is learning to talk and we think he is very sweet. Some people say, "Let him alone, he will outgrow it." But, as the editor says, it doesn't seem right to allow these habits to become so firmly fixed.

I think Bell's letter was good and if all married people would follow her example there would be less cause for regret.

Mrs. Walter Alverson has asked why so many cannot get along with their mothers-in-law. My answer is—the absence of a correct viewpoint from one or both sides. Often the mother-in-law thinks that because she is older and has had more experience the daughter-in-law should do just as she thinks best, while the daughter-in-law who has been raised differently cannot yield readily to her opinion. On the other hand the daughter-in-law may be arrogant and inclined to treat the mother-in-law's advice with contempt not realizing that we should always respect the advice of our elders. Each should recognize the other as an individual with a right to her own viewpoint on all matters.

I lived in the same house with my father-in-law and mother-in-law for seven years and during that time there was never a jar or cross word between us. She was a woman who always respected my views and never intruded where she was not concerned. She allowed me the privilege of a daughter in household affairs and I always respected her advice and took it on many occasions and I can now see where I was greatly benefited by it. I was miles from my own mother so I looked to her for sympathy and advice and she never failed me. She adopted some of my methods of housework and I adopted some of hers. They are both dead now but I am glad to say I have no regrets in regard to my treatment of either of them. They are greatly missed in our home and we should have despaired indeed if our little golden-haired sunbeam had not been here to cheer us. He was two and one half months old when his grandmother died and our whole attention was turned to him.

We live in the rocky hills of Texas where we raise wheat, oats, corn, maize, cotton and peanuts.

I think every mother should try to make home the most pleasant place for her children. Encourage music, good reading and interesting games. Let them bring their friends home; oversee their games and amusements, taking part when necessary. Be a companion to your children, share their confidences and in times of temptation or trouble they will nearly always come to you. I want to make our home so pleasant that my boy will want to spend most of his time around our cheery hearth.

We take Holland's Magazine, Ladies' Home Journal and COMFORT and we think COMFORT far the best for the money. MRS. H. L. HOLDER.

Mrs. Holder. Children are such imitators that I wouldn't advise slapping your baby's hands to make him stop slapping his playmates' hands, or at least till he is old enough to understand why he is being punished. The chances are that he will stop it of his own sweet will so don't let it worry you; but if any of the sisters have any suggestions to offer we shall be glad to hear from them.—Ed.

FENWICK, MICH.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Wasn't it one of COMFORT sisters that suggested raising funds for Uncle Charlie's permanent home? Looks as though he'd enjoy it only in anticipation. It is almost unbelievable that after all this time he has so little money. What is the matter with COMFORT readers any way? If each one gave a penny he'd have sixty thousand dollars. I'm sure many subscribers have fine farms and heavy bank deposits. Write out a check for one thousand and send him. Send it now, Mr. Tight Wad, if you never gave anything for the relief of human woe, try it and see how you feel. You will have the greater benefit. Oh, yes, you all love Uncle Charlie, but honeyed words will not buy food, clothes or shelter. Father's hired man once lost a valuable cow. Several men met and expressed sympathy. Father said: "I'm sorry five dollars. How sorry are the rest?" They got him another cow and that is the right kind of pity, one that helps.

"It's possible we may have war with foreign countries; New York and Brooklyn might be burned. Uncle Charlie couldn't flee. Let him have a home in the country safe from invasion, where he can enjoy the bountiful gifts of nature. He has earned more than one hundred thousand dollars. I wish I had a million to send him, for I'd know many other unfortunates would be benefited. If he doesn't get fifty thousand dollars before his next birthday, I'll ask Billy Sunday to give one exhibition of his contortions for the benefit of Uncle Charlie. See if *I* don't! ALICE MANN SANDERLY.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I would like the remedy for rupture, made of egg.

I want to tell you something I thought of. Last year in March I said to myself, "In a few days I will be sixty years old, threescore years, and I may live to be threescore and ten. I will take a motto and live up to it every day and see what comes of it in the ten years." So I chose "Little Deeds of Kindness," and every evening I wrote in a book every little deed of kindness I had performed during the day. At the end of the year I had such a bulky book that I didn't want anyone to read it so I burned it and this year I am keeping it like this:

January 1, 1917, did 20 acts of kindness, Cost $——
January 2, 1917, did 12 acts of kindness, Cost $——

You see, "little deeds of kindness" is better than "big deeds of kindness" because it is impossible to do great things. One good deed to myself, by doing this I am thinking all the time of what I can do for others and it crowds out wanting something done for myself—and it is really casting bread upon the waters. To do is my part and because of this record I *do* more. One day I returned home about six o'clock. If I had not been keeping this record, after eating my evening meal I would have gone to bed and read myself to sleep, but I was not satisfied with my day so I made haste and called at a home where there are little children and carried some fresh eggs to them. Then I called to see a widow who is an invalid and on the way I walked with a hard-working woman and talked to her in a cheery manner. Then I invited a boy to spend the evening with my family. His mother is dead and he has no one to admire him, particularly as he is deformed. Now these little deeds were appreciated but would not have been done except for my motto. I am telling you all this because I find it is a pleasant way to pass one's time, and because it is more blessed to give than to receive. I feel much more independent than I would if I waited for attentions to be shown me. My time is filled thinking of what attentions I can give.

With many thanks for all the help you have given me in your letters to COMFORT,

Sincerely, MRS. GREEN.

Mrs. Green. You can't make me believe that you waited till you were nearly sixty years old before you thought of this little-deeds-of-kindness stunt; I think you have been doing these good deeds all your life but maybe just found it out. Don't the sisters agree with me?—Ed.

ILLINOIS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been a subscriber to COMFORT nearly twenty-one years and this is my first attempt to pen a line to the best of all papers.

I want to ask the bride of a month, whose letter appeared in December COMFORT if she will not come again and tell us COMFORT sisters how her husband made that glass prism. Give size; does it stand or hang up, and where glass may be obtained; in fact, tell us all about it. I for one would thank her very much.

With best wishes to the COMFORT family,

MRS. M. F. M.

NEBRASKA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a silent reader of COMFORT for over ten years and I enjoy it much but most of all the Sisters' Corner and Uncle Charlie's department.

I am interested in "Lonely One." If it is possible for you to bear children it is your duty and you will be glad if you do. There is nothing so sweet as a little child. You can surely control your nerves for it is not so nerve racking as you seem to think, at least I do not think so. Really the months won't seem so long if you put in your time pleasantly and profitably. Don't worry over anything and do your work as pleasantly and as easily as you can. Fancy-work and music are good to help pass the time away. I wish I knew your address, so I could write to you. You might love an orphan dearly but not as you would one of your own. It is one of the sweetest things in the world to hear them say "Mamma." I do not believe in too large a family; but I do think it is every woman's duty to have children, unless it is impossible, and that is a time to trust in God. He will see you through.

I am twenty-seven years old and have a little girl three and one half years old and a dear little boy just a little over a year old. Husband and I think they are the best in the world and you mothers, of course, think the same of yours.

I do not believe in divorces unless absolutely necessary. I am in favor of votes for women and will surely vote if ever I get the chance.

I enclose a little verse I love. Good by and God bless you all.

"Only a baby small, dropt from the skies,
Only a laughing face, two sunny eyes,
Only two cherry lips, one chubby nose,
Only two little hands, ten little toes,
Only a golden head, curly and soft,
Only a tongue that wags loudly and oft,
Only a little brain, empty of thought,
Only a little heart troubled with naught,
Only a tender flower sent us to rear,
Only a life to love while we are here,
Only a baby small, never at rest,
Small but how dear to us, God knoweth best."

"Happy Mother."

Happy Mother. All your advice is good and I am sure will be much appreciated by Lonely One and for her further benefit I am adding a few words on exercise, which I have taken from Uncle Sam's booklet on Prenatal Care.—Ed.

It should be the invariable practise of every pregnant woman to spend at least two hours of each day in the open air, and as much more as possible. If the weather is pleasant, walking is a valuable form of exercise, if taken leisurely and not continued to the point of weariness. Women who have previously been accustomed to active out-of-door lives should modify their habits sufficiently to avoid fatiguing and dangerous sports; those who have previously led quiet indoor lives will find it wise to begin their open-air exercise very moderately. Easy gardening work is a good form of exercise and diverts the mind agreeably, but it must be merely an amusement, not a compelling task. Pleasant open-air occupations invigorate the muscles, stimulate the sweat glands and other excretory organs, strengthen and restore the nervous tissues, clear the brain, increase the heart action, and send a greater supply of blood to all parts of the body, thus promoting the digestion and assimilation of food, renewing the mental and moral health, increasing courage and cheerfulness, and finally develop character itself. There is nothing that takes the place of out-of-door life. If the day be cold or stormy enough to preclude going out, a walk may be taken on the porch, or at least in a room with the windows wide open; but in some form or other it should be taken until near the end of pregnancy, when it may become wearisome to the point of real fatigue.

There is a present-day tendency, with the greatly increased interest in sports of all sorts, to forget that a pregnant woman, while needing exercise, must conserve her strength and build it up, not tear it down with violent or exhausting forms of activity. Since the majority of women are busy during part of the day with their household duties, and many have more than they can do comfortably, they may often derive greater benefit from sitting quietly out in the fresh air, if the weather is suitable, and resting while they sew, read, or chat. One of the less obvious but equally important results of this out-of-door life is the amount of mental diversion which it affords. The sights and sounds of the open often induce a happy change of view and take the pressure off the overworked nerves even in the presence of genuine cause for worry.

U. S. Dept. of Labor.

BIGSTONE GAP, VA.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

As I always like to have at least a vague idea of how a person looks, I will describe myself. I am sixteeen years old, have blue eyes, fair complexion, golden-brown hair and weigh—but I will leave that for the sisters to guess.

I live in the pretty town of Bigstone Gap, Va., which has a population of between three and four thousand. The town is situated in a valley between two mountains, and the scenery is beautiful. The climate also is very pleasant.

Why won't more of the sisters discuss the divorce question? I think it is one of the greatest evils our country has to face. I can hear some good sister say, "You are young and little folks should be seen and not heard." True; nevertheless, we "little folks" [illegible] to be the "big folks" some day so if we [illegible] in our minds now the right course, we [illegible] sure to make mistakes later on.

[illegible] ou ll have heard the quotation, "A woman makes the home and home makes the man." A beautiful house is not always a beautiful home. I have been walking along with people who would exclaim, "Oh, what a beautiful home!" I have thought at such times, "It may be a beautiful home and it may not be. It is not a home at all, unless perfect love, perfect happiness and perfect peace holds court there. Not a home unless the wife is interested in all of her husband's trials, cares and worries, business success or failure. Sharing each other's joys and sorrows alike. Going hand in hand along life's hard, rugged road, but conscious of a lighter heart because that in all their joys there is someone to share them; in all sorrows, someone to help bear them."

I would be glad to hear from the sisters, especially those living on claims in the West.

Your COMFORT sister, VERDA SPROLES.

JENERA, OHIO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

We live in the country three quarters of a mile south of Jenera on a three-acre truck farm. My father is a painter and is busy most of the time. He also does interior finishing and varnishing. I don't think I would like to live in the city. I prefer a small town or village where one can keep a cow, a few chickens and have a garden. Like one of the sisters, I think the city has its advantages but it seems the temptation to do evil is greater there and there is more danger of one becoming a "swell head."

I like to do tatting and other fancy-work but I don't spend all my time at it though for I can do housework. My parents believe in teaching us to work and I think they are right. So many mothers do all the housework and let their daughters play or go

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

How to Use Eggs in Cooking

By Mary Harrod Northend

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.



In making frosting, the white of the egg only is used; mix it stiffly with sugar and use water to soften it.

AS a food, eggs, cannot be over-estimated. If the frugal housewife remembers this fact, she will take great care that there is always an abundance in the house. During warm weather, it is a very easy matter as the hen keeps you well supplied with eggs, but in the winter season they become scarce. This fact makes it advisable to lay them down in water glass (can be gotten at the druggist) to meet emergency cases such as this.

In comparing their percentage of nourishment, with other foods, one should bear in mind that they rank next to milk and cheese. In addition to the albumin they contain, one finds fat, phosphate, potash and lime in their composition. One egg, is equal to five ounces of fat meat and it is much more easily digested. In its cooking there is no need of sameness, for nothing lends itself to such a great variety of usage as this.

There are so many different and attractive dishes they can be used for, that it is with difficulty one chooses. For breakfast or tea, there are the poached eggs, and the boiled, both of which, if rightly cooked are appetizing, as well as the omelet. Then there are the innumerable uses for eggs in cakes and desserts, and as a rule the more eggs in the recipe the richer the food product. But one serious objection to the liberal use of eggs in cooking at all times is their scarcity and high cost at certain seasons of the year when they become an expensive luxury to people of moderate incomes, and, as a certain gentleman was wont to remark, "they taste too strong of money." At such times one can economize without sacrifice by substituting desserts made with gelatine, and there are recipes for making cake with less eggs by using a pure, high-grade baking powder.



Fill your kettle with hot water and drop an egg into every compartment. One advantage of this is that they easily slip off and do not burn.

Great care should be taken in the making and baking of custards. The heat of the oven must be considered, for unless moderate it is apt to burn. Far better results are obtained if a shallow tin dish is placed in the oven partly filled with water and into which the cups are set. If you find they are baking too quickly a cap of white paper will prevent scorching. To properly test as to whether they are done insert the blade of a knife down to the bottom of the cup and if when you bring it up it is dry rest assured it is fit to take from the oven.

Four eggs to a quart of milk, is a rule that brings the best results in the making of this particular dessert. Boiled custards are much smoother if the yolks only are used, although sometimes a little gelatine or corn-starch helps out the thickening. This is an idea to be remembered, when eggs are scarce and bring prohibitive prices. Too much care cannot be taken with the beating. There should be just enough so that the egg proper does not string and one should bear in mind, that over beating has the effect of curdling the custard.

BOILED OR BAKED CUSTARD.—Milk, two cups; eggs, four; sugar, one quarter of a cup; salt, one eighth of a teaspoonful; nutmeg.

Scald the milk, beat the egg until slightly frothy, add sugar, salt and nutmeg, and mix well. Add the scalded milk, slowly stirring all the time, strain the mixture into either a buttered pudding dish or cups, place this in a pan of hot water, this can be steamed or boiled, if the former is desired, the dish or cup, can be placed, in a steamer, over a saucepan containing boiling water, being covered while it cooks. In case of the latter, it can be done in a double boiler. It should be flavored with vanilla.



For boiled eggs use an egg stand that will hold them while boiling and save danger of breaking when they are taken out.

CHOCOLATE CUSTARD. — Chocolate, one quarter of a cake, grated; boiling water, one pint; eggs, four; milk, one quart; sugar, one half cup; vanilla, two teaspoonfuls.

Dissolve the chocolate in the water and stir into the boiling milk letting it stay for three minutes. When nearly cold add the beaten eggs with sugar, saving out one white for frosting. Flavor and pour into a mold. When served it should be decorated with the white of egg, stiffly beaten to which is added a little powdered sugar.

SPINACH AND EGGS.—Spinach should be used perfectly fresh, washed in several waters, so that all dirt should be removed. Put in boiling water with a small piece of pork and let it boil quickly for twenty minutes. Season with butter, salt and pepper. Serve it in individual rounds topped with a hard boiled egg.

SPANISH POACHED EGGS.—Have ready an earthen dish large enough to be placed over a moderate fire. For four eggs allow a piece of butter half the size of a small egg. When it is hot, add a tablespoonful of onion, mince very fine and half as much minced parsley. When the onion is yellow and tender break in the eggs slipping them one by one from a flat saucer. Baste with the butter, slip them over as soon as set. Lift to a hot dish with a pancake turner and turn the butter, minced onion and pepper over them. Salt to taste, the butter must never get so hot as to scotch.

OMELET.—Omelets are easy to make and are inexpensive. Beat the whites and yolks separately using three eggs, a half cup of milk, and a



In making cake hit your egg against the side of the dish or else crack it with a knife to break it.

half tablespoonful of butter. Mix yolks, milk, butter, salt and pepper, adding the whites last, folding them in stiffly beaten. The pan must be hot, butter being used, put the omelet in and when it browns underneath the top will be a foamy mass; sometimes it is found advisable to put the pan in the oven to dry the top before folding over, to send to the table. Some cooks claim that water is better to use instead of milk as it makes the omelet more tender. When this is done there should be one tablespoonful to each egg. If you wish a variation a little minced ham, a few spoonfuls of peas or stewed corn can be used, while fruit omelets are simply delicious.

LEMON CUSTARD PIE.—Take one cup of sugar, one heaping tablespoonful of flour which has been sifted, grated rind and juice of one lemon, yolks of two eggs, pinch of salt, a cup of milk, pour this into a crust and bake it. This should be frosted with the whites of two eggs, into which a little powdered sugar has been added. This should be ornamented with raisins previously soaked in hot water to swell.

POACHED EGGS.—Poached eggs are so dainty and delicious, that they should be frequently served. Have the water in the pan boiling and salted. An egg-poacher is a great convenience, or muffin rings may be used and an egg dropped into each. This will keep them nicely in shape, as half the art of cooking a poached egg is to keep it perfectly round, without any jagged



Egg-nog is good for the sick and also for the well. Beat the eggs thoroughly before putting them in the glass and mix them them with sugar, milk, etc.

edges. A valuable hint when there are no rings at hand, is to stir the water in the pan round and round, in one direction. When going quite swiftly drop the egg and all the white will be drawn round in the whirl and form the egg into a perfect ring. Another idea is to put a very little vinegar into the water, as it has been proven that this assists in keeping the egg nicely in shape. Prepare a slice of butter toast, keeping it hot, remove the egg with a skimmer, drain, slip on the toast, add salt, pepper, and butter to taste and serve immediately.

LIVER AND EGGS.—Take calve's liver, wash it thoroughly and cut it into small pieces, season with salt and pepper, dredge with flour and fry in butter. When well browned stir in a tablespoonful of butter and gradually a cup of boiling water, boil until it thickens and serve on a platter, placing on top poached eggs.

POTATO AND EGGS.—Boil potatoes until tender, drain and shake by open door for a minute, this is to make them mealy, mash thoroughly with a potato masher, add a good-sized piece of butter, salt to taste and a cup of milk. Beat well with a large spoon; if they do not seem to get very light, add more butter, and a little more milk. Do not be afraid of adding too much milk. Form them into a mould and serve them with hard-boiled eggs in the center.



Won't Mamma be S'prised?

This isn't a fancy picture. Mamma has gone down town shopping. Nan, Betty and Bobbie are afraid she will not be back in time to make the promised Jell-O dessert for dinner, so they are making it themselves.

As has already been explained in Comfort, Jell-O is so easily made up that a child can do it.

JELL-O

makes up into the most delicious desserts and salads, and, as it costs only ten cents, is coming to be as generally used in small-town and farm homes as in the city, where it is immensely popular.

In every Jell-O package there is a little folder containing rules, suggestions and recipes for making up Jell-O in all possible forms.

There are seven flavors of Jell-O: Strawberry, Raspberry, Lemon, Orange, Cherry, Peach, Chocolate. Each **10** cents at any grocer's or any general store.

The flavors are pure fruit flavors and the full strength of the flavors is preserved by the air-tight and moisture-proof waxed-paper Safety Bags enclosing the Jell-O inside the cartons.

The price has never changed. It is ten cents to-day just as it has been from the beginning.

The 1917 Jell-O Book is the most beautiful ever issued and it contains more useful information for housewives than any other. Send us your name and address and we will mail you one of the books.

THE GENESEE PURE FOOD COMPANY,
Le Roy, N. Y., and
Bridgeburg, Ont.



This is the package

Her Veteran of '98

By Joseph F. Novak

(See front cover illustration)

"You say you are a better soldier;
Let it apear so; make your vaunting true,
And it shall please me well!"
Shakespeare:—Othello.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

FLORELLA GIRARD looked up from her book and listened attentively, then satisfied that the oncoming steps were not those of her expected visitor, she tried to resume her reading, but her thoughts wandered from the printed page.

"I hope Captain Edwards will not disappoint us," she mused, as she glanced at the empty porch chair on the other side of the little table at which she sat, under the blue and white striped awning. "Well, perhaps he was delayed, and Spencer said he surely would not disappoint us, so I expect I must wait with patience."

She closed her book, and thumped it down on the little table, then lounged comfortably in her own porch chair. She made a pretty picture as she sat there with the sunlight sparkling in the dew upon the lawn all about her. Her simple, yet elegant gown of white, which gave her an individual style, would have charmed an artist and made him desire to paint the picture she unconsciously posed for.

She was awaiting the coming of her brother's captain. Captain Melvin Edwards, under whom Spencer Girard had served during the Spanish-American War. The town's last veteran of the Civil War had been buried within the last twelve months, therefore Captain Edwards was invited to the Memorial Day Exercises, "to give dignity to the affair," Spencer said.

Spencer, after he was mustered out at the close of the Phillipine War in 1902 had lost sight of Melvin Edwards, and it was only a year or so ago that he again met him. The meeting was a mutual pleasure, and Spencer gave Edwards a standing invitation to make his home his whenever he happened to be in Rennerton. And since this last meeting, Spencer was never tired of singing the praises of his former captain, telling how he had intended that their friendship should never be broken, but somehow its intimacy had been, because of their living in different states. And he again recited the stories of the several occasions on which Captain Edwards had saved his life in Phillipino skirmishes.

All this, Florella listened to with great interest, for at the time of the Spanish-American War she was a little girl of six, and was now twenty-five. Her brother, Spencer, was thirty-four, and had been a mere boy when he volunteered his services in '98. Florella remembered but vaguely those times, her most vivid impression being of the time when Spencer had kissed her good by, and went away wearing a suit quite different from that he usually wore.

She realized what it meant now, and her esteem for old Captain Edwards grew when she tried to realize what life would have been without her big, merry, teasing brother.

Captain Edwards had been the topic of conversation in the Girard nome for some days back, and Florella was content to wait for him this morning after the rest of the family had gone off to the cemetery for the exercises. It would be quite proper since the captain was somewhere near seventy years of age, Spencer said.

That young man would have waited for his old friend, but he was to be very busy that morning at the cemetery, he was slated for a speech, and besides he had an army of young boy scouts to take care of, and in whom he took a great interest. To them he was their hero because of his active participation in the Spanish-American War. "But Captain Edwards would understand," he said, and so he was off quite early.

For some time Florella sat, the wind blowing her soft gown about her beautiful figure, and playing a dreadful game of fascination with those tender wavy strands of her brown hair about her temples. High above her flapped Old Glory, tugging at its ropes with a ceaseless drone as the wind tossed it to the breeze.

And still Florella waited.

"I expect he'll be tired and thirsty when he comes. I must get him something to drink. I wonder what? I suppose he drinks high-balls and whiskey straight—all old captains do. Well, he won't get any here!" she determined, "but I'll make him some cooling lemonade. That will be better, and I'll allow him the indulgence of brandied cherries, but nothing more! I might get everything ready, while I wait," she continued. "I suppose he smokes. Well, so does Spencer, so I won't deprive the Captain of the luxury."

She got up and went into the house, a stately old place which seemed to rise from a bed of blooming lilac and snowball bushes. A great part of the flowering crowns had been given to the school children to decorate the graves of their heroes who slept in the quiet cemetery on the hill.

Florella secured the ingredients for the concoction, then went to her brother's den and brought out his cigar jar and match case, and put it on the tray with the rest of the things.

"Now, no one can say that I do not know how to appeal to an old man's comfort," she thought, as she surveyed her work. "I wonder, though, why he doesn't come? And being old and feeble, I suppose he'll want to rest before we go to the celebration. In such case, I'm afraid we'll miss it altogether."

She went out on the lawn again, and again tried to interest herself in her novel. But she could not, and every sound made her look up.

"It's odd that the Captain didn't say how he'd come, whether by train or motor," she thought. "Well, I suppose I must continue to wait," and she looked longingly in the direction that the cemetery lay. She could not see it, but she had heard at intervals the liquid notes of a bugle, and could see the big flag waving, a mere pocket handkerchief in the distance.

At that moment, came the soft purr of a motor. It increased in volume until with a roar, a big automobile tore up before the house at breakneck speed, and stopped with a [illegible]rish.

From it descended a young fellow [illegible] bearing, clad in a khaki uniform. He [illegible] some sort of decoration on his shoulders, but they passed Florella's observation. He was immensely tall, and didn't look to be more than about twenty-nine or thirty years of age. His eyes were black and snapping, and his hair didn't look as if it had been combed that morning. It was very evident that he had driven bare-headed.

He was examining the house curiously, as a stranger not sure that his directions are correct, then as Florella saw him and started down the lawn, he sprang over the foot high stone slab that formed the fence, and came toward her with all the grace of a gentleman born.

"Beg pardon," he began, "is this Spencer Girard's home?"

"Yes, he lives here, but he is not at home at present. He's gone to the cemetery where they are holding the usual Memorial Day exercises. You can easily find the way there, and ask for Spencer. Anyone will point him out to you."

The soldier looked at her with a rather bold, admiring glance.

"I am a friend of Spencer's. May I suggest that you go with me? Spencer will vouch for me."

"I should like to oblige you," Florella replied, "but it is not possible at this moment. You see, we are expecting Captain Edwards and Spencer has asked me to wait for him here and then take him to the cemetery. The Captain is old and of course it would hardly be generous to him to come and find us all gone. I am certain he will come, for he promised to telegraph if he could not."

"Ah," the soldier breathed. "Then you need wait no longer. I come from Captain Edwards. He is ill—only slightly—but felt unable to make the trip, so I promised to carry his message and regrets to Spencer. I was to drive him here in my machine, you see."

"Oh, I understand. Then we can go at once, for the exercises are well under way. Just a moment, I'll get my things. In the meantime, won't you rest?" and Florella led the way to the reclining porch chairs between which the little wicker table stood.

"I know you are thirsty, so I'll make you some lemonade, if you care for anything so weak."

"Indeed, I should so appreciate it," he replied.

She went into the house and brought out her tray, and put it down upon the little table. She felt his brilliant black eyes follow her every movement from the moment she whizzed the seltzer into the glass until she handed the finished beverage to him.

He took it with a grateful, pleased sigh, and drained the glass almost at one sip.

"My, that was good," he said, "and I was so thirsty. And now, may I dare this?" and he picked up one of the cigars.

"Certainly," she replied. "They are Spencer's so I expect they're all right. Christmas is long gone."

He smiled, showing his clean white teeth, understanding her reference to the eternal joke of a woman's inability to select cigars. Then he lit the weed and leaned back in the comfortable chair under the flapping canvas shade.

"I don't know but what I'd rather linger here until Spencer returns, but that wouldn't be generous to you. Would you mind lingering a bit? I am tired and sitting at the wheel as I have done since six o'clock this morning is rather a strain, you know."

"I am in no particular hurry," Florella answered, feeling that somehow there was something very boyish and pleasant about the young man, though now as she stole several furtive glances at him, when his eyes were turned from her, she felt that he was considerably older than her first judgment of twenty-nine or thirty years; more likely he was nearer thirty-six. But a man with those laughing features never could appear old, nor would age ever squelch the teasing, sparkling light in his eyes.

"I'm afraid the youngsters will be disappointed when they find that the gray-haired old veteran they expected didn't come," he began, as crossing his feet, one over the other, he exhaled the smoke through his nostrils in a manner very picturesque.

"Perhaps. Of course, we have plenty of veterans of '98, but a Civil War veteran is more interesting, though a bearded, white-haired soldier of '98 would make a very worthy substitute, I think," she smiled at him.

He laughed. "It is very true. Have you never met Captain Edwards?"

"No, but I was so anxious. I almost believe I love the old man for he was so extremely kind to and thoughtful of Spencer. Odd too, when he was so much older—Spencer says the Captain is nearly seventy—but perhaps he had a sort of fatherly feeling for Spen, and everybody loves my brother! I knew nothing of the Captain until just recently, shortly after Spencer met with his commanding officer, about a year ago. I seem to remember vaguely, that Spencer did mention Captain Edwards after he returned from service in the Phillipines, but I was only ten years old then." She smiled at having betrayed a woman's secret, and continued: "Have you figured out my age?" and then without waiting for his reply, she went on:

"Spencer has been recounting to me all the good offices the Captain performed for him. Once when he was mixed up in a scrimmage with the insurrectos, Spencer was wounded. Captain Edwards seized a club from the villain who was going to brain Spencer and treated the Phillipino to his own medicine. On another occasion, he dragged Spencer from a battle-field to safety, then carried him on his shoulders to the rear. Those are just two instances of the fine things he's done for my brother. "Now," and she smiled into the face seen between the thin smoke, so calm and possessed, "do you wonder that I was so anxious to see him? We all owe him a debt of gratitude, and would have made him see it had he come today. Spencer never forgot him, and I'm afraid, much as I dislike to say it, it was the Captain who lost sight of Spencer for Spen tells me that he wrote several letters which were returned unclaimed. It seems a bit queer that so old a man should go jaunting about like a soldier of fortune, doesn't it, Mr. ——" she paused, as she, for the first time, discovered that she did not know the name of the stranger before her.

But he supplied it. "Private Turk," he said.

"Private Turk?" she repeated, a little puzzled.

"You spell it T-u-r-c-k," he informed.

She acknowleged the name, then Private Turck replied:

"The Captain never married, is wealthy in a fair degree, and so devotes a great deal of his time to traveling. That is probably why." He put down the half-smoked cigar and held out his hand to her.

"I know Captain Edwards as well, pretty nearly, as I know myself, and I cannot but offer you my hand and thank you in his name for the high compliments you have paid him. Captain Edwards would indeed, be blessed in the love of such a girl."

He rose as he extended his hand, and as Florella allowed hers to be lost in his, a thrilling sensation pervaded her, such as never before in her life had she experienced. She loved Spencer, she loved his teasing manner of caressing her and kissing her lips, she felt a pleasurable thrill when her hand was clasped by young men of her set on those friendly occasions when a hand-clasp is given, but what magnetism was there in this man's blood that so roused, that so called to hers? What was it that this stranger with the atrocious name of Turck had done in his mere hand-clasp?

But she knew, and knew too well. A fiery blush mantled her cheek, and she was glad that she had her wrap as an excuse for going into the house.

"Oh, why did he come?" she murmured to herself, afraid for herself and her mind's peace.

But she calmed herself, and when she came out of the house again, carrying a cloud of chiffon that was to be service as a wrap, she was able to smile carelessly.

"Is the cemetery very distant?" Turck queried, as she reached his side, and they started for the automobile.

"Oh, no, it is a comfortable walk," she returned.

"Then would you mind walking? I'd so much rather, for I've been cramped in that seat all the morning."

"I'm sure I'll not mind," she answered.

"Thank you. Then I'll put my machine in your garage if I may."

She nodded her consent, and he did so, and in a few moments more joined her, and together they slowly sauntered along under the lovely May sunshine which sparkled and reflected in the new green of the trees.

Mr. Turck seemed in no hurry to get to his destination and seemed perfectly satisfied to loiter dreadfully, but at length they turned into the road which ran by the town cemetery which lay in calm peace upon the warm, sunny slope of a hill. As they turned into the road, they caught a glimpse of the place, the big flag floating above, while below, spread out on the hill a mass of black, tan and white, which, as they approached, grew into individual boy scouts, white dressed lassies and more soberly garbed grown-ups.

They were suddenly startled by a cry which arose from the cemetery. In a moment more they knew the cause of it, for tearing wildly down the road, a horse came plunging, while upon his back, clinging tenaciously, was its rider.

Florella, terrified, gazed upon the dreadful spectacle, then shrieked:

"Oh, heaven! It's Caprice! How did Spencer lose control of him?"

She could not answer, knowing how careful her brother generally was. As a matter of fact, though, the runaway had been caused simply enough. A large sheet of paper which had been blowing about the cemetery had been carried up by the breeze and flung into the restive broncho's face. He, but recently broken, and still needing careful watching, gave way to fright and the natural impulse to run, and tore madly down the little by-path and into the main road.

Spencer, who had, for a moment, relaxed his usual vigilant care of Caprice, was taken unaware, and was flung back in the saddle losing his equilibrium. His only hope was to cling to the raging horse's back, which he did, clasping his legs about the trunk, and clinging there, endeavoring all the while to stay on the plunging horse's back, and regain control of him.

Luckily no one was hurt by the horse's mad dash, for Spencer, thoughtful as he always was, had warned the admiring lads away from a too close proximity to the restive Caprice.

And that was how it happened.

At Florella's cry, Mr. Turck's face, which, at the prospect of the oncoming horse, had brightened with excitement, went white for a moment, then he sprang into the road and awaited the horse. Then as the frightened brute drew close, he made one spring, caught the bridle, and lifting himself from his feet, he drew his whole weight on the horse's head. The excited creature, balked, curveted blindly, then Spencer, realizing what had happened, in a moment swung up into the saddle, and grabbed the reins. The horse, now utterly bewildered, rearing up straight on his haunches, while Spencer clung to the reins, when suddenly the strap to which Turck clung snapped, and he was hurled into the ditch at the side of the road.

A major portion of the folk at the cemetery had started after the runaway horse, followed by the squad of boy scouts. They now came up. Spencer slipped from the back of Caprice and gave him into the charge of a dozen willing hands, and sprang to the side of the figure huddled in the dry ditch.

"Turk, old boy," he cried, with tears in his voice, "Turk, old lad!" He raised him up and leaned him against his knees, and brushed the thick hair from his friend's forehead.

But Mr. Turck had only been stunned, and he now sat up bewilderedly, then smiled, a little vaguely.

"Say, you've got some brute there!" he exclaimed. "Don't you know now to break horses yet?"

His speaking evidently took away most of Spencer's fears, for turning to his squad of boy scouts, he commanded that they take charge of their wounded brother.

The lads did so with a will—it was much more interesting to have a real subject for their ministrations.

"Too bad, boys, that you don't have to carry me off on a stretcher, but I guess I'd be a pretty heavy load. Thanks, nevertheless," and he tried to rise to his feet. But he had given his ankle a nasty wrench, which made walking impossible.

So he was assisted to the back of the now sobered Caprice, and escorted to the Girard homestead in great state, at the gates of which, the squad lined up and saluted as Mr. Turck went by.

When he was comfortably seated at the little wicker table again and had had his ankle bound up by the boy scouts, who after their attendance, retired to a little distance and set up temporary camp, Spencer came up where Florella and Turck sat. Except for a few slight wrenches which made him wince now and then, Spencer had escaped without injury.

Glancing from his sister to Mr. Turck, he said: "Well, Flo, how do you like this veteran of '98 of mine? The Captain seems to have a penchant for saving my life, doesn't he?"

"Spencer!" and her shriek was so indefinable that the man of thirty-four sprawled out on the grass and kicked up his heels in sheer joy.

"Ye gods," he managed to ejaculate, "is this the awakening? Don't you know that this hero before you is Captain Edwards?"

"No," she returned, prettily petulant, "no, I don't. I think it is dreadful of you, Spencer, to mislead me as you did, and of you, Captain Edwards not to make yourself known to me, and allow me to say things of you because I thought you were a man of seventy. How could you call yourself 'Private Turck!'"

"'Private Turk!'" howled Spencer. "We used to call him 'Turk' because once he was dared to snatch the little fez from a Turk's head which he did, though the fellow went after him with a cutlass! And he introduced himself as *Private Turck*, and you never got wise to these," and he patted the small cross-straps tenderly.

"I think it dreadfully mean of you both." Florella announced, "and I shall not stay here another moment," and she rushed into the house, her cheeks burning.

And indeed, they might. As she recalled her high praises of Melvin Edwards, of her declaration that she believed she loved the man who had been the tried companion of her brother, and now suddenly confused by the thought that the brave captain and the picturesque soldier before her were one and the same, the fact that more than ever now, was she drawn to the captain by a cord of love, was more than she could at the present, with composure, bear.

As she ran, she heard her brother's pleased laughter, and as it rang in her ears, she felt as if she almost hated him.

She refused to go down to lunch, and it was only in the afternoon, after she saw her brother take the Captain in their auto for a drive about the country that she dared go down-stairs.

She stole out upon the lawn and to a little arbor where she sat in a maze of terror and of joy of what had happened.

She sat there until the sun was beginning to sink toward the horizon.

Suddenly her reverie was disturbed by a boyish voice, which piped up:

"Miss Florella?"

She looked up. It came from one of the boy scouts.

"Yes, my lad?"

"Lieutenant Girard says we could take down the flag this evening, and it's time, but he ain't come yet. May we go and do it without waiting for him? 'Cause it is time to break camp."

"You surely may," she responded, and then as Old Glory floated slowly down from the mast, the boyish figures straightened up and saluted.

Florella watched them, the lads always interested her. Then they saluted her, and marched off, leaving her sitting alone in the dusky sunshine.

As she sat, a figure approached her from the rear, straight and tall, but with a little limp. But so quietly he came that she was unaware of his coming until he was beside her, and had slipped his arm about her waist.

She turned startled, and sought to flee.

"Don't." Captain Edwards said masterfully, but with a tone that thrilled her, and made her want to obey his command, "don't!" "You are not angry, are you?"

The pleading eyes in which she looked seemed to fascinate her with a fascination that was lovely to experience.

"You don't know that I've known you for a long time, from the time Spencer first told me about the little sister of six that he had left behind. I forgot about you after the war—to let you grow up, you see. And then when I met Spencer again, he showed me your picture. I declared you must be his sweetheart, but he assured me the picture was that of his sister. I demanded the supreme test—that he give the picture to me. He did, and that convinced me. I always carried that picture with me, and took it to my heart, and soon I learned to love the original of it. Spencer knew, for I told him. He likes me and is willing to welcome me as a brother if I am fortunate enough in winning you. I believe you said you loved the man who saved that dear, teasing big brother of yours. Perhaps you thought that because you fancied him a fatherly old man. Does the fact that your veteran of '98 is still a fairly young chap, still full of the ideals of life, still a believer in rainbows and air castles, drive that admiration and love from your heart? I couldn't help teasing you—is that Spencer and I are one. Have I a right to hope, Flo? You need not tell me your answer now,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.)

My Mother—and Yours

By Mabel S. Keightly

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

WHEN we read of the bravery of the titled ladies of Europe who are giving up luxury and comfort to nurse the wounded heroes of to-day's battlefield, our minds run back to history's great heroines and with bated breath and straining nerves we review the daring of the maid of Orleans, Joan of Arc, who led an army and saved her country; of the sublime courage of gentle Grace Darling, who, in the teeth of a mighty gale, manned a life-boat and rescued many drowning souls; of Florence Nightingale, the heroine of that other great war, who nursed the sick and wounded soldiers, and of the other women who have done their share towards making history, not knowing, rather not realizing, that within our vision, within our very reach is the greatest heroine of them all—Mother! Plain, little, insignificant mother who wears no armor, no badge of distinction, who has no line to her credit in history, no monument to mark her bravery, yet she has toiled and suffered, sacrificed and endured years and years without number.

Mother a heroine! You can hardly grasp it, can you, boys and girls? Yet, one day mother wore pretty dresses—dresses entirely different from the plain dresses of today. There were ruffles and bows and tucks, and perhaps a rose coquettishly nestled in her hair. But that was long years ago—before Mother became a heroine. Those were sweetheart days when she dreamed of the perpetual love-making, the never-ending lover-like attention of the man—the one man.

But husbands grow indifferent. They forget to admire the glossy hair, the shining eyes, the new gown. The anniversaries, the birthdays slip by, and oh! the pity of it—the forgotten kiss, the clasp of the hand, the touch of affection. Life becomes so void, but our poor heroines become accustomed to the heartache—the dreams fade away, until—ah! a future is before her—a happy realization breaks upon her—the dreams begin again—something to love and to love her is coming—something to fill the aching void.

It is then our heroine shows her mettle; she accepts her martyrdom—her Gethsemane with a smile. She goes down in the Shadow of the Valley, but she rallies and comes back for us, spent, but smiling, and begins the battle of life once more. The slaving over the sewing-machine that her baby shall look pretty is a joy; the toiling over the washtub and ironing-board that her baby shall be sweet and clean is a pleasure; the bending over the hot stove that her baby shall have proper food and nourishment is a privilege. And so it goes on year after year—the monotony, the drudgery all through babyhood, childhood, schooldays and until college time is reached, and then comes an extra task—a greater battle. Her boys and girls must not be stinted in the extras the higher grades demand. You must have your tennis shoes—your gym suits, and your pocket-money for the movies, or the sodas, or the "valentine." Father calls it nonsense—he has long forgotten his romance, but mother never! So mother has to manage for her boys and girls. Did you ever ask how? By cutting down her household expenses, of course, and by sacrificing a new dress or a new hat. Father must not notice the difference in the table fare, so mother bought less and often went without. Do you remember how she used to say she liked the neck of the chicken or the wing? Well, she didn't! She didn't like it any more than you, but she wanted father, or her boys and girls to have the meaty leg or delicious breast. And the pies and cake! You needed a new tie or a hair-ribbon for the school dance, so the pie or cake had to be made smaller, and mother pretended she had grown tired of pastries and went without her share.

And then when diphtheria came and scarlet fever, and father felt he could not afford a nurse, and no one else would come near, who held the cup of cold water to the fever-parched lips? Who rubbed and bathed the poor tired back and fever-tortured skin? Who bent over us day and night and fought away with almost supernatural strength the greatest of enemies—death? Why, mother! My mother—and yours. The heroine who has no line to her credit in history, no monument to mark her bravery, only a day set aside each year for the wearing of a flower, and thank God, you boys and girls, who can wear the red, for only those who must wear the white realize, perhaps, too late, what the word of Mother means. An author once said "Next to God the most beautiful name is mother." It is. Mother!—the magic word—the sweetest in the vocabulary of man.

When you grow up, boys and girls, and attain wealth, honor and distinction take no credit—give it to mother. Whether your calling be art, letters, business or the greatest, and most common in life, parenthood, know that you could not have reached the heights had it not been for mother's patience, labor and sacrifice. In you were born her dreams, her hopes, her ambitions; in you was lost the aching void, the disappointment. I speak of the mothers—the real mothers, who made our men and women of today—not the mothers who preferred the fluffy bundle of a poodle dog to the sweet sacredness of a babe; the mothers who left their God-given gifts to the mercy of maid or governess while they listened to plays of sex and problems and immorality—not those women, boys and girls, but mothers like ours—my mother and yours.

"It's a wonderful thing, a mother;
Other folks can love you, but only your mother understands,
She works for you, looks after you,
Loves you, forgives you anything you may do,
Understands you, and then
The only thing bad she ever does to you
Is to die and leave you."

—*Baroness Von Hutten.*



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

I AM writing this on March 6th, and the red flames of war are hovering over the shores of the land we are supposed to love, and love it so well that we don't want to do anything to defend it. Not even the threat of bloodshed and national extinction, so far as I can see, can bring our people to their senses. The navy is our first line of defense, in fact our only line, for we have practically no army, and our navy is terribly short of both men and munitions.

In this great crisis when all should be doing their best to make our land secure, first by speeding up construction work on the navy, the men in the Brooklyn Navy yard refused to work overtime. A few miles from my home in Far Rockaway, a huge fort is sadly needed for the defense of New York. An enemy fleet from this point could in a few hours, shell this great city off the map. Instead of welcoming the fort the Rockaway people are protesting that the concussion of the guns will destroy their bric-a-brac and jar the pictures from their walls. They don't want the fort and swear they won't have it. That fort may be the Verdun of America, but the poor benighted idiots can't see it that way. It is the present only for them, for the future they care not.

Out of five hundred boys in a Brooklyn school all but sixty-six refused to learn setting up military exercises. The parents of these boys are foreign born. They want the advantages of citizenship, but will have none of its responsibilities. In spite of what we have suffered in the past from raw levies and "armies" that were mere mobs of half drilled men, the Senate is talking of having half a million young men trained yearly for six months, and this in spite of the fact that the war has proved that a soldier capable of facing poison gas and heavy artillery fire cannot be made in less than a year or a year and a half. To send green troops against seasoned veterans is murder. Such an army would be worse than worthless. Washington protested against this very thing but it was useless. Congress was just as deaf to reason and sense then as it is now.

Congress has made no attempt whatsoever to give this nation an adequate second line of defense, and has actually adjourned without even voting a dollar of the two hundred and seventy millions needed for military protection. We are to rely on the National Guard, which without a year or more of intensive training under regular army officers, under war conditions, would be practically useless and worthless. The Mexican border fiasco proved all over again what has been demonstrated scores of times all through our history, the utter futility of the volunteer system for raising efficient troops.

In the Revoluntionary war the volunteer system nearly lost us our freedom. It was so inefficient that Washington was never able to muster a force larger than one seventieth part of the force enlisted. In 1812 it was even worse. On land at least the war was a disgraceful fiasco, and our Congress was then just as disgracefully and insanely dilatory and foolish as the one we are afflicted with at present. During the latter part of 1813 and for six months of 1814, a British force of 3,000 men and a British fleet lay in Chesapeake Bay, within a few hours of Washington. During that entire time neither Congress nor the President took a single step to put the capital in a state of defense. Not until two days before a clash came was anything done. You know what happened. Just fifteen hundred British troops defeated a much larger force of our raw levies and burned our capitol. In that war we enlisted the enormous number of 395,000 men, but the greatest effective force we ever got together was but 3,000 men. In the war of the Revolution, which nearly broke poor Washington's heart, 527,000 men were enlisted, and yet the largest effective force ever assembled at one time and at one spot was at Saratoga—a beggarly five or six thousand men.

In the second Seminole war, we, a nation of 17,000,000, enlisted 60,000 volunteers to lick 1,200 Indians. General Scott asked for only 3,000 trained troops as the volunteers were practically useless. Congress got mad and fired Scott for his impertinence. This war lingered on for seven years and cost $69,000,000, an enormous sum in those days, and all due to political meddling and incapacity.

Our untrained or half trained citizen soldiery, or militia, have won but two battles in all our history, and they have mutinied thirteen times and deserted and run away eighteen times. The first year of the Civil War our government trusted as usual to volunteers and militia. What was the result? During 1861 we enlisted and paid for 669,000 men, but could only put 28,500 men in the field at Bull Run, and most of them didn't stop running until they'd reached the Potomac twenty-five miles away. In the last years of the war the volunteers who stuck to their jobs were the finest troops in the world, and the American makes the finest soldier on earth if you give him lots of time to train and get fit, but it is doubtful if Congress will ever do that. We shall try and muddle through British fashion, and see our untrained boys, tens of thousands of them offered as a sacrifice on the bloody altars of stupidity, political inefficiency and short-sightedness and probably lose our liberty and country into the bargain. We gamble with fate and learn nothing from the past.

When we mobilized the National Guard recently 47,657 men had to be dropped on account of physical disability; 128,000 went to the border and of these 60,000 had had no military training, 56,813 had never fired a gun, and only 37 out of every hundred when the call came were fit to be mustered into service. We have 152 twelve-inch guns for coast defense without a soul to handle and fire them, and a host of other guns of big caliber without gunners or officers to operate them. The great 16-inch gun for the defense of the Panama Canal lay neglected on the beach for ten long years. Thirteen years after the gun was tested and ready to be sent to Panama, no carriage had been designed or constructed for it.

George Washington said: "If I was called upon to declare upon oath whether the militia had been most serviceable or hurtful, upon the whole I should subscribe to the latter."

These are a few of the facts that they don't put in school histories—unfortunately it is the perusal of these fool histories that makes us such a nation of self-satisfied, complacent idiots when it comes to matters of national defense.

Henry Ford after doing his best to lull the people into a sense of false security by telling them that the only way to be secure was to be helpless, is now rushing to Washington, offering to place his plant and his fortune at the service of the government for national defense. It is always thus. When real danger arrives the dreamers come out of the clouds. If the government has any respect for itself it will tell Mr. Ford to go to the woods until the war is over. There are some actions that cannot be atoned for and the preaching the doctrine of national helplessness is one of these. Another bunch of idiots are talking about a war referendum.

While we were fooling around and casting a vote as to whether or not we would protect our homes, the enemy would be on our shores tearing us to pieces. The idea that no one could invade this country is childish piffle. Our military and naval men know it can be done, and what is more they have seen some of the plans which have been worked out by various foreign powers who are ready to do the job. There is no time for a referendum; we must act and act quickly in self defense if we are to continue a free people.

In the present stage of our development in a national crisis it is far better to have a few expert minds direct the course of the ship of state than to allow millions to butt in who don't know a ship of state from a hole in the ground, and who might and probably would by voting for peace sign this nation's death warrant, and pull the whole structure of our painfully reared civilization down about our ears, with the same delight and abandon that a child demolishes his structure of wooden blocks. There are plenty of splendid men in this country but you would not send them to Congress if you had the chance. Most of the men you send to Congress couldn't run a peanut wagon. However, a few capable men, more by luck than judgment, do get sent to Washington and it is in the hands of these men and our President that we must leave the issues of peace or war. Too many cooks spoil the broth and if the masses of the people butt in they'll spoil not only the broth but the kettle as well. When you run a ship you have one man at the helm and it is the captain who gives orders. He does not ask the passengers in what direction he shall steer, and when the ship is in peril and in danger, he does not take a vote or ask those who have committed their lives to his care what he shall do. His training and experience have fitted him for his work. They have fitted him to meet grave dangers. He may make an error of judgment but he is a thousand times less liable to err than the untrained mob that he has aboard his vessel. Thank God for Washington, thank God for Lincoln, and I hope in the years to come we shall be able to say thank God for Wilson. I thank God for Washington and for Lincoln, not because they kept us out of war, *but because they dared to engage us in war when war alone could save us.* There are times when a surgeon must apply the knife, when the knife alone can preserve life and stave off inevitable death. If the patient declines an operation and wants to die that is up to him. We cannot however, allow this nation to die through the short-sightedness, the imbecility and stupidity of its individual units. I say stupidity of its units for the vast majority of the American people have got the crazy idea in their heads that if they don't want or wish for a thing they don't have to have it. This crazy notion is due to fifty years of peace and listening to the prattle of fool pacifists and cloud-dwelling dreamers and the Fords and the Bryans, and the folly of relying for protection on our geographical isolation, an isolation which no longer exists, now that we have Mexico plotting on our border, and the Kaiser has gone into the real estate business and has offered New Mexico, Texas and Arizona to Mexico, and has California up his sleeve as a bribe for the Japs to war upon us. If you don't want your country dismembered and hit on three sides at once, you'd better quit fooling and do some hustling. The ballot box is a very wonderful thing but it has its limitations. You can't vote away war, nor wish away disease or death. We are all pretty expert dodgers, but there are some things that cannot, thank God, be dodged, there are some things we must meet like men, and war is one of these things. We owe a duty to ourselves and civilization, and the only worth-while motto for worth-while humanity is and must ever be, not safety first, but *duty first*, not peace first, but *righteousness first*. This country would not vote to uphold such a doctrine, because as Admiral Fiske truly says: "The people are not the people they were fifty years ago. They have become flabby, soft, luxury loving, and worst of all, feminized."

That doctrine, duty first however, must be upheld, even if it costs every life this nation has to give. The few able, intelligent and patriotic men in charge of the destinies of this nation realize that fact, and it is they who will decide for us what part we are to play in order that government of, for and by the people shall not perish from the earth, and that governments can only exist by consent of the governed, and that life, liberty, freedom and happiness shall be the common heritage of mankind, and that the peace of the world shall not be disturbed every generation or so by the insane ambitions of sacrilegious fanatical parasites called kings, emperors, kaisers and czars. We must stand shoulder to shoulder in this great world crisis and put ease and softness away from us. Better that we go down to death and destruction, better we be crucified on the cross of righteousness and duty, and sacrifice this nation on the altar of freedom and liberty, than live like worms in the dust, quivering in terror 'neath the heel of bloody military tyrants. Neither tyrants without nor traitors within must swerve us from our course. We are where we are today only because we dared to be strong, dared to be Daniels (no reference here to any weak navy Daniels of the Josephus variety) and stand for what was right. Remember if Ford and Bryan are right, then Lincoln and Washington were wrong. Let every man do his bit as they have done in Europe. Remember this is not a case of *going* to war, for we have been at war—the whole world has been at war—for nearly three years. When hundreds of Americans are sent to their deaths without warning, men, women and children, that is war no matter what the cowardly pacifists and the copperhead pussyfooters and other feeble-minded lunatics of that type may say. Once again stand together and remember for we must be all Americans now, that those who are not for us are against us.

"Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand,
Between their loved home and war's desolation;
Blest with victory and peace, may the Heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that made and preserved us a nation
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto, 'In God is our trust.'
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

——, OKLA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

As we have never written to you before, we hope you will print this letter before Billy the Goat gets it. We go to a country school and are in the sixth and eighth grades. Say, Uncle, what is your opinion on education higher than the eighth grade?

We do not like school days as we have such nice times in the summer time, horseback riding, swimming, hunting and rowing. We gather all sorts of wild fruits around here. Our ponies names are Chubby and Kate. We have a camp dinner lots of times.

We are thirteen years of age and we play with dolls and pay no attention to boys.

Your nieces, DOROTHY and ROSALIE.

I thoroughly dislike printing letters of people who do not give their names and addresses, but once in a while one of these letters contains a topic that is so worth while discussing that I just have to break a rule that is laid down by nearly all publications—never to print anonymous letters. Dorothy and Rosalie say they do not like school days. Tens of thousands of children regard education, books and schooling as inventions of the devil. They think these precious things were brought into existence to torture them and mar their childhood. I know this is a fact for as a child I held very similar ideas to Dorothy and Rosalie. There were days when the ringing of that old school bell aroused feelings of fierce resentment in my breast. I did not want to study or work, I wanted to play and dream, and only because, though surrounded by excellent teachers, graduates of great universities, not one ever had the sense to study me and get behind my thoughts and viewpoint and put this whole matter of education up to me in the right light. Instead of wasting half the time I was at school, wasting the money my hard-working father was lavishly spending to give me a chance to make good in the world, I would have improved every minute had someone talked to me as I am now going to talk to these two children, Dorothy and Rosalie. There is work to be done in this world and someone has to do it. You are not going to be allowed to push your share of that work on to some other fellow or some other girl. God expects everyone of us to do our best while we are on this earth, and we can't do our best until the brain, that wonderful organism wherein lies soul, consciousness, character and the germs of everything worth while, has been sown with the seeds of knowledge. If we didn't plow the fields, fertilize the soil, sow the seed, there would be no crops, no harvest. It is just the same with the brain; the soil is there, and though in some heads the soil is better than in others, without education, without careful sowing and fertilizing there can be no worth-while harvest. In Europe by intensified cultivation of the soil they produce twice as much wheat to the acre as we do, and the brain, if it is properly cultivated, will produce a harvest of culture and knowledge several times greater than will the brain that has been merely scratched over or not touched at all. Education to the body is what coal is to the locomotive. It generates the steam which drives the engine. The more steam we put on the bigger the load we can pull, the steeper the grades we can climb, the longer the distance we can go. Now if you waste your youth, waste precious hours in idleness which should be devoted to acquiring knowledge and brain cultivation, you are going to get very little out of life, for we only get out of life what we put into it. We cannot reap unless we sow. We cannot sow the seeds of idleness and reap the fruit of industry. Knowledge and education mean power. They are like the gas in the balloon which enables it to rise to wondrous heights from which we look out upon all the world. The more gas we can put into the balloon the greater our ability to soar and the greater our ability to see, comprehend and grasp. Knowledge gives us the power to grasp, comprehend and visualize things that dull ignorance can never see or imagine. If you do not use your brain you must become the slave, the servant, the hireling of the man who does use his brain. If you overload the stomach you get indigestion, but you never get mental indigestion for the more the brain absorbs the more it cries out for. Now Dorothy and Rosalie you do not know what the future holds for you but it will hold very little, I can tell you that, if you are content to stop at the eighth grade or do not reach even that commonplace goal on the golden highway of knowledge. It does not matter what line of work you take up you will be able to do that work all the better if every cell in your brain is working to full capacity. Ignorance ties us to the earth just as a ball and chain confines a prisoner to one spot. If the prisoner moves he can only do so with great effort. Knowledge severs the chain of ignorance and fills the mind with a golden currency that no robber can steal and no panic or disaster can dissipate. Some day you two girls may fall in love with educated men and then if you are poorly educated you never can be fit companions for these men, and do not be surprised if they soon weary of your society, for not even love can supply a magic ground on which ignorance and knowledge can meet and be perfectly happy. Cultivate your brain, apply yourself to your studies and there is simply no limit to the peaceful worlds you can conquer. Whatever of good there is in the world is the result of knowledge, whatever of evil there is in the world is the result of lack of knowledge. When men who have knowledge and culture sin and do wrong it is not because they haven't the right kind of culture and the proper kind of knowledge. We can hide sin, crime and vice, but no one can hide ignorance. Directly a person opens his mouth, we have his number. On the education of the people of this or any country, the fate of that country depends. Some day, Dorothy and Rosalie, you may aspire to be authors, poets, engineers, architects, lawyers, doctors, preachers, scien-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)



The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

key hanging on a concealed nail for fear of burglars; and Edith, knowing this, did not once think of attempting to go out that way.

While she sat by the window, trying to think of some way out of her difficulties, her attention was attracted by the peculiar movements of a woman on the opposite side of the street—it was the side street leading through to Beacon.

She was of medium height, richly clad in a long seal garment, but heavily veiled, and she was leading a little child, of two or three years, by the hand.

But for her strange behavior, Edith would have simply thought her to be some young mother, who was giving her little one an airing on that pleasant winter afternoon. She appeared very anxious to shun observation, dropping her head whenever any one passed her, and sometimes turning abruptly around to avoid the gaze of the curious.

She never entirely passed the house but, walked back and forth again and again from the corner to a point opposite the area door near the rear of the dwelling, while she eagerly scanned every window, as if seeking for a glimpse of some one whom she knew. Moreover, from time to time, her eyes appeared to rest curiously upon Edith, whom she could plainly perceive at her post above.

For nearly half an hour she kept this up; then, suddenly crossing the street, disappeared within the area entrance to the house, greatly to the surprise of our fair heroine.

"How very strange!" Edith remarked, in astonishment. "She is certainly too richly clad to be the friend of any of the servants, and if she desires to see Mrs. Goddard, why did she not go to the front entrance and ring?"

While she was pondering the singular incident, she saw the gas-man emerge from the same door, and pass down the street toward another house; then her mind reverted again to her own precarious situation, and she forgot about the intruder and her child below.

The house was very still—there was not even a servant moving about to disturb the almost uncanny silence that reigned throughout it. It was Thursday, and Edith knew that the housemaid and cook's assistant were to have that afternoon out, which, doubtless, accounted in a measure for the unusual quiet.

But this very fact she knew would only serve to make any movement on her part all the more noticeable, and while she was wondering how she should manage her escape before the return of Mrs. Goddard, a slight noise behind her suddenly warned her of the presence of another in the room.

She turned quickly, and a low cry of surprise broke from her as she saw standing, just inside the door, the very woman whom, a few moments before she had seen disappear within the area door of the house.

She was now holding her child in her arms and regarding Edith through her veil with a look of fire and hatred that made the girl's flesh creep with a sense of horror.

Putting the little one down on the floor, she braced herself against the door and remarked, with a bitter sneer, but in a rich, musical voice, and with a foreign accent:

"Without doubt I am in the presence of Madam Correlli."

Edith flushed crimson at her words.

"I—I do not understand you," she faltered, filled with surprise and dismay at being thus addressed by the veiled stranger.

"I wish to see Madam Corelli," the woman remarked in an impatient and bitter tone. "I am sure I am not mistaken addressing you thus."

"Yes, you are mistaken—there is no such person," Edith boldly replied, determined that she would never commit herself by responding to that hated name.

"Are you not the girl whose name was Edith Allen?" demanded her companion, sharply.

"My name is Edith Allen——"

She checked herself suddenly, for she had unwittingly come near uttering the rest of it. She went a step or two nearer the woman, trying to distinguish her features, which were so shadowed by the veil she wore that she could not tell how she looked.

"Ah! so you will admit your identity, but you will not confess to the name by which I have addressed you. Why?" demanded the unknown visitor, with a sneer.

"Because I do not choose," said Edith. "Who are you, and why have you forced yourself upon me thus?"

"And will you also deny this?" cried the stranger, in tones of repressed passion, but ignoring the girl's questions, as she pulled a paper from her pocket and thrust under her eyes a notice of the marriage at Wyoming.

Edith grew pale at the sight of it, when the other, quick to observe it, laughed softly but derisively.

"Ah no; you cannot deny that you were married to Emil Correlli, only the night before last, in the presence of many, many people," she said, in a hoarse, passionate whisper. "Do you think you can deceive me? Do you dare to lie to me?"

"I have no wish to deceive you. I would not knowingly utter a falsehood to any one," Edith gravely returned. "I know, of course, to what you refer; but"—throwing back her head with a defiant air—"I will never answer to the name by which you have called me!"

"Ha! say you so! And why?" eagerly exclaimed her companion regarding her curiously. "Can you deny that you went to the altar with Emil Correlli?" she continued, excitedly. "That a clergyman read the marriage service over you?—that you were afterward introduced to many people as his wife?—and that you are now living under the same roof with him, surrounded by all this luxury"—sweeping her eyes around the room—"for which he has paid?"

"No, I cannot deny it!" said Edith, with a weary sigh. "All that you have read in that paper really happened; but——"

"Aha! Well, but what?" interposed the woman, with a malicious sneer that aroused all Edith's spirit.

"Pardon me," she said, "but I cannot understand what right you, an utter stranger to me, have to intrude upon me thus. Who are you, madam, and why have you forced yourself here to question me in such a dictatorial manner?"

"Ha, ha! ha!" The mirthless laugh was scarcely audible, but it was replete with a bitterness that made Edith shiver with a nameless horror. "Who am I, indeed? Let me assure you that I am one who would never take the stand that you have just taken; who would never refuse to be known as the wife of Emil Correlli, or to be called by his name if I could but have the right to such a position. Look at me!" she commanded tearing the veil from her face. "We have met before."

Edith beheld her, and was amazed, for it needed but a glance to show her that she was the girl who had accosted Emil Correlli on the street that afternoon when he had overtaken and walked home with her after the singular accident and encounter with Mrs. Stewart.

"Aha! and so you know me," the girl went on—for she could not have been a day older than Edith herself, although there were lines of care and suffering upon her brilliant face—seeking the look of recognition in her eyes; "you remember how I confronted him that day when he was walking with you."

"Yes, I remember; but——"

"But that does not tell you who—or what I

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17.)

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss June will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE sign Gemini (*The Twins*) influences all persons born between the 20th of May and the 21st of June. Their ideas are expressed through the work of their arms and hands. Artists and skilled mechanics belong to this great realm, and they are likewise successful in educational pursuits along these lines. They inherit a restless tendency and therefore must guard



QUEEN OF THE MAY.

against dissatisfaction and imaginary grievances, else they are likely to abandon what they have long worked for, on the eve of attainment. They are industrious, and if an even tenor of *mind can* be maintained, their activities will yield profitable returns.

A man born under this sign should marry a woman of strong mind, who will appreciate the husband's ability and give him much encouragement in his purposeful efforts.

Children born under this sign must be well educated, as education develops continuity of thought. The mental and physical training should be well balanced, for they will be vivacious and given to extremes, and nervous disturbances may develop. They require regular periods of rest and should not be permitted to associate with excitable playmates. These natures contain splendid material for the development of useful men and women, if properly handled in childhood.

Women born under this sign are lovers of knowledge and active in its pursuit. They should marry men of cheerful, optimistic temperament, for if mismated their natural state of anxiety will weaken life's forces and destroy its brightness. "Anxiety is the rust of life."

May Birth-stone is the Emerald Symbol of Immortality

"On the imagination God sometimes paints, by dream or symbol, the likeness of things to come."

How shall the great thought of immortality be associated with the daily life, and what suggestion does its symbol, the emerald, carry? To be never satisfied with a day that does not develop in ourselves a strengthened desire for right living, that its influence may be everlasting, seems a fitting answer. Faith in the everlasting, the immortal, and eternal, is the great hope of life; and is it any stranger that we should live forever, than that we live at all? If we look steadfastly at eternity, we find there is something within us that feels, desires and hopes, and which gives moment and weight to all our acts.

There is a beautiful tribute to love and hope in the following, by Keats: "I long to believe in immortality. * * * * If I am destined to be happy with you here—how short is the longest life. I wish to believe in immortality—I wish to live with you forever."

Even though the emerald bears no supernatural charm, well may it exert a benign influence over those who wear it as a birth-stone if it serves as a continual reminder and inspiration to cast aside the frivolities, resist temptation and aspire ever to strengthen in themselves the virtues that make for true happiness in this life and the life everlasting.

How to Make a Queen of the May

Fresh flowers, crepe paper, and a doll are the materials used in making this Queen of the May. In New England, the May-flower or trailing arbutus is in bloom, and very old indeed is the custom there to go in search of May-flowers on the first day of May; in fact, it is the occasion of a holiday in some places, when the schools are closed, and with lunch baskets both teachers and scholars hie them to wood and pasture. It is there that many a Queen of the May is decorated with this sweet-scented trailing flower, and all is youth, laughter and joy.

The lilac is sweetest at night in May, and the primrose, wood violets, and many other spring flowers are in blossom, so it will not be difficult to find fresh decorations.

Shape a waist and skirt of pale green crepe paper, and a pointed girdle of violet color. The hair has a wreath of trailing arbutus around it and the fan-wand is made of paper and flowers interlaced.



The Penalty of Corns

No need now to waste time soaking your feet so often. Nor run the risk of paring.

BLUE-JAY plasters have ended millions of corns. This very night thousands of people will say goodbye to painful corns forever. Touchy corns are needless, even foolish.

Blue-jay brings instant relief. And in 48 hours the average corn is gone. Only a few stubborn ones require a second or third treatment.

A Blue-jay plaster, with its healing wax, is applied in a jiffy. No soreness, no inconvenience. The pain is not temporarily eased, as with paring. There is no danger, as with harsh liquids. Decide to join the happy crowd tonight which has won freedom the Blue-jay way.

BAUER & BLACK
Chicago and New York
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc.

Blue-jay

Stops Pain—Ends Corns

15c and 25c at Druggists
Also Blue-jay Bunion Plasters

Crumbs of Comfort

Kind words won't feed a cat.

What greater crime than loss of time?

The Devil goes to church with the saints.

As soon as a man is born he begins to die.

Being useful is better than being beautiful.

True patriotism is not always loud-mouthed.

The best stand guilty at the bar of perfection.

It's a dangerous business to dig pits for other folks.

Life is long enough for those who know how to use it.

There is something of woman in everything that pleases.

Love is a disease that kills only those whose time has come.

There is but one kind of love, but there are a million opinions of it.

Flattery is like counterfeit money which impoverishes those who receive it.

To swear to love always is to affirm that two beings essentially changeable will never change.

There are women so hard to please that it seems as if nothing but an angel will please them; hence they often meet with devils.

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
In and Around the Home Conducted by *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	3
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner	5
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	5
Nerine's Second Choice (continued) *Adelaide Stirling*	6
How to Use Eggs in Cooking *Mary Harrod Northend*	7
Her Veteran of '98 *Joseph F. Novak*	8
My Mother and Yours *Mabel S. Keightly*	8
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	9
The Kingdom of Our Birthright	10
Crumbs of Comfort	10
The Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	11
A Family Stratagem *W. W. Hatfield*	12
May-Day Festivities *C. L. Cheever*	13
The Modern Farmer	14
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	15
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	16
Veterinary Information	17
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	18
Uncle Charlie's Home Fund	18
Information Bureau	19
Home Lawyer	19
Manners and Looks	20
Talks with Girls	21
Seven Wheel Chairs in April	22
Family Doctor	22
March Prize Winners	22
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	23
Comfort's Comicalities	23

JUNE COMFORT

Don't miss the fine June issue. If the number over your name on the wrapper on this paper is 344, or any less number, it means that your subscription must be renewed at once if you don't want to miss June COMFORT.

Our subscription price has got to be raised to meet the largely increased cost of print paper and rapidly advancing war prices of all materials.

This may be your last chance to renew or extend your subscription at the present special, low renewal rate.

Some Special Features for June

"Darling Sue" A touching romance of the Arizona frontier in which the chief actors are a determined woman, a winsome little child and a chivalrous bandit.	**"The Pumpkin Hood"** True story of thrilling adventure in aiding a runaway slave to escape her pursuers, revealing the methods of the "Underground Railroad."
"In the Vegetable Kingdom" Tells the food value of vegetables and how to cook and serve them in a variety of palatable styles for a wholesome and varied diet.	**"Why Sunburn Is Healthy"** A valuable and instructive article by Dr. Hughes, telling what sunburn or tan is, and why you should consult a doctor if you don't tan.

Send 30 cents today to renew your subscription two full years. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album. Even if your subscription is paid some months ahead, renew now at special low renewal rate and we will extend your subscription two full years beyond date of expiration. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name* .....

Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....

R. F. D. No. ..... *Box No.* ..... *State* .....

May, 1917.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, OF COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, FOR OCTOBER 1, 1916.

State of Maine, ... } ss.
County of Kennebec, ... }

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared William H. Gannett, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the COMFORT and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher, W. H. Gannett, Publisher (incorporated), Post-office address, 20 Willow St., Augusta, Maine.
Editor, A. M. Goddard, Post-office address, Augusta, Maine.
Managing Editor, William H. Gannett, Post-office address, Augusta, Maine.
Business Managers, W. H. Gannett, Bus. Mgr., Guy P. Gannett, Assist. Bus. Mgr., Post-office address, Augusta, Maine.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.) Owner: W. H. Gannett, Publisher (Incorporated), 20 Willow St., Augusta, Maine.—Stockholders:—W. H. Gannett, Augusta, Maine; Sadie H. Gannett, Augusta, Maine; Guy P. Gannett, Augusta, Maine.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) No outstanding bonds, mortgages or other securities.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona-fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

WILLIAM H. GANNETT, Bus. Mgr.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of March, 1917.
(My commission expires February, 1922.)
(NOTARIAL SEAL) FRANK E. SMITH, *Notary Public*

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Your Individual Perfume

A WOMAN sat down by me, the other day, in a crowded car, so heavily perfumed that I was finally obliged to change my seat. Isn't it funny, girls, that some people seem to think that because a rose smells sweet in a garden, all they have to do to be pleasing to other people is to sprinkle their clothes with the concentrated essence of hundreds of roses.

This is all wrong! Do you know—but of course you do—that any suggestion of heavy perfume is considered very ill-bred indeed? It suggests an attempt to conceal objectionable odors, and of course the dainty woman is as fresh and sweet at all times as a daily bath, or better still a morning and evening bath, can make her.

You must be careful that the body never carries with it an odor. In summer-time, the armpits should receive constant attention. Scrub them with a brush and hot soapy water when you take your body bath night and morning, and don't neglect to give them additional attention with washcloth and borax water several other times a day.

If the feet are subject to perspiration, they also need special care and fresh hose at least a couple of times a day. It's not much trouble to rinse out a pair of stockings if your supply runs short.

But let's stop talking about objectionable odors, and see how we can utilize the sweet fragrant ones that come in bottles and jars from our druggists and department stores.

First, you should choose some one particular perfume for your very own. If you are a young



IN USING PERFUMED OILS PUT A DROP BEHIND EACH EAR.

girl, very, very delicate odors should be chosen—scents which suggest springtime—violet, apple blossom, cherry blossom, etc. If an older woman, select odors like rose or mignonette. Very heavy perfumes, like tuberose, lily of the valley, heliotrope, should rarely be chosen as one's favorite perfume, although a touch of any may be added to some other more delicate perfume to produce an individual blend, as it is called.

Use your perfume in the form of sachet powder to fill flat sachets lining your dresser drawers, small sachets to scatter among your folded lingerie, and to tie to the dress hangers in your closet. Liquid perfume should be gotten in the heavy essences—and used just one tiny drop put behind each ear. Choose a face powder which has the same fragrance as your sachet powder and perfume.

Toilet water can be used in an atomizer and sprayed on the hands after bathing. Do not perfume the body, except by dusting with a perfumed talcum, the fragrance of which soon passes away except as the merest faint suggestion.

Do not use liquid perfume on your handkerchiefs, but keep them in a box lined with sachet pads.

In this way, you will suggest a very, very faint fragrance when you enter a room, yet one will scarcely connect it with perfume. You will seem always dainty, sweet, natural, while the use of much perfume suggests coarseness, materiallty, and a lack of fine delicacy.

Will you remember, girls?

Answers to Questions

C. H.—Practise the two exercises given to "Blanche" in last month's COMFORT. Vigorous exercise with the arms will help to reduce the bust always. If you would play tennis or row or swim, your bust would show the difference in a very short time. Perspiration breaks down the tissues and wears them away, so if you will cut a piece of single-faced rubber sheeting wide enough to amply cover the bust and long enough to wrap around the body, and bind it firmly over bust, carrying it around the back, and fastening firmly in place with strips of adhesive plaster which you can buy at the drug-store in little rolls an inch wide, your bust will soon be somewhat reduced by the perspiration induced. You will have to wear the sheeting constantly for a time, bound very firmly to you.

Miss A. B.—I presume you mean a formula for making the hair fluffy. If you will add a piece of washing soda about the size of your thumbnail to the soap and water in which you shampoo your hair once in three weeks, it will help to make the hair fluffy. Your soap and water should consist of a small cake of Castile soap shaved into a quart of boiling water and dissolved over the fire.

A COMFORT Lover.—No, my dear, there is no way to make your feet shorter, but as you are only thirteen years old you have a long way to grow up yet, and your feet will not be too large for the rest of your body when you are older. Lots of people wear a No. 6 shoe—I do, myself, if that is any comfort to you, and really my feet are quite good to look at! Keep your shoes well taken care of, cleaned and polished or whitened, as the case may be, and wear trim, neatly fitting hose, see that your heels are not run over and that your shoes button or lace trimly about the ankle, and you will realize, before long, that you have a very good foot indeed.

Peggy.—You no doubt saw the formula for the salicylic acid treatment for moles in the last issue of COMFORT. Your letter came after that was ready to print. I'm always glad to answer questions from my readers.

May G.—Do not use carbolic acid on your facial skin! A good face bleach is made by mixing the white of one egg (unbeaten) with one ounce of strained honey and fifteen drops of tincture of benzoin. To this add enough ground barley to make a paste you can spread. At night smear the face thickly with this and tie over it a thin cheese-cloth mask with holes for eyes, nose and mouth. In the morning, wash the face in warm, soapy water and be sure to get every particle of the paste off. Take this several nights, and you will note a great improvement in your skin. Form the practise, also, of drinking the juice of a lemon or half a lemon in a glass of cool water each morning before breakfast. This is good to keep the skin clear. As to your other question, see the exercises given "Peg" in the last issue of COMFORT.

Mrs. E. T.—Don't put any tonics on your little girl's scalp. A child's scalp is very sensitive. What she needs is attention to her general health. Perhaps she is thin for her age. Feed her plenty of potatoes, rice, bread, butter, milk and cream, and green vegetables and fruits. Very little meat, but soft cooked eggs. Send her to bed by eight o'clock every night, and let her sleep till seven. Encourage her to run and romp and do everything outdoors that is healthful exercise. Have plenty of fresh air in her sleeping-room. Have her take a complete body bath every day, either morning or evening or both. Watch her bowels. See that she forms the habit of going at a regular time each day. Usually about fifteen or twenty minutes after breakfast is a good time. Never let her forget this. Have her go again at night before retiring. See that she drinks six or seven glasses of water a day. Massage her scalp gently at night. Possibly doing her hair up at night is causing it to break and come out, although you use rags. There is more or less strain on the hair, under any circumstances, when done up, and if I were she I would rather go without curls than run the risk of losing my hair. A curling fluid that is harmless is as follows:

Curling Fluid

Quince seeds, one and one half drams; cologne water, one half ounce; hot water, one half pint; oil of cloves, six drops; oil of lavender, six drops.

Soak the quince seeds in the water for several hours. Strain, and you will have a thick liquid like mucilage. Add to this the cologne to which the cloves and lavender have already been added. Moisten the hair with this before putting up on curlers. Moisten only slightly, of course. For yourself, if your hair is dry I should not use anything on my scalp containing either bay rum or alcohol. Both are drying. Instead, massage your scalp, and rub in a little olive oil occasionally—not on the hair but just on the scalp, using the tips of the fingers. Look to your general health—that, I feel sure, is where the trouble lies. You can't have healthy hair if stomach, bowels, or liver are out of order, or if you are below par in weight or strength.

Marjorie.—See answer to "Peggy."

Mrs. G. B.—See answer to "May G."—the last part. You do not tell me your height, so I do not know how much you should weigh. You are probably pretty active, since you do so many things, and that keeps you from gaining. You should be careful to eat fattening foods. I wish you would read the advice given to "A. P. R." in the last issue of COMFORT. You should model your diet on those directions, and especially drink quantities of water, but not at meals. You get enough exercise now, and probably your muscles are fairly well developed, so I would hardly advise further exercise for you with this end in view. What you need is to add fat to the body and this can be done only through food. A little girl of eleven seldom should be given artificial exercises. They are for adults who do not get enough active exercise, or who cannot play in the open air as every child should. Playing hop-scotch or any hopping game will develop your little girl's legs. Playing ball—hand-ball—tennis, rowing, swimming, will develop her arms. Romping of any kind will tend to develop her chest because it will make her breathe deeply, and this is the only way in which the chest is developed—just by taking in deep breaths. Encourage her, therefore, to indulge in every kind of active outdoor sport, and don't let her stay indoors except when the weather makes it impossible for her to be out. If you will do this, and look after her diet, her bowels, and see that she drinks plenty of water, you will have a perfectly healthy little daughter, and one whose body will become rounded and properly proportioned as she arrives at the age of adolescence.

A Subscriber.—The matter with your dry, "crinkly" skin is the use of too much soap. Stop using it more than once a day, and then only at night. Do not rub soap on the face, but make a mild soapsuds with warm water and Castile soap and use a complexion brush with which to scrub the face at night. Rinse innumerable times, finally in cold water. The reason your pores are so large is that you have probably used hot water too often and failed to close the pores afterward. Do not use any soap in the daytime at all, and no hot water—only tepid water. Rub a little cold cream into the skin and keep on rubbing until the skin will absorb no more. Then wipe with absorbent cotton. Do this once a day for a little time, and always rub in a very little cold cream over the entire surface of the face (wiping gently with a bit of absorbent cotton, afterward) before applying powder. Otherwise powder will dry an already dry skin. Friction your face with your hands each time after washing and before dashing cold water on the skin. This will help to close those large pores.

L. E. M.—I do not know what is the cause of the pimples at the edge of your hair. Do you shampoo once in three weeks, and is your scalp healthy? Pimples such as you mention sometimes come when one has accidentally acquired parasites in the hair, but I hope you have not been so unlucky. A friend of mine once had this happen to her and did not know what was the matter. When she found out, she used one dram of pulverized larkspur seed in a pint of boiling water and washed the hair with this at night, shampooing it thoroughly the next morning.



MAKE YOURSELF SMALL SACHET PADS TO LAY IN YOUR DRESSER DRAWERS.

One or two applications cured the condition acquired on the street cars or some other place of that kind. I imagine your trouble may be one of the blood, though, and you should watch what you eat. Fruits and vegetables will help out immensely, as well as drinking plenty of water. Vaseline slightly melted and applied to the edges of the lashes or to the eyebrows are said to make them grow, but warm olive or sesame oil are probably better for the brows. Apply with a small clean mucilage brush, nightly, being careful always to get none of the liquid in the eyes. For the salicylic formula, see answer to "Peggy."

Miss L. K.—None of the formulas for my face creams contain peroxide. Tell me why you want a "peroxide cream" and I will suggest something for you to use. If you want it for a bleach, read what I said to "May G."

Mrs. W. O. L.—The only thing you can do to remove the hair growing low in the back of your neck is to use a depilatory, and this means that it will surely come back before long and somewhat heavier. Of course electrolysis would remove it, but you need to be near a large city to take it, and to remove a growth extending thickly below the nape of the neck would be very expensive. If you care to use a depilatory, here is one.

Depilatory

Sulphate of barium, one ounce; water, four ounces. Pour this liquid on corn-starch to make a thin paste. Spread on the hairy spot and let stay on until it begins to feel warm, when scrape off with the blunt edge of a silver knife—the back of the knife. The hairs will come with the dried paste.

Mrs. M. L.—The amount of milk to be taken a day on the milk diet is two glasses of milk every two hours—six quarts of milk a day. When you start the diet, you can take a glass and a half every hour from, say, seven-thirty A. M. until about 3.30 P. M. And then you can eat a light supper at six-thirty. When you are taking the full milk diet you do not eat any solid food at all. Use cold milk—but not ice-cold. If your hair is short and thin and "dead," you should never use anything to make it "fluffy," for such things always dry the hair. See the last part of my answer to "Mrs. F. T." this month, and my answer to "Mrs. H. S. A." in last month's COMFORT. These are the directions for you to follow. Be especially careful to massage the scalp every night.

Troubled.—For ingrowing toenails, the first thing to do is to change the style of shoe. It is either too narrow or presses down too closely on the toes. Perhaps your shoe is a little too short as well as too narrow. One way of curing an ingrowing nail is to file it down thin along its center and also make a V-shaped cut in the middle of the edge of the nail, with the point of the V toward the foot, the two ends of the V being at the opposite sides of the nail edge. The dead pieces of cuticle which have accumulated under the edges must be removed with the pointed end of an orange-wood stick. Then the nail gently raised and a little absorbent cotton dipped in listerine used to wash the spot. It is not a bad idea to pour peroxide over the flesh which has been cut into by the nail. Rub a little zinc ointment, afterward, on the inflamed spot. Do this daily. If you can stand it, it is a good idea to cut a very thin little sliver of cork and insert it under the edge of the nail. You should dip the cork in water to which two drops of carbolic acid to the ounce have been added. The cork will swell a little after inserting under the nail and therefore keep it raised. Repeat every second day. The main thing with ingrowing nails is to keep everlastingly at them. If yours have not yet badly wounded the flesh, all that may be necessary is to use a nail file, file the center of the nail thin, cut the edge square instead of rounding, and use your orange-wood stick to cleanse away the bits of cuticle, washing the toe very carefully and rubbing in a little zinc ointment. But, remember, your shoes are in some manner to blame!

Mrs. M. H.—You are a little over weight, and both bust and hips are somewhat too large. What you need to do is to reduce a little. Exercise will not help your arms, because they are already exercised amply through all the active work you do. When you reduce all over, your arms will lose also. Cut out fat-building foods for a time, at least to some degree. Don't eat potatoes or drink milk or take cream on anything you eat, and use only a very little butter. Eat lean meats, fruits and vegetables. Take a hot bath every night, just as hot as you can stand it, and roll yourself up in a woolen blanket, letting yourself perspire for half an hour. Nothing breaks down extra fat like perspiration. Eat just a little less than you have been accustomed to doing. You can, if you have the time and opportunity, induce perspiration of the arms alone by wrapping them in strips of rubber sheeting, very firmly, and holding the sheeting in place with bits of adhesive tape which you can buy at your drug-store. This will make the arms hot and cause them to perspire, and every ounce of perspiration means a loss in flesh.

Flora D.—No, cocoa-butter is not injurious to the body skin, but should not be used on the face. Its chief value for the bust lies in the fact that it is gently massaged in with a circular motion, and that this gentle massage is good for the development of the bosom. However, you cannot expect to gain in bust measurement while your whole body is under weight. What you must do is to build up your health and weight. You should weigh one hundred and thirty-five to one hundred and forty pounds, and you say your weight is only one hundred and six. Read the directions to "A. P. R." in the last issue of COMFORT with directions for the things to do to gain in weight. One big thing you must remember is that your bowels must move every day of your life, freely. Do not rely on cathartics, but drink eight to ten glasses of water daily, and if they do not move naturally put half-a-dozen prunes to soak at night in a tumbler of water, then eat the prunes, masticating thoroughly, the first thing in the morning, and drink the prune juice. Eat fruits and green vegetables, and drink milk and eat cream on your foods, and potatoes and rice and other fat-building foods. Try to get eight to ten hours' sleep every night. If you can't, but can manage to get an hour's nap in the daytime, be sure to take that. To gain, you must get as much rest as possible, as much fresh air, as much fat-building food, and some exercise. When you have gained the twenty-five or more pounds you need, you will find your bust has filled out again. Twenty-five pounds seems a lot to gain, but you can really gain it if you will go at it systematically. Be sure to read the directions given to "A. P. R."

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

tists, actresses and you may have a natural aptitude for one or other of these professions, and you may achieve greatness in one or other of them, if you do not waste your time and opportunity for learning while at school. Some people in later years can make up for the wasted opportunities of youth, but very few can. It is best to cultivate the mind when the soil is receptive and that is in the days of youth. Education is the apprenticeship of life. Horace Mann said: "Schoolhouses are the republican line of fortifications." Theodore Parker said that nearly everyone in this country got a mouthful of education, but scarcely anyone got a full meal. When this nation gets a full meal for the brain as it does for the stomach, and it's going to get that full meal within a couple of generations, heaven on earth will be close at hand. Apply yourselves to your studies, Dorothy and Rosalie. The schoolhouse is the foundation of all greatness, especially if it has a Sunday school annex. More of that some other time. Now don't waste a second while you are at school. If you do you will be only handicapping yourselves in the race of life and you'll be fettering yourselves to a ball and chain, dumb slaves to that most merciless of all tyrannies, the tyranny of ignorance.

BUTLER, R. R. 4, KY.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a little girl on a high hill in Kentucky. I live with my grandma and she has cows. I help milk and sometimes milk all four of the cows. We have the prettiest little Holstein calf you ever saw and we named him Woodie for President Wilson. I have a beautiful white and black rabbit and I call him Jack. I have a little duck and its name is Tidles and when it gets to laying maybe I can send you some eggs. I am going to set out a strawberry patch, perhaps I can send you some strawberries this summer or fall, and I am going to send you some flowers that won't wilt. I am small but I can do most all kinds of work. I go to school every day and I read COMFORT at night. My grandma can't do without COMFORT. We have several of your books and my grandma thinks Uncle Charlie is the best man in the world. She often looks through your picture book and admires all of your pictures very much, especially the ones when you were thirty-two and twenty-two.

Your niece,
RUTH ABBOTT.

Thank you, Ruth, for your chatty little letter. I am delighted to find that grandma is such a good friend of mine, and I am more than happy to know that she is the proud possessor of four cows. The only thing that grandmas ever seem to possess as far as I can discover, is rheumatism. Nearly every letter I receive from you young people, contains a sentence which runs like this: "Grandpa has cows and grandma has rheumatism." Thank heaven Ruth that your grandma stands in a class by herself. I love grandmas, and when I look at their wrinkled brows, faded eyes and above all at their poor, tired, withered hands, a big lump comes in my throat. Ah, me! What a debt the world owes to its grandmas, and what myriad tasks those withered hands have performed—hard and thankless tasks, tasks which grandma did not hesitate to do and took a pleasure in doing. I hope you appreciate grandma, Ruth, and the older grandma gets the more considerate, kind, thoughtful and helpful you will be to her I trust. You may be a grandma yourself some day and will be yearning for love and sympathy just as she is, so milk the cows and if Woodie Wilson gets entangled in a barbed wire fence, mind you supply him with a typewriter and lots of paper so he can write notes to the fence and tell it not to be so offensive. It is a good thing you did not name the calf Bill Bryan, or you would have had to amputate its tail and extract its horns, for Bill as you doubtless remember does not believe in preparedness. You can imagine what a dandy time a cow would have in flytime with no tail. Bill would like to give us a hornless and tailless United States, so that the dogs of war could bite our heads off in front, and the militaristic flies and hornets of the old world sting the life out of us behind. Nature knew what kind of a world a cow was going into and gave it weapons of offense and defense. Well Herr Wilhelm Bryan shuts his eyes to the kind of world we are in, and some idiots mistake his inane babble and infantile vaporings for genius. Well as Barnum said "there is one born every minute." If you don't know what kind of a "one" I mean Ruth, ask grandma, she's wise and she knows. Barnum got a lot of money out of the "ones" and the peace at any pricers must find their field a profitable one, or they would not be working it so hard. Am delighted to know Ruth, that grandma admires the pictures which were taken of me in my youth. Maybe if Grandma and I could both go back about thirty years, there might be a very pretty romance woven round that hill in Kentucky, especially if grandma could keep a tight hold on the four cows. With meat and milk at their present high prices and famine stalking the earth I trust Ruth, that you will forgive me for mixing romance and business. A million kisses to you Ruth, and see that grandma gets her share if she will accept them. If these tokens of my affection are not acceptable please pass them on to Woodie Wilson; they may help to soothe him when the flies and hyphenates get too bothersome.

AMBOY, ILL.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE AND COUSINS:

I am a little girl twelve years of age. Mamma, my sister Bernice and brother, Theodore, my cousin Irving Raymond and I spent the year of 1914 in touring Europe. We were in Paris, when the war started. We sailed for America on the first ship and arrived in New York all safe and sound. The ship was terribly crowded with people and their belongings.

We visited the principal cities in Belgium, Austria, Hungary, France, Germany and the British Isles. Paris and Vienna I thought were the nicest and prettiest cities. We got awfully tired of riding on those slow trains over there. I often wished we had our motor cars. Mamma has two motors, my brother has one and my sister and I have one.

We are only visiting in Amboy, at mamma's sister's place. It is a very beautiful place here in the country, situated on a high hill overlooking the river. My real home is in Peoria, Ill. We expect to go home the first of May and the first of June we are going to our summer home "Bluemont" in Michigan. I have been in California three times, in Canada twice and in Mexico once, I have been in Florida several times.

Unlike most of the cousins, I don't know how to do anything in the "work line." When at home I devote my time to music and school studies and tennis and golf. I don't even know how to dress myself or comb my hair. My maid, Lila, does that for me.

Do you like music, Uncle? I have taken ninety-six

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

Middy Blouse



ONLY 49c

An amazing value! Only 49c for the Dainty Maid Middy Blouse, the favorite summer garment for the home, sport and outing wear. *And we prepay postage!* Order today! See what a beautiful thing it is—made of serviceable White Linene, with Sailor Collar and 3-4 length Sleeve Cuffs of Blue Chambra, daintily trimmed with White Braid. The Blue Chambra piping adds snap to the stylish laced front. Sizes—Misses, 14 to 20; Ladies, 34 to 40. Give size.

MONEY BACK

This wonderful bargain sent on receipt of only 49c. Get it and examine it for yourself. Your money back if you are not delighted. Order quick before supply gives out.

Free! Send for our 400-page Spring and Summer Catalog. Contains every article for the home and wear.

THE KELLY-ROTH COMPANY
Dept. A. 901-911 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago

All for ONLY 10¢



Complete Tatting Outfit—the biggest bargain ever offered to needleworkers. Think of it! For only 10c we will send you complete **16-page Tatting Book** with handsome designs and full instructions. **1 Ball of Texazlik**—size 70 (any color) and **1 Rapid Tatting Shuttle.** This outfit retails regularly for 25c—you get it on this offer all for only 10c. Money back if you are not pleased.

(46) **COLLINGBOURNE MILLS, Dept. 4656 ELGIN, ILLS.**

Sew Your Seams With Collingbourne's Byssine.

CLEARS THE SKIN — **Cuticura SOAP AND OINTMENT QUICKLY REMOVE PIMPLES AND DANDRUFF** — SAVES THE HAIR

SAMPLES FREE ADDRESS CUTICURA DEPT. W. BOSTON SOLD EVERYWHERE



DELATONE

REMOVES HAIR FROM FACE, NECK OR ARMS

DELATONE is an old and well-known scientific preparation, in powder form, for the quick, safe and certain removal of hairy growths—no matter how thick or stubborn they may be. You make a paste by mixing a little Delatone and water; then spread on the hairy surface. After two or three minutes, rub off the paste and the hairs are gone. When the skin is washed, it will be found clean, firm and hairless—as smooth as a baby's. Delatone is recommended by beauty authorities and experts.

Druggists sell Delatone, or an original 1-oz. jar will be mailed to any address upon receipt of $1 by

The Sheffield Pharmacal Co.
339 So. Wabash Ave., Dept. D. T. Chicago, Illinois

BUY DIRECT FROM THE DIAMOND CUTTERS

GENUINE DIAMONDS

$70 Per Carat ALL SIZES 1/8 to 1/2 Carats

$125 Per Carat ALL SIZES 1/8 to 1 Carats

Save 40 Per Cent.

WE are the only diamond cutters in the United States selling to the public direct. The prices at which we sell all grades of diamonds—from $39 to $275 a carat—are a revelation to everybody. These prices include any style 14K. solid gold mountings, free. We ship selections at our risk and expense to any Bank or Express for free examination.

Money Back in Full

1-8 Carat Rings $6.25 — 1-8 Carat Rings $9.75
3-16 Carat Rings $10.90 — 3-16 Carat Rings $14.00
1-4 Carat Rings $16.25 — 1-4 Carat Rings $21.88
3-8 Carat Rings $36.60 — 1-3 Carat Rings $27.90
1-2 Carat Rings $35.00 — 3-8 Carat Rings $38.50
5-8 Carat Rings $42.75 — 1-2 Carat Rings $58.75
3-4 Carat Rings $52.50 — 5-8 Carat Rings $75.63
7-8 Carat Rings $61.25 — 3-4 Carat Rings $98.75
1 Carat Rings $70.00 — 1 Carat Rings $126

Our Protective Money-Back Guarantee Bond given with every diamond, refunding full purchase price any time within one year.

Write for 226-page FREE Catalog

This book will open your eyes to the marvelous values which we, as diamond cutters, are able to offer. It is the greatest authority on diamonds ever published. Write for free copy today.

I. PRESS & SONS
IMPORTERS AND CUTTERS OF DIAMONDS
WHOLESALE JEWELERS
867 CHESTNUT ST.
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Mr. Edison's Wonderful Phonograph

Only $1.00 After Free Trial



Yes, you may keep this new Edison—Thomas A. Edison's great phonograph with the diamond stylus—and your choice of records, too, for only $1. Pay the balance at rate of only a few cents a day. Try the New Edison in your own home before you decide to buy. Send no money down. Entertain your friends with your favorite records.

Write Today For Our New Edison Book. Send your name and address for our new book and pictures of the New Edison phonographs. No obligations.

F. K. BABSON, *Edison Phonograph Distributors*
3045 Edison Block. Chicago, Illinois

WOMEN!

Make $3 to $5 cash in an hour's time taking a few orders for Baking Powder among your friends to be delivered through your grocer. No money to be invested nor goods to be handled. No experience necessary. Write quick for full details and instructions.

E. B. MARSHALL CO.
243 HURON ST. MILWAUKEE, WIS.

A Family Stratagem

By W. W. Hatfield

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

DR. PHILIP BENDER sat in the waiting-room of his office in anticipation of a visit from his son. He was not in a genial frame of mind. The son, who had just attained his majority, had incurred the parental displeasure by eloping with a young lady whose livelihood had been earned upon the stage, a vocation odious beyond comparison to Dr. Bender.

Harry Bender, the son, was a bank clerk. His father knew that the withdrawal of his influence would be sufficient to cause the loss of Harry's position which would render the latter practically destitute. As a last resort, if the young man would not listen to reason, Dr. Bender had decided to pursue this course, in the hope that it might force him to sever his alliance with this "show girl." While Mrs. Bender was inclined to be opposed to such drastic action, she realized the futility of attempting to sway her husband, once he had decided upon a policy.

The doctor was still impatiently awaiting Harry's arrival and growing more and more exasperated with each moment of delay, when the door opened and a young lady entered. As it was not during his office hours, this interruption did not tend to placate him. The habit of professional politeness, however, prevented him from betraying his annoyance to a patient. Habitually also, he attempted a diagnosis of the prospective case, which failed, as the young lady was the picture of ruddy, youthful health. This appearance was aptly set off by her quiet but becoming costume.

"Good morning," she began, "you are the doctor, I presume."

"Quite correct," he answered, noting subconsciously that her teeth were pearly white and her smile bewitching.

"Permit me to introduce myself," continued his visitor, proffering a card.

The doctor glanced at the slip of cardboard. It read:

Miss Amy Carlton
Impersonatrix
With the Blum Theatrical Co.

"I came here," Miss Carlton went on, "in the interest of your son and his bride. I have been acquainted with the young Mr. Bender for some time, and have been associated with the young lady whom he has just married during her entire theatrical career. I assure you that you will be doing both yourself and them a very great injustice if you refuse to recognize their union."

Dr. Bender stifled a word which he had never heard in Sunday school.

"Miss Carlton," he announced stiffly, "I do not care to hear anything more on this subject. My mind is made up—conclusively. I will not sanction my son's marriage to a stage girl." He had contrived to put an immeasurable contempt into the words: "stage girl." "I bid you a good day."

"One moment, doctor," the girl interrupted. "I am myself, as you put it, a 'stage girl.' Do I appear to you as the kind of a person who is entirely destitute of human qualities, or of feelings?"

Miss Carlton had flushed hotly. It was evident that she had felt keenly the thinly veiled insult in the man's words. Dr. Bender, whose greatest pride was his reputation for courtesy to the gentler sex, was quick to note the effect of his disparagement, and felt a consuming desire to be able to retract the statement. Moreover, a single glance at the innocent, girlish figure before him made him realize that he had been unjust as well as ungentlemanly.

"I beg your pardon, Miss Carlton," he entreated "I had no intention of including you in my classification, much less of affronting you. But I assure you that your good offices are futile. I can never reconcile myself to my son's alliance with one of your profession, not even were that person as winning and as evidently ladylike as yourself."

"I accept your apology, Dr. Bender, although your prejudice is in itself an indignity. You seem to think of us as a class of people not entitled to the emotions of ordinary humans, a race apart, despised. I wonder if you remember, doctor, when you were young. Did it make any difference to you if the future Mrs. Bender happened to be poor, if she had to work for her living? Did you care whether she sewed, or sang, or played a piano to keep body and soul together, as long as she was good and pure? Did your love balk at conventions? Was it her work you loved, doctor, or was it the girl?"

Dr. Bender did not answer. Miss Carlton had taken him by the hand, was looking up into his eyes, but he did not seem to be aware of it. For her words had taken him back over twenty-five long years, back to the time when he had been a young medical student, and his sweetheart, the Mrs. Bender of today, had been a cashier in a restaurant. And, with consummate skill, she kept him there. She talked to him of moonlight strolls, of nights in the park. She made him live over again the love scenes of his young manhood. So cleverly did she weave about him a fabric of tender recollections that he lost cognizance of his surroundings, the office, his visitor. Miss Carlton put her hands on his shoulders, and talked on. Her arms slipped about his neck. Utterly lost in the enchantment which the girl's art had cast upon him, living, breathing a love dream of yore, he put his arm around her and drew her to him, the while her golden head dropped upon his shoulder.

At this juncture he was rudely brought back to reality by the opening of a door. Mrs. Bender, struck dumb and motionless with astonishment, stood upon the threshold. Miss Carlton sprang away, blushing. The doctor, shamefaced and red, tried to stammer out an explanation. But before he could unburden himself of anything intelligible, his wife, in high dudgeon, had withdrawn, slamming the door behind her.

The two culprits faced each other in silence. Miss Carlton dropped her gaze to the floor, her face a flaming scarlet. From a distant room came the sound of hysterical sobbing. Dr. Bender fell to pacing the floor with long, nervous strides. Twenty-five years of wedded happiness, and now to have his connubial bliss shattered by this totally unexplainable affair!

Several minutes of exquisite torture had passed, when the door again opened and Harry Bender entered.

"Well, dad," he grinned, "looks like you've got yourself in a pickle. If you'll listen to reason, though, I think I can square you."

"How?" gasped his father, like a drowning man clutching at the proverbial straw.

"Not so fast, dad," chuckled Harry. "Business first. Do you promise to bestow the paternal blessing on Mrs. Bender, junior, and yours truly?"

"Yes, yes. With all my heart," answered the doctor.

"That's the spirit," the young man returned, and opening the door called: "Mother!"

His mother, still red-eyed and indignant, apparently, appeared in the door.

"Mother," Harry repeated, taking her by the hand and leading her over to the blushing Miss Carlton, "I wish to introduce to you your daughter-in-law, formerly Miss Amy Carlton. She has given up a promising theatrical career for a kitchen apron. Father likes his new daughter immensely."

"And so do I," avowed Mrs. Bender, senior, heartily, as she threw her arms around the girl's neck.

Then there was a belated wedding celebration in which all parties concerned felt the greatest satisfaction, albeit for varying reasons. It was some time, however, before they felt safe in telling the doctor that the whole affair was a frame-up, to which even the senior Mrs. Bender had been a party.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

she began to cry out loud?

"I am so glad you like him. I couldn't marry any one you did not like," unconsciously turning the screw tighter. "Tell me, what do you think about Lady Satterlee?"

"Does she know?"

"Yes," hesitatingly. "She was very sweet, but I thought she was surprised at first."

"Did she say so?" This question was uttered with a perceptible huskiness of tone. Was every one going to be surprised? Had every one seen her idiotic infatuation written on her face?

"Oh, no," thoughtfully. "She kissed me, and was very nice, but I fancied it was somehow a shock to her. Perhaps"—laughing—"she was like Maurice and thought it was you he liked!"

"Maurice is a fool!" Oh! if Agatha would only go! How long must she bear this? She twisted restlessly in her narrow bed. "You never thought anything so silly, Agatha?" she added, in a low, hard voice.

"I? Oh, no. You see," blushing in the darkness, quite uselessly, "I knew for ages that he used to go to St. Jude's to see me—but don't you tell Lady Satterlee."

"It would not shock her." How little Agatha knew about Satterlee's mother!

"Who is going to tell Mr. Mayne about it all? that is more to the point."

"Lord Satterlee. Tell me do you think Mr. Mayne will forbid the banns?"

"He can't. He has nothing to say about our getting married. He may be hateful, but that won't matter to you."

"Nerine, what's the matter? You are shivering so that the bed shakes."

"I'm cold," and her chattering teeth corroborated her utterance. "The prospect of living here with Mr Mayne when you're gone is—not cheering."

"I'm not gone yet, my dear. Wait; I'll put something more over you. I'm cold myself, now that I think of it."

"Do go," Nerine advised as Agatha put a shawl over the bed. "You will catch cold, and you must look nice in the morning. Good night," presenting a frozen cheek to be kissed. "I—I am so glad, Agatha," incoherently.

"I thought you would be. But, oh! my dear, don't talk of being left with Mr. Mayne. I am not going yet, and you are coming to me when I do."

What! live in Satterlee's house, after she had so nearly betrayed herself to him? Never! She set her teeth to prevent her saying it aloud as Agatha tucked her up carefully.

"Think how nice that would be!" yawning. "Oh! I am so tired, Nerine! But it was a heavenly ball—quite worth the dresses. By the way, where do you suppose Mr. Mayne thought you obtained the gown which awed him so?"

"I don't care what he thought. Do go, Agatha. I am so tired!" with a choking sob which the other did not hear.

"Yes, I am going. Good night," and Agatha picked her way once more through the furniture to her own room, where she said her prayers, tumbled into bed, and was asleep in no time.

Nerine pushed angrily at her pillow as she heard the soft, regular breaths from the other room. She could sleep, too, if it were not for the horrid waltz from "Faust" which kept playing itself in her head.

She was tired enough—tired to the bone.

Mr. Mayne was right—balls were dust and ashes, and she had been a fool to go. And she had been a belle, too. How must girls feel who had been wall flowers all the evening? And she had for her pains a white satin frock (not paid for and dirty round the hem), a pair of aching feet, and a heart sick and sore; while Agatha——

She sat bolt upright in the chilly night to think how she would feel if she stood in Agatha's shoes and Agatha in hers.

"Oh, I'm glad, Agatha has not to feel like this!" and tears flowed from her hot eyes. "It would have half killed Agatha, and it has only a quarter killed me," smiling ruefully, but not for long, for loud sobs were choking her, and she hid her head lest Agatha might hear them.

It was best as it was, and yet——

"Oh, my love, I could have loved you better than Agatha!" broke from her in a bitter, whispered cry. "Oh, my dear, if you had only loved me!"

She lay staring into the darkness, seeing again the little room which had so nearly been witness of that most bitter humiliation—a girl giving herself to a man who does not want her.

As she looked back upon the events of the evening, her heart grew hard. She had been mad of late; tomorrow she must rise sane, and go her way as other women had done before her. But there was one thing certain—she would keep clear forever of love and lovers, and she would never, never go to another ball.

She fell asleep at last, as the winter dawn began to break, and she slept heavily until after noon; while Agatha, coming in on tiptoe with a useless breakfast marveled at Nerine's red and swollen eyelids and the paleness of her tired face.

CHAPTER XIV.

"I DON'T WONDER THEY HATE HIM."

There was no doubt about it.

Mr. Mayne had had a trying day. He sat in his own sacred retreat toward five o'clock in the afternoon and felt mentally and physically shattered.

To begin with, he had been disturbed during the hour of repose, which he invariably took after lunch, by a message that Lord and Lady Satterlee were in the drawing-room, waiting to see him. What they wanted of him, he had no idea. He knew of the Satterlees merely as magnates of another county who had taken up his objectionable stepson, and had induced his stepdaughters to go to a ball in their charge.

It was with all his dignity and his very best manner that he entered the great drawing-room to receive them, but it was with great difficulty that he retained either manner or dignity in their company.

Their advent had evidently been known to every one in the house but himself, for a huge fire burned in the wide grate. Things had come to a pretty pass indeed when a fire was lighted in the drawing-room without Mr. Mayne's orders, or efforts were made to do honor to any guests but his. He would settle with Agatha for this by and by!

But when the interview was over he had lost all inclination to settle with Agatha, so astounding was the communication made by Lord Satterlee, so placidly was his consent to all her plans taken for granted by Lady Satterlee, the only person Mr. Mayne had ever encountered who was more than his match.

There was nothing to be made by opposing Agatha's engagement; Mr. Mayne saw that at a glance. It was doubtful if much could be made by assenting politely to it; but the Satterlees were people too big to offend; he had only ten months left to rule at Lispenard House, and he would not care to have his past reign scrutinized very closely by a hostile and powerful son-in-law. He was furious at the freedom taken by his stepdaughters during his absence, which had resulted in this wonderful change; but what was done was done, and could not be mended. He was icily polite to the Satterlees, mother and son, and with courtly insincerity thanked Lady Satterlee for having been so kind to his stepdaughters during his absence, to which her ladyship made no reply.

There was a short but deadly pause, and then Lady Satterlee rose.

"I think, Mr. Mayne, since we have settled all our business," she said, with her slow smile, "that Satterlee and I will go and find Agatha—and Nerine."

Mr. Mayne, for once in his life, felt himself dismissed.

"If you will allow me, I will send them to you."

He rang the bell, and Lady Satterlee waited to see for what purpose. If he intended to send for the girls and remain himself, he must be crushed at once.

But Mr. Mayne was too clever to resort to the petty pleasure of remaining where he was not wanted; he rang the bell simply to show that his were still the reins of government.

"Tea, Jane, if you please," was all he said when that neat domestic appeared. "And tell the young ladies—— No, stay! I will tell them myself," with a nod of dismissal. "You will excuse me," he said, turning to Lady Satterlee as the door closed after Jane. "I will send my stepdaughters to you myself." And he took his leave with that fine manner he had acquired, heaven knew where.

"Little horror!" said Lady Satterlee, when he was gone. "I don't wonder they hate him! Did you see how his eyes glittered when he thanked me for chaperoning those poor children? He would have liked to inquire how I dared do anything so officious!"

She walked to the window and gazed into the garden.

"How long those girls are! Has that wretched little man not told them I am waiting?" and she glanced impatiently at her watch.

As she did so, Agatha entered, looking as shy as was possible to so tall and handsome a person, and Lady Satterlee walked over to meet her, with kindly outstretched hands.

"I must kiss my new daughter," she said, very prettily. "I could not do it last night, could I?" But it was the vaguest little shadow of disappointment which made her voice so tender. With how much more heart would she have kissed Nerine!

"Where is your sister?" she asked presently. "I want her to cheer me. You see, I had looked forward to a battle with your stepfather, and we had the tamest, flattest of interviews. I felt quite defrauded of a joyful victory."

Agatha blushed a little.

"Nerine is in the morning-room; I think she is coming presently."

How could she tell the unvarnished truth—that Nerine had refused to accompany her?

"I will go and see her." Lady Satterlee spoke quite briskly, joyful at the chance of escape from the society of the recently engaged, which she saw was going to bore her beyond endurance. "I will leave you young people. I daresay"—drawling—"you will find something to say to each other, and Nerine and I will be here in time for tea."

Tea? Agatha had forgotten it.

"Your delightful relative ordered it here with much pomp before he left." Satterlee said, laughing at her blank face. "You see we are under patronage today."

He opened the door for his mother, who placidly assured him that she was quite sure of her way, and had no need of being shown it either by him or by Agatha.

"By the way," Lady Satterlee turned on the threshold and spoke to Agatha, "I mean to carry you and Nerine off with me when I go home next week. I think you have had quite enough of the lonely life you lead here. I am not going to take no for an answer from your stepfather, so you and Bobby may make your plans accordingly."

She entered the morning-room with her refined face very animated, and stood smiling at the door, a delightful object to look upon in her soft chestnut velvets, and the sealskin cloak whose lining of dull pink-and-gold brocade showed as she let it slip from her shoulders.

Nerine, starting to her feet from which she sat huddled on the hearth rug, was an odd contrast to the newcomer. She had on an ancient silk, with a reckless tuck around the skirt; her face looked pale and tired over the penitential tints of her garment, and it gave Lady Satterlee a shock.

"I knew it!" she thought, swiftly. "Oh, I could murder Bobby!"

"May I come in?" she said, taking no notice of the dull eyes, the idle hands of the girl before her. "I have just interviewed your stepfather, and he was as wax before me. Agatha"—with cruel directness, for since she must hurt her auditor, it was best to do it and have it over—"is to be married whenever she pleases, after she becomes of age. You see how carefully anxious your steppapa was to glide out of the question of supplying a trosseau. I did not dispute the question with him, but I stipulated that I was to take you and Agatha home with me, and keep you as long as you would stay with me. What do you say to that idea? Do you think"—her eyes were dwelling on the girl—"that you and I could be happy together?"

A black kettle was boiling on the dull red coals in the grate, a tea table, with brown bread and butter and an equipment very different from that grand tea table of Mr. Mayne's which would be set presently in the drawing-room, stood ready beside it.

Nerine before she answered Lady Satterlee, lifted the boiling kettle and made the tea. It gave her one instant to turn her face away and find words.

"How good you are," she said, very softly. "But two of us would be rather an invasion, I think. And then I have promised Kitty Belton and her mother that the very first time I have the heart to leave Mr. Mayne I will go to Belton."

"You can go there first," she replied, with undiminished zeal, "and then come to me. I will have you, so you need not try to avoid me. I cannot hope to keep Bobby beyond a short leave just now, and Agatha, without you, would not be happy when he had gone."

When he had gone! Agatha, who heretofore had never been happy without her at all! Nerine winced at the sting of this fresh cut.

"You will find that Mr. Mayne will not part with me for two visits." She put the cozy over the teapot with great care, and a determination to stay rooted in Lispenard House forever rather than dwell under Satterlee's roof. "Will you have tea, or is it too early? I must have mine, because I am only just up. Think of that for laziness. Agatha"—smiling—"was up at nine o'clock."

"Mr. Mayne ordered tea in the drawing-room. Do you think I could have both?"

Nerine stood in dumb amazement.

"I have never," she remarked at last, dryly, "had tea with Mr. Mayne in all my life. Do I understand you that he has invited me now, and do you fancy he means to make tea himself? I would give worlds," with ungirlish and hard mirth, "to see my stepfather making tea!"

"He is not going to appear at all, I learned." She had taken a seat in a comfortable armchair beside the tea table. "I think he had quite enough of my society without enduring it at tea; though I don't know"—hastily—"he may be meaning to do so."

A frown gathered on Nerine's face.

"Did you ever have tea made out of a black kettle?" she said. "It will be much nicer than Mr. Mayne's tea. Unless you would rather go back to the drawing-room?"

"I will do whatever you do," Lady Satterlee responded, with delightful promptness. "But I would much prefer to stay here—with the black kettle."

"Will you—really?" Nerine began to pour the thick cream from the old-fashioned jug into the best cup among a remarkable assortment. "But you won't get half such nice things to eat," with candid afterthought; "only bread and butter and cake, and my society thrown in. Nothing would induce me to have tea under the auspices of Mr. Mayne."

"I told Agatha we should come back to tea."

"Agatha will probably discover that you deceived her," said Nerine, with admirable gayety. "I don't think we need trouble to send her word."

As she spoke, Agatha came in—with Kitty Belton and Satterlee, and Nerine, after one quick and terrified instant, in which she felt her heart turn over, went quietly forward and shook hands with him.

What a blessing that she had said her congratulations last night! How should she ever have stammered them out now, with Lady Satterlee's keen eyes on her faltering lips? But how embarrassing it was to have him come in upon her like this, as one of the house, without any warning!

"Agatha might have come first, and gone back for him," she thought, a sudden dryness parching her throat. What were they saying?

Oh! tea.

She went back to her tea, and picked up the cream jug with steady, cold fingers. Satterlee was holding out a cup to be filled.

"We thought you were going to have tea in the drawing-room," Lady Satterlee observed dryly. "And now you have stolen a march on us, and come in here."

"No tea for me with Mr. Mayne!" said Agatha, laughing. "Of course, if you had stayed, I would have; but alone, oh, no!"

Which was exactly how it came to pass that Mr. Mayne, stepping delicately into the drawing-room to do the honors of his faultless tea table, found the room deserted, the birds of high and low degree flown. The steam rose high from the silver urn, the hot cakes nestled snugly in their covered dish, the little round sandwiches and the cakes, in whose making Jane had had no finger, all were tempting the empty air.

Mr. Mayne advanced a step, retired another; then he went over to the tea table as though nothing had happened, and it was a usual thing with him to take tea at five o'clock. He poured

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

Her Veteran of '98

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

if you do not wish, for you've known me only since morning. But that might be long enough to decide whether you can bid me hope. We love and revere the dead heroes and set aside this day for the honoring of their memory, can you not give a little of that love to a living veteran? Can we not make this a memorial day of greater interest to us two, the memorial day of our engagement?"

She could not resist his pleading, even had she wished—and she did not.

"You are a man who has been accustomed to conquering," she said, "and I am afraid you wouldn't allow a woman's 'no' to deter you. I expect I'll have to submit." She smiled into his eyes. "I don't feel that I am taking a chance upon a day's acquaintance. And besides—you've saved Spencer's life again today. You seem to make it a habit and do it every time you meet him, don't you?"

She allowed him to kiss her lips.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

from one place to another and they never learn anything worth while; then when they get married they have to learn how to do housework as best they can. They never thank their parents for their kindness (?) but on the contrary reproach them for neglecting their duty.

In a recent issue of COMFORT someone mentioned a club and while ours isn't exactly a club it is something on that order and may give someone an idea. The young people of Jenera have organized a society called the "Victorian Literary Society." Their object is to enable the members to perform on the stage without getting stage fright. They meet every two weeks, on Thursday, and every member is supposed to contribute something to the evening's entertainment such as reading, singing or instrumental music. They meet in the town hall and no admission is charged but a collection is taken at the close of the program. The money is used for new furnishings for the stage, etc. There is a fine of five cents for anyone that is absent without a good excuse, thereby assuring the regular attendance of the members.

Yours truly, CARRIE GOSSMAN.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Will some of you tell me more about Colorado or any other Western state with a high, dry climate?

I am a poor girl and have lung trouble and catarrh, but am willing to work and can do nearly any kind of work on a farm for I have lived on a farm in Florida. Am of a fearless disposition and don't mind loneliness; in fact, I like quiet country places.

Now can any sister tell me of a place where I can find work and a home in the region above mentioned.

Another thing I would like to ask, how long should a daughter wear mourning for her mother?

I am a girl twenty-one years old, six feet tall, blue gray eyes and light hair and my complexion at present is fair but I like to be tanned and sunburned. Nationality German but I have lived many years in the United States. Am of the Baptist religion.

Lonesome in the heart of the city.

NEILLSVILLE, WIS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND ALL THE SISTERS:

Not seeing any letters from this part of God's beautiful world I take the liberty of dropping in for a quiet chat with you and to tell you about this part of Wisconsin.

This is a highly productive country, land very level, fertile and not much waste land. It is all cut over by large lumber companies who invaded the northern part of the state thirty or more years ago and cut down the large timber and sold land in small tracts as farms, most of it being cleared into good crop yielding land. We can grow almost every growing thing here but dairying is the chief industry. There are fine creameries, cheese factories and also a large milk condensary. The climate is exceptionally good, the air is filled with ozone from the pines in the surrounding forests and the water is pure and free from the all mineral or alkali substances.

A few words on the in-law problem. Aren't most of us an "in-law" to someone? Let us treat him or her, whichever it may be, with as much courtesy as we would like to have shown us and look for the good only and then we will not see the failings so readily.

Mothers, what a blessed privilege is yours to rear and care for the little ones God has placed in your keeping and what accounting will you give Him if you fail in your duty? We all admire a polite child, yet how few mothers insist on teaching politeness and instant obedience to their children. How many times we hear mothers say, "He is only a boy and boys will be boys; if he makes a mistake it will teach him to be careful," but often one mistake will lead to many more. Look as closely to your boy's morals as you do to his diet and his clothes. Your boy is a part of the foundation of our coming generation. What kind of a part will you place there, a good substantial one or a poor counterfeit? Which? Think it over.

The following poem speaks for itself:

Sin Is Sin

"Don't send my boy where your girl can't go
And say, 'There's no danger for you know
Because they all have their wild oats to sow;'
There is no more excuse for my boy to be low
Than your girl, then please don't tell him so.

"Don't send my boy where your girl can't go
For a boy's or a girl's sin is sin you know
And my baby boy's hands are as clean and white
And his heart as pure as your girl's tonight,
Please don't send him where she can't go."

I have been married fourteen years to one of the best "Johns," and we are sweethearts still, being dearer and nearer to each other as the years roll on.

With sincerest best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and all the sisters, I remain, ever,

"A Northern Spy."

MUNDAY, TEXAS.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

We are in need of help and have come to you to see if you can be of any assistance.

We live on a nice farm near town and church, and have a car to go in. Our two boys are four and six years old. I am not strong and need a middle-aged woman to live with me, just to help as one of the family and she will be treated as a sister. Would like a good woman at once. Can furnish references.

MRS. W. H. SWAIN.

DELAWARE.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I think COMFORT is the very best paper that could be brought into the home.

I am twenty years old and have been married three years. My husband is about sixteen years my senior and he is very good to me in lots of ways and provides all that I need but he is so quarrelsome that I dread the time when his work is done, though I always appear glad to see him come home. He never thinks I should have anything to say about the home, even to the placing of furniture in the rooms and you know the average man doesn't know how to place things to best advantage. He tells me that he pays for things and that he is going to be boss. Of course that is true, but if a woman has no voice in the affairs of the home she soon feels that she is nothing more than a slave for the man. I have tried every way possible to please him but I seem to fail every time.

I hope I may get some good advice from the sisters that will help me.

Best wishes to all the sisters and Mrs. Wilkinson. L. T.

L. T. You poor little girl, for really you aren't much more than that, how I wish I could help you, but, candidly, I don't know just what I would do if I had a man like yours to deal with—but I'd do something about it and I don't think I'd wait three years either. Maybe some of the sisters can help you—we'd be glad of their ideas on the subject anyway.—Ed.

WILSALL, MONT.

DEAR FRIENDS:

Please let me in your cozy corner this cold March morning. It is twenty below zero up here among the snow-covered peaks of the Rockies. I live in the Shields River valley, the great wheat country. There has been one long train of grain wagons on the road all winter and the ranches are getting rich.

The mountains here are a perfect wonderland of wild flowers. The Forest Ranger presses wild flowers for the Government; he has a press in one corner of his room. He lives up among the wild flowers and they are prettier than any cultivated ones. I am making books of pressed mountain flowers and will exchange them for fancy-work or anything pretty or useful. Will also exchange quilt patterns.

I hope some of the sisters will write to me. I am not very well and get lonely sometimes. I may come again and tell you more about this land where they kill bobcats, coyotes and sometimes mountain lions, and we have elk and deer meat and all kinds of fine fish. Cottonwood Lake, near here, high up in the mountains, is full of fine trout, weighing from five to ten pounds.

Hoping to hear from some of you,

Your friend, LOUVIA COMPTON.

HANNAH, N. DAK.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been reading COMFORT for some time and am interested in your corner and Uncle Charlie's, but as I am a very busy woman, trying to make the best of life, I have not had time to write. But I just cannot help but take the time when I read the letter of a new sister who wishes to adopt a child. How I wish I could see and talk to her. I would also like to talk to others who are able to take a child and give the poor little darling a home. God knows if I only had money enough not one would suffer, if I knew it. But I am helpless, all I can do is help find homes for them. Before I was married I worked in an Orphans' Institution. I took care of twenty-eight little boys, from four to twelve years old and they were all very dear to me. If I could only tell all my sisters how pitiful it is to see each eager face when one of the agents come in to pick out one or two children to be taken into a home, each face looked as though it were saying, "Will it be me? Do take me to a home where I can love and be loved." Some would stand with tears in their eyes, so anxious were they to be taken into a real home. That is all they look forward to—a home and someone to love them. My little boys loved me, I might say they almost worshiped me, for I always made them feel that they were my little brothers and that I loved them all. Many times when some were taken away they would come to me for a kiss and a loving word and then go to their new homes and out of my life. Others were so anxious and so happy at leaving that they could not say anything—happy because they were to leave the place where they knew nothing but obey rules and work. If only my sisters could see how the smaller children would flock around a visitor and say, "Are you my mamma?" "Will you take me with you and will you kiss me?" or if they could see some of the nurseries where the children are taken up, bathed, dressed, fed and put to bed again without so much as a loving smile. I think it everyone's duty to make a home for at least one or two helpless children, if they have none of their own. But those who have a home and money want it for themselves, to outdo someone else in dress or household goods when a little of that foolishly spent money would make some little child happy and change its entire life. To those who are able, I say, get busy—there is no time to be wasted.

Loads of love to all, MRS. H. B. B.

VIRGINIA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have often wanted to join the band of helpful, kindly sisters who make our department what it is by sharing their good things with others, but for some reason have never found the courage to do so. I have been a reader of this paper for years and you can believe I have especially enjoyed the sisters' letters.

Now for a word to Mary. Really, how could you ever think of marrying anyone you merely respected and not think of loving anyone? You were wise when you refused the ones you did not care for and I don't think you will ever regret it. It will be a long time yet before you will be an old maid—eight years—think what could happen in that time! Love will surely come sometime and then you will think, "What if I had been hasty instead of waiting patiently!" You say you enjoy single life and I am sure you do. Yes, I am single too and just a little older than you. I don't think girls should marry while so young. So few of them realize how serious a step they are taking and can see only the romantic side. I think they should be neat and tidy and endeavor to please after marriage the same as before.

Best wishes for one and all, "NANCY."

WOOD RIVER JCT., R. I.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I want to thank all the sisters and cousins—yes, and brothers, too—who sent cards after my name appeared in COMFORT last May. The kindness of the COMFORT friends was deeply appreciated and I think I have the most interesting collection of cards of anyone in the state.

"Mollie" of Oregon, I wish you had signed your name. Should like to write to you. And will the invalid who wrote to me about lace, write again? I have lost her address. I want to do all I can for invalids and shut-ins, being an invalid myself and confined to my bed almost a year. Let us all remember, dear invalids, that the same Father who watches over the little sparrow, sees all that befalls His human children, and will give us perfect health and strength some day, either in this world or in the Great Beyond. Let us not forget that this life is only a grain of sand, compared to the endless cycles of eternity.

I would like to say a word about the divorce question which has been so freely discussed by the sisters. Mrs. Wilkinson, do you not think one of the greatest causes of divorce is the hasty and unconsidered marriages, so common in our modern life? It seems to me that a long courtship is better than marrying in haste and repenting at leisure. I never heard of an unhappy marriage after a lengthy courtship, but of course there may be such cases.

I notice that Uncle Charlie and others have mentioned the use of paraffin oil as a lubricant for the digestive tract. I would like to warn those who use it not to take it too steadily, as it will cause a relaxed and weakened condition of the bowels, resulting in one of the most trying of troubles—intestinal indigestion. I speak from personal experience, and in my case I have found that the taking of three teaspoons of milk of magnesia, in hot water, every morning, and eating freely of sweet prunes, is far more efficacious and is attended by no ill effects. Indigestion and constipation is often caused by an acid condition of the system and milk of magnesia, being a soluble alkaline, will counteract the acid. Indigestion of the stomach with a feeling of burning heat in that organ is often caused by an excess of hydrochloric acid in the digestive juices. Pepsin and predigested foods only irritate this condition. The best remedy is to eat heartily of plain, wholesome food, carefully avoiding tomatoes and peaches, raw or cooked, and all sour or acid fruits and food, which is poison to those afflicted with this form of indigestion.

Thanking you again for your beautiful cards.

Your sister and cousin, NANCY M. E. STEADMAN.

HAMMONDSPORT, N. Y.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been an interested reader of dear old COMFORT for six years and could not do without it. I always turn first to the Sisters' Corner and read every letter. It is interesting to note the different views on the same subjects; for instance, the divorce question. I, for one, do not believe in it. My views are the same as Evangeline Doble's and if other mothers would teach their daughters as Mrs. Doble has taught hers there would be far less trouble and divorce. If girls would stop to think twice before marrying they would save themselves and others much trouble. Most girls are so afraid of being called an "old maid," but that is much better than being an unloved and neglected wife or the wife of a drunkard. Don't you agree with me?

Sister Mary, of Oklahoma, I want to write a few lines just for you. Pay no attention to your friends when they say you will be an old maid. You are not old now and have lots of time to find one you will love and, dear, if you never do, living single is heaven compared with living all your life with someone you do not love and I think it is very wrong for anyone to take the marriage vows and swear to "love, honor and obey" when there is no love in their heart. Many of you will say, "what does she know about it?" But, even if I am unmarried, I have seen the sorrow and trouble that is made with others.

How can mothers say they prefer the city to the country for their children? How many of the mothers who prefer city life would like to have been in New York City last summer during that awful infantile paralysis epidemic, with their beloved children? I just think you would have wished for the country. A lady who lived in Brooklyn but whose mother lives here, was not long in leaving and you would have done the same thing.

As all the sisters describe themselves I will do the same. I was twenty-two years old last August. Have blue eyes, dark brown hair and fair complexion. Height five feet five inches tall and weigh one hundred and ten pounds.

I would very much like to hear from girls between the ages of twenty and thirty years, who live in Warren, Erie and Crawford counties, Pennsylvania, and would also like to hear from girls from the different states, who are near my age. I will try my best to answer all I receive.

Wishing God's best blessing for COMFORT, Mrs. Wilkinson, Uncle Charlie and all the sisters,

Your sincere sister, MISS ESTELLA M. FRAVER.

WALNUT RIDGE, ARK.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Here comes a sister from the "Bear State." My parents died when I was very young and I was cast upon the world to fight my way with the rest. I am now twenty-two years old and married and have the sweetest little girl in Arkansas. She is nine months old. My husband and I live on a farm and we are as happy as the birds that sing in the woods around us. We prefer farm life to city life as we can get the full benefit of God's great world. The beautiful Black river flows by our farm on its way to the Mississippi.

To those who are troubled and discouraged I say, "Read COMFORT." I know a great many have been helped by it.

I have a little prayer that may benefit someone so will pass it along:

"Father of light and life, thou good supreme!
Oh, teach me what is good; teach me Thyself!
Save me from folly, vanity and vice;
From every low pursuit,
And fill my soul with knowledge, conscious peace and virtue pure;
Sacred, substantial, never fading bliss!"

Wishing you, one and all, health, happiness and prosperity, your sister, MRS. LULA SISSON.

MISSOURI.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Let me have a word in your department. I saw Mary's letter and wish to give my experience. Her friends say she will be an "old maid." My friends say the same thing about me. I had beaux and offers of marriage but I didn't love any of them. I always said I would never marry unless I loved the man I married. I was twenty-seven years old before I met that man. Some may think that too old to marry but I think I did right to wait. I am happy with the man I love but if I had married for respect, as Mary suggests, in all probability I would have soon found faults that would in time have made me despise the man I married.

Tell Mary to wait until she finds the man she can love and she will never regret it. She isn't so very old.

Greetings to all the sisters and Mrs. Wilkinson,

A sister in the Ozarks.

PARIS, 437 Bonham St., TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have just finished reading COMFORT and please allow me to repeat, "whoever named it, named it well." I am a stranger to the readers of this good paper but expect a kindly greeting as all the true and lovable people of this world welcome strangers. I believe the writers are true Christians, for as the heart thinks, so speaks the man. I hope all the readers may profit by the inspiring letters as I have done. I have felt discouraged at times, believing that people of this age were deeper in sin than ever before. The world in general is cruel and untrue, being false even to themselves. However, to read the letters in COMFORT broadens the sense of view that we might see more of the good and blind our eyes to the bad.

I called on a lady a few days ago who has kept in touch with the great wars. She has noted every battle and lately become alarmed, believing the end of time is near. As she wiped the tears from her eyes and smoothed back her silver locks she said, "we would live a better life and sacrifice the world if we knew that great and awful day was near." I wonder why she can't grasp the idea that for her the end truly is near. She will soon have lived her threescore and ten years, and when she has passed into the Great Beyond, time to her will be no more. Though earth may stand a thousand years, her destiny will remain unchanged. No future hour can come wherein she might recall the past. Every day is the end of time for thousands, both young and old. Perhaps for you and me tomorrow's sun will never shine. I was always impressed upon reading the last words of one crossing the Great Divide. It was the dying Wadsworth who whispered, "Is that you, Dora?" And George Washington said, "It is well." "Now comes the mystery," said Henry Ward Beecher. What a great consolation to the deaf Beethoven when he murmured, "I shall hear in Heaven." Grander still the utterance of the dying Stephen, as he beheld the opening Heavens, "Lord, Jesus, receive my spirit." But higher and grander than all, the last sigh of the Son of Mary on Calvary, "It is finished."

It was my dear teacher, Miss Amy Roberts, who taught a little Mission Sunday school class in Topeka, Kansas, sixteen years ago and who impressed so forcibly on my mind how much the Savior suffered that we might live.

I hope we all read the letters describing the Mountain Climbers and will be ever ready to lift humanity (I have forgotten whose letter it was.) It would be much easier to climb if we would forget the world and set our hearts on things eternal, remembering that Christ is not a faraway spirit who is deaf to our feeble prayers, but a personal Savior who hears the least of our petitions, even though they remain unspoken. He is nearer, and should be dearer, even than our mother. However, I believe that Christian mothers are far above the angels. The man spoke well who said, "God could not be everywhere so He sent mothers." Think of the days and months and years she has patiently guided our footsteps safely through the storms until we reached the years of accountability and entered life's battle alone. If then we will remember mother's prayers we may march away beneath the shelter of Him who said, "I will never forsake thee."

Miss Lillian Harrell, I intended writing you, but lost your address.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.)

May-Day Festivities

by C. L. Cheever



Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THERE is an unconscious nature-worship which springs up in every heart and finds expression on every sweet May morning for:

"The flowery May who from her green lap throws
The yellow cowslip and the pale primrose,
* * * * * * * * * * *
Thus we salute thee with our early song,
And welcome thee and wish thee long."

No one cares to resist that delicious spring feeling and we long to shake off all work and walk into the country as far as we can; but of the May-days of two hundred years or more ago we know so little in this twentieth century with its hurry and we have only the memories which old chroniclers have handed down to us of the quaint old May-day customs.

In some country villages there may still be found a few simple demonstrations. Though the hanging of May baskets is still in vogue in the New England States, of dancing about the May-pole with its attendant displays there is little or no enthusiasm shown.

In the long ago the ceremonies devoted to May-day there were elements of the ancient sun worship and nature worship of the far East.

On the first of May all manner of sports, music and dancing were indulged in, and were supposed to be a good omen for the success of the crops of the coming season. In olden times the May-feast was one of the great events of the year, and it was made a day of revelry and rejoicing. Long before sunrise parties of young people went to the near-by woods and fields to gather the sweet-scented hawthorne known as the Mayflower in England; this became such a part of the festivities that gathering of hawthorne came to be spoken of as "gathering the May." It was for this Mayflower (hawthorne) that the ship which brought the Pilgrim colonists to New England was named.

The leading feature, however, of May-day sports was raising the May-pole which had been brought into the village with much ceremony, and the people, old and young, gave themselves up to the full enjoyment of the pleasures of the day.

The May-pole was covered all over with flowers and herbs and bound about with ribbons, and men, women and children feasted and danced about it.

It was customary to have a Lord of May as well as the Queen of May. In the evening, when the great bonfires were lighted, the Queen of May, who presided over the festivities of the day, withdrew with her companions, and the King of May, was left to continue the revels of the night.

It is said that in his younger days King Henry VIII delighted to rise with the sun on May mornings and ride into the woods with his court.

In England, in the last century, the milkmaid's dance formed a very interesting and lovely feature of the May-day shows.

Among the Irish and Scotch Highlanders May-day was known as "The Day of Belen's Fire." The herdsmen of every village would cut a square trench in the ground, make a fire of wood, on which they would dress a large caudle of eggs, butter, oatmeal and milk, and bring, besides plenty of beer and whiskey; for each of the company contributed something for the feast.

There was an ancient superstition among the natives that if a woman was the first to cross the Barvas river in the Isle of Lewis on May-day the salmon would not come into the river for a whole year. So to guard against this disastrous possibility, a man was appointed every year to cross the river as soon as sunrise and the women were forbidden to stir until they knew that this important ceremony had been done.

Another superstition for the day is that if you look through smoked glass into an unused well, you will see your future husband or wife.

May-day ceremonies were for the people, and had no purpose beyond that of pure enjoyment. The cost of some of the May-poles and their immense size may still be found in some of the old accounts of the various parishes of London.

The Puritans were great enemies of May-games and the May-pole, and during Cromwell's time all such sports were prohibited, and all May-poles ordered to be taken down and burned. So that it is readily seen that the Puritans regarded these sports as in a measure idolatrous and they felt the responsibility of keeping the new America free from such festivals so that in our country these days of merry-making never became fully established. They were equally averse to the celebration of Christmas.

There is a record of an early attempt to establish old English festivities in New England. When some newcomers refused to work on Christmas Day because of their conscientious scruples, the Governor told them that "if it was a matter of conscience, he would spare them until they were better informed," and so led away the rest of the people and left them. When they came home at noon from their work the Governor "found them in the street playing openly," so he went to them and took away their implements of amusement, and told them that it was against his conscience that they should play while others worked.

All over Europe the songs of spring and May-time are to be found and some of them are very beautiful. The music of May-day endured long after the ceremonies ceased to be.

"Can such delights be in the street
And open fields, and we not see't?
Come, we'll abroad; and let's obey
The proclamation made for May;
And sin no more as we have done by staying;
But, my Corinna, come, let's goe a-Maying."

Robt. Herrick.

It is a pity that some of these pretty customs are not now in vogue for the celebration of May-day, and it would be well to revive them for a spring holiday devoted to out-door merry-making and Nature-study.



Use the Safe Polish

You are right to refuse any other than the tried-and-true cleaner and polish for your highly-prized possessions. It doesn't pay to take a chance with your beautiful piano, a dear oil heirloom, or any choice bit of furniture. You too, like more than a million other women, can depend for safe and certain results on

LIQUID VENEER

Endorsed by the National Housewives' League

It isn't a mineral oil, so it can never soften, darken or discolor a brilliant finish; nor spread a greasy film to catch dust and soil clothing. If that has happened, Liquid Veneer will remedy the damage—but begin with it and let Liquid Veneer keep all your furniture and woodwork as beautiful, clean and brilliant as new. It is true economy—both in the using of it, and the refinishing cost it will save.

The ideal way to use Liquid Veneer is with our new L-V Dust Cloth—you can get one free with a 50c. bottle on any Friday. Ask your dealer, or write us enclosing top of 50c. package.

BUFFALO SPECIALTY COMPANY
Buffalo, N. Y. U. S. A. — Bridgeburg, Ont. Canada



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Milk Must Be Fed

THERE is no other article of human or animal food so important as milk. Aside from eggs milk is the only perfect food. It is nature's food and furnishes to the young and growing animal all those elements that are essential for life, growth and reproduction.

In one of the large experiment stations there has been conducted a series of experiments that demonstrate the necessity of milk for proper growth. In these experiments animals have been fed on chemically perfect foods, but containing neither milk nor anything made from milk. These animals almost always show poor and unsatisfactory growth and when mature fail to reproduce. Various animals from rats to calves have been fed by these methods and all alike show marked deficiencies in growth when milk is lacking.

These experiments show that the farmer who expects to succeed with pigs or calves must keep a portion of his milk at home to be fed on the farm. They show that the dairyman who sells all his milk to the condensary or to be used in city consumption must buy cows to renew his herd. He cannot raise them successfully or expect to grow pigs with profit.

The farmer who sells his cream for butter making or for city use always has the skim-milk left at home for feed. This enables him to raise his calves, grow pigs for pork successfully and to raise chickens at a profit. While he will not get so much money from the cream as from the sale of milk, the added profit which he is able to make from the animals which he is able to grow will in the end make up for what he loses by not selling whole milk instead of cream.

There is still another factor which must not be lost sight of. When skim-milk is fed on the farm its fertility value is kept up. Little fertility is lost in the sale of cream.

The Corn Root Louse

Most people do not know the peculiar habits of the corn root louse. It passes the winter in the egg stage in the nests of small ants that inhabit the corn fields. In the spring after the corn has grown roots the lice live on the roots by sucking the sap from the plants. The ants protect them and preserve their eggs over winter because the ants use the lice in much the same manner that the farmer uses the dairy cows. The lice have little teats in their bodies which secrete a sweet fluid often known as "honey dew." The ants feed on this "honey dew" hence they protect the lice in order to milk them. This association in lice and ants is generally common for all classes of these insects. The next time you see a lot of lice on plants be sure to notice if the ants are not close by.

Numerous ant hills in the corn field may be an indication of lice on the corn roots. The remedy is to destroy the ant hills by fall plowing and freezing and by rotation of crops.

Sweet Clover

Sweet clover is a plant coming rapidly into popular favor. But a few years ago it was outlawed as a weed and many states passed laws providing for its exermination. Now, however, it is looked upon not as a weed but as a plant fit for cultivation and having high value as a food for stock. The change came about in this way:

The alfalfa craze has swept over the land. All over the country the agricultural colleges are preaching alfalfa and farmers are experimenting with its culture. But alfalfa will not grow well unless the soil has been "inoculated." It was very early learned that sweet clover soil contained the proper germs for the "inoculation" of alfalfa fields. Alfalfa sown on soils that produced good crops of sweet clover was found to grow readily. In this way the roadside weed became the farmers' friend.

But the farmer soon discovered that the two plants resembled each other in many ways. He tried alfalfa and found it excellent food for stock and he reasoned that another plant so much like it must also make good feed, so he tried sweet clover also. Experiment stations have also taken up these tests and the once despised weed is now proving that it too may soon become a plant regularly cultivated on many farms.

Sweet clover has high feeding value, better than ordinary clover, and grows rapidly. If cut early, just before blossoming time and before the stem becomes woody, it is readily and greedily eaten by stock and makes an excellent hay.

However, sweet clover runs its race in two years and like other clover it must be reseeded. In this respect it is not the equal of alfalfa which lives on from year to year.

There are two varieties of sweet clover,—the white and the yellow. In the tests thus far conducted the yellow variety on account of its finer habit of growth is preferred as a hay crop. Like other clovers this plant is a nitrogen gatherer and for this reason is especially valuable in building up the fertility of the soil. Unlike alfalfa it can be grown on sandy soils with comparative ease.

Sweet clover has been tried out extensively in the irrigated sections of the West. The Wyoming Station reports a fair yield from poor soils unsuited to other crops. On good soils with proper care this station has been able to secure two cuttings. The second yield is from two to three tons per acre. It is usually sown at the rate of about ten pounds, with oats as a nurse crop. In some places it is scattered on the snow in winter. The alternate freezing and thawing cracks the hard seed coat and makes the seed germinate more readily in the spring. As the snow melts away the seed is carried down into the earth and is sufficiently covered by natural forces. Winds and freshets will carry many of the seeds away, however, when sown on the snow.

Many Uses for the Soy Bean

The soy bean now promises to become one of the most useful of American crops. It is already used in more ways than almost any other crop grown in this country.

Soy beans are legumes and have the power of taking nitrogen from the air. When grown on poor sandy land and plowed under they add nitrogen, increase the organic matter and the power of the soil to hold moisture.

Soy beans are valuable as a food for both man and beast. In Japan they play a very important part as human food. They are eaten as green beans, made into pickles, used in soups or cooked as dry beans. They are ground and made into flour from which bread, biscuits and crackers are made.

Soy beans are rich in oil which is easily extracted by heat and pressure. This oil is also used as food. It makes excellent paints, soaps, varnishes and is also used as a lubricant. One ton of soy beans yields about thirty gallons of oil.

After the oil is expressed the cake remaining is one of the very best of stock foods, worth at present prices of feed about forty dollars per ton. It is one of the best high protein feeds and an excellent milk producer. For the same reason it is a good food for laying hens. Fed to horses, cattle, sheep and hogs it takes the place of oil meal.

The green beans may be cut before ripening and made into an excellent hay. This hay has about the same value as alfalfa when fed to stock for the production of meat or milk.

In Japan and China other uses for the soy bean have been found. An artificial milk is made from the bean which takes the place of cow's milk in cooking and candy making. It is also roasted, ground and used as a substitute for coffee.

Concrete on the Farm

Concrete is now regarded as necessary as lumber on the farm. If properly made it is indestructible. Buildings constructed of concrete are permanent, hence more care and thought for the future is necessary in placing them where they are always to stand. If rearrangement should later become desirable it must be remembered that the concrete structure can't be moved. "It stays put" hence it should be put where it ought to stay.

HOW TO MAKE CONCRETE.—The standard concrete mixture is a one-two-four compound. This means that to one part of cement two parts of sand and four parts of clean gravel or crushed rock should be added. The sand must be clean and sharp, not too fine. Dirt spoils the best concrete. If gravel is to be used it should be run over a fine screen to remove all fine dirt, then run over a coarse one so that all stones over two inches in diameter will be taken out. Crushed rock makes better concrete than gravel because it is clean and the edges are sharp. Cement sticks to crushed rock better than to smooth gravel.

MIX BEFORE ADDING WATER.—The sand, rock and cement should be thoroughly mixed before water is added. Each particle of sand and gravel should have its surface thoroughly coated with cement. This will cause the particles to be bound together. The cement is like glue, it does the binding. Water should be added to form a soft mass that will pour from a pail. The water combines with the cement to form the solid mass. Poor concrete is often the result of using too little water. Wet concrete sets slower but is much harder when it does set. It is often a good plan to throw water on concrete every few days until it is finally set. When concrete "drinks up" water rapidly one may know that it needs water to set properly.

CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS.—All farm buildings of whatever sort or material should rest on concrete foundations. These foundations should be dug into the ground below the frost line which of course varies with different localities. Buildings resting on concrete foundations imbedded in the earth below the frost line will neither heave nor settle. Foundations may be made of a weaker strength, from the standard up to a one-three-five mixture,—that is, one part of cement to three parts of sand and five parts of crushed rock.

CONCRETE TANKS.—For concrete tanks to be set below the surface the same mixture should be used as for foundations. These tanks should extend, or rest on foundations extending below the frost line. Watering troughs, milk cooling vats and septic tanks are now usually made of concrete.

CONCRETE WALKS AND FLOORS.—For walks and floors the standard one-two-four mixture should be used. This should be surfaced with a one inch layer of one-one, that is one part each of cement and sand mixed. This gives a fine hard wearing surface such as is needed in walks and floors. The important point in laying walks and floors is to have them well drained beneath. Cinders or sand six inches in depth should be placed beneath all walks and floors so that water will not collect beneath, freeze and heave and crack the concrete. This is the most important point in concrete construction. Walks and floors should be laid in small squares of four or five feet each way. These squares should be separated by a strip of building paper. This makes sufficient allowance for temperature expansions and if well made and properly drained cement laid in this manner will never crack.

The Farm Tractor

What does it cost to keep a team? It is said that one fifth of the farm acreage of the United States is used to produce feed for the work horses used thereon. If this be true there is opportunity to release this acreage for the production of human food if some satisfactory substitute for horse power can be had. This is the function of the farm tractor now being rapidly introduced. This statement must not be understood to mean that the size of every farm can be increased twenty per cent by the substitution of the tractor for horses. The small farms will profit most.

What does it cost to keep a two-horse team? How many acres are necessary? Let us make a little calculation.

The average work team eats six tons of Timothy or mixed hay and about 300 bushels of oats in a year if they are kept at reasonably steady work. To produce the hay will require from four to five acres of land, and to grow the oats from eight to 10 acres, using average yields as a basis for calculation. In addition to this another acre is needed for pasture or exercise lot. So you have at least fifteen acres given over to each team of horses used on the farm.

The twenty-acre farm using horse power is an impossibility since the greater share of the land is used to maintain the power. This is probably the reason why the twenty-acre farm, the forty-acre farm, and in many localities the eighty-acre farm has gone out of fashion. It has been crowded out because so large a proportion of the land was necessary to raise feed for the horses. The man on the small farm cannot afford to keep a team.

Now comes the small tractor designed to take the place of the horse team on small farms. These machines have so recently made their appearance that we have no definite knowledge as to their practicability or their effect upon the soil. But they are here and if they are not now practical they will be made practical. If their use should work harm to the soil, ways will be found to overcome these defects.

The small tractor is going to make the small farm possible. The small farm means more families on the land, which means greater intensity of culture, which in turn means more crops. This will in a measure tend to offset the rapidly increasing cost of living, about which we hear so much.

Welcome the small tractor.

Mushrooms and Toadstools

When a plant of the toadstool family is fit for human food we usually call it a *mushroom*. If it is poisonous we say it is a *toadstool*. Many people have been poisoned by making the mistake of eating toadstools for mushrooms.

BEWARE OF THE TOADSTOOL.—It is not easy to tell the difference between a mushroom which is edible and a toadstool which is not. A safe rule to follow is to let them alone if you are not sure of their nature.

Some Safe Rules

I. Never eat any mushroom in the button stage, that is before it has opened. It is always difficult to distinguish between poisonous and edible species in this stage. Only the expert of long experience can distinguish between "buttons" fit for food and those that are not.

II. Never eat mushrooms having white gills and a bulb at the base of the stem. The most poisonous ones are of this description.

III. Never eat a mushroom having a milk-like juice.

IV. If the mushroom has a thin cap and thick gills, leave it alone.

V.—Never eat mushroom unless strictly fresh. The poisons in some species develop with age.

Mushrooms That Can be Easily Distinguished with a Little Practise.

1. The common morel, found in the spring of the year, is so different from the toadstool as to be easily recognized. It is shaped like an inverted pear and its outer surface is covered with holes. It may be likened to a pear-shaped sponge.

2. The common meadow mushroom has a straight stem without a bulb at the base. It has a ring around the stem at the base. Its gills are pink or red and it always grows in the sunshine in open pastures, never in the dense woods in the fall.

3. The common puff ball while still fresh and white is edible. A little practise in company with an experienced mushroom collector will soon enable the amateur to select the above three forms for human food with perfect safety.

Growing Mushrooms

Mushrooms are not easy to grow. The spawn is planted the same as other seeds of other plants and the mushrooms spring over night from the spawn. Those interested in the cultivation of this plant should send to the U. S. Department of Agriculture for Farmers' Bulletin No. 204, on "The Cultivation of Mushrooms."

Rash Operating is Dangerous

Some farmers seem to entertain the erroneous idea that *nerve* is the chief requisite when operating upon a horse for fistula of the poll or withers, or remedying a rupture, or removing a tumor, or opening an abscess or even unnerving a horse. Castration too is considered an easy job, if a man only has the necessary nerve. Please understand that skill, training and cleanliness are of far greater importance than nerve in this matter. We know of one nervy, ignorant chap who operated upon a poll evil by free use of a big, sharp butcher knife. When the horse's head dropped to the ground and could not be brought back again he learned that there is a large ligament, known as the *ligamentum nuchae* present for the purpose of supporting a horse's head and that the trained surgeon is careful not to cut it off. Better employ an expert when cutting has to be done, or learn from him how to do it correctly. If an abscess has to be opened and one is not informed as to the anatomy of the part, cut through the skin only, at the softest part, and then work through the undelying tissues by means of a comparatively blunt probe, or the clean handle of a pen, or a clean meat skewer. By this means it is possible to open into the abscess of "poll evil" or the parotid gland without great danger to the horse, whereas free use of the knife might cause death by severing an important artery. If a man feels that he is "handy with a knife" and likes to attempt the "doctoring" of animals let him go to a regular veterinary college and learn the business properly. There is room in the profession for good men and profit in the work. The "smarty" who thinks he is qualified to practise and yet has had no training whatever is a menace to both animals and patrons. He should be left strictly alone.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

RECIPE FOR GRAFTING WAX.—Will you kindly give me the recipe and tell me how to make grafting wax? Would it be all right to graft a pear on any other kind of tree?

MRS. S. E. S., White Cloud, Mich.

A.—To make grafting wax melt together four parts resin, two parts beeswax, one part beef tallow. Do this in a double boiler, not over an open fire since there is danger of explosion of resin. Mix thoroughly and let it cool. We do not advise grafting pears on other kinds of fruit trees. Only an expert who understands the process can succeed and then only with certain kinds of trees. Graft pear on pear only; probably you could not make it live if you tried to graft it on any other kind of tree.

LOBSTER CACTUS.—I have had the lobster, otherwise called the crab, cactus five years and they do not bloom. What can I do to make them bloom? Please also let me know the price of your primroses by the dozen.

MRS. J. E., Lyons, N. Y.

A.—Try transplanting to open ground in summer. Choose a dry, sandy, well drained soil. When transplanted for winter in pots use stones and broken pieces of pot in bottom to give good drainage. Transplant in light, sandy soil, covering the top of pot with fine gravel one inch deep. Make the soil like that of the desert. Don't water too much. On the other hand never let the soil become bone dry. Write advertisers for prices on primroses; we have no primroses.

DISINFECTING SEED POTATOES.—Pease tell me how to treat seed potatoes with formaldehyde for scab.

MRS. R. S., Bisher, Mont.

A.—Mix one pint of formalin (formaldehyde) in thirty gallons of water. Place the potatoes in slat boxes and immerse in the solution for two hours; then dry the potatoes.

CABBAGE YELLOW.—Please tell me what kills my cabbages. Just as they begin to head the leaves turn yellow and fall off as though something had eaten the pith out of them. The soil is black, sandy with clay foundation on a hillside. I use only stable manure for fertilizer and all other crops do well except cabbage.

MRS. A. K., Ramer, Tenn.

A.—This is a serious disease of cabbage which has been mastered at the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, Madison, Wis. Write to Prof. L. R. Jones of that station as it may be possible to obtain some seed of his resistant cabbage. This variety has been carefully bred and is quite resistant against the disease, succeeding finely on infected fields where ordinary cabbage dies from yellows. There is no such disease as "hollow horn." It is a myth. The horns of all adult cattle are hollow. Malignant catarrh, however, may cause pus in the horn cores and that disease is highly contagious and incurable.

SOIL NEEDS POTASH.—Our garden soil is rich and black and grows all kinds of vegetables to perfection, except potatoes. Our potatoes run mostly to vines and produce few potatoes and small at that. The land has been well manured; we have tried new seed and have given them the best of cultivation, but it makes no difference. The soil does not scour the plow and is so soft that it is difficult to plow. Why do we not get a good potato crop?

MRS. O. F. L., Judson, Minn.

A.—The soil referred to is exceedingly rich in humus or decayed vegetable matter which supplies much nitrogen but insufficient mineral matter, particularly potash, for potatoes. If you could top dress heavily with sand and sandy loam and apply a potash manure potatoes would be likely to thrive, provided the plot is not heavily shaded by trees. Too much shade will make successful potato raising impossible. No matter what may be the character and condition of the soil.

Stops Corn Pain! Corns Lift Out With Fingers

Few Drops Takes Soreness From Corns and Calluses and They Lift Off.

A noted Cincinnati chemist discovered a new ether compound and called it freezone and it now can be had in tiny bottles as here shown for a few cents from any drug store.



You simply apply a few drops of freezone upon a tender corn or painful callus and instantly the soreness disappears, then shortly you will find the corn or callus so loose that you can just lift it off with the fingers.

No pain, not a bit of soreness, either when applying freezone or afterwards and it doesn't even irritate skin.

Hard corns, soft corns or corns between the toes, also toughened calluses just shrivel up and lift off so easy. It is wonderful! Seems magical. It works like a charm. If your druggist doesn't have freezone tell him to order a small bottle for you from any wholesale house. Edward Wesley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!
$24 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Lightrunning, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.



30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.
ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12)
2183 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO

Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business



Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars. Star Drilling Machine Co.
675 Washington St., Akron, Ohio

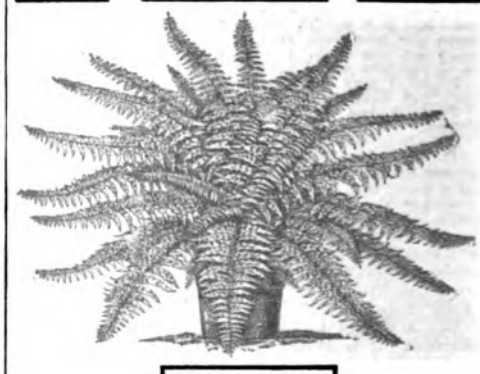
"Linene"



Send 2 Cents in U. S. stamps to pay postage and we will send you FREE a SAMPLE COLLAR of our New Style "Oopley." State size wanted. REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. E, Boston, Mass.

Learn to Speak in Public
Write at once for full details of our home course in Effective Public Speaking. Special limited offer now open means great saving. You can learn to speak before any audience, public or private, sell more goods, earn more money. Write at once.
Public Speaking Dept. Amer. Correspondence School of Law 3045 Manhattan Bldg. Chicago

Four Beautiful Ferns



PREMIUM NO. 6112

Given For Two Subscriptions

OF all indoor foliage plants, none give more **lasting pleasure and satisfaction** than these popular house ferns. They need but little care and live indefinitely, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the largest, handsomest varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt,** the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



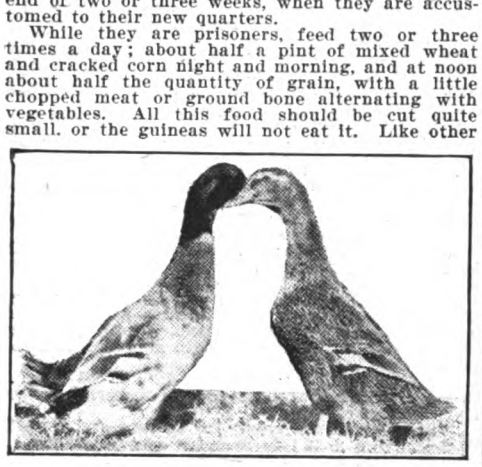
BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Ducks and Guinea Fowl

DUCKS and guinea fowl are very profitable stock on a farm, or where they can have plenty of range, for guinea fowl will find the larger part of their own feed. Even when the eggs are hatched under hens, the hen can be released at the end of four weeks, and the youngsters will come up at night with full crops; and until marketed in the fall, they need have nothing but a little cracked corn at night, just to bring them home regularly and keep them tame.

The guinea fowl need no special house, all that is necessary for their comfort being a roost high up in a shed. If left to themselves they take to the trees, and in all probability will get frozen if the winters should be severe, so the safest plan with new birds is to cover the front of a shed with two-inch wire netting, just tacking it up lightly, so that it can easily be removed at the end of two or three weeks, when they are accustomed to their new quarters.

While they are prisoners, feed two or three times a day; about half a pint of mixed wheat and cracked corn night and morning, and at noon about half the quantity of grain, with a little chopped meat or ground bone alternating with vegetables. All this food should be cut quite small, or the guineas will not eat it. Like other



INDIAN RUNNER DUCK AND DRAKE.

birds, they must have a constant supply of sharp grit and fresh water.

As a market commodity they have been growing in favor for the last five years, since, like squabs, they take the place of game during the closed season.

Guinea fowls commence laying when the first warm days come in April. As it is their natural instinct to be very secretive about laying, some patience and diplomacy are necessary to locate their nests. The usual spot selected is a hollow in the ground, by the root of a tree or fence post well screened by brush. Don't attempt to approach it while they are in sight. Go away, and return later armed with a long handled spoon. The eggs are almost the color of the earth and often covered with fallen leaves, so it needs a sharp eye to detect them. Be very careful not to touch the nest with your hand. Guineas seem able to scent the human hand about the nest; they can also count up to three. For that reason leave that number of eggs in the nest, removing the others with the spoon to insure there being no telltale clew left to arouse Mrs. Guinea's suspicion.

When you have fifteen stolen eggs, get a box a foot square, turn it on the side, and across the bottom of the open front nail a slat, behind which place a nest of soft hay. Stand this nest box inside (at one end) of another box, two and a half feet long, with sides a foot or more deep. Make a cover of wire netting for the large box, to open like a lid. Scatter sand on the floor, nail up a small drinking pan in one corner, and you have a safe, rat-proof coop for Biddy and the eggs. Another motive for the outer box is that baby guineas are so very little, so wild, and so easily frightened, that they are apt to quit the nest as soon as hatched, get lost, become chilled, and die.

It takes from twenty-five to twenty-six days to incubate guinea eggs. The brood coop to be used the first two weeks should be on the same principle as the nest boxes, and even when they are on the grass run, you must exercise the greatest caution to avoid anything like cracks and crevices in or around the sides, for they are such mites, and have such capacity for crawling through the eyes of needles, that special care is necessary. If some knot-hole or some depression in the ground has escaped your notice and a baby does stray off, go about two yards away and remain perfectly still. Don't be impatient. It may be ten minutes before you hear anything. Then, unless all hope is over, you will hear a plaintive little cry. Do not move until it has been repeated three or four times, and you are quite sure where it comes from. Then make a sudden dive and secure the truant, which is usually under a tuft of grass or in some little hole. If you move about while hunting for him, there won't be a sound, and you may search all day with little success.

Bill of Fare for Baby Guineas

Give nothing for the first twenty-four hours, then the daily bill of fare should be as follows: First feed, 7 A. M.—Crushed hempseed, half a cup; stale bread crumbs, half a cup; moisten with raw eggs.

Second feed, 9 A. M.—Millet seed.

Third feed, 11.30 A. M.—Chopped onion tops, half a cup of corn-meal that has been steamed as for chicks, half a teaspoonful of crushed mustard seed, mixed and fed crumblingly.

Fourth feed, 2 P. M.—Pinhead oats, crushed a little finer than when it is bought.

Fifth feed, 5 P. M.—Liver that has been half boiled, cracked wheat and corn, equal parts.

These bills of fare can be varied with pot cheese, custard, chopped lettuce or apple, bread crumbs moistened with milk, hard boiled eggs; but every day they must have meat (more than chicks need), and pepper or mustard seed crushed and fed in soft wood. Keep a small pan of powdered charcoal and sand in the run, and, of course, water in a drinking fountain that will only allow the beak to get wet.

Ducks are coming to the fore with a rush in this country, and I predict that within another year America will have followed the lead of England and Australia, and duck farming will be as common as farming, as the demand for eatable birds and eggs has increased steadily for the last five years. And, judging from the letters I have received during the last few months, asking for information about duck raising, our readers are awakening to the fact that there is money in ducks.

The first point for the beginner to grasp is the difference in breeds, for not all ducks are money makers. There are quite a number of breeds, the principal of which are Pekin, Aylesbury, Rouen, Crested, Indian Runner, and Muscovy.

The Pekins are creamy white, with reddish orange shanks and feet, and weigh at maturity, drakes, eight pounds; ducks, seven. The Aylesbury are pure white, shanks and feet light orange; drake nine pounds, duck eight. The Rouen drake's head and neck are green, with a white collar. Body, ashy gray, mixed with green. Breast, purplish brown; underbody steel gray. Weight, nine pounds. The ducks are principally light brown, penciled with darker brown and green; weight eight pounds. The Crested are pure white ducks, with pronounced crests or topknots. Drake weighs seven pounds, duck six. There are two varieties of Muscovy—the pure white, with a red, wrinkled skin on their faces, and orange shanks and feet; the colored Muscovys are black and white heads, with the same odd, wrinkled skin on their faces as the white ones. Their backs are blue-black, sometimes broken with white feathers; shanks and feet, from yellow to dark red color, or even black. Drakes, ten pounds; ducks, eight.

There are two varieties of Indian Runner ducks—one pure white, the other light fawn and white or gray and white. The fawn and white are the most popular among breeders. The side of the face should be fawn or gray; throat pure white; breast and shoulders fawn or gray, running to white; tail, fawn or gray. Drakes weigh four and a half pounds; ducks, four.

When it comes to market purposes, we narrow down to Pekins and Indian Runners, Pekins being preferred, in most markets, for table birds; and they are certainly the most profitable for that purpose, because they grow very quickly, being ready for market when six to nine weeks old, when they will weigh from four to six pounds apiece, if they have been well fed and kept in yards, away from ponds and streams; and in the wholesale market they bring about eighteen cents a pound.

As egg producers, Indian Runner ducks are the wonders of the poultry world, for they have outstripped all records. One breeder in Indiana, who had three hundred and fifty birds, affirms that on January 25th he commenced shipping eggs for hatching, and sent out thirty-six thousand by July 25th, and that each duck (the stock consisted of three hundred ducks and fifty drakes) averaged ten dollars a year, the average yield being ninety-nine eggs for each bird in one hundred and eight days. In New Zealand a two years' contest was conducted, one duck laying five hundred and twelve eggs in twenty-three months, and was still laying an egg a day, even though she was moulting. They are strong, healthy, easy to raise, develop very rapidly, and will, under good conditions, commence to lay before they are five months old.

There are many points in favor of duck culture, as they are free from lice, roup, scabby legs, and other diseases so common to chickens.

These ducks are hardy and vigorous, and as their chief characteristics are their laying qualities, they have come to stay, and the one who gives them special attention will realize a good profit from them in the future.

Running water is not at all necessary to their development, but they must have plenty of clean, fresh water for drinking purposes. They are great foragers, and find a part of their food when given free range, but they can be successfully handled in limited quarters. A two-foot fence is sufficient to inclose them.

One of the secrets of success is to start with pure bred stock, for blood will tell with ducks as with other poultry.

Keep one drake for every seven or eight ducks and fatten the rest for market when nine or ten weeks old. At this age we dress them and sell them to private parties for fifty and sixty cents each. Some work, but it pays. But eggs are what you should work for, and the flock should be large enough to enable you to market them by the case.

To get winter eggs, laying ducks should have an inclosed house, but after May they do better if allowed to run out all the time, but should be penned at night until nine o'clock the next morning, when they will be through laying for the day. The eggs are larger than hens' eggs, and they command from five to ten cents higher than hens' eggs in the commercial markets.

Laying ducks should be fed a damp mash composed of bran, shorts, corn meal and beef scrap twice each day, with whole corn at night. Never feed quite all they will eat. Sand and oyster shell must be provided and kept before them all the time.

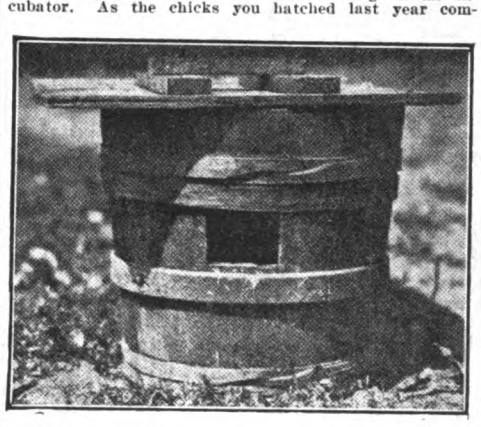
The first few days ducklings should be fed bread soaked in milk or water, squeezed dry and sprinkled with sand. After two days feed a mash of bran, corn-meal, low grade flour and beef scrap. They must have sand as well as feed, and this must be within their reach all the time.

Remember to provide green stuff of some kind in each feed after they are ten days old. This not only cheapens the feed, but insures good health. We like green cut clover best in summertime. Give all feed in troughs, and fresh water several times a day.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

L. H. N.—There are many causes for chicks dying in the shell; old, over-fat, or inbred parent stock; an insufficient number of male birds; too much or too little heat or moisture during the period of incubation, etc., etc. If you read the January and March numbers of COMFORT, you will realize how important the two last are when hatching in an incubator. As the chicks you hatched last year com-



GOOD DRINKING FOUNTAIN FOR DUCKS.

menced to pip on the 19th day, and were all out by the twentieth, I imagine you have not cooled the eggs enough, or have allowed the heat to run above 103 degrees. Or you may have made the fatal mistake of opening the incubator door after the eggs commenced to pip, which would allow the moisture to escape and prevent the remaining chicks freeing themselves from the shell. A flock of sixty hens should have all the whole corn or corn and wheat they could eat up clean at night, and about one third less mash in the morning than they would eat in ten minutes. The best way to gauge the mash is to feed all they will eat in ten minutes, and for the future give one third less. When confined to yards, give a quart of small grain scattered in deep litter at noon, and some green vegetable.

A. M. K.—From 25 to 30 eggs a day from forty chickens is very good. You might reduce the amount of scratch in the morning to two quarts, as they have dry mash always before them. It is advisable to give a little green vegetable food, if you possibly can, at noon. Diarrhea may be caused by the bird being able to pick out the animal food in the dry mash, unless it is kept in a well-constructed self-feeder which only allows a small quantity to come within reach at a time. Read answer to L. H. N.

B. B. L.—Oats and bran are wanting in the qualities which make fat. I can't make out the name of the powder you feed twice a week, but good food is much better than tonics and powders. Read answers to L. H. N. and A. M. K.

L. M. L.—March and April COMFORT will have answered the first part of your letter. Feeding and growing stock and the care of pullets will all appear in later numbers in timely order. All the recognized makes of incubators do good work if properly attended to. Study this department in the January and March numbers.

J. B. M.—I can't understand the case. Unless the hen ate something which could not pass into the gizzard, or swallowed some irritating substance like paint skins, lime, Rough on Rats, or some such poisonous matter which has caused inflammation of the crop. The best treatment in such cases is to pour water down the bird's throat; then hold it by the feet, head hanging down, and gently work the crop from the breastbone down to the neck. After getting as much out of the crop as possible, give some soft liquid food. If you know that unslaked lime is likely to have been within the bird's reach, give a dose of weak vinegar and water; if Rough on Rats is suspected, a dose of magnesia. When you have no idea of what may have caused the trouble, pour thick rice or barley water, or thin custard down the bird's throat after the crop has been emptied; but never use oil, as it has a dangerous action on some poisons.

S. B. W.—Chickens on free range don't need charcoal. Feed one pint of scratch food or a mixture of wheat and oats in the morning, and about one and a half of wheat and cracked corn at night, from May until the end of September; after that, regular winter-laying rations, which will be given in the August or September COMFORT. Yes; you can get farmers' bulletins on chicken raising from the government. Address your request to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Bulletin No. 287, "Hints to Poultry Raisers;" Bulletin No. 528, will help you, and are distributed free.

M. A. B.—The hen's mouth must have been injured in some way. The only treatment I can suggest is to bathe with an antiseptic wash, and feed on stale bread soaked in milk and squeezed dry. I am sorry you have had such a poor winter, and hope the bright spring days will give you fresh courage and prosperity.

A. A.—Read the first part of the department this month.

J. A. P.—Scales on shanks and feet are caused by a minute parasite. Hold the bird's shanks and feet in warm soapy water for a few minutes and soften the hard scales, then scrape gently with a soft brush and plenty of white soap. Wipe while still moist; rub with carbolic ointment and flour of sulphur and lard mixed. Repeat after a week if necessary. Clean the roosts, and paint with kerosene or sheep dip.

H. E. W.—Read last part of the department this month, about ducks.

C. H.—Your question about guinea fowl is anwered in the first part of this month.

A. B.—The gobbler must certainly have been hurt in some way. All the first litter of eggs will be fertilized by the old gobbler.

W. D.—Read answer to J. B. M.

A. D. H.—I can't give breeders' addresses in this column. Look through the advertisements.

A Subscriber.—A cement floor, has the great advantage of being easily cleaned and disinfected in case of sickness. With the ventilating system you are going to install, such a house as you describe will be much better than the ordinary one story henhouse, and quite as healthy for the birds if the floor is kept covered to a depth of four or five inches with short litter.

F. H.—For scaly legs, see answer to J. A. P., and for feeding, answer to L. H. N. During the winter, hens must have some animal and vegetable food, as well as grain, if they are expected to lay a full quantity of eggs.

F. V. S.—You must look through the advertising columns for Spangled Orpingtons. I don't know of any breeders in your part of the country.

F. W. F.—The house should be ten by twelve or larger.

G. P.—If you will write again, and tell me on what subject you want advice, I shall be glad to help you.

A. P.—I cannot recommend breeders. You will find some addresses in the advertising columns.

L. A. M.—All well-known incubators are good practical machines, so it is not fair to recommend any one special make. The advertisers in COMFORT are all reliable firms.

J. A. J.—Trap nests have been fully described and illustrated in past numbers of COMFORT. We can't spare the space in this column to repeat the instructions.

B. E.—We have no free books on the subject. Write to the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletin No. 791, on turkey raising.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

If any of the sisters know the meaning of the three links (Rebekah lodge) write me a letter and I shall be pleased to answer.

Remember me as, MRS. MAUDE HARRELL.

Poems Requested

The following poems have been requested by readers of COMFORT and sent for publication.

Wrinkles of the Heart

Sent in by "Mother of Three," Sidney, Ohio.

Time is merciless, relentless—neither face nor form doth spare,
Time is ever hurrying onward spite of agonizing prayer,
And the wrinkles of his making come unsought to me and you,
But the face is deeper furrowed if the heart has wrinkles, too.

Often as I saunter slowly through the city great and vast,
As I watch the men and women old and youthful walking past,
Oh, the many wrinkled faces, faded eyes of brown and blue!
And I wonder, as I saunter, if the hearts have wrinkles, too.

Youth is beautiful, alluring, but with age comes deeper thought,
And the heart mature and mellow is with richer insight fraught,
And time's wrinkles bring a beauty if the soul be brave and true,
But old age has lost its glory if the heart has wrinkles, too.

Sorrows come to all, and heartaches; fortune is a fickle god,
Thorns a-plenty 'mong the roses strew the path our feet have trod;
So all honor to the wrinkles when the soul shines steadfast through,
And all pity for the furrows when the heart has wrinkles, too.

—*Los Angeles Express.*

ELECTRIC FARM, HOME & MOVIE LIGHT & POWER PLANTS. LIGHTS, HOME COMFORTS & POWER SERVICE. Power & Fan Motors. Storage & Medical Batteries. Dynamos. Engines. Phones. Belts. Motion Picture Machines. Catalog, 3cts. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, Ohio.

MUSIC FREE. Beautiful Song, Catalog of latest songs, popular and high-class. Send 4c in stamps. ROY LINWOOD, P. O. Box 2232, Boston, Mass.

Solid Gold Lavalliere set with genuine Diamond on solid gold neck chain and 30c cash commission given for selling fine perfume at 10 cents a bottle. Extra presents for prompt work. Write for perfume. J. C. Dimick, Portsmouth, N. H.



Pink Cameo Ring FREE
Cameos are set in fine gold filled ring. Guaranteed for three years. To introduce new Ring Bargains, will send post paid, your size, upon receipt of 12c to pay advertising.
The Auction Co., Dept. 168 Attleboro, Mass.

Are You An American?
Use Patriotic Stationery. Show your colors. 25 beautiful printed envelopes and 25 letter-heads. National flag printed in colors. Send 25c coin or stamps today.
ROSE, 302, Trust Bldg., Binghamton, N. Y.

"Always Does the Work and Does It Right"
ROUGH ON RATS



Unbeatable Exterminator of Rats, Mice & Bugs
Used the World Over. Used by U. S. Government
It Can't Fail—It's All Exterminator
Stop Fattening Rats, Mice & Bugs!
On your food or on Catch Penny ready-to-use substitutes—whose bulk is inert flour and grease.
Why Trap Rats & Mice, One By One,
while those uncaught rapidly increase!!!
END THEM ALL TO-NIGHT WITH a 25c box of ROUGH ON RATS
The Recognized Standard For Half a Century
At Drug & Country Stores.

$1 a week buys a **Black Beauty Bicycle**



AT FACTORY PRICES—ON APPROVAL—NO MONEY IN ADVANCE
Let us send you (freight prepaid) a Black Beauty on trial. If you don't like it, return at our expense. If you do like it, you pay only $1 a week. GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS by the largest exclusive Cycle House in America. WRITE TODAY for Black Beauty Color Catalog showing all sizes and styles.
Haverford Cycle Co., Est. 1896, Dept. H., Phila., Pa.

Earth's Noblemen

The noblest men I know on earth,
Are men whose hands are brown with toil,
Who, backed by no ancestral graves,
Hew down the woods, and till the soil,
And win thereby a prouder name
than follows kings' or warriors' fame.

The working men, whate'er their task,
Who carve the stone or bear the hod,
They bear upon their honest brow,
The royal stamps and seal of God;
And worthier are their drops of sweat
Than diamonds in a coronet.

God bless the noble working men,
Who rear the cities of the plain;
Who dig the mines, who build the ships,
And drive the commerce of the main;
God bless them! for their toiling hands
Have wrought the glory of all lands.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around the Home

Add a teaspoon of ginger to doughnuts and they will not soak fat. MRS. T. C. WARE, Whitefield, Maine.

When making gravy mix flour with a little water or milk and let stand for a while. It will not be lumpy then. ANNIE LEWIS, Ager, Cal.

When broiling meat, if the platter on which it is to be served is placed in the dripping pan directly under the meat all the juice will drop into the dish. This method saves every drop of gravy.

Make a paste of flour and water. Roll out thin and entirely cover the ham to be cooked with it and bake in a moderate oven six hours, or until ham is done. When cooked, remove the crust and you will find the ham much sweeter and nicer than when cooked in the usual way.

To cook peas, throw them pods and all into a kettle of boiling water, after washing, and discarding those that are spoiled. When done the pods rise to the surface while the peas stay at the bot-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

Hackett's GAPE CURE
It's a powder. Chicks inhale the dust. Whole brood treated at once. Money back if it fails. Package 35c. postpaid. Safe, Simple, Certain. Address HACKETT'S GAPE CURE CO., HILLSBORO, Md., Dept. A.

LE PAGE'S CHINA CEMENT
STANDS HOT AND COLD WATER 10s

PIGEONS PAY
Better Than Chickens
Young pigeons (squabs) bring 40 to 60c each when 3 to 4 weeks old. Big demand in city markets. Each pair of pigeons easily clear $4 per year. Always penned up. Very little space and money needed to start. Free Book explains all.
MAJESTIC SQUAB CO., Dept. 65, ADEL, IOWA.
FREE BOOK

Get This Car



And The AGENCY For Your Territory
Drive a new 1918 Model Birch Motor Car. Pay for it out of your commissions and make big money on sales. Special offer now. Write quick for Big Free Book and full information. Address Ralph Birchard, Pres.
BIRCH MOTOR CARS, Dept. 520 81 E. Madison St., Chicago

150 Million Dollars
That's what 100 cities spent for plumbing and heating in new buildings last year. Sanitary Engineers—Heating and Ventilating Engineers—Drafting and Estimating Managers—and Plumbing or Sanitary Inspectors got this money. You can share it. These positions pay $1600-$8000 a year. And we can train you for one of them in your own home. *Course endorsed by all interested organizations.*
WRITE TODAY for free booklet. No obligations. It is free.
American School of Correspondence, Dept. H3045, Chicago, U. S. A.

German Silver Mesh Purse
Given For Four Subscriptions

THIS is the new "Gate Top" mesh purse with a ten-inch wrist chain, made throughout of **German Silver**, handsome, stylish, and **perfectly safe for the carrying of money and other valuables.** A slight pull with the forefinger of each hand instantly opens the purse, a gentle pressure with thumb and finger closes it. Our illustration shows the purse closed. When open the top is as large as the bottom, or in other words, two inches in diameter. When closed it leaves an opening only three-fourths of an inch wide over which the brightly polished German silver cover snaps down tightly so that the contents of the purse cannot possibly become lost. This dainty purse is now extremely fashionable so we have purchased a quantity for the benefit of those of our lady and girl readers who like to be up-to-date in these little accessories. You can have one of them free by taking advantage of the following



Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this handsome and stylish German silver mesh purse free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7374.**
Premium No. 7374
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Early Summer Fashions

By Geneva Gladding


1715

THE day may again come when the little schoolgirl will cover her pretty frock with a stiffly starched apron of lawn, "crossbar muslin," dotted Swiss or percale, trimmed with lace, embroidery or "Hamburg" edging and tied at the back with a big sash bow; at present all "apron honors" belong to grown ups, and there surely are many apron styles. Some so small and dainty that one marvels how they can be useful. Others big and enveloping and practical, well deserving of the name. Such a model is ever desirable and a valuable addition to any housekeeper's wardrobe.

An apron with long sleeves, with ample fullness and skirt length, cut low in the neck, and belted at the waist, or loose as you like it, is the best dress protector.

But so much for aprons—from this season's array of fashions we are inclined to believe that women will be out of doors as much as indoors. See the lovely sports and beach dresses. The blouses in Middy and shirt-waist style. The new plaited skirts and those for soft pliant materials, gathered at the waist, and so lovely for flouncing and bordered goods.

If you have a sports suit or costume, a few shirt-waists and an extra separate skirt also a simple "little" dress of Georgette crepe, tub silk, shantung or linen, you are well equipped for the coming season.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.

1715—Ladies' Apron with or without sleeve in either of two lengths and with collar, or with neck edge in square outline. Percale, brilliantine, mohair, sateen, gingham, seersucker, lawn or cambric may be used for this design.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires six and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a medium size with sleeves; without sleeves, six yards.

1993—Girls' One-piece Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This model is nice for serge, gabardine, velvet, taffeta, linen, percale, galatea, shepherd check and plaid sulting. In brown or blue serge, with a collar of white repp or linen, it will be very pleasing.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for an eight-year size.

2023—Girls' Guimpe with sleeve in either of two lengths, and with neck high, or in "V," square, or round outline. This very practical and desirable model is nice for lawn, batiste, crepe and nainsook, also for linen, silk, cashmere, repp, poplin, and flannel.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires one and seven eighths yard of 36-inch material for a 12-year size.

2033—A Simple Play Dress, with lower edge arranged for romper style. The skirt portion is finished at the lower edge with an extension that buttons over the front to form rompers; this extension, if dress style is desired, may be cut away. Gingham, percale, chambray, galatea, drill, poplin and crepe are nice for this style.

Cut in four sizes; one, two, three and four years. Size four will require two and three eighths yards of 36-inch material.

1979—Ladies' Shirt-waist. This pattern is good for lawn, madras, batiste, serge, poplin, satin, taffeta and flannel.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46-inch bust measure. It requires two and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2041—Girls' Under-waist and drawers.

Cut in six sizes; two, four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires one yard of 36-inch material for the waist, and one and one quarter yard for the drawers, for an eight-year size. Ruffles on drawers will require about two and one half yards of edging, three and one half inches wide.

1881—A Practical Cover-all Apron. Gingham, lawn, percale, alpaca, drill, linen and sateen are all good for this style. The model is made to slip over the head and is closed in front with a lacing through eyelets.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires five and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

2024—Ladies' House Dress with sleeve in wrist or elbow length. This design is good for striped seersucker, for checked gingham, repp, poplin, flannelette, linen, drill and other washable fabrics.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires seven yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1727—A Smart Suit for the Little Boy. This style is fine for galatea, gingham, percale, drill, linen, linene, serge, repp, corduroy or velvet. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or short length.

Cut in four sizes; two, three, four and five years. It requires two and five eighths yards of 44-inch material for a four-year size.

1977—A Smart and Practical Ladies' Apron. This style is especially nice for gingham, percale, alpaca and brilliantine. The front is cut in panel shape, to form deep pocket sections over the side fronts.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46-inch bust measure. It requires seven and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

1822—Ladies' House or Porch Dress. Linen, drill, linene, corduroy, gabardine, serge, taffeta, percale, seersucker, and brilliantine, are also nice for this model. The skirt is a three-piece model. The sleeve may be in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in seven sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1989—Girls' Yoke Dress. This model is good for all wash fabrics, for serge, gabardine, velvet, corduroy, taffeta, albatross and cashmere.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

2029—A Pretty Night Dress in "Slip on Style." Batiste, nainsook, lawn, dimity, crossbar muslin, dotted Swiss, crepe, silk, washable satin, flannel and flannelette are all good for this style.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. A medium size will require six yards of 36-inch material.

2059—A Charming Negligee. This model is fine for soft crepes, lawns and organdies. It is also nice for challie, silk, batiste and voile.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. Medium size will require six and one half yards of 36-inch material.

1710—Girls' Apron. Gingham, percale, chambray, lawn, drill, jean, or sateen could be used for this style.

Cut in five sizes; two, four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires two and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a six-year size.

2018—Girls' One-piece Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Serge, mixed suiting, plaid woolen, repp, galatea, gingham, chambray, percale, linen and linene are nice for this model.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for an eight-year size.

1991—Girls' Dress in over-blouse style, with guimpe. The guimpe may be of crepe, batiste, or lawn. The over-blouse dress is good for cashmere, serge, silk, crepe and satin. The sleeve may be made in kimono style, or finished in wrist length.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires one and three quarters yard of 36-inch material for the guimpe, and three and one half yards for the dress, for a 12-year size.

2035—Waist. 2020—Skirt. A Gown with New Style Features. For the waist one could have pompadour silk and Georgette crepe, while the skirt could be of serge, gabardine, or satin.

Waist 2035 cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Skirt 2020, cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. The skirt requires four yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size. The waist requires two and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size. *Two* separate patterns. 10c *for each* pattern.

2012—Girls' One-piece Yoke Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. All wash materials such as linen, chambray, gingham, galatea, crepe and percale are nice for this model. It is also good for plaid and checked suiting, serge and gabardine.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for an eight-year size.

2021—Ladies' Sport Blouse, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style is fine for satin, taffeta, flannel, batiste, lawn, linen and other wash fabrics.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1918—Child's Rompers with round collar or square neck outline and with long or short sleeve. Gingham, chambray, drill, galatea, and serge are good for this style. The pattern is composed of a waist and bloomers which may be joined to the waist or buttoned on separately.

Cut in three sizes; two, four and six years. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

2034—Ladies' Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Lawn, challie, batiste, crepe, foulard, wash silk, marquisette and voile are nice for this style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires eight yards of material for a 36-inch size.

2037—Ladies' Shirt-waist, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Striped madras in blue and white is here combined with white linene. The model is good for all wash fabrics, for silk, satin, flannel, crepe and crepe de chine.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1983—Girls' Dress. Blue serge with trimming of blue or black soutache braid would be nice for this model. Plaid or checked suiting, or a combination of either with plain material, is also good.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires four yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

2014—Overblouse Dress for Misses and Small Women. This model is nice for serge, and satin combinations, and good for gabardine and crepe. The overdress may be used to wear with any guimpe or underwaist.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires two yards of 36-inch material for the guimpe and three and five eighths yards for the dress, for a 16-year size.

2015—Girls' One-piece Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Striped galatea in brown and white, with trimming of white pique is here shown. The model has smart pocket trimmings.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires four and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 10-year size.

2016—A New Ladies' Skirt. Broadcloth, serge, satin, foulard, duvetyn, gabardine, linen, corduroy and taffeta are all suitable for this design.

Cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires four and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.



Free to Wear 10 Days



Splendid Genuine Tifnite gem ladies' ring in beautiful 6-prong solid gold mounting sent to wear 10 days. Looks like a genuine diamond. Stands every diamond test. Almost a carat large. If you find it a wonderful bargain send only $3 on arrival. Then $3 monthly until only $12.75 is paid. Otherwise return in 10 days and payment will be refunded. Send strip of paper fitting second joint of finger. Keep it only if perfectly satisfied. Send for it now.

TIFNITE GEM CO., Dept. 164
Rand McNally Bldg., Chicago

EVERY WOMAN WHO EMBROIDERS

Will find pleasure at last in stamping her own embroidery designs. No soiling of hands, no spoiling of material. See how many **odd pieces** of material you can make into **dainty embroidered articles** in doing your own stamping. All you need is a hot iron.

80 Embroidery Patterns for 10c

Handsome Centerpieces, 3 complete Alphabets, Baby Clothes, Pillow Tops, Scollops, Underwear Designs. Also **Embroidery Hints** brimful of the latest Needlework novelties at bargain prices, all the latest stitches. Don't miss this Magazine. **ALL FOR 10 CENTS.**

Peerless Supply Co., 36—35th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

PROFITABLE EAR OF CORN.—A progressive farmer living near Springfield, Ill., J. W. Workman, recently refused to take $25 for one ear of corn. The ear had won 42 prizes in exhibits held throughout the state.

COMFORT'S New Tatting Book

Premium No. 8031.



Handsomely Illustrated With Over Half a Hundred of the Newest Prettiest Designs With Full Directions for Working.

THIS is COMFORT'S own tatting book—published by COMFORT—every design in it by a COMFORT worker—beautifully illustrated and containing full working directions as well as explaining by word and picture **just how tatting is done**—the various positions of the hands and the different movements used in making the stitches. These instructions are so plain, simple and easily understood that the beginner can readily master them and soon become an expert worker. There are **sixty-one illustrations** in all and the designs range from the simplest edgings and insertions to the handsome designs worked with two threads. Included among them are **ring, star, shamrock, pointed, half wheel, and whole wheel edgings; clover leaf beadings, edgings and insertions; two color insertions, two thread beadings, clover leaf scallop, round medallions, boudoir cap, doily, pointed medallion, trimmed waist, collar corners, medallion trimmed corset cover, tatting applique, and tatted silk bonnets, net collar with tatting applique, medallion edged centerpiece, pillow covers, primrose hand bag, chemise or nightgown yoke, Vandyke point sideboard cover and dresser scarfs.** Each design is illustrated by a fine, large **photograph** of the finished work which shows every thread and stitch so plainly that directions seem hardly necessary—one could almost make the various pretty things going by the pictures alone.

Remember that this book is totally **unlike** any other tatting book ever sold or offered as a premium—the designs being the work of COMFORT's own subscribers are of course **different** from all others and—as we think—much prettier than any ever yet published. While most tatting books show only about fifteen or twenty designs and ordinary ones at that, this new book contains fifty-six, all different, beautifully illustrated by **genuine photographs**, with full working directions as well as a **whole page of instructions** on how to do tatting—instructions that should enable any inexperienced woman or girl to become an expert worker after a very few trials.

We will send you this tatting book free if you will accept either one of the following special offers:

Offer No. 8031 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you a copy of COMFORT's Tatting Book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 8031.**

Offer No. 8031 B. For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you this Tatting Book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 8031. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash,

(or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me

Patterns No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____

Name _____ State _____

Post Office _____ R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.



Large, Handsome American Flag

Prem. No. 7298

5 Feet Long

3 Feet Wide, Guaranteed Fast Colors,

Complete With Pole, Halyard And Holder

Sent Prepaid For A Club Of 8

NOW is the time for every good American to show his patriotism by displaying **the Stars and Stripes**—the most beautiful flag in the world. Let **"Old Glory"** wave over your home—especially on Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Flag Day, Washington's and Lincoln's Birthdays, as well as on such local events as G. A. R. Reunions, Conventions, Home Coming Weeks, etc. We know that there are no more patriotic, home-loving Americans anywhere than COMFORT'S own subscribers, so we are going to offer this handsome flag, all ready to fling to the breeze as soon as you receive it. The outfit consists of the flag, halyard, polished hardwood pole and iron socket or "holder." The flag is 3 x 5 feet in size, made of special **fast color** material positively **guaranteed not to fade or run,** with sewed stripes and printed stars, full canvas head and brass grommets. The pole is seven feet long and made in two parts for convenience in shipping, being joined together with a solid metal screw joint that makes the pole absolutely rigid and as strong as if it were all one piece. To complete the outfit we also send you a strong, heavy iron socket for the base of the pole. This holds the pole always in position and it can be screwed down wherever you want it—on porch or piazza roof, the sill of some upstairs window or anywhere else around the house.

Please remember that we **absolutely guarantee** this flag to be **fast colors.** Neither sun, snow nor rain can affect it.

We will send you this fine American Flag with outfit complete as described above on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this complete American Flag outfit by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7298.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Daisy Tray Cloth



20X26 Inches — **Premium No. 7851** — For One Subscription

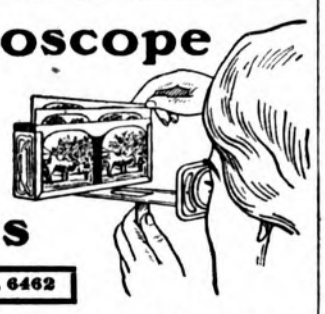
FOR the woman who wants an extra large tray-cloth of an unusual and attractive design we offer this beautiful new **daisy Design** which may be worked either in eyelet embroidery or solid and eyelet combined. It is **20 x 26 inches** in size and comes stamped on pure white "Butcher cloth" which in appearance and wearing qualities is equal to pure imported linen. You need not hesitate to put a lot of time and labor in embroidering this handsome table piece as you will certainly be delighted with it when it is finished and will have the added satisfaction of knowing that it will last a good many years. You can obtain this large, tray-cloth upon the terms of one of the following special offers.

Offer 7851A. For one one-year subscription (not your own,) to COMFORT at 25c we will send you this tray-cloth, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer 7851B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25c and 10c additional (35c in all) we will send you this tray-cloth free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7851.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Stereoscope With 100 Views



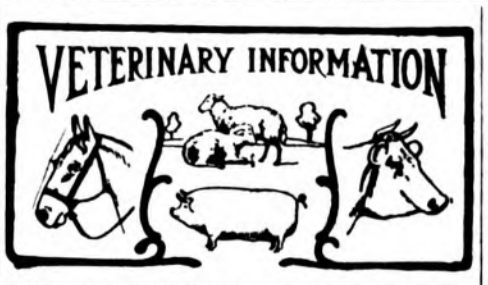
Premium No. 6462

For A Club Of Two!

LIONS, Tigers, Bears and all kinds of Wild Animals, Home Scenes, Domestic Pets and Happy Childhood Days. Here is something **as good as a circus** for the children **the year round**—an indestructible, new style **Stereoscope** made of **all metal** with powerful, magnifying **lens,** and with it we give you **free** a big collection of **100 Views of home scenes, domestic pets, farm scenes,** all kinds of **trained and wild animals, hunting scenes,** views from the **Arctic** and **tropical** countries, and **happy childhood scenes**—the biggest and finest assortment of the most **delightful and entertaining** stereoscopic views for children ever gotten out. Boys and girls need not be obliged to hunt for something to occupy their active minds indoors with one of these Scopes at hand because it will give them a never-ending, joyful **entertainment** keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. Aside from the pleasure they will derive from the **fifty** beautiful **scenes of home life,** the **fifty** exciting **animal views** will furnish them with a **regular circus, the lions, tigers, bears, buffalo,** and all kinds of **wild and savage animals** as well as **horses, dogs, cats** and other domestic animals standing out **real and life-like** when looked at through this Scope. Any boy or girl would be delighted to have one of these wonderful Stereoscopes together with the big collection of 100 entertaining and exciting Views that come with it and knowing this we have purchased a large quantity of them direct from the factory and because we bought so many we got them at a price **low enough** to enable us to **give them away** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this Stereoscope with 100 Views free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6462.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

SLIMY MILK.—I have a cow, thirteen years old. She freshened January fourth. Since then, when the milk is separated there is left in the separator bowl what looks like cream, but more sticky. There are no lumps left in the strainer, like garget and her udder is not caked. What ails her and is her milk fit to use? MRS. J. C. K.

A.—Keep a separate sample of milk from each quarter to see if one is affected or are all. In such case an attack of garget may be the cause and if so such milk would be unfit for use. It is more likely however, that bacteria in the milk utensils causes the trouble and you should be very careful to sterilize the vessels by cleansing, scalding and sun drying.

SWELLING.—I have a horse eight years old that had blood poisoning, about four years ago, in the pastern joint of the right front foot. It swelled up and the swelling never went away. It does not hurt him any. I work him every day. At night it grows larger. R. A. G.

A.—Hand rub the swollen part each time the horse comes into the stable and then wrap it with cotton batting and bandage snugly with a flannel bandage over the cotton. This will help if you persist in the treatment.

CRIBBING.—I have been a reader of COMFORT for many years and like the information I get from its columns. Please inform me what to do for a horse that is a crib biter. D. M. S.

A.—The vice is incurable when confirmed. Buckle a wide strap fairly tight around the neck just back of the throat latch. Stable the horse in a box stall containing nothing upon which the teeth could be set or the chin rested to practise the habit.

SELF-SUCKING COW.—I have a four-year-old cow that sucks herself. Will you advise me what to do? T. S.

A.—The habit cannot as a rule be cured, but may be stopped by putting a bull ring in the nose and linking two extra rings in the first one, or by putting a necklace of sharpened pickets upon the neck with the pickets running lengthwise.

LAMENESS.—My horse, six years old, has suddenly gone lame in his left fore foot. It is swollen some between the hoof and ankle. I bathe in hot water and put liniment on the ankle. He is in good condition in every other way. Am not working him and have had the shoe taken off of that foot. Am a subscriber to COMFORT and could not do without it. J. B. M.

A.—The location of the swelling suggests ringbone, but without an examination we cannot determine if that is present or the cause of lameness. If you cannot employ a qualified veterinarian clip the hair from the hoof-head and pastern and apply a blister.

WORMS.—My mare, five years old this spring, has large, round stomach worms, large in the middle and pointed at the ends. What will remove them? A. L. O.

A.—These round worms are known as *ascaris megalaceptala* and may be destroyed by mixing in the feed night and morning for a week one tablespoonful of a mixture of equal quantities by weight of powdered copperas, salt and sulphur; then skip ten days and repeat. Omit copperas for a pregnant mare and increase salt and sulphur.

PARALYSIS.—I lost a young heifer about two years old. She got her horns hung in a crack in the stall and lay in a cramped position all night, or a good part of the night. When we found her the next morning she seemed numb in her legs and could not stand up. We called a veterinary who said she was hurt internally. J. M.

A.—The cow no doubt broke her neck or so injured her spine and spinal cord as to cause the paralysis described and treatment wouldn't avail in such a case.

RHEUMATISM.—I have a dog two years old that has something wrong with his legs. He seems stiff at times, in his hind legs, and at other times in his front legs. The knee joints swell, and when he gets up he howls. He seems all right after he runs. G. F. B.

A.—The symptoms indicate inflammatory rheumatism. Give five grains of salol every three hours at time of attack. Also bathe joints with alcohol and then swathe in cotton batting and bandage. Keep dog out of cold and wet and give him a warm, dry bed.

STOCKED LEGS.—I have a fast track mare, eight years old whose blood is in bad condition. Her legs stock when she stands in the barn for a day. She hasn't been on pasture for two years. When I drive her four or five miles her legs become their normal size. What would you advise me to do with her. She will have pasture next summer. Would you advise a box stall? Will her legs stop stocking if her blood becomes pure once more? R. R. R.

A.—Allow her a roomy box stall but have her work or take active exercise every day. Each time she comes in rub her legs thoroughly, then wrap with cotton batting and bandage snugly. This alone should prove curative but it would also be well to have her teeth put in order by a veterinarian and then give her the worm powders often prescribed here. The stocking should subside when she regains normal health.

AGE OF FILLY.—How old should a filly be when her first colt is born? M. C.

A.—A filly may be bred at two years old if very well developed, but ordinarily it is best not to breed before three years. The foal is carried eleven months.

RABBITS DYING.—I have a mother rabbit with young. A cat killed the father. I would like to know the cause of my rabbits dying. When they were three weeks old I kept the father with them and in the morning one or two would be dead. Sometimes they get weak, fall over and die. Please tell me what to feed them. T. D.

A.—The buck killed the young rabbits as will always be the case if you give him the chance. The buck should always be kept away when the doe has young. The little rabbits may be fed clover, lettuce, cabbage, oats, bran and roots.

TAIL RUBBING.—I have a six-year-old horse that rubs the roots of his tail and is also rubbing the hair off his neck. When he has rubbed the hair off there are little blue knots with blue hairs growing in them. M. C.

A.—Have the horse clipped and then do not let him stand for a single day without work or exercise. Scrub affected parts clean and when dry pour on and rub in a mixture of one part of kerosene and three of machine oil or cottonseed oil. Repeat every three days. Sulphur may be mixed with the oil if kerosene alone is not effectual.

SWEATING.—I have a mule seven years old. She sweats freely, but does not shed her hair. It is thick and dead looking. R. M. K.

A.—The proper treatment would be to have the mule clipped at once. If you do not care to do that blanket heavily daily and trot her until she sweats, then the hair should loosen and come off quickly adhering to the blanket. Feed flaxseed meal or carrots in addition to grain and hay.

CALLOUS.—My mare hurt her right fore leg above the ankle, injuring the bone. The wound is well and hair is growing over the scar, but it has left a knot on her leg about the size of a walnut and seems to be composed of bone and gristle. Can this be taken off? She does not appear to be lame, but it will ruin the sale of her. M. F. H.

A.—The callous or "knot" might be cut out by a veterinarian but it is unlikely that medicinal treatment will help. We should advise leaving it alone.

LAMENESS.—What is good for a four-year-old horse that is strained in coffin joint? Subscriber.

A.—It would be practically impossible to diagnose such an injury but if chronic foot lameness is present a blister applied to the hoof-head after clipping off the hair may do some good. Use a mixture of two drams each of powdered cantharides and biniodide of mercury and three ounces of lard.

HEAVES.—My horse had a long drive about three weeks ago and has had a cough since then. He jerks as though taking the heaves. E. S.

A.—The long drive probably brought on heaves which was not apparent but coming on before. Give him half an ounce of Fowler's solution of arsenic night and morning. Wet all feed. Let him live on grass, without hay, as soon as it is ready.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

am, would perhaps be the better way of putting it," said the stranger, with bitter irony. Look here; perhaps this will tell you better than any other form of introduction," she added, almost fiercely, as, with one hand, she snatched the cap off her child's head and then turned his face toward Edith.

The startled girl involuntarily uttered a cry of mingled surprise and dismay, for, in face and form and bearing, she beheld—a miniature Emil Correlli!

For a moment she was speechless, thrilled with greater loathing for the man than she had ever before experienced, as a suspicion of the truth flashed through her brain.

Then she lifted her astonished eyes to the woman, to find her regarding her with a look of mingled curiosity, hatred and triumph.

"The boy is—his child?" Edith murmured at last.

"Yes you see—you understand," she said, at last; "any one would know that Correlli is his father."

"And you——" Edith breathed in a scarcely audible voice, while she began to tremble with a secret hope.

"I am the child's mother—yes," the girl returned, with a look of despair of her dusky orbs.

"Then, of course, you are Emil Correlli's wife," Edith cried; "you have come to tell me this—to tell me that I am free from the hateful tie which I supposed bound me to him? Oh, I thank you! I thank you!"

"You thank me?"

"Yes, a thousand times."

"Ha! and you say the tie that binds you to him is hateful?" whispered the strange woman.

"More hateful than I can express," said Edith.

"And you do not—love him?"

"Love him? Oh, no!"

"Ah, it is I who do not understand now!" exclaimed Edith's visitor, with a look of perplexity.

"Let me tell you," said the young girl, drawing nearer and speaking rapidly. "I was Mrs. Goddard's companion, and quite happy and content with my work until he—her villainous brother—came. Ah, perhaps I shall wound you if I say more," she interposed, and breaking off suddenly, as she saw her companion wince.

"No, no; go on," commanded her guest, imperatively.

"Well, Monsieur Correlli began to make love to me and to persecute me with his attentions soon after he came here. He proposed marriage to me some weeks ago, and I refused to listen to him——"

"You refused him!"

"Why, yes, certainly; I did not love him; I would not marry any one whom I could not love," Edith replied, with a little scornful curl of her lips at the astonished interruption, which had betrayed that her guest thought no girl could be indifferent to the charms of the man whom she so adored.

"He was offended," Edith resumed, "and insisted that he would not take my refusal as final. When I finally convinced him that I meant what I had said, he and his sister plotted together to accomplish their object, and make me his wife by strategy. Madam planned a winter frolic at her country residence; she wrote the play of which you have an account in that paper; she chose her characters and it was rehearsed to perfection. At the last moment, on the evening of its presentation before her friends, she removed the two principal characters—telling me that they had been called home by a telegram—and substituted her brother and me in their places. She did not even tell me who was to take the gentleman's place—she simply said a friend; it was all done so hurriedly there was no time, apparently, for explanations. And then—oh! it is too horrible to think of!" interposed Edith, bringing her hands together with a despairing gesture, "she had that ordained minister come on the stage and legally marry us. From beginning to end it was all a fraud."

"Stop girl! and swear that you are telling me the truth!" cried her strange companion.

"Oh, I would give the world if it were not true!" Edith exclaimed,—"if the last scene in that drama had never been enacted, or if I could have been warned in time of the treachery of which I was being made the victim!"

"Suppose you had been warned!" demanded her guest, clutching her arm with painful force, "would you have dared refuse to do their bidding?"

"Would I have dared refuse?" exclaimed Edith, drawing herself haughtily erect. "No power on earth could have made me marry that man."

"I don't know! I don't know! He is rich, handsome, talented," muttered the other. "Will you swear that it was fraud—that you did not know you were being married to him? Do not try to lie to me," she went on, warningly. "I came here this afternoon with a heart full of bitter hatred toward you; in my soul I believe I was almost a murderess. But—if you also are the victim of a bad man's perfidy, then we have a common cause."

"I have told you only the truth," responded Edith, gravely. "Monsieur Correlli was utterly repulsive to me, and I never could have consented to marry him, under any circumstances. I know he is considered handsome—I know he is rich and talented; but all that would be no temptation to me—I could never sell myself for fortune or position. I am very sorry if you have been made unhappy because of me," she went on gently; "but I have not willfully wronged you in any way. And if you have come here to tell me that you are Monsieur Correlli's wife, you have saved me from a fate I abhorred—and I shall be—I am free! and I shall bless you as long as I live!"

TO BE CONTINUED.



Positively the classiest Watch on the American market, NOW OFFERED YOU for the first time on the original Harris-Goar Easy Payment Plan at a low introductory Money-Saving Price.

Fully Adjusted 17 Jewel Elgin

This New Thin Model 17 Jewel Elgin, 12 or 16 Size—The King of all Watchdom—The one Watch that is absolutely Supreme wherever Reliability is a factor. Double sunk dial—Double Roller Escapement—Double Strata 25 year Gold Cases.

It's just the Watch you have always wanted. It's the Watch we have long urged the Elgin Factory to produce for you. We knew what you wanted and **now** we have it for you in this beautifully Adjusted, Thin Model, Light Weight Elgin—

Our Biggest Offer!

This $35 Elgin with a $5 Gold Chain Free Now Offered for the First Time At the Rock Bottom Price of Only $24.85

$3.00 —A— MONTH

On Approval We send this New Elgin and fine $5 Free Chain on approval. You do not risk a cent. You pay nothing until the Watch and Chain have been delivered to you for your own inspection and approval, and then only the small first payment of $3.85, balance at $3 a month, and if at any time in 30 days after you have received the Watch and Chain, you are not proud of your Bargain, return them to us, and your small deposit will be returned.



Free Catalog

Write for it Today

This Big Special Offer on This New Elgin will be Mailed You upon receipt of your name and address. Also New Catalog so you can buy **any kind of a Watch or Diamond you want** on the Easiest and Simplest Payment Plan in the world. No interest—No red tape. **$5 Free Chain** if you answer **Now—Today.**

HARRIS-GOAR CO.

Dept. 78 Kansas City, Mo.

The House That Sells More Elgin Watches Than Any Other Firm in the World.

WE DO AS WE ADVERTISE!

Tunneling to School

In the northwestern part of the state of Washington there is a little town called Tyee that has the queerest road to school in all the world. It is a very snowy region and also very hilly and frequently large drifts will pile up to a height of thirty or forty feet. Obviously, no boy could tramp through soft snow of that depth, even though he did have a pair of hip boots on, so the city officials constructed a wooden tunnel connecting the homes of the nine pupils with the tiny school. No matter how hard it snows or blows, they can go in peace and comfort to the institution of learning and no lad can stay away and then give as an excuse that his mother kept him home because it was too stormy. It is true there is not much chance for indulging in the time-honored sport of snowballing but perhaps some future administration will take care of that deficiency. Sometimes, when the town is snowbound and the houses literally buried, the tunnels are used, by citizens, as a means of communication.

30 DAYS FREE TRIAL



and *freight prepaid* on a new 1917 **"RANGER"** bicycle. **Write at once** for our *big catalog* and *special offers.* Take your choice from 44 styles, colors and sizes in the famous **"RANGER"** line.

Marvelous improvements. Extraordinary values in our 1917 price offers. *You cannot afford to buy* without getting our *latest propositions* and **Factory-to-Rider** prices.

Boys, be a **"Rider Agent"** and make big money taking orders for bicycles and supplies. Get our *liberal terms* on a sample to introduce the new **"RANGER".**

TIRES, equipment, sundries and everything in the bicycle line at *half usual prices. Write Today.*

Ranger Electric Lighted Motorbike

MEAD CYCLE COMPANY Dept. C-3 Chicago

AGENTS A Big Seller New - Patented SCREEN DOOR CHECK



Splendid summer seller. **Low Priced.** Stops the bang and saves the door. Easy sales. Big profits. Big demand. A sale in every home. Dozen can be carried in pocket. Demonstration sample free to workers.

THOMAS CHECK CO. 4330 East St. Dayton, Ohio



Catch Fish, Eels, Mink and Muskrat in large quantities SURE-with the new, folding, galvanized STEEL WIRE TRAP. Catches them like a fly-trap catches flies. All sizes. Parcel post or express. Write for price list of fishermen's specialties and booklet on best fish bait ever known. Agents wtd.

WALTON SUPPLY CO., K-61, St. Louis, Mo.



SHAC

For Headache

More Than 25 Years on the Market

Used Wherever Heads Ache

12 Wafers—12 Doses

At all druggists for 25 cents

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1917, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

EXPLANATORY.—This story tells the strange things that happen to five-year-old Simmie-Sammie Smith and his sister Pittysing, nearly two years older, through the sly pranks of Nattie, the "Smallest Dapperling of All." The Dapperlings are kind-hearted, gay little elflike beings who ride on rabbits and never let themselves be seen by human eyes because of their belief that, if seen, it would bring some terrible calamity upon them. For this reason their queer little houses are always built into the hillside, and are so made, with doors and windows in front and grass growing on the backs, that they can be turned around to face out when the Dapperlings are by themselves; but as soon as anybody comes in sight the houses are whirled around so that only the grass-covered backs are seen and, as these look like the rest of the hill, you would never know the houses were there. They also have an underground assembly hall with an opening in the top covered with moss and concealed in a clump of thistles.

CHAPTER VIII.

BLUEBERRIES.

PITTYSING and Simmie-Sammie were going blueberrying, up beyond the Pine Tree on the Hill. You remember they couldn't go farther north than this tree unless their mother said they might. But now, blueberries were ripe, and she had told them they might go after some if they would be very careful not to get lost.

"If you get enough berries, I'll make them into a pie," she promised.

"We'll get enough for 'leven-two pies! What you s'pect?" asked Simmie-Sammie.

"Oh, mamma!" said Pittysing. "Prob'ly you don't know how thick the berries are up there. We plan to get you all you want, and then sell some. Why, I'm going to take the five-quart pail, and Simmie-Sammie's going to take the two-quart one. And we'll both take pint dippers to pick in."

Their mother laughed, but said they might if they liked, and kissed them both good-by.

"I'll ring the big bell when it's dinner-time if you're not home before then," she told them.

They started off happily, the pint dippers rattling in the tin pails as they skipped along.

They were not the first ones to reach the blueberry bushes, though they didn't see anyone else. The Dapperlings were there, having a merry time, pelting each other with the berries, and filling their little baskets.

"Hide, hide! the children are coming," called Skippywink, who had been sitting on the fence, keeping watch. "They're coming for berries, for they have pails. We'll have some fun with them!"

"We'll set our pails right down here by the fence," Pittysing said, "where we'll be sure not to lose them. Just LOOK at those berries over there! Thick as spatter! Let's see who'll get their dipper full first, Simmie-Sammie."

Pittysing worked fast, and was not long in filling her dipper with the pretty blue balls.

"Such a lot," she thought with pride. But when she poured them into the five-quart pail, they didn't seem like so many.

She looked around for Simmie-Sammie, and found him lying on his stomach with his feet in the air, and an empty dipper before him.

"Why haven't you been picking berries?" she demanded.

Simmie-Sammie jumped up and showed a face with suspicious blue streaks around the mouth.

"I did," he said, "a whole lot of 'em—but I spilled 'em."

"Oh—you did? That was too bad. I'll help you pick 'em up. Where are they?" And she began looking on the ground.

"I—I spilled 'em down my neck—through my mouth!"

"Well, there! I didn't s'pose you'd be such a piggy! And you know we want to sell some and buy that little set of garden tools at the store. If I buy 'em alone, I shall use 'em alone! But then, you're only just a baby!" she added, with fine scorn.

"I ain't a baby! You'll see! I'm a-goin' to pick my whole pail full in a minute—quicker'n YOU could do it!"

"Come on, then, and if I get my dipper full first, I'll help you fill yours before we empty them."

When the children's backs were turned, the Smallest Dapperling of All came out from behind a bush with her little basket heaped with blueberries, and running to Pittysing's pail, turned her berries into it. Then Zipzang did the same, and Skippywink turned his into Simmie-Sammie's pail.

"If that's what you call having fun," scoffed Niddy-Nod, "all right, but *I* shan't help. I'll have a nap instead." So he curled himself up in one end of a hollow log, and went to sleep.

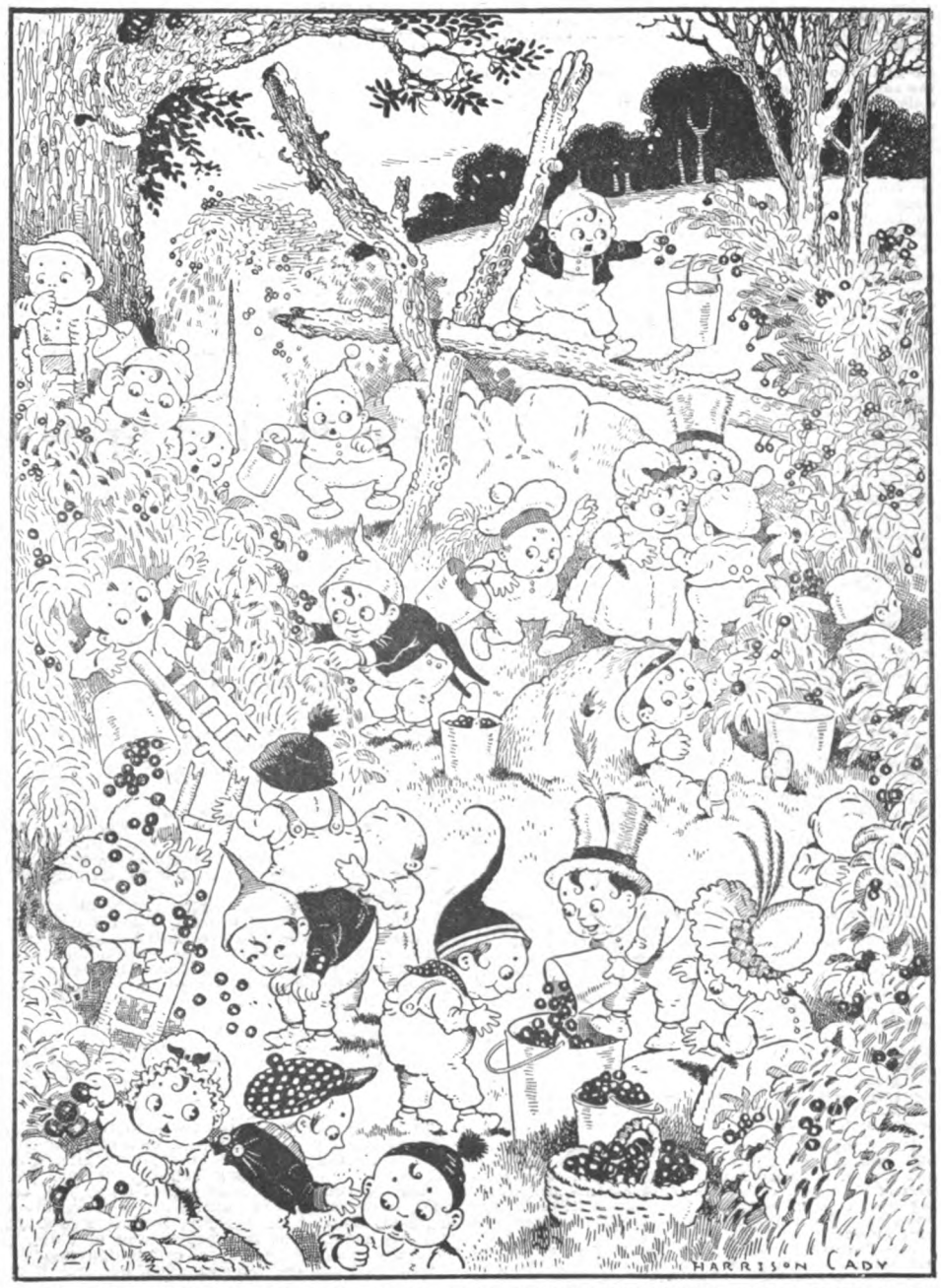
The other Dapperlings worked away with a will, keeping out of the children's sight, though they almost got caught. Why, Nattie had to stand behind the fence post by the children's pails, and hold her skirts tight around her, to keep from being seen, when the children came to empty their dippers.

"Thought you didn't have any berries in your pail!" Pittysing exclaimed.

"I didn't!" Simmie-Sammie answered.

"But they're here!" They certainly were. Real berries, as Pittysing found by picking some up in her hand.

The two children looked at each other with puzzled faces.



AFTER THE CHILDREN HAD GONE HOME. THE DAPPERLINGS PICKED SOME BERRIES FOR THEMSELVES.

Skippywink, watching them from a little bush near by, felt a laugh coming, and tried to hold it back by pressing both hands over his mouth. But the laugh wouldn't be kept back; it burst out, and the children heard it.

"What was that?" they both asked, speaking together. And they looked more puzzled than ever.

" 'Twas somebody a-laughing'," said Simmie-Sammie, "and there ain't nobody to laugh. Guess I'll go home."

"Aw, come along and pick some more berries! Who's afraid? Just think how much you like blueberry pies! And maybe mamma'll make us some turnovers. Won't that be nice?"

So Simmie-Sammie went back to pick some more berries, but he kept pretty close to his sister.

With two children and nobody knows how many Dapperlings hard at work, the berries piled up fast.

It was exciting work. The children didn't understand it.

Pittysing measured the distance from the top of the berries to the top of the pail with a little stick. Then, when she came back next time with her dipper full, she measured again, before turning her berries in, and there were certainly more berries than before.

"Tell you what it is," she said, "*I* b'lieve the sunshine makes 'em keep right on growing after they're picked, same's it does while they're on the bushes. You wouldn't think so, but it must."

"MAYBE there's some 'east in 'em!" Simmie-Sammie guessed.

"What you mean?"

"Why, you know—'east cake, like what mamma puts into her dough—makes it wise up bigger, till it's weddy to bake into bwead."

It was fun for the Dapperlings. They were kind-hearted little people, and liked to help.

The children never thought of being hungry, and were surprised when they heard the big dinner-bell ring out its loud "Ding-dong! Ding-dong!"

"Oh, we can't go just yet! Your pail's all full, and it'll only take a few minutes to finish filling mine. Pick FAST, Simmie-Sammie."

"Tell you what I'm a-goin' to do, Pittsy," said Simmie-Sammie, "I'm goin' to bwing a pail up here, an' leave it, an' see if it won't fill up its own self, all alone."

Both pails were full, heaping, so the berries almost rolled off, when the dinner-bell rang again. The children started for home, but the big pail was almost more than Pittysing could manage. She carried it a few steps, and then had to set it down to rest. They didn't get along very fast that way, and were not half way home when their father came out to meet them, thinking they might not have heard the bell.

Oh, but their mother and father were astonished at the quantity of berries they had!

"However could you pick so many? asked their mother admiringly, putting an arm around each of them.

"Pittsy thought 'twas the bwight sun maked 'em gwow, but I told her maybe 'twas 'east cakes. But I guess, after all, 'twas just 'cause we was SO smart!" Simmie-Sammie boasted.

"Now we're going to sell some, and buy that little set of garden tools," Pittysing said.

"Let mamma keep the berries, papa told them, "and I'll buy two sets of garden tools, one for each of you."

"And I'll make you some blueberry turnovers," mamma promised.

After the children had gone home, the Dapperlings picked some berries for themselves, singing as they worked,

"Oh, the Dap-Dapperling—the Dapperling-ling!
He may be, perhaps is a queer little thing!
But he likes to be helpful, and friendly, and true,
And what better thing might a BIG body do?"

Niddy-Nod, in the hollow log, kept on sleeping. The others all went home. When he woke, it was dark night.

Far overhead the stars were shining, bright little pin-points of gold. Somewhere near by, a whippoorwill was calling, over and over, "Whip poor will!" While a big-eyed owl, pretended not to understand, kept asking dismally, "Who? who? who?"

"Pretty good bed here, and plenty of nice, fresh air," thought Niddy-Nod. "Guess I'll go to sleep again." And he didn't get home until breakfast time next morning.

The Dapperlings get a dreadful scare at a moonlight party. Don't miss it with big colored illustration in June COMFORT.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

lessons on the piano and forty-three on the violin; my sister is playing the piano now and Theodore and Irving are dancing.

My sister is eighteen years old and my brother twenty-one. Irving is nineteen years old. He lives in Peoria, too.

Hoping to hear from some of the cousins, I am,
Your loving niece,
VELORA AUDREY CHANDLER.

Thank you Velora, for your chatty letter which throws quite a strong sidelight on life in high "sassiety." My heart gets all torn to bits and all jagged and sore from perusing letters from the sick, poor and unfortunate, and so it was quite a relief to come across a letter from a young lady of wealth. The whole world is ready to share its troubles with you, but it takes mighty good care never to share its joys. I have a few wealthy acquaintances, but I never have had, and never expect to have, a rich friend. There is one redeeming thing about poverty, it keeps people human. If you want to spoil a thoroughly good man or woman, put riches in their way. The man who said that few people could stand prosperity was some wise guy all right. There is another thing to be said about poor people, if they have only a crust most of them are ready to share it with you. One touch of poverty makes the whole world kin, while one touch of wealth too often makes a big part of the world foolish and snobbish. Wealth is a glorious thing however, when people know how to use it, and it's an awful curse when they don't. So, Velora, you get awfully tired of riding on those slow trains in Europe did you? As a matter of fact my dear, the trains in Europe maintain a higher rate of speed than they do in the United States. Over there when they build a railroad, it's a railroad. Over here you can't make people believe they have been riding on a railroad unless they are thrown thirty feet into the air every ten seconds, and find themselves in a ditch with a locomotive on their chest at the end of the journey. I met a lady who had been traveling in Europe and I asked her how she liked the railroads. She poked her nose scornfully in the air and said: "Railroads! Why they don't know anything about railroading. Nothing exciting about traveling over there. I was riding around for six months and never had a single smash up. I was hoping I would get banged about a bit so I could sue some road for damages but they never gave me a chance." You have quite a lot of motors in your family Velora. If Mr. Ford does not mention you and your family in his prayers he is a very ungrateful man. So, Velora, you don't know even how to dress yourself or comb your hair. Well, my dear, we can shake hands on the hair dressing business, for I haven't combed my hair in twenty years, and for a very good reason,—I haven't any to comb. I advise you young lady, to learn how to dress yourself, for if you were staying in a hotel some night and it caught fire and your maid got scared, and didn't wait to dress you, and the fireman was so busy he could not find a barrel, just think what an awful predicament you would be in. Some day, Velora, this is going to be a really, truly, democratic country. There won't be any poor girls to do up rich little girls' hair. Just think, too, if Prince Doodlesocks were waiting in the drawing-room (it is only poor people who have parlors) to see you and Lila had gone on strike and wouldn't do up your hair and you couldn't do it up, whatever would you do? If the prince saw you with your wool all tied in knots, and your mouth full of curling irons and hairpins, he might beat it to the woods and your chance for buying a title might be gone forever. Yes, I like music my dear, but I can't see why you go to the trouble of taking violin and piano lessons. Why not have Lila do it for you? When a certain Chinese Ambassador was attending a ball in Paris, he was asked what he thought of the dancing. He said he supposed it was all right, but there was one thing that stuck in his oriental mind and seemed incomprehensible to him. He simply could not understand why it was that people should go to all that trouble and exertion when they had plenty of servants around to do it for them. Take a tip from me Velora, and when there is any tangoing to be done, get your maid to do it.

ELLENWOOD, GA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a country boy nearly seventeen years old, five feet ten inches tall, large feet and hands, with long slim fingers, brown hair which is brushed back in a pompadour style. My eyes are gray and are separated by a nose which is not small. At present I am attending school and am in the tenth grade. Friday instead of having our usual English lesson we select a subject and write a theme of about five hundred words. The theme is then dicussed and criticized in class. I live on a farm fifteen miles from the capital of Georgia. The farm is south of Atlanta, the state capital. On our farm we have mules to pull the plows, cows to give us milk, butter, chickens and ducks. Also we grow wheat, corn, and oats besides cotton, therefore, we do not have to buy our food for the stock and ourselves.

I can do anything. I suppose that any one else my age can do on the farm except milking, but I can get part of the milk into the pail. But when it comes to working in the field, I can do my part, and in the cooking room, I know how to get up and cook a good meal, and when on the road I know how to drive a horse, or mule, and a Ford auto.

Be sure and come down here about August, and I will let you sit in a cool, shady place by the side of a branch, and see how the farm is managed, and when you were tired of watching you can read.

With love to all, Your nephew,
ABNER PRUETT.

With large hands and an aggressive nose Abner, and keen gray eyes, nature seems to have provided you with most of the essentials for a successful career. Large hands with long, slim fingers, ought to enable you to get more than your share of the pie. Of course I don't want to teach you to be selfish but everyone is considered a failure in this life unless he can reach out and grab more than he is entitled to—the other fellow's share as well as his own. Heart disease is increasing at an alarming rate. Doctors say it is the stress of modern life that is breaking down the cardiac machinery. As usual they are wrong. Hearts are broken because their owners failed to grab everything that was in sight. John D. has stomach trouble, but not heart disease. He got all that he reached for and more too, your share as well as mine. If there is anything he did not get I'd like to know where it is, so I congratulate you on your hands. I am glad to know that your eyes are separated by your nose, as you'd look a queer proposition if, instead of being separated your eyes had become joined together. You would not have much chance dodging automobiles and looking for submarines with one eye. Most farmers need at least

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

Uncle Charlie's Home Fund

UNCLE CHARLIE reports $339.00, donations and subscriptions, contributed to his Home Fund by 627 persons during the month of March. This brings the total of the fund on April first up to $1,480.00 contributed by 2,175 friends of his.

A subscriber, who is far from being wealthy, writes from North Carolina saying that he is disgusted at the slow growth of the fund and asks me to print his appeal for every friend of Uncle Charlie to contribute 25 cents toward the fund at once so that the home may be bought by the fourth of July. He proved his own generosity by enclosing his check for $5.00—twenty times what he asks others to give. He prefers not to have his name published.

Again let me remind you how you can help:

1. By cash donations.
2. By purchasing Uncle Charlie's books (see advertisement.)
3. Those who cannot spare the money for a cash donation or for purchase of his books can contribute by getting subscriptions to COMFORT in aid of the "Uncle Charlie Benefit Fund" and instead of taking the club premium or cash commission themselves direct that it be credited to the fund. In such cases I will pay over to Uncle Charlie one half of the subscription price of all subscriptions sent for this purpose. The regular cash commission on COMFORT subscriptions is 40 per cent, but for Uncle Charlie's Benefit Fund I will allow 50 per cent. Another way to help him and benefit yourself is to get up a subscription club and take one of his books as your premium.

In one or other of these ways every COMFORT reader who wishes to do so can help swell the fund for Uncle Charlie which has my hearty approval and will have my assistance.

Send all contributions to Charles Noel Douglas, care COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

Play Piano In One Hour For One Cent

A Postal Card Brings it to You Free.

Would you give a penny to learn to play the piano or organ in one evening? Impossible? No, not at all. Hundreds of thousands of others who never played before played their first piece in just a few minutes. THEN WHY CAN'T YOU?

John H. Ferguson, Acme, Alta., Canada., says: "I was not a little amazed when I found I could play in a few minutes." C. Pitmann, Memo, Okla., says: "Have two children, one is 12 and the other 10, who in a very few minutes could play it well, and they did not know one note from another in the old music." V. R. Perkins, Romney, Ind., says: "I studied 'Easy Form' music fifteen minutes and then started to play." Thousands of similar reports are in our files. Doesn't this convince you that you can play by this wonderful new method? Any child can now understand and play music without previous knowledge. No teacher. No tedious instructions by mail.

If you can't play the piano or organ, send a postcard today, stating the number of white keys on your instrument and we will mail you 100 pieces of the World's Sweetest Music, regular sheet music size, together with Instructions that will enable you to play any one of the pieces in one evening. If you can play at the end of 5 days you pay only $1.50 and $1.50 a month for 5 months or mail the music back to us and owe nothing. All you need do is simply send your name and address to Easy Method Music Co., 200 Clarkson Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

Used Cars--All Makes

are costly at any price when you can own a 1917 BUICK TOURING CAR without a cent of cost by spending an hour each day for a few weeks, representing us among your friends, neighbors and acquaintances. NO EXPERIENCE OR BOND REQUIRED. **ANYONE** can do the little work required. Obera Petit, 11-year-old, of Iowa, earned an auto under our plan. E. C. Gullett, 17-year-old farmer boy, of Mississippi, earned touring car in 16 days. We can give you names and addresses of dozens of others who have done likewise. Write for free information. **Auto Tom, 509 South 17th St., Omaha, Neb.**



FREE DIAMOND RING OFFER

Just to advertise our famous Hawaiian im. diamonds—the greatest discovery the world has ever known. We will send absolutely free this 14k gold f. ring, set with a 1-2 k Hawaiian im. diamond—in beautiful ring box postage paid. If this is satisfactory pay postmaster $1.25 to cover postage, boxing, advertising, handling, etc. If not satisfactory return at our expense and money refunded. Only 10,000 rings given away. Send no money. Answer quick. Send size of finger.

KRAUTH & REED, DEPT. 24.
MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO

PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D.C. Advice and books free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best services.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address UNCLE CHARLIE, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Lace Curtains



Nine Feet Long — Thirty Inches Wide — **Premium No. 4094** — Given For A Club of Four

THESE Nottingham lace curtains are thirty inches wide and three yards long and are designed after the **latest up-to-date pattern, with handsome wide border and firm well-finished edge.** These beautiful curtains are suited to any room in your house whether it be parlor, sitting-room or chambers and there is an air of elegance and refinement about them which will dress up any home no matter how richly furnished it may be. We guarantee that every woman who accepts this offer will be proud of these curtains—proud of their real beauty and value and proud of the fact that she secured them without paying out one cent of money. We are now giving away these curtains free upon the terms of the following **CLUB OFFER.** For a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you one pair of these curtains free by Parcel Post prepaid. Or we will send you two pair for a club of seven one-year subscriptions, or three pair for a club of ten. **Premium No. 4094.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. A., Vamossa, Okla.—Before proceeding with your invention find out by writing to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C., to know if there is no one ahead of you. If the field is clear, the real work begins of finding some one to take it up with you and develop and manufacture. There are firms which will take up a good thing, but usually the inventor has to take what they will give and have no further interest in it. In a big thing, the inventor has a better chance. In other words his proposition is too great for him to be ignored, though some of the most important inventions have not brought money to their inventors. The average inventor has a hard row to hoe and we are almost sorry that you have got your mind turned that way.

Pappoose, Comptche, Cal.—Write to Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., for the Indian word meaning "multiply," but you must state what tribe of Indians, as no two tribes have the same language, though all the tribes are Indians in the general sense.

R. A. P., Kent, Wash.—It is somewhat confusing to locate the compass points of the Panama Canal, as, although it connects the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, its course is north and south, with Colon at the Atlantic terminus and Panama at the Pacific, and yet Colon is a little to the westward of Panama. However, as the Atlantic is the eastern ocean and the Pacific the western, Colon on the Atlantic side is properly the eastern terminus of the Canal. Get out your map and study the situation.

Mrs. N. E., Washington, Pa.—Tinfoil can be sold if you can get enough of it for a junk dealer to bother with. Small lots at irregular intervals cannot be handled. If you can go with ten or a dozen pounds at a time, you may do some business. Talk to a local junk dealer, or one in Pittsburgh.

S. W. D., Albany, Ky.—Easter is the festival in commemoration of the Resurrection of Christ and is said to have derived its name from the festival of the Anglo-Saxon goddess, Eastre;—Teutonic, Ostara—which the old Saxons celebrated about the same time of the Christian festival. In the second century a dispute arose between the Eastern and Western churches over the proper time for celebrating Easter, the Eastern celebrating on the 14th of the first month, or noon, and the Western on the Sunday after the 14th, the 14th being the date of the Jewish Passover when Christ was crucified. The Council of Nice in 325 A. D. upheld the Western churches and this date has remained, making it a movable feast, Easter falling on the first Sunday after the paschal full moon, that is the full moon happening on or next after the 21st of March, the day on which the sun crosses the equator. By this reckoning Easter, following the forty days of Lent, falls on a Sunday varying from March 21st to April 25th.

Mrs. C., Remer, Minn.—Morally you should have either the land promised or its equivalent in money for the work you did for your father, but legally we can only advise that you consult a lawyer who can familiarize himself with all the details. If you can possibly settle it out of court do so, because the amount at issue is not really enough for all the expense and the bitterness resulting from litigation.

F., Webb City, Mo.—There is a sale for butterflies of various kinds and if you will make inquiries of Fulda, Butterfly Shop, No. 812 Broadway, New York City, you may get information that will be worth something to you before the butterfly season is over. Other COMFORT butterfly chasers take notice.

E. C., Greenwood, Ark.—The usual sized sheet on which stories are written is eight and one half by eleven inches, but the size of the sheet has nothing to do with the quality of the writing and we advise you not to attempt story writing on any sized sheet until you have learned how to write and spell English.

H. A., Jackson, Mo.—Sun dials to be any good at all cannot be made the size of a watch to be carried in the pocket. To get the time by sun dial at all correctly, the dial must be big enough for the sun to shine on and it must be accurately placed by sun measurements requiring more or less mathematical and astronomical skill. Inquire by letter of the Professor of Astronomy at State University, Columbia, for detailed information to give to those who are asking you for pocket sun dials.

Mrs. A. W., De Soto, Mo.—Really, madam, you should read your COMFORT more closely and you would not spend money on postage inquiring for reliable firms who deal in old coins and stamps. Write to our advertisers and not to us for information as we are not experts and they are. Other COMFORT coin inquirers please do likewise.

M. F., Jonesboro, Ark.—The only way to tell a genuine Strad is by remembering that all in existence at present are believed to be known and held carefully by their owners as rare treasures and a Strad cannot possibly come your way. If there should happen to be one anywhere not known, you may be sure it would have no inscription in it. It is strange that after all we have said about these fake violins with great names in them, that you still rather believe the fake inscription than believe us. We are sorry that you so love to be fooled by fakers after your funds. P. S. A genuine Strad is worth about anything that its owner might want for it, say, five thousand dollars or such a matter. Some of the fakes are not bad at all and may be worth anywhere from five dollars to twenty-five dollars.

Ignorance, Fisher, Ark.—Ask your Lutheran friends why they will not dance on certain days of the year, but still do not object to dancing on Sundays. It is not a matter of religion, but church government and observance to hold certain days and seasons aloof from worldly affairs and every denomination has its own especial days and observances. Sunday is a day all Christian churches observe, but no two of them observe it exactly alike and each one believes it does it properly. One reason that there are no denominations recognized in heaven is that if they were, pious people would not be any better there than they are here.

Mrs. Lester Deeds, R. R. 1, Big Rapids, Mich. wants some COMFORT reader to send her an old-fashioned onion like they used to raise onion sets from in grandfather's days. The price of onions is not so high now as it was, so no ulterior motives can be charged against the lady. Besides, Mrs. D. is willing to buy the onions if anybody has any to sell. Write direct to her and not to COMFORT.

Mrs. L. K., Avondale, Mont.—If your horse which you had turned out for exercise wandered over on to your neighbor's farm and there fell into a hole and killed itself, we hardly think you have much of a chance to get damages at law, because your horse had no right on your neighbor's land.

Mrs. Lillie Lockwood, 811 East 7th St., Pittsburgh, Kans., would like to learn from some COMFORT reader living near the Everglades, Florida, how far south of Lake Okeechobee land has been drained and cultivated. Write direct to her.

M. S., Madison, Conn.—You may think you have been reading COMFORT closely, but you have not, for we have more than once announced in this column that a copyright was governmental or legal protection for an author's writings in any form and that copyright might be secured by applying to Librarian of Congress, Copyright Division, Washington, D. C., for the necessary blanks.

Mrs. J. C., San Antonio, Texas.—We are not informed as to dates and ages of the members of families of public men, national or state, and we suggest that you should write direct to such as you want to know about, and if they think the inquiry is perfectly proper they will give you the information direct. Enclose postage for reply, as it is not public or official business.

J. F. M., Minco, Okla.—We suppose the old paper you mention as in your possession and bearing date 1800 is The Ulster County Gazette thousands of copies of which were made from the original and used all over the country as advertising matter. The copy has no value, unless somebody wants to give you a nickel for it. COMFORT readers please make a note of this.

Comfort's Home Lawyer



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

Mrs. H. F. H., Missouri.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a widow and children, his widow would receive dower of a one third interest for life in his real estate and a child's part absolutely in his personal property, the balance going in equal shares to his children, the descendants of any deceased child taking the parent's share. We think the husband's children of a former marriage have the same inheritance rights as the husband's children by the surviving widow.

M. M. S., Kansas.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that neither husband nor wife can, without written consent of the other, bequeath away from the other more than one half of his or her property, we think, however, that this can be done on consent; we think children can be disinherited, by will, in your state.

Mrs. C. B., Iowa.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a widow and children, his widow, after payment of debts and expenses, would receive one third in value of his real and personal estate, the balance going in equal shares to his children, the descendants of any deceased child taking their parent's share.

Mrs. N. B. R., West Virginia.—We do not think that the purchaser of real estate, who fails to record his deed, can enforce his title to the property against a subsequent purchaser, who purchases without notice, and for a valuable consideration; we think, however, that such deed would be good as between the purchaser and his grantor, and that the purchaser would be entitled to damages from his grantor for such resale of the property.

Mrs. E. P. J., Colorado.—We think that the entailing of real estate beyond certain limitations is forbidden by the laws of all the states of the United States.

Mrs. F. V. A., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that a married woman can legally execute a will giving her husband a life estate in all of her property, and that in case he survives her, and receives such an interest in her estate, he could thereafter dispose of same, but he could dispose of no greater interest in the estate than he himself possessed, and the persons entitled under the will to the remainder interest in the estate would be entitled to receive same upon his death. We think there is a Federal inheritance tax affecting net estates above fifty thousand dollars, and in your state we think there is a state inheritance tax affecting net estates above two hundred and fifty dollars, where the property goes to persons other than the parents, husband or wife, children or lineal descendants, stepchildren, adopted children, or the wife or widow of a son.

J. R., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will and leaving no child or descendant, the widow would receive one half of the real estate and the whole of the personal estate absolutely, the balance of the real estate going to his parents, brothers, sisters or their descendants, depending upon who is left, if no kindred we think the whole of the real estate would go to the surviving widow.

J. V., Wyoming.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that if you can substantiate, by the proper evidence, that undue influence was exercised upon your grandfather in connection with his making his will, you would have a legal right to contest such will.

A Subscriber, Vermont.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a widow and one child as his only heirs at law and next of kin, his widow would be entitled to an allowance as a homestead of a value of five hundred dollars in the dwelling house, outbuildings, and lands used in connection therewith, and such certain allowances from the personal estate as the probate court may allow her not to exceed three hundred dollars, she would also be entitled to dower of a one third interest for life in the balance of the real estate, and one third of the balance of the personal property absolutely, subject to the payment of debts and expenses, the balance of the estate going to the child, regardless of the fact that such child is the child of decedent by a former marriage. We do not think the dower right of the wife can be barred by the husband's will unless some provision for her be made in the will in lieu of dower.

E. M., Oregon.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married woman, leaving no will, and leaving a surviving husband and ten children, the husband would be entitled to an estate by curtesy in the real estate of a one half interest for life, and one half of her personal estate absolutely, the remainder going in equal shares to the children; we think the estate by curtesy in the real estate cannot be defeated by will, but that the husband's interest in the personal property can be cut off.

$1.95 PANTS Made to Your Order



Special Offer to prove our fine quality: These fine Pants for Dress or Business, choice of many handsome styles, guaranteed for 18 months solid wear and satisfaction or MONEY BACK, absolute $5.00 value—while they last, one pair to a customer, Express Prepaid for only $1.95.

NO EXTRA CHARGES

No charge for Big Extreme Peg Tops, or Cuff Bottoms, nothing extra for fancy Belt Loops or Pocket Flaps, no charge for Open Welt Seams or Large Sizes—all novelty features FREE—no extra charges of any kind.

Cash Profits to you for taking measures of relatives and neighbors. Young Nat. Spriggs made $139.00 in 30 days. Write for Free samples today.

CHICAGO TAILORS' ASSOCIATION Dept. 617, 515 So. Franklin Street, Chicago. Send No Money

Mrs. H. B. V., N. C.—Upon your statements, we are of the opinion that it would have been wise for you to have crossed out your endorsement on the check you mention before returning same to the maker. It is, however, inconceivable to me that he would be so dishonest as to attempt to show that you used this check. Of course, if he did do this, the issue would then become one of fact and the side presenting the best case would win.

Mrs. C. E. T., Ohio.—We think that if the sister-in-law of the man you mentioned, refused to carry out her agreement with him, made at the time he deeded his interest in the property to her, this man should bring an action against her to compel her to carry out her agreement or return to him his interest in the property.

Mrs. J. S. M., Pittsburg, Pa.—Upon your statements we think that the young ladies you mention can compel the legal representative of their mother's estate to render a court accounting as to the money left them under their mother's will. Of course, in such accounting, such representative of the estate, would be allowed to charge against the minors' estate, such bills as were legally incurred and would receive from such minors' estate, reimbursement for such proper payments as has been made by him in behalf of such infants. Just as to whether this money could be applied toward the support and maintenance of these children would depend upon the terms of the will and if under the terms of this will, the children were not entitled to receive or have applied to their benefit any of this money until they arrive at the age of twenty-one years, we think that such legal representative made a mistake in so applying it except under the order or the judgment of some court of competent jurisdiction.

MEN WANTED

LEARN TO DRIVE AND REPAIR AUTOMOBILES AND TRACTORS

Big demand for trained men. Earn from $75 to $150 per month. Learn in 6 weeks by the

SWEENEY SYSTEM

of practical experience. You do the real work in machine shop, factory and on the road. No books used. Tools free.

FREE Big 64 page catalogue with views of men at work in largest and best equipped auto school in world. Send name today. Address

SWEENEY AUTO SCHOOL 1126 East 15th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.



FRECKLES

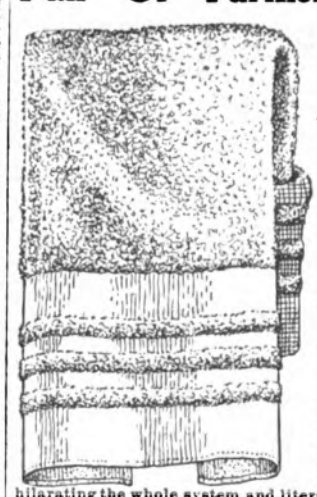
Now Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as the prescription othine—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots.

Simply get an ounce of othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Advt.

Pair Of Turkish Towels



Premium No. 7323

For Three Subscriptions

AFTER bathing there is nothing quite as fine as a good **rub down** with a **Turkish towel,** in fact it is the **best** towel for all purposes, whether for the bath- or guestroom or for everyday family use in the lavatory, in kitchen or pantry. They absorb the water much more readily than other towels and the **thick, heavy fleece-like surface** imparts to the body a delightful feeling of warmth and well-being, exhilarating the whole system and literally making one feel like "jumping over a high board fence." These towels are also fine for **baby's toilet** as they will not hurt the tender skin. The towels we offer here are **genuine Turkish** towels—not the imitation kind—and are **17 inches wide and 36 inches long** which is a good convenient size for all-round family use. They are of good weight, well made and finished. We will make you a present of **one pair** of these fine Turkish towels upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you one pair (2) of these towels free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7323.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



$310 Harley-Davidson Motorcycle

FIRST GRAND PRIZE

In the picture are hidden a number of faces. How many can you find? Some are looking right at you, others show only the side of the face—you'll find them upside down and every way. Mark each face you find with a pencil, clip out picture, send to us with name and address NOW. We will give away a $310 1917 Model Harley-Davidson Motorcycle, as First Grand Prize, and Thousands of Dollars in Cash Rewards, Prizes and Special Premiums. There will be no losers. Solve the puzzle. If you can find as many as FIVE FACES we will send you immediately **1000 Free Votes** toward the $310.00 Motorcycle and other Grand Prizes. We will also give away twelve 1917 model Coaster Brake $40.00 Bicycles. These will be given free and extra, regardless of who gets the motorcycle. Someone will win motorcycle. **WHY NOT YOU?**

FARM LIFE, Box 155 SPENCER, IND.



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

R. E. H., Eaton Rapids, Mich.—We are not apologizing for anything we may have said about the greenness of eighteen-year-old boys, especially in love matters, which has mildly hurt your feelings. We will print your letter spelled, etc., as you have it, and leave it to COMFORT readers to say whether they want any better testimony for our side. Here it is: "Etiquette Editor: Having read your artical on the advisability of a girl of twenty going with a boy of eighteen I disagree on one point, that is the fact that a boy of eighteen being the greenest thing that grows in a girl's garden. I am eighteen years of age and if I am green I would like to know by what standerds you judge green timber. In this stage of the game if a young man of eighteen is the greenest timber when under heavens name will this ban of a young man's life be lifted from his shoulders. If I am green now will you please tell me when I wall be seasoned enough to be attractive to the girls." We would like to say that the "ban" you mention may be removed in five or six years, though it may take ten; but as to when you will be sufficiently seasoned, the Lord only knows.

Gray Squirrel, Spartansburg, S. C.—You write: "I know that after a lady becomes engaged she should demand a ring." We beg your pardon. What you don't know is the meaning of the word "demand." A demand suggests force and if young men are to be forced to give engagement rings after proposals, then there will be no more proposals. If you have to demand a ring from your young man, now is the time to break the engagement. However, as you don't mean that, we may say to you that if you really love the young man who is working his way through college and is having no easy job of it, you will not make it any harder for him by *demanding* an engagement ring at present. Is that the only way you can think of to encourage him and help him? Why don't you think about *him* a little, instead of giving all your thought to yourself? Did you ever try that? No? Then try it.

Greenhorn, Warren, Ark.—Well, well, we didn't know there was a lady in the land who didn't know which finger the engagement ring went on. Try the third finger of the left hand, the one next to the little finger, you know. Left hand, remember, because that is next to the heart.

Two Girls, Floyd, Va.—In a properly regulated correspondence, letters should be answered promptly, that is, within a couple of weeks. If the correspondence is irregular, each writer should wait as long as the other waits before answering. This will end the correspondence if either is writing merely to be writing. (2) The lady may do as she pleases about shaking hands as part of the introduction, but it is more friendly to shake hands.

Kena, Longhours, N. C.—At thirty you have a Biblical chance to live forty years, and if you think this young woman, for whom you have already waited a long time, because she was a good daughter to her aged parents and sacrificed herself for them, is not worth waiting another year for, leaving you thirty-nine years of happiness, then by all means don't waste that precious year by longer waiting. Marry some other woman and see if the thirty-nine years will be what they would have been if you had waited. Take this advice or not, as you please, but you get our blessing with only one woman and you know who she is.

Dot, Ft. Smith, Ark.—The lady may visit at the gentleman's house and take supper with him, if the invitation comes from his mother, as he has no sister, and if he has no mother, his girl cousin could go with her to prevent gossip. Under the circumstances, it might be just as well not to go, but invite him to your house, or both of you take supper at the cousin's house. (2) We have no introduction language in stock. Say whatever you think would be pleasant, most people ordinarily saying: "I am very glad to meet you."

Discontent, Montgomery, Minn.—An eighteen-year-old girl who acts as willful and babyish and regardless of your feelings and rights as this one does will never be any better and the man who gets her for a wife will have trouble all his life. Next time you have a quarrel, tell her frankly that you two are not intended for each other and you are going to quit. Then quit and stay quit, because making up will make things worse than ever. You two are incompatible and now is the time to realize it and go separate ways.

M., St. Anthony, Ida.—You must learn by observation how to entertain young men who call or you are out with. Most girls know this rudimentary principle of social usage and by seeing them you can learn. You can't be told. Your own sense ought to tell you in a general way. Whatever you do, always be the lady. (2) What kind of a car ride do you want to know how to dress for? Street car, trolley car, steam car, motor car? Just for a ride it doesn't make much difference, but if you are going in the car to some entertainment, you must dress to fit the entertainment, whatever it may be.

Doubtful, Grand Rapids, Mich.—If your "steady" is your fiance and he has no objection to your accepting attentions from other gentlemen during his absence, it will be perfectly proper for you to do so. If he is not your fiance, he has no claim and you may do as you please. (2) It may be proper, or it may not, for a nineteen-year-old girl to go with a man of twenty-five, depending entirely upon whether the man is the proper sort of a man for a girl to go with. As a matter of merely etiquette it is proper.

Undecided, Goochland, Va.—Your being divorced gives you a legal right to marry again, and if you marry, we think the old sweetheart would be the first choice without any question. It would be right and romantic to accept him.

Three Chums, Carthage, Miss.—If you had made an engagement with one young man in the absence of another you preferred, and the preference should return, the fact that he was the preference would give you no right to repudiate your engagement with the other. If your promise is good for anything you will keep it, whether you like to or not. (2) The only way to secure the right to stop a young man from going to see another girl is to become engaged to him. You then have the right to object, but whether it will stop the young man or not, remains to be proved. (3) Most girls would rather call an engagement off with a young man, if they knew he wanted to go with another, but there are girls who would hold him to it, merely to spite the other girl. You can take your choice. (4) If a young man takes back a ring he has given a girl and later has a change of heart and wants her to take it again, she may do as she pleases, the rules of etiquette not applying in affairs of the heart.

Mamie, Raleigh, N. C.—Parents may sit up with their daughter when she has a gentleman caller, etiquette in this country not requiring their absence, but if they are sensible they will not. But either father or mother should drop in for a few minutes to speak to the caller in order to know something about the daughter's men friends. Most parents are too neglectful of this courtesy, which is really a precaution. (2) Engaged girls may go with other gentlemen if their fiances do not object.

Mrs. T., Columbia, La.—The proper way for a widow to dress for mourning is as near as may be in the style of other widows in her community. There may be various styles, but in order not to be conspicuous and be talked about, do in Rome as the Romans do. Any good dressmaker in your town will give you particulars.

M. M. B., Ashland, Ohio.—In the absence of an usher, the gentleman should lead the way down an aisle, except in a church where the lady is an attendant and has a pew and the man is a stranger there. (2) The lady, who has been going about with a gentleman for two years, should know better than any etiquette editor on earth what kind of a present to give him. Use your own knowledge. (3) Jewelry is not a proper present for a lady to accept from a gentleman unless she is engaged to him.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

out and drank a cup of what it was his habit to characterize as "our modern poison," and took the cover off the hot muffins, but there he paused. He could not, even for the sake of appearances, swallow those indigestibly greasy things! With a careful finger and thumb he consigned two pieces to the fire, set down his teacup, wiped his fingers, and noiselessly departed.

CHAPTER XV.

MR. MAYNE HAS A LITTLE SCHEME.

Once in his own room, Mr. Mayne's face changed. He lighted a cigarette, and sat puffing at it as a man only does when he is mentally out of countenance.

"That woman"—could Lady Satterlee only have heard herself so apostrophized!—"is at the bottom of it all. She is aching to get her very ordinary son married and settled, though I don't know why. The silver affair has evidently not yet been told to either of them. Agatha will, of course, tell the beloved one all about it; the girls always tell everything when they are first engaged, and nothing if they enter that state a second time"—sneering—"but Agatha knows very little to tell. Now, Nerine would be a different matter! And if she told that woman with the dyed hair all she knew, and they put their heads together, they are too clever not to discover some sort of a mare's nest. And I might have some difficulty in destroying it. I am afraid that my younger stepdaughter will have to find other amusement than in visiting Lady Satterlee. It is a pity, for she would have learned a hundred things that the sweet Agatha will never discover."

Mr. Mayne lighted another cigarette. The little scratching sound of the fresh match was very loud in the quiet room. It reminded him of something.

"I don't want her here, with nothing to do but prowl about the house while the other is gone. Her expeditions in here have gone far enough, though I fancy that there is not much my young lady would find of any interest at this time of day. But, till that unfortunate silver is forgotten, I must get rid of her somehow."

He drew his fine eyebrows very close together as he smoked by the glowing fire in the dull gray light of evening. He had something to attend to tomorrow—some short and sharp work to do in the way of intimidation. There must be no more scares as to burglars in Lispenard House till he was well out of it. After that? He threw his cigarette indifferently into the fire, as a knock fell discreetly on his door.

It was Jones who entered, out of livery, and neatly dressed in some of his master's discarded clothes. He stood just inside the door when he had carefully closed it, and looked uncomfortably at his boots.

"Well," said Mayne, sharply, "did you tell her? One more exploit like that and I would send her to Australia?"

"No, sir, I didn't."

"What! Why not?" His voice was very even, but not pleasant to hear. "When I send you on a journey for a purpose, I mean you to accomplish it."

"I couldn't, sir!" For the first time, the man looked up. "She—she wasn't there."

"Not there!" he exclaimed, incredulously.

"There was no one there. The cottage was shut up. I asked at the grocer's in the village, and she'd never been home since the time she was here."

Mr. Mayne never swore before servants, but there was the weight of a dozen execrations in his simple question:

"Do you know where she is?"

"No more than the dead."

Even to the keen eyes bent on him it was evident he was telling the truth; the man was as nonplussed as his master.

"She must have got money somehow to go away. I suppose she's gone to London."

"Shall I go up tomorrow and see, sir?"

"No. I've wasted money enough sending you today. She may go where she likes, as far as I'm concerned. When the funds give out, she'll go back to the cottage. I'll go down myself in a week or so, and make some arrangements."

There was a deadly emphasis in his voice, and the man resented it.

TO BE CONTINUED.



If You Are A Woman Who Loves Crochet And Tatting Here Is A Set Of Books You Will Be Delighted To Own!

ANY ONE of these books alone is a veritable **treasure house** of the newest, most beautiful designs. The seven books combined form a **complete library** in which you will find any pattern in crocheting and tatting you could possibly ask for. You will fairly revel in the many handsome designs shown. There are edgings, beadings, insertions and laces for every conceivable use. The illustrations are **actual photographs** of the finished work and show every thread so plainly that they are almost as good to work from as the directions themselves. The directions are adapted for either beginner or expert. They tell **stitch by stitch** how each pattern is worked, also the quantity and size of material required and the correct sizes of hooks to be used. Following is a description of each book which is **8 by 10½ inches** in size with the exception of Volume I which is **9¼ by 12 inches. Please order by numbers and titles.**

Volume 1 contains a beautiful assortment of crocheted yokes for combinations, envelopes, nightgowns, corset covers, etc.—**fifteen** all different, exquisite patterns superbly illustrated by **photographs** with complete directions for working including quantity and size of material required, and correct size of hooks to use.

Volume 2 is a real treasure book of handsome crocheted edgings and insertions suitable for handkerchiefs, underwear, dresses and a multitude of other uses,—**thirty-three** different designs, all illustrated by **photographs** with full directions including a complete table of all the principal stitches used in crocheting and how to make them.

Volume 3 tells how to crochet Cluny laces. It contains **eighteen** lovely patterns in Cluny insertions and laces for centerpieces, library scarfs, boudoir caps, corset cover yokes, piano scarfs, curtains, chemises, envelopes or combination suits. Each pattern is illustrated by an actual **photograph** and the directions for making are full and explicit, including quantity and size of material, and size of hooks required. This book also shows all the principal crochet stitches and tells how to make them.

Volume 4 contains **twenty-five** handsome patterns in artistic crochet for yokes, boudoir caps, candle shades, baby bonnets, bedspreads, doilies, library scarfs, pillows, centerpieces, portiere medallions, curtains, etc., etc. Complete directions are given for working each and every design, including quantity and size of material and size of hooks required. The illustrations are **actual photographs**, all the principal crochet stitches are also named and full instructions given for making them.

Volume 5 consists of **twenty-five** patterns in novelty crochet, including mile-a-minute and clover leaf crocheted yokes, primrose and sunflower yokes; doilies, centerpieces, boudoir caps, unique edges and insertions for serving trays; novelty aprons and collars. Each design is illustrated by an **actual photograph** and the directions for working include a complete list of all the different crochet stitches, and how to make them.

Volume 6 is devoted entirely to tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet, containing a varied and beautiful assortment of tatted handkerchief edges, edgings, and insertions, tatted yokes, boudoir caps, towel edges, medallions; yokes, breakfast caps, centerpieces, edgings and lace in Maltese crochet and yokes in Irish crochet. The patterns are illustrated by **actual photographs** and the directions for making include the different stitches in tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet and how to make them, as well as quantity and size of material and size of hooks required.

Volume 7 shows a variety of **thirty** handsome crocheted designs each one illustrated by a **photograph** of the real work showing just how the finished pieces look. There are rose, sunflower, periwinkle, and Venetian yokes; boudoir caps, monkey face library scarf and lace pillow; large and small baskets, hat pin holder, jewel box, vanity tray, coin purse, utility bag, star fish doily, pineapple centerpiece; edgings and insertions in pillow lace; daisy edging; spider, bell, rick-rack, novelty and coronation braid laces. Full directions accompany each design including quantity and size of material and size of hooks to be used, also all the principal stitches used in crochet and how to make them.

We advise you to order all seven of these splendid books before the assortment is broken, but if you do not care for the whole library at this time we have arranged the following **special offers** which give you the privilege of selecting any **two** or any **four** of the books as well as all seven of them. **When ordering however, be very careful to state the number of each book desired.**

Offer 8011A: For one 1-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8011B: For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8012: For two 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you **any four books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8013: For three 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you the **complete library** just as described above—**seven different volumes in all**, handsomely bound, printed on high-grade paper and containing nearly **200 beautiful photographic illustrations** of all that is new and pretty in crochet and tatting designs with **complete directions** for working. **When ordering please be sure to mention number of each book wanted.**

Address COMFORT Augusta, Maine.

Freckles

Tan or Liver Spots positively removed by using **Stillman's Freckle Cream.** Prepared for one purpose only—*clearing the skin.* If you have freckles, write us today for our **Free Booklet** "*Wouldst Thou Be Fair?*" Stillman's Cream is sold by most druggists, 50c a jar, or direct from us, same price, prepaid. Write now. We can help you.

Stillman Cream Co., Dept. 10, Aurora, Ill.



BOYS and GIRLS Shetland PONIES FREE

If you have ever dreamed of having a nice little pony, write for my plan that has made it easy for boys and girls to get ponies. All my ponies are well trained and gentle. If you haven't a pony and want this one send me your name today

Don't send any money. Just your name. On a post card, say: Tell me how to get a pony and buggy free, address

UNCLE JERRY, The Pony Man, 36 American Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.



IF YOU KNEW HOW

TO REDUCE 10 to 50 LBS. without drugs, sweating or starving and with real protection to health

YOU WOULD DO IT

willingly and gladly. Send name and address to-day, and I will tell you **FREE** how I did it.

S. L. BURNS., 14 W. 37th St., New York

"No more than the dead."

Even to the keen eyes bent on him it was evident he was telling the truth; the man was as nonplussed as his master.

"She must have got money somehow to go away. I suppose she's gone to London."

"Shall I go up tomorrow and see, sir?"

"No. I've wasted money enough sending you today. She may go where she likes, as far as I'm concerned. When the funds give out, she'll go back to the cottage. I'll go down myself in a week or so, and make some arrangements."

There was a deadly emphasis in his voice, and the man resented it.

TO BE CONTINUED.

We Will Give You This Story In Book Form

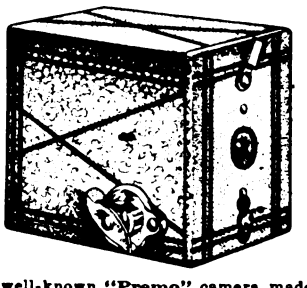


If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling romance by Adelaide Sterling. It is a beautiful story having a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compels the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine. To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

We are sure our readers will enjoy this delightful story which will run as a serial in COMFORT through the remainder of the winter and the spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7286

For a Club of Six!

We will also include free of charge one **Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known "**Premo**" camera, made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.**, therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in **broad daylight**, so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book**, all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free by Parcel Post, prepaid**, on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this **Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. Premium No. 7286.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

YOU CAN GROW YOUR HAIR

Old or Young Either Sex



Do you suffer from loss of hair?—Does your hair get prematurely gray?—Is your hair stringy, sticky or matted?—Do you suffer from dandruff or itching of the scalp?—Are you bald-headed or about to become so?

If you suffer from any of the above mentioned hair troubles do not neglect it, but try to relieve the trouble at once. Delays are dangerous. Write at once for our illustrated booklet,

"The Triumph of Science Over Baldness" FREE OF CHARGE

We want to prove to you at our own risk that the Calvacura Hair Treatment stops the falling of the hair, destroys dandruff and promotes the growth of new hair. We will send you a box of Calvacura No. 1, together with the above mentioned booklet, "The Triumph of Science Over Baldness," if you send us your name and address, together with 10 cents in silver or postage stamps to help pay the distribution expenses.

Cut out the coupon below and send today to Union Laboratory, 143 Fifth St., Union, N. Y.

UNION LABORATORY, 143 Fifth St., Union, N. Y.

Please find enclosed 10 cents to help pay the distribution expenses. Kindly send me at once your Calvacura No. 1 and your booklet, "The Triumph of Science Over Baldness."

(Enclose this coupon in your letter.)

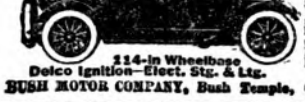
TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 60 Packages Soap Powder FREE



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only 5 doz. pkgs. of our famous washing powder **FREE** among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. **NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO**

Bush Car Delivered Free

Drive and demonstrate the Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. My agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back. Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. R. Bush, Pres. Dept. 604



Five-Pass. 34.7 H. P. 32x3½ tires

114-in Wheelbase
Delco Ignition—Elect. Stg. & Ltg.

BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois

Bed Spread Free



This large extra heavy white "Honey Comb" Bed Spread sent free for selling only $6.00 worth of King's Velvet Face Powder and other High Grade Toilet Articles. SEND NO MONEY. Simply send your name & address & we will mail you the outfit. When sold, send us the money & the Spread is yours.

King Mfg. Co. Dept. 255 St. Louis, Mo

GIVEN, YOUR BIRTHSTONE set in a ring your size and guaranteed five years for selling only 12 fine blue and pink cord edged handkerchiefs at 10c each. We trust you.

V. F. HUNTER, BARTON, VT.

FACE WASH

Mrs. Bradley's famous preparation removes old cuticle and gives you new, soft, white skin free from oiliness. Removes moth, tan, freckles, pimples. 25c pkg., 3 for 50c by mail. Agts. wanted.

Mrs. C. S Bradley, D 1921 Western Ave, Minneapolis, Minn.

This pretty band **GIVEN** for five **WEDDING RING** names of your neighbors and ten cents to pay postage &c.

Gem City Supply Co., QUINCY, ILL.

Your name in fancy writing on 10 cards 10c. Agts. big outfit with order. Send today. **J. D. Byers,** Dpt. 11, **Chanute, Kans.**

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet B X 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW.

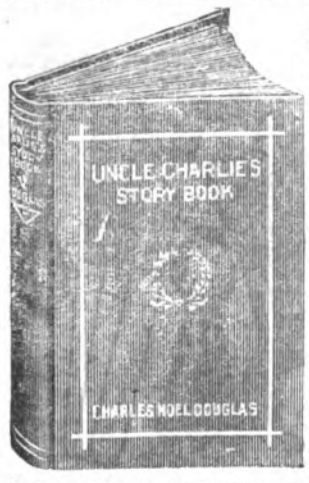
Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Large List, Dialogs, Entertainments, Recitations, Drills, **PLAYS** Catalogue Free. T. S. DENISON & CO., Dept. 8 Chicago, Ill.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see **how he lives and works.** Big, beautiful, full page, half-tone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie **and his** charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every **phase** of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

NOW comes the final month of spring and as the flowers bud and blossom, my dears, so do the summer girls, some of whom I know you are perfectly sure to be, for you wouldn't be girls if you didn't, and I wouldn't think half as well of you if you weren't, but be careful about it and don't forget that the summer girl to be the right kind of a girl must be an all-the-year-round girl. That's the only kind to build homes and happiness on and you are the home-builders and half the happiness-makers at least. Now as there is a great big pile of letters to answer, I'll stop talking and get to work. Here's June joy to you all when next month comes around.

The first letter is from Girlie, Hope, N. M., and she loves and is loved by a divorced man whom her father does not like and she says the young man had a fight in her defense the other day and her father never did and she wants to know if she should quit her father and marry the man who will stand up for her. That sounds romantic, doesn't it? Still, as she is only eighteen, I think if she's wise she will wait until she is twenty-one. But I don't think she will be wise. Most girls need marriage to bring them wisdom and then they are sorry.

Anxious, Athens, Ga.—Why do you want to marry "an awful rough fellow" who you believe loves another girl better than he does you and is flirting with you? However, if you want that sort of a life companion go ahead and marry him if you can, but never say you hadn't plenty of warning not to.

Troubled, Hope, Kansas.—I don't know, but I think that the best way to get rid of a persistent pest of a young man is to snub him on every occasion, public and private, and let the whole community know it. That will stop anything except a lunatic, and if this one is crazy, the authorities should look after him.

Daisy, Franklin, N. C.—My dear, don't talk to me about "soul mates." If this young man, whom you "love dearer than life," though he has never spoken to you, cares a snap of his finger for you he will come after you and do part of the loving, himself. Otherwise forget him and don't be any sillier than the Lord made you!

Clover Blossom, Spanish Forks, Utah.—Don't tie yourself to any young man, no matter how nice he is, especially if he insists that you must, until you are at least twenty-one. If he wants to wait that long, you doing as you please in the mean time, tell him you will listen to his arguments then, unless there is some other that you like better. Three years is a long time for these very insistent young men to wait and most of them can't stand it. Still, they are willing to have a girl risk a lifetime of it. You wait, my dear, and stay untied.

Dolly, Spokane, Wash.—Being prepared is the call of the hour in patriotism, but in love affairs, don't you think you had better wait until the young man tries to kiss you before getting your negative answer ready? Wait for the inspiration of the moment and tell him straight that you are not the kissing kind.

Worried, Pine Grove, W. Va.—As you are engaged to him and he does not seem to think very much of marrying, or of you, I think, your happiest way out of it is to break the engagement now. Don't wait. Drop him and drop him hard. It won't hurt him much, I fancy. There are lots of young fellows like him, but girls won't learn such things, except by experience.

Jennette, Oneonta, Ala.—No girl should send a young man flowers or promise to marry him until she can spell and write more correctly than you do. Stay on in the high school and show this answer to your teacher.

Old Maid, Phenix, Va.—You write a good letter and show enough intelligence to warrant the conclusion that if you studied stenography and typewriting you would average up higher than most stenographers do. If it becomes necessary for you to make your own living, I advise you to prepare for it. As for the young man, stop worrying over him. He does not worry over you and why should you have all the worry? Better make your own home than marry for one, if you can't love anybody else, except this one particular one, who doesn't love you.

Blue Eyes, Warren, Wis.—You did right not to write to him until he had written. You prove what I always tell you girls, namely, that if a young man cares at all for a girl he will not lose her from any carelessness on his part.

Rosy Morn, Fort Atkinson, Iowa.—Beware, he is fooling thee. You are old enough not to be deceived by a boy like that and his continued indifference ought to be enough to teach you that he doesn't care for you and will finally quit if you don't break the engagement. Can't you see from the kind of a fiance he is what an undesirable husband he would be? If you don't, now is the time to open your eyes and look.

Daisy, E. Palestine, Ohio.—Books not beaus for you, my dear. Your writing is fair, but if your grammar were good would you ask me: "How is my grammar and writing?"

Gray Eyes, Wilson, Kans.—Fourteen-year-old girls should not be writing to young men, but you showed better sense than some older girls, when you stopped corresponding with the young man who wrote gushy, silly love letters to you. Keep to your books and your determination to be a schoolmarm. As to the gushy young man, continue friendly with him, but no more. He'll learn better, by and by.

Gray Eyes, Fremont, Mich.—Society is not for sixteen-year-old girls unless they are through school with full honors of final graduation. Girls who think more of beaus than they do of books, nearly always become frivolous women and frivolous women are not the kind who become good wives and mothers. If they don't marry, they become silly old maids, which is about the limit of unloveliness.

There, dears, all your questions are answered that should be, but, my goodness me, there were a whole lot that I didn't answer simply because they were so silly, or showed signs that the inquirers had not been reading what I have been writing or they would have known without asking. Anyway, I haven't scolded much and you may run along now and play till next time and the good Lord watch over us all. By, by,

COUSIN MARION.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.)

one entire eye to watch the hired man. Many a farmer has gone blind watching and waiting for the hired man to move. The farmers at least in your section, need another good eye to watch the boll weevil walking off with the cotton crop, and another good eye to see that the landlord does not get more than half the crop. How many more eyes he needs to see where his profits have gone after the food speculators, the bankers, the country store merchants, the politicians and other pirates have had a whack at him, I have never been able to figure out. Tell your teacher to have you write at least two hundred and fifty words once a day instead of once a week, on some topic of national interest. Do this and you can cover the whole field of knowledge. If this practise were carried out in every school in the land, we would soon have a nation of intelligent citizens, instead of a vast menagerie of nuts and know nothings. Modern day ignorance is appalling, and the schools are largely responsible for it. Abner, you are a very lucky boy if when milking you can succeed in getting part of the milk into the pail. When I tried the job I always got it in the eye. By the way you have some very wonderful cows on your farm. I've heard of cows that gave milk, and milk that produced butter, but I never yet heard of cows that gave milk, butter, chickens and ducks. A few versatile cows of that description, would be worth several million dollars apiece in these times of food scarcity and threatened famine. I am delighted to know Abner, that you can cook a good meal, as out of about fifteen young ladies we have tried at various times for the position of housekeeper in our unique, inspiring and artistic establishment, we have never discovered but two who even know what a kitchen was built for. Some of them thought that a gas range was a new kind of parlor organ and wanted to play tunes on it. Others thought it was the latest thing in Ford automobiles, while others thought it was just a machine for heating curling irons and frying hair. All this ignorance was due to devoted, foolish mothers who would rather have dropped dead than allowed their queenly daughters (who were all going to make ten thousand dollars a week as movie picture stars, or be secretaries to trust magnates and captains of industry and marry into the Gould and Vanderbilt families) to enter a kitchen and prepare a decent meal. By the way, if there is in all America a bright, healthy, intelligent girl who appreciates intellectual companionship, a lovely home where the laundry is put out and no fires to light, and where she can have all her evenings and a good part of the day for study and recreation, and where there is no bossing and being bossed, oceans of liberty and plenty of money for doing little, she can write to me. All that she is requested to do, is to be able to prepare three simple meals decently, and to keep clean her own and four other rooms. If she drops dead doing that we will pay for her funeral. By the way, mothers of America, have you any windows in your homes? The modern girl does not realize there are any, and if she did realize it she would not clean them, and, by the way, mothers, do modern girls know that a bed should be made at least once a week, or do they sleep in restaurants and cabarets where there are no beds? There are some worth-while mothers and one or two worth-while daughters in existence, but the latter are getting scarcer every minute. Mothers of America, don't make fools of your girls. You are doing it as fast as you know how, and I am the one that knows it.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for May

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Mrs. Alice Stacy, Dalton, R. R. 3, Ga. Invalid. Widow with one child. Needy and worthy. Send her some help. Fred W. Bizzell, Newton Grove, N. C. Helpless invalid. No means of support. Lovely character. Give him a boost. Mrs. Martha Gusley, Stella, Va. widow, seventy-two years of age. Sick and poor. Send her a dime shower. James Gilliam, Klondike, Tenn. Helpless invalid. Depends on the charitable for support. Send him some cheer. James Thorn, Mingo, R. R. 1, Miss. Shut-in. Unable to work. Well recommended. No means of support. Send him some of the sympathy that buys bread. Henry Carter, Price, R. R. 2, Box 44, N. C. Seventy-three years of age. Poor and sick. Remember him. Mrs. Jennie Azee, Spencer, R. R. 1, Box 35, Va. Invalid. Needy and worthy. Send her some cheer. Verne Ellis, Allegan, Mich. Invalid. Would appreciate cheery letters. Lovely character. No financial aid asked. Ben Wolf, 3130 Durrell Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio. Shut-in. Would appreciate cheery letters. Mrs. Hannah Peerson, Fulton, R. R. 2, Miss. Eighty years of age. Blind. Would appreciate cheery letters, and anything you may care to send her.

God loves a cheerful giver. Unfortunately so few people give anything to support this beautiful work, that God doesn't have a chance to love but mighty few of the millions who will read this notice and pass it by. Jar loose tightwads and learn the joy of giving.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

57¢ PAPERS A BIG ROOM

Just think—only 57c for enough beautiful 4 color bronzed side wall, ceiling and border to paper a big room. Write today for our Free Book of over 100 big samples of wall paper and see this dandy paper. Also, our exquisite 1917 papers, consisting of plain and rich, heavily embossed gold, oatmeal, grass cloth, leather, tiffany, silk and creton effects at 6c to 40c a double roll of 16 yards. Pretty varnished tiles, 8c a double roll. Combination matched with cut-out borders ready for hanging at 1 1-2c a yard up. Wall paper for all rooms direct to you cheaper than dealers buy at in carload lots. Don't wait. Get samples now—today—and see our beautiful set paper and marvelously low prices.

WALL PAPER OVER 100 SAMPLES OF BEAUTIFUL PAPER

PAINT On Free Trial All kinds for everything; try it at home; if it suits keep it, if not return at our expense. Lowest prices you ever saw; 124 colors. Write for Paint Book and see.

JOHN M. SMYTH MDSE CO. 703-717 Wash-ington Blvd. CHICAGO



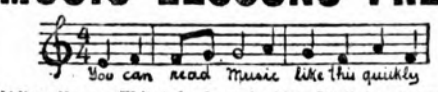
MAKE YOUR BIKE A MOTORCYCLE

at a small cost by using our Attachable outfit. FITS ANY BICYCLE. Easily attached. No special tools required. Write today for bargain list and free book describing the SHAW Bicycle Motor Attachment. Motorcycles, all makes, new and second-hand, $35 and up.

FREE BOOK

SHAW MANUFACTURING CO. Dept. 15, Galesburg, Kansas.

MUSIC LESSONS FREE



At Your Home. Write today for our booklet. It tells how to learn to play Piano, Organ, Violin, Mandolin, Guitar, Banjo, etc. Beginners or advanced pupils. **AMERICAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 15 Lakeside Bldg., Chicago.**



Initials or date **Engraved Free** Friendship or Anniversary RING your size for 12c., both for 23c. Warranted Sterling or Rolled GOLD.



Monogram Jewelry Co., 119 Nassau Street, Dept. 94, New York

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers." **RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.**



DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU? Agents wanted to sell glasses. Send for catalog. **COULTER OPTICAL CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.**



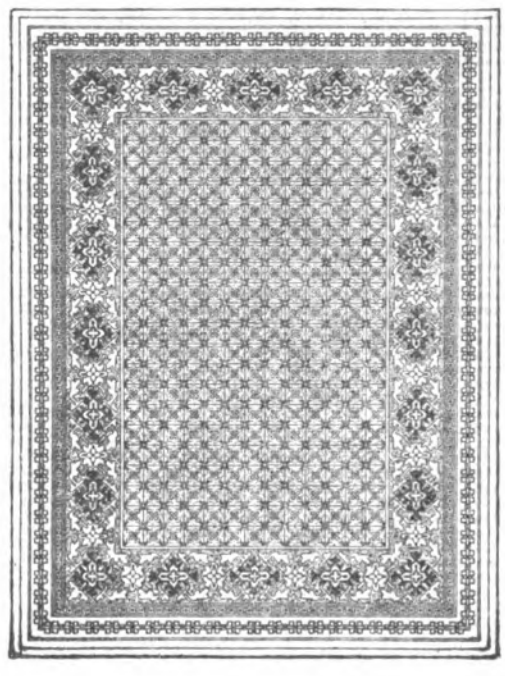
CARDS Send 5c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Reverse, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Rose Catcher and list of 2000 Songs given Free. **OHIO CARD CO., B14 Cadiz, Ohio.**

Got More Pleasure Out of Uncle Charlie's Poems Than any Other Book!

That is what Mrs. Bjerke, Detroit, Mich., says about Uncle Charlie's Poems, and you'd say more than that if you had a copy in your hands. For eleven years we've been telling you about this gorgeous book of rib-tickling fun, and though we have given you the opportunity to secure this delightful volume that would bring joy and happiness to you and yours only one COMFORT home in fifty contains this delightful book, a book which you can obtain without the outlay of a single cent. If you want to know the real Uncle Charlie, possess pictures of him at his work and know the history of his life get up a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each and secure this exquisitely bound volume which contains the funniest and best recitations for parlor and stage ever written. Best spring medicine in the world. *Work for it today.*

Uncle Charlie's Songs Sang Themselves Into Her Heart

This is what Mrs. Bjerke of Detroit, Mich. also says about Uncle Charlie's gorgeous song book, which contains twenty-eight of the most delightful songs ever written. Full music for voice and piano. Songs for all occasions—love songs, coon songs, comic songs, sacred songs—all gathered into a superb volume as big as a copy of COMFORT, with an artistic cover on which appear four splendid pictures of Uncle Charlie, equal to photographs. Yours free for a club of only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. Both books free for a club of six. *Work for them today!*



Congoleum Rug

Premium No. 7206

Given For A Club Of Six!

A **YARD and a half long and one yard wide.** Water cannot rot it, sun cannot fade it. It lies **flat** on the floor without nails, tacks or paste and positively will not **curl up** at the edges. The Congoleum Rug is something new. It is not oil-cloth or Linoleum or made of grass, fiber or fabric—it is not like any other floor covering in the world. It is absolutely **waterproof,** not affected by heat or cold, neither fades nor rots indoors or out. When you wash the floor or porch you can wash the Congoleum rug at the same time without taking it up. You can leave it outdoors the year round, and it will not rot, fade or get that dingy look that other rugs do after exposure to sun and wear. In doors you can use it on your bathroom, hall, pantry or kitchen floor, under the refrigerator or stove or in any room in the house. No matter **where** you place it it will outwear a dozen ordinary rugs and give years of service. These rugs come in many different designs and beautiful combinations of colors and we have selected the one illustrated herewith as the most suitable for **all-round** purposes. It will make an attractive appearance regardless of whether you use it as a porch rug, or in hall, kitchen, pantry or chamber. We are positive that every woman who secures one of these rugs will want more of them at once so we have arranged to supply you with as many as you may need upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one Congoleum Rug free by express or parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7206.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

7 Wheel Chairs in April

410 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

The seven April wheel chairs go to the following shut-ins to get them out into the balmy air and spring sunshine. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Leithor Darter, R. 3, Millsap, Texas, 147; Eugene Catron, Marion, Va., 136; Preston Morgan, Fort Morgan, Colo., 132; William A. Sifford, Greer, Mo., 117; Marvin Cleo Jones, R. 1, Birthright, Texas, 109; Mary Florence Hart, Rich Mountain, Ark., 107; Floid Ledbetter, R. 1, Box 51, Piedmont, Ala., 102.

Leithor Darter, age 16, a cripple from birth and has never walked. He is the youngest of the family and dependent on his parents now advanced in years and poor.

Eugene Catron, age 5, has been sick six months with infantile paralysis and is helpless from his hips down.

Preston Morgan, age 10, is crippled so that he can not walk but gets about the house by crawling on his hands and knees.

William A. Sifford, age 14, crippled from birth and has never walked.

Marvin Cleo Jones, age 11, has no use of left leg and left arm, the result of infantile paralysis when a baby.

Mary Florence Hart, age 6 years, had infantile paralysis at the age of 18 months which left her paralyzed from her hips down.

Floid Ledbetter, age 14, had typhoid fever when two years old which left him with his legs helpless.



Emmett Odell, Saratoga, Texas, in His COMFORT Wheel Chair.

Below is the nice letter of thanks from eleven-year-old Emmett Odell, a bright little fellow with a sunny disposition although he suffers from spinal trouble and has no use of his legs.

Our Wheel-Chair Club is doing a world of good in helping these unfortunates who need, but have not the means to buy, a wheel chair. Give the good work a boost. We have a lot of shut-ins on our waiting list who need your help. We have a large Roll of Honor this month. Why not have your name there next month?

Sincerely yours,
W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT, at 25 cents each, sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Any shut-in who has friends to help him get subscriptions can obtain a wheel chair free. Write me for information.

COMFORT Wheel-Chair a Great Pleasure

SARATOGA, TEXAS.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I received my wheel chair all right and am very much pleased with it. I wish to thank you and all my friends who helped me to get the chair which is a great pleasure to me. Will send you my picture soon. Your little friend,

EMMETT ODELL.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

S. D. Edwards, Ga., for Richard Edwards, 70; Mrs. Bessie Clapp, Texas, for Ruby Pearl Clapp, 61; Mrs. Lillie O. Ward, N. C., for Sallie and George Jordan, 52; Mrs. J. L. Parrish, Tenn., for Walter Campbell, 49; Mrs. T. S. Miller, Utah, for Mrs. Ann Carter, 42; Susan Musgrove, Kansas, for Mrs. E. V. Stalnaker, 42; W. T. Darter, Ark., for Leithor D. Darter, 41; Mrs. H. J. Hart, Okla., for Florence Hart, 41; Mrs. Emma Pentecost, Miss., for Mrs. Martha Timberlake, 40; M. A. Huff, Mo., for Virgil Huff, 38; Verna McCutchen, Miss., for Mrs. Donie McCutchen, 35; Arthur W. Tayloor, Ark., for own wheel chair, 35; Mrs. C. J. Perrin, Texas, for Cleo Jones, 30; Mrs. J. H. Sandusky, Okla., for Preston Morgan, 30; A. G. Groseclose, Va., for Eugene Catron, 23; Mrs. R. A. Cannoy, Tenn., for Howard Carr Cannoy, 23; W. S. Ford, Texas, for Leithor D. Darter, 23; Miss Alice Hart, Texas, for Florence Hart, 21; Mrs. H. H. Groseclose, Va., for Eugene Catron, 21; Mrs. Arba Fitz-Hugh, Texas, for Glenna Gilbert, 20; Mrs. Ed. Crabtree, W. Va., for Eugene Catron, 20; W. H. Carter, Ala., for Johnnie May Heatherly, 20; Mrs. G. P. Gotschall, Iowa, for Miss Olive Stibley, 20; Miss Lida Davis, Ark., for Willie Sifford, 20; Mrs. C. K. Bruce, Va., for Eugene Catron, 20; Lucille Smith, Iowa, for Olive Stribley, 20; Mrs. W. M. Petty, Texas, for General, 20; Mrs. Tilden Catron, Va., for Eugene Catron, 20; Mrs. R. Burgess, Mich., for Floid Ledbetter, 18; Mrs. W. I. Paddock, Minn., for Catherine Barnes, 15; Leithor D. Darter, Tex., for own wheel chair, 14; T. Z. Webster, N. C., for Ruby Ellendine Ellis, 14; Mrs. E. M. Henninger, Pa., for General, 12; Mrs. E. O. Strong, Nebr., for Nada Pearl Strong, 12; Cassie L. Boyce, N. C., for Sallie and George Jordan, 12; W. M. Butter, La., for Mrs. Lucinda Sissons, 11; Edward H. Obert, N. J., for Mrs. Phillis Garrison, 11; Mrs. Henry Jones, Va., for Eugene Catron, 11; Jim S. Gardner, Texas, for own wheel chair, 10; Mrs. Glen Grosclose, Va., for Eugene Catron, 10; Mrs. Florence Conatser, Ark., for Elsie Roberds, 10; M. A. Williams, Ark., for Callie Williams, 9; Mrs. Viola Benedic, Ohio, for General, 8; Mary Berry, Ga., for Lottie Berry, 8; Mrs. Alma Bilyen, Ky., for Mollie Graham, 8; Mrs. Edith V. Barger, Ten., for Catherine Barnes, 7; Miss Katherine Guthrie, Texas, for Leitor D. Darter, 6; Mrs. Mary Sorrells, La., for Mrs. Lucinda Sissons, 6; Pauline Maxwell, Texas, for Glenna Gilbert, 6; Mrs. Nina Beach, N. Mex., for own wheel chair, 6; "Willing Workers," Pa., for Willie Sifford, 6; "Willing Workers," Pa., for Callie Williams, 5; Mrs. Belle Windsor, Ohio, for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mrs. Belle Windsor, Ohio, for Roland Chewning, 5; Mrs. Chas. J. Hopper, Ill., for Mrs. Adella Albiston, 5; Miss Mary A. Seaman, Pa., for General, 5; Bessie Coffer, N. C., for Benjamin F. Coffer, 5, Miss Jewel Durham, Oregon, for Catherine Barnes, 5; Mary Heatherly, Ala., for Johnnie May Heatherly, 5; Annie M. Patterson, Ga., for General, 5; Mrs. Susie Lapington, Ala., for General, 5; Mrs. Nami Moad, Okla., for own wheel chair, 5; Mrs. Helen Ellis, Kansas, for General, 5; Mrs. Wm. Winn, Ga., for Mrs. Tavie Culpepper, 5; Mrs. Thonie Ward, Okla., for Florence Hart, 5; Mrs. F. S. Thomas, Ark., for own wheel chair, 5; Mrs. G. F. Pylant, Tenn., for Thos. Reginald Hancock, 5; Mrs. Lillian Howard, Kansas, for Mark Clark, 5; Miss M. Etne Preiss, Fla., for General, 5; Maud Stain, Iowa, for Willie Sifford, 5; Mrs. R. J. Hurd, Iowa, for Thos. Reginald Hancock, 5; Mable and Henry Pitts, Ala., for Catherine Barnes, 5.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Miss J. P., Dadeville, Ala.—All the discomforts in your stomach and lower intestines, we think, are due to catarrh of the stomach, which results from aggravated dyspepsia. Your condition is such that only a physician who can examine you can prescribe properly, but you may yet restore your health, if you will diet yourself under a doctor's direction and live under his advice and care for six months. Have a talk with a good doctor about yourself and learn as much as you can when you have told him as much as you know about your condition. We recommend this course to other COMFORT patients.

F. A. S., Gold Hill, Nev.—We in the East usually recommend that tuberculosis patients get into the high and dry climate, especially in the pine woods. For your son, already in a high and dry climate, the principal thing is fresh air, good food and rest, as the sanitarium people advised. We advise that you get advice from them as to his treatment at home and follow it. Try nothing in the shape of medicine except upon the prescription of a physician who knows the case. If he could get out into the open, in a warm climate, and less elevation, say, Arizona, and have work enough to keep his mind engaged, might be of great benefit, but do nothing in making changes except on the advice of a physician who knows conditions.

X. Y. Z., Gunter, Texas.—Stomach troubles are of many kinds and they are difficult of diagnosis and often can only be treated with the knife. You cannot afford to have yours guessed at and while you have little pain, still something is wrong and you must have an examination made to know what the wrong is. When that is known, then and not till then, can proper means be taken to remedy it. Within a week we have heard of a man, apparently all right, who thought he had indigestion and doctored himself for it for a year or more. A month ago his stomach hurt him so he sent for a doctor and the doctor within an hour had him in a hospital preparing for an operation for appendicitis. Operating for this, hernia was discovered, and also gall stones and the man would have died from any one of these if he had waited another week. He survived all three operations nicely and is now rapidly recovering. Another case of guessing at what was wrong and giving it self-treatment.

Mrs. J. C., Kremmling, Colo.—Yours is another case of a mother with a baby who shouldn't have it. Why ask a physician two thousand miles away to guess about your baby's ailments when you could get a doctor just around the corner to come in and see it and tell you exactly what was wrong and what to do to remedy it? Babies are not to be treated as you are treating yours if mothers want them to live to maturity and have health. Get information and advice from your local physician. We are inclined to believe that half the ill health of grown-ups is due to the lack of proper treatment during babyhood.

Mrs. T. L., Mt. Auburn, La.—Be sure you have neuralgia of the heart before you begin treatment for it. Many people with indigestion think the sharp shooting pains in the heart, resulting from gas pressure in the stomach, is neuralgia of the heart, which has similar symptoms. Acute indigestion often affects the heart and kills, but it is not neuralgia. Indigestion may be cured, or prevented from becoming fatal, but neuralgia of the heart is practically incurable, though not necessarily fatal. Have a physician examine your heart.

A. L. F., Durand, Wis.—Just what the nature of your throat trouble is, bronchitis, or whatever it may be, can only be determined by a physician who can examine you, but we can guess that if you don't get to a warm, dry climate before long, your lungs will be affected and the T. B. will have you in its clutches. As you are a workingman and a bachelor, it should not be as impossible as you say to get away to Arizona or New Mexico where you can have warm, dry air and steady work if you are a steady man. Medicine can only afford temporary relief where you are, and presently, it can't even do that much.

H. T., Sonoma, Cal.—Thread-worms, or seat-worms, while affecting all ages, are much more stubborn and difficult of eradication in adults and in most cases only careful treatment by a physician will do the work thoroughly and even then it may not be permanent. A preparation of aloes and assafœtida followed by laxative mineral waters may be efficient, or any one of a number of drugs to be swallowed or injected, but these can be administered only by a physician. One thing that the patient can do and must do is to maintain a strict personal cleanliness. Vermifuges good for the ordinary round-worm are of little or no value in treating thread-worms.

J. B., Townsend, Miss.—The best climate for consumptives is one which is dry, whether hot or cold. Mountains are preferable to sea-level, but too much elevation is not good, say, a thousand feet or so for the average lung. The lungs are not strong enough for the thin air of very high places. North Carolina mountains are better than either Florida or Texas. Hard work or too much exercise is to be avoided. Rest is one of the prescriptions in demand. Also good food, but chiefly fresh air, night and day and all you can get of it. Farm by all means to be preferred to the city. See answer in this column to F. A. S.

J. L., Oceana, Wis.—Varicose veins are not uncommon and they are caused by retardation of the circulation, by external pressure (tight garters), swelling of tumors, various other internal disorders and by long standing, or straining of the muscles of the calves of the legs. There are numerous remedies and some of them efficient in relief if not cure, but operation is sometimes necessary, and if your physician advises an operation take his advice. He knows more about it than anyone else.

Mrs. P., Keltys, Texas.—A woman six feet tall, waist, nineteen inches, bust twenty-three, and weighing only ninety pounds can hardly expect to become a heavy weight, but the milk diet we have recommended may add ten pounds. Try two tablespoonfuls of the best condensed milk in a cup of water, cold or hot, every night before going to bed, taking with it a piece of bread or a cracker. In addition you might eat plenty of fat meat, butter, eggs, sugar, potatoes and bread and drink as much water freely. Rest and sleep all you can and take no violent exercise. This diet is not guaranteed not to give you indigestion and you must watch for that, because indigestion is not fattening. You say nothing about your general health, and we take it for granted that your health is normal. Remember also that if you were born to be a thin woman, nothing will fatten you.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15.)

tom. Peas cooked this way have a fine flavor and are sweeter than when cooked by the usual method.

DANDRUFF CURE.—Steep a five-cent package of sage in a quart of hot water for two hours. Strain, when cold add one half pint pure alcohol and one ounce glycerine, shaking well. Rub thoroughly into the scalp once a day. MRS. J. B. SILLIMAN, Patchague, N. Y.

STICKY FLY PAPER. (Requested.)—Mix equal parts of resin and Castor oil, with a dash of sugar to tempt the flies. Stir this over hot water until mixed, then while still a little warm, spread it on good strong paper, leaving a margin for handling.

Goldenrod, Abie, Nebraska.

When white statuary becomes discolored, dissolve some starch in cold water; add to it gradually a sufficient amount of boiling water to make it the right consistency and stir. Paint the statuary with this mixture and leave it on till it is cold. When the starch is removed the dirt comes with it.

MISS ESTELLA KRAUER, Hammondsport, N. Y.

Requests

Mrs. Mintie Bealkin, Bee Log, N. C., would like quilt pieces of all kinds, and cancelled stamps.

Mrs. Bert Tyler, Ashland, R. R. 1, Wis., would like March, June and July, 1916, numbers of the "Illustrated Companion." Also books or other reading matter. Will return postage and books, or some favor in place of same.

Mrs. J. S. Grover, Rockford, Box 6, Mich., would like words of song, "The Chieftain's Daughter, beginning:

"One autumn as twilight was speading
Its pinion of darkness o'er all."

Also song:

"I've been waiting a long time my darling,
For the words that you never will say;
But now all my fond hopes have vanished,
For they say you are going away."

Is there an answer to this song?

Recipe for Worcester Sauce.

Cure for neuritis, by Mrs. Clara L. Howling, Ypsilanti, R. R. 1, Mich.

Mrs. Wm. L. Bell, Massaponax, Va., would like copy of August 1907 COMFORT.

A sister wants to know about painting an open floor—how to fill the crevices to make it warm and the surface smooth to paint over.

Remedies

COLD AND COUGH.—Boil the inner bark of white cherry with enough sugar to make a syrup. Dose, a tablespoonful three or four times a day.

ANNIE LEWIS, Ager, Cal.

FOR SMOOTH HANDS.—A pint of rosewater, diluted with a tablespoon of glycerine, forms an excellent preservative for the hands, and will keep them smooth and white if applied each time after washing.

WAKEFULNESS.—Sometimes the habit of waking at an unreasonable hour is set up. The best course is to rise, engage in some work, and refrain from sleeping—even when tempted—until the ensuing night. This will break the habit.

LINSEED TEA.—For delicate persons who are weak and anæmic the nourishing qualities of linseed tea will be quite a revelation. It produces flesh, is soothing and laxative and easily digested. If the best seed is cooked until the liquor is the consistency of thin gruel, and a flavoring of sugar and lemon added, it will be found quite palatable.

FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Information as to the whereabouts of Clerenda Jonston and Margaret Ann Whittiker. Five dollars' reward for any information. Mrs. Mary Hunter, Cartersville, R. R. 1, Okla.

Information of my brother, Andy Sauvage, last heard of two years ago in San Diego, California. Mrs. Eva Ebert, New Straitsville, Ohio.

Wanted to know the whereabouts of my brother, D. S. Harvey, last heard of at Missoula, Mont., on a farm finder. Age 37, height 5 ft. 11½ in., weight about 175 pounds. Send notice to Mrs. Isaac Malosh, Swanton, R. R. 22, Ohio.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Florence Oinas, Hancock, L. Box 462, Mich. Mr. Lawrence S. Stoner, Belden, Box. 67, N. Dak. Miss Lena Roberson, East Randolph, Box 115, N. Y. Miss Helen Sperry, Prue, Okla. Clifford A. Longnecker, Lockport, R. R. 3, Box 60, Ill. Mr. Henry F. Priebe, Kelt, Ohio.



THIS FORD FREE

Send Us No Money

JUST YOUR NAME

You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars. **I have given away dozens of them.** You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away, and say: **"I want to get one of your Ford cars."** A post-card will do.

RHOADS AUTO CLUB
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

Automatic Fibre Limbs Easy Payments—Do Nature's Work. **AGENTS WANTED** who use Artificial Leg. Good Pay. FREE Fibre Sample. DESCRIBE STUMP TO **WORMAN CO.** 507 ANDRUS BLDG., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.



WHITE ROSE FACE BLEACH
Will make your Complexion as white as the virgin snow. 2-cent stamp for free particulars. Address MME. BOGETT, Box 496, Desk 4, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties, Catalog Free. **D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.**

Be a Detective Excellent opportunity, good pay, travel. Write **C. T. Ludwig, 121 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.**

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. **Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.**

OLD FALSE TEETH. We pay up to $5 a set. Also buy bridgework and platinum. **Eastern Dental Depot,** Dept. Y, Lynn, Mass.

LOOK YOUR BEST. Make sure of smooth white arms, face and neck in spite of sallowness, blotches, freckles, blackheads etc. If you want to be charming and attractive—Don't pay 50c but send 10c at once for sealed Package, which will transform your appearance instantly. Warranted. **TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927A, Boston, Mass.**

FREE FORD AUTO TO AGENTS

Here's an opportunity to earn big money—$6 to $12 a day, with easy work, all your time or spare time and obtain a Ford Automobile free besides. A straightout from the shoulder business proposition. No voting or guessing contest. We want wide-awake men and women to introduce into every home our famous ZANOL Pure Food Products, Non-Alcoholic Food Flavors in tubes, Toilet Preparations, Perfumes and Soaps; 250 other light weight household necessities.

MAKE $50 A WEEK EASY.
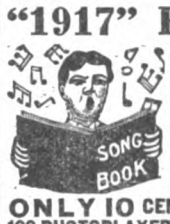
No experience necessary—we teach you how, give you the right start and help you make a success. Absolutely no limit to your earning power. We can use only a certain number of General Agents so get in touch with us at once. We furnish our representatives with a free automobile. Just send postal for particulars and money making offer.

AMERICAN PRODUCTS CO.
8215 Third St. Cincinnati, O

March Prize Winners

Mrs. G. N. Baillio, La.,	1st Prize (Doubled)	$60.00
Lewis F. Fults, Tenn.,	2nd Prize (Doubled)	40.00
Mrs. H. E. Logan, Texas,	3rd Prize (Doubled)	20.00
Mrs. T. S. Strong, Iowa,	4th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
J. A. Anderson, Neb.,	5th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
Mrs. Effie Lind, Nebraska,	6th Prize (Doubled)	10.00
Mary Sanders, Va.,	7th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Jas. R. McCready, Pa.,	8th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Mrs. Alice Warner, Minn.,	9th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Mrs. Mattie Albin, Missouri,	10th Prize (Doubled)	6.00
Miss Kate Pierson, Ga.	11th Prize	2.00
Mrs. Stephen McDermond, Mich.,	12th Prize	2.00
Mrs. Jessie Cooper, Ala.,	13th Prize	2.00
Mrs. L. E. McCarver, N. C.,	14th Prize (Doubled)	4.00
Mrs. Wm. Norris, Pa.,	15th Prize	2.00
Samuel R. Lowe, Pa.,	16th Prize (Doubled)	2.00
Rosa Trexler, N. C.,	17th Prize	2.00
Mrs. Cora Pearson, N. C.,	18th Prize	2.00

"1917" Popular Song Book, Recitations, Toasts, Parlor Pastimes, Etc. 10 Cts



It's a Long Way to Tipperary	Chinatown, My Chinatown	Choo Choo Leaves for Alabam'	California and You
When Maple Leaves Are Falling	In Dreams of Yesterday	Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now	When I Lost You
Among the Sheltering Palms	I Love the Name of Dixie	Call Me Some Rainy Afternoon	Sweetheart Days
When the Roses Bloom Again	Mother—A Word That	Alexander's Ragtime Band	On Moonlight Bay
Till Sands of Desert Grow Cold	Means the World To Me	When We Were Two Little Boys	Ragtime Violin
Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm	There's a Girl in the Heart	When I Get You Alone Tonight	My Hula Hula Love
Where the River Shannon Flows	of Maryland; Twilight	Waiting for the Robert E. Lee	On Mobile Bay
When I Dream of Old Erin	Are You From Dixie?	Trail of the Lonesome Pine	Stop, Stop, Stop
I'm On My Way to Dublin Bay	When I Was a Dreamer	Let Me Call You Sweetheart	Just Next Door
Sailing Down Chesapeake Bay	Tulip Time in Holland	Will the Angels Let Me Play?	Oh Mr. Dream Man
Dawn of a Perfect Day	When You Wore a Tulip	Roses Bring Dreams of You	Mysterious Rag
When the Angelus Is Ringing	When You're a Long Way	Great Big Blue Eyed Baby	Oh You Little Bear
I Love the Whole United States	From Home; Silver Bell	Silver Threads Among the Gold	Old Maid's Ball
There's a Little Spark of Love Still Burning;	I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier;	If You Don't Like Your Uncle Sammy, etc.	

Cubanola Glide	Memories	I'm the Guy	Grizzly Bear
Rainbow	Red Wing	Hiawatha	Oh You Kid
My Pony Boy	School Days	Oceana Roll	Red Rose Rag
Row, Row, Row			

ONLY 10 CENTS nearly all the above Latest Popular Songs, also many other Charming Songs, Comic Recitations, Dialogues, Toasts, Funny Readings, etc. All in one great Mammoth Book. Satisfaction assured.

100 PHOTOPLAYERS FREE TO ALL persons ordering this immense collection we will send absolutely free 100 photoplayers of the most famous motion picture stars. This collection includes such artists as Francis X. Bushman, Anita Stewart, Mary Fuller, Bryant Washburn, Earle Williams, Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, etc. Don't fail to get this grand collection. You will be the envy of all the film fans in your town. Sent free with our great song album for only 10c. 3 complete outfits only 25c. **L. Republic Music Co., Lawndale & Lyndale Aves., Chicago.**

26-Piece Daisy TABLE SET

Premium No. 6808

Sent To You Prepaid For A Club Of Eight



WE have in the past made many offers of table ware, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer a **complete set of 26 Pieces** in return for such a small club of subscriptions. And please don't think that because we **are** giving away this set on such liberal terms that it is plated on a brass base and consequently will change color and have that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. This Set which we offer you here is plated on a **white metal base** therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will not show signs of wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—**6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife.** Each piece is **full regulation size** for family use, the handles are handsomely **embossed and decorated** with the beautiful **Daisy design** which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and the bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and **bright polished.**

WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to offer it as a premium for so few subscriptions. It is by far **the greatest value** we have ever offered, in fact we are so **sure** that it will please and satisfy all who accept this offer **we are going to guarantee every Set sent out for a period of five years.** We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Daisy Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this 26-Piece Daisy Table Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 6808.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents—200 Per Cent Profit. Wonderful little article. Something new; sells like wildfire. Carry right in pocket. Write at once for free sample. E. M. Feltman, Sales Mgr., 9515 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents—Make a Dollar an Hour. Sell Mendets, a patent patch for instantly mending leaks in all utensils. Sample package free. Collette Mfg. Co., Dept. 452-B, Amsterdam, N.Y.

Agents, I want 100 men to act as my agents and take orders for "Kantleak" Raincoats. I paid Eli Bridge $88.95 for one week's spare time. Cooper $314 last month. Wonderful values. A dandy coat for $3.98. No money required. No delivering or collecting. Sample coat and complete outfit all Free. Big season just starting. There's a thousand dollars in this for you if you grab it quick. Write now. Comer Mfg Co., 202 Opal St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agent's—200% profit. Wonderful little article. Sells like wildfire. Can be carried in pocket. Write at once for free sample. H. Matthews, 419 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 131 Locust, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents Put a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lucassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 586 Broadway, New York City.

Agents—100% Profit. Three-In-One Shoe Brush, Polish, Dauber and Shiner—all in one. Costs only 1-6 of cent a shine. Write quick for territory and free pocket sample. Fountain Shoe Brush Co., 1419 North St., Dayton, O.

Agents Listen! Marvel Hair Pomade positively stops falling hair, stimulates, growth-maker's own testimonial and photo with every bottle at 25c and 50c. It improved my hair 400% in two years. Will you try it and be convinced? Miss Marvel, 22 North William Street, N. Y.

Ladies. We pay $2.50 day to distribute Free circulars; take orders for Regal Shields. Particulars Free. Regal Co., D 16, Kalamazoo, Mich

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Newest Moneymaker! 11 piece toilet set selling like blazes at $1.00 with $1 carving set Free! Enormous Profits! Tremendous hit! Randall sold 30 one day. Success sure. Pierce Co., 505 Pierce Bldg., Chicago.

INVENTIONS

Inventions Commercialized on cash and royalty basis. Inventors and manufacturers write at once. Adam Fisher Mfg. Co., 2091 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

MUSIC FOR SALE

"Under the Stars and Stripes" March, (T. Roosevelt) 10c. Locke & Taylor, 77 Elm St., Springfield, Mass.

GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

Mystify your friends and get Pa's Goat. Interesting Game. You can always Win. Hours of Fun. 10c. (coin). R. O. Wakeley, Dept. M., 67 Burton, Waterbury, Connecticut.

REAL ESTATE

Small Missouri Farm $10 Cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes; Highly productive land; close to three big markets. Write for photographs and full information. Munger, D-104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

AGENTS WANTED

Man Or Woman To Travel for old-established firm. No canvassing; $1170 first year, payable weekly, pursuant to Contract; Expenses advanced. G. O. Nichols, Phila., Pa., Pepper Bldg.

One Tailor's Bill Saved Pays For Patented Clothes Brush. Brushes out grease spots, cleans coat collars. Fast seller. Over 100% profit. Ten days Free Trial. Brush Co., 102B-22nd St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Agents. Make $25 a week or more, selling our guaranteed Silverware Polisher. Send 25c for Sample. LeRoy & Co., Seminole, Okla.

Agents—Soft Drinks in powder. Just add cold water; ready instantly, delicious, healthful, every one wants them. Sells thirty glasses 25c. Trial package 10c postpaid. Chas. H. Morrissey Co., 4417 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Agents: Big Hit: Our 5-Piece Aluminum Set is all the rage. Cheaper than Enamel Ware. Sells like wildfire. Guaranteed 20 Years. Retail value $5.00. You sell housewives for only $1.98. Biggest seller of the age. 9 sure sales out of every 10 shown. Others cleaning up $10.00 to $20.00 a day. Answer this quick to secure your territory. Div. E. X. 5. American Aluminum Mfg. Co. Lemont, Ill.

"Washwhite" Cleans Clothes Without Rubbing. Attractive Premiums. Free samples. Nacma, 21-J, 18 W. Lake, Chicago.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $50 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free. William Ragsdale, East Orange, N.J.

Agents Wanted, exclusive control, best paying business, no insurance or book canvassing. Address J. H. Prunier, Norwich, Conn.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn while you learn. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of members we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 a month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Tobacco Factory wants salesman; good pay, steady work, promotion; experience unnecessary, we give complete instructions. Piedmont Tobacco Co., Box E-19, Danville, Va.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Will Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct free—and sell on Commission. Big rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31, Auburn, N. Y.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles, poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1186 Washington, D. C.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

MALE HELP WANTED

Wanted. Men and women to qualify for Government positions. Several thousand appointments to be made next few months. Full information about openings, how to prepare, etc., free. Write immediately for booklet C G 1450. Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Be A Government Farmer. Good pay. Steady, interesting job. Fine locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8F, St. Louis.

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 828 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

Be A Detective. Excellent opportunity, good pay, travel. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Men—Women Wanted. $75.00 month. List Government Jobs open Free. Franklin Institute, Dept B 12, Rochester, N. Y.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis, Mo.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Women, become Dress Designers. Earn $18 to $50 week. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. B 850, Rochester, N. Y.

Be A Government Matron. Good salary. Interesting work. Beautiful locations. Very desirable. Write, Central Institute, 8M, St. Louis.

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds. Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Given To Any Woman. Beautiful 100 piece gold dec. dinner set for distributing (not selling) only 5 dozen packages. Diamond Dust Soap Powder free among friends. No money or experience needed. New Method Company, 730-738 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Ills.

HELP WANTED

Thousands Government Jobs open to Men—Women. $75 month. List positions free. Franklin Institute, Dept. B 9, Rochester, N. Y.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel, 232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Four books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg., Wash. D. C.

Patents. You will like my easy payment plan. Write for free booklet. C. L. Drew, 7 Victor Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Inventors—Write for List of Needed inventions. Sanders, 10 Webster Building, Chicago, Ill.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Free For Six Months—My special offer to introduce my magazine, "Investing for Profit." It is worth $10 a copy to any one who has not acquired sufficient money to provide necessities and comforts for self and loved ones. It shows how to become richer quickly and honestly. Investing for Profit is the only progressive financial journal and has the largest circulation in America. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200; write now and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 408, 26 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago.

Wanted one responsible man or woman in each town to become our representative. Establish yourself in business with a substantial income. No investment required. Send for information to Dept. D, Champlain Studios—306 Fifth Avenue—New York City.

POULTRY

Day Old Chicks 10c up. Hatched and delivered right. 23 varieties. Catalog free. Mammoth Hatchery, Box K-28, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Day Old Chicks for sale cheap. 10 Varieties. Hatched by one of the oldest Hatchers in the country. Circular Free. Old Honesty Hatchery, Dept. C, New Washington, O.

Baby Chicks: Cheaper than Hatching Eggs. We specialize in Rocks, Leghorns & Reds. 20th Century Hatchery, Box 154 New Washington, O

MISCELLANEOUS

Buy Your Hats Direct From Factory Panamas and Felts for Men—Women. Catalogue K—Wilson Hat Co., Orange, N. J.

Solace. A comfort to the one with tired, aching, burning feet. 25 cents. Gives you relief and comfort. Send to Solace Co., Portland, Indiana.

You Can Be Rich, "Clever Ways to Save" will teach you how. Makes saving full of sport and highly fascinating. New ideas, clever hints, etc. Price 10c. Must please or money back. Address J. W. Bilodeau, L. B. 468, Lyndonville, Vt.

As high as $10 for Old False Teeth Any Description. Mail to H. Byrons, 4250 Grand Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$35.00 Profit Nightly. Small Capital Starts You. No experience needed. We teach you the business. Catalog free. Atlas Moving Picture Co., 407 Franklin Bldg., Chicago.

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Write For Free Copy "Hints to writers of Photoplays, Stories, Poems." Also catalog of books. Atlas Pub. Co., 26, Cincinnati.

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

MOTION PICTURE ACTING

Free—"Motion Picture Folder." New faces—all types needed in Pictures. Experience not essential. Information furnished. Sierra Co., Box 1797-X9, Los Angeles, Calif.

PHOTO FINISHING

Films Developed free. Perfect prints. We do the best work in this, the photo city. No charge for developing when we make the prints. No matter where you live, send us your films. We return promptly by parcels post. Bryans Drug House, Rochester, N. Y.

Neat Permanent Finishing. All postage paid. Prompt service. Mailing boxes furnished. Get prices and Samples free. C. Grant Myers, Summit, New Jersey.

Your Kodak Films Developed 5c. a Roll. Prints 3c. each. Expert workmanship. Washington's best equipped studio. The Sport Mart Inc., Dept. C. Wash., D. C.

Trial Offer. Roll Films Developed and six prints, or 8 reprints for 8 cents. Joe O'Hern, Hannibal, Mo.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

$4.25 Each Paid for U. S. Eagle Cents dated 1856. Keep all money dated before 1895, and send 10c at once for New Illust'd Coin Value Book, 4x7. It may mean a fortune. Clarke & Co., Coin Dealers, Box 20, LeRoy, N. Y.

Will Pay $75.00 for 1884 Trade Dollar. 10 cents for 1912 nickels, S. mint. We buy for cash premiums all rare coins, bills and stamps to 1912—all rare old cents to dollars. Send now 4c. Get our Large Coin Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

FARM LANDS

Poor Man's Chance—$5 monthly buys 40 acres, productive land, near town; Price $200; Other bargains; Box 425-Y, Carthage, Mo.

Productive Lands. Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 14 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

Land Hungry Men! Work for yourself on 10 acres! Good land for poultry, fruit, vegetables, near good markets, towns, schools. In Michigan's Fruit Belt. Only $250. $5 down, $4 monthly. Write for big booklet free. Owner, George W. Swigart, C1246 First Natl. Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

Virginia, N. C., W. Va., & Ohio Farms at $15.00 per acre & up offer big value for the price. Best climate, markets, schools & transportation. Good land and neighbors. Write F. H. LaBaume, Agrl. Agt. N. & W. Ry., 269 Arcade, Roanoke, Va.

$500. Buys a 40 Acre Chicken and Hog Ranch in South Texas, $100. Cash balance $100. per year. Grow Pork, Beans, Chickens and Eggs for the Mighty Army. F. P. Bickenbach, El Paso, Tex

FARMS FOR SALE

Money-making Farms, 15 states, $10 an acre up; stock, tools, and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue. Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3027, New York.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

Cactus

There is cactus and cactus, but it is said the presence of these plants was not noted in Europe until after the discovery of America. The early traders who carried on a commercial business took back to Spain, England and other countries such interesting and curious plants as they saw in the New World. Except for a few species, the cacti are strictly indigenous to the Western hemisphere. For the most part they are thorny, but a no less authority than Luther Burbank insists that the "thornless cactus" is no more of a novelty than a "thornless watermelon." But among the larger varieties there were none without spines. No interest was taken in their agricultural or horticultural possibilities. About seventeen years ago Burbank began to experiment in an endeavor to breed out the thorns and these experiments have convinced him that in its original state the cactus had leaves the same as other trees and plants.

In Mexico among the poorer classes the very tender growths of certain varieties of cactus are eaten raw, made into a sort of salad or cooked as may be desired. Other varieties have been used in the preparation of certain compounds in the treatment of disease. Several of the cactus families of the desert yield a fruit that is edible, and many is the desert traveler whose life has been saved by scooping a hollow in the trunk of the prickly tree and drinking the water to be found conserved there. The fruit, aside from being agreeable to the taste, is refreshing and nourishing. In certain parts of Mexico species of the Opuntia, known as tuna, from a considerable part of the diet of the peons. In many places it is grown for the market and finds ready sale among all classes. The inner pulp, which contains the seed, possesses a pleasant flavor and creates the happy sensation of coolness, no matter what the heat of the day may be.

In Texas, Nevada, Arizona and California cattle are fond of the thorny variety and it is said that when the animals hear the roar of the gasoline torch they run toward it just as do chickens when the dinner call is given. The torch is used in burning the spines off the cactus slabs. This operation being performed the forage plant may then be eaten by the cattle without any fear that the dangerously sharp spines will stick to their noses.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

Backward Lover

It was Easter Eve in leap year, and the young thing, who had been receiving long but somewhat unsatisfactory visits from the very shy young man, decided she might take a chance. Robert had brought her a splendid Easter lily.



"I'll give you a kiss for that lily," she promised, blushingly.

The exchange was duly, not to say happily, made. Robert started hurriedly toward the door.

"Why, where are you going?" asked his girl in surprise.

"To the florists for more lilies," he replied.

Repentant

"Before we were married," said wifie reproachfully, "you used to bring me flowers or candy every time you called, but now"——

"Say no more about it," interrupted hubby. "Nobody regrets it more than I do."—N. Y. World.

First Thinker—"There's one way I have it over Washington."

Second Thinker—"I'm your friend, so I'll listen to it."

First Thinker—"He couldn't tell a lie. I can."—Kansas City Star.

Appropriate



"What is the name of your dog?"

"Macbeth!"

"That's a curious name for a dog."

"He howls a great deal at night, got the idea from that quotation, 'Macbeth doth murder sleep.'"—Birmingham Age-Herald.

The Requirements

Willie came up to his mother with an expression of anxiety on his face. "Ma," he asked, "if a poor, hungry little boy was to come to the back door and ask for something to eat would you give him that piece of pie that was left over from dinner?"

"Yes, Willie, of course I would," said the mother.

Willie's face cleared.

"All right," he said, "just wait a minute till I run round to the back door."—Ladies' Home Journal.

Flyixis

(A story of the tanbark)—Old man Drugg, in his skull cap, sat dozing behind the counter of his shop, outside which a sign read; "Drugg, Druggist, Drugs."

A sporty looking man with a black mustache and a nervous smile and a green suit and an imitation panama and a package of cigarettes entered and inquired, "Have you anything that will make a race horse run faster?"



"I have," said old man Drugg. "Flyixis. My own invention."

"I'll trouble you for some, please."

"No trouble at all—$5 a capsule," said old man Drugg impolitely.

And the stranger bought a capsule and departed.

That same evening he returned, in rather more of a hurry and with his nervous smile even more pronounced.

"Did it work?" asked old man Drugg.

"Did it work!" repeated the sporty one. "My horse kept on going like a streak of buttered lightning in a straight line over the fence. Give me two capsules of that stuff please. I'll have to catch that animal."—Detroit Free Press.

A New York lawyer tells of a man who had been convicted of stealing by a certain "Down East" Judge, well known for his tenderheartedness.



"Have you ever been sentenced to imprisonment?" asked the Judge, not unkindly.

"Never!" exclaimed the prisoner, suddenly, bursting into tears.

"Well, well, don't cry, my man," said his honor, consolingly "you're going to be now."

Court Scene

Judge—"What is your name?"
Swede—"Yon Yonson."
Judge—"Are you married?"
Swede—"Yah."
Judge—"Whom did you marry?"
Swede—"I married a woman."
Judge (with indignation)—"Did you ever hear of anybody marrying anybody else but a woman?"
Swede—"Yah. My sister, she married a man."

The Very Man

Irate business man—"You book agents make me so angry with your confounded nerve and impudence that I cannot find words to express my feelings!"



Agent—"Then I am the very man you want. I am selling dictionaries."—Pickings.

A Practical Profit Sharing Plan

"Spend your money after you have earned it; never before."—Dr. Lyman Abbott.

One of the large Minneapolis flour milling companies early in 1915 gave every one of its 700 employes a check for $25 with instructions to take it to a savings bank and deposit it, the check being valueless otherwise.

The object of these gifts was to foster thrift among the employes. In order that the saving habit, once started by the opening of the account, may be kept up, an additional incentive to save part of their earnings has been made to the company's workers.

This is embodied in a letter which reads in part as follows:

"If you continue in our employ until November 1, 1915, bring your savings bank book to us. We will then give you a check for half the net increase in your bank balance in excess of the original $25.

"In other words, if your bank book shows $45 on deposit November 1, 1915, we will add $10 to your savings. If your book shows $75 on deposit on November 1, 1915, we will add $25 to your savings, etc.

"In no case will the amount paid under the arrangement exceed $25."

One of the remarkable features was that a large number took to the bank, in addition to their gift check, savings that never had been deposited. One man brought $200 and a large number added to the check enough to insure the payment of a $25 check November 1, 1915.

Several of the employes had savings accounts already and merely added the check to their savings. Two hundred and seventy-four opened saving accounts the day the company issued the check.

This is a really practical form of profit sharing as it helps people to help themselves and encourages the formation of a permanent habit of systematic economy.

T. D. MACGREGOR.

Workmen were digging a cellar near Oregon City, Ore., when they struck into a bed of hard clay. This, upon investigation, proved to be the burial place of at least 20 Indians. The skeletons were laid out like a wheel's spokes, with the heads toward the center. Arrow heads found lodged among the bones lead to the belief that the Indians were slain in battle.

Overland

TRADE MARK REG.

LIGHT FOUR $695

f. o. b. Toledo



The Road to Happiness

Light Fours

Touring	*$695*
Roadster	*$680*
Country Club	*$795*

Big Fours

Touring	** $895*
Roadster	** $880*
Coupe	*$1250*
Sedan	*$1450*

** Effective May 1st, 1917.*

All prices f. o. b. Toledo and subject to change without notice

The automobile has come into your life permanently—or it soon will—to serve your convenience and pleasure, day in, day out, on down through the years.

Its appeal is irresistible.

It is a fundamental factor in modern everyday life.

It rides the road to happiness.

If you purchase a car this season, there are *new* facts for your consideration which should simplify the task of selection.

This year Willys-Overland Motor Cars comprise the most comprehensive and varied line ever built by any one producer.

The economies of our greater production are shared alike by every car in the line.

In thus broadly applying the established Willys-Overland policy of greater production—greater economy, higher quality, lower price—we extend the benefits of our economical advantages to include virtually every class of purchaser.

The Willys-Overland dealer is in a peculiarly pleasant position to frankly and honestly discuss with you your needs and requirements in a motor car.

For whatever your need he has the car to fill it and he is prepared to demonstrate to you that he is offering you the dominant value among cars of its kind.

See him today—talk it over—let him show and demonstrate the car you ought to own to ride the road to happiness.

Catalogue on request. **Please address Dept. 1028.**

The Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio

Manufacturers of Willys-Knight and Overland Motor Cars and Light Commercial Wagons

"Made in U. S. A."

Light Sixes

Touring	** $1025*
Roadster	** $1010*
Coupe	*$1385*
Sedan	*$1585*

** Effective May 1st, 1917.*

Willys-Knights

Four Touring	*$1395*
Four Coupe	*$1650*
Four Sedan	*$1950*
Four Limousine	*$1950*
Eight Touring	*$1950*

All prices f. o. b. Toledo and subject to change without notice

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

VOL. XXIX — JUNE 1917 — NO. 8



Published at AUGUSTA, MAINE.

See Story Page 14

Copyright 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 10.

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

Stop the Panicky Buying and Hoarding of Food—It Helps the Speculators to Raise Prices

UNPREPAREDNESS is a characteristic of the American people that costs them dear whenever they are brought face to face with a critical situation which has been obviously ahead of them and should have been provided for long in advance. It is a habit with them and their government to ignore an approaching crisis until it is upon them and then, suddenly awaking from their indifference, to take inconsiderate action in a panicky disregard of consequences.

With the example of Germany and the costly mistakes of England and France before us we have failed to profit by the lesson and have drifted on unconcernedly until sucked into the whirlpool of the world war. And now, in a panicky effort to meet the emergency, the people are resorting to unwise expedients while Congress, quite as frantic, is designing freak legislation on the one hand and delaying sound measures of vital importance and immediate urgency on the other through long discussion and disagreement over minor details. Although, at the present writing, it is more than a month since Congress declared war the government has not been able to take the first step toward raising the proposed new war army because Congress was divided on certain features of the new army bill. And despite the President's proclamation that the food question is the most pressing war problem for us and for our allies, Congress has done nothing in the line of promoting larger production or of conserving our present supply or of protecting the people from extortionate prices by preventing grain and other great food staples from being monopolized for speculative purposes.

Under these conditions it is no wonder that the food panic, which recently started in the large cities, is sweeping the country. For many months food prices had been rising with alarming rapidity and when, after the declaration of war, the government issued its bulletins pointing out the threatened food shortage and urging prevention by strict elimination of waste and by raising as large crops as possible the people were seized with a sudden scare and began buying and hoarding every kind of staple food product in sight. In Chicago the mania become so acute that, despite the deterrent efforts of the authorities and the dealers, the housewives thronged the grocery stores and cleaned out their stocks of flour, sugar and canned goods and even bought them bare of soaps.

This popular movement to forestall the market is unwise because such abnormal and excessive buying produces an artificial shortage in the market that tends to raise prices and play into the hands of the speculators. Mr. Earle, western representative of the American Sugar Refining Company, is reported to have said that "the householders of Minneapolis and the country generally are still engaged in a mad rush of buying sugar and flour with the result they are bidding up prices on themselves." This extraordinary buying and hoarding has reduced stocks and, because of the freight car shortage, has caused a temporary scarcity of sugar in some localities. But that this company expects no shortage of sugar this summer is indicated by the fact that it has recently sold its product under the market. Government and local authorities advise against abnormal buying of food products.

Undoubtedly this advice is sound *provided* the government will do its part to protect the people from extortionate prices by preventing the cornering or manipulation of the market by speculators. Several bills designed for this purpose are pending in Congress, and some effective measure should be adopted at once; otherwise consumers naturally may deem it prudent to protect themselves by buying in large quantities for future use, and the appeal for them to desist as a patriotic duty is not likely to prove impressive so long as speculative buying and hoarding is unrestricted.

Would Tax the Magazines to Death

THE most colossal piece of asinine stupidity that has engaged the serious attention of Congress is the Ways and Means Comittee's report recommending a war tax on periodical publications at a rate and in such form as would cripple all and put many of the popular magazines out of business. Its designers intended it to produce a large increase of revenue, but it will fail of that purpose because in their recklessness they have made it so large and burdensome that, if adopted, it will kill the goose that is expected to lay the golden eggs. It is in the form of an enormous increase in the second-class (magazine and newspaper) postage rate.

Under the present law, which has been in force more than thirty years, the publishers of magazines and newspapers pay postage at the level rate of a cent a pound for mailing their publications to any part of the United States regardless of distance. The proposition is to raise the rate so that a magazine having a nation-wide circulation, like COMFORT, will pay about four times as much postage as at present. That is bad enough, in fact it would be destructive under present adverse conditions with which publishers have to contend because the war has doubled the price of print paper and largely increased the cost of all other printing materials. But it has a worse feature that is positively wicked in its grossly unfair discrimination against magazines as a class and especially against certain magazines consequent on their location, because the proposed increase in postage rate is not level and uniform throughout the length and breadth of the country but is graded according to distance by adopting the parcel post zone system.

If the Committee's recommendation is adopted the rate will be doubled to two cents a pound in the first, second and third zones, raised four cents in the fourth and fifth zones, to five cents in the sixth and seventh zones, and to six cents in the eighth zone. This means that we should have to raise the subscription price of COMFORT, which we have thus far avoided despite the largely increased cost of production which, during the past year, has driven a number of magazines out of existence and forced most of the others to raise their subscription rates. It also means, according to our present calculation, that we should have to grade the increase in subscription price according to distance, so that subscribers in the distant zones would pay a higher rate than those in the nearer zones. At the proposed new rate postage on twelve copies of COMFORT to a subscriber in the eighth zone would cost us nearly the present subscription price, so that the price in that zone would have to be doubled.

Because the magazines can not possibly stand it this tax will have to be passed on to the people, as explained. It is a tax on information, it taxes the dissemination of knowledge which should be encouraged and fostered as heretofore, by the government, or even subsidized rather than discouraged and impeded by burdensome taxation. And the meanest and inexcusable feature of this proposed tax is that it is so contrived that it will not bear equally on the entire reading public but most heavily on the magazine subscribers in the remote rural sections.

With the government expending millions to promote education it seems the height of folly for it to imperil or even impair the activities of the magazines which constitute one of the most important and effective educational forces in existence. The zone rate feature of this tax discriminates unfairly in favor of the small local papers and against such a magazine as COMFORT which has a large nation-wide circulation with many thousands of subscribers in every zone. And yet it is the influence of the national magazines that is overcoming narrow-minded sectionalism and local prejudices by making the people of all sections acquainted with each other and teaching them to respect and be tolerant of each other's ways of life and opinions, that is inspiring the whole people with a sense of common interest and national unity of purpose.

The magazines will cheerfully bear their fair share of the war taxes, but we sincerely hope that, in its long delayed and now hasty efforts at preparation for war, Congress will not perpetrate the stupendous folly and egregious wrong of inflicting zone rates of second-class postage on the people and their magazines. If you are not in favor of sectional discrimination in postage rates, write your Congressman immediately and urge him to vote against putting the second-class postage rate on the zone basis.

No Grain to Spare for Making Intoxicating Liquor

A STRONG movement is on foot to induce Congress to institute nation-wide prohibition of the liquor traffic as a war measure. No other single piece of legislation could possibly contribute so largely toward winning the war or be so generally helpful of the health, morals and material prosperity of the nation. As there is no possible denial of this proposition, why does not Congress act on it? The influence of the liquor interests is the only answer.

To carry this war on to a successful issue we need to make the most effective use of all the human and material resources of the nation; we require all the man power, all the wealth and all the brains at our command. We can not afford to waste money, time or labor. All must be made usefully productive. Yet our people spend nearly two billions of dollars a year for liquors. This stupendous sum would pay half the annual cost of the war, if saved. But spent for liquor it is worse than wasted because of the crime, sickness, pauperism and misery that it causes besides the resulting inefficiency. Congress proposes to prohibit liquor in the military camps. If under the strict discipline of the camp men cannot be made good soldiers in the presence of liquors how can they be good citizens in civil life surrounded by grog shops?

We are short of laborers in the fields, mines, factories and shipyards and need two million men for the army and navy. The hundred thousand men engaged in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor are needed in useful employments. Why not banish liquor and force them to do their share of the nation's toil instead of dealing out death and destruction, want and misery? Under the stress of present circumstances the government is calling upon every man, woman and child to do their utmost to help the great cause, and yet it permits this army of liquor men to sap the vitals of the nation when it is in a death grip with a powerful and merciless foreign foe.

With flour approaching twenty dollars a barrel, wheat at three dollars a bushel and other cereals at correspondingly high prices because of a short grain crop that threatens a world famine, surely there is no grain to spare for making intoxicating liquor with which to poison the people. With our government issuing bulletins appealing to the people to save every crust of bread, it will be criminal on the part of Congress if it does not immediately close the distilleries and breweries and prevent them from taking eighty-five million bushels of grain from the mouths of a famishing people to make it into intoxicating drink. Watch your Congressmen—and you who put them there will know what to do with any of them that vote to starve the people in order that drunkenness may abound and the liquor men wax fat and prosper.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. *We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.* If you do not get your magazine by the 25th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we *must* have your *former* address, as well as your *new* address to make the change. Be sure to send *both*. We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second-class mail matter. Copyright, 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or stitches each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through both loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

A Pollyanna Apron

SO often when one is dressed in something light and delicate, company drops in and it becomes necessary to suddenly prepare a little lunch, serve tea or make a pan of fudge, that a dainty yet practical apron really is an essential of every woman's wardrobe.

The Pollyanna or fudge aprons as they are sometimes called, meet just such emergencies in such an attractive way, they bid fair to become a necessity, although they are still somewhat of a novelty.

Such a model as we are pleased to illustrate this month for the benefit of our readers, if copied in general design, we guarantee to be ornamental as well as useful, in fact, almost an addition to any summer girl's dainty costume.

As to material, it is less work to select a nice grade of linen toweling, then the selvedges obviate the need of hemming the sides. From one and three quarters to two yards will be sufficient, as the back of the apron only comes to the waistline and is slightly fulled into a belt which fastenes in front as shown. Round out and finish the neck and the bottom with hems. Then for the touch of color. Most any sort of embroidery is appropriate for an apron of this kind. The ornamental of the one shown in our illustration consists of a most artistic grouping of colors including blues, pinks,



POLLYANNA APRON.

lavenders and greens, used in working out a simple design in French knots, with outline stitch for the vines and leaves.

The neck and belt are finished by buttonholing with black. This tends to bring out the light masses of color and make the work distinctive as a whole.

A Crocheted Boudoir Cap

As these dainty caps have evidently come to stay the modern girl wants a variety of styles to choose from, so our second model doubtless will please the miss of the nimble fingers, who just loves to crochet.

A soft mercerized cotton should be selected and steel hook No. 10 or 12.

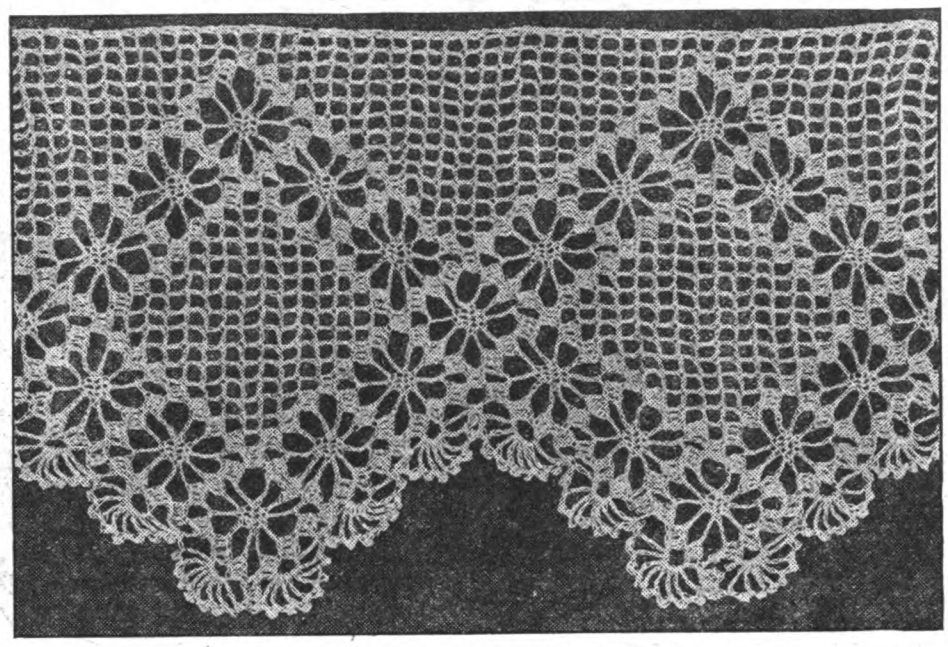
The work is begun in the center with chain (ch.) 6 stitches (st.) join in ring, ch. 3.

1st round.—24 d. c. thread over hook twice, in ring, join by sl. st.

2nd round.—Ch. 12, 1 s. c. in 5th st. d. c., ch. 10, 1 s. c. in next 5th d. c., repeat making 6 chs. 10 in all, join by sl. st. to first ch 12, ch. 2.

3rd round.—1 s. c., 12 d. c., 1 s. c. under each of the chs. of 10, join, sl. st. to 3rd d. c. in 1st group of doubles.

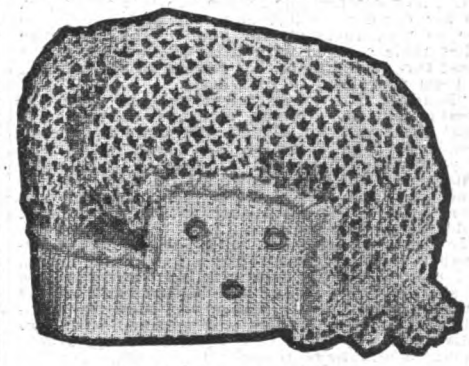
4th round.—Ch. 6, form p. by sl. st. in 2nd ch., ch. 6, form p., ch. 2, 1 s. c. in 7th d. c.



OPEN SQUARE SPIDER WEB LACE.

This makes one picot ch., make another picot ch. in the same way, then 1 s. c. in 10 d. c., 1 p. ch., 1 s. c. in 3rd d. c. in next group of doubles. Continue in this way making 2 p. chs., on each group of doubles and 1 p. ch. between, join last p. ch. between picots in first chain.

5th round.—Ch. 10, * 1 s. c. between picots of next ch., turn and work 12 singles under ch. 10, ch. 3, turn, 1 d. c. on each s. c., 1 p., ch., join to 3rd p. ch. in last round, 2 p. ch., join the 4th p. ch. in last round. Ch. 10, now repeat from * or



CROCHETED BOUDOIR CAP.

work over this ch. in the same way as over the first ch. 10.

Repeat making 6 groups of doubles as explained with the p. chs. between, in this round. Join last p. ch. to end d. c. of first group.

6th round.—1 p. ch., 1 s. c. in 7th d. c., 1 p. ch., join to ch. 1 p. ch., join to 3rd d. c. of next group. Repeat, working over each group of doubles in this way.

7th round.—Same as the 5th round.

8th round.—Same as the 6th round.

Continue alternating these two rounds, the only difference being the increased number of picot chains between the groups of doubles. Work in this way until one has completed 13 groups of doubles counting from the center out, then add one or more rows of p. chs. until the cap is sufficiently large. Run an elastic in the 4th row from the edge.

The Priscilla Turnback

This should be made with heavy mercerized crochet cotton and worked with a fine bone hook thus—ch. 23 stitches, turn, 22 singles on ch., ch. 1, turn, 22 s. c., working through both loops of each st. Make 20 more rows in this way. Next row 12 s. c., ch. 1, turn, 12 s. c., 38 more rows of 12 s. c., ch. 9, turn, 22 rows of 22 s. c. Sew the lower edge to the cap and add a frill of narrow lace to the upper edge. Decorate each side with three imperial roses of two shades of pink embroidery silk.

These are very easily worked. Thread a needle with one strand of each of the shades of silk and start with three over and over stitches in the center then take long stitches underneath, from side to side, thus working the silk round and round, building up about the center stitches so that the finished roses stand out.

Open Square Spider Web Lace

Begin with chain 70 stitches.

1st row.—Sk. 7, 4 d. c. in next 4 sts., ch. 6, sk. 5, 1 s. c. in each of next 5, ch. 6, sk. 5, 4 d. c. in next 4, make 13 sps. (ch. 2, sk. 2, d. c. in next, 1 d. c. (making 2 d. c. at end).

2nd row.—Ch. 3, d. c. on d. c., 12 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk. (on last of 4 d. c. and 1st 3 sts. of 6 ch.,) ch. 5, 3 s. c. in center of 5 s. c., ch. 5, 1 blk. (on last of 6 ch. and 1st d. c. following), 1 sp., 1 blk. (on last d. c. and in ch. loop at end,) turn.

3rd row.—Ch. 10, 1 blk. (on 3 sts. of 10 ch. and 1st d. c. following,) ch. 4, 1 tr. c. under 2 ch. between blks., ch. 4, 1 blk. (on last d. c. and on 5 ch.,) ch. 4, 1 tr. c. in center of 3 s. c., ch. 4, 1 blk. (on last of 5 ch. and 1st d. c. following,) * ch. 4, tr. c. under 2 ch., ch. 4, 1 blk., 11 sps., 2 d. c., turn.

4th row.—Ch. 3, d. c. on d. c., 10 sps., * 1 blk., ch. 5, 3 s. c. on last of 4 ch., over tr. c., and in 1st of next 4 ch., ch. 5, 1 blk., ch. 2, sk. tr. c., 1 blk. (on 4 ch. and on 1st d. c. following,) * ch. 5, 3 s. c. as before, ch. 5, sk. 3 d. c., 1 blk. on last d. c. and under ch. loop following, turn.

5th row.—Ch. 10, 1 blk. (the turning is made always, while increasing point, as in 3rd row,) ch. 6, 5 s. c. over 3 s. c. and in ch. on each side, ch. 6, 1 blk. (on d. c., 2 ch. and next d. c.,) * ch. 6, 5 s. c., ch. 6, 1 blk. (sk. 3 d. c.,) 9 sps., 2 d. c., turn.

6th row.—Ch. 3, d. c., 8 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., ch. 5, 3 s. c., ch. 5, 1 blk., 1 sp., * 1 blk., ch. 5, 3 s. c., ch. 5, 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., turn.

7th row.—Like 3rd row to * then 3 sps., 1 blk., ch. 4, 1 tr. c. in center of s. c., ch. 4, 1 blk., ch. 4, tr. c. in sp., ch. 4, 1 blk., 7 sps., 2 d. c., turn.

8th row.—Ch. 3, d. c., 6 sps., like 4th row from next third s. c., ch. 1, repeat making 1 d. c. in last st., ch. 1, turn.

3rd row.—1 s. c. in each st. in last row, ch. 1, turn.

4th and 5th rows.—Same as the 3rd row.

6th rows.—Same as the 2nd row.

7th, 8th and 9th rows.—Same as the 3rd, 4th and 5th rows.

Repeat last four rows alternately, until work is about 14 inches or long enough to extend from the waistline to back of the neck easily.

Now for front work along the last row for six inches, turn and make four more rows, on 5th row increase by making 2 sts. in last st., increase the same in end of 8th row 9th and 10th rows, then work without increasing until strip is 20 inches long.

Work a similar strip at the other end of the last row of the back, for the opposite front, increasing in the same way.

Finish. Begin at one end of foundation chain and make a row of s. c. all around to opposite end of foundation ch. Then scallop all around in this way 1 s. c., ch. 3, 1 d. c. in next 3rd st., ch. 3, 1 s. c., ch. 3, 1 d. c. Repeat until all edges are completed. Crochet a cord of the wool used double, fasten one end to the lower front corner of one front, finish the other end with small wool ball or tassel, make another cord for the second front.

Crochet covers of single st. for two wooden button molds; when complete sew in center of the back, two inches from the bottom and about three inches apart.

To fasten the jacket in place, cross the fronts over the chest, carrying the cords back, around the buttons and tie in the front.

Summer Shawl of Silk and Wool

For this attractive scarf 8-fold white Germantown wool and pink mercerized cotton or silk should be used. Knit on 1 pair No. 7 needles. A ridge is 2 rows. Cast on 70 stitches of pink and knit 25 ridges.

Join in white wool, do not break the pink, and knit one ridge of wool, then one ridge of pink. Repeat the pink and white ridges until the work from the first row measures one yard. This forms center of scarf. Repeat for the



SUMMER SHAWL OF SILK AND WOOL.

other side finishing the end with 25 ridges all pink. Bind off.

Gather up each end and finish with ribbon loops or pink tassels.

Surplice Sleeveless Jacket

For this style jacket which has a one-piece back and fronts which cross diagonally one will need about the same amount of wool.

Begin with ch. 14 inches long.

1st row.—1 s. c. in each excepting the first st., ch. 3, turn.

2nd row.—3 d. c. in third s. c., ch. 1, 3 d. c. in 1st * to 2nd *, 5 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., work from 2nd * to end of 4th row.

9th row.—Like 5th row to *, 7 sps., 1 blk., ch. 6, 5 s. c., ch. 6, 1 blk., 5 sps., 2 d. c., turn.

10th row.—Like 6th row to * with 4 instead of 8 sps. at beginning, and 9 sps. instead of 1 at end, work from * to end of row like 6th.

11th row.—Like 3rd to *, 11 sps., 1 blk., ch. 4, tr. c. in center of 3 s. c., ch. 4, 1 blk., ch. 4, tr. c. under 2 ch., ch. 4, 1 blk., 3 sps., 2 d. c. turn.

12th row.—Ch. 3, d. c., 2 sps., like 4th row from 1st to 2nd *, 13 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., and work from 2nd * in 4th row to end.

13th row.—Ch. 6, 1 blk., ch. 6, 5 s. c., ch. 6, 1 blk., 15 sps., 1 blk., ch. 6, 5 s. c., ch. 6, 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 d. c., turn.

14th row.—Ch. 3, d. c., 2 sps., 1 blk., ch. 5, 3 s. c., ch. 5, 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 13 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., ch. 5, 3 s. c., ch. 5, 1 blk., turn. Last block is made of last sts., of 6 ch., and 1st d. c. following. The point is now beginning to decrease.

15th row.—Ch. 4, 1 blk., (on last d. c. of preceding blk. and 1st sts. of 5 ch.,) ch. 4, tr. c. in center of 3 s. c., ch. 4, 1 blk., ch. 4, tr. c. under 2 ch., ch. 4, 1 blk., 11 sps., 1 blk., ch. 4, 1 tr. c. under 2 ch., ch. 4, 1 blk., ch. 4, 1 tr. c. in center of 3 s. c., ch. 4, 1 blk., 3 sps., 2 d. c., turn.

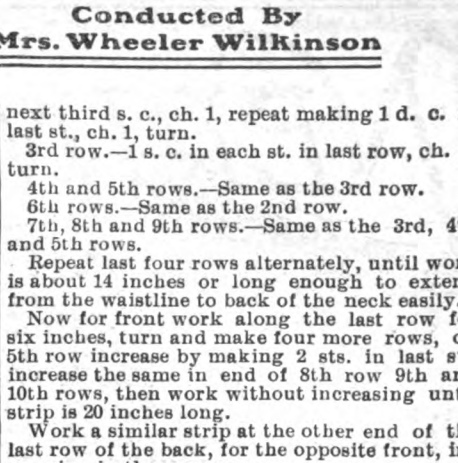
It is not necessary to give further directions for the pattern in detail, as it is so easily copied from the illustration.

For the edge, fasten in under 1st ch. loop, 1 tr. c. under next loop, * ch. 3, 1 s. c. in 3rd. st., 1 tr. c. under same ch. loop, repeat from * 6 times, 1 s. c. under next loop, shell under next loop, and continue in this way, making 3 shells, fastening the 3rd under loop at end of point, ch. 4, s. c. under same loop, then make 3 shells on other side of scallop, fastening with s. c. in ch. loop in depth.

Doily Set of White and Colored Thread

Insert Medallions Fig 1 in centers and edge with tatted rings and points Fig. 2.

To make medallions cut off piece of coronation braid with 42 divisions and sew ends carefully and smoothly together.



DOILY OF WHITE AND COLORED THREAD FIG. 1.

Now with crochet hook make 2 s. c. over joining, skip 3 divisions, 2 s. c. 3 divisions, 2 s. c., very close together, to form small ring, fasten off.

Arrange as shown and on wrong side, with needle and thread catch divisions together so they will be strong.

Edge of medallion 7 p. rings, join 4th p. of each to either side of a division of the braid with color 5 p., chs. 1 ring, join to opposite side same division, see illustration. Two or more rows of tatting can be added to medallions for center of large doilies.

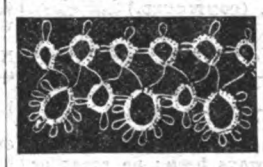


EDGING. FIG. 2.

Fig. 2 Make 7 p. rings, with spool of color, make 2 p. chs., white point of 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., continue.

Zagzag Edging

Begin by making one of the upper small rings of 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., 1 p. 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., close, leave thread about one quarter inch, and make the large picot ring of 4 d. s., 1 p., *, 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 6 times, 4 d. s., close.



ZIGZAG EDGING.

Second small ring and join to first. Make third ring in the same way, only join to large picot ring. Repeat from the beginning

Four Leaf Clover Edge

The small rings are each 8 d. s., 1 p., 8 d. s., join thread and ch., 4 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s. First make 1 small ring, 3 p., ch., 1 small ring join to first ring, ch., ring, join, ch., ring join 3 p. ch., 1 small ring, ch., join second p. to second p. of ch. of 1st completed figure.



FOUR LEAF CLOVER EDGE.

Tatting Book Notice

In response to the demand and for the benefit of our readers who are interested in tatting, we have issued a 16-page booklet of special designs by COMFORT workers.

This Tatting Book illustrates very plainly just how the work is to be done, by showing the various position of the worker's hands, which are accompanied by explicit directions for the different movements used in making the stitch.

It also contains a complete range of patterns from the simplest edgings and insertions to handsome designs worked with one and two threrds, including patterns for doilies, centerpieces, scarfs, lingerie, waists, yokes, collars, infants' and boudoir caps, bags, etc.

We will send a copy of this book free for one new yearly subscription (not your own) at 25c., or for your own subscription or renewal and ten cents extra 35c in all. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NERINE'S SECOND CHOICE

by Adelaide Stirling



Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

John Lispenard, cousin to Kit Belton's mother, marries a Canadian girl. Dying he leaves a widow, two girls, Agatha and Nerine, and one son Maurice. Mrs. Lispenard marries Clarence Mayne, an interloper. At her decease she leaves Clarence Mayne an income until the girls are of age. Lispenard house and money go to the male heir in the direct line. Clarence Mayne goes on a trip to Monte Carlo, Kit Belton comes on a visit, while Maurice Lispenard, denied the education which is his by right, walks from Liverpool, where he is learning to be a mechanical engineer, to be with Kit Belton. Jones, known to Maurice as Lister, is ordered to harness the horses, when they go to see Lord Satterlee in a game of football. Agatha recognizes him. He has attended St. Jude's that he might see her. Maurice invites Lord Satterlee to dine with him. A young maid, not familiar with the house, and suspicious, leaves him in the darkness. He gropes his way to Clarence Mayne's room, where Nerine finds him later. She picks up a fallen table. In a secret drawer she discovers a book with her mother's initials on it. Nerine and Agatha going for a walk meet Lord Satterlee who hopes to see them at the next dance. Returning to Mr. Mayne's rooms the next day Nerine discovers that they are occupied during his absence and detects a strange woman putting the Lispenard silver in a strong bag. Left alone Nerine substitutes stones and minerals and covers them with her silk skirt. The woman returns, there is a struggle and Nerine falls senseless. Leaving Nerine unconscious, and going to the station with the bag she is met by Jones, who discovers the stones in the place of the silver and hurries the woman away. Returning to the coach-house Jones receives a summons from Maurice, who puts him through a rigid interview. Agatha is suspicious that Mr. Mayne is in the plot. Maurice, with his sisters, calls upon Lady Satterlee who thinks they are alike, yet different. Satterlee admits not knowing one from the other at first. Preparations for the dance go on and Nerine is wildly happy. Lady Satterlee, as hostess, invites the Lispenards and Miss Belton to tea, preparatory to the dance, where Nerine, her heart beating happily, promises Satterlee three extra dances at supper-time, refusing one to Mr. Fairfax, Lady Satterlee's cousin. Dancing one of them, she retires to the dressing-room to arrange her hair. Satterlee, not returning she walks down the passage to another room, and indignant at his apparent neglect and the image of Agatha, is about to leave the room when he enters. He mistakes Nerine for Agatha, calling her endearing names, and leaving her to wonder, how many times, he, in talking to her thought she was Agatha. Humiliated, she assumes a new role. Going home she finds Mr. Mayne has returned, and she asks if Maurice has told him of the extraordinary things which happened in his absence. Maurice thinks Jones has something to do with it. Nerine's changed attitude causes Mr. Mayne uneasiness, and he would sleep better if he knew that Maurice's remarks meant nothing. Lord and Lady Satterlee call and announce to Mr. Mayne Agatha's engagement to Lord Satterlee. Lady Satterlee proposes to take Agatha and Nerine home with her. Mr. Mayne is determined to find other amusement for Nerine until the unfortunate silver is forgotten. Interviewing Jones, Mr. Mayne questions him regarding a servant.

CHAPTER XV. (CONTINUED.)

"I DON'T see as you can afford to offend her, sir," he said, with vicious meaning.

Mayne looked at him, and Jones' eyes fell.

"I can afford to offend her, and you, too," he said slowly. "Make no mistake about that. I suppose your past life is pretty much the same today as it has always been; no great or salient features have been providentially wiped out while I was abroad?"

Jones wiped his upper lip with the back of his hand.

"I was not meaning myself—it was Mary," he answered.

"And if Mary makes a fool of herself it is you who will pay the piper, see you to that! You can go now!"

Left alone, the dapper little man fell into so deep a fit of thought that the temperature of his carefully heated room fell several degrees before he noticed that his fire was out and that darkness had fallen.

This annoying news had simplified matters in one way; the Belton girl. Before it would not have been safe; twenty-five miles was too trivial a distance in the country to have between Nerine Lispenard and the inmate of the cottage. Of course, it was a hundred chances to one that Nerine would never visit the out-of-the-way village where danger lay, but danger was practically absent now, and an empty cottage could tell no tales, even supposing the girl did drive over on one of those senseless excursions dwellers in country houses affected.

He knew Kitty Belton would want Nerine, and Lady Belton was a friend of his, and far less likely to believe idle chatter about him than the red-headed Satterlee woman. He would consider ten pounds—his miserly soul wincing—well expended to get Nerine out of Lispenard House during her sister's absence. He could never go out without thinking that she might be prowling about and finding out something.

There was nothing like striking while the iron was hot (though not even to himself did Mr. Mayne make use of that vulgar proverb); he would get things settled as soon as the obnoxious Satterlee had taken leave. He would even—with a rueful smile—play the beneficent stepfather for the occasion! It was with wild surprise that Nerine received a message, toward nine o'clock, that Mr. Mayne would be pleased if she could speak to him. She entered the room where he was seated at his solitary dinner, prepared to know nothing in answer to any questions about the frustrated burglary, for of course that was why he wanted her. But she returned to Agatha and Kit in still greater surprise, after a ten minutes' absence.

"What did he say?" demanded these damsels, with acute interest, as she sat down in her old place on the rug in the morning-room. Did he cross-examine you as to our every movement during his absence? Did he ask you"—breathlessly—"where you got your dresses?"

"He rose and offered me a chair. I sat down. 'Would I have a glass of wine?' I would not. He would—ah—come to the point at once. Did I propose going with you, Agatha, to Lady Satterlee's."

"You said yes?"

"I said no," with a curious little smile. "I had promised to visit Miss Belton if he allowed me to go anywhere. Wait now," she added in response to the wildly diverse comments drawn from her hearers; "the point is to come!

"He agreed with me. 'Nothing was in worse form than to rush too ardently at future connections by marriage; Agatha was best alone,' and he 'hoped we would both provide ourselves with necessary additions to our wardrobe,' and he handed me this with airy grace, and opened the door for me."

She threw down on the hearth rug a twenty-pound note.

"What did you say?"

"Nothing. Bowed profoundly like Sir Charles Grandison in moments of doubt, and went out."

"Why did you take it?" Agatha said.

"Because you cannot go to the balls of the nobility with no clothes but one white satin frock, and it is all ours, not his, to begin with, and it is always well to have money. We can leave as soon as you are ready to go with Lady Satterlee."

Agatha was nearly in tears.

"I think you might come," she said.

"Mr. Mayne would not let me go with you; I could see that."

"I don't see why."

"Nor do I. But it is so. He spoke quite feelingly about it being really providential that I need not be left here alone. So feelingly, indeed, that I cast about to see if he could be in any way going to further his interest by my absence."

Could Mr. Mayne have heard her!

CHAPTER XVI.

NERINE'S RECEPTION AT BELTON COURT.

Kitty Belton and Nerine were driving in the dusk up the hilly avenue to Belton Court. Both were tired and silent after their journey, and Nerine was depressed as well. It was her first parting from Agatha, who had gone off with the Satterlees the day before, with an augmented wardrobe, and with a mind slightly injured by her sister's obstinacy in not going with her.

Nerine had made use of Mr Mayne's unwilling generosity to pay the bill for those white satins. It was bad enough to have a gown which reminded her of an evening of dust and ashes; but it was unbearable to have the bill for it hanging over her head. With what money was over she bought a black crepon, and made it with no extra pains as to trimming. It was black, and plain, and decent. The girl shuddered now at the remembrance of the careful coquetry with which she had arranged the folds of that hateful white satin.

As they ascended a steeper rise than usual Kit looked out of the open window of the brougham.

"Here we are! I thought we should never get home."

Nerine looked out as they drew up under the entrance leading to the big, gray house. What a huge place it looked, with its many windows lit up and shining, and how imposing! For the fiftieth time she wondered what Kit's mother was like, and if she would be sorry that she had not stayed at home—with her stepfather!

"Bundle out!" Kit cried, joyfully. "Never mind the things; some one will look after them."

And she dragged Nerine by the hand into the big hall and across it to the drawing-room, speaking affably to the servants as she went, and inquiring if her mother had gone up to dress yet.

"Here you are!" plunging ecstatically into the drawing-room and through a maze of furniture to a sofa drawn up to the fire at the far end, where sat a plump little lady in a velvet gown. "I thought we were going to be late for dinner, Jenkins drove so slowly," kissing her mother. "And I've brought Nerine, as you said. Agatha couldn't come, because she has got engaged, and been carried off by her mother-in-law."

"Gently, my dear, gently," Lady Belton said, laughing. "And so this is Nerine," kissing the tall girl kindly. "You are very welcome, my dear. I am glad to have you at Belton at last. And what a likeness you have to your dear father," retreating a few steps and regarding her with a softened face.

"Where's tea?" said her daughter, prosaically. "We couldn't get any at Swindon; there wasn't time."

"Tea! It is half-past seven; don't you see that I am ready for dinner? And your father will not wait an instant beyond the quarter, as you know. Run off, both of you, and wash your faces, and I will send you each a glass of sherry. Don't wait to dress now, Kit," warningly. "You must come as you are, for your father has been out all day, and won't stand your being late."

A very little thing will sometimes raise the drooping spirit. Miss Nerine Lispenard, as she went up the shining oak stairs after Kit, felt an unwonted cheerfulness stealing over her at the knowledge that for tonight at least she need not array herself in that detested satin.

"Oh, here's papa!"

Nerine looked up and saw her guide embracing a fresh-faced old gentleman with gray hair, and arrayed in a spick and span evening toilet.

"Daddy, this is Nerine. And you mustn't stop to say anything to her now, for mother says she won't wait dinner for us."

"Wait dinner! I should think not." Nerine found her hand taken in comfortable grasp. "Very glad to see you, my dear. Bless my soul!" as the girls went up and he was left alone on the landing; "what a fine young woman we have here—and what a living image of her father!"

Lady Belton was as good as her word. A neat maid stood with a tray inside the door of Miss Belton's bedroom, and Nerine drank her tiny glass of sherry and munched a dry biscuit with thankfulness, while the maid went noiselessly about and poured out warm water in her room and Kitty's, and then, with rapid, accustomed fingers, brushed and tidied the dark locks and the fair.

Oh, how comfortable to live like this every day. To lay down your hat and coat and have some one to pick them up for you. To have a huge toilet table covered with little silver pots, and a great three-sided glass, big enough to see yourself in from your head to your heels.

"Ready?" Kit broke relentlessly in upon the guest's musing. "Come along. I asked Maria what there was for dinner, and there are sweetbreads for one thing, so don't you waste any of your appetite on fish. I shan't," in a rapid whisper as they ran down-stairs. "Ah, they've gone in, have they?" to a man servant, who opened the dining-room door with a magnificent wideness as they went in.

It was a pretty room, with nothing very fashionable or smart about it; oak Turkey carpet, and ugly brown pictures were all Nerine noticed as she sat down in her high-backed chair at the dinner table. But the dinner was more than excellent, though the table was adorned with jonquils in a way that Lady Satterlee, the orchid loving, would have thought boded little for the contents of the Belton greenhouses.

"How are the children?" Kit asked in a judicial and elder-sisterly manner, as she attacked the sweetbreads.

"Very well; but Miss Bruce has had a sore throat lately and doesn't seem her usual self. I did not let them have any lessons today."

"You can take a turn at teaching them tomorrow, Kit," Sir William Belton looked up with a twinkling eye. "Your last attempt was crowned"—chuckling—"with such glory."

Kit colored.

"Daddy," she said, petulantly, "you know they were not our children; it was mother's class in the Sunday school. How could I help it if a hateful boy would accompany all the hymns on a mouth-organ? And if I had known we were going to have the history of Joseph for a lesson I would have marked the place in the book."

Sir William roared with laughter.

"She couldn't find out in which book of the Old Testament Joseph and his brethren were!" said Sir William, turning confidentially to Nerine, "and so she told the class stories about tigers and robbers till the lesson hour was over."

"My dear, you exaggerate, surely!" Lady Belton wished William would sometimes remember the presence of the servants.

But the daughter completed her father's misdemeanors.

"Oh, I did indeed!" she said, cheerfully. "Anything to get away from Joseph. And if I had not taken up their attention, mother, they would have pinched the legs of the infant class just in front. They had begun to, when I fortunately had the inspiration about robber stories."

Lady Belton shook her head, though she laughed.

"Be assured that, in view of that inspiration, I shall let the children run wild if poor Miss Bruce continues ill, rather than deliver them over to your tender mercies."

Nerine looked quickly at her hostess, but said nothing. She was sorry for the governess and her sore throat, but she wondered if Lady Belton would let her teach the children if Miss Bruce had to go home or her indisposition continued. It would be a priceless resource in the morning; give her an occupation, and something to wake up her thoughts.

"How old are they?" she asked.

"Who? Oh, the children," Kit returned. "May is twelve and Joan six, and"—with an air of unbiased judgment—"I really think Joan is a little the worst of the two."

Now, Kitty, you are too bad; I will not have it." Lady Belton's voice rose indignantly. "They are dear little girls, Nerine, though, like other people," with significance; "they sometimes let their spirits run away with them."

"May drives a tandem of donkeys all over the place, and Joan keeps a white rat in the nursery cupboard," remarked their elder sister. "And if you had been run away with and nearly killed by May and her donkeys as often as I have, or had that white rat dropped on your head in the dark, you would have an excellent idea of their spirits, mother."

"Oh, yes, that wretched beast!" Lady Belton shuddered and so, alas! did Nerine. "William," with severity, "I really think you should forbid Joan having that white rat. It is such a disgusting animal."

Sir William looked up mildly from his bunch of raisins.

"Why don't you, my dear?" was all he said; but Kit laughed outright, and Lady Belton rose rather majestically from the table.

"Nerine, you must be tired," she said, hastily. "Come, Kitty, your father wants his cigar."

"Mother is going to forbid Joan to keep her rat," Kitty said to her father in a stage whisper, "for the seventy-second time!"

And she hastened past her mother in the doorway, to escape a just rebuke from the plump little lady whom every one adored and imposed upon, but never obeyed at all.

Nerine, seated in a deep soft chair by the drawing-room fire, wondered presently why she had ever had terrors about coming. It all seemed so easy, so simple and comfortable here. The house divided against itself at home seemed very far off; Mr. Mayne a vague nuisance at worst; Satterlee—yes, even Satterlee—a dream!

Kit had disappeared immediately after dinner, and there was no one to help her out with the answers to Lady Belton's placid inquiries about the Satterlees, Maurice, her own home occupations and Agatha's.

"Mr. Mayne must be a very curious person," Lady Belton observed, "but well-meaning. Oh, well-meaning, of course!" She gave a shrewd glance at the quiet, handsome face opposite her. "And yet I don't know," slowly, "I found a letter lately which set me wondering. Did Kit tell you?"

Nerine shook her head.

"Well, perhaps she forgot it; but if I can find it in the morning, I will show it to you. It was not exactly important, only odd."

She stopped abruptly, and Nerine sat silent without taking much heed of remarks which would have made Maurice give Lady Belton no peace till the letter was produced.

CHAPTER XVII.

A NEW OCCUPATION FOR NERINE.

"Where have you been, Kitty?" Lady Belton asked, as her daughter entered, arrayed in a tea-gown which seemed to be all lace.

"Changing my dress. Mother, don't you think Nerine ought to go to bed? She must be so tired? Oh, and I went in to see Miss Bruce; you never told me she had been in bed for two days."

"My dear child, how imprudent of you! I told you the poor woman was ill, and I meant to tell you not to go to see her till we were certain that her sore throat was not the beginning of something more serious. You are so rash, Kitty."

"I'm not so fussy about every little cold, like you and Miss Bruce, mother. I believe you both enjoy your casual ailments."

"Never mind what I enjoy now, Kitty. And remember that I really forbid you to go and see Miss Bruce until the doctor is sure that she has not anything worse than a cold." Lady Belton was as ruffled as a cross canary bird. "Now understand me, Kitty. I mean it. I am not going to have you and all the children taking scarlatina. For one thing, it might utterly prevent our going up to town, and I suppose you mean to be presented this season!"

Kit laughed.

"Oh, you silly old mother," said she, as she kissed her. "Nobody has scarlatina, and nobody is going to have it. Of course, I must be presented! Hasn't my gown been ordered?"

"Ordered long ago." Her annoyance subsiding, for before Kit's visit to Lispenard House she had shied off undisguised from going to London at all. "And if you are a good girl we shall leave here in time for the last drawing-room in March."

Nerine gave a little start. They were well into February now. That meant that in three weeks she must return to Lispenard House, and her heart sank a little, though of course she could not expect Lady Belton to take her up to town.

The thought made her look so weary that her hostess saw it.

"My dear child, you must go to your bed," she said with a kindly glance, "and you, too, Kit. Oh, yes, be off with you now; we do not want any pale cheeks in the morning. I think you will be comfortable next to Kitty," as she bade Nerine good night, "and if there is anything that Kit forgets to see that you have, you must ask for it as you would at home. Go and say good night to your father, Kitty, and don't sit in that cold room of his till all hours."

Kit laughed as she left the room.

"Mother has a 'don't' for everything, but we never mind her. She means well. I'll come up with you before I go to say good night to father, you look so tired."

Tired Nerine was, but as the door closed upon Kitty she looked about her with a delicious sense of the utter luxury of being tired in such a place. The warm room, the soft water, the heaps of towels, were each one a fresh joy; the brass bed with its spring mattresses a revelation to her weary frame.

As she lay watching the flicker of the fire on the tiled hearth with its brass fittings, she wondered dreamily what Lady Belton had meant about a letter. Was it about them, or whom? It did not matter tonight anyhow; nothing—turning luxuriously in her soft linen sheets—mattered tonight but going to sleep.

She must have gone to sleep at once, for it did not seem a minute since she had watched the firelight on the glistening tiles when there was a knock at her door. But the knock meant eight o'clock, and tea and thin bread and butter; and having her bath filled with fresh cold water when the shutters were opened to let in the morning sun, and the fire burned freshly in the grate.

She felt a different being, by the time she was ready for breakfast, from the girl who had arrived weary and dejected on the previous day. How lovely the country looked, even though it was winter, she noted as she leaned out of her open window; and the grass was quite green, so different from the water-soaked yellow fields at home.

She knocked smartly at Kit's door.

"May I come in? Are you ready?"

A husky voice said something. Then Kitty's maid opened the door and came out.

"If you please, Miss Lispenard, Miss Belton says she had a bad cold, and would you tell my lady that she will not get up just yet? Miss Belton did not sleep well at all."

"Go down, Nerine, will you?" called Kitty, languidly, "and tell mother I'm all right, only sleepy."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)



Comfort Sisters' Recipes

The COMFORT Sisters' Corner

This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

IN line with a letter from an Iowa sister, in this issue, on making clothes for a baby, is the following article on bottle feeding and care of milk, which should prove of interest to the mother, and since this is Uncle Sam's advice it can be followed with every assurance of safety.—Ed.

Bottle Feeding

Cow's milk is the most satisfactory substitute for mother's milk. The best milk (this does not mean the richest milk) is none too good. Get "certified" milk if possible. If you cannot obtain certified milk, get the cleanest and purest bottled milk you can find. Milk sold in bulk, or bottled from the can in stores, or by milkmen in their wagons, is likely to be stale and contaminated and not a proper food for the baby, even though it looks and tastes good. "Baby foods" and condensed milks and the like are not satisfactory substitutes for good cow's milk, and often harm the baby.

Raw milk may carry the germs of tuberculosis, scarlet fever, tonsilitis, diphtheria, typhoid and other communicable diseases. Unless the milk is above suspicion, danger should be prevented by proper pasteurization of the milk or by boiling or by sterilization.

Pasteurization

Pasteurization means heating the milk to about 150 degrees F. for thirty minutes and then rapidly cooling it. Milk for the baby should always be pasteurized in the feeding bottle. It may be done as follows: The milk should be mixed and poured into the clean feeding bottles, which should then be stopped with clean, non-absorbent cotton. It is then ready for pasteurization. While a number of satisfactory pasteurizers may be bought in the shops, a home-made pasteurizer can be easily constructed.

Take a wire basket that will hold all the nursing bottles for twenty-four hours and place this basket containing the bottles in a vessel of cold water filled to a point a little above the level of the milk. Heat the water and allow it to boil for five minutes. Then run cold water into the vessel until the milk is cooled to the temperature of the running water. The milk is then put into the ice chest, which should be not warmer than 50 degrees F.

Sterilization

By sterilization of milk is meant the process of rendering it germ free by boiling it on three successive days or by keeping it for fifteen minutes under pressure at a temperature of 242 degrees F.

Boiling

Milk is boiled for one or two minutes in a large vessel and poured immediately into the sterilized bottles, stoppered with cotton, rapidly cooled in running water, and put on the ice. This destroys all living bacteria but not spores or eggs, which will not do harm unless the milk is kept too long after boiling. It should be used within twenty-four hours.

If the baby's milk is to be mixed with other ingredients, such as oatmeal, barley water, rice water, sugar, etc., these should be added to the milk before pasteurization, boiling, or sterilization. When the milk is once prepared the bottle should not be opened until it is given to the baby.

Preservation of the Baby's Milk

After the baby's milk has been prepared, it is very important that it should be kept cold until it is used.

A simple ice box can be made as follows: Procure a wooden box about eighteen inches square and twelve inches deep. Get two tin boxes, one about eleven inches square and nine inches deep, the other ten inches square and nine inches deep. Cracker boxes will do. Cut the bottom out of the larger box. Place three inches of sawdust in the wooden box. Put the larger bottomless box upon the layer of sawdust and fill the space between the wooden and the outer tin box with sawdust. Fasten the pieces forming the lid of the wooden box together with cleats nailed on the outer surface. Tack about fifty layers of newspapers cut to the size of the wooden box to the inner surface of the lid. Make hinges for the lid by tacking two strips of leather onto the outside of the box and then tack additional strips of leather to the front edge of the lid to catch on nails driven into that side of the box, in order to hold the lid down tightly. The ice box is now ready for use. Into the smaller tin box put your wire basket containing the filled and stoppered nursing bottles (or a quart and a pint bottle of milk) and surround them with cracked ice. Place the smaller tin box inside the larger and close the lid. Each morning remove the inner box, pour out the water, clean, and repack with ice. Keep the ice box in a cool, shady place.

This ice box, if properly cared for, and kept full of ice, will keep a day's supply of milk cool and sweet.

Precautions to be Observed in Preparing the Baby's Food

Everything that comes in contact with the baby's food must be clean. The hands should be washed with hot water, soap, nailbrush, and dried with a clean towel before touching anything that goes into the baby's mouth. The dishes used in preparing the food should be boiled and allowed to dry from their own heat. Do not use a dish towel.

Bottles

As soon as the baby has finished his feeding throw out any remaining milk, rinse the nursing bottle, and fill it with cold water. When ready to prepare the milk for the next twenty-four hours, empty the bottles, wash them thoroughly with hot soapsuds and a bottle brush, and then rinse and boil them for fifteen minutes. The bottles are then ready for filling.

Nipples

Only nipples that can be kept clean easily should be used. They should be turned inside out, scrubbed, cleansed, and boiled. After boiling they should be kept covered in a clean, dry glass. Dirty nipples should not be kept with clean ones. Never use nipples connected with long glass or rubber tubes.

Directions for the Bottle Feeding of Babies

Complete instructions for bottle feeding cannot be given in a booklet like this. Babies that are artificially fed should be under the supervision of a physician, who should see them at regular intervals. Very young babies, or those that are not thriving, should always be seen once a week, while older healthy babies should be seen at least once a month, whether they are sick or well. The following rules and suggestions apply to all bottle-fed babies:

Before feeding warm the food to blood heat by putting the bottle in a vessel of warm water. Do not test the temperature of the milk by putting the nipple in your own mouth, but sprinkle a few drops on the inner surface of your arm. Be careful not to allow the food to become too hot and see that it does not cool too much while the baby is nursing. This can be prevented by wrapping the bottle in a piece of flannel.

Hold the bottle for the baby throughout the feeding. Do not coax the baby to take more food than it wants and do not allow it to drink longer than twenty minutes from the bottle. If it takes longer, there is something the matter with the baby or with the nipple.

If there is any food left in the bottle, throw it away; do not give it to the baby later.

—United States Public Health Service.

In Canning Time

IF the high cost of living had been as much in evidence in the days of the fable of the grasshopper and the ant I feel sure the foolish grasshopper would not have wasted his days in dancing but would have emulated the ant and laid in a supply of food for the winter months. Possibly he knew no better so was deserving of pity (though I believe the ant was painfully truthful and unsympathetic) but we have no excuse to offer and if we choose to let the substance of garden and field waste we have no one to blame but ourselves—particularly in these days of homecanning outfits or even the old-fashioned but dependable wash-boiler, which can be used with almost equally good results. Place a rack or trivet in the bottom of the boiler to insure the circulation of water below the jars. The time of cooking varies with different vegetables but with a little care and practise good results are obtained and the amateur gardener is rewarded for his, or her labors, all through the winter months by fruits and vegetables that taste almost as good as when first taken from the garden.—Ed.

STRAWBERRY SURPRISE.—One cup of strawberry juice and one tablespoon of lemon or orange juice mixed with three quarters of a cup of sugar. Whip the whites of two small eggs to a stiff froth, add the fruit juice



STRAWBERRY SURPRISE.

and sugar and one cup of cream and keep stirring until the mixture begins to thicken. Pour into glass serving dish and when stiff, cover with sweetened whipped cream and garnish with strawberries.

PLUM PRESERVE.—To eight quarts of green gages, or other plums, add four quarts of sugar and one quart of water. Prick the fruit and put in preserving kettle with cold water. Boil for five or six minutes and drain. Now put the quart of water in preserving kettle with four quarts of sugar and stir till sugar is dissolved. Boil five minutes, skimming occasionally. Into this syrup put the green gages and cook fifteen to twenty minutes. Put in sterilized jars.

PRESERVED CHERRIES AND CURRANTS.—Put one and one half quarts of currants in preserving kettle and boil, crush and strain through cheese-cloth, carefully saving all the juice. Stem and stone six quarts of cherries, losing as little juice as possible. Put the cherries, currant juice and one quart of sugar in preserving kettle and heat to boiling point, and skim. Let boil fifteen or twenty minutes. Put in sterilized jars or tumblers. MRS. T., Augusta, Maine.

CANNED STRAWBERRIES.—To every pound of berries allow ten ounces of sugar and one quarter cup of water, or, better still, that quantity of juice pressed from berries. Cook the sugar and juice to a thick syrup and let cool slightly. Put the berries into fruit jars and cover with the syrup; adjust the rubbers and covers. Surround with water of same temperature of jars and let boil ten minutes. Tighten the covers, and store in cool place.

CANNED PEAS.—Choose for this purpose peas that are tender. Wash in cold water and scald by pouring boiling water over them and draining. Pack in glass jars. Fill to the brim with cold water and adjust rubbers and put covers on loosely. Put in wash-boiler filled nearly to cover of cans with cold water. Bring to boiling point and boil one hour, adding boiling water as it evaporates. The kettle should be covered. At the end of that time add boiling water to fill jars, fasten covers and cook half an hour longer.

RHUBARB JAM.—To six pounds of rhubarb add six pounds of sugar and six medium-sized lemons, sliced thin. Cut the rhubarb in small pieces, put in large bowl, with lemons, and cover with sugar and let it stand twenty-four hours. Boil, without stirring for nearly an hour and seal in glasses, or cover with paper. M. M., Belfast, Maine.

TO CAN CHICKEN.—Dress the chicken, take out the bones of leg, thigh and breast; pack in cans, add salt to season. Fill cans one quarter full of water; put on a thick rubber, and place cap on loosely; set them on a rack in the bottom of wash-boler, fill the boiler with cold water to within two and one half inches of top of cans; bring to boiling point and boil two and one half hours for young chicken. Always keep the cover on boiler and add more water as it evaporates. When done remove from the boiler, place fresh rubber bands and screw caps on tightly, setting on a warm surface to cool before putting away. Beef and pork can be canned the same way. A. H. K., Ohio.

FRUITED SPONGE OR CUP CAKES.—One half envelope Granulated Sparkling Gelatine, one quarter cup cold water, one cup sugar, two cups grated pineapple, and one cup thick cream. Cook pineapple and sugar until thick then set aside to cool. Soak gelatine in cold water five minutes and let stand over boiling water till dissolved. When cool add to stiffly whipped cream, and beat into pineapple. Cut off tops of individual sponge or cup cakes, hollow out center and fill with above paste. Replace top of cake and cover all of cake with frosting and decorate with pieces of pineapple and figs. If desired, any fresh or canned fruit may be used in place of the pineapple for making the paste.

PEA SOUP.—One can of peas, strained, add boiling water to cover and cook till soft. Press through a strainer. Cream two tablespoons butter and two of flour, add one quart of milk, a teaspoon of salt, a dash of red pepper and one half teaspoon sugar. Add this to the strained peas and heat.

MRS. CHAS. FRIEND, Rex, Oregon.

SALMON BALLS.—One or two eggs, one cup milk, one can salmon, picked fine, and bones removed, and cracker crumbs enough to roll in balls; fry in hot lard. MRS. OTTO GRONER, Bangor, Pa.

CREAMED CHICKEN.—One and one half cups of cooked chicken, cut in small cubes, two tablespoons of butter, two tablespoons flour, one quarter teaspoon salt, same amount of pepper, and one cup of thin cream. Make a sauce of the butter, flour, salt and pepper and milk. Add the chicken and serve on toast. Peas may be added to chicken if preferred.

MASHED POTATO CAKES.—Roll left over mashed potato into balls and flatten into cakes. Put in frying pan to cook, in hot bacon fat or drippings; brown on both sides. For baked cakes, place them on a buttered dish, put a small piece of butter on top of each and let cook until lightly browned.

CHEESE BLOCKS.—Mix thoroughly one cup of soft bread crumbs, one cup grated cheese, one egg, one quarter teaspoon salt, dash of paprika. Turn on a board, pat into a sheet one inch thick and cut in one-inch squares, dip in egg and bread crumbs, and fry in deep fat until a golden brown.—Ed.

CHICKEN PATES.—Melt two tablespoons of butter in a sauce pan and gradually add two and one half tablespoons of dry flour, one third cup of hot chicken stock, one half cup of rich cream, five drops of onion juice, three teaspoons of lemon juice, salt and cayenne pepper. As soon as it boils, add one heaping cup of chopped chicken meat, and when all becomes hot again, serve at once in pate shells.

PATE SHELL PUFF PASTE.—Divide one cup of butter into quarter parts and chill. Sift three cups of flour several times and chop in one quarter part of butter and a scant half teaspoon of salt till mealy. The advantage of chopping instead of working with the fingers is to keep the butter from softening. Add ice water, a little at a time, till a firm dough is made, using a knife to stir it with. The less water used, the lighter will the paste be. Toss the dough in flour till well covered, and then onto rolling-board and roll till a little over an inch thick. Take a quarter of the butter, dredge with flour and roll into long strips and place down center of dough, then fold over the two sides of dough, edges meeting at center, then fold ends to center and double once. Pound to a flat cake with rolling pin and then roll thin. Repeat till remaining quarters of butter are used, then fold again, and roll one third of an inch thick. Cut into rounds; cut rings



CHICKEN PATES.

from rounds, using ice-water between each to hold them together. Chill till stiff and bake in a very hot oven till brown, decreasing heat the last ten minutes.

BRAN GEMS.—Two cups of milk, one and one half cups of bran, one half cup whole wheat, one half cup bread flour, one egg, two tablespoons molasses, one teaspoon soda, one half teaspoon salt and one tablespoon butter. MRS. J. E. D., Malden, Mass.

APPLE, ORANGE AND GRAPE SALAD.—Pare and cut one apple into dice and squeeze over it the juice of quarter of a lemon. Add one peeled and finely cut orange, one eighth cup of white grapes cut into halves and seeded, three tablespoons of nut meats and one tablespoon of seedless raisins. Moisten with salad dressing and serve in nests of lettuce leaves.—Ed.

CORN HOMINY.—Put twelve large ears of corn in a kettle, pour in enough water to cover well then enough ash lye to make the corn skin slip by boiling one and one half hours. Take off, wash several times, or until the corn is clean and white, put in a clean kettle and cook until well done. Season with salt and meat fryings. It is then ready to serve.

MRS. SELDON EATON, Cherryville, Mo.

RICE GRIDDLE-CAKES.—Pour one pint of warm, sweet milk over one and one half cups of boiled rice and stir until the grains are well separated. Add one tablespoon melted butter, the beaten yolks of three eggs and one cup of flour sifted with one and one half teaspoons baking powder (level), and one quarter teaspoon of salt. Beat thoroughly, stir in the stiffly beaten whites of the eggs and bake in small cakes on a well-greased griddle.—Ed.

TONGUE AND SPINACH.—Boil tongue in salt water, until it is tender, cut in thin slices, and pile it around spinach, which has been boiled until tender; drain, chop fine, and season with butter, salt and pepper. Pour over it a sauce made from one heaping teaspoon of flour, two tablespoons of butter, braided together, and stirred into a pint of milk until it thickens.

MARY NORTHEND, Salem, Mass.

FRENCH DAINTIES.—Two envelopes Granulated Sparkling Gelatine, four cups granulated sugar, one and one half cups boiling water and one cup cold water. Soak the gelatine in the cold water five minutes. Add the boiling water. When dissolved add the sugar and boil slowly for fifteen minutes. Divide into two equal parts. When somewhat cooled add to one part one half teaspoon of the lemon flavor found in separate envelope, dissolved in one tablespoon of water, and one tablespoon lemon extract. To the other part add one half teaspoon extract of cloves and color with the pink color. Pour into shallow tins that have been dipped in cold water. Let stand over night; turn out and cut into squares. Roll in fine granulated or powdered sugar and let stand to crystallize. Vary by using different flavors and colors, and adding chopped nuts, dates or figs.—Ed.



TONGUE AND SPINACH.



Knox Sparkling Lemon Jelly Dessert

Soak 1 envelope Knox Sparkling Gelatine in 1 cup cold water 5 minutes and dissolve in 2 cups boiling water. Add ¾ cup sugar and stir until dissolved. Then add ½ cup lemon juice. Strain into molds first dipped in cold water, and chill. Add dates, nuts, berries, oranges, bananas, fresh fruit—or canned fruit. *If fruit is added to the jelly it may be served as a salad on crisp lettuce leaves, accompanying with mayonnaise or any salad dressing.*

I KNOW every woman wants distinctive *clothes* and *hats*. Every woman *should* want distinctive table dainties. By using Knox Sparkling Gelatine you can combine your own *personal* ideas with our *tested* recipes. Each package makes *four pints* of jelly. Besides jellies you can make original and different Salads, Puddings, Candies, and other good things.

Mrs. Charles B. Knox.
President

KNOX SPARKLING GELATINE

FREE RECIPE BOOK

A copy of "Dainty Desserts for Dainty People" sent on receipt of your grocer's name. Enclose 4c in stamps if you wish a pint sample.

Charles B. Knox Gelatine Co., Inc.
425 Knox Avenue Johnstown, N. Y.

BAKED PARSNIPS.—Take as many parsnips as are needed and pare, skin, wash and cut down center. Boil until almost done and then put in dish. Cover the parsnips with small pieces of butter and sprinkle a little pepper over them. Add a few drops of hot water and bake until brown.—Ed.

BROWNIES.—Two eggs, one cup sugar, one half cup butter, two squares chocolate or cocoa to suit taste, three quarters cup pastry flour, one half cup chopped walnuts. Vanilla flavoring. Bake in sheet in moderate oven. No soda, cream of tartar or baking powder is used in these. Cut in strips. They will be better when two or three days old than when perfectly fresh.—Ed.

WHITE NUT CAKE.—One cup of sugar, one tablespoon of butter, two eggs, one cup sweet milk, pinch of salt, three teaspoons of baking powder, one cup of walnut meats, chopped fine, and flour to thicken. Use any desired flavoring.

MRS. HERMAN HAHN, Saginaw, Mich.

FRICASSEE OF PEAS.—Melt one and one half ounces of butter in a stewpan, add one ounce of flour and mix well. Pour in one half pint of boiling stock, add a pinch of pepper and a teaspoon of sugar. Simmer for five minutes, put in the peas (either shelled or canned) and shake them well. Warm thoroughly, add three tablespoons boiled ham, tongue or bacon, cut into very small pieces; garnish with croutons and serve hot.—Ed.

SPONGE CAKES.—Beat three egg yolks in a large cup till light yellow and scrape into mixing bowl and add one and one half cups of sugar and stir well together. Add one half cup of cold water and one teaspoon of vanilla and beat till creamy with egg



SPONGE CAKES.

beater. Add two cups of pastry flour to which has been added one half teaspoon of soda and one teaspoon of cream of tartar. Beat one minute and lastly fold in without much beating the beaten whites of three eggs. Spread dough about an inch thick in pan and bake in moderate oven.

AMBROSIA.—Two oranges, two apples, two bananas, one cup of peaches, three slices of pineapples, a little juice of each and half a package of cocoanut. Chop all the fruits together, sprinkle cocoanut and one cup of sugar over all and let stand two hours. Serve.

MRS. R. W. WILLIAMS, Llano, Texas.

GRAHAM PUFFS.—For one dozen puffs use three eggs, one pint milk, one pint graham flour, one teaspoon sugar, one half teaspoon salt. Mix the graham flour, sugar and salt, beat the eggs till very light, add the milk, then pour it upon the dry ingredients and beat well for three minutes. Turn the batter into hot greased muffin pans and bake in a hot oven one half hour.—Ed.

BAKING POWDER BISCUITS.—Mix and sift twice two cups of flour, four teaspoons of baking powder and one half teaspoon of salt. Work in two tablespoons of butter with tips of fingers and add gradually three quarters of a cup of milk, mixing quickly with a knife. Cut out and bake in a quick oven.—Ed.

EGG DUMPLING.—Two eggs, slightly beaten, one cup sweet milk, one teaspoon salt, two and one half cups flour, and two teaspoons baking powder. Drop from spoon into soup and let boil twenty minutes. Always light. MRS. CLARA L. HOWLING, Ypsilanti, Mich.

FISH ON TOAST.—Pull a cup or more, as required, of salt codfish into bits, and soak a few hours. Heat a cup of cream and put into a saucepan with the soaked fish, add pepper and a little butter, let it become boiling hot, and serve on slices of nicely browned toast. If you have not the cream, use milk thickened to creamy consistency with a little flour, adding more butter. FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

After reading Lonely One's letter I could keep quiet no longer. My dear woman, you are making a mountain out of a mole-hill. If every woman reasoned as you do there would soon be no people in existence. God gave the right of motherhood to woman and I am sure that if there had been a better way of bringing children into the world He would have found it. The months are not endless as you seem to think. You are the guard of the little life God has entrusted to your keeping until prepared for its entry into the world. If you have your health and are capable of bearing a child and caring for it, do not adopt one for no matter how much you might love it, it could never be as much to you as your very own child would be. Put in your months of waiting in preparation for the little stranger. There is so much you can do. It is such a wonderful

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.)

The Masked Bridal

by Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



Edith started to her feet, her face crimson.



Another moment she was in the street.



"Miss Allandale! I am more than glad to see you once more."



"Sorry to trouble you sir, but I have orders to take the lady into custody."

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith. Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Edith Allandale, the only support of an invalid mother pawns a valuable watch. To redeem it she offers a five-dollar gold piece, paid to her by Royal Bryant, to the broker, who, dropping it into the drawer declares it a counterfeit and returns it. Going home her mother suggests it may be genuine and again Edith goes out to buy food and coal. While eating supper an officer enters, followed by the grocer who insists upon Edith's arrest for passing counterfeit money. She is hurried to the station house, leaving her mother in the care of Kate O'Brien. Edith writes to Royal Bryant explaining the situation. He redeems the watch, secures Edith's release and sends her home, where she finds her mother dying. After her death in reading letters, Edith learns she is an adopted daughter, the child of a dear friend, who believes she is legally a wife, until the father of her child admits his perfidy and deserts her. Edith writes Mr. Bryant, giving no address and goes to Boston, securing a position as companion with Mrs. Gerald Goddard. Edith discovers there is a skeleton in the family, when Mrs. Goddard accuses her of attempting to steal her husband's affections. Emil Correlli, Mrs. Goddard's brother is persistent in his attentions to Edith; she tries to avoid him and decides to leave. Mrs. Goddard begs her to stay. Edith, going to walk renders assistance to Mrs. Stewart, who is attracted to her and shows agitation when she learns she is a companion to Mrs. Goddard, and if she needs a friend to come to her. Edith is overtaken by Emil Correlli. Nearing Mrs. Goddard's house, a woman, unknown to Edith addresses Emil in a foreign tongue. Realizing that Edith thinks there is something mysterious in his relation to this woman he endeavors to set it right, renews his protestations of love, offers marriage and is staggered by her refusal. Mrs. Goddard unfolds a scheme which cannot fail to make Edith Allen his wife, but Emil must go away. Mrs. Goddard plans with Edith for a "mid-winter frolic," at their country home. The housekeeper. Mrs. Weld, overhears Mr. Goddard entreating his wife for a certain document. Mrs. Goddard proposes a theatrical performance entitled "The Masked Bridal." The guests arrive. Mrs. Weld takes a folded paper from Mrs. Goddard's jewel case; it vindicates her. Mrs. Goddard, having sent for Edith and seeing Mrs. Weld in an adjoining room devises a scheme to get her from meeting Edith to whom she explains that Miss Kerby and brother who have the leading parts, have been summoned home and requests Edith to supply Miss Kerby's place. Edith objects to what appears sacrilege. Over persuaded she consents and veiled and masked the ceremony is performed. When she hears Mrs. Goddard congratulate Emil she grasps the duplicity and nearly falls senseless. Mrs. Goddard, returning to the ballroom asks Emil to introduce his friend, Mrs. Stewart. Meeting her, Mrs. Goddard calls her husband, who recognizes in Mrs. Stewart his former wife. Recovering from the shock Edith talks with Mrs. Goddard, who implores her to see Emil and forgive his deception. She listens to his entreaties and later his commands and utterly refuses to ever break bread at his table. The following morning Edith finds her door locked on the outside. Mrs. Goddard appears with an appetizing breakfast and with the information they are to leave for Boston. Two notes, one from Gertrude Weld and the other from Isabel Stuart, are slipped beneath her door, each one assuring interest and protection. Realizing her only means of escape is from seeming compliance to their wishes, Edith returns with them to Boston and is shown to the guest chamber, which has been beautifully refurnished by Emil, who hopes to win his wife, with luxuries which only wealth can give. Giulia Fiorini, with her little boy, who has been recognized as Emil Correlli's wife gains admittance to Edith's room. Telling the story of her betrayal Edith assures her of her sympathy and that she has no love for Emil, and blesses her that she is saved from a fate she abhors.

CHAPTER XXII.

"I WILL RISE ABOVE MY SIN AND SHAME!"

EDITH'S strange visitor stood contemplating her with a look of mingled perplexity and sadness.

"I shall be free!" Edith murmured again with a longdrawn sigh of relief, "for of course you will assert your claim upon him, and"—with a glance at the child—"he will not dare to deny it."

"You are so anxious to be free? You would bless me for helping you to be free?" repeated her companion, studying the girl's face earnestly, questioningly.

"Ah, yes; I was almost in despair when you came in," Edith replied, shivering, and with starting tears; "now I begin to hope that my life has not been utterly ruined."

"My curse be upon him for all the evil he has done!" the woman cried, passionately. "Oh! how gladly would I break the bond that binds you to him, but—I have not the power; I have no claim upon him."

Edith regarded her with astonishment.

"No claim upon him?" she repeated, with another glance at the little one who was gazing from one to another with wondering eyes.

The mother's glance followed hers, and an expression of despair swept over her face.

"Oh, Holy Virgin, pity me!" she moaned.

Then lifting her heavy eyes once more to Edith, she continued, falteringly:

"The boy is his and—mine; but—I have no legal claim upon him—I am no wife."

For a moment after this humiliating confession there was an unbroken silence in that elegant room.

At length Edith raised her hand and laid it half-timidly, but with exceeding kindness, upon the other's shoulder.

"I understand you now," Edith said, gently, "and I am very sorry."

The words were very simple and commonplace; but they proved too much for the mother's self-possession, and, with a moan of anguish, throwing herself upon her knees beside her child, she clasped him convulsively in her arms and burst into a flood of weeping.

"Oh! my poor, innocent baby! to think that this curse must rest upon you all your life—it breaks my heart!" she moaned, while she passionately covered his head and face with kisses. They tell me there is a God," she went on, hoarsely, as she again struggled to her feet, "but I do not believe it—no God of love would ever create monsters like Emil Correlli, and allow them to deceive and ruin innocent girls, blackening their pure souls and turning them to fiends incarnate! Yes, I mean it," she panted, as she caught Edith's look of horror at her irreverent and reckless expressions.

"Listen!" she continued, eagerly. "Only three years ago I was a pure and happy girl, living with my parents in my native land—fair, beautiful, sunny Italy——"

"Italy?" breathlessly interposed Edith, as she suddenly remembered that she also had been born in that far Southern clime. Then she grew suddenly pale as she caught the eyes of the little one gazing curiously into her face, and also remembered that "the curse" which his mother had but a moment before so deplored, rested upon her as well.

Involuntarily, she took his little hand, and lifting it to her lips, imprinted a soft caress upon it, at which the child smiled, showing his pretty white teeth, and murmured some fond term in Italian.

"You are an angel not to hate us both," said his mother, a sudden warmth in her tones, a gleam of gratitude in her dusky eyes. "But were you ever in Italy?" she added.

"Yes, when I was a little child; but I do not remember anything about it," said Edith, with a sigh. "Do not stand with the child in your arms," she added, thoughtfully. "Come, sit here, and then you can go on with what you were going to tell me."

And, with a little sense of malicious triumph, Edith pulled forward the beautiful rocker of carved ivory, and saw the woman sink wearily into it with a feeling of keen satisfaction. It seemed to her like the irony of fate that it should be thus occupied for the first time.

"My father was an olive grower, and owned a large vineyard besides, in the suburbs of Rome. He was a man of ample means, and took no little pride in the pretty home which he was enabled to provide for his family. My mother was a beautiful woman, somewhat above him socially, although I never knew her to refer to the fact, and I was their only child.

"Like many other fond parents who have but one upon whom to expend their love and money, they thought I must be carefully reared and educated—nothing was considered too good for me, and I had every advantage which they could bestow. I was happy—I led an ideal life until I was seventeen years of age. When carnival time came around, we all went in to Rome to join in the festivities, and there I met my fate, in the form of Emil Correlli."

"Ah! but I thought that he was a Frenchman!" interposed Edith, in surprise.

"His father was a Frenchman, but his mother was born and reared in Italy, where, in Rome, he studied under the great sculptor, Powers," her guest explained. Then she resumed: "We met just as we were both entering the church of St. Peter's. He accidentally jostled me; then, as he turned to apologize, our eyes met, and from that moment my fate was sealed. I cannot tell you all that followed, dear lady, it would take too long; but, during the next three months it seemed to me as if I were living in Paradise. Before half that time had passed, Emil had confessed his love for me, and made an excuse to see me almost every day. But my parents did not approve; they objected to his attentions; his mother, they learned by some means, belonged to a noble family, and 'lords and counts should not mate with peasants,' they said.

"Then I made the fatal mistake of disobeying them and meeting my lover in secret. Ah, lady," she here interposed with a bitter sigh, "the rest is but the old story of man's deception and a maiden's blind confidence in him: and when, all too late, I discovered my error, there seemed but one thing for me to do, and that was to flee with him to America, whither he was coming to pursue his profession in a great city."

"And—did he not offer to—to marry you before you came?" queried Edith, aghast.

"No; he pretended that he dared not—he was so well-known in Rome that the secret would be sure to be discovered, he said, and then my father would separate us forever; but he promised that when we arrived in New York, he would make everything all right; therefore, I, still blindly trusting him, let him lead me whither he would.

"I was very ill during the passage, and for weeks following our arrival, and so the time slipped rapidly by without the consummation of my hopes, and though he gave me a pleasant home and everything that I wished for in the house where we lived, even allowing it to appear that I was his wife, we had not been here long before I saw that he was beginning to tire of me. I did everything I could to keep his love, I studied tirelessly to master the language of the country, and kept myself posted upon art and subjects which interested him most, in order to make myself companionable to him. Time after time I entreated him to right the wrong he was doing me and another, who would soon come either into the shelter of his fatherhood or to inherit the stigma of a dishonored mother; but he always had some excuse with which to put me off. At last this little one came"—she said, folding the child more closely in her arms—"and I had something pure and sweet to love, even though I was heart-broken over knowing that a blight must always rest upon his life, and something to occupy the weary hours which, at times, hung so heavily upon my hands. After that Emil seemed to become more and more indifferent to me—there would be weeks at a time that I would not see him at all; I used sometimes to think that the boy was a reproach to him, and he could not bear the stings of his own conscience in his presence."

"Ah," interposed Edith, with a scornful curl of her red lips, "such men have no conscience; they live only to gratify their selfish impulses."

"Perhaps; while those they wrong live on and on, with a never-dying worm gnawing at their vitals," returned her companion, repressing a sob.

"At last," she resumed, "I began to grow jealous of him, and to spy upon his movements. I discovered that he went a great deal to one of the up-town hotels, and I sometimes saw him go out with a handsome woman, whom I afterward learned was his sister—the Mrs. Goddard, who lives here, and who visits New York several times every year. I did not mind so much when I discovered the relationship between them, although I suffered many a bitter pang to see how fond they were of each other, while I was starving for some expression of his love.

"This went on for nearly two years; then about two months ago, Emil disappeared from New York, without saying anything to me of his intentions, although he left plenty of money deposited to my account. He was always generous in that way, and insisted that Ino must have everything he wished or needed—I am sure he is fond of the child, in spite of everything. By perseverance and ceaseless inquiry, I finally learned that he had come to Boston, and I immediately followed him. I am suspicious and jealous by nature, like all my people, and that day, when I saw him walking with you, and looking at you just as he used to look at me in those old delicious days in Italy, all the passion of my nature was aroused to arms. Braving everything, I rushed over to him and denounced him for his treachery to me, also accusing him of making love to you."

"And did it seem to you that I was receiving his attentions with pleasure?" questioned Edith. "I assure you he had forced his company upon me, and I only endured it to save making a scene in the street.

"I did not stop to reason about your appearance," said the woman; "at least not further than to realize that you were very lovely, and just the style of beauty to attract Emil; but he swore to me that you were only the companion of his sister, and he had only met you on the street by accident—that you were nothing to him. He asked me to tell him where he could find me, and promised that he would come to me later. He kept his word, and has visited me every few days ever since, treating me more kindly than for a long time, but insisting that I must keep entirely out of the way of his sister. And so it came upon me like a deadly blow when I read that account of his marriage in yesterday's paper. I was wrought up to a perfect frenzy, especially when I came to the statement that Monsieur and Madam Correlli would return immediately to Boston, but leave soon after for a trip South and West, and ultimately sail for Europe. That was more than outraged nature could bear, and I vowed that I would wreak a swift and sure revenge upon you both, and so, for two days. I have haunted this house, seeking for an opportunity to gain an entrance unobserved. I saw you sitting at the window—I recognized you instantly. I believed, of course, that you were a willing bride, and imagined that if I could get in I should find you both in this room. While I watched my chance, one of the servants came to the area door to let in the gas-man, and carelessly left it ajar, while she went back with him into one of the rooms. In a moment I was in the lower hall, looking for a back stairway; if any one had found me I was going to beg a drink of water for my child. There was a door there, but it was locked; but desperation makes one keen, and I was not long in finding a key hanging up on a nail beneath a widow-sill. The next instant the door was unlocked, and I on my way up-stairs——"

"And the key! oh! what did you do with the key?" breathlessly interposed Edith, grasping at this unexpected chance to escape.

"I have it here, lady," said her companion, as she produced it. "I thought it might be convenient for me to go out the same way, so took possession of it."

"Ah, then the door to the back stairway is still unlocked?" breathed Edith, with trembling lips.

"Yes; I did not stop to lock it after me; I hurried straight up here, but—expecting to have a very different interview from what I have had," responded the woman, with a heavy sigh. "Now, lady, you have my story," she continued, after a moment of silence, "you can see that I have been deeply wronged, and though from a moral standpoint, I have every claim upon Emil Correlli, yet legally, I have none whatever; and, unless you can prove some flaw in that ceremony of night before last—prove that he fraudulently tricked you into a marriage with him, you are irrevocably bound to him."

Edith shivered with pain and abhorrence at these last words, but she did not respond to them in any way.

"I came here with hatred in my heart toward you," the other went on, "but I shall go away blessing you for your kindness to me; for, instead of shrinking from me, as one defiled and too depraved to be tolerated, you have held out the hand of sympathy to me and listened patiently and pityingly to the story of my wrongs."

As she concluded, she dropped her face upon the head of her child with a weary, disheartened air that touched Edith deeply.

"Will you tell me your name?" she questioned, gently, after a moment or two of silence. "Pardon me," she added, flushing, as her companion looked up sharply, "I am not curious, but I do not know how to address you."

"Giulia Fiorini. Holy Mother forgive me the shame I have brought upon it!" she returned, with a sob. "I have called him"—laying her trembling hand upon the soft, silky curls of her child—"Ino Emil."

"Thank you," said Edith, "and for your confidence in me as well. You have been greatly wronged; and if there is any justice or humanity in law, this tie which so fetters me, shall be annulled; then, perchance, Monsieur Correlli may be persuaded to do what is right toward you."

"No, lady, I have no hope of that," said Giulia, dejectedly, "for when a man begins to tire of the woman whom he has injured he also begins to despise her, and to consider himself ill-used because she even dares to exist."

"Perhaps you would wish to repudiate him."

"Oh, no; much as I have suffered, I still love Emil, and would gladly serve him for the remainder of my life, if he would but honor me with his name; but I know him too well ever to hope for that—I know that he is utterly selfish and would mercilessly set his heel upon me if I should attempt to stand in the way of his purposes. There is nothing left for me but to go back to my own country, confess my sin to my parents, and hide myself from the world until I die."

"Ah! but you forget that you have your child to rear and educate, his mind and life to mold, and—try to make him a better man than his father," said Edith.

"Oh, that you should have thought of that, when I, his mother, forget my duty to him, and think only of my own unhappiness!" sobbed the conscience-stricken girl. "Yesterday I told myself that I would send Ino to him, and then end my misery forever."

"Don't!" exclaimed Edith, her face almost convulsed with pain. "Your life belongs to God, and—this baby. Live above your trouble, Giulia; never let your darling have the pain and shame of learning that his mother was a suicide. If you have made one mistake, do not imagine that you can expiate it by committing another a hundredfold worse. Ah! think what comfort there would be in rearing your boy to a noble manhood, and then hear him say, 'What I am my mother has made me!'"

"Oh, you have saved me!" the unhappy woman sobbed; "you have poured oil into my wounds. I will do as you say—I will rise above my sin and shame; and if Ino lives to be an honor to himself and the world, I shall tell him of the angel who saved us both. I am very sorry for you," she added, looking, regretfully, up at Edith, "I could almost lay down my life for you now; but—Correlli is rich—very rich, and you may, perhaps, be able to get some comfort out of life by——"

Edith started to her feet, her face crimson.

"What?" she cried, scornfully, "do you suppose that I could ever take pleasure in spending even one dollar of his money? Look there!" pointing to the elegant apparel upon the bed. "I found all those awaiting me when I came here today. In the dressing-case yonder there are laces, jewels, and fine raiment of every description, but I would go in rags before I would make use of a single article. I loathe the sight of them," she added, shuddering. "I should feel degraded, indeed, could I experience one moment of pleasure arrayed in them."

Suddenly she started, and looked at her watch, a wild hope animating her.

It was exactly quarter past two.

A train left for New York, via the Boston & Albany Railroad, at three o'clock.

If she could reach the Columbus avenue station, which was less than fifteen minutes' walk from Commonwealth avenue, without being missed, she would be in New York by nine o'clock, and safe, for a time at least, from the man she both hated and feared.

CHAPTER XXIII.

A SURPRISE AT THE GRAND CENTRAL STATION.

"Will you help me?" Edith eagerly inquired, turning to her companion, who had regarded her wonderingly while she repudiated the costly gifts

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 19)

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

holy feeling to know that you are the lifeboat for a human soul and that it depends largely upon you as to whether that soul reaches a harbor or not. You will not go insane. Do not think of nerves. Try to be pleasant and cheerful and I know you will be happy. I trust, Lonely One, we will hear from you again and that it will then be Happy One.

I have been married a little over two years to one of the best of men, or boy as I might say for we were each only a little past nineteen years of age when we were married. We have a baby girl, Mary Evelyn, now seven months old. I am sure you could not find a happier home anywhere than ours.

I have been an interested reader of the "in-law" question. I think in the majority of cases the fault lies with the mother-in-law. Deep down in her heart is the feeling that her son's wife has stolen her boy from her. She, who has always been first, must now take second place, and it hurts. She may love her daughter-in-law but that feeling is still there and human nature must show itself once in a while. I once heard a mother ask her son, who had been married eight years and had two boys, if he did not wish he had never married but had stayed home with father and mother. I shall never forget his look of astonishment as he said, "Why no, mother, I wouldn't take anything for May and the boys." While I censured the mother for the question, my pity was aroused when a kind of helpless look stole over her face as she said, "Mamma is first no more." Look ahead, sisters, to the time when your boys will leave you for another and looking thus and realizing what it will mean to *you*, you will be enabled to forgive those petty annoyances which pain you now and to love your husband's mother as never before.

I spend all my spare time in reading for I cannot do fancy-work of any kind. I think the stories in COMFORT are fine.

Love and best wishes to all, MRS. F. W.

IOWA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

The letter from "COMFORT Reader" of Detroit, asking about first wardrobe for baby interested me. If she will procure the two books published by the Dept. of Labor at Washington, D. C., I think she will get all the information she would need, for I, like her, am expecting the first little stranger this summer. The books are entitled "Prenatal Care" and "Infant Care," and there is a wonderful lot of good things in them.

Of course "COMFORT Reader" do as you please but if I were you I would not make many of the first little clothes. If you have none of the clothes made yet you could buy most of what you need. I have made a few things but they are outgrown so soon and you can buy them ready made for so little money that I am in favor of that. At a well-known Chicago mail-order house I bought the nicest little "Gertrude" style white flannelette petticoats for twenty-five cents each. Who could sit and sew them for that. I am making two white nainsook petticoats with crocheted lace around the bottom, and two good white dresses. One is India Linon, very fine, and the other of fine white embroidery. Instead of dresses for the first few months I have bought little white flannelette wrappers, open all the way down the front. The less a tiny baby is handled the better it is for it. My doctor told me to use a cloth of part wool and cotton for making bands, and two third wool "Reubens" shirts, as a baby needs wool on its little abdomen for the first year at least. If you buy your outfit get plenty of what you get but don't buy many fancy things. Mine are very plain so they will launder easily. I used snap fasteners instead of buttons, as they are so much easier to fasten besides it saves making buttonholes. If you care to write to me personally I will tell you more about my outfit and my plans than I can here. Would be pleased to hear from you as it seems we are kindred spirits this summer.

Lonely One, I know just how you feel and I wish I could have a personal talk with you. I am nearly twenty-two years old and I see by your letter that you are twenty-four. If I could tell you how the days and months have flown by for me you would not dread the waiting. Of course the last months are the harder, but the days are going by too fast for me as I am not ready yet for the time to come and as for worrying, I try not to think of that. I am, as you say you are, a strong, healthy woman so why should I worry? Didn't our own dear mothers have just as long to wait for us and are we any better than they? I'll never forget the words of my own dear mother to me a short time ago. They were, "Of course I know my suffering was terrible but when my child was dressed and brought to me I soon forgot about that and was only grateful to think I had my baby in my arms." I have made up my mind to feel the same way. We have ten modern conveniences to our mother's one, and competent doctors, so let us hear soon that you expect a little baby to brighten your lonely home. Think of old age and no remembrance of baby arms and baby love and no one to love and care for us. It is something I don't like to think of.

"COMFORT Sister," instead of spending the rest of the time in the house sewing, get out of doors and breathe the pure fresh air and plant a little garden which will do you and your baby more good than fancy baby clothes. Am I not right, sisters?

I will leave my address with Mrs. Wilkinson and she will forward any letters to me. I would be glad to hear from the sisters and will answer what letters I can, but as I live on a farm I do not have much spare time.

MRS. A. B. C.

WHEELER, R. R. 1, TEXAS.

DEAR ONES:

Will you allow another talkative sister a seat in your interesting corner?

Arkansas Sister, I want to say to you, and to all other sisters who think as you do, that I don't believe you would have that opinion of the city girl if you knew more about her. You say, "The young men of our country all say 'Give me the country girl,'" etc. Now I did not accept a seat in this lovely, peace-loving corner to condemn anyone, especially a girl or a woman, whether she lives in a peaceful cottage among the Ozark Mountains, in the heart of a city, or in the jungles of Africa, but I am here to explain to some of you that all city girls aren't of the poodle-dog or questionable types. Do you realize that the commercial wheels of our Nation are, to a great extent, turned by our city girls and women? Think of the thousands of girls who stand behind counters, think of the poorly ventilated factories, shops, offices, etc., where thousands of girls are working for a measley existence. Oh! country woman, have compassion. Circumstances, I think, sap one's life. While the city girl may be different from the country girl she is just as good. I know hundreds of city girls who are well educated, trained in some line of business and who can manage a house from cellar to attic. Some of my friends are married to city men and are proving themselves to be excellent companions.

If a girl who was used to living in the country and was opposed to city life as much as our beloved Arkansas sister, should marry a city man would she be apt to make a "suitable companion?" Of course we think not. She would become homesick and cry for the onion blossoms.

On the other hand, if a city girl who was used to living in the city and knew nothing about farm life, should marry a farmer would she be apt to make a "suitable companion?" Again it is, as a rule, the negative.

Sometimes love, courage, reason and tact will make a successful marriage, no matter how different the environment of the contracting parties may be, but I think the above illustrations are the rule.

Therefore, let the city man marry the city girl, the country man the country girl and may the dear Lord watch over them all, and may all of us women live in human sympathy with each other, ready to give a helping hand to any sister, no matter where she lives.

I am twenty-one years of age. Am five feet two inches tall and weigh one hundred and twenty pounds. Have brown hair, blue eyes and a fair complexion. Have lived in cities the greater part of my life. Have been an orphan since I was fifteen years old and have made my own living since I was sixteen, so you see I know whereof I speak. I think this is a wonderful world to live in and I, like Pollyanna, find lots for which to be glad.

My sister, who died the first of the year, was a subscriber to dear old COMFORT. I am staying out here on the farm helping take care of her small children and I find COMFORT a great help to me. I shall go back to the city in a month or two and I intend to subscribe for COMFORT for I know it will be a comfort to me after my day's work and make me feel that my sphere in life is widened.

May God bless every one is the wish of an
Oklahoma City Sister.

Oklahoma City Sister. With the coming of every number of COMFORT to your home in the city please regard it as bringing my good wishes as a personal message to you to aid in cheering you after a particularly trying day in store or office—not that I regard myself and aforesaid good wishes as an antidote for trouble, but it may help some.—Ed.

VERNON, TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I am a new subscriber to COMFORT but have learned to love it dearly and watch eagerly for its coming. I am twenty years old and have been married three years and have two dear little girls, Lois Lee, age two years, and Frances Elizabeth, aged four months.

In reading Mary's letter in February COMFORT, I would not advise her to marry unless she truly loved for I believe that love is the chief and necessary requisite for a happy marriage. Even if she never marries she can make her life happy, contented and useful by doing her life's work well, helping others and meeting the world with a cheerful smile.

Mrs. J. D. Burton, I almost envy your beautiful home, you paint its rustic beauties so vividly.

Lonely One, I think you are looking at your problem from only the unpleasant side. Why not take another view of it? Think of the joy of preparing the simple, yet dainty, garments for the little one that is to be and, too, of safeguarding your own health so that it may come into this world with an heritage of health. I think if you are strong enough, and able financially, to give the little one good care and a good home, you are doing wrong to deny yourself a woman's crown of glory—motherhood.

Mrs. P., I think you struck the vital note of religion when you said lend a strengthening hand to the poor fallen women. Why are so many of us ready to condemn the woman and let the man go free? If the gates of society would close as readily upon the man as the woman there would be less of this horror among us.

Mrs. Maude Hurst, I, too, think a woman can be too devoted to a man? I think he should do a little of the devotion stunt himself, but I also think a woman should try to interest herself in some of the things which interest her husband for if their interests grow apart so will their lives.

I hope our little sunbeam, Mattie Mae Clark, will continue to call often. She is the very essence of cheerfulness. May God bless her.

Best wishes to all, MRS. HENRY LEE THOMAS.

TRINITY, N. C.

DEAR SISTERS ALL:

I have just finished reading Mattie Mae Clark's letter in March COMFORT and like it so well that I feel I can face any number of you good sisters, though I'm rather timid, to get to Mattie Mae's side and squeeze her little hand. You are one after my own heart, dear girl. I agree with you in thinking it right to answer the letter you received from the jail. If everyone felt toward wrongdoers as you do, I am confident there would be fewer of them. It is marvelous the impetus for good or evil we find in our associates. So much depends upon our knowledge that someone cares what we do and what we are. We are bound to respect in a greater or less degree every confidence placed in us.

I am a little country maid, eighteen years old, with fair complexion, auburn hair—please, not red—and blue eyes. And I enjoy the country, but I'm not averse to city life either, because it has so many, many conveniences. It seems to me, however, that enough depends upon the person himself to make or mar his happiness despite his surroundings. I sweep and dust, bake and stew, help tend garden and flowers and delight in it all. I have no sisters, but two rollicking brothers who keep me hustling to fill their many wants. They are very good though to help me with the work and often carry water from the spring, and wood for me before they leave for their work, and—I'll whisper it though for fear it might make them blush to hear it—they both can make fine biscuits! Our mother is an invalid so we each try to do our best for her.

Every Sunday we go to a little country church for Sunday school, where I have a class of bright-eyed girls and boys, that I delight to teach.

Right here, sisters, let me ask a question. How do you plan your Sunday dinner? We wish that to be a little extra with as little work as possible. I'm sure some of the sisters have excellent plans and we might exchange helpful ideas on this subject. I prepare everything possible on Saturday, such as baking bread, pies and cake. Then it is nice to have some vegetable that can be easily prepared while breakfast is cooking Sunday morning. Gelatine desserts are excellent as they are so quickly prepared. Thus, with little work, a substantial meal is ready for Sunday and we feel much better than we would to stand over a hot stove and tend it, besides breaking the Sabbath by unnecessary labor.

I am an ardent lover of books. Among my favorites are: "Pollyanna," "Wide, Wide World," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Michael O'Halloran," "The Rosary," "Little Women," "David Copperfield," etc. For a severe attack of the blues, I heartily recommend the book, "Helen's Babies," by John Habberton, and think I can safely guarantee a complete cure. I, too, jot down the titles of the books I read, with the author's name, and also find it nice to write down selections from those I'd like to remember.

I shall be very glad to hear from any who care to write, but can't promise to answer all, however much I'd like to.

Sincerely, a little sister, FANNIE GRAY CROKER.

Fannie. A little later COMFORT is to give its readers an article on fireless cookers and their manufacture at home. This is the one thing needed to make Sunday what it should be, a day of rest.—Ed.

KANSAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Here comes an old maid to chat with you a while. I wish more old maids would write to our dear paper. I have read "Mary's" letter in February COMFORT. I, for one, would not marry if I did not love anyone and I don't think she would be happy if she did. I, too, have had chances to marry but I preferred to be called "old maid" than to marry and not be happy. There are two kinds of old maids—one kind is a hater of men and children, but a lover of cats and the possessor of a cross, peevish disposition; the other class are not married simply because the right man—the man who comes up to their ideals—did not appear. As a rule they are fond of children and are friends to all around them. Let us be like that old maid. I feel it my duty to remain unmarried and care for my dear old gray-haired father and mother who have done as much for me, as yours did for you. They sacrificed for us and endured hardships for our sake and loved us whether we were good or bad and we must repay them while they are here to enjoy it.

I will come again and tell how I make my pin money. Love to all, Mother's Old Maid.

DUBLIN, GA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

It is so easy to tell how a child should be brought up but when the inexperienced person undertakes the task they find it a very difficult thing to do and as no two children are alike most of us hesitate to give advice. Nevertheless, as our kind editor has given us permission to write on this interesting subject I will venture to tell a few things which I have learned by actual experience and hope it will benefit some other mother.

I have four children two girls and two boys that I am teaching to be truthful and obedient and I find the best method of commanding obedience is to always tell them the truth; be kind to them and answer their questions, if possible, and join in their play. Husband and I often join in their sports and we have jolly times together.

I want to say a word to the children, those of you who have good mothers and fathers. Don't ever give them an unkind word or treat them ill. When I was a little girl I adored my mother and now that she is dead I miss her and it saddens me to pass our old home. It seems to me that I can see again her kindly face, her eyes of blue and feel again the touch of her dear hands, always soft and gentle. Some day I hope we'll meet again.

As to women's rights, I believe that men and women were created with equal rights. Franchise is a man-made law or right and the withholding of it from woman has not been from a consideration of her rights, but man has doubted the expediency of it and that doubt has been increased by his knowledge of her extreme loyalty to fashion, the prevailing style of which is far from suggestive of either intelligence or uplift—a word to the wise is sufficient.

Best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and COMFORT sisters,
MRS. I. C. KEEN.

WACO, 1904 Cumberland St., TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I never thought of writing to this column until I read the letter from Arkansas sister. It is strange to think of the opinion people sometimes form of city life. I have some girl friends who live in the country and I love them. I love any girl who is good and pure, whether she has been reared in the country or city. But some people get the idea into their heads that these girls never dwell in the cities. But they are found everywhere, in both city and country—for they've had a real, true mother to care for them, whether she be old-fashioned or not. Isn't it just as possible for the city girl to learn all household duties and be just as capable of making a good, true companion as any country girl? I wonder how the young men of Arkansas sisters' locality know so much about a city girl caring for a home? But at any rate there are lots of marriages taking place in the cities and most of the homes prove to be happy, and if the wives are not suitable companions how could these homes be happy? And some of the wives were city girls, too. I don't agree with anybody, whether from the city or country, who tries to hold up one class of people and run others down. I believe in respecting each other's feelings and not being too ready to judge others, especially when we don't know much about them.

Do I believe in Woman Suffrage? Sure! I believe in everybody standing up for their rights—that's why I'm writing this letter.

I am just a seventeen-year-old girl—yes, I live in the city. I send lots of love just the same to Mrs. Wilkinson and everybody.

MINNIE ESTELLE SMITH.

INDIANAPOLIS, 318 N. Bradley Ave., IND.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Georgie, dear, I do not agree with you. I live in the city, have a modern home, but would give up everything for a nice little home in the country. I will admit it is a little lonesome but one soon gets over that. A simple life and fresh air are essential to good health and health brings happiness no matter where you live and as for my children, I would be content to have them strong healthy farmers.

Now for my real reason for writing. I want advice: I am the mother of three dear children, Camille Marie, three years and ten months, Dorothy May, two years and three months and Charles Eugene, one year old. Dorothy May is a perfect little monkey when it comes to mischief and she makes life miserable for Eugene. She picks on him and teases him from morning until night. Sometimes my patience gives out and I punish her. Give me advice some of you older and wiser mothers.

Here is another problem. Have any of you children that cry all the time at everything and anything. Camille is surely a problem to me. She cries when her father comes home, she cries if a neighbor calls, people she sees every day. She will be playing and all at once will start to cry and when I ask why she says, "I don't know." I have had her examined by good doctors and they say she is a strong, healthy child, so what am I to do? I can't take her any place for she will cry without a minute's notice.

I am five feet, three inches tall and weigh one hundred and twenty-two pounds. Have black curly hair and brown eyes.

I would like to hear from the COMFORT sisters, especially those from New York and Ohio.

Best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and all,
A Friend, MRS. R. C. EDWARDS.

Mrs. Edwards. Your little Camille is a problem to me, too, but let us hope some of the good

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)

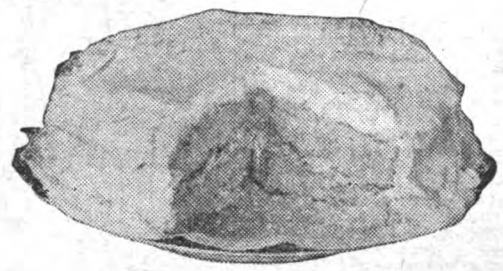


ROYAL BAKING POWDER
saves eggs

Another advantage to the housewife. The family may have excellent home-baked foods and yet make a substantial saving. Royal saves half of the egg cost.

In many recipes the number of eggs may be reduced one-half or more and often left out altogether by adding a small quantity of Royal Baking Powder, about a teaspoon, in place of each egg omitted.

Try the following recipes and see how well this plan works. You must use Royal Baking Powder to get the best results—powders made from alum and other materials derived from mineral sources often leave a bitter taste.



Cream Layer Cake

1 cup sugar — 1 cup milk — 2 cups flour — 2 tablespoons butter
1 egg — 4 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder — 1 teaspoon flavoring

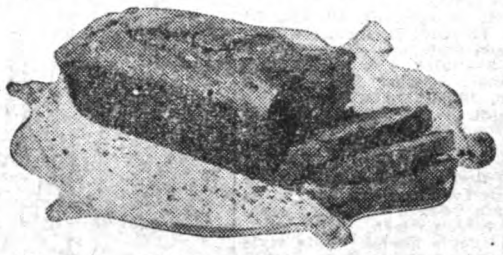
DIRECTIONS:—Cream the sugar and butter together, then mix in the egg. After sifting the flour and baking powder together two or three times, add it all to the mixture. Gradually add the milk and beat with spoon until you have a smooth pour batter. Add the flavoring. Pour into two buttered layer cake tins and bake in a moderately hot oven for 20 minutes. Put together with Cream Filling and cover top and sides with White Icing.

CREAM FILLING

¾ cup sugar — 1 teaspoon butter — 2 tablespoons cornstarch
1 cup milk — 1 teaspoon flavoring

DIRECTIONS:—Mix cornstarch with a little of the cold milk and stir into boiling milk. Add butter and sugar; boil 5 minutes. When nearly cold, add flavoring and spread between layers.

(The old method called for 3 eggs)



Eggless, Milkless, Butterless Cake

1 cup brown sugar — 1 teaspoon nutmeg
1¼ cups water — 1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup seeded raisins — ½ teaspoon salt
2 ounces citron, cut fine — 2 cups flour
½ cup shortening — 5 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder

DIRECTIONS:—Boil sugar, water, fruit, shortening, salt and spices together in saucepan 3 minutes. When cool, add flour and baking powder which have been sifted together. Mix well; bake in greased loaf pan in moderate oven, about 45 minutes. Will keep 2 or 3 weeks.

(The old method [Fruit Cake] called for 2 eggs)

Book of new recipes which economize in eggs and other expensive ingredients mailed free on request. Address Royal Baking Powder Co., 130 William St., New York.

Royal Baking Powder is made from Cream of Tartar, derived from Grapes and adds none but healthful qualities to the food.

No Alum — No Phosphate

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Summer Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



NOVELTY silk, organdie, crepe, batiste, embroidered voile, bordered fabric, foulards and lawn are all lovely for summer frocks, and when all has been said about styles and fashions, it is after all really the simple frock that stays longest in style, and that lends itself to each and every material.

A dainty pattern in organdie or lawn may be trimmed with a solid color in taffeta or crepe, and have a girdle or sash of the same material, or a simple belt of black velvet ribbon.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

2040—Dress for Misses and Small Women. This style is attractive for the new organdies, lawns, and crepes, and is also nice for linen, chambray, shantung, wash silks, poplin and chiffon cloth.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18, and 20 years. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for an 18-year size.

2062—Ladies' Waist with sleeve in either of two lengths. The new crepes and silks will be lovely for this style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires two and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2051—Boys' Russian Suit. Galatea, seersucker, gingham, linen, drill, linene, corduroy and other wash fabrics are good for its development.

Cut in four sizes; three, four, five and six years. It requires two and one half yards of 44-inch material for a five-year size.

2054—Ladies' House Dress, with sleeve in wrist or elbow length. Gingham, chambray, linen, percale and lawn are good for this style.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires five and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2069—An Ideal Play Suit and comfortable school dress. In cool lawn or dimity, serviceable gingham or seersucker, this model will be very desirable. It is also nice for pique, linen, drill, repp and poplin. The bloomers are cut with comfortable fullness and will take the place of underskirts.

Cut in six sizes; two, four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. Size eight requires three yards for the dress and one and five eighths yard for the bloomers, of 44-inch material.

2042—Ladies' Apron. This style is fine for gingham, drill, chambray, lawn, percale, alpaca, brilliantine and sateen.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. It requires five and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

2026—Ladies' Waist with sleeve in wrist or elbow length. The model is good for taffeta, satin, crepe, crepe de chine, chiffon cloth, lace and net.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

2019—Girls' One-piece Yoke Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This is a good style for wash dresses, and is also nice for serge, gabardine, plaid and checked suiting. It will look well in linen and taffeta.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires four and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a six-year size.

2038—Girls' Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Dotted challie, lawn or Swiss, with lawn or a contrasting material for trimming, would be nice for this style.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and five eighths yards of 36-inch material for a two-year size.

2067—Ladies' One-piece Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. Satin, gabardine, serge, linen, voile, drill, gingham and other wash fabrics are nice for this style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires for a 36-inch size, six yards of 44-inch material.

2061—Blouse. 2063—Skirt. A Charming Sport or Beach Costume. Blouse 2061 cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size. Skirt 2063. Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three and seven eighths yards of flouncing or bordered material 48 inches wide, or four and one half yards of 54-inch material for a 24-inch size. *Two* separate patterns 10c *for each* pattern.

2092—A Smart Seasonable Model. This style is good for Jersey cloth, gabardine, serge, wash satin, taffeta, linen, drill, voile, gingham and chambray.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires four yards for the coat and three yards for the skirt, of 36-inch material for a 16-year size.

2030—Boys' Blouse Suit, with or without shield and yoke facing, and with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style is fine for wash fabrics, such as galatea, drill, linen, linene, corduroy, seersucker, gingham and chambray.

Cut in four sizes; three, four, five and six years. It requires two and one half yards of 44-inch material for a three-year size.

2009—A Comfortable and an Attractive Lounging Robe. This model is lovely for cotton or silk crepe, for lawn, cashmere, silk, satin or gabardine.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and five eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 34-inch size.

1724—A Smart and Simple School Dress with Bloomers. Galatea, lawn, percale, voile, gingham, batiste, serge, tub silk, crepe and challie could be used for this model.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for the dress, and one and one quarter yard for the bloomers, for a four-year-size.

2077—Boys' Rompers with sleeve in either of two lengths. The model is good for serge, flannel, gingham, chambray, seersucker, percale, galatea or linen.

Cut in five sizes; two, three, four, five and six years. It requires two and five eighths yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

2046—Ladies' House Dress. In dotted percale, checked gingham, striped seersucker, this model will be very pretty. It is also nice for poplin, repp, linen, corduroy, drill for tub silks, gabardine and crepe.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 38-inch size.

2064—A Smart Dress for Mother's Girl. This style is good for any of the materials now in vogue. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; four, six eight and 10 years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for an eight-year size.

2052—Ladies' Apron. Gingham, lawn, seersucker, chambray, drill, linen, alpaca, brilliantine and sateen are all good apron materials. The garment may be slipped over the head or closed on the shoulders.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. It requires five and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

2057—Girls' One-piece Dress with Guimpe. In shantung, linen, chambray, seersucker, gingham, drill, or percale, this model is very attractive. The guimpe may be of self or contrasting material.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires one and three quarters yards of 27-inch material for the guimpe, and four and one quarter yards for the dress, for a 12-year size.

1788—A Comfortable Morning Dress. This model may be finished with a sleeve in wrist length or with a bell sleeve at elbow length.

Cut in seven sizes; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2039—Girls' Dress to be slipped over the head. This style is nice for linen, drill, galatea, poplin, shantung, gabardine, lawn, percale, gingham and chambray.



Don't Take a Trip With a Corn



DON'T handicap yourself in a business way or socially with a painful corn. There's no need to keep your mind on your corn.

Blue-jay—the easy way—brings instant relief from pain. And your corns are gone in 48 hours. That is, the average corn. Some very stubborn cases require a second or third treatment.

Millions upon millions of corns have been removed the Blue-jay way. Millions of families keep a supply on hand, and they never have corns. You, too, can be freed now and forever.

Paring corns brings only temporary relief. And harsh liquids are dangerous. Blue-jay is the scientific way.

BAUER & BLACK
Chicago and New York
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc.

Sold by all Druggists
Also Blue-jay Bunion Plasters

Blue-jay
Stops Pain—Ends Corns
Instantly Quickly

Cut in five sizes; eight, 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires three and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

2065—Ladies' Skirt in Raised Waistline. This model is attractive for all of this season's dress materials. It has three gores. The pockets, which are unique in their shaping, may be omitted.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

2028—A Smart Shirt-waist with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style could be made very attractive in silk, satin, or shantung, with trimming in a contrasting color on pockets, cuffs and collar.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires two and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2056—A Becoming Dress for the Growing Girl. This design is fine for crepe, foulard, chiffon cloth, wash silk, challie, lawn, batiste, and other soft fabrics.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

2048—Ladies' Camisole. Bastiste, nainsook, muslin, crepe, satin, and silk are all nice for this style. Lace or embroidered edging are nice for trimming.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires one and three eighths yard of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

2049—Ladies' Under-skirt, with or without flounce. This style is good for muslin, cambric, linene, drill, seersucker, gingham, sateen, silk or satin.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires six yards of 36-inch material for skirt with flounce and four yards without flounce, for a 24-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

Sculpture on a Large Scale

A whole army is to be carved out of a granite slope near Atlanta, Georgia, if the plans of the committee, chosen by the people of the South go through. The gigantic statuary, when completed, will be nearly two miles long, and will represent an entire fighting force. A general, from each state of the Confederacy, will be hewn there, out of the imperishable rock, and a line of standing soldiers will stretch out, life size, in imposing grandeur. Around the figures, a park of eighty acres will be laid out, and, in suitable buildings, relics and treasures of the war period will be preserved for posterity. Already, a master sculptor has been engaged and contributions are pouring in; it being estimated, that, at least, two million dollars will be needed to complete the work. Besides the actual replicas of the fighting men, there will be other sculptured representations of the Confederacy. One idea, already decided on, is to have thirteen immense columns to make a state group. It will require the services of hundreds of the highest skilled artisans to execute the magnificent design now contemplated, and as most of them will be working with heart and soul, as well as hands, the project may be said to resemble the exquisitely planned cathedral building projects of the middle ages.

MUST HAVE THREE CHILDREN.—R. J. Sprague of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, speaking before the American Genetic Association, said that if the population of this country is to be kept at the present size, every married woman will have to bring to maturity three children at least. Many poor people, according to him, have more children than they can afford, but with respect to the average middle class of Americans, he advocates "birth release" not birth control.

USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents (three for 25 cents) unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash, (or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me Patterns No. _____

Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____

Name _____ Street and No. _____

R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____ Post Office _____ State _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

GLORIOUS news! The greatest news since Christ was born. Over the royal palaces of the tyrant Czars, floats the red flag of world-wide brotherhood. Just one swift jolt, and the whole rotten structure of Russian Imperialism tumbled to earth like a piece of putrid cheese. It was a glorious day for the common people the world over, but a mighty bad day for tyrants, despots and exploiters. They saw the hand of fate writing their doom on the walls of time: "Thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting." Kaiser Billy is trembling in his shoes, for he knows it is his turn to get the boot next. He has worked the king business for all it is worth, and has succeeded only because his subjects were taught in the cradle to look up to him as senior partner in the firm of Me und Gott, and what you are taught in the cradle is mighty hard to shake off. Billy has been able to hypnotize his seventy million subjects into believing he was necessary to their existence, and only as they worshipped him and were loyal to his house, could Germany prosper and be strong. That kind of rubbish was all right for the dark ages, but people who do their own thinking won't stand for the divine right rot in these enlightened days. Bill has been able to put his dope over because he has been a little more clever than other parasites who are engaged in the king business, and he has thrown a lot of reform bones to his docile subjects, just as bones are thrown to hungry dogs to keep them from *biting and fit for fighting,* but though they got the bones they were never allowed to get near the real meat of democratic self-government. The Russian revolution has immensely heartened every lover of real freedom and liberty in Germany. A socialist member in the Reichstag recently shouted: "I should be proud if there were such progress in our country as the Russian people have made. This feudal system of government must go," and he told Bethman-Hollweg that he was nothing but "a fig leaf of military absolutism," that "Prussian militarism was responsible for all the bloodshed in Europe," that "the people would not breathe freely until it was removed."

Now if the German people will only do to divine right Billy what the Russian people have done to divine right Nickey, they can have a German republic that will beat anything they ever had under the monarchy, and settled peace the world over. That kick up in Russia has been an awful jolt to our foreign-born worshippers of royal despots, many of whom want to lag behind even republican China. The Russian hated his chains, the Prussian kissed his because they were gilded, and he not only kissed them but he wanted to adorn the whole of humanity with the same brand of Hohenzollern fetters, and nearly succeeded, but we thank God the world got wise to the danger in the nick of time. If you doubt it listen to this. Six hundred office boys are drilling with broomsticks on Governor's Island, our one competent general had been relieved of his command and sent South where he can do no harm, and in a school in a Jewish district of Brooklyn, four out of several hundred scholars have actually signed a pledge of loyalty which the Mayor of New York has had circulated—the balance refused. The New Rockaway fort is adorned with pop guns that can shoot nearly half a mile, and Uncle Sam has crawled from under his bed and said he is Uncle Sham no longer. Yes, Siree! Uncle Sam is the real thing this time and the only notes he will write from now on will be hurled from the mouths of cannon. In other words we are at war, and at war with the world's most efficient and ruthless military despotism, at war in our usual happy-go-lucky style. At the present rate of recruiting we shall have an army in two hundred years—maybe. But don't worry, we'll strike our gait presently, and if the foreign language press does not object maybe we'll actually be allowed to drop the broomsticks and grab a gun. Everybody that had the vision of a blind bat knew that this war would come sooner or later, but politicians angling for hyphenate votes did not want to spring the real truth on the people. Even the most peaceful and docile nation in the world will eventually get tired of having its citizens murdered by the wholesale. We have some task before us. An army is useless without officers. It takes a year to make the poorest kind of a soldier, and it takes three or four years to make a really capable officer, for war is a science today and not a game of hammer and tongs, and it is the side that can play the game in the most scientific way that wins out. During the first eleven months of the war Russia lost sixty thousand officers, that is ten times more than all the officers we have in this country, and we have only officers enough to properly handle a force of three hundred thousand men, and not one of these men ever handled even a division of 20,000 let alone an army corps of 40,000. We are woefully short of field artillery and of heavy guns of the siege variety, without which we are helpless, we have none. Our fleet is shy thousands of officers and men. Of late years every time we commissioned a super-dreadnought (and we have only twelve to Germany's twenty) we have had to take the crews of two or three of the older battleships to man it. This means that when we put one new ship in commission we have to put three out of commission, thus making the navy weaker instead of stronger. We have been voting money lavishly for ships but made no provision to man them. Ships without men are useless, and with untrained men and no officers they are still more useless. We have had years to get ready for this crisis, and as soon as this war broke out we should have raised and drilled an army of at least two million men, built scores of destroyers and sea-going submarines. We haven't a single long distance sea-going submarine by the way, and Germany has more air men than we have soldiers on foot, and we had by the way to borrow three hundred machine guns from Great Britain before we dared even to go into Mexico. We could and should have trained thousands of aviators and if we had done that instead of acting like simpering, sissified idiots, the Lusitania would never have been sunk, and not a single American life would have been taken on the high seas or anywhere else. We were told to be neutral in thought and deed, told that this war did not concern us and a lot of other nonsense for all of which we have to pay in blood and treasure, and we should be paying for it right now with the best of our lives were not Johnny Bull's fleet keeping guard in the gray waters of the North Sea, and the men in the trenches of Northern France holding back a foe that would make these shores a shambles in a few hours but for their strong right arms. If you don't know this, we on the coast know it. Now after all our pussyfooting, simpering and shilly shallying, we have got to do our part because our weakness and our peace-at-any-price nonsense, instead of protecting us, inspired only contempt, and finally aggression. Our foes have ten million veteran soldiers in line. They have more implements of war than we can make in years. And think over this in the quiet hours of the night. The men of France, Great Britain and Italy have been ever haunted by the terrible thought of an alliance between Germany, Russia and Japan. This dire possibility has filled the thinkers of the world with a nameless dread. With Russia's limitless millions directed by German science and German genius, the Entente Rowers would have been quickly crushed, and then we should have been hit on all sides at once and crushed, too, like the shell of a rotten egg. The revolution in Russia, temporarily at least, has removed this frightful menace, but no one can tell what a day may bring forth. Russia has ninety millions of people who cannot read and her despotic ruling class will make a desperate effort to again get control. What Russia, too, has to fear is the extreme radical element, anarchists, dreamers and visionaries who want to force on the people an idealistic government which they will not be ready for a generation at least. It was this mad folly that spoiled the French revolution and made way for the insane ambitions of that military maniac, Napoleon. The whole world is in a critical condition. Now or never is the chance for democracy to assert itself and put feudal, fool kings and military despotism out of existence forever. If we could only send an army to fight side by side with those poor Russian peasants, struggling up toward liberty, what a glorious thing it would be. The stars and stripes and the red flag of brotherhood flying side by side. Ye gods what an inspiration! I have said time and again that wherever democracy needed a friend we should be on the job, and we ought to be in the middle of Europe right now auctioning off a big bunch of second-hand crowns, packing the dethroned monarchs off to St. Helena, and kicking Turkey out of Europe. This is the work God Almighty expects us to do. He gave us this vast and glorious country so we could prepare for such a job, and not lie down and rot in it like hogs. If God Almighty acts He will act only through His human instruments, and we of all people should be the ones to carry out His Divine mandates, ready to give peace, liberty and government for, of and by the people to all mankind. In this glorious task I know all Americans of German blood, especially those descended from the revolutionaries of '48, who flocked by thousands to these shores and gave us some of our best blood, will heartily cooperate. We are not fighting against, but for the German people, a people for whom we have every sympathy. Win this war, which is a holy war, a war of peoples against despots, a war of light against darkness, democracy against autocracy and the heaven on earth I have long predicted will soon be here.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers: the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

LENOX, TENN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am sixteen years old, am black headed, dark eyes, not pretty but lazy. I weigh one hundred and fifty pounds, am five feet two inches tall. Now if any of you ever meet anyone of those dimensions you may know it is I.

Wonder where you kids will spend your vacations? I spent mine in Kentucky last year. Uncle Charlie, tell me where to spend my next one.

My father and mother are still living. I have four brothers and three sisters. One of my brothers is at the hospital at present.

Uncle Charlie, do you know a remedy for stout people to reduce their flesh? We live on a farm, raise corn, cotton, hay and hogs, have an orchard, but believe me I don't hoe cotton.

Uncle Charlie, what do you think would suit me best? I like to work when there is anything in it, but don't like to work for nothing.

RUTH RICHARDSON.

Ruth, you are much too heavy for your age and height. Fat may make you lazy, and laziness may make you fat. You can reduce your weight by hard work, exercise and dieting. If you are anxious to reduce your weight quickly, I will make arrangements to have you sent to Belgium or one or other of the warring countries, where starvation is plentiful and food scarce. As for vacations, we are not going to have any vacations in this country this year. The United States is at war, and everyone must do his or her bit either on the firing line or the food line, to keep liberty alive in the world. You children short or tall, thin or fat can all help. Get a bit of ground, dig it up and plant something. Be a food producer. Our back garden is only as big as a postage stamp, but Maria and the Goat are doing their best to see that it produces something. If we only raise enough to feed one soldier at the front for five minutes we shall feel we have done something for our country and civilization. Get that hoe out Ruth, and fight the weeds until twenty-five pounds of that superfluous tissue of yours rolls off in honest perspiration. With food at its present high price there is plenty of money for those who are willing to work and even the children on the farms ought to have their pockets lined with money this year. Uncle Sam is throwing his money broadcast, and if there is anyone in the food industry that is not getting plenty of it it must be his fault.

GREEN FOREST, ARK.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Will you welcome a little stranger to your cozy little corner? I am eleven years old, four feet seven inches tall, have brown hair and brown eyes also, and weigh seventy-one pounds. I go to Pleasant Valley school in Carroll Co., Ark. But I don't go to school now as our school was out about a month ago, and I am so lonely sometimes I hardly know what to do. I got first prize in my class for the most head marks. I have plenty to do most of the time as I live on a farm and there are plenty of rocks to pick. We live on a mountain known as the Pinnacle. We have goats, sheep, horses, cows and chickens. I am a member of the Poultry Club. And I hope Billy the goat won't get this. With best wishes to all,

Your niece, RACHEL MARTIN.

Why did your school quit doing business in the middle of winter, Rachel? If it had quit June 21, I would have understood it, but to close up a school in January, except in the Arctic regions is a crime. Better not have any schools at all than to make such a pitiful bluff at educating children, as is made in some sections of the country. We spend forty millions a year here in New York City for education, and that is more than is spent in the entire Russian Empire. We ought to get wonderful results from all that expenditure of money, but there is only one in a hundred of those who go to school, who find their way to college. I should be glad if those who live in your section will tell me why it is your school is closed? With the churches shut up six days a week, and the schools shut up sometimes six months a year, what prospects have we of ever making this a worth-while, progressive nation? Both the churches and the schools should be open all the year round. The saloon, the blind tiger, the white slave den, the poolroom, the mill and the factory are working every hour of the day all the year round, while the church and the school are asleep the best part of the time. This is all wrong. Why don't you intelligent (?) male voters alter these conditions? It is about time you did.

WITT SPRINGS, KY.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a little girl eight years old. I have brown eyes and light brown hair. I have gone to school two years. I like to go to school. I will be promoted to the third grade this year. My school will begin the first of July. I will be glad when school begins. I expect to make a teacher. Then won't that be great, Uncle, when I can be a teacher for other boys and girls? I live with my uncle, my papa's brother.

I will close for this time, with love to Uncle Charlie and the cousins, EVA FRANCES TUTTLE.

Eva, yours is a wonderful letter for a little girl of your age. What I appreciate about it is that you wrote it all by yourself, and that none of the folks helped you with it. So you are going to make a teacher are you? Good for you! The Goat wants to know whether or not you are going to make a male or female teacher. What an absurd question to ask a girl. If you're a blonde, Eva, of course the teacher will be a male brunette, with soulful dark eyes. The old Kentucky colonels always wore ferocious mustaches, you might let us know, Eva, whether you will decorate him with a soup strainer or not. Maybe you may tack on a little dinky one like that worn by Charlie Chaplin. Put plenty of muscles in his arms, Eva, so he can wallop the scholars that don't behave, and make his arm nice and long so it will reach round a lady's waist without bursting open the seams in his best Sunday Prince Albert. See that his hands are husky enough to grip a sword or a rifle so that he can fight for his country when called on to defend it. Don't let any of the pacifists get in while you are making that teacher or they will cut his hands off, so he can't fight, and they'll spoil his appearance by giving him feet that will enable him to run a thousand miles a minute every time an enemy shows himself. Please see that he has no hip pocket for if he has and if he is a genuine Kentuckian, he'll inveigle a flask of moonshine juice into it at the first opportunity when no one is looking. Leave plenty of room for his brains and see that they are of a better brand than Pop possessed or you needn't trouble to make him. With these few instructions I think you can make a pretty good teacher, and the Lord knows good teachers are badly needed. The Goat says I'm all wrong as usual. He is positive that you meant to say, you intend to study to be a teacher, instead of making a teacher. I'm so glad we've got that all straightened out. It is inspiring to think of you a little girl only eight years of age dreaming great thoughts of the time when you will be a leader of boys and girls. Work hard, have high ideals and live up to them and you may be the first woman president of the United States. Now just think of that! There is something to strive for and only as we set ourselves big tasks to do and golden goals to attain is life worth while.

DUNDAS, VA.

MY DEAREST UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a girl fifteen years old. I am asking for information. I feel sure you will write me something on this subject and I know you can. The subject is; Resolved: That the average young man of today has greater opportunities to make life a success financially than his forefathers. I would like for you to send me some of your best points on the negative and send through the mail, and if possible send it so that it may arrive at Dundas by Wednesday the fourteenth. I have read and heard so much of you that I don't feel a stranger to you at all. I am a girl that wants to learn all I possibly can with the few opportunities I have so that I may be successful in all my undertaking. I will appreciate anything you may send and all thanks for them.

BEULAH RANEY.

The average man with little or no capital and less brains is not wanted under the present economic regime, except as a wage earner. He must either go up into the millionaire class or down into the wage-earning class, for the middle class is doomed. The day of individualism is drawing to a close and the era of collective effort is at hand. To discuss however, the subject outlined by you, Beulah, would take a whole edition of COMFORT, and it is a subject that had better be shelved for the present, as the war has brought about conditions that are abnormal, and even a blind monkey can get a good job and make more money today than a banker could fifty years ago. The prosperity we are enjoying, however, is purely artificial. Before the war boosted our industries and the Allies began to throw gold by the bucketful into this country, the soup kitchen was the most familiar object in the land, and bundle days, when people handed out rags to the unemployed, were only too frequent. Just what will happen when the war is over no one can tell. There may be a frightful slump, and again there may not be. A big section of Europe will need rebuilding. Machinery has been exhausted and worn out, but thirty million fighting men, when they return to the factories, may be able to do nearly all the reconstruction work without our aid, though they will want our raw materials. There will likely be an era of rigid economy to make up for the lavish expenditures of war. There will, in all probability, be a tremendous slump in wages in this country at least, and probably in all other countries as well. There will be an era of change and readjustment, both political and economic. One thing however is certain. Those who have fought and bled are not going back to their homes to submit to the old starvation regime. Wealth will have to circulate freely through all the veins of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

Drink
Coca-Cola
There's a delicious freshness to the flavor of Coca-Cola suggestive of a glorious spring morning on the links—the cool, crisp air—the long stretch of green—the exhilarating thrill of a corking drive that clears the hazards and shoots straight down the middle of the course.
Demand the genuine by full name—nicknames encourage substitution.
THE COCA-COLA CO. ATLANTA, GA.



Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

Nerine ran lightly down the stairs, her fingertips on the broad banisters. What a banister to slide on of a wet day!

Breakfast was in a small, sunny room, and there was no one there but Lady Belton; Sir William had been out and away long ago; the younger children were profiting by Miss Bruce's absence to breakfast in the schoolroom with carelessness and riot. Poor Lady Belton received Nerine's message with a downcast shake of the head.

"I knew it!" dismally. "Will you take tea or coffee? You will find those kidneys nice, I think; or will you have some of that grill? Kitty is always so susceptible, and I knew she would take cold, for she sat talking to her father in that foolishly thin tea-gown until all hours. And the schoolroom maid tells me that Miss Bruce seems very feverish and wretched, so that I have sent off for the doctor at once. It is too bad, my dear, that Kitty has been so imprudent. I am afraid you will have a dull day."

"I wonder," said Nerine, hesitatingly, "if Kitty stays in bed, and you do not want me for anything, if you would let me teach the children a little."

Lady Belton's face brightened as she looked up from her letters and her toast. The children had been spending the past two or . ree mornings under her auspices and had been a woe and an affliction.

"You would not like it, really? I am afraid," with unwilling candor, "that you would find them a little trying."

"Perhaps they might not like being handed over to me," cheerfully, "but if you would let me pay them a visit and see how we get on ——"

"Really, it is too good-natured of you." Lady Belton spoke more gratefully than she knew. "I will take you to the schoolroom by and by, when I have seen Kit—and the doctor. But I warn you, my dear Nerine, that you are undertaking a good deal."

She rose as she spoke, for the doctor's carriage could be seen grinding up the steep avenue.

"Finish your breakfast and I will come back for you."

Nerine was left alone with her half-finished breakfast and a pile of London papers.

"I wonder"—she said it aloud, getting up to refill her teacup—"what those children are like! They are evidently naughty, but they can't be any worse than I used to be!"

"Why, were you bad?" The unexpected voice made her jump. There was no one to be seen, but as she turned sharply round she saw there was a second door to the room. It was slightly ajar, and through the crack shone one large, bright eye.

Nerine laughed.

"How long have you been there? And why don't you come in?"

The eye disappeared, then the door slowly opened and a young person in a short frock and spotless pinafore appeared.

"Are you Joan?" Nerine asked, and the child nodded.

"I came to see mother, but she's not here. Has she had her breakfast?" the child asked, shyly.

"Yes. Have you?"

"Oh, some of it! I thought I might as well come down and have some of your marmalade," affably. "Can I sit in mother's place?"

"Where is your sister?"

"May? Oh, she went to feed the rabbits. Do you like rabbits?"

"I never saw any."

Joan's eyes opened perilously wide. This was beyond her imagination. Fancy a grown-up person who had never seen rabbits! She felt it must be sad to be so ignorant, and gracefully changed the subject.

"This is my rat," she remarked, calmly, and diving into the capacious front of her pinafore, she pulled out a most villainous-looking animal of a dingy white color, and set it down on the table.

Miss Nerine Lispenard repressed with some difficulty a start of horror as the rat advanced straight toward her.

"He is a beautiful rat," she said, politely. "Will he—will he come when you call him?" she asked, with haste and some strategy.

"Not if he smells bacon. There is a piece on your plate that would be nice for him."

Nerine held out the bacon on her fork, and, while it was being nibbled by the unwelcome animal, courageously stroked him.

Joan's eyes kindled.

"He thinks you are nice," she said after a moment of hesitation on the rat's part as to biting. "If mother or Kitty were to touch him, he would bite them in a minute," she proudly added.

"Don't you think he wants washing?" Miss Lispenard surveyed the grimy beast with inward distaste.

"Oh, yes. But he ran away for a week once when I tried it. Tommy, Tommy, Tommy!" And Tommy whisked across the table and was pushed hastily into his old hiding place.

"I hear mother coming, and Tommy will chase her." She firmly held down her treasure as her mother entered.

"What, Joan, you here?" casting herself down on the first convenient chair and looking quite despairing. "Fancy, Nerine, the doctor assures me that Miss Bruce is certainly ill with scarlatina, and that he thinks it very likely that Kitty will develop it, as she seems so feverish. And I suppose that if I do not send May and Joan off to the seaside, they will get it, and that would mean missing the best part of my season in town. For, of course, if they were ill I couldn't leave."

"We hate the seaside." Joan's voice sounded very calm after her mother's. "We would rather stay at home and have scarlatina and eat jelly."

"I am afraid you must go, dear. And as for you, Nerine, I don't know what to say. I don't want to send you home, but I certainly should not like you to have this wretched malady."

"I don't think I should take it," with well-measured cheerfulness. "I am not a bit nervous." Better to have scarlatina for a year than to return to Lispenard House. "But of course, if I did, I should be a nuisance to you, and perhaps you would rather I went home at once."

In spite of herself her voice was a little husky. It was such a terrible disappointment to have to go home and face her own thoughts and her stepfather's company. It would be too, too lonely.

Joan looked at her mother.

"I will go to the seaside if she will come too," pointing a sticky finger at Nerine. "But I won't go with only May and nurse, and May won't go with only me and nurse; it's too dull."

"Would you go with them? Would it bore you terribly?" Poor Lady Belton was an abject slave to her youngest daughter, but even so she felt qualms about asking her guest to retire to a tiny village in the society of two children and a nurse.

"Certainly I would go, unless you want me here to nurse Kitty." Nerine spoke quite joyfully: anything would be so much better than returning to Lispenard House. "I could give them lessons in the morning, if you liked," with a laughing glance at Joan, who, strangely enough, said nothing.

"You are a dear girl to be so kind." Lady Belton looked mightily relieved, for the children were accustomed to ride rough-shod over their old nurse, but Nerine would be able to manage them. "I should feel so much happier if I knew you were there, to go about with them," she said gratefully. "I know you would not allow them to get drowned or run over."

"We are too old for that—eh, Joan?" the girl said, laughing. "I suppose I had better go upstairs and pack my things again."

"My maid will do that. But are you sure"—with a kindly detaining hand on her arm—"that you do not mind going?"

Nerine's lip trembled.

"I would so much rather than go back to Mr. Mayne," she said quickly, and went out of the room with some haste.

"Poor child!" Lady Belton thought, "to prefer a dreary sojourn with nurse and children to going home." She drew Joan to her, happily unconscious of the white rat.

"Why do you want her to go with you, dear? Just because you like her?"

Joan wriggled hastily away for fear of accidents.

"Because she likes my Tommy," she said firmly.

Lady Belton went cheerfully off to give orders about the packing. Never in all her days had she found any one who had made their way to Joan's heart by liking Tommy.

CHAPTER XVIII.

TOMMY IN HARD LUCK.

"Now, Miss May and Miss Joan," briskly, "we shall be at Combe in five minutes. Best tie your feather collars on and be quite ready to get out." And the nurse, who was stout, and of a smiling countenance, began to gather up the many stray belongings of her charges.

"Where are you going, May? Far from the station?"

Nerine looked up from her book as the children bounced excitedly over her feet. How funny it was to be going, she did not know where, with two children, she had never seen till today. She wondered what the farmhouse to which they were destined was like; she had never been in a farmhouse.

"It's not far when you ride."

"They have such a fat horse, but he hurries."

Both children spoke at once, and Joan clutched the covered basket which contained the cherished Tommy, while she gazed out of the carriage window.

"It's about a mile, Miss Lispenard," nurse said, respectfully, for she admired immensely the tall young lady who had "a way with her" which could awe Miss Joan into keeping the hated rat in his covered basket. "My lady said

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.)

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss July will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE sign of Cancer rules from June 21st to July 22nd, and its power pertains especially to the principles of domestic life. When both father and mother are born under this influence, family ties may be very strong; the wife will be dearer than the bride, and the husband nobler than the lover. The sweet heritage of children will make the home a center of all joys. Southey in his search for reason of things, says: "A house



MISS JUNE.

is never perfectly furnished for enjoyment unless there is a child in it rising three years, and a kitten rising six weeks."

Parents will show no favoritism among the children, will give good example, and try to teach prudence and forethought in all things. Economy and industry will mark their efforts, that the children may enjoy educationaal privileges, and to make old age secure for themselves. Although the ever kind and sympathetic parent, the father love may be hidden behind authority, or its expression crowded out by t close application to business, thus bringing the children into closer relations with the mother, who will exhibit rare patience with their mistakes, their understanding, and their progress. Her lot may be very hard, for she will not shrink from sacrifice to her great, unselfish love for her children, in whom she can see no flaw. How wonderful are "Mother Eyes."

Mother Eyes

Could some famed scientist but analyze
The occult power that rests in Mother Eyes;
Could he equip each mortal with this sight
That looks through all the wrong and sees the right—

Perhaps the world would find that many a knave
Beneath his rascal's skin is true and brave,
And many a scoundrel, hated and reviled,
To this strange sight is but an errant child.

Oh, gentle-reader, Mother Eyes that dimly scan
A vacillating wreck—and see a man,
If this be blindness, then your God is true,
For all your pain he is rewarding you.
—*William A. McGarry, in Life.*

Children born under this sign of the zodiac are very sensitive, and will cry and struggle when put into the arms of a repulsive person. Every mother has had this experience with her children, but few understand its seriousness. The child should be the judge, and a repetition of the incident prevented. In matters of education they are very persistent, and the daughters incline to literature, while the sons to the manufacturing and trading sphere of life.

June Birth-stone is the Agate for Health and Long Life

As the agate symbolizes health and long life, so may being temperate in all things be called its key, so much does it have to do with a sound mind and body. Eating sparingly of simple food, cultivating regular habits, spending all the recreation hours out of doors, and keeping cheerful, are the best health producers given us, and yet least heeded, because they belong to the common events of life.

Life is a service, and if lived prudently and honorably, the advancing years will come naturally and without fear. The glint will die from the hair, the feet will lose their spring, and the roses fade from the cheeks, but if a face is marked by a long life beautifully lived, with senses unimpaired, youth realizes there is compensation for each year gone from life, and that if the heart and spirits be kept warm, the years will not count, though the body is old.

New dressed and happy appears Miss June in her bridal veil, as if to ask the blessings of health and a long life. "All the world loves a bride" is a true saying, and June in her garb of leaves and roses makes all the world seem hopeful, and a very fitting time to make a new beginning of life; a new starting point for happiness and usefulness.

If read aright, there is a very pretty thought in the old legend, that in ancient Boeotia brides were carried home in vehicles whose wheels were burned at the door, in token that they would never again be needed.

How to Make Miss June

A doll, artificial or fresh flowers, white crepe paper, white lace paper, a paper doiley and white netting are used to make Miss June. Make a full skirt with long train from the white crepe paper and shape an over-dress from lace paper. To the paper doiley attach common white net to represent the veil. Use white roses around the head and arrange a large bouquet for the right arm.

Stop Corn Pain! Corns Lift Out With Fingers

Few Drops Takes Soreness From Corns and Calluses and They Lift Off.

A noted Cincinnati chemist discovered a new ether compound and called it freezone and it now can be had in tiny bottles as here shown for a few cents from any drug store.



You simply apply a few drops of freezone upon a tender corn or painful callus and instantly the soreness disappears, then shortly you will find the corn or callus so loose that you can just lift it off with the fingers.

No pain, not a bit of soreness, either when applying freezone or afterwards and it doesn't even irritate skin.

Hard corns, soft corns or corns between the toes, also toughened calluses just shrivel up and lift off so easy. It is wonderful! Seems magical. It works like a charm. If your druggist doesn't have freezone tell him to order a small bottle for you from any wholesale house. Edward Wesley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
In and Around the Home Conducted by *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	3
Nerine's Second Choice (continued) *Adelaide Stirling*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner	5
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	5
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	6
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	8
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	9
The Kingdom of Our Birthright	10
Crumbs of Comfort	10
The Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	11
Darling Sue *Hapsburg Liebe*	12
The Pumpkin Hood *N. R. Miller*	12
Why Sunburn Is Healthy *Dr. A. M. Hughes*	12
By Solving the Food Problem American Women Will Do Their Share in Fighting the War to a Successful Finish *Violet Marsh*	13
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	14
I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Coward *Lydia M. Dunham O'Neil*	14
The Modern Farmer	16
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	17
Veterinary Information	18
Manners and Looks	19
Information Bureau	20
Uncle Charlie's Home Fund	20
Winners of the April Monthly Prizes and Grand Prizes in Comfort's Prize Contest	20
Talks with Girls	21
Five Wheel Chairs in May	22
Family Doctor	22
Home Lawyer	22
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	23
Comfort's Comicalities	23

JULY COMFORT

You can't afford to miss the thrilling and patriotic stories and instructive articles on timely topics that will make our coming July issue exceedingly interesting.

If the number over your name on the wrapper on this paper is 345, or any less number, it means that your subscription must be renewed at once if you want to receive July COMFORT.

Every thing you buy has doubled or trebled in price, except COMFORT, and our subscription price has got to go up. At the present low renewal price COMFORT is a rare bargain.

Some Special Features for July

"A Declaration of Dependence"

A thrilling 4th of July romance, by Joseph F. Novak, tells of fitting retribution to a heartless flirt caught in her own snare.

"A Dying Soldier Boy's Love Letter"

A true story of a most pathetic and romantic love affair starts with the old nobility of France and ends with a Yankee hero.

"In the Vegetable Kingdom"

Describes best ways to cook and serve vegetables. This article was omitted from our May issue to make room for war cooking article.

"Your Child's Eyesight"

Important facts that every parent should be taught regarding the care and protection of children's eyes—by Dr. J. W. Miller.

Send 30 cents today to renew your subscription two full years. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album. Even if your subscription is paid some months ahead, renew now at special low renewal rate and we will extend your subscription two full years beyond date of expiration. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.
I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name* .....
Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....
R. F. D. No. ..... *Box No.* ..... *State* .....
June, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

Rich soils are oftenest to be weeded.

Law should be the perfection of reason.

Who goes a borrowing goes a sorrowing.

Death has many doors for us to go out at.

Woman conceals only what she does not know.

The greatest of faults is to be conscious of none.

Let us believe what we can and hope for the rest.

When the Devil finds the door shut he goes away.

It is your pride, not your nature, that craves much.

A good heart is better than all the heads in the world.

The more vice looks like virtue, the more dangerous it is.

The morals of today are largely made up of appearances.

Friendship makes more happy marriages than love does.

We find nothing good in life, but what makes us forget it.

Better build schoolhouses for children than jails for adults.

A sweetheart is loved most, a wife best and a mother always.

Love is the dawn of marriage and marriage is the sunset of love.

Man never falls so low he can see nothing higher than himself.

Selfishness is the ugliest and meanest trait in the human character.

Friendship between women is only a suspension of hostilities.

Wise men learn by other men's mistakes; fools learn by their own.

To be happy one must ask neither the how, nor the why of life.

What we hope to be and are not is small comfort, and little credit.

The greatest country is that which has the greatest man or woman.

Prosperity is the blessing of the Old Testament; Adversity of the New.

The disease of an evil conscience is beyond the cure of all the physicians.

War is a game which if the people were wise their leaders would not play at.

When you read, read the new things in science and the old things in literature.

There are three classes of men, the retrograde, the stationary and the progressive.

When we begin to listen for the voices we used to hear, we are beginning to listen for the voices of the angels.

Nothing makes old people, who were once attractive, more ridiculous that to forget that they are so no longer.

We should live with our enemies as if they may sometime become our friends, and live with our friends as if they may sometime become our enemies.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

For Our Young Mothers

SO many of my girls seem to be young mothers, anxious to learn the things they should and should not do that the small daughters may grow up sweet and fair to look upon, that I thought, this month, they deserved a little talk all their own.

No matter how young your small Betty or Patty is, now is the time to begin to decide what she shall look like when she enters young womanhood. Hair, complexion, hands, figure, facial expression, all are more or less within your power to mold and determine.

Take the complexion, for instance. If you will see that Betty forms regular habits of the bowels; that she does not eat between meals, that her foods are well chosen, with plenty of fruits;



JUMPING ROPE EXERCISES LUNGS, ARMS AND LEGS.

that she drinks four or five glasses of water a day, is given an entire body bath each night and a sponge bath each morning; that she sleeps in a room with open windows and is encouraged to healthy exercise—you can rest easy in your mind. She will have a perfect complexion, sparkling eyes and radiant vitality.

The regularity of the bowels may be established by insisting on a regular hour each day—say, thirty minutes after breakfast, and again at night. They will automatically take care of themselves if this habit is formed. Betty can be taught to take her own bath as early as six years old, to wash out her own tub, hang up her towels and washcloth, and see to the whole undertaking herself. I know, for I have a friend with a six-year-old son who successfully superintends every detail of his own toilet.

As to exercise, healthful play is the wisest way to secure it for very young children. See that there is enough variety in the play to exercise legs, arms, waist and promote deep breathing. Jumping rope at a mild rate of speed and for, say, only a count of ten or fifteen at a time, is healthful—it exercises legs, arms, lungs, and stimulates the circulation and elimination—though prolonged and over-vigorous jumping is injurious. Rolling the hoop means reaching, stretching, making sudden movements, and, of course, running—all good forms of exercise. It trains the eye, as well as the muscles. Roller skating is another good form of exercise.

The hair, needs gentle persistent brushing for forty or fifty strokes, at least once daily. It must not be allowed to hang loose in the neck or it will spoil the line of the nape of the neck by training the hair to grow too low. It must not be brushed back too severely from the forehead, but, on the contrary, thought should be given to training it to lie in the manner which gives the best line to the forehead.

The hair should be shampooed once in two weeks unless hair is very dry, when once in three weeks will be sufficient. The scalp must be kept loose from the skull by gentle massage with the fingers a few minutes nightly at bedtime. The parting of the hair should be changed from time to time to prevent hair habits being formed, and also that the part may not wear too wide.

The eyebrows should be brushed and shaped daily with an eyebrow brush (like a very small child's tooth-brush). Arch a trifle.

See that Betty's teeth are brushed before and after meals, on rising and before going to bed, and be sure to use dental floss between the teeth.

Care for the nails scrupulously, pushing the cuticle at base of nail back each time the hands are washed, shaping nail with file, and cleaning thoroughly.

Watch all habitual positions, and see that Betty's shoulders are kept straight, that her toes point straight ahead and do not turn out, and that she holds her chin well up.

Do all this, and some day she will rise up and call you blessed!

Answers to Questions

Discouraged Girl.—Of course at eighteen your hands should not be wrinkled and dry and your knuckles prominent, nor the skin red. The big trouble is that your body lacks certain elements of nourishment and that your circulation is poor. The fact that your hands are white in the morning, sometimes, and then persistently red the rest of the day, indicates this. You are not drinking enough water, and your food is not well selected. I have said so many times to all of my girls that they *must* drink eight to ten glasses of water a day that it hardly seems necessary to repeat it, yet I find I have to keep on saying it. So make up your mind that not a day shall pass that you do not get eight glasses of water. Next, you must eat as many green vegetables and fresh fruits as you can. You are probably eating too concentrated a diet—perhaps too many salt meats, perhaps hardly any vegetables, perhaps no fresh fruits, I can't tell at this distance, yet I know that something of this kind is the matter. You must give your body the kind of foods that will make your skin soft—set the little sebaceous glands to working. Do you know what they are?—little glands beneath the skin, that keep it oiled and soft. Yours are sluggish—perhaps you do not give the body material to make the oil, and perhaps you do not exercise enough to keep the little glands stirred up to do their work. Take a body bath every night or morning—the ideal thing is to take a hot or warm bath at night just before going to bed, and sponge the body off with cool water in the morning. This stimulates the skin, opens the pores and removes all clogging material. Then you should take a long, brisk walk every day, and you should have some sort of outdoor exercise in addition—working in your flower garden, playing tennis, rowing, swimming, bicycling. Find something that uses every muscle and gets you tired. Eat vegetables and fruits, meat only once a day, and chew every particle of food until it is fluid before swallowing. Don't eat between meals, and avoid too many sweet things. Drink milk, eat cream on your cereals if you have it, and have a light breakfast—nothing but fruit, cereal and cream, and toast—as for instance, baked apple or orange or grapefruit or some stewed dried apricots (which have been soaked over night before cooking slowly for two hours) or some apple sauce or some stewed prunes (fixed same way as the apricots) or some berries or a peach, etc. For the cereal, any of the uncooked cereals, or oatmeal which has been cooked a long time, or any other cooked cereal, being careful that the latter has been *well* cooked. Try all this and let me know how you get along.

G. F. F.—Yes, I should drop out coffee if I were you. Be more careful of your diet, if your stomach is weak. Do not give it hard things to digest. You see, some foods take several hours to digest and others only a short time, and of course if you work a weak stomach too much it rebels, so give it the easiest foods. A milk diet, with no solid food, would be a good thing for you, as it is hardly any work for the stomach, and yet furnishes more nourishment than ordinary food. But if you do not want to do this, be sure not to eat hot breads or biscuits, griddle cakes, pork in any form, veal, pies or cakes. All of these are hard of digestion. Lean broiled or roasted beef, lamb or mutton, not too well done, will be all right for you, but not too much and never more than once a day. Vegetables and fruits are the easiest things for you. Do not eat fried foods, as they are hard to digest. Be careful of these things and your stomach will not trouble you so much. The pores of your skin are large, you say. Give the face a brisk rubbing with a soft cloth, after washing, and do not use too hot water on it. Always rinse in warm water a couple of times, then in cool, and finally in cold. This helps to close the pores. But they must be clean, first, or you will have blackheads or pimples. Better get yourself a camel's-hair complexion brush and use it. The ammonia to be used for removing superfluous hair is the ordinary household ammonia.

Marie F.—I should judge your bowels were not in good order. Your backache might come from that, and when you say your skin is yellow at times, that shows that your digestion is not what it should be. Read what I say to "G. F. F.," and take particular pains to see that your bowels move freely once a day. If you will eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, and drink lots of water, your bowels will probably become normal without any more effort, since you are only seventeen. Just to begin with, you might get a small bottle of aromatic spirits of cascara at your drug-store and take a teaspoonful for one night. After that, see that foods and water take care of the situation. This will affect your figure also. Constipated bowels make the figure look heavy below the waist. Also be careful in putting on your corset, if you wear a corset. These days a great many women do not wear corsets, thinking it better for the figure. You should unlace your corset before taking it off at night—that is, untie it and loosen the strings very widely. In the morning, slip it on and fasten it up in front, and fasten the side garters to the stockings before lacing the corset in the back. Settle it easily at the waistline before lacing. You should put your strings in the corset in such a way that you can tie them near the bottom of the corset, and again at the waist. The way to do this is to lace naturally for three or four holes from the bottom—depending on the length of the corset—and then instead of crossing over with either string, put each in the hole just above where it last came out, and leave a loop hanging, then lacing across as before till waist is reached, when make another loop as before and lace to top. Or, rather, the best way is to *begin at top*, putting the middle of your string there, and starting each side with one half of the string, making a loop at the waist and again at the hips, and finally tying the ends of the string at the very bottom of the corset. In lacing your corset when it is on, draw the strings at the hips and tie first, pulling down, never up toward waist, then draw the strings until you reach the waist, and tie there, drawing from above as well as from below. You may be putting on your corset all laced up and so pushing your figure down as you fasten the corset, thus making yourself larger below the waist than you should be. There is a lot to putting on a corset, and at seventeen it is not a bad thing to leave it off altogether. Better, also, practise all the arm exercises you find in this column—this will develop the upper part of your body. Your hair, you say, is thin. It would be if your bowels and stomach were not in good order. You can't have healthy hair if the body isn't in perfect condition, so get to work to make it so. In the meantime shampoo once in three weeks, and rinse very thoroughly after each shampoo, over and over again. Brush the hair gently every night for one hundred strokes.

Thule.—If your hair "sours" one day after shampooing, I should judge you did not get it thoroughly dry before doing up. How about it? Rinse in many, many waters, as if any soap is left on scalp or hair it will cause dandruff. Then dry the hair thoroughly in the sun, letting it hang loose and lifting and shaking it so the air gets to every portion, and the sun, too. It should be "bone-dry" and warm to the touch before you put it up. Once a week is too often to wash your hair. Once in two weeks, if your hair is oily, is about right. The night before shampooing, soak the scalp in olive oil and do up in a towel. Let stand till the morning, when you shampoo. This will loosen the dandruff and help to detach it from the



ROLLING A HOOP IS GOOD TO TRAIN THE EYE AND THE MOVEMENTS AS WELL AS TO EXERCISE LEGS AND ARMS.

scalp. You must rub the scalp thoroughly while shampooing. Make a soap jelly, dissolving half a cake of shaved white soap in a quart of boiling water and keeping it over a flame until all dissolved. Let slightly cool, then dampen the hair and scalp with plain water, and pour on this soap liquid, rubbing it into every part of the scalp over and over. Go at your scalp as if you were rubbing hard on a washing board! Rinse out thoroughly, then use another supply of the soap liquid and rub again. Finally rinse in half a dozen or more waters. You can't rinse too much. Do not let your hair stay done up at night? That is almost sure to produce dandruff. Take it down, always, loosen it, shake it by the open window, then brush for one hundred strokes, and either go to bed with the hair entirely loose, or braided, without tying, in extremely loose braids. Take care of your general health and your diet, for these will also affect the condition of your hair. Better read what I have said to other members of our club this month about this.

An Old Subscriber.—The best way to make the eyes sparkle is to keep the body in good condition and also have plenty of sleep. Wash the eyes out once a day with a four per cent solution of boric acid. But, most of all, see that the bowels move freely every day. Milk that has had the butter taken out of it will not produce flesh. Its fat producing qualities have gone into the butter. It is a healthful drink, however, as it destroys many disease germs. To soften hard water, add powdered borax to it, or a few drops of tincture of benzoin. The latter will make the water milky in color and soften it. Why not boil some bran on the stove and use the bran water to wash your hands? It is excellent. Or you can make some small bags of rolled oats, about two or three inches, partly full of the oats, and use these to wash with—a fresh one each time—they are softening to the skin. For your dishes use a dish mop, to keep your hands out of the water as much as possible, and you can, if you like, use rubber gloves when your work requires your putting your hands in water, or the ordinary white gloves that are called "garden gloves" or "workmen's gloves." These can be washed and kept always fresh, while protecting your hands from all things dirty.

Dollie Bell.—No, one hundred and seventeen pounds is not too much for sixteen years old, five feet two. You could weigh one hundred and twenty-five. The blackheads can be gotten rid of by scrubbing nightly with a complexion brush (camel's-hair) and hot soapy water, and rinsing thoroughly. Your last rinsing should always be of cold water to close the pores. Be sure to exercise freely every day—outdoor exercise, I mean. That is the best way to keep the pores open and help them to throw off the little impurities which, if allowed to remain, will cause blackheads. About your hands, see my answer to "Discouraged Girl." In New York, the daughters of many of the most fashionable families still wear their hair in braids at sixteen, so if you want to do so you would be right in line with the best customs. If you want to do it up, I should part it in the middle, and also again just behind the ears, so that your front hair will be in two sections. Comb your back hair half way up your head and tie firmly with a bit of narrow shoestring. Now twist this hair into a rope, rather tight, and loop it once, letting the loop stand out from the head, and winding the hair around the base of the loop in a smooth coil. This will be a Psyche knot. Then take one half of your front hair and roll it away from the face, beginning just above the ears. Bring the end around your coil, and do the same with the other side. A prettier way is to part the hair from the forehead to the neck. Comb each side up and toward the ear, holding the strand just behind the ear, and braid. Bring one braid across to where the other braid starts, and tie with a big bow of ribbon. Then bring the second braid over to where the first started and tie there with a bow. This is a simple and pretty way of doing the hair. You can roll the hair slightly away from the forehead, not drawing it back too tight, before braiding, if you desire.

Mrs. S. R.—I am so sorry you have been delayed in getting an answer to your question. You see the magazine is printed so long in advance, and there are so many letters to answer that it always takes a little time before an answer can be printed. It is against the rules of the department to answer letters by mail. I was much interested in your letter. Yes, I think the milk diet would help you, because milk is easy to digest when taken without solid foods. You say your liver is out of order. You should exercise for this, and you should cut out all foods which overwork it. Cut out sweets and fats, for these tax the liver. If you will read what I said to "G. F. F.," the directions will apply to you as well. If I were you I should drink a glass of cool water before breakfast, containing the juice of half a lemon. This is good for the liver, but exercise is best of all. I am sorry you are having such a nervous time, but if you can get your stomach, bowels and liver to behaving, it will make everything easier for you. At the time of the "change," the body is very much disturbed, and the stomach finds it hard to digest anything but very simple foods, in many cases. So keep this in mind. Eat cereals and cream, fruits, toast, vegetables. Drink milk, lots of water. See to the bowels—this is most important. Warm baths at night will help to relieve your nervousness, probably. And be as cheerful as you can, for this is a passing phase. Here is an exercise for your liver:

To Stimulate the Liver

Sitting in a chair, with feet firmly planted on the ground, chin up, chest out, and hands on hips, turn the body at the waist as far to the left as possible, then as far to the right. Continue for fifteen or twenty times. Then stand erect, heels a few inches apart, hands above head, palms meeting, elbows perfectly straight, shoulders back. Without bending knees, throw arms out and down and back between the knees as far as they can go. Bend at waist only, do not bend knees. Practise for a few minutes at a time.

Another Exercise

Lying on back on bed, raise right leg without bending knee until it is as near at right angles with the body as you can get it. Then lower gradually, the slower the better, being careful to keep leg stiff. Repeat five or six times, then do the same with the left leg, then with both. This is good for the liver and for constipation, as well as for reducing a too fat abdomen.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Be Beautiful—Be Youthful



"Keep the Hair in Place"

Insist on HUMP HAIR PINS 5c and 10c

5 sizes—They meet every need for every kind of hair.

HUMP HAIR PINS

will enable you to get the most becoming and beautiful effects in doing up your hair. Nothing like them has ever been made. You need only one-third the usual number, for HUMP Hair Pins stay where you put them and "Keep the hair in place"—every strand, every lock.

Flexible Extra Strong Light Weight

Top down or top up, they don't slip.

The Only Perfect Hair Pin

Sold everywhere. Long, medium and short, and two Invisibles. If your dealer can't supply you, send us his name and 10c postage for our Complete Assortment Package, or send 15c for two packages, the 10c Assortment and the 5c Invisible Packet for your pocket-book. Write today.

HUMP HAIR PIN MANUFACTURING COMPANY
Sol H. Goldberg, President CHICAGO



Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

sisters will be able to help you. Prenatal influence sometimes causes strange things, but doubtless this is merely one form of nervousness that she will outgrow, so be patient and wait.—Ed.

NEBRASKA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT for several years and think it is the best paper that comes to our home.

We live just west of the great Missouri river. To the east is level land and on the west it is rolling and finally hilly. We raise great quantities of corn, wheat, oats and potatoes. Our grains are fed mostly to cattle and hogs as also is the hay, clover or Alfalfa, which grows in abundance. We never have what is known as a complete failure of crops. Sometimes we have too much rain, very often not enough, but we always make good one or more of the products, especially Alfalfa.

We have some very fine cities and towns in this state. Omaha is the largest city. It is known for its stockyards. About the cleanest little city is Wayne. It is one hundred and twenty-five miles from Omaha, and noted for its fine schools and churches.

In regard to Georgie's letter I will say a few things about country life. I was raised on a farm and actually believe it to be the place God provided for the raising of our boys and girls. Why? Because of its wholesome fresh air, its quietness and its beauty. With our beautiful groves we have so much more space for them to play in. Is not that more tempting than the cement sidewalks where so many of your girls and boys play? You may say, "Send them to the parks where amusement is provided for children." That is all very well, but what mother can send her child off to play at the park without the fear of its getting hurt or coming in contact with some dread disease.

Our Nebraska schools are of the very best. We employ competent teachers and our children are trained almost as well as those of the city. In several places we have consolidated schools where we employ several experienced teachers. Here they teach manual training, domestic science or anything you desire the children to take up.

Georgie, if you could only be out on the farm one morning in the beautiful springtime and at sunrise hear the song of the birds, the echoes and inhale the fragrance which the soft breezes carry from the clover and Alfalfa fields, I am sure you would say, "No more city life for me."

We have our automobiles with which we go to the city when we desire a few days of such life, but we are always glad to get back to the good, old quiet home in the country.

Where do the young men of the city spend their evenings? Mostly in the poolrooms, bowling alleys, saloons or theater. What mother would not rather have her son on the farm than in such places? The farm boys and girls are more willing to stay home evenings and if they do go away we generally know where they are and when they come home. When a young lady comes from the city to visit a country friend she soon upsets things. The boys become infatuated over her and nine times out of ten she has spoiled all the country girls she has come in contact with. They become dissatisfied at home and finally go to the city where they are misled by some city friend and lost to home and character. When a city chap wants a good girl for a wife, he generally goes to the country for her. Many homes have been shattered when a country boy has married a city girl and she was not able and too classy to try to do the duties of a farmer's wife.

I hope I have hurt no one's feelings as I only want to convince Georgie that country life is miles ahead of city life.

I am five feet two inches tall and weigh one hundred and two pounds. Have brown eyes and long black hair. I am quite strong and keep up my end of the farming as best I can.

Wishing everyone good luck and prosperity, I am,
Brown Eyes.

PEARCY, ARK.

DEAR COMFORT READERS:

If Mrs. Wilkinson will allow me space I would like to ask a favor. Will any of the COMFORT readers who have made a success selling song poems (or lyrics) please write to me telling me how they managed their work to obtain success?

I have composed several song poems and have sent some of them to music publishers who advertised for song poems and I always receive the reply that my work is fine and if I will send them a fee—which is from twenty-five to fifty dollars—to pay for setting my song to music and having it copyrighted they will sell it for me. I know that a lyric must be set to music and copyrighted to be of any value. I hope some COMFORT friend that has had experience will write to me and give me advice.

I have been an invalid nearly twelve years. I spend my time reading, writing and crocheting. I try to earn money selling crochet work but find this slow for the market is always crowded.

I would like to receive letters from all who care to write. I am interested in the West and would like letters describing home life, traveling, or in fact, any will be interesting. I will answer all who enclose postage but cannot otherwise. Would also be pleased with quilt pieces or any token of remembrance.

Best wishes to all, MISS FANNIE STICKLIN.

Miss Sticklin. It sounds very pessimistic and dog-in-the-mangerish of me, I know, but nevertheless my advice to you in regard to writing song poems is—don't do it. Or, at least, don't give publishers the fee they demand. True, some win fame and fortune but for one song that makes a hit there are hundreds that are utter failures. I don't want to discourage you, for you may have real talent, but I do say—beware!—Ed.

CHUCKEY, TENN.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

May I come in for a short chat? I am every inch a Tar Heel. I was born in North Carolina, but my parents came to Tenn. seven years ago. It is a fine state but North Carolina can't be beaten.

I was glad to read such a cheerful letter from Mattie Mae Clark. She certainly is a dear and one of my most loved childhood chums.

I wonder how many of the sisters think life is what we make it? I do. Does not the cheerful woman make a cheerful world just as the sorrowing woman makes a gloomy world. The eye maketh that which it looks upon. The ear maketh its own melodies or discords. The world without reflects the world within. The cold-hearted may expect to be treated with coldness and the proud with haughtiness; those who forget the rights of others must not be surprised if their own are forgotten. How many does a lovely example win to goodness? There are no trials which we may not transform

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

Rider Agents Wanted

Everywhere to ride and exhibit the new **Ranger "Motorbike"** completely equipped with electric light and horn, carrier, stand, tool tank, coaster-brake, mud guards and anti-skid tires. **Choice of 44 other styles**, colors and sizes in the famous **"Ranger"** line of bicycles.

DELIVERED FREE on approval and **30 DAYS TRIAL.** Send for big **free** catalog and particulars of our *Factory-direct-to-Rider* marvelous offers and terms.

TIRES Lamps, Horns, Wheels, Sundries, and parts for all bicycles—at half usual prices.

SEND NO MONEY but tell us exactly what you need. Do not buy until you get our prices, terms and the big FREE catalog.

MEAD CYCLE COMPANY Dept. G-3 CHICAGO



"DON'T SHOUT"



"I hear you. I can hear now as well as anybody. 'How?' With the MORLEY PHONE. I've a pair in my ears now, but they are invisible. I would not know I had them in, myself, only that I hear all right. "The Morley Phone for the

DEAF

is to the ears what glasses are to the eyes. Invisible, comfortable, weightless and harmless. Anyone can adjust it." Over one hundred thousand sold. Write for booklet and testimonials.

THE MORLEY CO., Dept. 766, Perry Bldg., Phila.

CLEARS THE SKIN Cuticura SOAP AND OINTMENT QUICKLY REMOVE PIMPLES AND DANDRUFF SAVES THE HAIR

SAMPLES FREE. ADDRESS CUTICURA DEPT. W BOSTON. SOLD EVERYWHERE

Darling Sue

by Hapsburg Liebe



All at once he drew his rein.

"Put up your hands!" she ordered.

The heavy pistols dropped to the desert sand.

Copyright, 1917 by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE Widow Jefferson, proprietress of the Halfway House between Mordaunt and Prairieton, had just discharged the last of her servants.

"I'm sorry," she told the Mexican woman, who still lingered by the doorstep. "You know the circumstances as well as I. Trade has fallen away to almost nothing. So few pass this way now."

"But the senora will be lonely!" with wide-open eyes. "I will stay without wages, senora!"

"I thank you for that," Mrs. Jefferson replied, "but I cannot allow you to do it. It wouldn't be fair to you."

Dolores shrugged her fat shoulders as Mexicans are forever shrugging their shoulders, took up her small bundle of clothing and went. The Widow Jefferson sighed. She had liked Dolores.

The remainder of the day dragged heavily to this young woman who was braving the dangers of the borderland in order that she might support herself and her child. When she went to bed that night a big revolver of an old-fashioned frontier type and a Winchester rifle lay within easy reach of her hands. These weapons had belonged to her husband, Bowers Jefferson the Ranger, one-time terror to border thieves, and to the woman's mind his more than dauntless spirit still hovered about them. He had known, none better, how to shoot true and fast, and he had taught her to shoot true and fast. She knew that she could handle firearms better than most men. Thus assured, she fell aleep.

The sun was shining through a rent high in the adobe wall at the head of her bed when she awoke. Turning her head slowly, she looked tenderly upon the sleeping, dimpled face of her son; with gentle fingers she swept back a wayward curl that had strayed down over one of the tender-lidded, baby-blue eyes.

"Poor little boy," she murmured; and, as though he heard her voice, the child moved closer to her. "Poor little boy. You've got only a dog and a kitten—and a mother. You ought to go to school next year. If I had as much as a thousand dollars, I'd take you East, where there are schools. I'd open a restaurant, or something. I'd make it support us * * * *"

Slowly the red sun climbed higher and higher in its pale-blue sky and threw its shimmering rays over the vast dry plains like the blasts of a furnace. The mesquit, that chaplet of the desert, wrinkled its alkali-covered leaves as though in pain; the hot sand sparkled; the dim haze trembled in the purple distances; the coyotes, scavengers of the endless reaches, hid their lank bodies in their deepest lairs. Mrs. Jefferson went about her duties, as usual, trying to sing, as usual. But the songs wouldn't come. There was no melody in her heart; in her heart there was nothing save the vivid recollection of that bitter day, now exactly five years gone, when four cowmen had brought her Ranger husband home from the Rio Grande. She remembered so well the two blue-rimmed bullet holes in his breast, the waxen face, the bloodless lips that could speak to her no more. It had been a Gethsemane * * * * A band of greasers had waylaid him.

On the front doorstep the child Bowers, named for his father, played with his year-old Mexican dog and his striped kitten. Suddenly the boy rose and looked down the long, hot streak that was the old stage road. A moment later he turned to his mother with an exclamation:

"Dust!"

Dust! Everything, thought the lone and lonely woman, was indeed dust. There was nothing left to her but dust. Life was all dust now.

"Mother, look!" cried the boy.

"I wonder," muttered Mrs. Jefferson, as one waking from a dream. She hastened to the doorway. Standing there, she shaded her eyes with her hand and looked westward over the alkali-lined road.

"It's a man on horseback," she finally said.

The rider approached swiftly. The woman, watching with only ordinary interest, saw a youngish man, who was attired in the common clothing of the West and armed well, gallop a fire-breathing broncho up and past. All at once he drew his rein; then he spoke to his mount, turned and rode back to the Halfway House.

"I'm a horned toad," he declared, smiling, "if I knowed there was a stoppin'-place this side o' Mordaunt! I'm half starved, ma'am. Can you accommodate me to a dinner? I'm not partic'lar what it is, ma'am. Even a baked house cat'd go fine with me about now!"

"I'll have dinner for you in thirty minutes," quietly said Mrs. Jefferson. "There is a barn behind the house; you'll find something for your horse there; and just below it is the one spring in the county. When you come back, take a chair in this room." She pointed to a doorway at her left.

"And how about a drink?" inquired the newcomer, while he twisted at a small blonde mustache.

"Water," said the woman, frowning. "I don't handle spirits."

"Water!" laughed the stranger. "Whoop-ee! I always thought water was for cows and to wash in! But I guess it's better'n nothin'."

The widow was making headway with a quick meal when her guest returned from the barn. She sighed as she noted that her supply of food was all too scant; but strong, strapping men were not usually hard to please in their eating, she knew.

The stranger had taken Bowers the second to his lap and was talking to him—evidently in a manner highly pleasing to the boy, for the dimpled face was all interest. Suddenly Bowers sprang from the big knees to the floor and brought an old guitar, one that Dolores had left. With a satisfied look the big brown man took the battered instrument and struck several chords readily. Then he began to lilt a rollicking Spanish buccaneer song for the pleasure of his youthful listener.

Mrs. Jefferson stopped her work and listened. It was a good voice, a rich voice. She found herself wondering—where had she seen that strong, yet boyish, face before? She stole to the room adjoining that from which came the song, and took a slightly yellowed newspaper from behind a picture frame. Opening the faded sheet, she spread it out on a little table and saw a likeness—all but the small blonde mustache—of that same stranger's face. Under the picture was a sentence that cried out that he was a fugitive from justice and that a reward of a thousand dollars would be paid for his capture, dead or alive! He was John McKenzie, the outlaw.

She caught up her revolver, thinking rapidly. With the reward money, she could go East with her son and open a restaurant. But—John McKenzie had taken her child by the hand, and, as the proverb says, herself by the heart thereby. Cautiously she moved toward the doorway, as yet undecided. The great pistol hung heavily in her small hand. Her lower lip trembled—and then set tightly against its mate; with a resolute look on her finely-molded face, she pulled the hammer of the Colt's back to a full and went on.

"Put up your hands!" she ordered in a voice that had neither weakness nor gentleness in its tones.

The outlaw looked toward her surprisedly, let the guitar fall to his lap, and raised his hands a little higher than his head.

"They're up, ma'am," he said easily, laughing. "It ain't such a big disgrace to be arrested by a woman, you know; they're ten times as apt fo shoot as menfolks are. And, besides, it's sort o' nice to be caught by as pretty a woman as you—begging your pardon, of course, for the saying of it."

"Never mind that," replied the young widow. "Keep your hands where they are."

She went to him and took his pair of blued revolvers from their holsters, then crossed the room and threw the weapons into an open chest; a moment later, and she had closed the chest and locked it.

"Say, ma'am," begged John McKenzie, "won't you let me lower my arms? I promise good behavior."

"Lower them," agreed the woman. "But remember the reward is for dead or alive, and be careful. I can shoot. I'll be ready in a minute or two. We'll get on horses and go to Mordaunt then."

Again the big brown man smiled. He took up the guitar as complacently as though nothing had happened, and resumed his apparently pleasurable occupation of amusing the child. In a clear, strong voice he began to sing "Darling Sue," a pathetic, sentimental song that was popular at that day. And he began with the last four lines:

" 'Flowers that she loved so well,
Not the kind that townfolks sell,
Just some little wild bluebells—
I takes and lays 'em where my heart lies too!' "

It sounded queer, coming from the lips of a bad man. In the tones there was a depth of feeling that was surprising. Behind the singer Mrs. Jefferson clutched at her throat as though something therein choked her; she pressed a hand to her full round bosom to still its trembling. There was a throng of memories, memories sweeter than life and sadder than death, crowding into her heart. The dust—the dust of life! Then with a great sob she dropped her revolver and rushed to the side of the man she had disarmed but a few minutes before. Down on her knees she went, with her hands clasped before her as she clasped them when she prayed in the silent hours to the Great Friend of lone and lonely women.

"I can't take you to Mordaunt, McKenzie!" she cried brokenly. "Forgive me for trying—I needed the reward money so much, and that is why I tried——"

"I wouldn't feel like that, ma'am," said the outlaw, seriously, laying a brown hand on her sun-bright hair much as though he were priest in the act of bestowing a blessing. "Honest, ma'am, I wouldn't feel like that!"

"Forgive me!" the widow cried again. "I wanted the reward so badly, or I wouldn't have tried it. I wanted to take my boy to the East, where there are schools; I could educate him there; I couldn't do it here. My husband's father cast him out when he married me, because I was an orphan and penniless; I can depend on nobody but myself."

John McKenzie rubbed his stubby chin thoughtfully. "What brought about the sudden change?"

"That song," quickly. "My husband used to sing it to me so much. He always called me 'Darling Sue.' My name is Sue—Sue Jefferson."

"Sue Jefferson," repeated McKenzie, with growing interest in his eyes. "Not a relative of Bowers Jefferson, the Ranger?"

"His wife." She rose from her knees. "He was killed five years ago today, McKenzie. Oh, he was killed five years ago today, when our baby was only a few months old——"

"Killed!" The outlaw also had risen. He stood there staring at the woman with pain in his eyes. "Bowers Jefferson dead five years? I wonder why I never heard about it! Ma'am, I owe my life twice to your man. I liked him better than anybody else in the world. I rode a Bar-Q horse in his territory for years, and he found me in a close place with rustlers twice; each time they'd ha' fixed me if it hadn't been for him. That was before—I went bad. If I ain't bad mistaken, I learned the 'Darlin' Sue' song from your husband. * * * * The wife and baby o' Bowers Jefferson shall never suffer while I'm alive, ma'am. You get ready for a trip. You're goin' to take me to the Big Town and claim the thousand dollars, that's what you're goin' to do."

"I can't," moaned the woman. "I tell you, I can't!"

McKenzie seized her wrists and held them tightly.

"But you can, you will, you've got to!" he declared. "Think about your little boy. He's got to be educated, and you sure can't do it out here—now can you? I'll get out of jail, all right; you needn't have any fears about that part of it. You've got a sort of wagon, I saw it. We'll go in it. You can drive in the daytime, and I'll sleep in the wagon; I'll have to stand guard at night, you know. Get ready, ma'am!" He dropped her wrists.

Mrs. Jefferson looked long and thoughtfully into the deep gray eyes of the big man who had sung her husband's song. She saw determination in the depths of those eyes, and she saw a greater strength in the sunburned, boyish face. She knew then that she would never be able to disobey him.

"Why not go to Mordaunt?" she asked.

"Because there's no sheriff in Mordaunt," smilingly, "that's why. It's only five days' drive to the Big Town."

"Hitch the horses to the wagon," she finally told him. "And remember," she added—as a balm to her conscience, "it's all your own doing, McKenzie."

Not long afterward the three of them climbed into the old canvas-covered wagon and drove away straight to the northward, where the beaten trails were few.

The sun went down, and the long and lonesome twilight of the desert came. Mrs. Jefferson, John McKenzie and Bowers Jefferson the second sat around a little fire of catclaw and pinon watching the coffee boil. The woman turned to the outlaw and asked:

"Do you mind telling me what started you?"

"Not in the least, ma'am," answered the outlaw. "I killed a man—his name was Haley. I done it in defense of myself, but I knowed I could never prove it; only his friends saw the thing done. It's his brothers that offered the re-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

The Pumpkin Hood

By N. R. Miller

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

A RAINY day had driven the house party of young people to the large roomy attic for entertainment. The girls were looking through a trunk of old-fashioned garments in search of material to aid in their costumes for the tableaux which were to be given that evening.

As Ruth Wallace drew forth a curious padded thing like nothing she had ever seen before, she uttered an exclamation. "Oh, Helen! What is this queer thing?" she asked, holding the object aloft.

"Why, that is Grandma's old pumpkin hood," was the answer, "and there is a story connected with it. Would you like to hear it?"

"Wouldn't we!" they exclaimed in chorus. "But you do not mean to tell me that they ever wore anything like that on their heads?" queried Ruth.

"But they did, just that," responded Helen, "and I expect forty or fifty years from now our fashions will look just as strange. But come down now to Grandma's room and we will get her to tell us the story."

"The girls want to hear the story of the pumpkin hood, Grandma," said Helen, when they had seated themselves around the fireplace in Grandma's large, pleasant room.

"Well, dears," said Grandma in a reminiscent tone, "it carries me back to the exciting days of the 'Underground Railroad.' "

"What," asked one of the girls, "did they have subways when you were a girl?"

"No," was the reply. "It was a different railroad from any that you ever saw or rode upon. It was in slavery times, before the war, and many slaves sought freedom by escaping to the North and thence to Canada, where they were beyond the power of their owners, if found. If they were captured in the States their owners had the right to demand them and carry them back. There were people all along the line willing to help them escape and their homes were called the stations of the underground railroad. My father's home was one of these stations.

"The day of which I am to tell you I was alone, my parents having gone away for the day. I was at that time fifteen years old, but large and strong for my age. I had just finished baking bread and was taking the last loaf from the oven when the kitchen door was suddenly thrown open and a colored girl who could not have been many years older than myself, burst into the room.

" 'Oh, Missus, save me! They are right after me!' she gasped, rather than spoke. It took me but a minute to comprehend the situation, startled as I was. I knew this girl must be a runaway slave. I began to think quickly. Where could I conceal her? There was a hidden room at the barn, cleverly contrived under a haymow, but there was not time to reach it as doubtless even now her pursuers were in sight.

"Suddenly I thought of a place which might do. Grasping hold of her arm I half dragged, half carried her up-stairs into my room. There, pushing aside the bed I removed a loose board. 'Creep in quickly,' I ordered. There was just barely room for her to crowd herself into the narrow space. 'Keep perfectly quiet and scarcely breathe if you hear any one in this room,' I said, while carefully replacing the board.

"The thought entered my mind, 'What should I say if they should ask me if I had seen the slave girl.' From the strict discipline of my New England parents, I had been taught a rigid adherence to truth and never under any circumstances, even that good might come of it, to utter a falsehood. I didn't have long to deliberate, for scarcely had I entered the kitchen before there was a loud knock at the door and harsh voices demanded entrance. With my heart in my mouth I went to the door and threw it open.

" 'Have you seen a fugitive girl pass here this morning?' demanded the leader, abruptly.

" 'No,' was my truthful reply, 'I have seen no one pass.'

" 'Then she must be concealed about this place,' was the angry retort, 'for we have traced her here. She is altogether too valuable a slave to lose and we must search the premises, with your permission or without.'

"Drawing myself up proudly, I said with a confidence I was far from feeling:

" 'You may search the place, sir, but you will find no one.'

"He immediately sent two of his men to guard the barn and outbuildings while he searched the house, I leading the way. Down cellar he even peered into the pork barrel and among the pickles and preserves.

"When the lower part of the house had been thoroughly searched, we went up-stairs. We came to my room last. When he had looked everywhere, even under the bed, he pulled out the bed and started to rap on the wall. I was sure then that all was discovered, when a sound from below drew his attention, and thinking that one of his men had found the fugitive, he hastily left the room and descended to the kitchen. Knowing that he would be sure to return and find the hiding place of his victim, I hastily removed the board, dragged out the trembling girl and pushed her into another room which had been thoroughly searched.

" 'Conceal yourself in the closet behind some of the clothing,' I whispered, as I pushed her into the room. 'He may not go back in there again. It is your only chance. Hurry as I hear him returning!'

"All this took less time than it does to tell it, and when the man returned, he found me where he had left me, waiting at the top of the stairs outwardly calm and unperturbed. He took up the search where he had left it and in rapping on the wall found the loose board.

" 'Aha, what have we here?' he said, as he hastily removed the board. He had found the concealed recess but the object of his search was not there. With much chagrin he left the room. I imagined he looked with suspicion at the door of the room opposite which in my haste I had not entirely closed, my heart almost stopped beating when he threw the door wide open, but with a careless glance at the room he went down-stairs and joined his men below. In a short time I saw them riding away. When I was sure they had really gone I returned to my charge and conducted her back to the hidden recess, which I deemed the safest place for her that day. If they should return they would not think of looking there again.

"Making her as comfortable as I could with a quilt and pillow, I descended to the kitchen to prepare her some lunch.

"When father and mother came home at night, there was a consultation held. The question was how to get the fugitive to the next station. It was finally decided that she should go disguised as my mother. The next day we dressed her in mother's cloak, hood and veil so that her identity was completely hidden. The pumpkin hood was the very same one which you have here. Mother and I had been planning to visit this place so I drove. Our route took us through the village and as we passed the hotel my heart gave a great bound, for there were the three slave hunters, standing on the veranda, holding a low conversation. As long as I was in the village I dared not drive fast for fear of suspicion. Once I heard the sound of wheels behind us and I was sure we were being followed.

As soon as the village was left behind, I made the horse fly over the ground at a fearful rate. Whoever it was who caused my fright, was soon left behind and I did not relax speed until we had reached our destination."

"Did the girl get to Canada all right?" asked Ruth.

"Yes, they kept her a few days at the next station and we heard that eventually she reached Canada."

Why Sunburn Is Healthful

By Dr. A. M. Hughes

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"JUST as soon as I go out in the sun for a day I become as tanned as leather and I feel badly about it because it spoils my complexion," is a complaint I frequently hear from women.

The statement interests me because it tells me something about the condition of that person's blood. The woman who becomes sunburned readily should be glad of it because it means that she is not anæmic, nor likely to become so, under normal conditions. No person who is really anæmic, whose blood is thin and poor, will become very badly sunburned. They may blister in the hot sun, but the real sunburn that leaves a dark brown tint to the skin is not for them. This is because one cannot become tanned, which is really what is generally meant when the word "sunburn" is used, unless her blood is in fairly good condition.

Nature always does things perfectly if given a chance. In the case of sunburn Nature would give every person a good coat of tan, if possible, because this tan protects the skin. The white skin is more deeply penetrated by the sun's rays than the dark skin, hence blondes, and people with very light skins, sunburn much more readily than people of olive complexions, or whose skin is very dark. Nature doesn't intend that we should become blistered by the sun, and we will not if we are healthy and do not deliberately expose ourself for hours to the burning sun. Nature's first duty is to turn the skin darker to protect against the rays of the sun and prevent blistering. To do this it is necessary to have good blood, hence sunburn is an indication of fairly good blood.

When the sun shines upon the skin the hæmoglobin in the blood—that part that supplies the color—at once deposits in the skin at the very tip ends of the fine arteries which penetrate to within a thousandth of an inch of the outer skin, a pigment. This pigment is deposited in quantities according to the amount of exposure there is to the sun and very soon the pigments begin to show. The fair skin-color disappears, the pigments turn it first red and then, remaining, turn the skin brown and this remains throughout the season so long as one is exposed to the sun. In fact I have noted that sunburned shoulders frequently show darker away along in December, months after they have been covered constantly by clothes, than the skin that was not exposed in summer.

If your blood is not good there is little hæmoglobin in it, and without the hæmoglobin there can be no sunburn. Consequently your sunburned person is a vigorous person.

Still another reason why sunburn is healthy is that the active light rays of the sun give a healthy stimulus to the respiratory process, since under their influence it has been proven that the quantity of oxygen absorbed is greater, while an increasing output of carbonic acid follows. Exposure to sunlight also increases the number of blood cells, this gives us a wider circulation of the blood which, in turn, builds new tissues quicker and stronger, and the new tissues mean a healthier body.

Experiments have been made in England and described in the Lancet, than which there is no higher medical authority among publications, and these are all to the effect that good sunburn almost invariably means good health. Frequently physicians have verified this by experiment. Blood tests have been made of people who sunburn readily and of others who blister but seldom if ever really become tanned, and the blood of the former has without exception been found much better than the blood of the latter.

By all means become sunburned this summer. If you cannot get sunburned, although you make the effort, then consult some physician, tell him about it and begin treatment that will improve the quality of your blood.

But please use common sense about getting sunburned. Do not try to do it all in a day. Do not blister the skin by too much exposure to the sun at once, as these burns are frequently deep always painful and very often lead to serious troubles, such as blood poisoning from infections when the blisters break, and the like.

The wind and the sun together will sunburn. Use a sunshade if your eyes are weak, or orange glasses, because the sun, while tanning you, may give you bad eye strain. Such exposure of the eyes frequently strains the optic nerve which has direct connection with the stomach, and bilious attacks follow.

Once you are well sunburned you may expose the skin to the sun all day without ill effects. Before becoming thus tanned one of the dangers of blistering is to go in bathing and then, after coming out of the water, expose yourself to the hot rays of the sun before the water has dried off from your face, neck, arms and shoulders. The sun, shining through the water on your skin, will blister within a few minutes sometimes, much as the sun's rays through a reading glass will scorch and then ignite paper and other inflammable objects.

Do not apply creams and go out. They will melt, fill the pores of the skin and these greasy pores will collect dust and dirt to such an extent that even a scrubbing can scarcely remove it. This means "blackheads" and such disfigurements.

Go ahead and get sunburned. It won't hurt you. You will look all the better for it, you will feel much better for it and it will proclaim to all that you are strong, physically, that your blood is good and that you have vigor that is worth while.

There are now many places where sun-baths form a large part of the treatment for all sorts of ailments, especially tuberculosis. There are "solariums" where defective children are helped by the sun's rays. The more you are sunburned, the more free you will be of germs because the sun is the greatest germicide there is.

By Solving the Food Problem



American Women Will Do Their Share In Fighting the War to a Successful Finish

By Violet Marsh

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

SETTING an example to the country in reducing their scale of living to the simplest possible form, Mrs. Wilson, wife of the President; Mrs. Marshall, wife of the Vice-President, and wives of cabinet members, have issued an appeal to all the women in America, to do all in their power in similar manner, both as individuals and organizations to conserve, and use the strictest economy in food stuffs, and thus prevent actual distress later on.

In addition to this, the women leaders in official life have decided to omit the usual formal entertaining and calling which have been the most important features in the social life of Washington, in order to be able to devote more time and money to constructive preparedness and relief work.

Miss Margaret Wilson, daughter of President Wilson, subscribed $1,000 to the Red Cross fund, money earned by herself in singing in concerts, and is still giving concerts for this same purpose. Both Mrs. Wilson and Miss Margaret Wilson are personally attending to the management of the White House that the strictest economy may prevail.

Secretary Lane says: "The women of the country can do no greater work at this time than to

TAPIOCA JELLY.

raise their own vegetables, can their own fruit, prevent waste in their homes and give impulse and enthusiasm to the men of the land. If they do this they will be doing a good fifty per cent of the work of fighting the war to a finish. Secretary Lane would organize all the women in the United States into a "Lend a Hand Wilson League," whose business it would be to let the farmer know that his patriotism would be judged by the use he makes of his land, and himself see that the boys and girls serve in a great maintenance corps of the nation by putting in their time feeding the chickens, canning surplus fruit and vegetables, and thus count themselves among the saviors of liberty and civilization, because the war has now come down to a matter of work and sacrifice.

City parks and unoccupied lots of land all over the country will this summer be planted, and to a large extent cared for by the boys and girls.

In some communities, each Boy Scout has pledged himself to raise vegetables sufficient to feed one soldier. In one city alone, 6,000 boys above the age of sixteen will be released from the



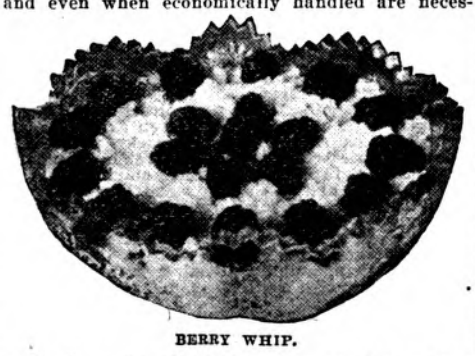
FRIED BREAD.

high school on April 17th, provided they take a pledge to work on farms, or enter some employment by which the food supply of the nation may be increased.

During the war, or so long as the war has to do with our supply of food, COMFORT housewives will be assisted in carrying out methods of food economy, whereby available materials may be used to the best possible advantage. Three well-balanced meals each day does not necessarily include meat, where nitrogenous materials such as eggs, milk, cheese, and beans or peas are used. Where fish can be obtained fresh and cheap, it should frequently be made the main dish of the meal. "Let not a scrap of food be wasted" should be the slogan of the American housewife, for no one can tell how long the war will last, or how long it will affect the supply of food for this nation.

Economizing on the Meat Supply

There are three ways by which this may be accomplished: First, by cutting down the number of meat days. Second, by selecting cuts of meat according to food value. Third, by cooking so that no waste shall take place. The highest priced cuts of beef are the loin and ribs, containing from twenty to twenty-five per cent of fat, which, if not eaten at the table or otherwise utilized, makes a very costly meat dish. Pork chops contain thirty-two per cent of fat, and even when economically handled are necessarily expensive. And thus it would follow that the cheaper cuts of meat must be resorted to in war time, and let it not be beneath the dignity of every woman to take this step of economy, and to further prevent waste by proper cooking and serving.



BERRY WHIP.

How to Use Every Part of a Cut

Unless meat is to be boiled, remove all fat and bone. Try out the fat for frying and shortening purposes. Bones are used in stews and soups; cooked with split peas and bean soups, thus making a substitute for meat dishes. Ribs are removed with a small amount of meat left on, and cooked into braised ribs of beef so commonly served in first-class eating places. When meat is slowly simmered long enough to extract the fat, marrow and gelatine from the bones, there is no waste. Here the meat should be removed, the liquor left standing over night so that the fat can be removed in a cake and then the liquor used as a meat substitute by adding rice, vegetables or macaroni. When the meat is all lean, and cooked by boiling, first sear it, then add a little water, cover closely and bake slowly. This is called smothered meat.

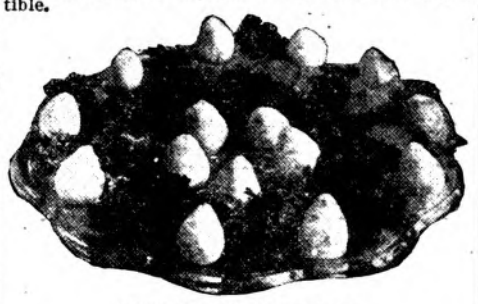


APPLE FLUFF.

The most important principle of boiling meat is, that it be kept at the simmering point, instead of boiling, for if it does boil, there is a loss of weight, due to evaporation; also a loss of flavor and the meat will be stringy. For this reason, many prefer the oven heat which can be kept low and even.

Trying Out And Clarifying Fat

A double boiler is the best utensil for trying out fat, in order to avoid over-heating which injures the flavor and makes the fat less digestible.



HOME-MADE CHEESE BALLS.

Fats are clarified best with a sliced raw potato. Put into fat and let stand on back of stove until potato is browned. To promote economy, set away the fat until raw potato peels are at hand, then use them in place of a good potato. Avoid burning the roast drippings that they may be clarified and profitably used. Sausage fat, and fat skimmed from vegetables add a good flavor to fried potatoes. Always fry cooked potatoes quickly and remove from fat, else they will be greasy. Wash, scrape if necessary, and wipe all meats before cooking, that the trimmings may be used for soups and stews. The excess of fat from fowl should be removed before cooking, tried out, and used for pastry, cookies and gingerbread.

Seven Inexpensive Meals of One Principal Dish to be Served with Bread and Butter and Dessert

No. 1.

MEAT STEW WITH DUMPLINGS.—Select two pounds of a cheaper cut of beef; remove the fat,



RICE AND CORN MUFFINS.

using enough to try out and brown the meat in, which has been cut into small pieces. When well browned, cover with boiling water, bring to boiling point and simmer two hours, then add half a cup each of turnip and carrot cut into half-inch cubes, and one small onion sliced. Bring to boiling point again and cook one half hour; add three cups of potato cut fine and cook another half hour. During the cooking, add a sufficient quantity of boiling water to keep vegetables covered. Thicken with two tablespoons of flour stirred up with cold water. Season with salt and pepper.

DUMPLINGS.—Two cups of sifted flour mixed with four teaspoons of baking powder and one half teaspoon of salt. Work in two teaspoons of hard beef fat. Stir in two thirds cup of milk, or a little more if flour swells considerably. The best way to cook dumplings is drop them from a spoon onto a buttered steamer set over a kettle of boiling water; or they may be laid onto the vegetables. Steam twelve minutes without lifting the cover. Serve with stew.

STEAMED PRUNES.—Soak in cold water until they will rinse clean. Put into a steamer over a kettle of boiling water and cook until well puffed. Remove from steamer and roll in sugar. Put into a glass dish, cover with whipped cream, and serve with thin slices of buttered bread.—*See illustrated heading.*

No. 2.

ROAST PORK WITH COWPEAS.—Select a leg of young pork which is nourishing and not high priced. Wash and scrape well. Make a deep cut in the knuckle, and put in a little sage, salt and pepper. Roast very slowly one hour, then with a sharp knife, make slashes just through the outer rind around and lengthwise that the fat may try out. Cook half an hour longer and drain off the fat. Have parboiled and partly cooked, one quart of cowpeas, and add to the pork. Finish cooking slowly until meat is brown and peas tender. Sprinkle with salt fifteen minutes before done.

CORN-MEAL BREAD.—Two cups of corn-meal, half a cup of wheat flour, two teaspoons of cream of tartar, one teaspoon of soda, half a teaspoon of salt, and two tablespoons of sugar mixed together. Add six tablespoons of sweet or sour cream, and sweet milk enough to make a soft batter—about one and a quarter cups. Bake in shallow pans about half an inch thick, in a fairly hot oven until a rich brown. If cream is not obtainable, use two tablespoons of softened butter.

APPLE FLUFF.—Cut three large tart apples into quarters, but do not peel or core; put into an earthern baking dish with quarter of a cup of water and bake in a hot oven until soft. Rub quickly through a wire sieve. Beat the whites of three eggs stiff, add one cup of powdered sugar and beat again; add sifted apple and beat until very fluffy. Fill tall glasses, and garnish with a little whipped cream and a cube of jelly.

No. 3.

RAGOUT OF MUTTON WITH PEAS AND CEREAL CAKES.—Select two pounds of the neck and cut into small pieces. In a stew pan on the back of stove, put one tablespoon of flour and when it bubbles add one tablespoon of flour and lightly brown. Add one medium-sized onion and one carrot cut in small pieces and stir until very hot. Remove vegetables and put the mutton into sauce pan, stirring until meat is well seared. Return vegetables and cover meat and vegetables with three cups of boiling water; add one teaspoon of salt, one saltspoon of white pepper, one whole clove, one half bay leaf and two sprigs of parsley. Cover tightly and slowly simmer two hours. Drain one can of peas and add five minutes before serving.

CEREAL CAKES.—To each cup of cold boiled rice or left-over breakfast cereal, add two tablespoons of flour, one beaten egg, a little grated lemon rind, salt, cayenne pepper and a pinch of nutmeg. Make thin cakes, and fry brown in salt pork fat. Serve with butter.

BERRY WHIP.—Crush one pint of berries; add sugar and lemon juice to flavor. Beat whites of two eggs until stiff and add a pinch of salt; continue beating, gradually adding the crushed berry mixture. Put into a shallow glass dish, cover one white of egg beaten stiff and sweetened, and whole berries. Serve at once.

No. 4.

MEAT, POTATO AND TOMATO PIE.—This dish offers an excellent way of using left-over meats; mutton and beef, with the addition of a little ham for flavor. Use a deep earthern baking dish, and in the bottom put a layer of sliced fresh tomato, or drained canned tomato, then a layer of thinly sliced meat. Dredge with flour, pepper and salt, and cover with a layer of thinly sliced raw potato. Repeat until dish is three quarters full, and then cover with a layer of pastry. Put into a hot oven, reducing the heat after the first ten minutes, and bake one hour.

FRIED BREAD.—Cut a loaf of stale bread into inch thick slices and remove crust. Beat together one egg, two tablespoons of sugar, and one and one quarter cups of milk, and stir over the fire until it thickens slightly, but does not boil. Dip slices of bread into this until well soaked, and fry a golden brown in hot fat. Sprinkle with a pinch of cinnamon mixed with a tablespoon of sugar and serve while hot with cheese balls.

CHEESE BALLS.—Wet a cheese-cloth in salted water, and put it over a wire sieve. Pour thick sour milk into this, cover and drain until firm. Salt, and shape into balls. Many prefer putting the milk into a bag and hanging it in the sun until firm.

No. 5.

STUFFED HEART.—Beef heart can be bought at a low price and makes a very palatable dish if properly cooked. Wash the heart inside and out and wipe dry. Dip one cup of diced bread in beef fat and brown; add one small chopped onion and season with salt and pepper. Fill the heart with bread mixture and sew up the opening. Put the heart into a dish that is deep but not too large over, and just cover with boiling water. After it begins to boil, set in the oven and cook slowly two hours tightly covered. Remove, dredge with flour, pepper and salt, a little brown sugar and pinch of clove, and bake brown. In the same baking pan, put boiled potatoes cut in quarters and dipped in beef drippings, and brown. Serve heart surrounded with potato on same platter.

TAPIOCA JELLY.—Wash one third of a cup of pearl tapioca and drain. Put into a double boiler and add two and one half cups of cold water; cook until tapioca is dissolved. Add a pinch of salt, two tablespoons of lemon juice and three heaping tablespoons of sugar. Turn into a mould and set over night to harden. Turn out on a plate and garnish with fresh berries.

No. 6.

SALT PORK WITH MILK GRAVY AND POTATO.—Cut salt pork into thin slices, and if very salt, cover with hot water and let stand five minutes. Fry slowly until a golden brown, first cutting through the rind so the slices will not curl. Remove the fried pork to a hot dish, and drain off part of the fat to be used for other purposes. The gravy is made by slowly adding dry flour to the hot fat, two tablespoons of flour and two of fat to each cup of scalded milk, which is added after flour and fat has cooked together three minutes, then cook all together very slowly five minutes longer. Have ready potatoes prepared as follows: Peel and stand in cold salted water half an hour. Barely cover with boiling water, or put into a steamer and cook until tender. Drain and shake kettle on hot cover until potatoes are dry. Cut in quarters, put on a deep serving platter, pour over the gravy and make a border of the fried slices of pork.

APPLE DUMPLING.—Pare and core tart apples. Make fairly rich pastry and roll thin. Cut in squares large enough to cover apple. Wet square of crust, place apple in center, filling cavity with sugar, a pinch of cinnamon and small piece of butter. Fold over the crust, pinching edges so the juice will not run out. Put into a hot oven for ten minutes, then reduce heat and bake forty minutes.

SAUCE.—Mix two teaspoons of corn-starch with one cup of sugar and add to two cups of boiling water. Simmer twenty-five minutes and add the grated rind and juice of one lemon and two even tablespoons of butter. Serve hot with dumplings.

No. 7.

MEAT, POTATO AND EGGS COMBINED.—A savory and nourishing dinner can be made from left-overs with or without the addition of the eggs. Combine left-over scraps of meat, or corn beef by itself. Sausage meat combines well with all other kinds, also bacon or ham. Chop cold boiled potatoes and add left-over onions or carrots if on hand. Flavor according to the taste of the family. Moisten with a little milk, cream or fat. Add one part chopped meat to three of vegetable. Put into a baking dish, cover close and bake in a hot oven twenty minutes. Have ready slices of oven toast made from brown or white bread. On each slice put a portion of the hash, and on top of this a poached egg.

RICE AND CORN MUFFINS.—Mix into one cup of corn-meal one teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of sugar, two teaspoons of baking powder. Work in one cup of cold boiled rice until fine. Add one egg well beaten, one quarter of a cup of milk and two tablespoons of melted butter. Beat thoroughly, pour into hot greased gem pans and bake thirty minutes.

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE.—Two cups of flour, half a teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of cream of tartar and half a teaspoon of soda mixed together. Rub in one quarter of a cup of butter. Beat one egg, and add to it one scant cup of milk, then stir into the dry materials. Bake in round shallow tins until golden brown. Mash berries and sweeten while cake is baking. Split cake and butter, and fill with berries and pour berries over the top. Or, if more crust is desired, bake in two thin cakes, putting berries between buttered crusts, and pour over top.

Begin Canning Now and Put Up an Ample Store of Canned Fruit and Vegetables

COMFORT'S oft repeated advice to can a liberal supply of all kinds of fruits, berries and vegetables applies now with greater force than ever before. Canned goods are scarce and high priced, and it is predicted that fall prices will range higher because of advance in wages and the scarcity and high price of tin. In the cities the housewives have taken alarm and are buying heavily and hoarding canned goods.

It behooves every family, and especially those on the farms, to begin early and can as large a quantity as possible of each kind of native fruit, berries and fresh vegetables as they come in season for the purpose not only of reducing the cost of living by providing a liberal supply for the home table but in order also to have a surplus to sell. If neatly and carefully put up home-canned goods will find a ready market at good prices.

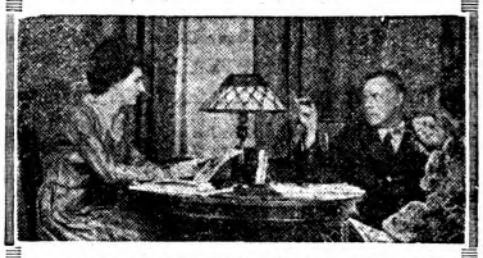
Besides canning put up preserves, jams, jellies, marmalades, pickles and ketchup.

If your supply of glass preserving jars and rubbers is not ample start at once to replenish it for the stocks in the stores are small and most likely will run short this season as there will be an unusually large demand for them. Save every bottle, jar and crock that can be used for preserves, jams, jellies or ketchup.

We hope our readers have kept the instructive series of articles on home canning with recipes which COMFORT printed during the spring and summer of last year.

Valuable bulletins on home canning and preserving can be had free by writing to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Timely Talk on a Vital Subject



Wife: *"If we must cut down expenses, why not drop your life insurance?"*
Husband: *"Not much. That's your insurance, not mine. And I'm going to take out another Postal Policy, too—while I can get it. You and the kiddie may be glad some day."*
Wife: *(Thoughtfully): "I guess you're right at that, James."*

Put life insurance in your family budget —and *keep* it there

Whether confronted by war or peace the *real* husband always makes a liberal allowance for life insurance whether his wife wants him to or not; but the sensible woman *does* want him to. And they both want the most protection possible for their money, and therefore turn to the

Postal Life Insurance Company

Resources more than $9,000,000
Insurance in force $40,000,000

The Postal Life employs no agents, but issues its Policies *direct*. Agents' renewal-commissions and office-expenses are thus saved for policyholders. It is not alone the Company of *Safety* and *Service*, but also of *Saving*, for policyholders receive, among other benefits, an

Annual Dividend of 9½% Guaranteed in the Policy

Besides this, the Company pays the usual contingent dividends each year depending on earnings.

Find Out How Much *You* Can Save

at your age on any standard form of Policy.

Simply write and say: *"Mail insurance particulars as mentioned in COMFORT for June."* In your letter be sure to give: **1. Your full name. 2. Your occupation. 3. The exact date of your birth.**

No agent will be sent to visit you. The Postal Life employs no agents; resultant commission-savings go to *you* because you deal *direct*.

Postal Life Insurance Company
WM. R. MALONE, President
511 Fifth Avenue NEW YORK



The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1917, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

(See Front Cover Illustration)

CHAPTER IX.

THE DAPPERLINGS' MOONLIGHT PARTY.

"Dear Dapperling Friends;
We send you this note
By Pertwee, inviting you all
To come to the banquet we give every year
In our spacious assembly hall.

"Perhaps, if the weather is perfectly fine,
And the moonlight sufficiently bright,
Our tables we'll spread out of doors, on the lawn,
Come early next Saturday night."

THIS was the invitation the Dapperlings sent to their friends who lived miles away, the ones who had snared Chippie Chatter. Quillikin had spent hours in writing it, and felt so proud of it that the others didn't praise it as they would otherwise have done. He read it over to them all together, and then to each one alone.

"It's a great thing to be a poet," he said; "that second line of the second verse, now—'The moonlight sufficiently bright,' that's what you might call real poetry, that is!"

All the Dapperlings signed it, and Pertwee mounted his rabbit and started off happily on his long ride to deliver it.

Then the Dapperlings set to work to prepare for the party. They planned to make this one a little finer than any they had ever given.

Don't ask me what they had to eat. I couldn't remember the names of half their dishes, most of them things that only Dapperlings know how to cook, but of course they had raspberries and blueberries and such things that grew around near their hill.

It took a great deal of work to get things ready. The assembly hall and every house had to be cleaned and trimmed with flowers. Then there was all the cooking to do and berries to pick. Everybody had to help.

Pertwee was lucky to be the one to deliver the invitation. He knew this, and stayed all night with his friends instead of coming straight back, as he should have done.

Quillikin was usually one of the best helpers, but just now he was so filled with thoughts of the poem he meant to surprise them with after the banquet, that he wasn't much good at working. Why, Nattie found him leaning against the thistles, gazing up at the sky, and he didn't even know the thistles had been pricking him till she pulled three of the sharp spikes out of his left ear, where they had stuck fast.

As for Nattie, she ran here and there at everyone's call, until she was so tired she could hardly climb into her little bed at night.

When Saturday night came, the Dapperlings were ready early, all dressed in their best, waiting for their friends. Nattie was gay in a ruffly little gown that looked as if it might have been cut from a pink sunset cloud.

Quillikin, in a fine new suit of crimson and violet, looked very grand.

"There's going to be a big surprise tonight," he told the others, but when they questioned him, he would only shake his head and answer, "Wait and see! I don't tell all I know."

"Hawk!" said old Shandle-Spinx, who had been listening, with his ear pressed to the ground. "I can hear them. They will be here in exactly two minutes."

Then they all heard a quick pattering of little paws, and soon a crowd of rabbits, with their riders, appeared at the top of the hill.

It was the loveliest kind of a night, with the moonlight bright and beautiful.

Of course the guests had to be taken through all the houses and into the assembly hall, else what would have been the use of all the work that had been done, decorating so finely?

In the assembly hall they talked politely for a while, and everybody shook hands with everybody else, but the real fun of the evening was out of doors, where they played games, and had a merry time.

After the lively games, they began to think of supper. Long tables were brought out, covered with silvery cloths, fine and thin as spiders' webs, and all the tempting things for the banquet spread out. The Dapperlings were glad enough to gather about and begin the feast.

EXPLANATORY.—This story tells the strange things that happen to five-year-old Simmie-Sammie Smith and his sister Pittysing, nearly two years older, through the sly pranks of Nattie, the "Smallest Dapperling of All." The Dapperlings are kind-hearted, gay little elflike beings who ride on rabbits and never let themselves be seen by human eyes because of their belief that, if seen, it would bring some terrible calamity upon them. For this reason their queer little houses are always built into the hillside, and are so made, with doors and windows in front and grass growing on the backs, that they can be turned around to face out when the Dapperlings are by themselves; but as soon as anybody comes in sight the houses are whirled around so that only the grass-covered backs are seen and, as these look like the rest of the hill, you would never know the houses were there. They also have an underground assembly hall with an opening in the top covered with moss and concealed in a clump of thistles.

Quillikin ate little. His mind was filled with his poem, and often his hand slipped into his pocket, to touch lovingly the paper it was written on.

Feasting so happily, with laughter and merriment, little did those Dapperlings think what was coming! And so suddenly it came, there was not a moment's time to prepare for it.

To be sure, old Shandle-Spinx, who had the sharpest of ears, had heard, off in the distance, sounds something like this:

"Wow! gr-r-r! wow!"

"S-s-s-phitt! phitt! phitt!"

"Yip! yip! gr-r-r! wow!"

But he had thought little of it. Afterwards, he blamed himself for not noticing it more.

Well, the first thing the others knew, there was a sudden rush from out the moonlit space—a long, yellow streak dashed among them, overturning tables, breaking dishes, upsetting Dapperlings—old Cattie Puss, her ears laid back, her tail a dozen times its usual size! Frightened—I should say so—both Cattie Puss and the Dapperlings!

And after the yellow streak, hard at its heels, chasing for dear life, was, what do you think? A shaggy, long-eared puppy dog, his red tongue hanging from his mouth, his short legs frantically trying to reach poor, flying Cattie Puss.

I haven't told you before, but the children's father had bought the puppy dog for them to play with. Pittysing and Simmie-Sammie loved him, but Cattie Puss didn't!

Cattie Puss didn't stop to see what damage she had done. Perhaps she never noticed the Dapperlings and their banquet at all. She ran straight on—I'm sure I don't know how far!

But the puppy dog stopped. He had found something that interested him more. How his red tongue lapped up those good things the poor little Dapperlings had cooked!

The Dapperlings picked themselves up, and ran to get out of the way of that dreadful black and white monster, leaving what was left of their overturned feast. Oh, such an ending to the party!

"But never mind," they said. "We'll have another party soon, and have it in the assembly hall, where we'll be per-fectly safe!"

You see, they were sensible little people, and knew it was just as easy to be happy as unhappy, and much, much pleasanter.

Their visitors couldn't go home that night, for when Cattie Puss and the puppy dog came, their rabbits had run off home, every single one.

Old Shandle-Spinx took Quillikin off by himself, and said to him sternly, "Now, sir, tell me about this matter! Did you, or did you not know that cat and dog were coming to spoil the party? You said there'd be a big surprise!"

"I did NOT know it!" answered Quillikin in his loftiest manner. "I had written the finest poem in the world to read tonight after the banquet. But now, since you are so unjust and unkind to me, I shall burn the poem, and no one will ever see it! Yes, I will burn it, though you should go down on your knees and beg me not to!"

Next morning the puppy dog was playing with something under the kitchen table. Pittysing made a dash for him.

"What you got now?" she demanded, dropping down on her knees beside him. For the puppy dog had a bad habit of chewing up small articles he found lying around, such as picture books, building blocks, and other toys. And though Pittysing loved him, she didn't like to have her treasures chewed up.

She snatched up the thing the puppy was playing with, just as Simmie-Sammie came into the kitchen.

"Well, WHAT do you know about that?" she asked, holding it out for Simmie-Sammie to see. "Where did it come from? It doesn't belong to Sarah-Grace-Josephine!"

It was soiled, and the puppy dog had nearly spoiled it by chewing, but the Smallest Dapperling of All would have known it for the little pink slipper she had lost off one foot the night before, when she ran to get out of the way of that dreadful black and white monster.

The Dapperling story next month will tell about the Yellow Sleeping Beauty and magic music of the toy piano. Don't miss it in July COMFORT.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

I was to take the young ladies to the farm in the fly, because you would rather like, she thought, to drive up in the cart."

Nerine nodded. Solitude even after a short journey in the company of energetic persons like Joan and May would be pleasanter than having her legs kicked in the close quarters of the village fly, and she rejoiced still more at Lady Belton's forethought when she found herself, ten minutes later, driving through the sweet spring air behind the fat horse of Joan's acquaintance.

It was a hilly village, and not very remarkable, but as they mounted the first high ground they looked down on the wide, wide sea, all flushed into pink and pearl by the setting sun.

The girl gasped with pleasure. Here was another thing she had never seen; she would have liked to stop the cart and gaze and gaze her fill.

"Can you see the sea from the farmhouse?" she asked the boy who was driving.

"Oh, yes, miss! It's only a few fields off," he said stolidly, and the girl sat bolt upright, with wide eyes and nostrils eager for the sweet salt air.

The pink was gone from the sky when they reached the farmhouse, but the glow of a wide fireplace filled all the comfortable sitting-room into which a stout damsel showed Nerine. There were daffodils in a bowl on the table, and a window seat under a low long window, which promises to look in broad daylight over a garden and fields to the sea.

"Hurrah!" exclaimed Miss Lispenard. "I'm glad I didn't go home to Mr. Mayne. But I wish Agatha were here! What walks we could take!" Banishing the uncomfortable thought that Agatha could take walks with another companion now—a companion evidently more appreciated than her faithful twin.

She turned from her inspection as the children arrived, and the comely dame of the house came out to welcome them. They had stayed at the farm twice before, and were welcome visitors. Now they greeted each other and every inmate with effusion and then demanded tea at once.

"Eggs and honey, Mrs. Palmer," May said, autocratically. "This is Miss Lispenard. Mother says you are to make her comfortable."

Nerine laughed as she was led by Joan into the best bedroom, where a fire burned, and two candles gave a dim light. It was all so quaint and clean, with a smell of lavender.

They had tea in the sitting-room, May doing the honors of the honey and clotted cream, while Nerine made the tea and Joan talked unceasingly.

But at eight o'clock the nurse carried the children off to bed, and the room was strangely quiet without their cheerful voices. From over the sloping fields came the heavy sound of the ground swell, an eerie sound to unaccustomed ears. Nerine surveyed her comfortable surroundings, pulled her chair closer to the fire, and put the lamp on a table beside it. The evenings were evidently going to be very dull. By and by, when she knew the farm people better, she could go and talk to them, but tonight she would be only an unwelcome stranger if she made her way to Mrs. Palmer's abiding place. She must read till she was sleepy, and then go to bed.

There were no books about her sitting-room—that could be seen at a glance—and she had finished her novel in the train. She must go upstairs and unpack the store Lady Belton had given her.

"I do believe I am lonely," she thought as she energetically pulled at the straps of her trunk. "It is horrid without Agatha." Lifting out, without looking at them, a pile of books, she returned with some haste to the sitting-room, where she deposited them on the table with an ungrateful bump.

"If I've read you all, how cross I shall be!" and she began to turn them over. Among them was the diary she had taken from her stepfather's room. She had been afraid to leave it at Lispenard House, lest Mr. Mayne might be tempted to rummage among her possessions, as she had done among his.

Nerine took up the diary and made a long, careful attempt to open it, but it was not to be done. She could not even rip it up the back with a knife, for it had strong silver clamps which defied anything but a hammer and chisel.

"Oh, if I could only get it open!" she said, pettishly—"tonight of all nights, when I want something to think about."

There were tears in her eyes as she looked at her dead mother's book. She was so alone, so desolate without Agatha, who had deserted her so easily for new friends. And she knew so little about that young mother who had died just when her children needed her. If only she could read that book!

Bravely enough the girl wiped away her useless tears. She slipped the book into the pocket of her blue serge skirt; she might be able to find something tomorrow which would force the clasps. And in the meantime she would forget it and Agatha, and with a hot blush of shame—forget Satterlee.

She turned up the lamp and opened a novel at random from the pile; she read at first with determination and no interest, but by degrees she forgot everything but the book in her hand. It was a romance of adventure, and it led her with a magic power out and away into a strange world; it was not until her lamp began to burn dim that she lighted her candle and went sleepily up the creaking stairs. After all, the first evening had not been so bad.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

"Are you going to have lessons every day? Mother said you were."

Joan's voice sounded anxious as she looked up with a sigh from her finished breakfast, fixing her big eyes on Nerine.

Miss Lispenard came back with a start from an unprofitable journey into the past.

"Every day," she said mischievously.

Dead silence. Four wistful eyes looked from her face out of the low window across the fields green with baby grass, and out to the morning sea.

"Every day—after today, that is." She laughed sweetly at the downcast faces. "Today we are going to have a holiday, and do nothing but play. All of us."

"There, May! Who was right?" Joan cried joyfully. "I told you she had more sense than Miss Bruce." And with a united rush of white pinafores and black legs the two flew out of the room to get their things on. The spring air was refreshing to Nerine as she went down through the fields with the children; she took a hand of each, and they began to run down the long slope to the sea. How still and blue it lay, with such little ripples; only where it broke on the beach in a long, sleepy surge was there a wave at all. And what bracing air came off it! How sweet, how keen! Like a child herself, Nerine raced along the sands with her laughing, shrieking companions; danced on the very edge of the incoming wave till she had to run backward or let the clear, quick water come over her ankles; sat in the hot sun in the warm dry sand higher up, and built houses—with a watchful eye on Tommy, whose wicked little head stuck out of Joan's pocket.

It was lunch time before they knew it, and nurse had to call and wave frantically from the top of the field before any of them saw her.

In the afternoon they walked miles along the hard sand, point after point opening out before them, and by the time they got home to tea the elder girl was most beautifully and serenely fatigued.

There was no need to read late that night; even the most charming novel could not keep Nerine's eyes open after nine o'clock. She was so sleepy that she forgot all about her mother's diary, and so it came to slip her mind for days.

There was a letter from Lady Belton every morning after that, with accounts of the invalids; that was the only event.

The children did a virtuous two hours of sums and spelling every morning, and scoured the country with their adored cousin for the rest of the day. The fresh air and exercise had brought sweet roses into Nerine's cheeks, and by the end of the first week, as she walked briskly along the sands one afternoon, she felt like a new person. She could read Agatha's letters without a pang, even calmly accept those messages of brotherly regard from Lord Satterlee which decked every one of them.

They were going in a new direction this particular afternoon, and the children skipped along joyfully. As they rounded a rocky point they came out on a beautiful curved stretch of smooth hard sand; far over, moving quickly, was a black object, and the three stood gazing.

"It's some one riding," Nerine said. "What fun it must be to gallop on sand."

May's eye kindled. Why had she not brought one of the donkeys?

"It's a man, and he's coming over here," she said, dancing with excitement. "Oh, isn't it pretty to watch!"

"Climb up on this rock, out of the way," Miss Lispenard remarked with prudence, not being anxious to return either of her charges in bad repair. "Hurry."

The horse was coming like a whirlwind, the sun glancing on his bright chestnut coat.

Joan gave a wild shriek.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

I DIDN'T RAISE MY BOY TO BE A COWARD

By Lydia M. Dunham O'Neil

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

War's shadows o'er our land may fall,
And enemies assail us;
Our flag shall float above it all,
Our sons shall never fail us!
We seek no war on land or sea,
But cherish still our liberty!
We have no hateful battle-cry,
But for our homes we'll fight and die!

I didn't raise my boy to be a coward!
I brought him up in truth and bravery!
When duty calls, his voice shall answer clearly,
His mind and soul shall know no slavery!
America shall still be free,
To tyrants never bend the knee;
His country's proud defender he,
A true and valiant soldier!

What though no drop of blood were shed,
No bond of love were sundered,
If truth and liberty were dead,
Where once their voices thundered!
My boy is mine! But I and he,
Freeborn, must still unfettered be!
Our gallant sons, with shining swords,
Defend our shores from foreign hordes!

I didn't raise my boy to be a coward,
To dread the bugle-call or martial drumming.
When duty calls, his voice shall answer clearly,
"I hear thee, O my country! I am coming!"
America shall still be free,
To tyrants never bend the knee;
His country's proud defender he,
A true and valiant soldier!

The above is a patriotic reply to the caitiff wail entitled "I Did Not Raise My Boy To Be A Soldier." If this land is to hold its heritage of freedom every boy must be raised to be a soldier when called to the defense of the country.—Editor.

SAVE THE FRUIT CROP

We said this LAST YEAR—
We say it again

This is a year for thrift and service. We must feed not only our own people, but also millions in Europe. The frightful waste of fruit is a national reproach. Help stop this unpardonable extravagance. The fruit we waste would feed Belgium.

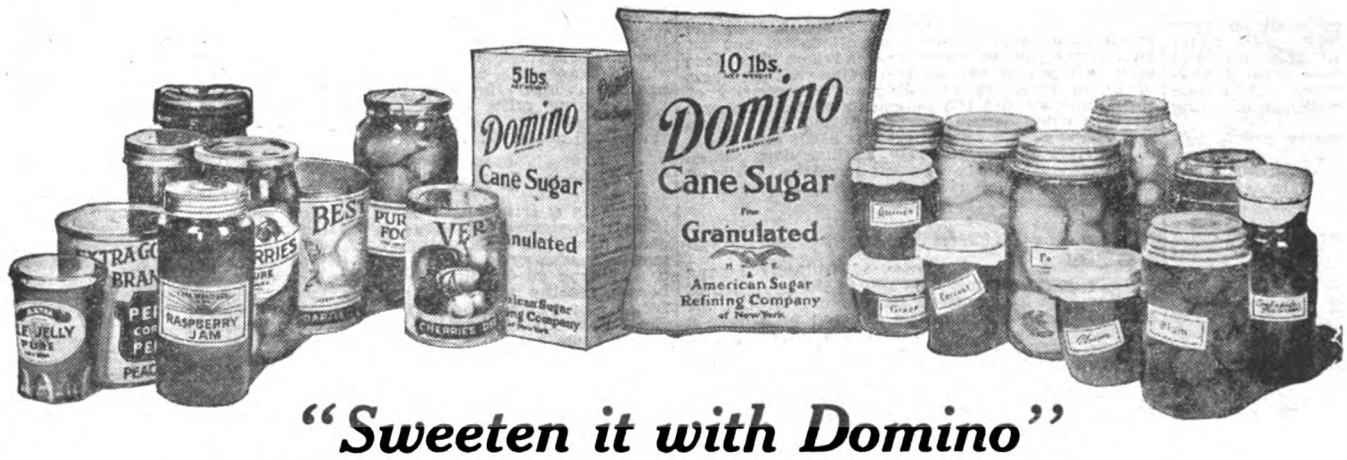
THE United States Government urges preserving as a home duty. Preserved fruits are energizing and nourishing. They vary your menus. They reduce the cost of your table.

America's canning and preserving industries are models for the world. Their products are pure, appetizing and wholesome. Support them.

If you preserve at home, put up more fruit than ever before. Get jars and glasses, bottles and crocks ready to save the fruit crop. Put away dried vegetables. The American housewife who practices thrift places herself in the ranks of those who serve their country.

You can show your thrift in no more convincing way than by combating the national tendency to squander this country's wonderful fruit crop. Whether you buy preserved fruits from your grocer or preserve at home you perform a service to your own family and to the Nation.

American Sugar Refining Company



"Sweeten it with Domino"

Granulated, Tablet, Powdered, Confectioners, Brown

Domino Granulated Sugar is sold in convenient-sized bags and cartons

The increased cost of preserving because of the higher price of sugar is less than the increased cost of most other foods.



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Vegetables That May Be Planted in June

MOST people prefer to plant their gardens as early in the spring as the ground can be worked and the danger from frost is past. This is usually a good rule, but this year prices are high and the demand for food is so great that it is well to know about crops that can be planted late and satisfactory results be obtained.

PLANT STAPLE CROPS.—More emphasis than ever before should be placed on staple crops, or those that can be stored, dried or canned or otherwise preserved for winter and spring use.

Both wax and navy beans may be planted in June in the Northern states. Wax beans may be pickled or canned or even dried, and navy beans are always a staple food, though late beans run some risk of being hit by early frosts. Cabbage, cauliflower, kohl-rabi and cucumbers can all be planted in June. Good crops of peas may be harvested if planted during this month.

Corn for both drying and canning, as well as for use as green corn, is a safe crop if planted in June.

Beets, carrots, turnips, rutabagas and parsnips all do well if planted in June, and all can be easily stored in a pit or a cool cellar.

June planted potatoes often make a good crop though this year the seed is very hard to get and the price is exceedingly high.

Pumpkins, too, will mature if planted in June and may be preserved in several ways. Dried pumpkin makes excellent pies.

Root Crops for Cows

There is certain to be need of a good supply of root crops this winter since the wheat crop is short and much of the corn and barley will need to be used for human food on account of the war. Bran will be high priced and hard to get and other grains will stay up if wheat is high. Root crops can be planted late and make excellent substitutes for grain feeds, especially corn silage. Sugar beets and carrots are best, carrots for horses, sugar beets for cows.

Beets may be planted as late as June in the Northern states and make a perfect crop. Carrots do well if planted in June and are greatly relished by both horses and cows.

WILL THEY TAINT THE MILK?—No, if fed after milking neither of these crops will affect the flavor of the milk. It has often been observed that roots, pumpkins and cabbage fed to cows out in the open yard seldom taint the milk, but if fed in the barn where the air does not circulate freely give a bad flavor to the milk. There is a volatile oil in root crops that escapes into the air and is absorded by the milk. This is said to be the reason why milk becomes tainted when these crops are fed. If, then, we wait to cut and feed the roots until after the milk is drawn and taken from the barn, there is little trouble from taint.

Some plants contain a stronger odor than others, cabbage and turnips being more difficult to feed than beets and carrots on account of the taint. If fed after milking root crops make an excellent feed for milk cows.

For root crops you should plow deep, the deeper the better. The roots must grow down into the soil and should have a loose, mellow ground in which to grow; otherwise they penetrate to the bottom of the furrow, strike the hard subsoil and split up into many branches. This gives a poor shaped root and prevents a full growth and a heavy crop.

Beans the Army Ration

Never before has the price of beans for food been so high; never before has the prospect for a strong market been so great. Forty million of men are under arms in Europe. This vast army must be fed. Our own country is mobilizing its troops. Beans are one of the standard army rations and beans are certain to be in large demand; hence the price will continue high.

WHY RAISE BEANS?—Beans are a good crop to grow for several reasons. In the first place they enrich the land, that is they belong to the legume family, all of which have the power of taking nitrogen from the air and adding it to the soil.

In the next place beans grow well on poor soil. The old saying "too poor to grow white beans" indicates that beans will grow on land so poor that it will not produce a crop of anything else. This is literally true, and is due to the fact that beans have the power of using the nitrogen of the air.

In the third place beans are easily grown, cultivated, harvested and stored. They can be kept for years without loss if properly cared for. They have a large amount of good matter in relatively small bulk, hence can be shipped long distances, like wheat, to good advantage.

HOW TO RAISE BEANS.—Beans do well on sandy land but can be grown on any soil. It requires from a peck to a half bushel of navy bean seed to plant an acre, depending on the size of the beans and the distance rows and plants are placed apart.

The ground should be prepared in the usual way as for corn and the beans planted in rows two and a half to three feet apart in the row. They should never be cultivated while the dew is on or while wet with rain as this often injures the leaves and spreads disease from plant to plant if any be present in the field. Early June is the best time for planting in the Northern states.

They should be cultivated shallow as their roots lie very near to the surface. The weeds should be kept down and the cultivator should be run through about four or five times during the season.

HOW TO HARVEST AND STORE.—At harvest time beans may be pulled and stacked in small stacks around a pole. In large fields a bean harvester is used which cuts off the stems of the bean and leaves them in windrows which are dried thoroughly and hauled to the barn, or stacked outside and covered with a tarpaulin to keep out the rain. They are threshed out with a bean thresher or with an ordinary threshing machine from which the concave has been removed. They are stored in shallow bins like wheat. The only care which need be taken is to see that the seed is perfectly dry.

Beans ordinarily yield from ten to twenty bushels per acre, which at the present prices means a pretty penny from an acre of cheap ground.

Sanfoin and Serradella Seed

We have had numerous inquiries from subscribers asking where to get the seed of sanfoin and serradella. We are told that they could not get them from seed houses. The real truth back of this is the fact that these seeds come largely from abroad, the war has cut off importation and the supply available for use in this country is now practically exhausted.

Seed for Root Crops

This is also true of the seeds of root crops. Since the importation of European seeds has been cut off we find a striking shortage in the seeds of root crops on the market. Sugar beet seed is so hard to get that there may not be enough available to plant the usual acreage. This will mean a reduction in yield and a further increase in the price of sugar already too high.

SEED FOR LATE PLANTED CROPS.—It is usual to plants turnips and rutabagas late in June or July, often later, with turnips, since they are a quick-growing crop maturing in six to eight weeks from planting.

Rutabagas are often planted on new cleared land at any odd time in June after the rush of regular spring planting is over. Those who expect to plant any of these crops should procure seeds without delay as the supply is exceedingly short and may be exhausted by the time that this appears in print.

The lesson we should learn from this year's experience is apparent. This country should grow its own seed or another year the situation will be worse than it is this year. Since all root crops are biennials, that is they take two years to grow seed, the only way we can get a crop of seed this year is to save with the greatest of care all seeds that may be produced from roots already in the ground.

Sheep and Lambs in Hot Weather

Shearing should be done early as a heavy fleece of wool makes the sheep terribly uncomfortable and it should be remembered that ticks migrate from the ewes to the lambs at shearing time. If lambs are to be comfortable in hot weather, it is necessary to dip them shortly after shearing the ewes and to repeat the dipping, if an examination shows that either the adult sheep or the lambs are infested with ticks, or if scratching and rubbing show that some cause of irritation is present. If ticks are not present, lice may be found, or in the most severe cases, scab which is caused by parasitic mite and terribly annoying and injurious to sheep. The disease also is so contagious that an affected sheep will soon spread it to every sheep in the flock and the affected animals will not thrive in summer or at any other season of the year. To make lambs comfortable in hot weather it also is necessary to keep their hind parts clean. To that end they should have been docked closely at castration time, or shortly afterward and then the long wool should be kept clipped to prevent fouling with discharges from the bowels and consequent "blowing" by flies and formation of maggots which burrow and cause torture and lack of thrift. Long-tailed lambs are an abomination on this account. They will be sure to scour more or less on grass or other green feed so that fouling and maggot formation can scarcely be avoided. Such lambs also present a poor appearance when sent to market and will be "docked" on that account by the buyer.

Worms of any kind also are a source of discomfort in summer-time and sheep and lambs, therefore, should be protected against them so far as possible. Allowing access to rock salt will help and it is even better to allow them a mixture of one part of powdered tobacco leaves and two parts of salt as a preventive lick. If any lambs or sheep become infested with worms, gasoline should be administered and generous feeding practised. One tablespoonful of gasoline is the average dose. Old sheep take more and young lambs take less. Give it shaken up in four to six ounces of new milk, adding an ounce of raw linseed oil. Great care must be taken not to choke the sheep or lamb when administering this medicine Give it slowly through a piece of rubber hose fitted upon the neck of a bottle, the sheep to be held firmly upon all fours, not set on its rump as so many have advised. The dose may be repeated two or three times at intervals of 24 to 48 hours according to the severity of the symptoms and the judgment of the shepherd. In conclusion it should be advised that sheep and lambs should be sheltered at night in a clean, airy corral fenced securely against dogs which are a serious menace in most localities, while on the range large bands of sheep will, of course, be well guarded against coyotes.

Pigs in Summer

The most common cause of ill-thrift among young pigs in summer and fall is the presence of lung worms (Strongylus paradoxus) in the air passages of the lungs. The affected pigs have a spasmodic, croupy cough and are so distressed thereby and by the failure of the lungs to properly perform their function that the animals fail to thrive, indicated by hard, dry coats, drooping tails and pot bellied condition. There is no satisfactory treatment of this disease so that prevention is the all-important consideration.

The eggs of lung worms are taken in by pigs grazing in old, contaminated pastures, long used by adult swine, which carry the worms through the winter and in spring taint the grass. The old hogs manage to withstand the ill-effects of the worms, showing merely a hacking cough but no appreciable loss of flesh. Young pigs, on the contrary, are very severely affected and may die of pneumonia or prove so thriftless that they are destroyed by the owner. The worms also are derived from filthy feeding troughs and drinking water and apart from this are most likely to be contracted upon low, wet land.

Pigs, as well as other young animals, should not be turned out on old pasture in spring and summer and is far as possible should have clean, sanitary quarters and eating and drinking places. It also should be remembered that worms of all kinds most injuriously affect the pigs that are weak and thriftless to start with. They "add insult to injury," as it were, and the combination kills or prevents profit. It is all-important, therefore, to keep young pigs growing fast and without check. If this can be managed, the worms may not gain the ascendency, but it is, of course, best, if possible, to keep the pigs growing and also free from worms.

Milk is imperative as a feed for all young animals. It has been found, too, that an all grain, or meal of grain, ration is not complete for any growing animal. Milk is needed as a factor for balancing the ration, especially the butter fat of the milk, and to eke out the lack of such fat the leaves as well as the grains of plants are necessary. Alfalfa better than any other feed replaces or serves the purpose of butter fat, and clover, the legumes and flaxseed meal are also useful. It is therefore well to not only provide clean quarters, milk diet, and grain or meals for pigs, but to allow them to pasture green Alfalfa, clover, or rape, etc. and when such green feed cannot be had, to feed them Alfalfa hay.

Pigs in summer also need shade and plenty of water. They dearly love a wallow, but it is better for their health to provide them with clean water for bathing purposes and to put some crude petroleum in the water to help keep down hog lice. Many pigs die each year from overheating, therefore, the necessity of shade and water, and one should be careful, too, not to overdrive hogs in hot weather, or to ship them to market in such weather without placing a heap of ice in the center of the car or arranging to wet the hogs now and then on the trip.

Lastly, it should be mentioned that dust from bedding or yards is very injurious to little pigs and may set up irritation similar to that caused by lung worms and even cause fatal pneumonia. This cause of trouble, therefore, should be eliminated.

The Fly Nuisance

It should be remembered that the work horse is tormented by flies almost as much in the stables as out of it in hot weather. The fly that causes the annoyance in the stables is the little stinging black fly. This pest looks like a common house fly but the wings stand out almost at right angles from the body. It will not sting, if the stable is kept darkened and that should be done during fly time in summer. Gunnysacking will serve the purpose, as it sufficiently excludes light and at the same time allows free circulation of air. It is best, of course, to screen both windows and doors with wire netting. Even if this is done, it is well to darken the stable as some flies are sure to get in and the sacking also subdues the sunlight which is trying to the eyes of horses. Keep the manure piles away from the doors and windows of the stable. They breed flies. Also get out of the bad habit of piling the soiled bedding under the manger to sweat and cause irritating gases.

When the horse has to work or pasture where flies are troublesome, furnish him with a fly net and also spray his unprotected parts with a commercial fly repellant. Often an unsprayed horse is quite bloody from fly biting on coming in at noon and night. The big green-headed fly does the mischief. To such bitten places apply a mixture of one teaspoonful of ammonia (hartshorn) in a cupful of water; or use a solution of one tablespoonful of granular hyposulphite of soda per quart. If any bite on animal or man swells and is painful, immediately swab it with tincture of iodine and repeat the application every 12 hours.

Horse flies which assemble in masses on the backs of pastured cattle cluster about the horns at night and under the belly in wet weather. It is a good plan to apply a mixture of fish oil and oil of tar behind the horns and also on the belly as well as using the fly repellant with a spray pump. Oil of citronella two parts, oil of cedar one part, and spirits of camphor three parts mixed together and applied with an atomizer is effectual in protecting a person against mosquitoes, but is too expensive to use on stock.

It may be added that cheaply constructed fly traps should be used both inside of the stables and about the doors and also around the doors of the kitchen, milk houses and other buildings. They are easily constructed according to plans which can be seen in a bulletin on the subject published and supplied free by the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Pasture Not Always a Blessing

When, as often is the case, we see brood mares and their foals switching and pawing against a myriad of torturing flies in a corner of a bare, dusty, shadeless pasture in July or August, we conclude that such conditions are cruel, unnecessary and detrimental. Pasture containing grass is a fine place for the mare and her foal, for the cow and calf, ewe and lambs, or sow and pigs, provided adequate shade and water are supplied and it is not too "bare bitten." In almost a majority of instances it would be better to keep the animals mentioned off pasture during the heat of the day and only allow them on it at night, or on cloudy days in the heated term of the year. The bare, permanent pasture is the poorest kind of place for lambs, calves and pigs on account of the danger of lung worms, to say nothing of the ill effects of heat and lack of nourishment.

It may be said, as truly, that the work horse derives little, if any, benefit from the scant pasture at such times. It is fine for him to be allowed to have a roll on grass at noon and a run and rest on it at night, but to turn him out on it, without adequate shade and water during the heat of the day is positive cruelty and also highly unprofitable. Indeed, it is thought best by many experienced farmers to keep their horses off pasture during the season of the year when they have to work hardest and at such times to feed oats, wheat bran, a little ear corn, and sound, old hay in preference to green grass. The latter keeps the horses soft and with bowels relaxed, whereas the dry feed maintains muscular condition. As soon as the hard work is over, however, it is well to turn the horses out to grass and that also is beneficial, if a horse has sore feet or any derangement of the digestive organs. The pasture is also the best place for idle horses and growing colts, if not overstocked, but producing sufficient feed and also provided with shade and abundant water.

Penny Wise, Pound Foolish

That is a trite but true saying and we saw it well illustrated the other day. Men in a little country village had united and subscribed the money necessary to open a three foot ditch, with a new type of ditching plow pulled by eighteen horses, for the purpose of getting rid of the surface water which stood on the low ground around the village after every big rain. The outlet was a lake some two miles away and the farmers who owned the land on the outskirts of the village and right of way of the ditch subscribed their share for the improvement. They knew that the ditch would get rid of the surplus water on a part of their farms and provide an outlet or main drain into which they might later run laterals for the drying of many fields. They gladly paid their share of the expense and no doubt will find the investment a paying one. But one man refused to join with the others. He was the last farmer on the line of ditch and three hundred rods of ditch would have to be opened through his place to get rid of the water or connect with the lake. The cost of the ditch would be fifty cents a rod or $150; but he would not pay that amount and so the ditch had to stop at the edge of his land and he will receive all of the water from the ditch in addition to that already on his low-lying farm. We suppose that he intends to open the remaining portion of the ditch "by hand," or employ some method that he thinks will cost less than the sum mentioned. If so he is making a sad mistake. He can never get the ditching crew, their big machine and eighteen horses, to come back for his little length of ditch. They would do the work now for $150, but to return and make a new "set" would cost much more. The hard work will probably not be done quickly or thoroughly, if at all. The penny wise pound foolish farmer will be "drowned out" and also will lessen the efficiency of the ditch for his neighbors. It would have been wise for him to chip in with the rest and reap the full benefits of the work. That is true in all such instances. It never pays a man to refuse to take part in a sane and necessary drainage proposition, or in a line fencing operation. Cooperation pays.

"Always Does the Work and Does It Right"
ROUGH ON RATS
DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE
Unbeatable Exterminator of Rats, Mice & Bugs
Used the World Over. Used by U. S. Government
It Can't Fail—It's All Exterminator
Stop Fattening Rats, Mice & Bugs!
On your food or on Catch Penny ready-to-use substitutes—whose bulk is inert flour and grease.
Why Trap Rats & Mice, One By One, while those uncaught rapidly increase!!!
END THEM ALL TO-NIGHT WITH a 25c box of ROUGH ON RATS
The Recognized Standard For Half a Century
At Drug & Country Stores.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

SERRADELLA.—Kindly give all information, price, etc., on grass called serradella. Where can seed be obtained? What is the price, and how much should be sown per acre? MRS. M. K., Plover, Wis.

A.—Serradella is still in the experimental stage in the U. S. Very little has yet been published about this plant. Send to seedsmen for their quotation on seed. Sow at the rate of 40 to 50 pounds per acre.

SERRADELLA.—Please tell me where to get serradella seed and how much to sow to the acre. Would it be a successful crop in Wisconsin?

M. J. J., Larson, Wis.

A.—Get seed of nearest seedsman. Sow at the rate of 40 or 50 lbs. per acre. Clover is a more satisfactory crop for your section.

SUGAR BEETS.—I wish to know whether sugar beets will grow in North Carolina. Where can I get the seed? What are they worth per pound? How much seed is required to plant an acre? Are they good feed for stock?

Miss D. C., Randleman, N. C.

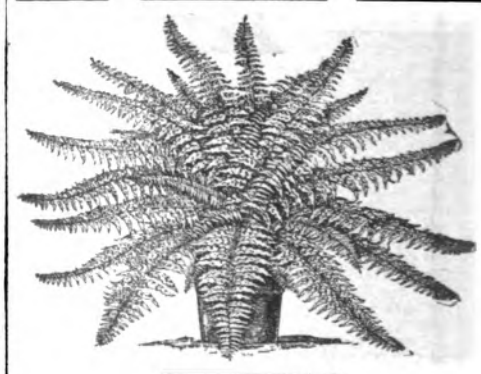
A.—Successful sugar beet culture on a large scale depends upon the nearness to factory. There are no such factories in the South. Send to seedsmen for seed. Beets this year are contracted for by the factories at from $6.00 to $7.00 per ton. Good soil produces 15 to 25 tons per acre. They are excellent food for stock, especially dairy cows. Try a small patch. They can be planted late in the South.

$1 a week buys a Black Beauty Bicycle
AT FACTORY PRICES—ON APPROVAL—NO MONEY IN ADVANCE
Let us send you (freight prepaid) a Black Beauty on trial. If you don't like it, return at our expense. If you do like it, you pay only $1 a week. GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS by the largest exclusive Cycle House in America. WRITE TODAY for Black Beauty Color Catalog showing all sizes and styles.
Haverford Cycle Co., Est. 1896, Dept. H., Phila., Pa.

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!
$24 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Light running, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.
30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.
ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12) 2182 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO
100,000 now in use

LE PAGE'S CHINA CEMENT
STANDS HOT AND COLD WATER 10c

Four Beautiful Ferns



PREMIUM NO. 6112
Given For Two Subscriptions

OF all indoor folisge plants, none give more lasting pleasure and satisfaction than these popular house ferns. They need but little care and live indefinitely, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise four of the largest, handsomest varieties ever grown for house culture. They are the Asparagus Plumosus or "Lace" fern, the Roosevelt, the Boston or "Fountain" fern and the Whitmani or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost no attention except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type, and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were fresh from the greenhouse. We are able to illustrate only one variety, "The Roosevelt," but remember you get all four ferns free on this offer.

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post prepaid the above described collection of four beautiful ferns each one of them a strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. Premium No. 6112.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Forcing Chickens for Breeders and Layers

SOME say, "don't force the chicks intended for breeders and layers," but I have found that chicks that are grown rapidly return the most money. We would not force the pullets to lay before they secure their growth by the use of stimulants, condiments and emmenagogues, but pullets that are grown quickly on a good healthy diet will mature their bodies before ripening their egg organs.

Pullets that are grown in the open air consume a larger amount of food and put it to a good use. The body will reach full development before she drops an egg. The ovary (the egg producing organ) is largely dependent on heat for its growth, and sometimes by keeping chicks long in heated brooders, close housing and feeding a stimulating, heat producing ration we can cause them to lay before the body has matured, and in that case the body will not mature to large size, or even full size for the breed. The ovary has ripened before the body has matured. Such pullets will never make good layers for any length of time, and their eggs are usually under size. It is probably because of having grown such pullets that writers have warned us not to force birds intended for breeders or layers.

When pullets are grown right—given room, airy coops at night, free range or large yard and fed a wholesome ration, there is no danger of their developing too fast.

When chicks are eight weeks old, they should be separated from their mothers, and the families divided; the young pullets being relegated to colony coops in an orchard or partly shaded meadow, where they will have extensive free range; the cockerels being placed in the semi-confinement of wards, as their ultimate fate is the frying pan, which necessitates plump bodies, while free range would only develop frame and muscle.

Our colony houses are six feet long, three feet wide, thirty-six inches high in front, and twenty-four inches at the back. They are made of light scantling, the ends, back and roof being covered with roofing paper; and the front, to within eight inches of the ground, with unbleached muslin, which insures perfect ventilation and prevents rain beating in upon the birds when they are on the roosts, which are fixed a foot from the bottom and nine inches from the back of the coop. Two holes are made, nine inches apart, in the middle of each end of the coop, and a heavy rope knotted through them, to form handles.

The coops having no flooring, and the whole construction being light, they are easily removed to fresh ground every week, and so kept clean with little trouble—an important item when there is a large quantity being used. Having a large orchard, we placed the coops in rows thirty feet apart, as two sides of the orchard adjoin woodland, through which a never failing spring stream runs, so the birds have a splendid range.

Twenty birds are placed in each coop. The first week a portable yard, five feet long, is placed in front of each coop, so that the young chicks cannot wander off and get lost, as they surely would in strange quarters. During that time a self-feeding hopper and a drinking fountain are placed inside of the coop. When the yard is removed, the individual vessels are dispensed with, large drinking tubs and food hoppers being stationed midway between every four coops, to reduce time and labor in caring for the birds.

The large hoppers are nothing more than boxes, five feet long, two feet wide and six inches deep, over which is placed an A-shaped cover, made of slats, one inch apart, to prevent the birds getting into the box and scratching the grain on to the ground, where it will be wasted. For water, five gallon kegs are used, with an automobile escape, which keeps a small pan continually full. Both feed and water are placed under a rough shelter, to protect them from sun and rain. Using such large receptacles, it is only necessary to fill them every other day.

Feed consists of a dry mash, composed of ten pounds of wheat bran, ten pounds of ground oats, one pound of white middlings, one pound of old process oil meal, and ten pounds of beef scraps well mixed. In addition to that, they receive at night a feed of wheat and cracked corn, two parts of the former to one of the latter. About half a pint is scattered in front of each coop about four p. m.

Grit is supplied in large quantities. Being near a stone crusher, we buy the screenings by the cart load and dump it in heaps on the outskirts of the orchard, where it does not show, but is quite accessible to the chicks.

On these rations, without any variation, the pullets are kept until September, when they are transferred to their winter quarters.

Pullets which have to be grown in confinement should have a well-littered coop of good size, and having large openings. That is, the greater portion of one side should be wire. The pullets should not be crowded nor should they be grown in large flocks. They should be fed practically the same as those on free range. They should have the dry mash before mentioned, grit, charcoal and shells, and be fed grain and green food. Where the green food is lettuce, lawn clippings or garden refuse, they should have two grain feeds a day, and this should be scattered in litter, not too deep. Where sprouted oats are used for greens, one feed a day of hard grain is sufficient.

Cockerels and old hens should not be allowed with growing pullets. Where cockerels are allowed to run with pullets neither will mature to full size. Too often we see cockerels and pullets allowed free range on the farm, and all allowed to mix together. Good stock cannot be grown in this manner, and the future egg yield of the flock will not be as large as it would be if more care were given the growing stock.

Cockerels intended for breeders should have every advantage that will tend to full and perfect development, and I prefer, when possible, to give them free range, isolated from hens and pullets. Next to free range comes large yards with well-littered, roomy coops or roosts out of doors. Good cockerels as I ever raised lived all summer in a large yard without a coop. Poles were set up in the shade of a large apple tree, and on these the cockerels roosted. In event of a storm they sought the protection of a tree. They were a hardy close feathered bunch, and stood the rigors of a severe winter in an open house with the utmost comfort. At best they should only have a roof to protect them from rain.

Hawks and crows often make life a burden to the poultryman in chicken time, where the growing chicks range. It is a good plan to erect poles about the chicken range, and run wire or strong twine zigzag from these, high enough to allow head room. From these lines suspend at frequent intervals strips of white and colored cloth, bright bits of tin and pieces of glass. This is the most effective crow and hawk scare we know of, and it is well worth the expense and labor. Crows often become so bold that no other scarecrow will keep them from stealing young chicks, especially if bits of bright tin and glass are hung so that they will jingle in the breeze. Hawks generally come at the same time every day, so can easily be watched and shot.

Rats cause losses, and will frequently kill and hide a large number of chicks in a single night. Make the coops rat proof. Raise coops and boxes often, and kill any rats found beneath. A good rat dog is a great help. Traps are seldom effective, and poison is not safe in chicken time.

One of the most difficult problems which the poultry keeper has to meet is that of keeping his stock and poultry houses reasonably free from lice, mites and other external parasites.

In keeping a poultry plant free from lice there are two points of attack; one, the birds themselves; the other, the houses, nest boxes, roosting boards, etc.

In using any kind of lice powder on the birds themselves, it should always be remembered that a single application of powder is not sufficient. When there are lice present on a bird, there are always unhatched eggs of lice (nits) present, too. The proper procedure is to follow up a first application of powder with a second at an interval of four days to a week. If the birds are badly infested at the beginning it may be necessary to make still a third application. To clean the cracks and crevices of the woodwork of the houses and nests of vermin, a liquid spray or paint is probably the most desirable form of application.

A splendid lice powder may be made at a cost of only a few cents a pound in the following way: Take three parts of gasoline and one part of crude carbolic acid; mix these together and add gradually with stirring, enough plaster of Paris to take up all the moisture. The liquid and the dry plaster should be thoroughly mixed and stirred so that the liquid will be uniformly distributed through the mass of plaster. When enough plaster has been added, the resulting mixture should be a dry, pinkish brown powder, having a fairly strong carbolic odor and a rather less pronounced gasoline odor.

Do not use more plaster in mixing than is necessary to blot up the liquid. This powder is to be worked into the feathers of the birds affected with vermin. The bulk of the application should be in the fluff around the vent and on the ventral side of the body, and in the fluff under the wings. Its efficiency, which is greater than that of any other known to the writer, can be very easily demonstrated by any one to his own satisfaction. Take a bird that is covered with lice and apply the powder in the manner just described. After the lapse of about a minute, shake the bird, loosening its feathers with the fingers at the same time, over a clean piece of paper. Dead and dying lice will drop on the paper in great numbers. Any one who will try this experiment will have no further doubt of the wonderful efficiency and value of this powder.

For a spray or paint to be applied to roosting boards, nest boxes, or the walls and floor of the henhouses the following preparation is used: Three parts of kerosene and one part crude carbolic acid. This is stirred up when used, and may be applied with any of the hand spray pumps or with a brush.

In both of these formula it is highly important that crude carbolic acid be used instead of the purified product. Be sure and insist to the druggist on getting crude carbolic acid. It is a dark brown, dirty looking liquid, and its value depends on the fact that it contains tar oil and tar bases in addition to the pure phenol (carbolic acid.)

So many of this month's inquiries have been about preventives or cures for gapes and bowel trouble, that I will take them for my text in-



A GOOD MOTHER.

stead of trying to answer the individual letters. Bowel trouble usually attacks brooder chickens—perhaps I should have said incubator chickens which have been reared in a brooder—more frequently than it does chicks under hens, and the cause is usually want of sufficient heat. Little chicks can't stand being chilly. If you notice even when hens are brooding, they will suffer if the hen happens to be a restless wanderer, and a cold, damp spell strikes us late in the spring. The brooder must me warm and well ventilated, and there should be a sheltered yard for them to exercise in for the first two or three weeks. If you are running a heated brooder, use a thermometer, and see that it keeps steadily at 95. If you have adopted the new fireless brooder, put plenty of cotton at the top, and never have less than twenty-five chicks to a brooder, for any less than that number can't supply sufficient bodily heat to warm up the air inside of the brooder. It is also well to cover the bottom of the brooder box with hay sweepings or cut hay, which is warm and soft for the little chicks to lie on. It is also very important to see that they go into their brooder at night, for they are very apt to run into some corner and huddle together, and of course become chilled before morning. Watch the droppings of all chickens, both brooder and those under the hens, and at the slightest indication of looseness of the bowels, remove the drinking water and replace with cold tea or rice water. It is a good precaution to feed boiled rice two or three times a week whilst the chicks are little, and if they develop any serious trouble, keep them under cover; or if with the hen, keep the hen shut into the brooder coop, for she is much more likely to brood then than when allowed to run alone.

Leg weakness rarely if ever develops if the chickens are properly fed. Green food and animal food must form part of their rations. There is a meat meal on the market which is very good if you can buy in small quantities, but it is not safe to buy a large bag which cannot be used up within two or three weeks, so it is usually better for the ordinary farm to depend on curd cheese and an occasional hard-boiled egg, chopped up fine without removing the shell. And for green stuff I don't think there is anything as good as young clover and the young sprouts of onions, of course, chopped fine enough to be acceptable for little chicks. If you are where you can get beef's liver, it is the best of all animal food, when about half boiled and chopped fine and fed in small quantities. If your birds have had any kind of animal meat from the start, it is quite safe; but if you suddenly commence feeding it after four or five weeks, you must go very carefully for some time until they become accustomed to it. A rusty nail or two, with a few drops of tincture of iron in the drinking water is a good tonic, and it is advisable to use it if chickens commence to look pale around the gills, or droopy in any way.

As I have explained before in these columns, gapes is really not a disease at all, but a parasite worm about one sixteenth of an inch in length, and like a thin thread. They lodge in the windpipe and suck the blood of their victim. They are supposed to materialize only on ground on which poultry droppings have been deposited for several seasons. For this reason it is best to try and locate the brooder coops on fresh ground each year, or have the ground where they have stood heavily dressed with lime and plowed in in the fall. These wretched little worms multiply very quickly if they are not removed from the bird's throat, for the little chicks have not strength to eject them, no matter how much they cough and choke. Some of the remedies are as follows: Dip the end of a small wing feather in turpentine, push it down the bird's throat, turn two or three times quickly, and pull it out. The worm may come with it, but it is so small that it is always difficult to tell. Another is, to mix salt and water, or steep tobacco in water for ten minutes, pour a teaspoonful down the bird's throat; keep the head up, and the two holes at the base of the bill covered with the thumb and forefinger whilst you count five; release, and suddenly turn the bird upside down, holding by the feet. It will gasp, splutter, and usually eject the worm. But really, I think it is much better to make a practise to put the coops on clean ground, for trying to doctor little chicks is awfully difficult work.

Grain is likely to remain so high in price through the winter that every farmer must try to conserve every available home product. First among the food crops I count clover and corn; to be of the most value, clover should be cut early and cured in the cock, and not be allowed to become wet or sunburned. Clover rowen, or second crop, is no better than early cut hay, but that which has ripened its seed and been through the thrashing machine is little more nutritious than poor hay or straw.

Next among the grains I place millet and Kafir corn. The former is the most valuable for the midday feed, and also for small chicks. I prefer the new Japanese millet, which can be grown in any of the New England states, and if sown early will ripen a good crop of seed. It is not necessary to thrash grain; let it remain on the straw, and throw a forkful into the scratching pen each day. The straw makes good material for the hens to scratch in, keeps the house warm and fosters exercise.

Kafir corn is grown the same as Indian corn, and harvested in a similar manner. In feeding it the heads should be cut off and thrown into the scratching pen whole, and the stalks fed to the cow or horse. This corn is very similar to Indian corn in nutritive value, containing a trifle less of protein and fat. When harvested, Kafir corn can be bound in bundles and set up against the side of the poultry-house to cure if shelter cannot be provided for it. In this manner it serves the double purpose of food and a protection to the building.

Buckwheat should not be omitted from the list of grains. It can usually be grown on land from which another crop has been taken the same season. From the first to the eighth of July is about the right time to sow it. It is a good plan to feed this grain on the straw also, but a small crop can be threshed out very easily with the flail.

Sunflowers should be planted in every by-place, also in the runs. If the plants are protected until they get a start, they will keep out of the reach of the poultry, and afford them shade during the hot summer days.

Some poultrymen highly recommend the Australian salt-bush, and from what I have seen of it I deem it a most valuable plant. Poultry of all kinds highly relish it, and it seems to be very nutritious. It is fed green, or cured as hay and cut up. It will remain green all winter, and will stand twenty degrees below zero. One pound of seed will plant an acre, which will produce from fifteen to twenty-five tons of green forage.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

S. L. P.—There are several makes of corrugated boxes on the market, specially constructed for shipping eggs by parcel post. I think postage will be rather heavy from your state to New York. Better ask at your local post-office.

H. H.—The hen was naturally lazy, and acquired so much fat that it affected the egg organs. When hens develop an abnormal amount of fat in the intestines, it causes all manner of troubles. As you possibly know by cleaning fowls for the table, a hen who is laying or about to lay, has a large bunch of yolks, varying in size from a pinhead to a fully developed yolk, which lie near the backbone. As each yolk reaches its full size, it becomes detached from the bunch, and drops into a passage called the oviduct, and it is during its journey through that passage that it becomes enclosed in the white, and later the shell. When these parts are compressed by excessive fat in the intestines, all sorts of freaky conditions are apt to arise. In the case of your hen, the mouth of the oviduct must have been so weakened that it did not open to receive the yolk when it was detached, or retain the liquid which constitutes the white, and the lumps you found were a mixture of yolk and white, which had been held back and partly cooked by the heat of the body. It was probably the first of a new clutch of eggs, and if you had not killed the hen, she might have laid an egg which, on being opened, would have had the appearance of an old, rotten egg. But it is much more likely that the mass would have commenced to decompose in the bird's body, and caused a poisonous condition which would have killed her, or in the effort to lay, she might have broken a blood vessel in the brain, and have been found dead on the nest. Killing her just when you did, there had been no time for the mass to commence to rot, and the flesh was in no way affected, and so quite wholesome for food. If you have many of your old hens that appear very fat, I advise you to kill them for the table, and if you have any doubts about the condition of the flock, add a teaspoonful of magnesia to every quart of drinking water once every third day until they have had three doses.

Your second letter, describing the condition of the duck, is answered, by the above, for it is undoubtedly a case of a ruptured egg passage. Ducks should be fed on a mixture of ground corn, oats, wheat bran, made into a mash with an equal quantity of cooked green vegetables, chopped and steamed clover and Alfalfa hay.

L. B.—As the birds have all been running together, I don't think it would be safe to use the eggs for hatching after dividing the varieties, for at least three weeks.

M. K.—Feeding one hundred hens and getting only from one to three eggs a day is dreadful. I try to impress on all our readers the mistake of keeping mixed flocks of mongrels. This is only one proof of how unprofitable they are. Better have ten birds of one good variety and get four or five eggs a day. Your method of feeding is good, especially as the birds have the run of the farm, but during the winter any sort of fowls must have animal and vegetable food, or they can't produce eggs.

B. O. B.—If the hen never lays a normal-sized egg, there must be some malformation of the egg organs. Hens often lay a few small eggs at the end of the clutch. I fear there is no remedy for the case.

L. J. Z.—You seem to be feeding heavily on very rich foods. Boiled potato skins, buckwheat, table scraps, animal meal and corn, are all very fattening, and as you only have fifteen hens to feed three times a day, it is more than likely that the birds are being overfed, and the bird who died was the first to break down. Her symptoms all suggest acute indigestion. Better cut out all of the above mentioned foods; give scratch feed in the morning, green vegetables at noon, and oats, or oats and wheat, at night. Add a teaspoonful of magnesia to a quart of drinking water once a week for three weeks.

E. W.—The fault may have been with the breeding stock. If it were old and excessively fat or poor and inbred, but most likely it was the method in which the incubator was run. If the heat ran up and down in an uncertain manner, or went below 103½ during the last twenty-four hours, the chicks would lose strength through the hatch being delayed, and that would account, for the yolk not being drawn into the abdomen. The convulsive fits which you describe are nearly always the result of uneven temperature. Thermometers are not always to be trusted. They should be tested each season. Read the January and March numbers of COMFORT.

An Old Subscriber.—The first part of the department this month tells about coops.

F. F. F.—The heat was not sufficient in the machine, or you cooled the eggs too long each day. In a cellar, where the temperature is below fifty degrees, half an hour twice a day is too much, especially if you remove the lamp to trim and fill during that time, for the temperature in the egg chamber would run down so low that it would take several hours to reach 103 again. Read answer to E. W.

$2.25 a Month Buys a Genuine KIMBALL ORGAN At Factory Prices.



FREE Music Instruction by our New Diagram System if you write at once.

We will send them to reliable people anywhere, on our extremely easy payment plan.

Operating the largest piano and organ factory in the world—the Kimball system positively saves you $25 to $50 on strictly first-class organs.

Send for Money-Saving Plan and Free Catalog

Under no circumstances can you afford to buy or consider any other organ until you have our money-saving proposition. Our half-century's manufacturing experience, our financially strong guarantee mean much to you.

W. W. KIMBALL CO., 305-A Kimball Hall, Chicago.

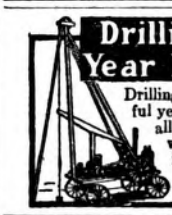
Please send me FREE your 1917 Organ Catalog, factory distributing prices and the Nation's Home Songs with words and music FREE.

*Name*_____

*City*_____ *State*_____

*St. or R. F. D.*_____

Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business



Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars. **Star Drilling Machine Co.** 675 Washington St., Akron, Ohio

Driver Agents Wanted

Drive and demonstrate the Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. My agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back. Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. H. Bush, Pres. Dept. 664



114-in Wheelbase
Delco Ignition—Elect. Stg. & Ltg.
BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois

PIGEONS PAY

Better than chickens. Young pigeons (squabs) bring 40c to 60c each when 3 to 4 weeks old. Big demand in city markets. Each pair of pigeons easily clear $4 year. Always penned up. Free book explains all. MAJESTIC SQUAB CO., Dept. 65, Adel, Iowa. FREE BOOK

Hackett's GAPE CURE

It's a powder. Chicks inhale the dust. Whole brood treated at once. Money back if it fails. Package 35c. postpaid. Safe, Simple, Certain. Address **HACKETT'S GAPE CURE CO., HILLSBORO, Md., Dept. A.**



Pink Cameo Ring FREE

Cameos are set in fine **gold filled ring.** Guaranteed for three years. To introduce new **Ring Bargains,** will send post paid, your size, upon receipt of 12c to pay advertising.

The Auction Co., Dept. 185 Attleboro, Mass.

26-Piece Daisy TABLE SET

Premium No. 6808

Sent To You Prepaid For A Club Of Eight



WE have in the past made many offers of table ware, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer **a complete set of 26 Pieces** in return for such a small club of subscriptions. And please don't think that because we are giving away this set on such liberal terms that it is plated on a brass base and consequently will change color and have that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. This Set which we offer you here is plated on a **white metal base** therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will not show signs of wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—**6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife.** Each piece is **full regulation size** for family use, the handles are handsomely **embossed and decorated** with the beautiful **Daisy design** which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and the bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and **bright polished.**

WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to offer it as a premium for so few subscriptions. It is by far **the greatest value** we have ever offered, in fact we are so **sure** that it will please and satisfy all who accept this offer **we are going to guarantee every Set sent out for a period of five years.** We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Daisy Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this 26-Piece Daisy Table Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 6808.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

German Silver Mesh Purse

Given For Four Subscriptions

THIS is the new "Gate Top" mesh purse with a ten-inch wrist chain, made throughout of **German Silver**, handsome, stylish, and **perfectly safe for the carrying of money and other valuables.** A slight pull with the forefinger of each hand instantly opens the purse, a gentle pressure with thumb and finger closes it. Our illustration shows the purse closed. When open the top is as large as the bottom, or in other words, two inches in diameter. When closed it leaves an opening only three-fourths of an inch wide over which the brightly polished German silver cover snaps down tightly so that the contents of the purse cannot possibly become lost. This dainty purse is now extremely fashionable so we have purchased a quantity for the benefit of those of our lady and girl readers who like to be up-to-date in these little accessories. You can have one of them free by taking advantage of the following

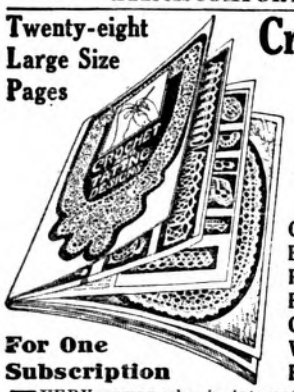


Premium No. 7374

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this handsome and stylish German silver mesh purse free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7374.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Twenty-eight Large Size Pages



Crochet and Tatting Book

Premium No. 7321

Containing Sixty-three Beautiful Photographic Reproductions of New Fashionable Designs In Crochet And Tatting With Full Instructions For Making.

For One Subscription

EVERY woman who is interested in crocheting and tatting should have a copy of this new book written by Winifred Worth and containing many designs used by the nuns in convents **never before published.** The book is of good size, measuring 8 inches by 10½ inches, printed on fine quality coated book paper and consists of 28 pages on which are shown **sixty-three** large, clear **photographic illustrations** of the prettiest edgings, beadings, insertions, towel ends, doilies, etc., and a splendid variety of new, dainty designs in tatting **with complete instructions for making them.** The art of combining Venetian crochet and tatting also is fully explained.

Among the many beautiful crochet designs illustrated and described are the **clover leaf, Irish, picot, cross-bar, half-shell, half-wheel, K-stitch** and **filet** edgings; **festoon, Irish, fence-row, picot** and **shell** beadings; **mile-a-minute, half-shell, clover leaf, filet** and **monkey-face insertions; butterfly wings, Van Dyke Point, nuns' pattern** and many others. The tatting motifs are varied and beautiful, consisting of beadings, edgings and insertions for **table mats, bedspreads, curtains, guest towels, coin-purses, night-gown yokes, bath towels, sash curtains, ribbon holders, plate doilies,** etc., etc.

This book also gives sizes of hooks best adapted for the different sizes of crochet threads, the abbreviations of all of the principal crochet stitches and terms used in tatting and tells how the different stitches are made such as the **chain stitch, double crochet, half treble, double treble, treble crochet, cluster** and **open mesh** stitches.

We will send you free and postpaid this book of the loveliest fashions in beautiful lace work with simple and complete directions which you can easily follow upon the terms of the following special offer.

Offer No. 7321A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you this book of crocheting and tatting designs with directions free by mail postpaid.

Offer No. 7321B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you this crocheting and tatting book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7321. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Silk Remnants



Premium No. 5561

All Sizes, Shapes and Colors—A Large Package Sent You For One Subscription

REMNANTS of real silk, in all shapes, sizes and colors. They are **carefully trimmed and just what you need for making up beautiful quilts, tidies, pillow tops and all kinds of "crazy patchwork."** We will send you a **package** containing more than **one hundred** of these beautiful **silk pieces and 5 skeins embroidery cotton in different bright colors.** If you order **at once** we will also send you, **in addition** to everything else an **Instruction Book with eight full-page illustrations** showing how to ornament seams of crazy patchwork and other work where fancy stitches are used. It tells you how to put pieces of patchwork together **to get the best effect,** how to **cover up seams** with fancy stitches, how to **join the edges,** etc. This book illustrates over **one hundred and fifty** of these besides containiug full and explicit directions for working the **Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille Embroidery, ribbon work, plush or tufted stitch,** also directions for **Kensington painting.** Remember you get one nice lot of these Silk Remnants (over 100 pieces), 5 skeins Embroidery Cotton and an Instruction Book, as above described, all sent to you **free by Parcel Post prepaid** if you will accept either one of the following offers.

Offer No. 5561A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you one package of these Silk Remnants, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 5561B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you one package of these Remnants free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5561.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

VETERINARY INFORMATION



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

WIND GALLS.—My horse as wind puffs that are started on both front ankles. Can you tell me a cure and also what causes them? L. W.

A.—These are distensions of the synovial bursæ of the joints or tendon sheaths from strain and they are practically incurable. Pressure from bandages does some good temporarily, when fully established wind galls do not cause lameness.

FISTULA.—I have a mare nine years old that has a running sore between her jaw bones. There is a hole about as big around as a pencil clear through. I would like your advice. A. L.

A.—The discharging pipe (sinus) no doubt connects with the root of a diseased bone. These should be removed by a skilled surgeon. Meanwhile inject a little of a two per cent solution of protargol once daily. This is expensive but effective.

CALLOUS.—I have a seven-year-old mare that had a fistula last September. It healed but left a knot on two of her withers. I will appreciate any information. L. V. McL.

A.—Better leave the knot alone. If could only be removed by dissection and that possibly might cause recurrence of the fistula.

WEAK MULE.—My father has a mule four years old. He seems to be loose where his hips join the back bone. In walking he spreads his hind legs, falls down and can't get up without help. He has been this way since last November. R. N. O.

A.—The mule may have strained the muscles of the loins, but such symptoms may also indicate "swamp fever" which is incurable. Let the mule run on grass this summer and be given additional feed. He may then gradually recover.

BLOAT.—Last spring I bought lambs from the sheepmen when a few hours old. I fed them fresh milk from a bottle, and when two weeks old gave them skim-milk. After feeding them skim-milk they would eat grass, bloat up and die. Did I feed them right? E. M.

A.—Add an ounce of limewater to each pint of skim-milk when you start feeding that and they should do better. Also be careful to feed often and only small quantities at a time.

STRINGHALT.—I have a three-year-old mare that is stringhalted. Will she outgrow it? She is not as bad as she was two years ago. Is there a remedy? Subscriber.

A.—She will not be likely to outgrow the disease but it may be remedied with a fair degree of success by the operation of peroneal tenotomy to be performed by a trained veterinarian.

WEAK CALF.—A two-year-old heifer had a calf. It bawled a good deal and only lived four hours. The heifer was in good condition and is doing first rate. She was fed on plenty of oat green feed and a little Timothy hay and all the salt and water she wanted. She had a stable to run in. The calf seemed to be too weak to hold up his head. Could you tell me what was the matter with the calf? MRS. N. P. M.

A.—The heifer was inadequately fed and could not be expected to produce a strong calf. Feed clover or Alfalfa hay, oats, corn and bran and such weak calves will become rare. Contagious abortion may, however, cause similar weakness.

SLOBBERING.—I have a mare six years old. She has trouble in trying to eat corn or hay. She wets the cobs as much as though they had been in water. MRS. I. G.

A.—It seems perfectly clear that the teeth or some foreign body in the mouth cause both slobbering and difficulty in mastication and you should take the horse to a different graduate veterinarian for proper examination and treatment. It may be that milk tooth crowns or shells of molar teeth have lodged and need removing.

LAME COW.—I have a fine young milk cow which has a disease of the feet that is called crack-heel. Please tell me what to do for it. MRS. F. K. W.

A.—You have not described the condition present so we cannot give a confident opinion. Cleanse the foot and cut away all rotten or loose horn, then immerse for a few moments in a solution of two ounces of sulphate of copper (blue stone) in a pint of water used hot. Afterwards soak oakum daily in a five per cent solution of coal tar disinfectant and bind upon the foot.

COUGH.—Could you tell me what is the matter with my brother-in-law's horse? He groans when he lies down. He has a cough, also a discharge from the nose, of a tough whitish color. It falls in the watering trough when he drinks. E. C.

A.—Heaves possibly is present. Try feeding him on grass alone in summer. Twice daily give him a tablespoonful of Fowler's solution of arsenic. As there always is a possibility of glanders in such a case it would be well to have an examination made by a trained veterinarian.

BLOAT COLIC.—What is the best thing to do for cow that has bloat or for horse when it has colic? What is best remedy for him? Give him physic at once? What shall I give him? O. K.

A.—Give two ounces of turpentine or a tablespoonful of formaldehyde in a quart of milk. The cow may first have to be tapped in the left flank with a trocar and canula for removal of gas from the paunch. There are several kinds of colic. Usually an ounce or two of turpentine and an ounce of landanum will give relief. A bloated horse also has to be tapped high up in the right flank for removal of gas.

WARTS.—I have a cow which has warts on all four teats. What can I do to get rid of them? MRS. J. N.

A.—Rub in best Castor oil after each milking, or use olive oil or fresh goose grease and the warts may in time disappear. Those having narrow necks may be snipped off with scissors, a few at a time. Lightly rub with a lunar caustic pencil if they start growing again.

WARTS.—Can you give any information in regard to warts on cows' bags and on milkers' hands? What can be done for them? C. C. S.

A.—See answer to Mrs. J. N.

GROWTH.—I have a yearling colt that has a bleeding wart just below the ear and near the eye. Could you tell me anything that will help it? J. G.

A.—This possibly is not a wart but the opening of a fistula connecting with a supernumerary molar tooth which could be removed by a veterinarian. If no such condition is found present he should carefully remove the growth by dissection and then cauterize the wound.

WARBLES.—Can you tell me what caused two of my heifers to have worms under their hides? One was squeezed out by the hired man. It was an inch long and as large as the end of the little finger. Will they injure the animals? What can be done to prevent them? They were out all last summer. Could it be anything they got last summer? M. F. G.

A.—The grubs are the larvæ of the ox warble fly (hypoderma lineate) hatched from eggs deposited by the fly in summer. Keep flies off by spraying the cows with commercial fly repellant during summer. Squeeze out and destroy each ripe grub. This is easily accomplished by placing the open mouth of a large bottle upon the "boil" and squeezing down hard. You need not fear to use the milk.

GRUBS.—In my April number of COMFORT I saw your answer to E. S. in regard to the Gadfly grubs. You say to prevent them to smear pine tar on the nose of the sheep in flytime. Will you please tell how often it would be necessary to apply the tar? I have taken COMFORT a number of years. J. N. P.

A.—Keep the noses daubed with pine tar, or a mixture of pine tar, grease and crude carbolic acid as long as flies are troublesome and often enough to protect the sheep. A good plan is to make large auger holes in a squared log. Keep them filled with salt for the sheep to lick and keep tar dashed on the edge of the holes.

The Japanese Way To Remove Corns Don't Hurt a Bit--Easy and Simple

The Magic Touch of Ice-Mint Does It. Just a Touch Stops Soreness, Then the Corn of Callous Shrivels and Lifts Off. Try it. Your Feet Will Feel Cool and Fine.

Just a touch of Ice-mint and "Oh!" what relief. Corns and callouses vanish, soreness disappears and you can dance all night or walk all day and your corns won't hurt a bit. No matter what you have tried or how many times you have been disappointed here is a real help for you at last. From the very second that Ice-mint touches that sore, tender corn your poor tired, aching feet will feel so cool, easy and comfortable that you will just sigh with relief. Think of it; just a little touch of that delightful, cooling Ice-mint and real foot joy is yours. No matter how old or tough your pet corn is he will shrivel right up and you can pick him out after a touch of Ice-mint. No pain, not a bit of soreness, either when applying it or afterwards, and it doesn't even irritate the skin.

Ice-mint is the real Japanese secret of fine, healthy, little feet. Prevents foot odors and keeps them cool, sweet and comfortable. It is now selling like wildfire here.

Just ask in any drug store for a little Ice-mint and give your poor suffering, tired feet the treat of their lives. There is nothing better, nor nothing "just as good." Advt.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.)

"Tommy! I've dropped Tommy!" And she gazed anxiously backward and forward. "Oh, I see him and he'll be run over! Tommy! Tommy!"

She tore straight into the path of the galloping horse, where sat Tommy, placidly licking his whiskers.

Nerine's heart bounded.

The sun was straight in the eyes of the man on the horse; ten to one he could not see them.

"Remain where you are, May! Don't come!" she cried sharply. She flew after Joan, who was racing blindly for Tommy.

"Joan!" what a shout come from her young throat.

It was just in time that she reached the child and dragged her back—too late if her shriek of desperation had not been so loud and clear. For the man heard and saw her just in time, and swerved—swerved just clear of the girl and child, but, alas! full over the luckless Tommy!

The flying hoofs struck and sent him into the air; he would never again sit in the sun and whisk his tail, never more bite unwary fingers.

Joan wrenched her shoulder from Nerine and ran to her beloved rat. Nerine, somewhat breathless from her fright, ran after her. Over at the point the man had stopped his horse and then came trotting back to them.

Both were stooping over Tommy, who lay still and limp on the sand. There was not a mark on the poor little beast, but he was dead.

"I beg your pardon very much." Nerine looked up to see the chestnut horse which had done the mischief close beside her, and the man in the act of dismounting. "I am afraid," slipping the bridle over his arm, "that I frightened you."

Nerine started. Where had she heard that slow drawl?

"Mr. Fairfax!" she said, looking at the strong, thin face, which was a little white, for Fairfax had the very uncomfortable knowledge that if he had not heard the girl shout he must have run straight over the child. For a moment he stared blankly; then he remembered her.

"Miss Lispenard!" he said, rather stupidly. "How do you do?"

Nerine had grown pale in her turn; the man reminded her so keenly of that hateful ball.

"Do you know," she said, grimly, "that you nearly rode over my little cousin?"

Mr. Fairfax was not given to humility, but he spoke very humbly now.

"I have to thank you that I did not. I never saw you till you shouted. I never thought of there being any one in this lonely place."

"You might have looked," shrieked Joan. With tears pouring down her pretty face she stamped her foot at him. "Just see what you've done. My Tommy is dead!"

Fairfax gazed in wild surprise on the dingy white animal. He had never been acquainted with anyone who took a rat about as though it were a dog.

Nerine explained, and he put his hand on the defunct Tommy with real sorrow.

"You shan't touch him!" Joan sat down on the sand still clasping Tommy. Her tears choked her tongue. "Oh, my Tommy!" she sobbed.

"Hush! Joan darling," Nerine said softly. "Let me have Tommy." And she took him up carefully. "Look!" in an undertone, "he is quite dead."

Fairfax felt poor Tommy's heart.

"I'm afraid he is," ruefully. "What a careless beast I was!"

He looked from the white rat in his hand to the sobbing Joan. Poor little girl! What could he say to her? He had never felt such a fool in his life, or so wantonly unkind.

"Poor Tommy!" May said. "Come, Joan, let's go home and bury him."

Joan shrieked.

"I won't, I won't never bury my Tommy! I won't dig a hole in the nasty earth and put him in." She clutched Nerine frantically.

"Joan!" Fairfax said suddenly, and something in his voice stopped the frantic sobs. "Look here; of course you don't want to bury him. You give him to me, and I will bring him back just exactly as if he were alive, stuffed, you know, like——" He hesitated.

"Like mother's canary she had when she was a little girl?" Joan stopped crying as she asked her question. "Can you make him keep for always like that?"

"Always," Fairfax affirmed.

Joan surveyed him anxiously, then she suddenly sidled up to him.

"You wouldn't never bury him, would you? Will you bring him back tomorrow?"

"No, not tomorrow, but in a few days." He looked at Nerine. Where was he to take the beloved when the taxidermist was done with him?

Miss Lispenard explained.

"But won't it be a trouble to you?" she said. "Will you have to send him to London?"

"Oh, no! Only to the next town. It is only five miles from me; I live just about there," pointing vaguely, inland. "You are sure she would rather have this poor animal stuffed than get a new one?"

"Quite sure," gravely. And with some wonder she watched him put all that remained of Tommy into his pocket, and unforbidden by Joan, ride away.

TO BE CONTINUED.




AGENTS $200 A MONTH
Guaranteed Hustlers Everywhere
Demonstrating the Ovee Vacuum Butter Maker
Greatest invention of the age. Creates wonder wherever shown. Uses ordinary milk. No drugs. Produces
BUTTER AT 4 CENTS A POUND
Retail Price $2.00
Saves it cost in first 10 minutes SAMPLE FREE Sold on 10 days trial
Write for one today
OVEE MFG. CO., Dept. 53, Louisville, Ky

UNCLE CHARLIE'S
Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 20 cents. Address
UNCLE CHARLIE,
care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

We Will Give You This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling romance by Adelaide Sterling. It is a beautiful story having a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compels the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine. To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

We are sure our readers will enjoy this delightful story which will run as a serial in COMFORT through the remainder of the winter and the spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

You Can Enjoy Solid Comfort In A "COMFORT" Hammock

Premium No. 3916



We Will Send You One Prepaid for A Club Of Six!

ON warm summer days what is there that can afford more **real pleasure or satisfaction** than the quiet hours spent in a comfortable hammock on the porch or in some cool shady spot under the trees on the lawn or in the orchard? If you do not already own a hammock, or if the one you now have is becoming a trifle worn, then here is an offer that should interest you. We will send you **without a cent of expense** a "COMFORT" hammock—one of the latest styles, strong, serviceable and handsome, 10 feet long and over 32 inches wide, in attractive interwoven colors of red, black, yellow and white. It is fitted with strong wooden stretchers at either end, so attached that they are a part of the hammock itself and **always in place** thereby giving it suitable spread for comfort. We can guarantee this hammock to give you real satisfaction because it is in no respect cheap or cheap looking but made throughout of high-grade material that will withstand the wear and tear of **constant use.** This handsome full size, guaranteed hammock is yours without cost on the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you the "COMFORT" Hammock as above pictured and described **free** by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 3916.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

M. T., Lascassas, Tenn.—There isn't any "latest stile reply to give a young man when Interduced" because the same old style still prevails, which is to say that you are pleased to meet him. Of course, this doesn't mean anything, but it sounds pleasant, and the great mass of people who are introduced haven't originality enough to say any new thing which would be just as good form and quite as pleasant, not to mention the fact that they might really mean what they said if they made up on the spot what they said. Do you grasp the idea? Now, if you are not like the great mass and can say something pleasant and pertinent, not impertinent on the occasion of an introduction, go right ahead and do it regardless of any rules of etiquette.

Miss H. B. E., Brooklyn, N. Y.—As you are about to write to a man you do not know and you ask us what you should write, we will, as a friend, suggest that you begin by asking him if he is a married man, or an ex-convict, or a white slaver, or any one of the others of dozens of undesirable things he might be as far as you know. Tell him that as a lady you ought to know what kind of a man you are corresponding with and as a gentleman he ought to tell you, no matter whether it is to his credit or not. You may not think it makes any difference what kind of a man you are writing to, but really it does, because it would be most embarrassing to you after three or four months of correspondence you should find out that he was not only married, but was an ex-convict as well. At least, it seems to us that you would feel rather embarrassed, especially if your letters had become somewhat tender and he showed them around to his pals. As a strict matter of etiquette don't write to strange men.

Cat's Eye, Passaic, N. J.—If a lady does not know what kind of a birthday present she wants and cannot tell the gentleman donor when he asks her, she should be satisfied with anything he may choose for her. Etiquette prescribes no rules in such cases.

Blue Eyes, Petrolia, Cal.—When a young wife, living in the country, has an opportunity to go to the dances and other occasional social divertisements of the community and her husband will not go with her simply because he doesn't want to go, or doesn't want her to go, we are almost tempted to tell her she should take on a little of the spirit of the modern woman of progress and go without him. A woman in her home all day needs some change and if she likes community society, we think her husband, even if he, having been out and around all day, does not want to go out in the evening, should be sufficiently considerate of her needs to go with her, or to make proper arrangements for her to go without him. Only the wholly selfish man will insist upon his wife staying at home all the time, and if at last she can endure it no longer and breaks away to the discredit of all, the husband is more to blame than the wife is. Many city wives go too much and neglect homes and husbands for their own selfish pleasure, but opportunities in the country are not such as they are in the city and husbands should be willing to make some concessions, even though they might not enjoy doing it. Why don't you organize a Wives' Protective Association in your community and start a compaign of social education for all husbands? That may sound like a joke to you, but it is really a serious proposition worth considering. We think your husband would hardly dare object to your attending the meetings of such an organization.

S. R. L., Mullen, S. Dak.—Wear your hair in the style that is most becoming to you no matter what the fashion book style is. You may follow the fashions in clothes, however ugly and unbecoming they may be, but your hair is part of you and you have no right to wear it any way except as will become you most. (2) The same kind of manners prevail at box suppers as elsewhere, and the gentleman always shows every deference to the lady. Make up the box to suit yourself. (3) "You are welcome," or just "Welcome" is hardly the proper response to the gentleman who thanks the lady for the dance. A bow and a smile are better, or some nice little speech appropriate to the occasion, which must be spontaneous.

Gray Eyes, Mason City, Iowa.—Lots of girls are too nervous to be good switchboard girls and if you are feeling that way about it, you should quit the telephone for other employment. If you like clerking and can get a good position, take it. Remember in whatever work you do that that which you like best you can do best and although it may not pay as some other work that you might do, the pleasure in your work more than balances the difference in the pay. If you have no interest in any work except the money you can make out of it, you will never excel at anything and never be worth much money to any employer.

Worried, Kendrick, Ida.—There is no disgrace in divorce if you are the innocent party and while we do not believe in seeking divorce, except in extreme cases, we do believe that it is better than to suffer and waste one's life merely for convention's sake. If you are frank with your husband and tell him that you will not live with him unless he changes his manner of life and treats you as a good wife should be treated, he may realize that he has reached the limit and must reform. Give him six months' time and if he does not change, then go back to your parents' home and make the separation permanent. It's not every woman who would have endured what you have for nine years. And whatever you do, be sure that in all things your own conduct is above reproach and beyond gossip.

Little Orphan, Demopolis, Ala.—It is quite proper for a lady to pin a flower on a gentleman's coat whether she is engaged to him or not. Just now it is more proper to pin a bright little Stars and Stripes there.

E. C., Blue Ridge, Ga.—Rules of etiquette do not fit your case as rules of a law court would. Try a writ of replevin on the false one to get your letters back, but no court or no etiquette can get him back. You have lost him and knowing how false he has proved, you should not grieve, but rather rejoice that you have been delivered out of this affliction.

Unhappy, Hellier, Ky.—If you have no more feeling than to wish to leave your children and their father, even if you have discovered that you do not love him, and go away with another man, probably your husband and children would do better without you. What were such women ever made for? The man who wants you to go with him, we imagine is not much better than you are, is he?

Many Thanks, Augusta, Ky.—Etiquette does not prescribe just how far around the lady's waist the gentleman's arm should go before she dislikes it, but as this gentleman offended in that manner, you should tell him in advance how far he should go and he will not offend again, we hope. If he does, you may say anything you please to him expressive of your disapproval, or may even slap his jaws, as is sometimes done in impolite society.

Blue Eyes, Parry, Sask.—By a law of natural selection the big man will choose the little woman and the big woman will prefer the little man. It is the compensating rule which makes all things even. It sometimes happens, as in your case, that the big woman doesn't want the little man, but such cases are not natural. Still, you may marry as you please and live happily ever after, whether you are obeying the law of selection or not. Many do.

Brown Eyes, Rougemont, N. C.—The gentleman did not admire your style of manners in declining to be kissed and has no doubt sought ladies who are more to his liking. When he tells others that he still loves you, but that you are mad with him, he is merely prevaricating to defend his ungentlemanly conduct.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

which Emil Correlli had showered upon her.

"How can I help you, lady?" Giulia inquired, with a look of surprise.

"Call me Edith—I am only a poor, friendless girl, like yourself," she gently returned. "But I want to go away from this house immediately—I must get out of it unobserved; then I can catch a train that leaves Boston at three o'clock, for New York."

"Ah! you wish to run away from Emil!" exclaimed Giulia, her face lighting with eagerness.

"Yes—I would never own myself his wife for a single hour. I was planning, when you came in, to get away tonight when the house was quiet; but doubtless they would lock my door if I continued to be obstinate, and it would be a great deal better for me, every way, if I could go now," Edith explained.

"Yes, I will help you—I will do anything you wish," said Giulia, heartily.

"Then come!" exclaimed Edith, excitedly, "I want you to go down to him; he is in one of the rooms below—in the library, I think—a room under the one opposite this. He will be so astonished by your unexpected visit that he will be thrown off his guard, and you must manage to occupy his attention until you are sure I am well out of the house—which will be in less than ten minutes after you are in his presence—and then I shall have nothing more to fear from him."

"I will do it," said the Italian girl, rising, a look of resolve on her handsome but care-lined face.

"Thank you! thank you!" returned Edith, earnestly. "I am going straight to New York to friends; but of course, you will not betray my plans."

"No, indeed; but do you think your friends can help you break with Emil—do you believe that ceremony can be canceled?" breathlessly inquired Giulia.

"I hope so," Edith answered; "at all events, if I can but once put myself under the protection of my friends, I shall no longer fear him. I shall then try to have the marriage annulled. Perhaps, when he realizes how determined I am, he may even be willing to submit to it."

"Oh, do you think so?—do you think so?" cried Giulia, tremulously, and with hopeful eagerness.

"I will hope so," replied Edith, gravely, "and I will also hope that I may be able to do something to make you and this dear child happy once more. What a sweet little fellow he is!" she concluded as she leaned forward and kissed him softly on the cheek, an act which brought the quick tears to his mother's eyes.

"You must go," said Edith, advancing to the door, and softly opening it. "I have no time to lose if I am to catch my train. Remember, the room under the one opposite this—you will easily find it. Now, good by, and Heaven bless you both."

With a look of deepest gratitude and veneration, Giulia Fiorini, her child clasped in her arms, passed out of the room and moved swiftly toward the grand staircase leading to the lower part of the house; while Edith, closing and locking the door after her, stood listening until she should reach the library, where she was sure Emil Correlli sat reading.

She heard the sweep of the girl's robes upon the stairs; then, a moment later, a stifled exclamation of mingled surprise and anger fell upon her ears, after which the library door was hastily shut, and Edith began to breathe more freely.

She hastened to put on her jacket, preparatory to leaving the house. But an instant afterward her heart leaped into her throat, as she caught the sound of the hurried opening and shutting of the library door again.

Then there came swift steps over the stairs.

Edith knew that Emil Correlli was coming to ascertain if she were safe within her room; that he feared if Giulia had succeeded in gaining an entrance there, without being discovered, she might possibly have escaped in the same way.

She moved noiselessly across the room toward the dressing-case and opened a drawer, just as there came a knock on her door.

"Is that you, Mrs. Goddard?" Edith questioned, in her usual tone of voice, though her heart was beating with great, frightened throbs.

"No; it is I," responded Emil Correlli. "I wish to speak with you a moment, Edith."

"You must excuse me just now, Mr. Correlli," the girl replied, as she rattled the stopper to one of the perfumery bottles on the dressing-case; "I am dressing, and cannot see any one just at present."

"Oh!" returned the voice from without, in a modified tone, as if the man were intensely relieved by her reply. I beg your pardon; but when can I see you—how long will it take you to finish dressing?"

"Not more than fifteen or twenty minutes, perhaps," she returned.

"Ah, you are relenting!" said the man, eagerly. "You will come down by and by—you will dine with us this evening, Edith?" he concluded, in an appealing tone.

"Mr. Correlli," she said at last, in a tone which he interpreted as one of timid concession. "I—I wish to do what is right and—I think perhaps I will come down as soon as I finish dressing."

His face lighted and flushed with triumph.

He believed that she was yielding—won over by the munificent gifts with which he had crowded her room.

"Ah! thank you! thank you!" he responded, with delight. "But take your own time, dear, and make yourself just as beautiful as possible, and I will come up for you in the course of half an hour."

He flattered himself that he would be well rid of Giulia by that time; and having assured himself that Edith was safe in her room, and, as he believed, gradually submitting to his terms, he retraced his steps down-stairs, the cruel lines about his mouth hardening as he went, for he had resolved to cast off forever the girl who had become nothing but a burden and an annoyance to him.

Edith did not move until she heard him enter the library again and close the door after him.

Then, hurriedly, buttoning her jacket and pinning on her hat, she took from her trunk the package which she had made up an hour before, stole softly from her room and down the back stairs to the area hall.

The outer door was closed and bolted—the gas-man having long since finished his errand and departed—and she could hear the cook and one of the maids conversing in the kitchen just across the hall.

Evidently no one had attempted to go up-stairs since Giulia's entrance, consequently the key had not yet been missed nor the door discovered to be unlocked.

Cautiously slipping the bolt to the street door, Edith quickly passed out, closing it noiselessly after her.

Another moment she was in the street, speeding with swift, light steps across the park.

Arrived at the station, she had ten minutes to wait, after purchasing her ticket, and the uneasiness with which she watched the slowly moving hands upon the clock in the gloomy waiting-room may be imagined.

Her waiting was over at last, and, exactly on time, the train came thundering to the station.

Edith quickly boarded it, then sank weak and trembling upon the nearest empty seat, her heart beating so rapidly that she panted with every breath.

Then the train began to move, and, with a prayer of thankfulness over her escape, the excited girl leaned back against the cushion and gave herself up to rest, knowing that she could not now be overtaken before arriving in New York.

This feeling of security did not last long, however, and she was filled with dismay as she thought that Emil Correlli would doubtless discover her flight in the course of half an hour, if he had not already done so, when he would probably surmise that she would go immediately to New York and so telegraph to have her arrested upon her arrival there.

The first time the conductor came through the car she asked him for a Western Union slip, when she wrote the following message and addressed it to Royal Bryant's office on Broadway:

"Shall arrive at Grand Central Station, via. B. & A. R. R., at nine o'clock. Do not fail to meet me. Important. EDITH ALLANDALE."

When the conductor came back again, she gave this to him, with the necessary money, and asked if he would kindly forward it from Framingham for her.

He cheerfully promised to do so. Then, feeling greatly relieved, Edith settled herself contentedly for a nap, for she was very weary and heavy-eyed from the long strain upon her nerves and lack of sleep.

She did not wake for more than three hours, when she found that daylight had faded, and that the lamps had been lighted in the car.

At New Haven she obtained a light lunch from a boy who was crying his viands through the train, and when her hunger was satisfied she straightened her hat and drew on her gloves, knowing that another two hours would bring her to her destination.

Then she began to speculate upon possible and impossible things, and to grow very anxious regarding her safety upon her arrival in New York.

Perhaps Royal Bryant had not received her message.

He might have left his office before it arrived; maybe the officials at Framingham had even neglected to send it; or Mr. Bryant might have been out of town.

What could she do if, upon alighting from the train, some burly policeman should step up to her and claim her as his prisoner?

She had thus worked herself up to a very nervous and excited state by the time the lights of the great metropolis could be seen in the distance; her face grew flushed and feverish, her eyes were like two points of light, her temples throbbed, her pulses leaped, and her heart beat with great, frightened throbs.

The train had to make a short stop where one road crossed another just before entering the city, and the poor girl actually grew faint and dizzy with the fear that an officer might perhaps board the train at that point.

Almost as the thought flashed through her brain, the car door opened and a man entered, when a thrill of pain went quivering through every nerve, prickling to her very finger-tips.

A second glance showed her that it was a familiar form, and she almost cried out with joy as she recognized Royal Bryant and realized that she was—safe!

He saw her immediately and went directly to her, his gleaming eyes telling a story from his heart which instantly sent the rich color to her brow.

"Miss Allandale!" he exclaimed, in a low, eager tone, as he clasped her outstretched hand. "I am more than glad to see you once again."

"Then you received my telegram," she said.

"Yes, else I should not be here," he returned; "but I came very near missing it. I was just on the point of leaving the office when the messenger-boy brought it in. I suppose our advertisement is to be thanked for your appearance in New York thus opportunely."

"Not wholly," Edith returned. "If it had been that alone which called me here, I need not have telegraphed you. I saw it only yesterday; but my chief reason for coming hither is that I am a fugitive."

"A fugitive!" repeated her companion, in surprise. "Ah, yes, I wondered a little over that word 'important' in your message. It strikes me," he added, smiling significantly down upon her, "that you left New York in very much the same manner."

"Yes," she faltered, flushing rosily.

"From whom and what were you fleeing, Edith? Surely not from one who would have been only too glad to shield you from every ill?" said the young man.

She shot one swift glance into his face and saw that his eyes were luminous with the great love that was throbbing in his manly heart, and with an inward start of exceeding joy she drooped her lids again, but not before he had read in the look and the tell-tale flush that flooded cheeks, brow and neck, that his affection was returned.

"I will forgive you, dear, if you will be kind to me in the future," he whispered, taking courage from her sweet shyness and bashfulness. "And now tell me why you are a fugitive from Boston, for your telegram was dated from that city."

"I will," she murmured, "I will tell you all about the dreadful things that have happened to me; but not here," she added, with an anxious glance around. "Will you take me to some place where I shall be safe?" she continued, appealingly. "I have no place to go unless it is to some hotel, and I shrink from a public house."

"My child, why are you trembling so?" the young man inquired, as he saw she was shaking from head to foot. "I am very glad," he added, "that I was inspired to board the train at the crossing, and thus can give you my protection in the confusion of your arrival."

"I am glad, too; it was very thoughtful of you," said Edith, appreciatively; "but—but I am also going to need your help again in a legal way."

"You shall have it; I am ready to throw myself heart and hand between you and any trouble of whatever nature. Now about a safe place for you to stay while you are in the city. I have a married cousin who lives on West Fortieth street; we are the best of friends and she will gladly entertain you at my request, until you can make other arrangements."

"But to intrude upon an entire stranger——" began Edith, looking greatly disturbed.

"Nellie will not seem like a stranger to you, two minutes after you have been introduced to her," the young man smilingly returned. "She is the dearest, sweetest little cousin a man ever had, and she has an equal admiration for your

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

Freckles

Tan or Liver Spots positively removed by using **Stillman's Freckle Cream.** Prepared for one purpose only—*clearing the skin.* If you have freckles, write us today for our **Free Booklet** "*Wouldst Thou Be Fair?*" Stillman's Cream is sold by most druggists, 50c a jar, or direct from us, same price, prepaid. Write now. We can help you.
Stillman Cream Co., Dept. 10, Aurora, Ill.

OVERLAND GIVEN



Don't buy an auto. If you live in the country or town under 10,000, you can get this new, **1917 OVERLAND** without cost, as a reward for a few weeks' spare time work in your own community. Many machines already given away. Write today for my easy plan.
H. D. BRATTER, Mgr. Dept. A 24, OMAHA, NEB.



MAKE YOUR BIKE A MOTORCYCLE
at a small cost by using our Attachable outfit. FITS ANY BICYCLE. Easily attached. No special tools required. Write today for bargain list and free book **FREE BOOK** describing the SHAW Bicycle Motor Attachment. Motorcycles, all makes, new and second-hand, $35 and up.
SHAW MANUFACTURING CO. Dept. 15, Galesburg, Kansas.



SHAC
For Headache
More Than 25 Years on the Market
Used Wherever Heads Ache
12 Wafers—12 Doses
At all druggists for 25 cents



Fish Bite like hungry wolves any time, if you use **MAGIC-FISH-LURE.** Best fish bait ever discovered. Keeps you busy pulling them out. Write today and get a box to help introduce it. Agents wanted.
Walton Supply Co., Dept. 67 St. Louis, Mo



LAME PEOPLE
Need my Nature-Form Shoe. Makes both feet look alike. Ready made shoes worn. Stylish and secure. *Write for Booklet.* A. V. SINN, 748 Bergen St., Newark, N.J.

COIN RINGS 50 Cents POST PAID
Made of new dimes; embossed. Big hit! Agents, big discount. 50c. for sample—Money back if not satisfied.
Wm. COMERFORD, 40 Seneca St., Buffalo, N. Y.

ELECTRIC FARM, HOME & MOVIE LIGHT & POWER PLANTS. LIGHTS, HOME COMFORTS & POWER SERVICE. Power & Fan Motors. Storage & Medical Batteries. Dynamos. Engines. Phones. Belts. Motion Picture Machines. Catalog, 3cts. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, Ohio.

For A Club Of 10 — Premium No. 72510

Your Choice Of Navy Blue, Cardinal, Or Kelly Green

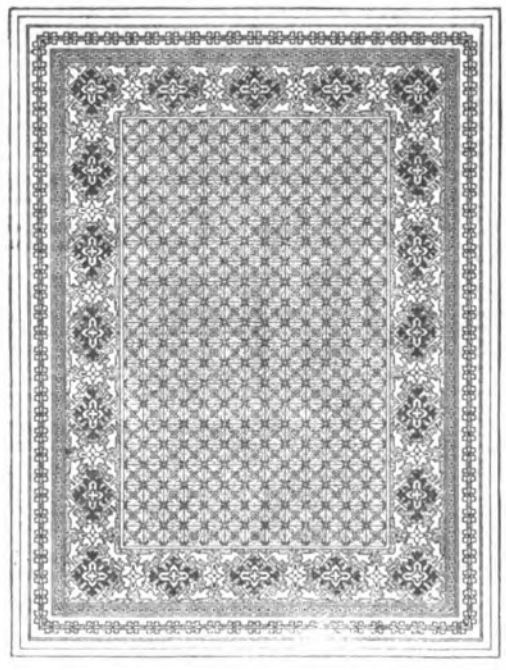


Handsome Silk Parasol

COLORED parasols are stylish and also a great source of comfort to any woman or girl on hot summer days when walking or driving in the sun. No matter how hot the day may be they help to keep you cool and comfortable, therefore are just the thing to take with you on your trips to the seashore, the mountains, the country or wherever you happen to go. These parasols come in different colors—**navy blue, cardinal and Kelly Green**—have a mission handle with fancy tassel, a wooden rod and an eight rib frame. When open they have a spread of 32 inches. We will send you one free upon the terms of the following offer. **Be sure to mention color wanted.**

Club Offer. For a club of ten one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you a parasol free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 72510.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Congoleum Rug

Premium No. 7206

Given For A Club Of Six!

A **YARD and a half long and one yard wide.** Water cannot rot it, sun cannot fade it. It lies **flat** on the floor without nails, tacks or paste and positively will not **curl up** at the edges. The Congoleum Rug is something new. It is not oilcloth or Linoleum or made of grass, fiber or fabric—it is not like any other floor covering in the world. It is absolutely **waterproof,** and not affected by heat or cold. When you wash the floor or porch you can wash the Congoleum rug at the same time without taking it up. In doors you can use it on your bathroom, hall, pantry or kitchen floor, under the refrigerator or in any room in the house. No matter **where** you place it it will wear splendidly and give years of service. These rugs come in many different designs and beautiful combinations of colors and we have selected the one illustrated herewith as the most suitable for **all-round** purposes. It will make an attractive appearance regardless of whether you use it as a porch rug, or in hall, kitchen, pantry or chamber. We are positive that every woman who secures one of these rugs will want more of them at once so we have arranged to supply you with as many as you may need upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one Congoleum Rug free by express or parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7206.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. J. H. B., Ithaca, N. Y.—It is not necessary in renting to have a printed contract, or lease, as a written one is quite as binding. However, you can get printed blanks for a few cents and save considerable writing, besides they contain the important conditions that you might not think of. Make inquiries in any real estate office in your town, for any details you may think you need. The renting of your house you will find a much easier proposition than getting a good tenant who is prompt pay and will take proper care of the property.

Mrs. N. W. B., Freedom Station, Ohio.—About the only purchasers for newspapers of ancient date are collectors, or libraries wanting to complete files and your best plan to get to them is by advertising what you have in the city newspapers. You can put such an advertisement in the Cincinnati Enquirer Want Ads, at no cost to you. Ask your county editor to write the ad for you—that is, if you are a subscriber to his paper, which you ought to be.

Miss M. P., Antigo, Wis.—The words *"Je vous ame,"* as you have them, should be "Je vous aime," and they are French, meaning "I love you." Why didn't you ask the young man why he didn't know his French better before quoting it at you?

V. A. S., Welch's P. O., Va.—Good walnut logs are as good as old wheat, or new money and if you will advertise them for sale in a city newspaper, or in The American Lumberman, Chicago, Ill., so that buyers will know what you have, you will have no trouble in disposing of them at a fair price. Other COMFORT readers having walnut logs for sale make a note of this.

Mrs. J. F. H., Oaktown, Ind.—We know of no lists of Woman's Exchanges. Nearly every town of any size has one or more, and if you will address your letter to "Woman's Exchange" in any city you want to deal with, it will be delivered if there is one there. Put your own address in corner of your envelope for return if not delivered.

Mrs. K. D. E., Biloxi, Miss.—We are glad to see that you want to make the farm productive on different lines. Write to Fulda Butterfly Shop, 812 Broadway New York City, for information about butterflies and moths and to Meyer Bros., Wholesale Druggists, St. Louis, Mo., for information about roots and herbs. There is something in raising pheasants, but you must know how to do it and have capital enough to do it in a businesslike manner. Partridges are not so easy. Belgian hares, now that the food supply is becoming a matter of interest, might be made profitable. In doing any of these things, however, you must remember that you can do nothing successfully unless you are fully informed as to conditions not only of raising things, but of marketing them. Find out what you can sell in a small way to your local people and gradually build up your business.

L. M., Shelbyville, Texas.—You can get a Concordance of the Scriptures from any bookseller. Cruden's is the standard and has been in use for many years. There are other good ones and small condensed concordances can be bought very reasonably. The complete ones are somewhat expensive. Write to American Bible Society, Bible House, New York City.

A. F. H., Garnaville, Iowa.—*Nota Bene* is Latin, meaning note well, or in the vernacular, Take Notice. (2) How strong a current of electricity a man can stand depends upon a number of conditions and kinds of current. Generally speaking 500 volts will kill, while 200 are dangerous and 100 doesn't amount to much. From 1,500 to 2,000 are usually administered in electrocution. (3) The cost of the European war up to now can only be guessed at, but it is far up in the billions and increasing every day. The U. S. began its share with an appropriation of seven billions.

Inquirers wanting to know about Golden Seal were informed in May COMFORT to write to Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. for particulars and we hereby repeat that advice as we are no authority on the subject.

Mrs. A. A. D., Hemp, Ga.—We cannot express an opinion on the merits of any educational institution, classical or commercial, because so much more depends upon the student than upon the teaching that a fair estimate could not be made. If you have the natural faculty for the branch you wish to study, you will succeed in getting all there is to be taught, not much matter where you go. On the other hand if you think you can be taught to do well what you have no taste or aptitude for, the best school and teachers on earth cannot make a success of you. Certainly some schools are better than others, but the right kind of a student will make up the difference. It will be safe to consider with care any unusual claims that any institution may offer to its graduates, for they do not always make good, though even in that regard the natural qualifications of the applicant may often be the cause of failure to find positions for all.

Mrs. F. C., New Cumberland, W. Va.—The Carnegie Hero Fund is located in Pittsburgh, Pa., and its Secretary and Manager is F. M. Wilmot. Write to him, but do not expect much unless you have a record of real heroism and real facts with good backing.

Miss A. D., Morefield, Nebr.—There have been twenty-eight Presidents of the United States. Andrew Jackson was the first elected as a Democrat and since his time there have been Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Pierce, Buchanan, Cleveland and Wilson, these latter two being the only democrats since the Civil War. Cleveland was the only President married in the White House, and he and Buchanan were the only Presidents to occupy the White House as bachelors. Buchanan never married. George Washington was married in 1759 and was inaugurated in 1789. His wife was Martha Bandridge Custis, widow of John Parke Custis, and she was a Virginian as he was.

Winners of the April Monthly Prizes and Grand Prizes in COMFORT'S Prize Contest

		April Monthly Prize:	Grand Prize
Mrs. G. N. Balillo	La.	$20	$635 Overland Car
Mrs H E. Logan	Tex.	$40	$200 Cash
Mrs. T. S. Strong	Iowa	$6	150 "
Lewis F. Fults	Tenn.	$60	100 "
Mrs. Effie Lind	Neb.	$15	75 "
L. E Henderson	Ark.		50 "
Nannie Henson	Calif.	$3	25 "
M. G. Christenson	Minn.	$5	15 "
Mrs. Alice Warner	Minn.	$4	15 "
Jas R. McGready	Pa.	$4	15 "
Mrs. Mattie Albin	Missouri		15 "
Miss Ruth Wright	N.Mex.	$5	15 "
Mary Sanders	Va	$6	15 "
Mrs. Cora Pearson	N C.		15 "
J. A. Anderson	Neb.		15 "
L. P Tate	Miss.		15 "
Mrs. Florence Tuell	N. Y.		15 "
Mrs. J. W. Foy	Va.	$2	10 "
Mrs. Henry F. Rannow	Minn.		10 "
Mrs. Maggie Newman	Missouri	$2	10 "
A. L. Allen	Texas		10 "
Lois Morris	Missouri		10 "
Otis Rather	Okla.		10 "
Agnes Wynia	Iowa		10 "
Hanson L. Yates	W Va.		10 "
V. Lozano	P I.		10 "
Robert Chalfan	Colo.		10 "
Chas A. Brown	Mich.	$2	10 "
Mrs. A F Dennie	Tenn.		10 "
Mrs. L. E. McGarver	N. C.		10 "
Mrs. Stephen McDermond	Mich.	$6	10 "
Robert C A. Parnoffe	Conn.		10 "
Mrs. Wm Hall	Ill.		5 "
Mrs. Anna Daniel	Tenn.		5 "
Mrs. Lawrence E Gordon	Va.		5 "
Mrs. B. V. Clement	Tenn.		5 "
Miss Mollie M Elliott	Kans.		5 "
Mrs. J. T Bare	Wash.	$2	5 "
Miss Kate Pierson	Ga.		5 "
Mrs Mary F Grothers	Ill.		5 "
Elmer H. Bangs	Missouri		5 "
Miss Ollie Deal	N. C.		5 "
Rudolph Fischer	Pa.		5 "
Miss E. E. Foster	La.		5 "
Mrs. Mary Marshall	N. C.		5 "
Mattie Woodruff	Ga.		5 "
Mrs. Matthew Jarboe	Ind.		5 "
C. V Mitchell	Ohio		5 "
Mrs Wm Norris	Pa.	$4	5 "
Miss Eva Bayless	Tenn.		5 "
Joseph Catanzaro	Conn.		5 "
Mrs Chas. Weaver	Ohio		5 "
Mrs Sarah F Hamlin	Ala.		5 "
Lula Jones	Ohio		5 "
Mrs Hattie Fortney	Pa.		5 "
Leonard G Jackson	Mont.		5 "
G. L. Johnston	N. C.		5 "
Mrs. Glenna Osborne	N. Y		5 "
Minnie Ostrander	Okla.		5 "
Mrs. Jessie Mackey	Ohio		5 "
Miss Amanda Johnson	Minn.		5 "
Miss Susie E. Hamock	Ala.		5 "
Mrs Lillie Brock	Okla.	$2	5 "

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19.)

humble servant. She will thank me for bringing you to her, and I am sure that you will be happy with her. But why do you start so?—why are you so nervous?" he concluded, as she sprang from her seat, when the train stopped, and looked wildly about her.

"I am afraid," she gasped.

"Afraid of what?" he urged, with gentle persistence.

"Of a man who has been persecuting me," she panted, the look of anxious fear still in her eyes. "I ran away from him today, and I have been afraid, all the way to New York, that he would telegraph ahead of the train, and have me stopped—that was why I sent the message to you."

"I am very glad you did," said the young man, gravely. "But, Edith, pray do not look so terrified; you are sure to attract attention with that expression on your face. Calm yourself and trust me," he concluded, as he took her hand and laid it upon his arm.

"I do—I will," she said; but her fingers closed over his with a spasmodic clasp which told him how thoroughly wrought up she was.

"Have you a trunk?" he inquired, as they moved toward the door, the train having now entered the Grand Central Station.

"No; I left everything but a few necessary articles—I can send for it later by express," she responded.

The young man assisted her from the train, then replacing her hand upon his arm, was about to signal for a carriage when they were suddenly confronted by a policeman and brought to a halt in the most summary manner.

"Sorry to trouble you, sir," said the man, speaking in a business-like tone to Mr. Bryant, "but I have orders to take this lady into custody."

TO BE CONTINUED.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

the body politic. The old era of congestion on one hand and anæmia on the other will not be tolerated. It is rather a waste of time now that thrones and dynasties are crumbling, old ideas going by the board, and new nations being carved out of the welter of blood, almost overnight (upsetting all our preconceived notions of things) to say just what the future is going to hold for any of us. Personally I think there is a brighter day ahead for all mankind, and the nation that cannot make life worth while for its people, and find plenty of opportunities for its virile and ambitious youth will have to go into the melting pot and be reconstructed along entirely new lines, for the day is rapidly coming when men will no longer submit to the intolerable conditions which their rulers and bosses have forced upon them in the past.

DALLAS, TEXAS.

BELOVED UNCLE:

My husband and I are young people just starting out in life and he has a good classy "rag" just published, entitled "Flap Jacks." I am sending one to you today. I want all our COMFORT musicians to have a copy of this popular "hit." Every one sending 25c we will mail it anywhere postpaid. My husband is the composer of it. Now, Uncle Charlie I don't feel that we are asking too much of you to help us. That is what we are here for is to help one another. I know if the members of the League would hear this piece of music they would be more than pleased. Oh! Uncle, how I would like for you to hear us play it together, violin and piano. It is selling fast here in Dallas and I want to get it introduced there in your city, and everywhere I can.

So *please* grant us this favor and help us and I hope to hear from every one of the members sooner or later.

Hoping this will not find its way to the waste basket I am your sincere friend, LILLIAN.

What a sweet, ingenuous little note. It is truly amazing how modest are the requests that are made on those who make and publish magazines. A man who puts out a good, whole-souled, helpful publication, if luck comes his way, makes a whole army of friends. Most of these friends want to be helpful and are helpful. There are however, thousands who think that a magazine is their legitimate prey, specially designed by Providence to supply them without cost, with an easy market in which they can dispose of millions of dollars' worth of whatever goods they may happen to have on hand. Lillian wants us to give her our advertising space free of charge. Now magazines and newspapers have two things to sell. These are news, literature, etc., and advertising space. No publication can live that gives these commodities away any more than a baker could live if he gave his loaves away. There is no greater business in the world than advertising. It brings the manufacturer and the purchaser together and stimulates trade the world over. Some foolish people never read the advertising sections of magazines, and yet advertisers in many instances have spent tens of thousands of dollars to bring to their notice some laborsaving device or some article of use and adornment sadly needed in the home. Lillian says: "Now Uncle Charlie, I don't feel we are asking too much of you to help us," and reminds us that is what we are here for to help one another. I quite agree with you, Lillian, that we are here to help one another, but apparently you don't believe in the doctrine of mutual help. You want COMFORT to give you a hundred dollars' worth of advertising without charge. I don't call that helping one another, I call that getting rich at another's expense, and displaying a sordid selfishness of a very contemptible kind. Young people who start out in life with health and strength and apparently with ability and talent, should start out right, and the way to start right is to have sufficient character to pay for what you get and ask favors of no one. People who have confidence in the articles they have for sale do not ask people to advertise them free of charge. If we advertised your music free of charge, Lillian, thousands of others would come down on us to do the same little stunt for them. Legitimate advertisers, who are willing to pay for space, would be crowded out and tightwads, dead heads and schemers, who will pay for nothing if they can help it would hold sway in our columns. Then something would happen. You'd have to pay a dollar a year for your COMFORT or we'd have to go into bankruptcy. We don't care to go bankrupt, Lillian, not even to oblige such charming young ragtime specialists, as your hubby and yourself. If people would only think before they make preposterous requests how much better it would be for them and for the world at large.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for June

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

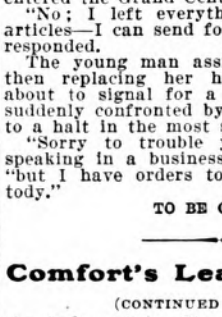
W. J. Bennett, Northville, N. Y. Invalid for fifteen years. No means of support. Give him a boost. Fannie Craig, Sanville, Va. Invalid. Would appreciate second-hand clothing, quilt pieces, and any assistance you care to send her. Priellia Tillery, Elm City, N. C. Shut-in for many years. Needy and worthy. Send her some of the sympathy that buys bread. John Owens, Golly Springs, Ga. Forty-six years of age. Chronic invalid. No means of support. Send him some help. Mrs. Anna Kindred, Bicknell, Ind. Widow. Aged, sick and poor. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Martha J. Graham, Shuff, Va. Widow. Has lung trouble. Very poor and needy. Give her a helping hand. Mary Fuller, Hopkinsville, Ky. Paralyzed from the waist down for twelve years. Poor, lonely and helpless. Do something for her. Lottie H. Cobler, Price, N. C. Invalid. Well recommended. Send her some of the sympathy that buys bread.

Be good and you'll be happy. The only way to be good is to do good. Faith without works is dead. Prayers, tracts and sympathy are all right, but it takes money to buy bread. Christianity that is not practical cuts no ice in heaven or earth. Now I've told you what to do. Open your pocketbooks as well as your hearts if you want a blessing.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Uncle Charlie's Home Fund

UNCLE CHARLIE reports $223.00, donations and subscriptions from all sources, contributed to his Home Fund by 340 persons during the month of April. This brings the total of the fund on May first up to $1,703.00 contributed by 2,515 of his friends who have thus given substantial tokens of their love and appreciation of him.

Every little counts and he is duly grateful to every contributor, however small the contribution, and above all he is pleased because each gift is a manifestation of good will. The only trouble is that there ought to be many times more of them. What a paltry few. Only 2,515 contributors out of the tens of thousands who profess their admiration of him! If you sincerely wish to send him a pledge of your affection, don't hold back merely because you are constrained by circumstances to make it very small.

Again let me remind you how you can help:

1. By cash donations.

2. By purchasing Uncle Charlie's books (see advertisement.)

3. Those who cannot spare the money for a cash donation or for purchase of his books can contribute by getting subscriptions to COMFORT in aid of the "Uncle Charlie Benefit Fund" and instead of taking the club premium or cash commission themselves direct that it be credited to the fund. In such cases I will pay over to Uncle Charlie one half of the subscription price of all subscriptions sent for this purpose. The regular cash commission on COMFORT subscriptions is 40 per cent, but for Uncle Charlie's Benefit Fund I will allow 50 per cent. Another way to help him and benefit yourself is to get up a subscription club and take one of his books as your premium.

In one or other of these ways every COMFORT reader who wishes to do so can help swell the fund for Uncle Charlie which has my hearty approval and will have my assistance.

Send all contributions to Charles Noel Douglas, care COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

WHAT WILL YOU CHARGE

to display an elegant sample PIANO in your home and allow us to refer to you as our local representative? Write today for Special Agents' Display Plan No. 20.

HAGGERTY-COOK CO. Warren, Pa.



Superfluous Hair Remover Free! Banish that mannish appearance! "SEE-HAIR-GO," an Indian discovery, positively removes any hair growth instantly! Even toughest, most wiry hair imaginable. Unlike any other preparation. Germicidal; antiseptic; won't injure or irritate tenderest skin. Results guaranteed. Delicately perfumed; pleasant to use. Free trial bottle (plain wrapper) to prove its merit. SEND 2c POSTAGE. Mary Louise Wright, Dept. 140. 504 E. 47th St., Chicago, Ill.

FREE



Send today for 12 pieces of our **High Grade Jewelry** to sell at 25 cents each. When sold send money to us and get your choice of any **2 premiums.** We trust you and take back all unsold. **TOWNES NOVELTY CO., Richmond, Va.**

FISH WILL BITE



Any time in any water if you use guaranteed **OVEE FISH LURE** Most successful bait. 25c box lasts season. Ovee Traps catch fish where all others fail. **AGENTS WANTED.** Trial Box or Trap Free. OVEE LURE CO., Dept. 52, LOUISVILLE, KY.

FACE-WASH



Mrs. Bradley's famous preparation removes old cuticle and gives you new, soft, white skin free from oiliness. Removes moth, tan, freckles, pimples. 25c pkg., 3 for 50c by mail. Agts. wanted. Mrs. C. S Bradley, D 1921 Western Ave, Minneapolis, Minn.

Uncle Charlie's Poems the Funniest He Ever Read!

So says Harry L. Aten, Sugarloaf, Pa., and he thinks "So Did I," which nightly makes hundreds of people explode with laughter, the funniest of Uncle Charlie's Poems. You can secure a volume bound in lilac silk cloth containing within its covers the best of Uncle Charlie's life work, a touching sketch of his life, and pictures of himself and assistants, only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. Here is the ideal present for young or old. Don't deprive the young folks of a volume that will keep them and all the rest of the family happy for the rest of their lives. Work for it today.

Uncle Charlie's Songs Are Just the Thing for a Summer Night!

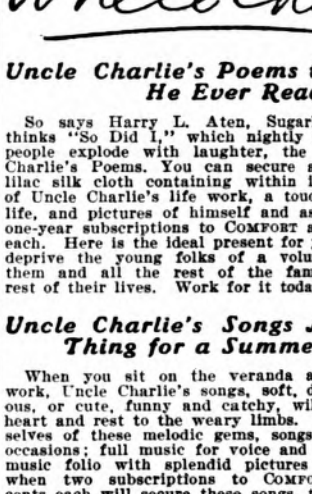
When you sit on the veranda after a hard day's work, Uncle Charlie's songs, soft, dreamy and melodious, or cute, funny and catchy, will bring joy to the heart and rest to the weary limbs. Why deprive yourselves of these melodic gems, songs for every and all occasions; full music for voice and piano, a handsome music folio with splendid pictures of Uncle Charlie, when two subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each will secure these songs, the very things you have been looking for. Poems and song books both free for a club of six. Work for them today.

NO COAL FAMINE.—About 597,500,000 tons of coal were mined here during 1916. This is more than was ever produced and therefore no famine will ensue.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, halftone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet BX 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW. EARL HOPKINS, Washington, D. C.



WHITE ROSE FACE BLEACH
Will make your Complexion as white as the virgin snow. 2-cent stamp for free particulars. Address
MME. BOGETT,
Box 496, Desk 4, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
A toilet preparation of merit. Helps to eradicate dandruff.
For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair.
50c. and $1.00 at druggists.



Bed Spread Free
This large extra heavy white "Honey Comb" Bed Spread sent free for selling only $6.00 worth of King's Velvet Face Powder and other High Grade Toilet Articles. SEND NO MONEY. Simply send your name & address & we will mail you the outfit. When sold, send us the money & the Spread is yours.
King Mfg. Co. Dept. 255 St. Louis, Mo.

AGENTS: $40 A WEEK



This is the best season of the year to sell hosiery.

New Hosiery Proposition
Guaranteed ONE YEAR Must wear 12 months or replaced free. Agents having wonderful success. H. W. Price sold 60 boxes in 12 hours. Mrs. Fields 109 pairs on one street. G. W. Noble made $35 in one day. Sworn proof. Sold only through agents. Not for sale in stores. A hosiery proposition that beats them all. Your territory still open. Write quick for terms and free samples.
THOMAS HOSIERY CO. 6130 Elk St. Dayton, Ohio



If You Are A Woman Who Loves Crochet And Tatting Here Is A Set Of Books You Will Be Delighted To Own!

ANY ONE of these books alone is a veritable **treasure house** of the newest, most beautiful designs. The seven books combined form a **complete library** in which you will find any pattern in crocheting and tatting you could possibly ask for. You will fairly revel in the many handsome designs shown. There are edgings, beadings, insertions and laces for every conceivable use. The illustrations are **actual photographs** of the finished work and show every thread so plainly that they are almost as good to work from as the directions themselves. The directions are adapted for either beginner or expert. They tell **stitch by stitch** how each pattern is worked, also the quantity and size of material required and the correct sizes of hooks to be used. Following is a description of each book They are **8 by 10 1-2 inches** in size with the exception of Volume I which is **9 1-4 by 12 inches. Please order by numbers.**

Volume 1 Crocheted yokes for combinations, envelopes, nightgowns, corset covers, etc.—**fifteen** all different, exquisite designs.

Volume 2 Handsome crocheted edgings and insertions suitable for handkerchiefs, underwear, dresses and a multitude of other uses,—**thirty-three** different designs.

Volume 3 **Eighteen** lovely designs in Cluny insertions and laces for centerpieces, library scarfs, boudoir caps, corset cover yokes, piano scarfs, curtains, chemises, envelopes or combination suits.

Volume 4 **Twenty-five** handsome designs in artistic crochet for yokes, boudoir caps, candle shades, baby bonnets, bedspreads, doilies, library scarfs, pillows, centerpieces, portiere medallions, curtains, etc., etc.

Volume 5 **Twenty-five** designs in novelty crochet, including mile-a-minute and clover leaf crocheted yokes, primrose and sunflower yokes; doilies, centerpieces, boudoir caps, unique edges and insertions for serving trays; novelty aprons and collars

Volume 6 **Thirty-two designs** in tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet,—a varied and beautiful assortment of tatted handkerchief edges, edgings and insertions, tatted yokes, boudoir caps, towel edges, medallions; yokes, breakfast caps, centerpieces, edgings and lace in Maltese crochet and yokes in Irish crochet.

Volume 7 **Thirty** handsome novelty crocheted designs including rose, sunflower periwinkle, and Venetian yokes; boudoir caps, monkey face library scarf, and lace pillow; large and small baskets, hat pin holder, jewel box, vanity tray, coin purse, utility bag, star fish doily, pineapple centerpiece; edgings and insertions in pillow lace; daisy edging; spider, bell, rick-rack, novelty and coronation braid laces.

We advise you to order all seven of these splendid books before the assortment is broken. If however you do not care for the whole library at this time we have arranged the following **special offers** which give you the opportunity to secure any **two** or any **four** of the books. **When ordering please be very careful to state the number of each book desired.**

Offer 8011A: For one 1-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8011B: For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8012: For two 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you **any four books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8013: For three 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you the **complete library** just as described above—**seven different volumes in all,** handsomely bound, printed on high-grade paper and containing nearly **200 beautiful photographic illustrations** of all that is new and pretty in crochet and tatting designs with **complete directions** for working. **When ordering please be sure to mention number of each book wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

NOW comes the rosy month of June when man and maiden love to spoon and wander 'neath the silver moon and all that sort of thing that we never outgrow and which comes around regularly every time June does. Lots of people say it's silly and sensible persons don't do anything of the sort, and maybe they don't, but just the same, my dears, the world wouldn't be worth living in if the rosy month of June weren't rosy and didn't rhyme with moon and spoon. So there, and let us all thank the Lord for June, no matter how sensible we are or are not. Now, having got the Juney-spoony-meony out of my system, I'll go to work.

The first letter on the pile before me is from Hazelnut of Chapel Hill, Tenn., and she is in doubt about accepting the attentions of a grass widower who has not yet received his divorce papers. I'm glad she is in doubt and I hope she will doubt on the safe side until the man has a legal right to seek another wife. He hasn't now, and the fact that he is so anxious to get another is strong evidence against him. Maybe Hazelnut may like that kind, but I do not. She may marry him when he is free, but I think she will be sorry for it.

Lorayne, Lorain, Ohio.—Well, well, does a Buckeye girl have to ask me if she should marry a man who is more or less of a drunkard, a liar and a do-nothing? Don't be afraid if you refuse him, that he will injure some one you love, or harm anybody. He isn't that kind. Turn him down and keep him turned down and don't dream of being a movie actress. The[re] nearly as hopeless as marrying the man you mention.

Alone, Ripley, Tenn.—Of course you mustn't marry the soldier you write to, but know nothing of. Maybe he has a wife and children. (2) You have no right to insist upon the exclusive attention of any young man unless you are engaged to him. Be sensible about a young man and you will have more attention and better.

Billy, Evant, Texas.—A girl can be a chronic flirt and not be a bad girl, as that term is generally understood, but she cannot be and be an honorable girl. You admit being engaged to four young men at once, all of them thinking you are honest and honorable, but you could not have become engaged without lying to at least three of them and you have acted dishonorably with all four. It is not for me to say how you will redeem yourself, but all the engagements should be broken to begin with and each man should know the reason. That would be an honorable and honest beginning. When you say you are naturally a flirt, I believe you, just as I would believe a burglar who said he was naturally a thief. Science is devising some means to correct such defectives.

Sallie, Paducah, Ky.—Why don't you be honest with the jealous suitor and tell him frankly you don't like him and don't want him to annoy you with his attentions? Are you so afraid that you will lose him you can't be honest with yourself and with him?

Two Girls, Park City, Utah.—As your parents object to your receiving attention from young men because of your youth, suppose you wait until you are of age and can pick and choose for yourselves. Time is a terror to throbbing hearts. Try it for a year or two.

Joy C., Peoria, Ill.—Your parents are too good to you. Instead of my giving you advice how to act with your beau, I should like to give them advice how they should act with him.

Perplexed, Pleasant Valley, Ky.—The fact of your being three years older than he is does not mean anything at all, but the fact that a young chap of twenty-one likes his "toddy" may mean a very great deal before he is forty. However, as he is so good to his sisters maybe he will be good to you; I'm dreadfully afraid though of liquor in the family.

Brown Eyes, Stepstone, Ky.—I don't think it is a question whether or not you should drop him, as he seems to have dropped you. Still, he has no right to act ugly because you were not at home to receive him at four o'clock when he had an engagement to call for you at one o'clock. Anyway, don't take him back till he apologizes.

Three Girls, Stahlstown, Pa.—All three of you writing about beaus and all three of you can't write without incorrect spelling and grammar. One of you even calls a chaperon a "chapermoon!" Oh, my, oh me, and you want to know about beaus instead of books! ! !

Cowgirl, Animas, N. M.—Well, my dear, being as how he is an old friend and going away to be gone several years, I think maybe I can excuse you for kissing him good by, but don't let it happen again. And don't you say you have higher ambitions than marriage. There is no higher ambition for a woman than marriage if she marries as she should marry. Marriage, just to be marrying, is no ambition whatever.

Lonesome, Prairie View, Kans.—If you really loved him you would know it and wouldn't have to ask me. As you do not love him as you should, for goodness sake, don't marry him, or you never will love him. Break the engagement. It may hurt him, but not nearly as much as to marry him and have him learn he had a wife who didn't love him.

Alca, Greeley, Colo.—By all means tell the young man you did not write the letter to which your name was signed. If you really like him, treat him nicely and he may take you out riding again and you may be real sweethearts yet, but don't kiss and make up. Kissing is not necessary to friendship.

Lelawa, Carrizozo, N. M.—Don't be afraid you will have to marry the man if you do not want to. This is a free country yet, and nobody can compel you to be married against your will.

June Bug, Towas City, Mich.—My dear, why should you want to win back a young man who thought so little of you that he let a married woman win him away from you? I wouldn't tell you how to win him back, if I knew forty ways of doing it. Let him go and be glad to get rid of him.

Ruby, Daisy, Ga.—Beware of the widower who begins his attentions by intimating that he does not want any others around. That sort of a man is a mean, jealous pig that is a nagger always and hard to get along with. Still, if you like that kind, suit yourself. Until you become engaged you are at liberty to have just as many beaus as you can attract to you. Don't be a slave to anybody until you have to. (2) When he knew where you were he should have come there for you, instead of waiting at your house for you.

There, my dears, your questions are all answered, except some that were too silly and others not for me which you will find in other departments. I have felt so good that summer is here that I have not scolded much and I hope you feel just as rose colored in your tempers as I do. Now run along and be summer girls, but remember that the summer girl must be the right kind of a girl all the year around.

By, by,
COUSIN MARION.

Darling Sue

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

ward, most of it. That's what started me. When I found every man's hand raised against me, I had to steal to live. But there has been no more killin', ma'am. True, I have notched a few men's ears, for pure devilment—to sort o' scare 'em and put my trade-mark on 'em, so to speak."

He paused to stir the dying fire. "I guess nobody in this section would know me now," he went on; "but the reward still stands, all right."

The woman found her bad man an agreeable companion. He guessed her wants beforehand, and did everything that was to be done for her comfort on the little journey. Each evening as they sat about a little fire on the desert's sand he played the battered old guitar for the boy's pleasure. But he refrained from singing "Darling Sue." He and the boy became inseparable. McKenzie was father and brother and playmate to the child.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

It was the last night of their journey, and they had just finished supper. Mrs. Jefferson sat in a canvas chair, and her boy stood leaning against her knee. Directly across the bright coals John McKenzie sat on a box, looking thoughtfully into the fire. The woman watched the flickering light play on his face, and thought him a handsome man. And, she told herself, he was about twenty-seven, her own age. She knew he was young; he seemed always so proud of that little, fair mustache * * * She wished, almost, that the end of their journey was not quite so close.

"Play some more for me, Kenzie!" the boy requested, smiling to the man across the fire.

McKenzie took up the guitar and struck a few chords, but they were rather lifeless. A new thing had come into John McKenzie's life, a thing that was strange because it had come after so many wild and lonely years. After a moment of trying, he put the old instrument down on the sand.

"Little boy will have to 'scuse Kenzie this time," he muttered. "Kenzie just can't—play, somehow."

"Tomorrow—will you play tomorrow?" wistfully.

Tomorrow! Tomorrow the doors of a jail would close upon him. That fact broke into the woman's mind with a new force. It was harder than she had thought it—to deliver her boy's Kenzie to the authorities. She raised her eyes to those of the outlaw; they were gazing squarely at her, and she noted that there was a new light in them. She saw him flush in the glimmering fireglow; then he slowly bent his head.

The boy broke the silence: "Couldn't you play for mother now?"

McKenzie smiled, and there was much tenderness in it. "Maybe she doesn't care to hear my bum playin'," he said; and there was much tenderness in his voice, too.

The Widow Jefferson suddenly spoke: "McKenzie, I don't think I can play the Judas after all."

"What's that, ma'am?" and he looked up.

"I say I don't think I can sell you."

"'Sell me!'" McKenzie laughed a laugh that didn't deceive even the child. "Why, it ain't like you was sellin' me, ma'am. Because I can very easy break jail, you know——"

Mrs. Jefferson had gone to her feet. "Hush, McKenzie!" she interrupted. "You can't break jail, of course. You've just been telling me that, McKenzie, I will never do it—I won't turn you up! That's final. I'd rather go back to the dust and starvation of the Halfway House!"

"But the boy!"

She raised her hand. "It's settled, McKenzie." And he knew it was.

He stood up, then went around the fire and stopped within a yard of her.

"I've got another proposition to offer," he said. "We can sell the horses for enough money to land us in St. Louis—let me go along and take care of you and the boy—I mean marry me, and let me work for you! Bowers wouldn't care if he could know. I need you, Sue—I need you even more than you need me. I'll surrender the wild life. Maybe you'd come to like me in time, Sue. Won't you?"

His sunburned face mirrored a greatness in his soul, and his nether lip trembled as he tried to smile.

"The past is dead," he went on; "the past is always dust; there is only the future, and let's live it together. Honest, I'll give up the wild life. See, I surrender, Sue——"

He took his revolver-laden belt from about his hips and placed it in her hands. Then, with his eyes shining with the first tears he could remember, he sang, low and throbbingly, the last line of the song the woman loved——

"'I takes and lays 'em where my heart lies too!'"

The heavy pistols dropped to the desert sand, and Sue Jefferson's arms went around John McKenzie's neck. She felt that dead Bowers wouldn't care if he could know.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

into noble and divine blessings; and there are no blessings which the mind may not convert into evils.

I am nineteen years old, weigh one hundred and thirty-five pounds and am five feet five inches tall, and have light blue eyes and golden hair.

With love to Mrs. Wilkinson and the sisters,
VICTORIA.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around The Home

To make a broom last longer and sweep well, dip it in a pail of boiling suds once a week.

Wash your stove, then put a few drops of linseed oil on a woolen cloth and rub the stove well and it is not necessary to blacken it.

Take two parts of sifted coal ashes and sand, mixed well together, to one part of flour; mix with water. This makes an excellent mortar for patching cracks in the plaster.

To kill rose bugs, make a suds of Ivory soap and water, a cake of soap to a tub of water, and apply to bushes and ground.
MARTHA BALES, Willoughby, Oregon.

To remove skunk odor, make a strong smudge of oat hay and place garments near it and the odor will soon disappear.
MRS. I. E. S., Great Falls, Mont.

Remedies

Sulphur and vaseline mixed makes a fine healing salve.

A solution of salt and water is good for falling hair. Use twice a week.
MRS. ELMER HARLOW, Woodward, Iowa.

Equal parts of aqua ammonia and glycerine rubbed on the hands after washing is an excellent remedy for sunburn, poison ivy and chapped hands. If there are any open places it will find them and sting for a second but it does a lot of good.
E. ELLIOTT, California.

FOR BETTER HEALTH.—Nothing is better to take on rising than a cup of hot water. One hot drink on an empty stomach clears the system for the day and for many persons a tablespoon of lemon juice increases the efficacy. Taken on going to bed without the lemon juice it will help to induce sleep. Both night and morning it has the effect of helping to clear the complexion.

RHEUMATISM.—Take the roots of Rose Noble (an herb to be found in many localities, or could be secured from a druggist) and pound them up and put in a large bottle and cover with whiskey. Let stand a few hours and then take in doses as ordinary medicine. Some add burdock seed to the preparation, as it is beneficial. If one does not like to use the whiskey the roots may be eaten, but they are very bitter. This has helped many of my friends and I hope will help others.
MRS. JOHN LATIMER, Edingburg, Pa.

Requests

Cure for hives.

How to rid a yard of red ants.

How to make Chinese chop suey.

Poem, "The Housekeeper's Lament."

Song containing words, "Does a Railroad Lead to Heaven?"

Mrs. Bertha Schulz, Allentown, 127 So. 4th St., Pa., would like to correspond with any of the sisters who paint in oils or water colors.

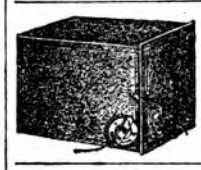
Miss Agnes Travis, Platte, S. Dak. would like poems, "The Log Cabin on the Mississippi Shore," and "Sweet Days of Childhood." Will return favor.

Will someone tell me how to dye a wool suit (partly mixed) a dark blue, without boiling. It is blue now. MRS. FRANK BURKE, Dade City, R. R. 74 A, Fla.

This $3 Pair New Sanitary Feather PILLOWS FREE
For short time only. This pair regular $3 grade 5 lb. beautiful pillows containing all New, Clean, Sanitary Feathers—covered with fine quality Fancy Art Ticking, given absolutely FREE with our special low-priced Household Outfits. Write for FREE illustrated circulars. Post card brings all.
American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk A, Nashville, Tenn.



Make $50.00 to $100.00 per Week.
Sells on sight. Every car owner a customer. We want a few general agents to sell auto locks to car owners. Can be sold through sub-agents, at a good profit. Excellent opportunity for good men to become connected with live progressive concern. You can build up a permanent business. Exclusive territory. Will sell direct to car owners in territory where we are not represented.
SWEG AUTO LOCK CO., 3921 Sheridan Road, CHICAGO, ILL.



CAMERA 55c
Takes 2 1-4 x 2 1-4 picture time or instantaneous. Can use Brownie No. 1 film. Absolutely guaranteed. Substantial black leatherette covered case 3 7-8 x 3 3-10. Six exposure film 15c. Postpaid cash or money order.
LEWIS CAMERA CO.,
Dept. 200, 2140 Alice Place, Chicago.

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers."
RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Genuine DIAMOND-SET SCARF PIN 45c. Ladies' solid gold-front beauty pins 20c pair.
HUGGARD CO., B7, GOLDFIELD, NEVADA.

Be a Detective Excellent opportunity, good pay, travel. Write
C. T. Ludwig, 121 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties. Catalog Free. D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Miss Carrie Poppins, Freemont, Nebr. Elvin Carter, Olney, care W. C. Co., Oregon. Miss Mary Eames, College Ave., Danville, R. R. 1, Va. H. M. Heer, Chatfield, R. R. 2, B. 102, Ohio.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Information of Frank Abbott of Perth, N. Dak. He is somewhere in Canada now. Mrs. J. E. White, Billings, Mont.

Information of my sister, Mrs. Robert Taylor; maiden name Martha Gantz, married in Pueblo, Colo., about fifteen years ago. Mrs. C. M. Halbert, Hazleton, Iowa.

TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 60 Packages Soap Powder FREE



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only 5 doz. pkgs. of our famous washing powder FREE among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN
Prem. No. 7283



Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Three

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome Pendant and Chain illustrated herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch **genuine rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the pendant is also made of **rolled-gold plate** and set with your **own birthstone** and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond,** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald,** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are solitaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7283.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

5 Wheel Chairs in May

415 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

The five May wheel chairs go to the following shut-ins. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Ethel May Hall, Rougemont, N. C., 200; Mrs. Mollie McNeill, Duke, N. C., 136; Johnnie May Heatherly, Bremen, Ala., 103; Thomas R. Hancock, Winterpack, Va., 101; Mrs. Lucinda Sission, Forest Hill, La., 99

Ethel May Hall, age 17, describes herself in a beautifully written letter as having always been an invalid and unable to walk a step. Her friends sent the entire 200 subscriptions for her chair in three weeks' time.

Mrs. Mollie McNeill, age 41, has been crippled by rheumatism nearly six years. Her legs are drawn up and useless. Her arms are affected so that she can barely use her right hand to feed herself.

Johnnie May Heatherly, age 16, is confined to her bed by tuberculosis of the bone which developed from white swelling of the knee. It is five years since she took her last step. She is entirely helpless.

Thomas R. Hancock, age 13, has been partially paralyzed all his life so that he can not walk and can use only one hand.

Mrs. Lucinda Sission, age 71, paralyzed in her left side since February, 1916, is almost helpless. Even her tongue is affected so that she can hardly talk.

These are all hard cases but there are many more equally distressing that are suffering for wheel chairs and need your help. Don't fail them. We want to do better yet next month.

We have an interesting roll of honor. Why not get your name there next month?

Sincerely yours,

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT, at 25 cents each, sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours. Any shut-in who has friends to help him get subscriptions can obtain a wheel chair free. Write me for information.

Thinks Her COMFORT Wheel Chair Simply Grand

GRADY, NEW MEXICO.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I have received my chair and I think it is simply grand. I thank you very much, also the friends who were so kind in helping me get the subscriptions. I will do all I can to help other needy shut-ins get chairs. May the Lord richly bless you in your good work. Yours sincerely, MRS. T. B. CHRISTIAN.

Little Boy Expresses His Appreciation of His COMFORT Wheel Chair

BOONE MILL, VA.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I want you to know how much I enjoy and appreciate my wheel chair. Mother says she will have to tie me to keep me from killing myself, for I just go all over the house in it. I thank you and all who kindly helped me to get it. May you have big success with your mercy work. I remain as ever, your little friend, ROLAND EUGENE CHEWNIN.

Little Crippled Girl Takes Great Delight in Her COMFORT Wheel Chair

OREGON CITY, OREGON.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

Words cannot express our sincere gratitude for the lovely wheel chair you sent our little daughter Nada. She has been out in it only twice, so far, on account of the weather having been so terribly bad, but she can use the chair in the house and takes great delight in it. With its help I shall keep her out of doors most of the time when the weather is suitable. We expect to have a picture taken of her sitting in her wheel chair and will send you one for COMFORT. I am sending you a few more subscriptions. Don't think that, after you have treated me so fine, I would lose interest in getting wheel-chair subscriptions. Thanking you and the dear, kind friends who assisted us in getting Nada's chair, I am your well-wisher,

MRS. S. A. STRONG.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

Sylvia L. Taylor, Ark., for Arthur W. Tayloor, 42; W. E. Mangum, N. C., for Ethel May Hall, 40; Mrs. Emma Pentecost, Miss., for Mrs. Martha Timberlake, 40; Archie Knight, N. C., for Mrs. Mollie McNeill, 40; W. M. Holder, N. C., for Mrs. Mollie McNeill, 40; Miss Maggie Hall, N. C., for Ethel May Hall, 37; Mrs. Mollie McNeille, N. C., for own wheel chair, 36; Jim S. Gardner, Texas, for own wheel chair, 32; Mrs. C. J. Perrin, Texas, for Cleo Jones, 25; Mrs. Bessie Clopp, Texas, for Ruby Pearl Clopp, 24; Mrs. Maud Morgan, Colo., for Preston Morgan, 23; Frank Fulghum, Ga., for Mrs. W. F. McBride, 22; Miss Lillie McGuire, Ark., for own wheel chair, 20; Mrs. R. E. Davie, D. C., for Ethel May Hall, 20; Ruth Knight, N. C., for Mrs. Mollie McNeill, 20; Mrs. Lulie Umstead, N. C., for Ethel May Hall, 20; Mrs. Lura Vaughan, N. C., for Ethel May Hall, 20; Edward H. Obert, N. J., for Mrs. Phillis Garrison, 18; Mrs. P. J. Rubish, N. Dak., for Mrs. H. B. Newell, 17; Miss Lucy Wilkes, N. C., for Benjamin F. Coffer, 17; Fay Elson, Texas, for Mrs. Jane Terry, 17; Mary E. Garrett, Texas, for Cleo Jones, 17; Mrs. Mary Karnes, Okla., for Mrs. E. V. Stalmaker, 16; Vena McCutchen, Miss., 15; for Mrs. Donie McCutchen, 16; Nora L. King, Arkansas, 15; Mrs. J. B. Ellis, North Carolina, for Miss Ruby Ellis, 15; Mrs. Ovilla Empey, Utah, for Community Chair, 15; Mrs. Eva Malick, Ark., for Ezray Malick, 14; John Wheeler, N. C., for Ethel May Hall, 14; Mrs. A. B. Lewis, Ky., for John Brown, 13; Mrs. J. S. Hancock, Ga., for Tavie Culpepper, 13; Catherine Fraisure, Fla., for own wheel chair, 12; Miss Mary Lanier, Ga., for Dollie Virginia Lanier, 12; Mrs. Myrtle McCarty, Missouri, for Willie Clinton, 12; Mary Berry, Ga., for Lottie Berry, 11; Miss Annie Harris, N. C., for Ethel May Hall, 11; Mrs. J. F. Clipper, Texas, for Martha Louise Sullivan, 11; Mrs. James H. Denny, Missouri, for Preston Morgan, 11; Mrs. W. M. Harden, Fla., for Tavie Culpepper, 10; Mrs. R. A. Cannoy, Tenn., for Howard Carr Cannoy, 10; Mrs. S. A. Strong, Oregon, for Nada Pearl Strong, 10; Bessie Coffer, N. C., for Benjamin F. Coffer, 10; Rosa Parrish, N. C., for Ethel May Hall, 10; Mrs. M. E. Heatherly, Ala., for Johnnie May Heatherly, 9; Mrs. W. O. Glasscock, Texas, for Catherine Barnes and Roland Chewning, 9; Mrs. A. J. Tilly, N. C., for Ethel May Hall, 8; Mrs. Lula Smethers, Ky., for Catherine Barnes, 8; Mrs. E. Caudle, Arkansas, 8; Mrs. John Arnette, Tennessee, for General, 7; Miss Ethel Cross, Arkansas, for Elsie Roberds, 7; Mrs. Fred Scafe, Okla., for Alice Scafe, 7; Mrs. Tilden Catron, Va., for General, 6; Mrs. Pat Sexton, Colo., for Florence Hart, 6; Mrs. Annie Slaton, Va., for Mrs. Catherine Fraisure, 6; Louise M. Beller, Wash., for General, 5; Mrs. L. M. Simmons, Pa., for General, 5; Mrs. Annie M. Strong, Mich., for General, 5; Jessie Ellis, N. C., for Ruby Elendine Ellis, 5; Mrs. T. A. Hancock, Va., for Thomas R. Hancock, 5; Mrs. Nola C. Owen, Ark., for General, 5; Mrs. Albert Shirley, Pa., for General, 5; W. S. Ford, Texas, for Leithor D. Darter, 5; Mrs. M. H. Gragg, Okla., for Lottie Berry, 5; Jeppie Bynum, Ala., for Max Hazel, 5; Kenneth Crooks, Kansas, for Grandma Balsom, 5; Miss Hilda Doerflien, Ind., for John Clark, 5; Mrs. M. E. Lukens, Ill., for Eva Lukens, 5; Polly Legg, W. Va., for General, 5.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

K. W., Lundgren, Minn.—We cannot give recommendations to any patent medicines. Some are good and some are not. Some are really medicines and some are fakes.

Mrs. S. A. H., Calhoun, Ala.—An electric, or other, vibrator may be useful and beneficial in some cases to start the circulation. Consult your physician and see if he will recommend it in your case.

R. S., Silay, Oc. Neg., P. I.—Your trembling, heart palpitation, perspiration and tears when you are called on in class, when you are addressed unexpectedly, or among strangers and your inability to remain composed when talking to the young ladies is due to self-consciousness, which is another name for nervousness. Something is wrong with your nervous system, either acquired or natural, and you must put yourself under the direction of a nerve specialist, or a physician who is skilled in nervous diseases and let him try to restore you to normal condition. You are too young to neglect yourself now and continue under this nervous strain until it affects your mind, as it is quite sure to do eventually. It is a long way from Maine to the Philippines, but we know you have good doctors there and you must get one who not only understands your case, but who has sympathy for you as well and will give you just the treatment necessary. Let us hear from you again next year.

C. P., Mitchell, Ga.—All your ailments are of the surgical kind and can only be treated by a physician who can make personal examinations of their condition. Any advice that we could give would be entirely guesswork, which is really worse than no advice at all. We hope that all COMFORT patients will understand that surgical cases, that is broken bones, wounds, old sores and others of various kinds can only be treated by a physician who can make personal examination.

N. M., Mar, W. Va.—The standard remedy for warts of the ordinary kind is luna caustic which you can buy at any drug-store. It is applied to the warts and will destroy them. Be careful in applying it not to get it on the surrounding skin as it will burn it and make an ugly sore. Unless the warts are very large, numerous and on the inside of the hands, the caustic will not prevent your brother working.

B. H. V., Monticello, Ark.—Kidney troubles are too serious to be treated by mail. There is always danger of Bright's disease and when this has once become fixed, there is very little hope for a patient. The proper course is to have examinations promptly made and treatment prescribed in time to prevent. You have no doubt often heard that prevention is better than cure. It is not only true, but it is still better than no cure at all, because of neglect when there was time.

A. R. L., Sullivan, Ill.—Fasting is an excellent relief for indigestion, if it is done properly. As your indigestion is from over-eating, that is, giving your digestive organs more work to do than they are equal to, what better remedy could be applied than rest? Eat half as much as you are now eating, chew every mouthful to a pulp before swallowing, and eat nothing which does not agree with you perfectly, no matter how much you may like it. If you must drink coffee, drink only one cup a day with or without sugar, as you like.

W. H. H., Potlatch, Ida.—The baby has inherited a predisposition to nervousness and temper from his mother, and if he is handled carefully much of that may be overcome, but not by physical means. Don't punish him physically, but, in every way you can, impress upon his mind the danger of giving way to his temper and the real sin there is in such weakness. Teach him self-control as a duty to himself and those he cares most for and we think by the time he is old enough to understand it all, he will be so influenced by it that he will be a very fair average human being. Possibly his eyes are still a little crossed, and you are used to it and don't notice it. There is some weakness there, and this you should have a competent physician look after and correct if necessary, though many children have this defect and speedily outgrow it. Some of his nervousness may be due to some defect of vision as often happens. We are glad to see that you are not like a good many of our COMFORT mothers who foolishly think they can raise children properly without advice from anybody, and without knowing the first principles of child rearing.

Anxious, Harrisburg, Ark.—Fainting spells, so called, are not infrequent, and often are not especially serious, but oftener they are symptoms of the most dangerous diseases. Their cause cannot be guessed at and you must consult a physician who can thoroughly examine you and decide intelligently what is the cause and treat it properly. One such spell may happen and none ever come again, but when there have been two, it is time to make immediate and serious inquiry.

Mrs. J. L., Mt. Auburn, Iowa.—Neuralgia of the heart has the sharp pains you describe and it is a disease that may be relieved if not cured, but it is very unreliable and may result fatally on very short notice. You must have a physician who can examine you and know all the conditions so that there shall be no guesswork. *Angina pectoris*, which is practically the same thing, is one of the most painful diseases known and while it is not always suddenly fatal, it often is, though the patient may have attacks of it for a long time. Sometimes they are frequent, sometimes at long intervals, and they are always dangerous and very painful.

Rita, Marion, Ind.—There isn't any cure for blushing that we know of. It may be relieved to a great extent if the sufferer can cultivate a degree of non-selfconsciousness, so to speak, which prevents her ever thinking about herself at all, but not many can do that. It is due to nervousness which is natural and nature is generally incurable. Persistent practise in forgetting your own existence will help more than any other prescription we know of.

Mrs. C. S., Coeur d'Alene, Ida.—Your eyes hurt you continually and you cannot see well, but you cannot have a physician examine them and tell you what should be done for relief, because you cannot afford it! Well, do you think there is any economy which would justify the loss of your sight? Couldn't you afford to make a good many sacrifices rather than sacrifice your sight? Looking towards you from Maine to Idaho we cannot very well detect whether you are cross-eyed or not. We can tell, though, that you are totally blind, or you would see the absolute necessity of having a physician examine your eyes and prescribe for you.

H. F. S., Baudette, Minn.—A scar caused by a wound deep enough cannot be wholly removed, though some skin specialists can improve its appearance if it is very disfiguring. Such treatment is usually expensive and not always satisfactory. There is no fixed rule for removing disfiguring scars known to medicine, or surgery, and only an examining physician can give an opinion as to what may be done with yours.

M. B. C., Nathalie, Va.—There is no cure for chills as long as you live in an ague neighborhood, or climate, unless you can prevent being bitten by mosquitoes. Move away from where you now are to some part of your state where there is no ague and you will not have any more trouble with the shakes. It is now known that the ague germ is put into the blood by the mosquito bite. Your stomach trouble and nervousness come largely from the drugs you are taking for the chills and will continue as long as the chills are with you, and they will be with you as long as you live where they prevail, unless you can exterminate or avoid the mosquitoes.

L. T. Washington, D. C.—As the gas is due to fermentation, which means poor digestion and you have adopted a diet which may in time improve conditions, we would suggest that you take during the day several drinks of hot water with a pinch of bicarbonate of soda in it. This will neutralize the acid and give temporary relief. What you need more than anything else now, is exercise in the open air as a corrective of your eight hours a day in an office. You should walk from three to five miles a day, good sharp walking, and there are plenty of fine walks about your town. It will do you more good than medicine.



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

M. C., Indiana.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the payment of a note can be enforced against any property owned by one or both of two joint makers of the note, except, of course, such small allowances as are allowed by law as exemptions.

J. P., Mississippi.—Under the laws of South Carolina we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married woman, leaving no will, and leaving a husband and a brother as her only heirs at law and next of kin, her estate after payment of debts and expenses, would go in equal shares to such husband and brother.

P. L. B., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married woman, leaving no will and leaving a surviving husband and one child as her only heirs at law and next of kin, after payment of debts and expenses, the husband would receive one third of the personal property absolutely and one third of the real estate for life, the balance going to her child.

Mrs. E. L., Michigan.—Under the laws of your state, we do not think an illegitimate child has any inheritance rights in the father's estate, unless some provision is made by will or unless they have been legitimatized.

L. M. W., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a widow and one child as his only heirs at law and next of kin, his estate after payment of debts and expenses would go one third of the personal property absolutely, and one third of the real estate for life to the widow and the remainder to the child.

P. B., Oregon.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the parents are legally entitled to the custody and control of their minor children.

F. B., Minnesota.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that all contracts for the conveyance of real estate must be in writing to make them enforceable.

Mrs. N. C. S., Arkansas.—We think that if your husband died leaving no will and if he left property it will be necessary to have an administrator appointed by the court to legally settle his estate; we think you would have a preference for their appointment.

B. C. G., Oklahoma.—Under the laws of Kansas we are of the opinion that children, during the lifetime of the parents, have no interest in such parents' real estate and the same can be sold by the parent without the consent of the children; we think children can be disinherited by will, but in the absence of a will we think upon the death of a married man his homestead goes one half in value to the widow and one half in equal shares to the children, but that in order to constitute a homestead the land must be occupied by the family, and if the deceased leaves a widow and children the property cannot be divided until the youngest child reaches twenty-one years of age, unless the widow remarries; we think the widow receives one half of the balance of the real estate, not released by her, unless the same is necessary to pay debts, and that the personal property, not necessary to pay debts is treated in the same manner as the homestead property, the balance of the estate going to the children equally.

T. T., Illinois.—Upon your statements we are of the following opinion; that it would be necessary to go in to the matter of the court proceeding under which the property you mention was sold to form an opinion as to whether you now have any chance of recovering any of this property. We think that if it was sold through a properly conducted court proceeding, your chances of recovering the property now, would be very slight, but that if on the other hand, there was some fraud committed in connection with this court proceeding you might upset same. We think that if your father left no will and left property to which you were entitled during your minority, the same should have been administered by a guardian and that in case such guardian has not accounted to you for your share of this property, you should be able to compel an accounting, unless your rights to same have been barred by the statute of limitations owing to your neglect to prosecute same within proper time after becoming of age. You furnish me with no information as to how much time has elapsed since your father's death nor as to how long it has been since you became of age.

Mrs. C. S., Martinsville, Ill.—We do not think that a minor can be held for contracts made by him during minority unless the same are validated when he becomes of age. We do not think a deed to real estate executed by a minor conveys good title to such real estate. We think that in order to settle a minor's interest in an estate and receive good deeds or receipts for same, it would be necessary to transact business through such minor's guardian or through or under a court judgment or decree in some proceeding brought for that purpose.

Mrs. J. K., Little Falls, Minn.—Upon your statements, we are of the opinion, that unless your neighbor has some easement or right of way across your property, you have a legal right to stop him from driving across the same. We think, however, that he might have procured such easement or right of way, either through some deed or agreement in connection with same or through a possessory right of the use of same for a long period of years, upon your consent or the consent of the former owners of the property.

J. McN., Hillsboro, Ohio.—We are of the opinion that under the Act of September 8, 1916, estates of less than $50,000 are exempt where decedent was a resident of the United States, from the Federal inheritance tax; and that in your state the said laws exempt parents, husband and wife, lineal descendants or an adopted child and to others five per cent on any amount above an exemption of $500. We think a full digest of the inheritance laws would be too exhaustive a subject for us to undertake in a communication of this kind.

J. L. Z., Falls City, Nebr.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that the children of the marriage do not come in to any right to property belonging to the husband upon the death of their mother before the death of the father. We think, however, that in the absence of a will, such children would come in to their share of their father's estate upon his death, but that they would have no rights to his property during his lifetime even after their mother dies. Of course, if these children were the children of the wife by a former marriage they would have no interest in the estate of her second husband unless provided for by will, in a case where their mother pre-deceased such second husband. We think that in case the husband of the woman you mention was the father of the children you mention, he would have a legal right to disinherit such children by will, but that in case he leaves no will they would receive their share, the amount of which would depend upon whether or not he re-married. In case he dies leaving no will and leaving no widow, we think his children would be entitled to share his property in equal shares, descendants of any deceased child taking the parent's share.

A. M. O., Santa Fe, Kansas.—We think that a marriage by a man or woman having a husband or wife living from whom they are not divorced is a bigamist and an illegal marriage and would make the person so marrying subject to punishment for such act.

FRECKLES

Now Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as the prescription othine—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots.

Simply get an ounce of othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Advt.



AUTOMATIC REPEATING RIFLE

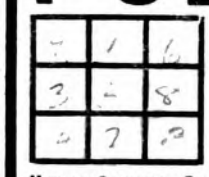
FIRES 20 SHOTS IN ONE LOADING!



This is a regular size automatic revolver. Shoots B. B. shots obtainable anywhere, same as other rifles and guns. Repeats 20 times with one loading. Handsomely finished in gun metal. No caps or load necessary, as it works with a spring and shoots with rapidity and accuracy. Simply load with 20 B. B. Shot, then press the trigger. Nothing to explode—absolutely harmless and safe. Remember, it is not a mere toy, but the same size and shape as a REGULAR AUTOMATIC. Sent complete with a round of shot for ONLY 25 cents, postpaid. Extra shot, 10c a package.

JOHNSON SMITH & CO., Dept. 1. 7121 N. Clark St. CHICAGO

PUZZLE GET A LOT



Here are 9 squares. Can you put a figure (no two alike) in each square so as to make a total of 15 by adding them up and down and crossways? As an advertisement we will deed a lot 25x100 ft. at Atlantic City, Md., which has one of the finest beaches in the world, to any one (white race) solving this puzzle. Small fee for deed and expenses. Send your solution, with 4c in postage, for copy of prospectus to

OCEAN BEACH DEVELOPMENT CO.
206 N. Calvert St. Baltimore, Md.

LOOK YOUR BEST. Make sure of smooth white arms, face and neck in spite of sallowness, blotches, freckles, blackheads etc. If you want to be charming and attractive—Don't pay 50c but send 10c at once for sealed Package, which will transform your appearance instantly. Warranted. TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927A, Boston, Mass.



GO FISHING



This Fishing Outfit complete, containing the following:

1 Fancy Bamboo Fishing Rod, 1 All Brass Click Reel, 2 Doz. Split Shot Sinkers, 9 Fishing Lines Assorted, 6 Trout and Bass Flies, 6 Snelled Hooks, 2 Doz. Assorted Fish Hooks, 1 Trolling Spoon Bait, 3 Trout and Bass Leaders, 1 Float or "Bobber," 1 Adjustable Sinker, 3 Swivels.

Everything in this outfit is of high quality, practical and each item will give perfect satisfaction.

Not only is the **Fine jointed Rod a dandy,** but each of the **three dozen different articles** are separately and collectively just what any man or boy wants to have handy for real fishing sport. Some part or all of this outfit will be required for any **Lake, River, Sea, Stream, Brook or Pond Fishing,** and it will be a delight to catch the different kinds of fish with this marvel outfit.

CLUB OFFER: For a club of only eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send this 36-piece Fishing Outfit **Premium No. 7348** packed in a nice box by Parcel Post absolutely Free.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Boys! Get This Dandy Air Rifle!



Prem. No. 72610

Automatic Repeater Works Like a "Winchester" Will Fire 350 Shots Without Reloading

BOYS—here is the Air Rifle you have always wanted—a real **repeater** which loads **automatically** just like a **Winchester** or a **Marlin.** It is nearly **three feet** long yet weighs only **two pounds,** uses **BB shot** and shoots **350 times without reloading.** The barrel and all working parts are made of **high grade steel** with a **gun metal** finish, the **stock** is made of real **black walnut** handsomely stained and polished. This splendid rifle is just what you need to take with you on your **camping and hunting trips** because with it you can bag all kinds of **small game** such as **crows, hawks, squirrels, rabbits, etc,** and for **target practise** is just fine. **No powder—no danger**—your parents cannot possibly object to your having one, because it is **absolutely safe** to handle. You can get this splendid air rifle **absolutely free** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of only **Ten** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents **each,** we will send you this Repeating Air Rifle exactly as described above free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 72610.** **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents, I want 100 men to act as my agents and take orders for "Kantleak" Raincoats. I paid Eli Bridge $88.95 for one week's spare time. Cooper $314 last month. Wonderful values. A dandy coat for $3.98. No money required. No delivering or collecting. Sample coat and complete outfit all Free. Big season just starting. There's a thousand dollars in this for you if you grab it quick. Write now. Comer Mfg. Co. 203 Opal St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agents—Pair Silk Hose Free. State size & color. Beautiful line direct from mill. Good profits. Agents wanted. Write today. Triple-wear Mills, Dept.G,720 Chestnut St., Phila.,Pa.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves."Horoco,"131 Locust, St.Louis,Mo.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses,waists, skirts,direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 586 Broadway, New York City.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women,$30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free.William Ragsdale,East Orange,N.J.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Reliable People Wanted to place Eggine in stores and appoint agents. Takes the place of Eggs in baking and cooking at less than 9c doz. Package and particulars 10c postpaid. Morrissey Co., 4424 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Photo Pillow Tops,Portraits,Frames, Sheet Pictures, Photo Plates, Pennants, Paper Mache Frames.Rejects credited. Prompt shipments; samples & cat. free to agents. 30 days credit. Jas.C.Bailey Co.,Desk M2, Chicago, Ill.

Mystic Fish Bait. Harmless, Lawful, Effective for all specie of fish. Sample 25c. Great summer seller. Agents & Dealers write. Hayes Co., 326 River St., Chicago.

Agents.—Big summer seller. Water filter. Makes muddy water clear as crystal. For farm or city homes. Prevents typhoid. Sells like wildfire. Every home needs it. Write quick for territory and sample. Thomas Mfg. Co., 1819 North St., Dayton, O.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn while you learn. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of members we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 a month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago,New York,San Francisco.

SONGS

Songs Wanted for my mail order music catalog. Wonderful editing service. Story's Music Home, 111 East 176th Street, New York.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles,poems etc.We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1227 Washington, D. C.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents—Soft Drinks in powder. Just add cold water; ready instantly, delicious, healthful, every one wants them. Sells thirty glasses 25c. Trial package 10c postpaid. Chas. H. Morrissey Co., 4417 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Agents: Screen door check. Demonstrate and sale is made. Stops the bang and saves the door. Wonderful summer seller. Demonstrating sample free. Thomas Mfg. Co., 1319 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

Cash In On Bone Dry Bill. Make $8 a day easy. Will show you how with our concentrated Pure Fruit drinks. Wanted everywhere. Small package—just add water. Here's the chance of a life time. Grab your territory. Write quick. American Products Co. 6115 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents: Big Hit: Our 5-Piece Aluminum Set is all the rage. Cheaper than Enamel Ware. Sells like wildfire. Guaranteed 20 Years. Retail value $5.00. You sell housewives for only $1.98. Biggest seller of the age. 9 sure sales out of every 10 shown. Others cleaning up $10.00 to $20.00 a day. Answer this quick to secure your territory. Div. E. X. 5. American Aluminum Mfg. Co. Lemont, Ill.

"Washwhite" Cleans Clothes Without Rubbing. Attractive Premiums. Free samples. Nacma, 21-K, 18 W. Lake, Chicago.

Our Representatives are getting rich with marvelous new household commodity. Free samples get over 100 orders daily. Big profits. Exclusive territory going fast. Join our successful organization of prosperous agents and send today for free samples and particulars. Skitch Company, Desk 166, Chicago, Ill.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

Land Opportunity! Inquire about my easy way to get a farm home in Michigan's Fruit and Clover Belt. 10 acres for $250. $5 down, $4 monthly. General farming, stock, vegetables,poultry, fruit. Good towns, schools, churches. I insure you while you are buying and help you start farming. Big booklet free. Owner, George W. Swigart, C1246 First Natl. Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

Profitable Little Farms In Valley Of Virginia, 5 and 10 acre tracts $250. and up. Good fruit and farming country. Send for literature now. F. H. LaBaume, Agr. Agt. N. & W. Ry. 269 Arcade Bldg., Roanoke, Va.

FARM LANDS

Productive Lands. Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 14 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

BY PARCEL POST

We Sell Everything from a needle to a Thrasher machine, at the lowest price. Write and tell us what you want and we will mail you prices. Colman, 4421 Manchester Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

REAL ESTATE

Small Missouri Farm $10 Cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes; Highly productive land; close to three big markets. Write for photographs and full information. Munger, D-104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

TYPEWRITERS

Startling Values in typewriters $10 to $15 up. Rebuilt as good as new. All makes. Shipped on trial. Write for our "Easy Ownership"offerNo.135E.Willsave you money.Whitehead Typewriter Co.,186N.LaSalle St.,Chicago.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Free For Six Months—My special offer to introduce my magazine, "Investing for Profit." It is worth $10 a copy to any one who has not acquired sufficient money to provide necessities and comforts for self and loved ones. It shows how to become richer quickly and honestly. Investing for Profit is the only progressive financial journal and has the largest circulation in America. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200; write now and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 408, 26 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago.

Salesman, Exceptional Opportunity: Establish yourself in business. Auto accessory, big demand, easy seller, large profit, exclusive territory. The Liberty Bell Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

$4.25 Each Paid for U. S. Eagle Cents dated 1856. Keep all money dated before 1895, and send 10c at once for New Ills'td Coin Value Book,4x7.It may mean a fortune.Clarke & Co., Coin Dealers, Box 20, LeRoy, N. Y.

Will Pay $7.00 for 1853 Quarter; $100.00 for 1853 Half without arrows. $2.00 for 1904 Dollar proof. We buy all rare coins to 1912, cents, nickels, dimes, etc. to dollars, old bills and stamps. Cash premiums paid. Send us 4c. Get our Large Coin Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

MALE HELP WANTED

Work For Uncle Sam. He is the best employer. Big pay, sure work, easy hours, long vacations, rapid advance. Thousands of jobs open this year. I will help you get one. Write for my big FREE Book, DY 1450, today. Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

War opens hundreds Government positions to men—women. $75 month. List positions free. Franklin Institute, Dept. C9, Rochester, N. Y.

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 828 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

Be A Detective. Excellent opportunity, good pay, travel. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

Large National Chain Store Company offers young men 18 to 21 years old excellent opportunity to learn retail business on high efficiency standard and qualify for management of branch stores. Special Course of instructions in Salesmanship given also liberal salary paid while learning. Only bright, energetic young men who desire to improve ability, need apply. Address Box No. 566 Baltimore, Md.

FARMS FOR SALE

Money-making Farms. 15 states, $10 an acre up; stock, tools, and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue. Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3027, New York.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

Women,—Start Dressmaking business in your homes. $25 week. Sample lesson free. Franklin Institute. Dept. C850, Rochester, N.Y.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Soldiers and Sailors need socks. Good money made at home knitting hosiery. Machines furnished on time. We pay you fixed rates for making the goods the year round. Wheeler, Inc., G-339 Madison, Chicago.

Given To Any Woman. Beautiful 100 piece gold dec. dinner set for distributing (not selling) only 5 dozen packages. Diamond Dust Soap Powder free among friends. No money or experience needed. New Method Company, 730-738 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Ills.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Four books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free.R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg.,Wash. D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel,232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Write For Free Copy "Hints on writing and Selling Photoplays, Short Stories, Poems." Atlas Pub. Co., 226, Cincinnati, O.

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid.Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free.Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis,Mo.

INVENTIONS

Inventions Commercialized on cash and royalty basis. Inventors and manufacturers write at once. Adam Fisher Mfg. Co., 2091 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis,Tenn.

PHOTO FINISHING

Kodak Films Developed, 10c. per roll, any size. Prompt attention given mail orders. Prints 2½ x 3¼ to 3¼ x 4¼ 3c.; 4 x 5 to 3¼ x 5½, 4c. J. M. Manning, 1062 Third Ave., New York City, Box S.

Your Kodak Films Developed 5c. a roll. Prints 3c. each. Expert workmanship. Washington's best equipped studio. The Sport Mart Inc., Dept. C, Wash., D. C.

Films Developed free. Perfect prints. We do the best work in this, the photo city. No charge for developing when we make the prints. No matter where you live, send us your films. We return promptly by parcels post. Bryans Drug House, Rochester, N. Y.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Establish your own business. Scientific treatment of hair and scalp taught by mail by expert. Terms moderate. Mrs. F. Taylor Buck, 467 Pacific St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Will Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct free—and sell on Commission. Big rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31, Auburn, N. Y.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free.Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

ROOTS, HERBS, ETC.

Cash Paid for all kinds Medicinal Roots, Barks, Herbs, etc. Easily gathered. Write for circular. Grund Co., Logan Sta., Phila., Pa.

POULTRY

Baby Chicks: Cheaper than Hatching Eggs. We specialize in Rocks, Leghorns & Reds. 20th Century Hatchery, Box 154 New Washington, O

Day Old Chicks for sale cheap. 10 Varieties. Hatched by one of the oldest Hatchers in the country. Circular Free. Old Honesty Hatchery, Dept. C, New Washington, O.

FOR SALE MISCELLANEOUS

Protect Your Checks. In 1915 alone, check-raisers and forgers stole $15,000,000. Our Check Protector makes your Bank Account absolutely safe. Sent anywhere, prepaid, for 50c. Take no chances. Safety first. Conway Bros., 189 Guilford Ave., Columbus, O.

The Origin of Savings Banks

When it is considered that in some states such as Massachusetts, one out of every two and a half people have savings bank accounts, and in New York with its great population, one out of three, the intimacy with which the savings bank touches the individual will become manifest. In fact no other institution except the home, the church, or the school comes into such close contact with humanity as does the savings bank. And because it touches the lives of so many people so vitally, the whole body politic is interested in the savings bank and what it does.

Financially speaking no other institution has such a marked effect for good to the individual and the community, as does the bank that takes your money. Every time you cross a well paved street, take a walk in the park, send your children to school, turn in an alarm of fire, draw some water, look with pride upon your public buildings, enter a well kept home, you pay tribute to the institution that made these things possible, and that institution is the savings bank.

While the bank of discount is an indispensable part of business life, and we could not do business without it, the number of patrons of the banks of discount is insignificant in comparison with the depositors of the savings banks of the country, now numbering over ten million.

It is well to know something about this feature of banking, for a savings bank is more than "a place to put money"—it is a great co-operative investment institution. Like a great many other institutions that have made for human good, the savings bank is a development, and the origin of the idea is in doubt. Daniel Defoe of "Robinson Crusoe" fame is mentioned as the original savings bank man, who conceived a scheme for the receipt of deposits on the part of the Government Nothing came of it. Priscilla Wakefield and Joseph Smith in England also had schemes for the receipt of deposits on the part of the well to do, of small savings and the repaying of the same at Christmas time with a bounty, contributed by the wealthy managers; but these endeavors worked on the theory that the poor should be encouraged to save for the sake of the reward offered, and were supported by the donations of the rich, which is far from the savings bank idea. The first man to grasp the fact that the earning power of the money left in the care of the managers should support the institution, was the Rev. Henry Duncan, a Scotch preacher, who, in the village of Ruthwell, Scotland, opened his savings bank—the first true savings bank, in 1810, along the lines still in vogue today. This was the first savings bank that had in it the essential elements of success. Impressed with the improvidence of the people of his parish he resolved to found an institution to receive their small savings, invest them for the benefit of the depositor and after paying the expenses of management, return the balance to the depositors as interest. This plan proved so sensible and so helpful that savings banks sprang up all over England and Scotland, and shortly the idea crossed the Atlantic, resulting in the savings bank movement in this country, which closely followed the lines laid down by Duncan's bank.

Comfort's Comicalities

"Jest for Fun"

Diplomat

"Sir," said the angry woman, "I understand you said I had a face that would stop a street-car in the middle of the block."

"Yes, that's what I said," calmly answered the mere man. "It takes an unusually handsome face to induce a motor-man to make a stop like that."—Topeka Journal.

He Didn't Bite

"Don't you ever long for a home of your own? asked the coy young thing. "I should think you'd get awfully tired of boarding-house cooking."



"I do," replied the wary bachelor, "but, you see, a fellow can change his boarding house without taking a trip to Reno."—Louisville Herald.

According to His Folly

The new minister was dining with an old lady. She had fried chicken for dinner, and he was very fond of chicken gizzard. Just for fun he told her he ate them to make him handsome. She adjusted her glasses and, looking him over, said, "Well, you ain't been eating them long, have you?"—Christian Herald.

No Fussy Housekeeper

"Ah see yo' is housecleanin'," said Mrs. Snow White.

"Yes," replied Mrs. Marsh Green, "dey is nothin' lak' movin' things 'round once in a while. Why, I des come across a pair ob slippers under de bed dat Ah hadn't seen foh five years."—Dallas News.

Durable

The admiration which Bob felt for his Aunt Margaret included all her attributes.

"I don't care much for plain teeth like mine, Aunt Margaret," said Bob, one day, after a long silence, during which he had watched her in laughing conversation with his mother. "I wish I had some copper-toed ones like yours."—Youth's Companion.

He Was It

Among the participants in court that morning were two women who claimed the same man as a husband.

"Who's that very skinny fellow over there?" questioned one of the visitors.

"He's the bone of contention," chuckled the court attendant.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Weighty Reason

Bluffer—"Why don't you assert yourself in your own house? Is there any weighty reason?"

Meekly—"Well, no; she only weighs 110 pounds."—Exchange.

Worse Yet

A German spy caught red-handed was on his way to be shot.

"I think you English are brutes," he growled, "to march me through this rain and slush."

"Well," said the "Tommy" who was escorting him, "what about me? I have to go back in it."—Tid-Bits.

Efficiency

Mr. Goodnuff—"My boy, when I was your age I didn't smoke in the way you do!"



Boy—"I should guess not. Why, there ain't a kid in the ally that kin inhale like me!"

Matrimonial Ideas

"Why do you object to my marrying your daughter?"

"Because you can't support her in the style to which she has been accustomed all her life."

"How do you know I can't? I can start her on bread and milk, same as you did."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Set Him to Thinking

De Sappie—"Do you know, Miss Mary, I'm afraid I'm engaged to the wrong girl."

She—"What leads you to think so?"

De Sappie—"She is going to marry another fellow."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Nor Custom Stale"

Mother—"You were a long time in the conservatory with Mr. Willing last night, my child. What was going on?"



Daughter—"Did you ever sit in the conservatory with father before you married him?"

Mother—"I suppose I did."

Daughter—"Well, mother, it's the same old world."—Tit-Bits.

The Feminine Vote

"I suppose you are campaigning among the plain people?"

"No. I want the beauty vote and I want yours, madam."

She promised it.—Kansas City Journal.

Cause for Wrath

Jones (to his grocer)—"You seem angry, Mr. Brown."

Brown—"I am. The inspector of weights and measures has just been in."

Jones—"Ha, ha! He caught you giving fifteen ounces to the pound, did he?"

Brown—"Worse than that. He said I'd been giving seventeen."—Tid-Bits.

Must be a Woman

Brinker—"Yes, your wife's clothes have cost me a good bit of money."

Tinker—"My wife's clothes! What do you mean?"

Brinker—"Why, every time your wife gets a new gown, my wife must have one just as expensive!"—Judge.

Hard Going

"I heard you have gone into business old fellow."

"Yep, the restaurant business."

"And how is the restaurant business, as you find it?"

"Quite a grind. I eat in my own place as an advertisement, but it is beginning to tell on me."

Careless

"What brought you here, my poor man?" asked the prison visitor.

"Just plain absent-mindedness," replied the prisoner.

"Why, how could that be?"

"I forgot to scratch the monogram off a watch before I pawned it."—Buffalo News.

Movies Discourage Saloons

A member of the Motion Pictute Board of Review recently said that due credit should be given to moving picture theaters for diminishing the number of saloons throughout the country. More than five hundred were crowded out of New York City last year, due to moving picture theaters; while four hundred went out of business in Brooklyn. The percentage of saloons eliminated in smaller manufacturing towns is even greater than in New York.

Two-Millionth Alien

Kazimierz Wiadek Gawezwmski, a Russian of Trenton, N. J., is the two millionth alien naturalized in the United States since the establishment of the Bureau of Naturalization Dec. 27, 1916. Gawezwmski's final application papers, numbered 2,000,000, were approved and passed and placed on file.

600-Year Old Snuff Box

Joseph A. Willard, of Delmar Township, Pa., has been exhibiting an ancient carved ivory snuff box. On the cover is inscribed "Susanna Willard, 1306." This heirloom is said to have come over in the Mayflower and has been handed down in the Willard family for 600 years.

Largest Area of Any City

Los Angeles, Cal., recently annexed two new suburbs and therefore can now boast of its covering the largest area of any city in the United States. New York standing second with 314 square miles, 23 square miles less than Los Angeles. Chicago takes third place with 198 square miles.

Longest Distance Wireless Message

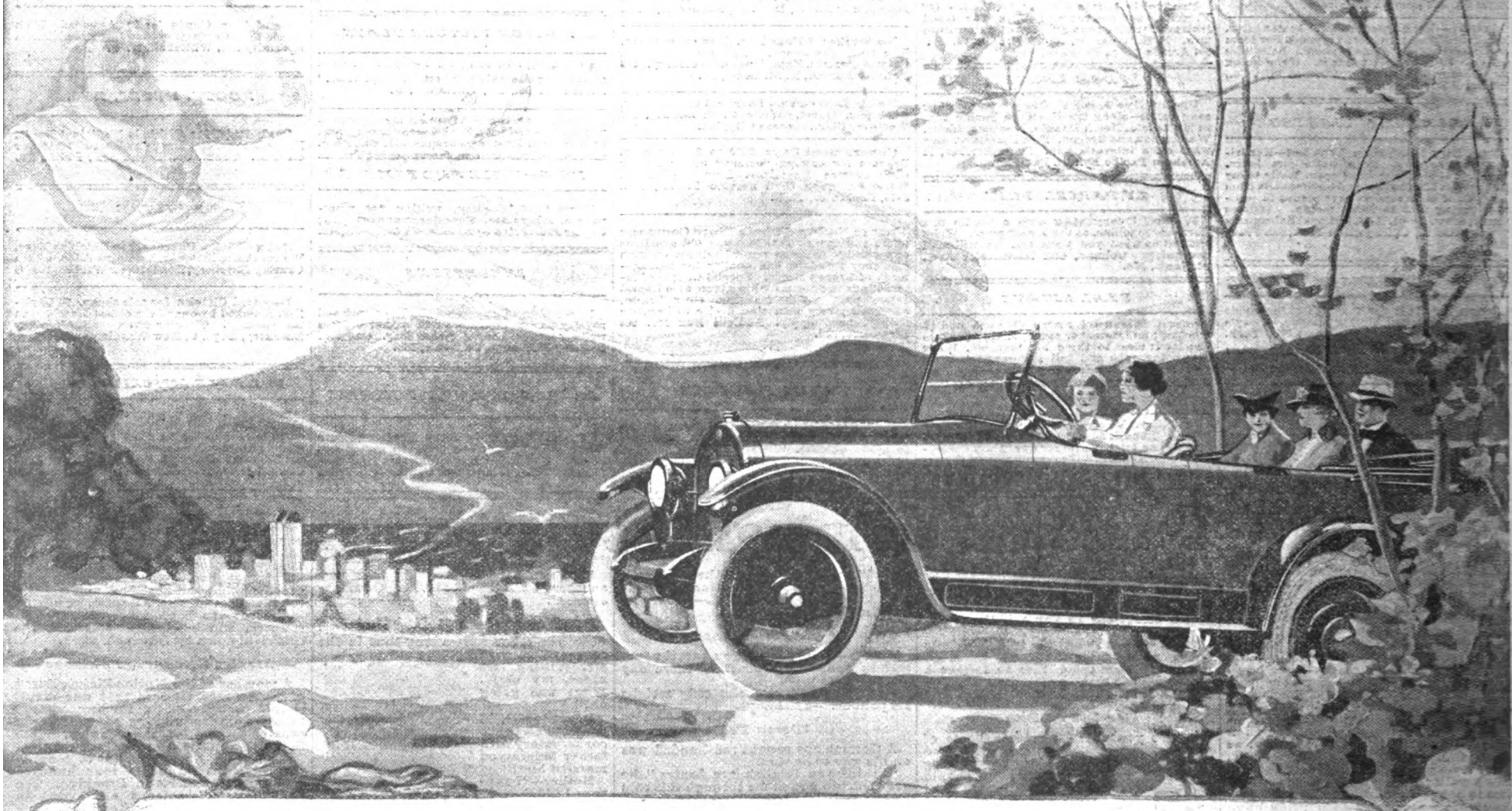
What is thought to be the longest distance wireless message yet received, was reported by the steamship Venture, which recently arrived at Sidney, New South Wales. While en route from San Francisco, Cal., a message was picked up from Tuckerton, N. J., at a point 9,000 miles away.

Anniversary of Gas

The 100th anniversary of the introduction of gas for lighting purposes was celebrated in Baltimore, Md., recently. Baltimore is said to be the first city in the United States to use gas for lighting and to incorporate a gas company.

Overland

TRADE MARK REG.



All out of doors coaxes, teases and invites you to get an Overland

There's one for you. See the Willys-Overland dealer today—let him show you the most comprehensive line of cars ever built by any one producer—make your selection now.

Catalogue on request. Please address Dept. 912

The Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio

Manufacturers of Willys-Knight and Overland Motor Cars and Light Commercial Wagons

Light Fours

Five Passenger Touring, 106-inch wheelbase, - - $695
Two Passenger Roadster, 104-inch wheelbase, - - $680
Four Passenger Sport Model, 104-inch wheelbase, - $795

Big Fours

Five Passenger Touring, 112-inch wheelbase, - - $895
Three Passenger Roadster, 112-inch wheelbase, - - $880
Three Passenger Touring-Coupe, 112-inch wheelbase $1250
Five Passenger Touring-Sedan, 112-inch wheelbase $1450

Light Sixes

Five Passenger Touring, 116-inch wheelbase, - - $1025
Three Passenger Roadster, 116-inch wheelbase, - $1010
Three Passenger Touring-Coupe, 116-inch wheelbase, $1385
Five Passenger Touring-Sedan, 116-inch wheelbase, $1585

Willys-Knights

Seven Passenger Four, Touring, 121-inch wheelbase, $1395
Seven Passenger Eight, Touring, 125-inch wheelbase, $1950
Four Passenger Four, Coupe, 114-inch wheelbase, $1650
Seven Pass. Four, Touring-Sedan, 121-in. wheelbase, $1950
Seven Passenger Four, Limousine, 121-in. wheelbase, $1950

All prices f. o. b. Toledo—Subject to change without notice

JULY 1917

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

Vol. XXIX

No. 9

"All in my honor, I know."

"We'll make her marry one of us!"

Their progress up the street resembled a triumphal march.

"To my independence! Gone, snatched from me."

"Oh, Mac, we're married Don't send me away."

Published at AUGUSTA MAINE

A DECLARATION OF DEPENDENCE

See story - page 8

Copyright 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 10.

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

Productive Industry and Commercial Enterprise Must Not Be Crippled by Excessively Heavy War Taxes

THE fact that Congress has voted a war appropriation of seven billion dollars as a starter, while the war plans on foot and in prospect involve a probable expenditure exceeding that sum, indicates clearly enough that the government is in urgent need of a vast sum of money, all of which must be obtained from the people by some means or other, for they are the source from which it must come. And it is equally clear that in order to enable them to furnish these funds the prosperity of the country must continue unimpared. To this end normal business conditions not only must not be seriously interfered with but the innumerable industries on which the earning capacity of the nation depends must thrive and even be stimulated and speeded up In other words the people must be busily employed producing and earning to an extent never before realized here and at the same time spending and consuming liberally, for, let it be emphasized, that any considerable curtailment of consumption will surely result in the closing of many industrial establishments and thereby throw out of employment many hands, demoralize business and reduce the earning power of labor and capital.

Production and consumption are equally indispensable links in the endless chain of prosperity. Therefore the tendency which present high prices have toward reduction of consumption must not be materially aggravated by excessively high taxation which, according to the form in which it is applied, will either cripple industry in the first instance or work the same havoc secondarily by reducing the purchasing power of the people.

How, then, is the government to obtain the necessary funds with which to carry on the war? There are but two possible ways. Taxation is one and borrowing is the other. It has been decided, as a matter of course, that both means are to be used, and the only question is as to the respective proportions in which they shall be employed Congress has already ordered the issuance of two billion dollars of government bonds (the so-called Liberty Loan) and they are now being offered for sale to the people. But for two months Congress has been considering and, at the present writing (June 8th), is still undecided as to how much shall be raised by war taxes. As pointed out, this is a question of vital consequence.

We expect, and the country can stand, a considerable increase of taxes during the war, provided the increase is not excessive and is so apportioned and applied as not to unduly burden and cripple any industry nor largely reduce the purchasing power of the people by absorbing their earnings in large direct and indirect taxes. But the war revenue bill which the House of Representatives in its obsession by the fetish of raising as much money as possible by taxation, regardless of consequences concocted and passed is a monstrosity of unwisdom and will be disastrous to the country unless radically reformed before finally enacted It aimed to raise nearly two billion dollars the first year by a variety of taxes many of them oppressive and some so excessively heavy as to threaten the crippling or destruction of important industries. A deaf ear was turned to the remonstrances that poured in from all sections of the country, and arguments and pleas for rational and considerate action were met with the stupid excuse "the government needs the money and we can not bother to look into and rectify the defects and injustices of the bill" The remark of one of the leaders who, after acknowledging various defects in the bill, said "I shall shut my eyes and vote for it," reflects the unreasonable attitude of mind that swayed the House.

The bill is now in the Senate Finance Committee which has listened with respectful attention to all interested parties who wished to be heard It is expected that, on recommendation of its committee, the Senate will amend the bill so as to reduce the total of the first year's war tax to or below one billion and one half and eliminate the glaringly unjust, unwise and excessively burdensome features—in other words, make it over into a livable taxation plan which will permit the country to prosper so that by means of continued prosperity it can sustain the burdens of war. Of course this means that if less is raised by immediate taxation more will have to be procured by borrowing. But if prosperous the people will be willing and financially able to lend the government all the money it can possibly require. Furthermore, the difference in the amount to be borrowed in consequence of mitigating the proposed war taxes will be less than the figures would seem to indicate, because of the known fact that a moderately large tax always produces more revenue than an excessively heavy tax.

When the tax on a given article is raised to a certain point the price becomes nearly prohibitive and the consumption of the article declines to a degree that yields less revenue than a smaller tax which does not materially lessen consumption. The high tax, by reducing consumption, cuts down the market demand and imperils or destroys the industry which produces the article. There is one safe rule which should be the basic principle of our war taxes, and that is to put the taxes, reasonable taxes, on profits where practicable; this would impose no hardship on anybody and would distribute the burden in proportion to ability to bear it.

Everybody that Can Should Own a Liberty Bond

WE hope that every COMFORT reader, man, woman and child, that can scrape together fifty dollars or more of spare cash has subscribed for one or more Liberty Bonds according to his means. We would have mentioned this in our last month's editorial if the full details of the bonds had been obtainable before our June issue went to press. When this reaches our readers it will be too late to subscribe for bonds of the present issue, as subscriptions to this offering, which is limited to two billion dollars, closed June 15th. But other bond issues will be offered during the war to meet the government's needs; therefore all should know their duty and interest to help float the war loans.

To own a Liberty Bond is a good investment, good policy and a patriotic duty. It is a U. S. government bond, the safest investment in the world; you can have it registered in your name so that there will be no danger of loss by theft. It pays interest at the rate of three and one half per cent a year, payable twice a year, December and June. You can borrow money on it at any bank; it will have a market value the world over and be salable anywhere at any time. Principal and interest will be tax free; neither Federal or State government nor any county, city, town or district in the United States can tax you for it. They are war bonds sold by the government to raise money to carry on the war, as stated, and it is the patriotic duty of every citizen to help by buying them to the extent of his available means. Men of wealth, the banks, insurance companies and large corporations have bought heavily of them. Like postage stamps, they are offered in large or small lots or single bonds at the same price to anybody and everybody.

It is good policy to subscribe for as many Liberty Bonds as you can pay for. Although wealthy individuals and large corporations have subscribed for large lots, a number of them for million dollar blocks or bigger, still these are not enough to cover such a large loan and the government has to rely on the great mass of the people of moderate means to come forward and invest their savings in the purchase of small blocks or single bonds. The bonds will be issued in denominations of $1000, $500, $100 and even as small as $50 each to come within the means of small investors. All banks, postmasters and express offices receive subscriptions, and if you are short of ready cash you can pay two per cent when you subscribe and your local bank will arrange for you to pay the balance in small installments. The government needs your money, wants everybody that possibly can to own a Liberty Bond and has made it easy for you to subscribe and buy on your own terms. The present issue has been over-subscribed but the small subscriptions will be given the preference in the allotment of bonds.

The government must have the necessary money for war purposes and as there are only two ways of obtaining it—borrowing and taxation—if each issue of the Liberty Loan is not fully subscribed the natural consequence will be to raise the war taxes above the contemplated rates. The plan, as explained, is to procure part by loan and part by increase of taxes. Is it not good policy for the people to buy the Liberty Bonds, which are an interest-paying investment, rather than to pay a larger share of the war expense by immediate war taxes? Is there any other escape from burdensomely high war taxes? Don't be deterred from buying these bonds by the expectation that there will be another war loan perhaps at a higher rate of interest. The government ought to be able to borrow all the money it needs at any time for three and one half per cent, but the possible contingency has been provided for by the government's specific agreement that in case it issues any later bonds at a higher interest rate during the war the bonds of the present issue shall be exchangeable for the bonds of the higher interest rate; the government will swap even with you, bond for bond.

Government to Guarantee Farmers a Minimum Price for Farm Produce

ONE of the most important war measures now under consideration by Congress is a bill to establish a guaranteed minimum price to producers of non-perishable agricultural products under regulations to be prescribed by the President. As the purpose of the bill is to induce the farmers to make the utmost effort to raise as large crops as possible by a government guaranty against loss through low prices in case of overproduction, it should have become law two months ago, before planting time had passed. Present indications point to its adoption within the next few weeks, but the delay, already too long, in acting on it is inexcusable under the existing exigency and impending danger of a world famine. Under any circumstances it is a reasonable, proper and much needed measure with every reason in its favor and none against it; in the present crisis it is imperative.

By bitter experience the farmers have learned the disastrous effect of overproduction, of too large crops which depress prices below the cost of production. A comparatively small surplus over what is required for the year's consumption drives prices down to a losing figure Therefore the farmers aim not to produce a surplus and consequently the surplus carried over from one year to another in this country is so small that an extensive crop failure any year is likely to put the entire country on short rations. So we live under the continual menace of famine. The speculators buy the crops as cheap as they can, carry over the surplus and take a chance of realizing a profit by a short crop the following season. The only remedy is for the government to stand ready to buy the surplus, however large, at a fair, living price and store it as a safeguard against famine in case of one or more years of general crop failure. This is the only way whereby the farmers can be assured of fair prices and the country protected against famine and the consumer against extortionate speculative prices.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. *We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.* If you do not get your magazine by the 25th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy Remember that we *must* have your *former* address, as well as your *new* address to make the change. Be sure to send *both.* We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second-class mail matter. Copyright, 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or stitches each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through both loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Crocheted Photograph Frames

THESE attractive frames were submitted by Miss Gracia Shull and are original designs worked out with coarse ecru crochet cotton. The work is simple and the directions plain so one should have no difficulty in duplicating these effective frames which will help solve the problem of preserving some of the numerous snap shots.

After finishing each frame, tack to pasteboard on which the photograph has been previously mounted, or if one prefers these frames can be stretched and tacked to a board so the shape will be as nearly perfect as possible and then stained a nut brown, bronze green or mahogany and after becoming thoroughly dry, varnished. Or just a coat of clear varnish or shellac may be applied without the stain.

Crocheted Round Frame

Make a chain the desired length and join. Around the ch. work 4 rows of single crochet.

5th row.—* ch. 3, sl. 1, cluster in next, ch. 3, sl. 1, 1 s. c. in next, repeat from * around. Above this work 1 s. c. in cluster, ch. 5, 1 s. c. in next cluster around; over the ch. work 4 more rows of single crochet.

Edge

Same as 5th row. Flower, ch. 6, form ring, 5 d. c. with ch. 2, between over half of ring, ch. 12, d. c. 12 along ch., repeat twice, 1 s. c. at end of each petal, * ch. 5, 1 d. c., 1 over d. c; repeat * until there are 4 sps., 1 s. c. at beginning of first, 1 st., ch. 12, work 6 s. c. over each ch. 5.

The stem and leaves are chains of the desired length covered with double crochet.

The loop at top is a ch. 12 covered with single crochet. If the frame does not lie flat in center work a row of s. c. around inner edge skipping every 5th or 6th st.

Crocheted Oblong Frame

Make a chain of the length desired for the photograph and join ends with 1 sl. st. Work 3 rows of single crochet around the chain.

4th row.—Shell in first st., * sl. 3 s. c. in previous row, shell in next; repeat from * around.



CROCHETED ROUND FRAME.

5th and 6th rounds.—Shell in shell to end of round. Ch. 12 for the loop and s. c. 1 at sp. between next 2 shells, turn and cover the ch. 12 with single crochet. The frame may be made wider if wanted by adding more rows of shells.

Oval Frame

Make a length of chain and join the ends with 1 sl. st. Work one row of s. c. along the ch.

2nd row.—Spaces made by working 1 d. c. in every other st. and ch. 2 between. Outside of the spaces work 6 rows of single crochet.

8th row.—Spaces.

9th row.—Single crochet with a ch. 5 picot over each d. c. in previous row. Now work a row of s. c. along the inner edge skipping every fifth st. of foundation ch. The flower is made as follows. Ch. 8. form ring, 8 d. c. with ch. 5 between in ring.

2nd row.—* 1 s. c. in sp., 8 d. c. in next sp; repeat from * until there are 4 petals.

3rd row.—* 1 s. c. at back of petals, ch. 7; repeat from * around.

4th row.—1 s. c., d. c., 1 s. c. over each ch. 7. Work remainder of points thus, 1 s. c. on 1 d. c. 7 times, turn. 1 s. c. on 1 s. c. 6 times, turn; 1 s. c. on 1 s. c. 5 times, turn; 1 s. c. on 1 s. c. 4, 3 and 2 times with a turn at the end then slip down side of point and begin next point. The stem is a chain of the desired length covered with d. c. At about the center of the ch. are two chains of 15 st. each covered with 6 and 5 spaces. The flower is fastened to the frame



CROCHETED OVAL FRAME.

with a few firm stitches. The crocheted cover is attached to the cardboard cover (previously



CROCHETED OBLONG FRAME.

covered with linen or crash) by means of small even stitches crossed over the back of frame.

Tatted Insertion and Edging for Towel Ends.

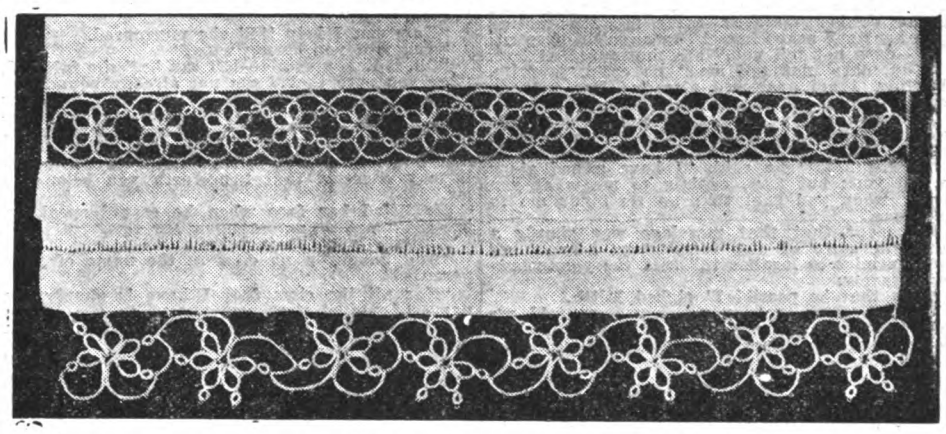
Insertion

With shuttle and extra thread, ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 5, 1 p. ch. 5, 1 p., ch. 5, 1 p., ch. 5, with shuttle alone make ring 6 d. s. 1 p., 6 d. s., ch. 5, 1 p., ch. 5, join to third picot back, ch. 5, 1 p., ch. 5, 1 p., ch. 5, join to p., before 12 d. s. ring, ch. 5, join to form second large loop, 2 more loop of 4 chs. 5, and 3 p. s., 1 loop with small ring, ch. 5, join to p. of first large loop, ch. 5, join to second p. made, ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8 join to small ring, ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, and repeat.

Join ring of next first large loop to ring in first group. At end of insertion turn with ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, 1 small ring, join to loop, ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, join to p. of center loop ch. 8, 1 p. ch. 8, 1 ring, join to loop in end group, 1 ring, join to loop in next group, ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, join to center loop of next group and repeat finishing to opposite end with 3 chs. 8 and 2 p. s. This makes both sides of insertion and also the ends exactly alike.

Edging

With shuttle and extra thread ch. 15, 1 p., ch. 8, 1 p, ch. 8, turn work and * ch. 12, 1 ring with shuttle of 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., ch. 12, 1 p., ch. 12, join for first loop of flower like motif. Repeat from * 4 times, ch. 8, join to p., ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, join to ring of first loop ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, join to ring of second loop, ch 8, 1 p., ch. 10, 1 p., ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, 1 p., ch. 8, 1 loop, 1 ring and repeat whole pattern only in reverse order.



TATTED EDGING AND INSERTION FOR TOWEL END. By Mrs. Frank Beal.

Relief Work Knitting

Now that our own men will probably be in the trenches another winter every woman should do her bit by knitting every moment possible, for woolen sweaters, socks, hemlets, scarfs, mittens, etc. will be needed in immense quantities. To aid in this work each month we will publish directions for some of the articles used by the soldiers.

Scotch knitting yarn in either mixed grey or Khaki shades should be used.

Sleeveless Army Sweater

Material required. 4 hanks Scotch knitting yarn and 1 pair No. 8 knitting needles.

Cast on 84 sts. Rib 2 inches deep by knitting 3 sts. and purling 3 sts., alternately.

Then knit 1 whole row. Then purl 1 whole row until sweater measures 23 inches including the border.

The neck hole is made as follows: K. 25 sts., bind off as loosely as possible 34 sts., k. 25 sts., knit 25 sts. plain until one has 4 ribs on the right side of the work and the work ends towards the inside of the neck. Break off wool.

Tie wool in at beginning of the 25 sts. which have been carried on back and k. plain until there are 4 ribs to correspond with other side.

Then cast on 34 sts. and pick up and knit the other 25 sts. Purl the next whole row across and knit the next row and alternate as in the beginning until the work measures 21 inches and is even with the back.

Knit and purl the border as before directed until 2 inches in depth.

Bind off very loosely, sew up sides leaving 10 inches for each armhole.

Army Muffler

Material required.—2 hanks Scotch knitting, 1 pair amber knitting needles No. 3, 1 bone crochet hook No. 3.

Cast on 70 sts., knit plain until scarf measures 1 1-2 yards, bind off. If one knits loosely less stitches will be necessary as width of scarf should only be 12 inches.

Fringe

Wind the yarn around cardboard 4 inches wide, cut yarn in strands 8 inches long and knot 4 strands in every other st. with crochet hook, on both ends of muffler.

Knitted Hemlet

Material required—1 hank Scotch knitting, 2 pair steel knitting needles No. 8.

Cast on each of 2 needles 34 sts. and on third needle 32 sts., k. in rounds of k. 2, p. 2, for 12 inches, bind off 24 sts. loosely for opening, then k. in rib of k. 2, p. 2, on the 76 sts. for 2 inches, then cast on 24 sts. where they were bound off, k. in rounds again of k. 2, p. 2, for 2 inches.

To Shape the Crown of Head

1st round.—Decrease as follows; * k. 18, narrow, repeat from * to end of round.

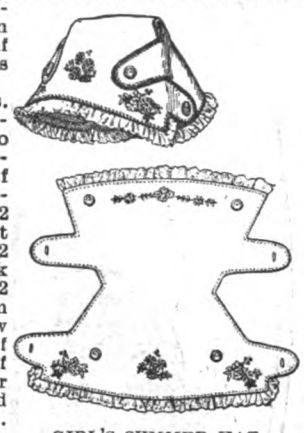
2nd round.—K. plain.

Repeat first and second rounds alternately have 1 st. less between each of the narrowing points every other round, until there are 25 sts. left, bind off and draw together firmly and fasten.

Girl's Summer Hat

This little washable hat for a baby girl of a year and a half to two years is very dainty and attractive, most easily made and also laundered as it can be opened by unbuttoning the sides and ironed flat.

White linen figure or other white mercerized material of similar weight can be used. A half yard of goods will make two.



GIRL'S SUMMER HAT.

Measurements.—Through center from front to back 11 1-2 inches. Center of crown.—Narrowest part 5 1-2 inches. Front lower edge 11 1-2 inches. Back lower edge 10 1-2 inches. From these points draw lines to center of crown. One half inch up on either side of front, add 2-inch straps. And two inches up from back edge add 3-inch strap. Now cut out in one piece, rounding ends of straps a little.

Finish all edging by buttonholing around with pink or blue mercerized pearl cotton after which add groups of small flowers. These have yellow French knot centers, surrounded by row of quarter inch stitches worked from center outward. Finish with small pearl buttons and a ruche of net or fulled lace along lower edges.

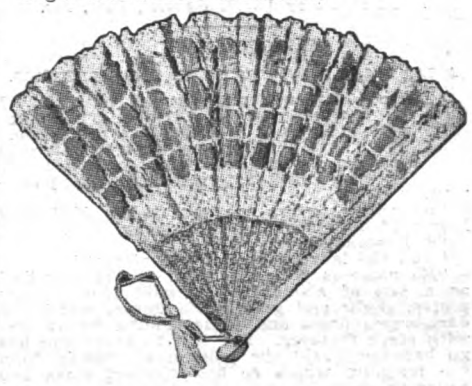
Crocheted Fan

By Lydia M. Dearborn

A novel way of covering a fan was worked out by one of our California readers.

One spool of mercerized cotton and a steel crochet hook is all that is necessary.

Begin with a chain 46 stitches.



CROCHETED FAN.

1st row.—Ch. 4, 2 d. c. in 2nd st., 3 d. c. in every other st. around, making 23 groups of doubles.

2nd row.—Ch. 4, 3 d. c. on 1st group of 3 d. c., 4 d. c. on all the rest.

3rd row.—Same as 2nd row.

4th row.—6 d. c. on every group of doubles.

5th row.—Ch. 5, 2 tr. c. in first group, ch. 3, 2 tr. c. on each remaining group.

6th row.—Ch. 5, 2 tr. c. on each group with ch. 3 between.

7th row.—3 tr. c. on each, 2 tr. c., ch. 3 between.

8th row.—4 tr. c. on each group, ch. 3 between.

9th row.—Same as 8th row.

10th row.—6 tr. c. on each group, ch. 3 between.

11th, 12th and 13th rows.—Same as 10th row.

14th and 15th rows.—3 tr. c., ch. 3.

16th row.—11 tr. c., ch. 3.

Finish scallop with picot of ch. 4, 1 s. c., repeat all round.

Measure on fan to be covered and if necessary vary the size by omitting or adding rows as is necessary. When finished slip the sticks or spokes of the fan through the openings and hold in place by piercing holes in the sticks and catching the covering in place with needle and thread. Finish with cord and tassel to match. Ribbon of proper width can be run in to cover the sticks, as here shown, if desired.

Tatting for Hat Band

Begin with ring of 7 picots, then with shuttle and spool make two double stitches and picots repeated, until 3 picots are made. Now, with spool, make a small three-picoted ring. With shuttle and spool make 2 double stitches and picot repeated until 3 picots are counted. Make another 7-picoted ring. Join this to the first ring made at the third picot. Proceed as before until six of the seven picoted rings and five large points are made.



TATTING FOR HAT BAND.

With spool and shuttle make two double stitches and picot repeated until three picots are counted. Make a small 3-picoted ring and another 3-picoted bar. Now make a 7-picoted ring and join it to the point of the last large point, at the third picot of the ring.

Tatting Book Notice

In response to the demand and for the benefit of our readers who are interested in tatting, we have issued a 16-page booklet of special designs by COMFORT workers.

This Tatting Book illustrates very plainly just how the work is to be done, by showing the various positions of the worker's hands, which are accompanied by explicit directions for the different movements used in making the stitch.

It also contains a complete range of patterns from the simplest edgings and insertions to handsome designs worked with one and two threads, including patterns for doilies, centerpieces, scarfs, lingerie, waists, yokes, collars, infants' and boudoir caps, bags, etc.

We will send a copy of this book free for one new yearly subscription (not your own) at 25c., or for your own subscription or renewal and ten cents extra 35c in all. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Masked Bridal

by Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



He beckoned to the driver of a carriage as he spoke.

"Yes," Edith confessed.

"Come now," she said, holding out a hand to her.

He repaired to his club, where he wrote a letter to his client.

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XXIV.

A SAD STORY DISCLOSED TO AN EAGER LISTENER.

"I DO not undertstand you, sir. I think you have made a mistake; this lady is under my protection."

"But I have orders to intercept a person answering to this lady's description," returned the policeman.

"By whose orders are you acting, if I may inquire?" demanded the young man.

"A Boston party."

"And the lady's name, if you please?"

"No name is given, sir; but she is described as a girl of about twenty, pure blonde, very pretty, slight and graceful in figure, wearing a dark-brown dress and jacket and a brown hat with black feathers. She will be alone and has no baggage," said the policeman, reading from the telegram which he had received some two hours previous.

Mr. Bryant smiled loftily.

"Your description hits the case in some respects, I admit," he observed, with an appreciative glance at Edith, who stood beside him outwardly calm and collected, though the hand that rested upon his arm was tense with repressed emotion, "but in others it is wide of its mark. You have her personal appearance, in a general way, and the dress happens to correspond in everything but the hat. You will observe that the lady wears a black hat with a scarlet wing instead of a brown one with black feathers. She did not arrive alone, either, as you perceive, we got off the train together."

The officer looked perplexed.

"What may your name be, sir, if you please?" he inquired, with more civility than he had yet shown.

"Royal Bryant, of the firm of Bryant & Co., Attorneys. Here is my card, and you can find me at my office between the hours of nine and four any day you may wish," the young man frankly returned, as he slipped the bit of pasteboard into the man's hand.

"And will you swear that you are not aiding and abetting this young lady in trying to escape the legal authority of friends in Boston?" questioned the policeman.

"Ahem! I was not aware that I was being examined under oath," responded the young lawyer, with quiet irony. "However, I am willing to give you my word of honor, as a gentleman, that this lady is accountable to no one in Boston for her movements."

"Well, I reckon I have made a mistake; but where in thunder, then, is the girl I'm after?" muttered the officer.

"Does your telegram authorize you to arrest a runaway from Boston?" Mr. Bryant inquired.

"Yes, a girl from the smart set, who don't want any scandal over the matter," replied the man.

"But she may not have come by the Boston and Albany line," objected Mr. Bryant. "There are several trains that leave the city from different stations about the same time; you may find your bird on a later train, Mr. Officer," he concluded, in a reassuring tone.

"That is so," was the thoughtful response.

"Then I suppose you will not care to detain us any longer," Mr. Bryant courteously remarked. "Come Edith," he added, turning with a smile to his companion, and then he started to move on.

"Hold on! I'm blamed if I don't think I'm right after all," said the policeman, in a tone of conviction, as he again placed himself in their path.

Royal Bryant flashed a look of fire at him.

"Have you a warrant for the lady's arrest?"

"No; I am simply ordered to detain her until her friends can come on and take charge of her," the man reluctantly admitted, while he heaved a sigh for the fat plum that had been promised him in the event of his "bagging his game."

"Then, if you are not legally authorized in this matter, I would advise you, as a friend, to make no mistake," gravely returned the young lawyer. "You might heap up wrath for yourself; while, if your patrons are anxious to avoid a scandal, you are taking the surest way to create one by interfering with the movements of myself and my companion. This young lady is my friend, and, as I have already told you, under my protection; as her attorney, also, I shall stand no nonsense, I assure you."

"Beg pardon, sir; but I'm only trying to obey orders," apologized the official. "But would you have the goodness to tell me this young lady's name."

"Certainly," he responded, with the utmost cheerfulness, "this lady's name is Miss Edith Allandale, and she is the daughter of the late Albert Allandale of Allandale & Capen, bankers."

"It is all right, sir," said the officer, at last convinced that he had made a mistake, for Allandale & Capen had been a well-known firm to him. "You can go on," he added, touching his hat respectfully, "and I beg pardon for troubling you."

Without more ado he turned away, while Edith and her escort passed on, but the frightened girl was now trembling in every limb.

"Calm yourself, dear," whispered her companion, involuntarily using the affectionate term, as he hastened to lead her into the fresh air. "You are safe, and I will soon have you in a place where your enemies will never think of looking for you."

He beckoned to the driver of a carriage as he spoke, and in another minute was assisting Edith into it; then, taking a seat beside her, he gave the man his order, and as the vehicle moved away in the darkness, the poor girl began to breathe freely for the first time since alighting from the train.

Mr. Bryant gave her a little time to recover herself, and then asked her to tell him all her trouble.

This she was only too glad to do; and, beginning with the death of her mother, she poured out the whole story of the last three months to him, dwelling mostly, however, upon the persecutions of Emil Correlli and the climax to which they had recently attained.

"I was in despair," Edith finally remarked in conclusion, "until yesterday, when, by the merest chance, my eye fell upon that advertisement of yours and it flashed upon me that the best course for me to pursue would be to come directly to New York and seek your aid; I felt sure you would be as willing to help me as upon a previous occasion."

"Certainly I would—you judged me rightly," the young man responded, "but"—bending nearer to her and speaking in a slightly reproachful tone—"tell me, please, what was your object in leaving New York so unceremoniously?"

"I—I thought it was best," she faltered.

"Why for the 'best'?—for you or for me? Tell me, please," he pleaded, gently.

"For—both," she replied.

"I—you will pardon me if I speak plainly—I thought it very strange," he remarked gravely. "It almost seemed to me as if you were fleeing from me, for I fully expected that you would return to the office on Thursday morning, as I had appointed. Had I done anything to offend you or drive you away—Edith?"

"No—oh, no," she quickly returned.

"I am very glad to know that," said her companion, a slight tremulousness in his tones, "for I have feared that I might have betrayed my feelings in a way to wound or annoy you; for, Edith—I can no longer keep the secret—I had learned to love you with all my heart during that week that you spent in my office, and I resolved, on parting with you at the carriage, the morning of your release, to confess the fact to you as soon as you returned to the office, ask you to be my wife and thus let me stand between you and the world for all time. Nay,"—as Edith here made a little gesture as if to check him—"I must make a full confession now, while I have the opportunity. I was almost in despair when I received your brief note telling me that you had left the city and without giving me the slightest clew to your destination. All my plans, all my fond anticipations, were dashed to the earth, dear. I loved you so I felt that I could not bear the separation. I love you still, my darling—my heart leaped for joy this afternoon when I received your telegram. And now, while I have you here all to myself, I have dared to tell you of it, and beg you to tell me if there is any hope for me? Can you love me in return!—will you be my wife——?"

"Oh, hush! you forget the wretched tie that binds me to that villain in Boston," cried Edith.

"No tie binds you to him, dear," he whispered, tenderly. "Do you think I would have opened my heart to you thus if I had really believed you to be the wife of another?"

"Oh, do you mean that the marriage was not legal? Oh, if I could believe that!" Edith exclaimed.

"Tell me, Edith, if I can prove it to you, will there be hope for me?" he whispered.

Ought she to answer him as her heart dictated? Dare she confess her love with that stigma of her mother's early mistake resting upon her? she asked herself, in anguish of spirit.

"I—dare not tell you," she murmured at last.

"You 'dare' not tell me!" he cried, joyfully. "Darling, I am answered already! But why do you hesitate to open your heart to me?"

A sudden resolve took possession of her; she would tell him the whole truth, let come what might.

"I will not," she said. "I have a sad story to tell you; but first, explain to me what you meant when you said that no tie binds me to that man?"

"I meant that that marriage was simply a farce, in spite of the sacrilegious attempt of your enemies to legalize it," said the young lawyer, gravely.

"Can that be possible?" sighed Edith.

"I will prove it to you. You have told me that this man Correlli lived with that Italian woman here in New York for two years or more."

"Yes."

"Do you know whether he allowed her to be known by his name?"

"No; but she told me that he allowed her to appear as his wife in the house where they lived."

"Well, then, if that can be proven—and I have not much doubt about the matter—the girl, by the laws of New York, which decree that if a couple live together in this state as husband and wife, they are such—this girl, I say, is the legal wife of Emil Correlli, consequently he can lay no claim to you without making himself liable to prosecution for the crime of bigamy."

"Are you sure?" breathed Edith.

"So sure, dear, that I have nothing to fear for your future, regarding your connection with this man, and everything to hope for regarding your happiness and mine, if you will but tell me that you love me," her lover returned, as he boldly captured the hand that lay alluringly near him.

She did not withdraw it from his clasp.

"Forgive my impatience, dear, and tell me the 'sad story' to which you referred a little while ago."

A heavy sigh escaped Edith.

"You will be surprised to learn," she began, "that Mr. and Mrs. Allandale were not my own parents—that I was their adopted daughter."

"Indeed! I am surprised!" exclaimed Mr. Bryant.

"I did not discover the fact, however," the young girl pursued, "until the night after my mother's burial."

And then she proceeded to relate all that had occurred in connection with the box of letters which Mrs. Allandale had desired, when dying, to be burned.

She told of her subsequent examination of them, especially of those signed "Belle," and the story which they had revealed.

Royal Bryant listened to the pathetic tale without once interrupting the fair narrator, and Edith's heart sank more and more in her bosom as she proceeded, and feared that she was so shocking him by these revelations that his affection for her would die with this expose of her secret.

But he still held her hand clasped in his; and when, at the conclusion of her story, she gently tried to withdraw it, his fingers closed more firmly over hers, when, bending still nearer to her, he questioned, in fond, eager tones:

"Was this the reason of your leaving New York so abruptly last December?"

"Yes."

"Was it because you loved me and could not trust yourself to meet me day after day without betraying the fact when you feared that the knowledge of your birth might become a barrier between us? Tell me, my darling, truly!"

"Yes," Edith confessed; "but how could you guess it—how could you read my heart so like an open book?"

"'Tis said that 'love is blind,'" he said, "but mine was keen to read the signs I coveted, and I believed, even when you were in your deepest trouble, that you were beginning to love me, and that I should eventually win you."

"Why! did you begin to——" Edith began.

"Did I begin to plan to win you so far back as that?" he laughingly exclaimed, and putting his own interpretation upon her half-finished sentence. "My darling, I began to love you and to wish for you even before your first day's work was done for me."

CHAPTER XXV.

A NEW CHARACTER IS INTRODUCED.

"And now, love," the eager wooer continued, as he dropped the hand he had been holding and drew the happy girl into his arms, "you will give yourself to me—you will give me the right to stand between you and all future care or trouble?"

"Then you do not mind what I have just told you?"

"Not in the least, only so far as it occasions your unhappiness or anxiety," replied the young man. "You are unscathed by it—the sin and the shame belong alone to the man who ruined the life of your mother. You are my pearl, my fair lily, unspotted by any blight, and I should be unworthy of you, indeed, did I allow what you have told me to prejudice me in the slightest degree. Now tell me, Edith, that henceforth there shall be no barrier between us—tell me that you love me."

"How can I help it?" she murmured.

"And will you be my wife?"

"Oh, if it is possible—if I can be," she faltered. "Are you sure that I am not already bound?"

"Leave all that to me—do not fret, even for one second, over it," her lover tenderly returned. Then he added, more lightly: "I am so sure, sweetheart, that tomorrow I shall bring you a letter which will proclaim to all whom it may concern, that henceforth you belong to me."

He lifted her face when he ceased speaking, pressed his first caress upon her lips.

A little later he inquired:

"And have you no clew to the name of your parents?"

"No; all the clew that I have is simply the name of 'Belle' that was signed to the letters of which I have told you," Edith replied, with a regretful sigh.

"It is perhaps just as well, dear, after all," said her lover, cheerfully; "if you knew more, and should ever chance to meet the man who so wronged your mother, it might cause you a great deal of unhappiness."

"I have not a regret on his account," said Edith, bitterly; "but I would like to know something about my mother's early history and her friends. I have only sympathy and love in my heart for her, in spite of the fact that she erred greatly in leaving her home as she did, and, worse than all, in taking her own life."

"Poor little woman!" said Royal Bryant, with gentle sympathy; "despair must have turned her brain—she was more sinned against than sinning. But girls do not realize what a terrible mistake they are making when they allow men to persuade them to elope, leave their homes and best friends, and submit to a secret marriage. No man of honor would ever make such proposals to any woman—no man is worthy of any pure girl's love who will ask such a sacrifice on her part; and, in nine cases out of ten, I believe nothing but misery results from such a step."

"As in the case of poor Giulia Fiorini," remarked Edith, sadly. "But maybe she will be somewhat comforted when she discovers that she is Emil Correlli's legal wife."

"I fear that such knowledge will be but small satisfaction to her," her companion responded, "for if she should take measures to compel him to recognize the tie, he would doubtless rebel against the decision of the court; and, if she still loves him as you have represented, he would make her very wretched. However, he can be forced to make generous settlements, which will enable her to live comfortably and educate her child."

"And he will be entitled to his father's name, will be not?" inquired Edith, eagerly; "that would comfort her more than anything else."

"Yes, if he has ever acknowledged her as his wife, or allowed it to be assumed that she was, the child is entitled to the name," returned her lover. Then, as the carriage stopped, he added: "But here we are, my darling, and I am sure you must be very weary after your long journey."

"Yes, I am tired, but very, very happy," the fair girl replied, looking up into his face with a sigh of content.

He smiled fondly upon her as he led her up the steps of a modest but pretty house, between the draperies at the windows of which there streamed a cheerful light.

"Well, we will soon have you settled in a cozy room where you can rest to your heart's content," he remarked, and at the same time touching the electric button by his side.

"Really, Mr. Bryant, I cannot help feeling guilty to intrude upon an entire stranger at this time of night," Edith observed, in a troubled tone.

"You need not, dear, for I assure you Nellie will be delighted; but"—bending over her with a roguish laugh—"Mr. Bryant does not enjoy being addressed with so much formality by his fiancee. The name I love best—Roy—my mother gave me when I was a boy, and I want always to hear it from your lips after this."

A servant admitted them just at that moment, and upon responding to Mr. Bryant's inquiry, said that Mrs. Morrell was at home, and ushered them at once to her pretty parlor.

Presently the young hostess—a lady of perhaps twenty-five years—made her appearance and greeted her cousin with great cordiality.

"You know I am always glad to see you, Roy," she said, giving him both her hands and putting up her red lips for a cousinly kiss.

"I know you always make a fellow feel very welcome," said the young man, smiling. "And, Nellie, this is Miss Edith Allandale; she has just arrived from Boston, and I am going to ask you to receive her as your guest for a few days," he concluded, thus introducing Edith.

Mrs. Morrell turned smilingly to the beautiful girl.

"Miss Allandale is doubly welcome, for her own sake, as well as yours," was her gracious response, as she clasped Edith's hand, and if she experienced any surprise at thus having an utter stranger thrust upon her hospitality at that hour, she betrayed none, but proceeded at once to help her remove her hat and wraps.

Tears sprang to the eyes of the homeless girl at this cordial reception, and her lips quivered with repressed emotion as she thanked the gentle lady for it.

"What was that Roy was saying—that you have come from Boston this afternoon?" queried Mrs. Morrell, hastening to cover her embarrassment by changing the subject. "Then you must be nearly famished, and you must have a lunch before you go to rest."

"Pray, do not trouble yourself——" Edith began.

"Please let me—I like such 'trouble,' as you are pleased to term it," smilingly interposed the pretty hostess; and with a bright nod and a hurried "excuse me," she was gone before Edith could make further objections.

Fifteen minutes later she reappeared, a lovely flush on her round cheeks, her eyes bright with the pleasure she experienced in doing a kind act for the young stranger, toward whom she had been instantly attracted.

"Come, now," she said, holding out a hand to her, "and I know Roy will join us—he never yet refused a cup of tea of my own brewing."

"You are right, Nellie," smilingly replied that gentleman; "and I believe I am hungry, in spite of my hearty dinner at six o'clock. A ride over the pavements of New York will prepare almost anyone for an extra meal. I only hope you have a slice of Aunt Jane's old-fashioned gingerbread for me."

Mrs. Morrell laughed out musically at this last remark.

Then she led them into her home-like dining-room where a table was laid for three.

As soon as the meal was finished, Mrs. Morrell, who saw how weary and heavy-eyed the fair girl appeared, remarked to her cousin, with

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.)



This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

THE letter below from "Kindling Wood" brings to mind a stirring editorial printed recently in a well-known and popular monthly magazine, to the effect that loyal American women can do their "bit" by practising efficiency and economy, as never before, in the home, and this writer goes even a step ahead of that by utilizing apparently waste products outside the home. Economy does not mean that we must deprive ourselves or families of nourishing food and sufficient clothing but rather devise a way to provide all this at less cost than ever before. This rests with each individual and no rule can be given to cover all cases. Let each of us do our best to keep the living expenses down to a reasonable limit and find our reward in the feeling of satisfaction that follows a duty well and cheerfully done.—Ed.

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

DEAR SISTERS:

In these strenuous times it behooves every loyal American to conserve even the seemingly insignificant products of nature. Apropos of this, if the industrious owner of a city lot will devote one little corner or a border to the growing of the sunflower, the result will be like the scriptural bread thrown upon the waters. The writer has for several years practised the preaching. Results:

A shielding from view of unsightly fences or outbuildings.

A shade from an otherwise too sunny chicken yard.

A feast for the eyes when the flowers burst into bloom.

Partial feed for the chickens.

The seed salable at the near by druggist—perhaps.

Some seed saved at home for medicinal purposes.

Last, but of most importance in the writer's estimation, the dried stalks allowed to stand long after flowers and leaves have disappeared, become of the consistency of wood and make excellent kindling. The writer used such stalks, broken into proper length, all winter to the exclusion of other kindling wood. Some of my neighbors thought this funny but since these warlike days, conservation may prove to them to be food for serious thought.

In this locality of middle Hoosierdom the beautiful catalpa tree flourishes. My neighbor's sidewalk holds two beautiful specimens whose blossoms, white, flecked with purple rays, charm by their fragrance each spring. Later on the long green pods or beans form. These, at first, seemed to be a constant nuisance, falling daily on the writer's clean strip of lawn from July on through fall into winter. However, instead of sweeping them into the gutter and burning them with the leaves as was done by most of the neighbors, I gathered and made them into small faggots, as they are from a foot to eighteen inches in length and very brittle when dry. These proved a good adjunct to the sunflower stalk kindling. Let him laugh who wins.

"Kindling Wood."

PORTSMOUTH, VA.

DEAR SISTERS:

I want to ask the mothers of large families for some advice. I have three children and all of them are bothered with adenoids and enlarged tonsils. My little girl, two and one half years old, is bothered some. She has weak spells. She will seem well and will be playing around when suddenly she will say, "I fall," and she falls to the floor unless I get to her in time. She becomes limp, can't walk, pale, her body quivers and her lips become purple. But she seems to be conscious and talks sometimes when she is in this spell. I have had two doctors and neither find anything wrong with her though one says it may be caused by her adenoids. I would like to know, through COMFORT, if any of the mothers have known of anything like it.

Mother of Three.

Mother of Three. If your children are troubled with adenoids and enlarged tonsils why don't you have them removd? It isn't a serious operation and shouldn't be so very expensive, and even if it is, it means more to your children than the same amount of money spent in other ways for their benefit for it must be something very important to rank higher than good health and I can't think of what it could possibly be. Ask your doctor about it.—Ed.

JASPER, R. R. B, BOX 116, FLA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have just read my March COMFORT and certainly enjoyed the letters from the sisters, especially Mattie Mae's sunny letter. I wish I lived near her, for she is so different from a lot of people who go through the world with a long face, thinking they have all the troubles. Life is what we try to make it. I once learned a little verse that I try to use as a motto, but I sometimes fail:

"What's the use of worrying,
Worrying doesn't pay;
What's the use in hurrying,
That's the slowest way.
Half the whims that worry you
Do not ever come true.
Then why let them worry you
As they daily do?"

Let us hear from others on the in-law subject. I suppose there is much to be considered on that subject as every person is so different, but most give their likes and dislikes, particularly the latter, in angry words which when once spoken can never be recalled. I have a sister-in-law and I am sure I could not love a sister more devotedly.

In reply to the heated discussions on country and city life I can only say that I was born in the country and have always lived there and I would not exchange my free life there for the city.

I am twenty-four years of age, five feet, six inches tall and weigh one hundred and thirty-five pounds. Have brown hair and eyes and a rather browned complexion for I am a farmer's girl and work in the fields and I do not think it a disgrace. A great many girls would be better off today had they been satisfied to stay on the farm.

Long live dear old COMFORT is my wish. May you all remember the girl from the Sunny South.

AMY NELSON.

FITZPATRICK, GA.

DEAR SISTERS:

I am trying to get a wheel chair for my little invalid sister but as we live eight miles from a small town and in a thinly settled community, I find it very hard to get the necessary subscriptions, and I hope the sisters will help me so that she can have the chair this summer. She is ten years old and has had spinal trouble all her life. We are poor people and live on a farm and are not able to buy a chair for her. She needs one very much for she is getting larger and harder to care for and it would mean so much to her if she only had a chair. Won't you help me get one for her? We can give references.

Your friend in need, MARY E. LANIER.

TOPAZ, MO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I am trying to get subscribers in order to get a wheel chair for little Willie Clinton. He is a shut-in, seven years old. He has white swelling in his knee joint and can't walk. There are seven children in the family and the parents are poor and it is very hard for his mother to care for him so I am asking all the sisters that can to help me get subscribers to get the chair for him. His address is Omba, Mo. and he would be glad to get post-cards or pictures if anyone cares to send them to him.

I live about eighteen miles from a railroad and as I have four little children of my own it is hard for me to get out so I hope you will help me get the chair for him.

Best wishes to all, MRS. MYRTLE MCCARTY.

Sisters. It is seldom that I make a direct appeal for wheel-chair subscriptions but the above letters touched me so deeply that I am publishing them in hopes that enough subscriptions will be secured to give each of these poor, suffering children a wheel chair before the summer is over. It means so much to them and so little to us—and every club, no matter how small, helps.—Ed.

WILLIAMSTOWN, N. Y.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have long thought of writing to our delightful corner but my courage always failed me when I read the letters so brimful of helpful suggestions and inspiring little sermons. We all ought to profit by them, they are uplifting and to the point.

I rather like the idea of descriptions. I fancy I can see some of the sisters in some of their well-meant, spirited conversations.

I am five feet two inches tall, weigh about one hundred and twenty-five pounds and have brown eyes, medium complexion and a wealth of curly brown hair, which is my only redeeming feature.

I have one of the good Johns who neither chews, drinks nor smokes, only his name happens to be Harry. He doesn't believe these letters are real and I want to convince him they are.

We have five boys ranging in age from one to nine years, all full of fun and mischievous so you see I don't have a great deal of time for fancy-work, though I do a little between times as it tends to take the rough edge off the huge pile of necessary sewing and mending.

Let us all give three cheers for Frank and Martha and let us hear from you again Martha. You might give us a pen picture of the sideboard your good Frank made.

Frances Mae, I heartily agree with you in regard to Mrs. Pete. Many women of means would give half they possess for the opportunity that she finds so disagreeable, that of having their husband want to stay home.

Mattie Mae Clark, you certainly possess a cheerful disposition and come as a ray of sunshine to our corner. I think you did just the proper thing in answering the letter of the boy in jail. Some poor mother's heart is breaking, and who knows but what your cheerful letter has been the means of starting him right again. That was a fine little sermon you gave us. Come often, for there is a world of good in your letters.

Mrs. Sue Lorenz Johnson, you surely have the true Christmas spirit and I judge from your letter that your prayers will not be in vain.

Mrs. Nettie McClure, I would like to shake hands with you and would give all young couples the same advice you have given—a camping outfit or a log cabin; this is from one who knows.

Poor Georgie is getting it from all parts of the globe. Well, the least said the better, but I hate to think what would become of our five boys, bubbling over with life, should I be compelled to move to the city.

Mrs. L. M. Craig, I do not agree with you about encouraging children to write on the wall and woodwork; give them a piece of wrapping paper and pencil. True, they will not think it so much fun but it looks better and will save you work, and that is what we are all striving for now, to make our heads save our heels.

Lonely One of Texas, stop and think of the millions of women who have done several times what you are dreading just once. I have a large family and am still very much alive. Let us hear from you a year from now.

I would just love to take a peep in at Mrs. Wilkinson's cozy fireside and see her with her happy little family around her. I feel sure she has one, seeing she has no poodle dog.

May God bless Uncle Charlie, Mrs. Wilkinson and all of COMFORT'S staff in the noble work they are doing is the wish of POLLY COPELAND.

Polly. I like your nom de plume, for there's something cheery and homey about the name of Polly, and any time you choose to honor my humble fireside with your presence you will receive a hearty welcome. This applies to all.—Ed.

FIRTH, NEBR.

GOOD AFTERNOON MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I am very glad to be able to meet you all for a little while this afternoon.

In response to request—"How to can mixed vegetables for soup," I will give recipe which is of my own origin and which anyone can use successfully without the use of any canner, if they are able to can tomatoes successfully. Many failures in tomato canning are due to the presence of bacteria which cannot be destroyed at a temperature of 212 degrees F., which is the temperature attained when cooking tomatoes in pans or open kettles for canning. The sources of such bacteria is growing tomatoes on ground where fertilizers impregnated with objectionable bacteria have been employed. These same tomatoes if sterilized at a higher temperature would keep and be perfectly wholesome; of course to sterilize at a higher temperature tomatoes in the jars or cans and employ a canning or sterilizing device which will give a temperature of a higher degree than can be obtained with the ordinary utensils generallly employed in cannning.

Now for the recipe. Canned Vegetable Soup.—It must be remembered that in canning of vegetables "blanching" is a very important part of the work. Therefore it will be necessary to blanch all of the vegetables called for in this recipe except the tomatoes, which almost anyone will be obliged to use from their canned supply. Because it seldom happens that the carrots are sufficiently matured, or the cabbage ripe enough, or that the onions have passed the milk stage while the tomatoes are yet in season, so it is best to make the soup later in the season using well matured products and canned tomatoes than to make it early when tomatoes are in season and the other vegetables unmatured.

It is necessary to have vegetables prepared for cooking or canning before blanching. Therefore, peel and dice one quart of carrots, peel and dice one half quart of onions, slice two quarts of cabbage, cut in short lengths one quarter quart of celery (in the absence of celery use one tablespoon celery seed or it may be omitted if the taste desires).

The above are now ready for blanching and each vegetable should be blanched separately.

To "blanch" place the vegetable in a clean cloth sack or a fine mesh wire basket and lower it into a kettle of boiling water, allow the water to boil up through the vegetable five minutes. Now lift the sack or basket out and lower same into a pail of cold water; continue to blanch and cool until each vegetable has been thus treated.

Now boil each vegetable separately until done. The reason for this is that some require longer cooking than others.

When done the vegetables are ready for mixing; add one quart canned tomatoes, salt to taste and a pinch of cayenne pepper or one half small red pepper, chopped fine. Boil the whole briskly one half hour to blend flavors. While still boiling fill into jars and seal. It will keep perfectly and be liked by everyone.

The directions seem lengthy but really the work isn't difficult and I believe almost anyone would prefer to pay for available foodstuffs with labor as the price, than to be compelled to undergo the strain that results from too much "headwork" in trying to make certain amounts of money buy the hundred and one things so sorely needed. GRACE DIETZ.

ASTORIA, 139 Fulton Ave., L. I., N. Y.

DEAR SISTERS:

In the March number several sisters were incensed by Georgie's statements in regard to farm life. I was born in New York City but spent three years on a farm in New Jersey. I love country life but I think farm work very hard with so little returns for the energy spent. But the city dweller has none of the freedom, independence, pure air, and fresh food of the farm. Though to tell the truth, most farmers sell their fresh products to buy poorer substitutes. I know of several who sell fresh butter to buy oleo, their milk for condensed milk, their eggs and chickens for salt pork. Very often the only roast chicken a farmer gets is at a chicken supper held at some neighboring church.

Where our farm is located neither the grown folks nor the children know the names of the most common birds and flowers. Not fifty miles from a big city yet most of the children have never heard of George Washington or know who our present president is, or any of the current events. The children of this community are far from healthy and their vocabulary is shocking.

Of course not all country people are so ignorant; in fact, in some sections they are far better educated than the average city folks, but most farmers haven't the time, money or opportunity for education, books and newspapers.

I love the country, the growing things, the birds and animals. My only recreations are walking and reading and I never get enough of either.

With love, MARY HEINSOHN.

Mary Heinsohn. To quote a story I read recently I feel like saying, "Mary, Mary, be careful." Aren't you letting slip the chance of a lifetime to do some real missionary work? Start with the children first and get them interested in birds and flowers and then gradually work on up to the parents and that will be easy if you win the children over to your side. Possibly some of our readers may be able to assist you by means of letters to this corner, which I shall be glad to publish.—Ed.

DENMARK, MISS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I'll take a chair over here by Mrs. Pete as she wanted advice from the readers.

Mrs. Pete, you say your husband is good and kind to you and you know he loves you but he is inclined to want to stay at home. Can't you be as contented with him now, that he is your husband, as you were before you married him? Were not your happiest moments spent with him then? Hadn't you rather be with him than anyone else or in a crowd? Dear sister, if he is good and kind to you and loves you and you love him, my advice would be for you to give up your good times and try to be contented with him. What if you knew he didn't care much about you and was never at home and you had to spend most of the time alone, or, possibly with two little ones, then you would feel lonely enough. Supposing, too, that your own people lived miles and miles away and you couldn't see them more than twice or three times a year. Think of all these things. I am sure you never have given the matter a second thought.

You say you never lived in the country before. Of course you will be lonely until you get accustomed to it.

Mrs. Pete, let us hear from you again.

Wishing a long life to Mrs. Wilkinson and the sisters, A Hungry Heart.

PREBLE, N. Y.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Once I borrowed a copy of COMFORT to read and liked it so much that I wanted to subscribe for it but lost the address. One day a friend 'phoned me, asking if I would give her my subscription to COMFORT and you can imagine how delighted I was for I can truthfully say that it is my most welcome paper.

I enjoy the helpful letters which the good sisters send and in the April number I read one written by Mrs. Minnie Brubaker, Marion, Ind. and it made me homesick for my old home town is just a short distance from Marion, by trolley, known as Warren, Ind. I visited in Marion last fall. I am Hoosier by birth but now am living in a Yankee state and like it very much. Moved from Indiana two years ago to a farm in New York and lived there a little over a year but was not successful, owing to wet land. My husband now is a blacksmith and does a good business. This is a village of about eight hundred inhabitants. There are two churches, Methodist and Presbyterian, one large hotel, with bar which was voted out last fall. The scenery around here is beautiful.

I am twenty-five years old, tall and slender and weigh one hundred and forty-five pounds. Have brown hair and fair complexion. Was married when I was only seventeen years old and have a daughter seven years old.

Can anyone tell me a way to amuse a little girl, one that is full of life and wants to be doing something. She goes to school but after school hours and on Saturday she teases me to do something for her and I have completely run out of amusements. I have tried sewing and numerous household duties but she tires of that. She is full of music, being a singer since two years of age, but we have no musical instrument to entertain her. She sang a solo Easter Sunday. She is an only child.

As for Woman Suffrage, I pay no attention to it whatever, for I have all I can do at home. I do all my own work and sew some besides and I enjoy all of it.

How many ever made a peanut butter cake? Use the peanut butter for the cake instead of common butter and also put it between layers with the powdered sugar icing. It is fine.

With regards to all, I remain,
Sincerely yours, MRS. F. GARDNER.

Mrs. Gardner. Why not have your daughter make a garden, one that will be all her own. Buy tools suitable for her size and let her do all the work herself, taking care that she does not do

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)

Thrift without Parsimony in the Kitchen

JUST as the soldier is judged by his willingness, by his considerateness, and by his courage, so will the women of this country be judged who are donning their kitchen aprons and so nobly responding to the great call for food conservation.

A few weeks have wrought great changes in our ideas of necessaries. We have discovered that many so-called "necessaries" were luxuries, and that patriotism has sounded the call for a readjustment of our domestic economy. Never was there a time when so much depended on the prudent management of their homes by American women; in fact their very best efforts are indispensable to our government, if we are to feed the armies in the field and the women and children of Europe made destitute by war.

Just as the soldier who guards the bridge is doing his bit toward the great end, so will the woman who guards well the resources at her command.

The study of food values, while for years much talked about, has received little attention. But now with the prices of food daily advancing, and an actual shortage in some sections, not only must food values be studied, but substitutes thought out.

The following classification of foods may assist the housewife in planning three well-balanced meals each day:

1. Mineral matter, requisite to health, is contained in the vegetable salts; the body, regulating substances in the succulent vegetables and fruit acids.

2. Foods depended upon for protein are milk, eggs, meat, and dried peas, beans and lentils.

3. The starches are supplied in the breakfast cereal foods, meals, flours, and foods made from them.

4. Foods depended on to supply sugar, are the different sugars, molasses, syrups, honey, dried fruits, jams and preserves, cakes and desserts.

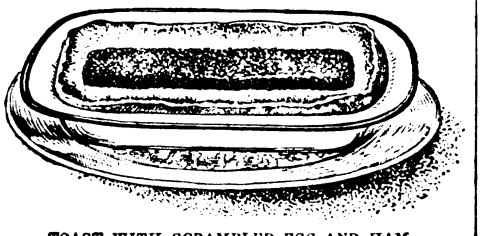
5. Butter, cream, vegetable oils, lard, suet, other cooking fats and oils, salt pork and bacon, supply our fats.

The above five groups of foods should be represented in the daily diet if the body is kept healthy. Strive to keep the balance right by not drawing too heavily from any one group for one meal. Keep the meals simple, and plan according to the requirements of the household.

Most housewives can manage to serve some kind of raw or cooked fruit once a day, and taken as a body-regulator, it is most valuable when served with the breakfast. Prunes soaked one hour in cold water, then rinsed, and more cold water added, and cooked in the oven without sugar, should be served several times a week. Alternate with fresh fruit, berries, stewed apricots, stewed raisins and dates with lemon juice added when cold. Fresh peaches are valuable in their effect on the system.

Breakfast Dishes

TOAST WITH SCRAMBLED EGG AND HAM.—First put serving dish where it will be hot when toast is made.



TOAST WITH SCRAMBLED EGG AND HAM.

Cut bread moderately thick and put in hot oven to dry through and brown. While this is being done, lightly beat three eggs, add three tablespoons of milk, a pinch of salt and pepper. In a saucepan put two level tablespoons of butter, and when it bubbles, add the egg mixture and three tablespoons of chopped cold boiled ham. Cook slowly, keeping it off the bottom of pan with a spoon. It should be creamy when done. Have a dish of boiling water, and taking one slice of toast at a time, turn it around in water to moisten the edges, then wet center by the spoonful, that too much water may not be used. Butter each layer, and spread the egg and ham on top.

SCALLOPED CALF'S BRAINS WITH POTATO.—Parboil and cut in inch pieces; sprinkle with salt, pepper and lemon juice. Put into a buttered baking dish, alternating with layers of buttered cracker crumbs, pepper and salt. Over the whole put one cup of tomato.



SCALLOPED CALF'S BRAINS WITH POTATO.

Bake one hour, turn out onto an earthern serving dish, cover with mashed potato pressed through a paper tunnel, return to the oven and brown. Garnish with a few small lettuce leaves just before serving.

CORN-MEAL GRIDDLE CAKES.—Two cups of corn-meal one cup of flour, six level teaspoons of baking powder, and one and one half level teaspoons of salt stirred together. Quickly add one and one half cups of milk and water mixed and stir smooth. Have ready a hot greased griddle or frying pan; drop by the spoonful so cakes will not touch after rising. Cook on slow fire until the cakes are brown on the lower side and the bubbles burst in the top. Turn each cake to brown on the other side. Serve hot with strips of fried bacon, and stewed or fresh fruit.

POTATO CAKES.—Mix left over mashed potato with scraps of meat, bacon or salt pork chopped fine. Add dressing or gravy, and bread crumbs to make the proper consistency; season well with pepper and salt, shape into cakes and fry a rich brown in drippings from any kind of meat. Serve with rhubarb sauce and toasted coarse bread.

OAT MEAL, FRUIT TOAST.—Oat meal should be cooked four hours in a double cooker, or over night in a fireless. Use three cups of boiling water to every cup of oat meal and one half teaspoon of salt. Serve with top milk.

FRUIT TOAST.—Use fairly thick slices of oven toast, butter and pour over stewed fruit of berries crushed with sugar. Serve with hot cocoa.

CODFISH OMELET.—In a saucepan, put one tablespoon of butter, and when it bubbles, smooth in two tablespoons of dry flour, and then add one third of a cup of hot milk, and one cup of codfish; cook slowly three minutes. Beat the yolks of two eggs until light and creamy, and add to fish mixture. Beat the egg whites until dry, fold into the fish mixture and pour into a hot buttered spider. Bake in a moderate oven until egg is cooked. Serve with corn bread and milk.

VEGETABLE HASH.—All kinds of vegetables will blend in preparing a vegetable hash. Chop medium fine, season with salt and pepper, pour into a well-greased iron frying pan and slowly brown. Fold once, and serve on a platter with slices of hot oven toast.

DRIED APRICOTS AND PEACHES.—Wash the fruit, soak over night in cold water, and slowly cook in the same water until tender. Add sugar to taste. A much finer consistency and flavor is procured by baking in a closely covered dish. Apricots combine well with prunes.

BAKED APPLES WITH RAISINS.—Core tart apples. Put in a baking dish, filling the cavities with brown sugar and seedless raisins. Bake in a quick oven. Put a little hot water in dish.

HOME CANNER
Many are making $15.00 and up per day, canning Fruit and Vegetables for market, neighbors and home use with a
"FAVORITE" HOME CANNER
Made better, last longer, no waste, gives best results, uses less fuel, easy to operate. Prices, $2.30 and up. We furnish cans and labels. Write for FREE BOOKLET.
The Carolina Metal Products Co.,
Post Office Box 35, Wilmington, N. C.

Delivered TO YOU FREE
Your choice of 44 styles, colors and sizes in the famous line of "RANGER" bicycles, shown in full color in the big new Free Catalog. We pay all the freight charges from Chicago to your town.
30 Days Free Trial allowed on the bicycle you select, actual riding test in your own town for a full month. Do not buy until you get our great new trial offer and low Factory-Direct-To-Rider terms and prices.
TIRES LAMPS, HORNS, pedals, single wheels and repair parts for all makes of bicycles at half usual prices. No one else can offer such values and such terms.
SEND NO MONEY but write today for the big new Catalog. It's free.
Rider Agents Wanted
MEAD CYCLE COMPANY Dept. C-3 Chicago

LEPAGE'S GLUE HANDY TUBES
WHEN A NAIL WON'T DO IT

Nerine's Second Choice

by Adelaide Stirling



The woman stirred the fire and drew up a chair to it.



Suddenly the sitting room door flew open and in burst Joan.



"You can eat more if there is more to eat," Joan remarked with sound common sense.

Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XIX.

A STRANGE WOMAN.

IT was a long and somewhat doleful walk home again, and Nerine was not sorry when the next day proved wet, and the children sought distraction after lessons in making taffy in the kitchen.

She longed for a good walk, and set off, unobserved by her charges, just after lunch. She went inland for a change; the good hard country road was better walking in the rain than the sands, and she stepped out vigorously. Just whereabout, she wondered, did Mr. Fairfax live? She did not wish to meet him again, though he had been really very kind about Tommy.

The road grew lonely after she was out of the village and on the other side of the station, but it was pretty, with fields on one side and a copse on the other. She had walked on at a brisk pace for a mile or two when the rain suddenly increased to a downpour. The wind rose into a sharp squall and flung the big drops at her with drenching force. Nerine stopped and held her hat on while she looked about for shelter. It was only a squall, but even so, she was getting wetter than was cheerful.

Across one field was a cottage, the only house to be seen; a muddy lane led to it, and she hurried along it. It was a peculiar little house, with a door at the side, so placed that none of the windows commanded it. There was no bell, and Nerine knocked loudly. Her knock seemed to echo in an empty house. She knocked again, for there had been smoke coming from the chimney as she came up the lane; the people must be in the kitchen. To make some one hear, and let her in from the soaking rain, she rapped with the head of her umbrella on the door.

There was a rush of pattering feet behind it, and a volley of angry barks. There was a dog at home at least. She tried the door, but it was locked, and she gave it a little shake to make certain. The rain was slowly soaking her from head to foot.

"Who's there?" came a loud, querulous voice from behind the door. "Go away! Go away, or I'll shoot. I won't have any men prowling around here."

"I'm not a man, and I'm not prowling." Nerine was frightened, but she spoke out with coward's courage, which dare not run away. "I'm a girl, and I only want to come into your porch till the rain's over."

It was certainly a woman's voice inside the door, and she was not going to be afraid of a woman; unless, with a horrible quaking, she was crazy. And at the bare idea the girl turned sharply and stood ready to run for her life. But the woman might shoot her if she moved within reach of the windows. It was better to come to terms than to run.

"You need not let me in if you don't want to," she said calmly, though her knees shook under her. "I will go away, certainly, if you like."

"Go out where I can see you," said the voice, doubtfully.

The girl hesitated. Then she marched around the corner of the house and stood in full view of the window; she would have to pass it to run away, and she did not for a second take the threat of shooting her for an earnest one. Women who reside in cottages do not usually possess guns.

She walked back to the door, trembling. The place was so lonely, she wished a thousand times that she had never come to it. But it was too late to retreat—for the door flew open, and out rushed a bristling fox terrier, while behind him stood a red-faced, untidy woman.

"Down, Snap! down sir!" she cried angrily, eying Nerine from head to foot. "You can come in till the rain is over," she added, grudgingly.

Nerine stared at her. Certainly she had neither gun nor pistol, but she was not a prepossessing-looking hostess. She had a dim idea that she had seen her before.

"I don't want to come in unless you want me to. I am as wet as I can be now."

The woman stirred the fire and drew up a her sleeve.

"You're wringing wet," she said, her offensive manner quite gone. "I beg your pardon for keeping you standing, but I'm alone, and it's a lonely place. I thought you were"—she hesitated—"a tramp. Please to walk in and dry yourself," and she stepped back for the girl to enter.

Nerine looked at the pelting rain; she would rather have walked ten miles in it than enter this strange shelter, but it would be so cowardly to retreat.

With a quick heart, and the dog growling at her heels, she went into the house.

The passage was dark, and close, and cold; the woman led the way into an untidy sitting-room, where a small fire burned in a grate unblackened and rusty. The disorder of the room was beyond words, but it was well furnished, and even luxurious, underneath the litter of clothes, books and empty bottles which covered every table and chair.

The woman stirred the fire and drew up a chair to it.

"Sit down, won't you?" she said, almost timidly, "and excuse my not being dressed. I never expect visitors, and I have no girl, so the place is untidy."

"It is nice and warm." Nerine was shivering over the scanty fire. Not dressed, her hostess had said! She had on the wreck of a gorgeous tea-gown, and round her shoulders was a magnificent sable cape. Her hair was unbrushed and her face was streaked with black. The girl gave an anxious, covert glance at the empty bottles.

"You have a beautiful dog?" she observed sincerely, holding out her hand to let the terrier smell it. "He must be a great friend when you are alone here."

The dog licked her hand grudgingly. The woman snatched him in her arms with passionate affection.

"He's my only friend. Aren't you, Snap? Your mistress' only friend. Why, many a time, miss, when I'm alone here at night, I'd go wild with fright if it weren't for the dog."

In spite of the torn lace and the wonderful sable, it was easy to see the woman was not, and never had been a lady. But she was a sad and pitiful object in her dirty finery, and in the discomfort of the once luxurious room. Nerine felt a sudden pity for her.

"Yes," she assented, "it must be very lonely. I am staying at a farmhouse at Combe, with my little cousins, and when they are gone to bed I feel dreadfully lonely; and it must be far worse for you if you are always alone."

"I am—always. And I haven't a friend in the world but Snap, though I'm a married woman, too!"

"Then your husband doesn't live here?" with a kindly interest in the extraordinary female who sat opposite, her fet guiltless of stockings, stuffed into unlaced leather boots.

The woman laughed.

"Him—live here! He is in a grand house like a lord, and here is where he puts me." Her voice grew so excited that the girl's fear of her returned. The dog growled in sympathy as he sat on the woman's lap.

"I think I must go now. I am quite dry." Nerine arose nervously, for apprehension was beginning to get the better of her; her hostess was not drunk, in spite of the empty bottles, but the girl was not at all sure that she was not crazy. "You have been very good to let me come in."

"I would never have let you wait in this weather, miss, if I had seen you," said the woman, earnestly. "But I was afraid that it was—someone else," with the odd hesitation she had shown before. "I, suppose, miss, you would not take a cup of tea with me. I was just going to take one." She pointed to a tin saucepan perched unsteadily on the fire. "I had better things once, but that's all I have now. I dare say you couldn't fancy your tea out of it."

The saucepan did not really look inviting, but the woman meant kindly, and Nerine repressed a shudder.

"I would like a cup of tea," she answered with her sweet-eyed smile, "more than anything, if it would not be a trouble to you to get it ready."

"Would you, really? Oh, it's no trouble. You'll excuse the poorness of it, but I don't like to think I kept a lady out in the rain."

She rose and went to a cupboard in the corner of the room. At least, it was a cupboard now; it had once been a wonderful Indian cabinet, all carving and inlay. She took out a china teapot and some biscuits; and presently a paper of tea.

Nerine watched her make the tea. The water looked clean at least. The milk—horrid thought—would be the rub! Perhaps there wasn't any she fervently hoped not.

But the lady in the strange array of rose-pink satin and thick leather boots went over to the window, and, opening it, brought in a gust of wind and rain, and a little can of milk with a tight cover.

"The milk girl leaves it there, and she'd just gone when you came," she remarked. "I buy it for Snap, principally." She produced two cups from the cupboard. "Perhaps you would pour out the tea; I am not well today, and my hand shakes."

Nerine had marveled that she had ever got the water into the teapot.

She poured out a cup for herself and her hostess, with a hasty glance of scrutiny at the inside of the milk-can, for jug there was none. It was clean and fresh, and her cup was of thin and lovely china, if cracked, but never in her life had Miss Lispenard done a harder thing than to take the first sip of the unwelcome tea. Good manners and a kindly heart alone forced her to it.

To her wild surprise it was excellent tea, and the milk was fresh and creamy. The biscuits were musty, and she gave hers to Snap as soon as she dared.

"I am sure you never bought this tea in Combe," she remarked. "It is so very good."

"I got it in London last week. I can't touch poor tea." She drank thirstily. "I don't buy anything at Combe. I'd rather they'd think I was away and the house shut up. That grocer there talks about what I buy, so I never go near him now. I go to Walton for what I want."

"That's a long way." Nerine had finished her tea, and sat with her drying feet on the fender. "Do you come from there, miss?"

"No. I came from Belton Court, with my two little cousins. We are staying at Mrs. Palmer's till Miss Belton gets over the scarlatina."

"Will you be there long? Won't you take some more tea? Do, now."

"No more, thank you. No, I don't think I shall be there long. Why did you ask?"

"I was only going to ask you if you would come over here again, unless I frightened you too much with my silly talk about shooting."

"Oh, yes, I will come again."

"And you won't be turned against me by anything,"—the red face grew redder—"anything you may hear?"

"Not while I find you as I found you today," laughing, "and if you promise not to shoot me when I come to the door."

"Don't come to the door again. You come and knock at this window. But it's a long walk, and I'm asking too much of you."

"No, no, indeed. But are you sure you would like me to come?"

The faded, watery eyes looked at her intently.

"I never knew a real lady before," the woman said, simply, "and you've treated me as if I was a lady, too. You don't know what it is to live in this lonely place, and never get a kind word from any one, and be terrified at every knock because it might be some one who would like to get me out of the way."

"Tramps, do you mean?"

"No, not tramps. Him—my husband."

"But he wouldn't—no man would, surely——"

"You don't know him," interrupted the woman. "But I'll be a match for him, with all his fine manners." She moved feverishly to the window, as though she expected to see a dread sight. "I mustn't talk of him; it excites me. And I think you had better go now, before it begins to get dark. And you'll come again, promise me. You make me feel better." She made an unmeaning effort to pick up some of the untidy garments on the floor. "I'll have the place cleaned up by the time you come. I suppose it won't be tomorrow?"

Nerine shook her head.

"Today is Saturday. I'll come on Tuesday." She put her hand into the very dirty and shaky one held out to her, and patted the dog; then she went forth on her homeward way through what was now a gentle spring rain.

CHAPTER XX.

A PLEASANT LITTLE TEA PARTY.

The steady spring downpour soaked the garden and trickled down the window panes of Nerine's sitting-room. Sunday morning church had exhausted the goodness of the two children. An occasional whirlwind of flying feet and shrieks passed the sitting-room door, but otherwise there was no sign of their existence.

Miss Lispenard felt that perhaps their room was better than their company, but had an uneasy conscience about the way they were spending their Sunday afternoon.

"I suppose I ought to get a book and read to them," she thought, as she stretched one slim foot to her cheerful fire and then the other. "But it's so much nicer to read to myself. Dear me," restlessly, "I wish Agatha were here. I wonder how she is getting on."

She looked at the clock as she settled down to read comfortably. It was just four. At five tea would arrive, and May and Joan. Thank fortune that Tommy could no longer accompany them! At least, with compunction, remembering Joan's tears, he had to die some day, and it was just as well it was over. How odd that Mr. Fairfax, by the way, should live so near. How Lady Satterlee had chattered about him on the way home from the ball! He looked as though he might be nice. Certainly it was good of him to take so much trouble about Tommy.

A figure passed the window in the driving rain. Mrs. Palmer's Sunday visitors apparently possessed very serviceable mackintoshes and umbrellas, but Nerine was deep in her book and did not notice.

Suddenly the sitting-room door flew open and in burst Joan, dragging an apparently unwilling companion by the hand. May followed, bearing a pink box, which looked as though it might hold delightful things for a wet Sunday afternoon.

"You said I was to forgive him, because his murdering Tommy was a—naccident," Joan said, carefully. "So I asked him to come in and stay to tea."

Nerine was so straight and tall in her best frock of black crepon, and so undisguisedly surprised at his appearance, that Mr. Fairfax wondered if he had the courage to stay. He disengaged himself from Joan and shook hands.

"I came over to see that you were none the worse for the fright I gave you," he remarked, with the voice and accent that were so like Lady Satterlee's. "But I really didn't mean to inflict myself on you for the whole afternoon."

"We—I—shall be very glad," she replied, mechanically. She was not really glad at all, for she knew he would talk about the Satterlees.

Fairfax sat down on the other side of the fire. The room was so homely and comfortable, with its vases of fresh spring flowers and its litter of books and Nerine's knitting. It was a far pleasanter place than any of his big rooms at home.

"This is how Tommy will look when I bring him back to you," he said to Joan, taking a careful little pencil drawing out of his pocket. It was Tommy, exactly as he had been in life, sitting erect, with his tail out behind him.

"Is it for me? Can I have it?" Joan's eyes lighted up as they had not done since Tommy's decease.

Fairfax took her on his knee.

"Wouldn't you rather have sweets, like your sister's?" he inquired, gravely.

"No! no! I want my Tommy's picture."

"Here you are, then, and if you go and look in my coat in the passage, there is a blue box like May's pink one."

Joan bestowed her picture in the front of her pinafore, and then scuttled down and out into the hall, May after her.

Nerine laughed a little when they were gone.

"You are very good to them," she said. "Do you know I was meanly congratulating myself that Tommy had met his end just before you arrived. He was a most short-tempered beast, and I was dreadfully afraid of him."

"I used to own one very like him," Fairfax returned, "and to tell the truth, that was his portrait, and not Tommy's, which I presented to Joan."

"We never had any pets. Mr. Mayne would not let us," Nerine said, wistfully. "So I never told Joan that Tommy gave me cold shivers. I remembered my own feelings when Agatha and I wanted to keep guinea-pigs, and were told they were disgusting animals."

"Mr. Mayne is——" hesitatingly.

"My stepfather. My own father and my mother died when we were children. Lady Belton is the only real relative we have."

"Miss Belton was at Satterlee's dance with you, of course."

Nerine nodded. Was he going to ask her where Agatha was? She would take that subject in hand herself first. No one should say she was unwilling to talk about it.

"I was to have stayed with Lady Belton till my sister had finished her visit to Lady Satterlee, but Kit caught scarlatina, and I brought the children here to be out of the way. You know Agatha and Satterlee"—bringing it out with a true sister-in-law's indifference—"are engaged."

"Dora—Lady Satterlee wrote to me. She is my cousin, you know."

Nerine felt suddenly small. He had not been going to ask where Agatha was, after all.

"I wrote to Bobby, congratulating him. He is a very lucky young person, Bobby!"

Nerine colored.

"I think so, of course. But, then, Agatha is my twin sister, and I know exactly how nice she is."

Her voice shook a little, in spite of herself, and she turned her face away while she put out a hand to the bellrope. Fairfax was too quick for her.

"Let me," he said, and rang the one bell of the house with a really noble jingle. As he stood behind the girl he remembered her white face at Satterlee's dance, when Bobby had doubtless proposed to the other sister. What a plucky face this child put on it.

"Between ourselves," he said, confidentially, returning to his chair, "I never can find much joy in balls. I think they are very overrated amusements."

"I hate them!"

Fairfax did not laugh, which was kind in him.

"I shouldn't suppose you had been at many," he said.

"Not since I was a schoolgirl," she frankly answered, "and I loved them at first. But then—Oh, I got tired; and the men all said the same things."

Fairfax laughed now.

"I never suffered from that," he remarked. "I always find my partners say such extraordinarily different things that I am apt to retire from the fray much confused. But dancing in a ballroom is not half up to the same thing on skates. Did you ever waltz on the ice?"

"My beloved stepfather would not let me learn to skate. I have never been on skates, or been in a boat, or played tennis in my life."

Here was a rare bird, indeed.

"What!" he exclaimed. "Never engaged in those outdoor sports? I must congratulate you. Think of all the new experiences you have before you. But you don't long to play tennis especially, do you?"

Miss Lispenard laughed.

"I don't honestly. I never saw any girl who did not appear to more advantage looking on than playing."

"Exactly. It is a stupid game, as exhibited by the average young woman. Of course, I have seen a few women look well when they played."

"I would like to learn to ride," Nerine said, earnestly.

"Oh," as the door opened, "here is nurse! Nurse, Mr. Fairfax will stay to tea."

"I did not think you meant to ask me," the visitor remarked with much frankness when nurse had departed. "Even now I feel shy about staying."

"I could not turn you out in such rain," rather demurely. She was beginning to like him in spite of his associations. "Really, I will be very pleased if you stay. But schoolroom tea, under Joan's auspices, is apt to be anything but a peaceful meal."

"I have peaceful meals at home. All by myself in a big room where there are always dark corners. I must confess," smiling, "to a deep dislike for dark corners."

"I thought you were always away. Did not Lady Satterlee tell me you were a great traveler?"

"I am sure she did not. She might have told you I went in for that horrid globe-trotting. Oh, I thought so," he added, with boyish mirth, which lighted up his spare, sunburned face wonderfully.

"She did say that exactly," confessed Miss Lispenard. "Do you know, I don't think I ever saw anything so pretty as Lady Satterlee in my life? So wonderfully and really young."

Lady Satterlee's cousin was discreet. He said nothing about the quality of mysterious boxes

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

Start Your War-Time Economy by Daily Canning

By Violet Marsh

Copyright, 1917 by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

EVERY housekeeper, unless she has already done so, should begin saving all kinds of glass containers, for a serious shortage of jars and tin cans is threatened. Wide-necked bottles that cannot be made air-proof are useful for putting preserves and jellies in, while small-necked ones can be used for fruit juices, and strained tomato for soups and macaroni, and sealed with cork stoppers and wax. Also of importance is the saving of cork stoppers.

Very healthful and delicious is the early tart apple, particularly the red astrakhan, made into sauce and canned for winter use. The flavor is far superior to the winter fruit, and the early apple requires much less sugar. When making apple sauce, what an easy matter to cook enough extra for one or more cans. The increased labor is hardly noticeable if done this way. This also applies to strawberries. When buying or picking your own berries, procure a few extra quarts of the ripest which often goes to waste, and cook them while other food is in preparation.

Here the most ideal economy may be practised, because the ripest and finest early fruit is often lost unless daily used, and the result of putting off the canning so it may be done all at once often means that, by the time the convenient day arrives, the best fruit has "gone by," and only "seconds" are available, which require more sugar and are of inferior flavor.

Sterilization

The success of canning depends upon absolute sterilization. If the proper care is exercised there need be no failure except, in rare cases, when a spore has developed in the can. Only fresh rubber rings can be safely used, for if they have lost their elasticity and softness the sealing will not be perfect. Much fruit each year is lost by using old rubber rings. Also examine each jar to make sure it is in perfect condition.

To sterilize the jars put them on their sides in a pan nearly filled with cold water, and in another pan of cold water place the covers. Bring to a boil, and boil at least fifteen minutes. Also plunge all canning utensils into boiling water before using them. A long-handled spoon placed inside of jar is useful for removing them from the boiling water as fast as they are filled, for they can thus be drained and placed in position to fill without touching with the hands. Fill jars to overflowing, then scrape the rim of jar with sterilized knife blade and put on rubber ring which has been washed and dipped in a quart of boiling water to which one teaspoonful of cooking soda has been added. Work rapidly while filling and sealing jars.

Canning Recipes

CANNED EARLY APPLES.—Wash and stem the apples, and cut into small pieces, putting them immediately on to cook before the fruit discolors from exposure to the air. Use as little cold water as possible to start the cooking, as early apples are very juicy. If it is necessary to add more water, it should be boiling hot. Cook apples as quickly as possible, as slow stewing gives a dark, cloudy appearance. As soon as thoroughly cooked, put quickly through a wire sieve, and return to kettle with sugar to taste. Cook five minutes and seal in glass jars that have been prepared as above described. The apples may be pared and cored before cooking, but the sauce will have a much finer flavor if the whole fruit is used.



JELLY MAKING AN ASSURED SUCCESS.

CANNED STRAWBERRIES, No. 1.—As strawberries contain so much juice it is generally more successful to can by adding the sugar direct to berries. To every two quarts of washed and hulled berries add in layers one and one half cups of sugar. Bring slowly to a boil, in order to avoid necessity of adding water. Cook slowly until fruit is done, and seal at once. If cooked after fruit is tender it will turn dark. Do not have fruit more than four inches deep in kettle.

CANNED STRAWBERRIES, No. 2.—Fruit cooked in the oven is one of the most approved ways, as the color, shape and flavor is thus best retained. Prepare jars and fill them while hot with the fruit, then fill with syrup for which a recipe is next given. Run a silver-bladed knife around the jar, that any air bubbles may escape. Set jars in a pan of hot water and have the oven moderately hot. After the cooking point has been reached, bake between ten and twenty minutes. Remove from oven, take off the cover and place rubber band, and fill with syrup. Replace cover and set jars on a board out of the draft to cool.

SYRUP.—One pint of sugar and one pint of water stirred until sugar is dissolved over a moderate heat. Boil very slowly, without stirring, twenty to thirty minutes. Hard boiling or stirring is liable to cause the syrup to crystallize.

STRAWBERRY PRESERVE.—Use equal weights of sugar and strawberries, put into the preserving kettle in layers, until about four inches deep. Heat slowly to the boiling point, and then cook ten minutes, skimming occasionally. Pour the cooked fruit into platters to a depth of two to three inches. Place the platters in an unused room, in a window where the sun comes in most of the day. In three or four days' time the fruit will grow plump and firm and the syrup will be quite like jelly. Put cold, into jars or tumblers.

STRAWBERRY JUICE.—This is very useful for flavoring, and as a beverage when diluted with water. Bottles may be used, but they should be boiled fifteen minutes, and clean corks used. Wash and crush berries and put into preserving kettle. Heat slowly and gently cook one half hour. Over a colander put a square of cheese-cloth, and pour into it the cooked fruit. Drain well. Measure juice, and to each quart add one pint of sugar. Stir until dissolved, and simmer five minutes after it begins to cook. Fill hot bottles, leaving just room for the cork. Drive in cork, cutting off smooth with top of bottle. Have ready a small dipper of hot sealing wax, and while holding bottle firmly in both hands with a cloth, dip the corked end into hot wax.

Successful Jelly-Making Methods

In no branch of preserving does one feel less sure of success than in jelly making. While it is a very simple process, yet it requires judgment and a knowledge of materials used in order to make sure of satisfactory results.

The jellies made from juicy fruits, such as currants and grapes, require less skill than those to which water is added. The jelly-making substance in fruit is called pectin, and is at its best when the fruit is just ripe, or a little under ripe. If the fruit juice is in a fermenting condition, or if the juices are boiled too long, the pectin loses its power of gelatinizing, and the jelly will be "gummy." Hence, it is of the greatest importance that jelly should be made from fruit freshly picked; also that it should not be gathered after a rain, as it will have absorbed water which must be boiled out. Fruit grown in a hot, dry season will contain a greater per cent of sugar, and require one quarter less the amount of added sugar in making jelly, but in cold, wet seasons, an equal amount of sugar and fruit juice must be used. Dusty fruit should be quickly washed and drained to prevent its absorbing water. Fruits that require the addition of water for jelly is desired. For first quality of jelly, strain ing, and not stirred to break the fruit if clear jlly is desired. For first quality of jelly, strain through double thickness of cheese-cloth, then through flannel without pressing the bags. For second quality squeeze the bag until juice is extracted, and make into separate lot of jelly.

Covering Jellies

The large per cent of sugar contained in jelly protects it from the action of bacteria, but unless covered it will mould and evaporate. The following is quite the surest way of protecting jelly under all conditions: Cut circles from paper the size of top of glass. When the jelly is set and firm, brush the top with alcohol or brandy, which destroys any fermentation germs that may already have developed. Also dip the paper circle in the spirits and put it over the jelly. If there are tin covers, dip in boiling water, wipe dry and cover glasses; though better than covers, is a thin coat of paraffin poured on top of the paper.

The next best covering is a coat of paraffin a little less than one quarter of an inch thick. In the absence of the paper wet in spirits, set the jelly in windows where a day's hot sun will fall upon it, the sun being a mold spore destroyer, and the heat will insure the top of jelly being perfectly dry. Melt the paraffin after cutting it into pieces, putting it into a dish which is set in another dish containing hot water. It will soon be warm enough to pour over jelly.

Jelly Recipes

CURRANT JELLY.—Pick over, removing leaves and poor fruit; mash and drain thoroughly, but do not stem. Mash a little of the fruit in bottom of kettle to get sufficient juice to start cooking, then put all the fruit in. Very slowly bring to a boil and simmer ten minutes, or until the currants look white. Pour through a coarse colander, then into a jelly bag. Measure juice, and to every pint add one pound of granulated sugar. Bring juice to a boil and simmer ten minutes, then slowly add sugar, stirring constantly, and when it has simmered two minutes, move back and skim and pour into hot glasses.

GRAPE JELLY.—Acid grapes not over-ripe make the best jelly. Satisfactory jelly is also made from equal portions of ripe and green grapes; also from half ripe grapes. Mash grapes and follow recipe for making Currant Jelly.

CURRANT AND RASPBERRY JELLY.—Use equal parts of fruit, and follow directions for making Currant Jelly.

BARBERRY JELLY.—Cut crab apples in small pieces, using two quarts of berries to one quart of cut-up apple. Add just water enough to prevent the berries from sticking to kettle, and proceed the same as for Currant Jelly.

APPLE OR CRAB APPLE JELLY.—Wash and drain fruit; remove stems and cut the whole apple into small pieces. Nearly cover with cold water and cook until apples are tender. Let the juice drip through a jelly bag. Allow one pint of juice to one pound of granulated sugar. Heat sugar in oven in shallow baking pans, stirring occasionally. Boil juice fifteen minutes and slowly add hot sugar. Boil apple juice ten minutes longer than crab apple juice. Simmer five minutes, skim and fill hot glasses.

RASPBERRY, BLACKBERRY AND CURRANT IN EQUAL PARTS.—Make the same as Currant Jelly.

PLUM JELLY.—Use underripe acid plums. Wash the fruit and stem. To four quarts of fruit, add two cups of water, and slowly cook until the plums are boiled to pieces. Strain and proceed the same as with Currant Jelly.

QUINCE JELLY.—Rub the quinces smooth with a coarse towel, and cut out the blossom end. Pare, quarter and core the fruit. Have a large bowl of cold water at hand, and drop in the pieces of perfect quince, to later be used in preserve. In the preserving kettle, put the parings, cores and imperfect pieces of fruit, all very finely cut up. To every two quarts of fruit thus prepared, add three cups of water and cook gently for two hours. Strain and finish the same as apple jelly.

QUINCE AND CRAB APPLE.—Cook equal parts of fruit and proceed as with Apple Jelly.

The accompanying illustration shows an excellent arrangement for supporting a jelly bag during the draining process, but just as useful a substitute can be made from common bail wire. Make the support the same on both sides, as shown on one side of kettle in illustration, for by so doing, it will hold up the weight of several quarts of fruit. Make the upright wires long enough to clear bag from kettle. Make the inside circle in one piece with the uprights. Make the outside circle of wire that holds the bag about one half inch larger in diameter, so it will slightly hang over the inside circle. The bag is cut in a circle and the edge hemmed over the wire. The bag is washed without taking from the wire.

Jams

Canning and jam making should be carried on at the same time in order to obtain best results as to quality, appearance and economy. Pick over each lot of berries intended for canning; the soft-ripe and broken ones unsuitable for canning should be culled out to be made into jam, using only the perfect berries for canning; thus every berry can be utilized and the quality of the product improved. Add to the culls an equal quantity of slightly underripe berries, as they are necessary to give a jelly-like consistency to the jam. Weigh the berries and allow three quarters of a pound of sugar to each pound of fruit. Continuous and quite rapid cooking with constant care is essential.

In stirring jam, use a wooden spoon or paddle, moving it across the center of the vessel first one way and then the opposite, and next around the pan, gently moving the mixture from the bottom of the pan, being careful not to stir rapidly or beat. When the jam is finished, a little cooled in a spoon and dropped from the side, will not pour, but fall in a flake.

Strawberries, loganberries, currants, raspberries, grapes (wild or cultivated), green tomato with the addition of two ounces of preserved ginger to every four pounds of tomato, make some of the best jams.

Jam is one of the most valued elements of the rations issued to the British and French soldiers in the trenches.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Saves Eggs in Baking

You can use fewer eggs with Royal Baking Powder. A great advantage in these days of mounting food prices.

In most recipes the number of eggs may be reduced one-half or more and often left out altogether by using a small additional quantity of Royal Baking Powder, about a teaspoon, in place of each egg omitted.

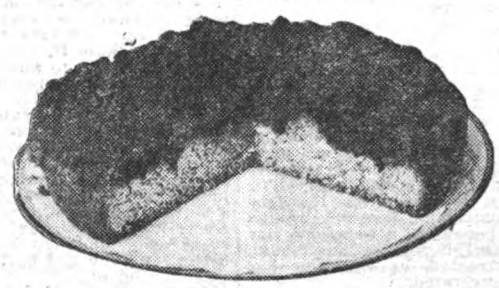
Every mail brings to us letters from women who are enthusiastic over their success with this new method. One mother writes:

"Nothing like Royal Baking Powder. My little girl can eat biscuits and muffins made of it with no discomfort—while she cannot eat others."

Try the following recipes which are illustrations and see how well this plan works. You must use Royal Baking Powder, which is made from Cream of Tartar, derived from grapes, to get the best results—powders made from alum and other mineral substitutes often leave a bitter taste.

Coffee Cake

Very popular at the breakfast table and most appetizing when freshly made at home and served hot



2 cups flour
½ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons sugar
No Eggs
4 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
2 tablespoons shortening
½ cup milk

DIRECTIONS:—Mix and sift dry ingredients. Add melted shortening and enough milk to make very stiff batter. Spread one-half inch thick in greased pan, add top mixture and bake about one-half hour in moderate oven.

(The old method called for 2 eggs)

TOP MIXTURE

2 tablespoons flour
1 tablespoon cinnamon
4 tablespoons sugar
4 tablespoons shortening

DIRECTIONS:—Mix dry ingredients; rub in the shortening, and spread thickly over top of dough before baking.

Corn Bread

Everyone knows the great nutriment in corn.
Here it is in most appetizing form.



1½ cups milk
2 tablespoons shortening
1¾ cups corn meal
¼ cup flour
No Eggs
4 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
1 tablespoon sugar (if desired)
1 teaspoon salt

DIRECTIONS:—Sift the dry ingredients into bowl; add milk and melted shortening; beat well and pour into well greased pan or muffin tins and bake in hot oven about 25 minutes.

(The old method called for 2 eggs)

Equally satisfactory results in saving eggs may be obtained by using **Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder, also made from Cream of Tartar,** and now manufactured by this Company.

A new book containing many practical recipes, which economize in eggs and other expensive ingredients and produce food no less appetizing and delicious, mailed free on request. Address **Royal Baking Powder Co.,** 130 William Street, New York.

Royal Baking Powder is a pure Cream of Tartar product derived from Grapes, a natural food, and adds none but healthful qualities to the food.

No Alum *No Phosphate*
No Bitter Taste

A Declaration of Dependence

By Joseph F. Novak

(See front cover illustration)

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"And that was the way
The deuce was to pay
As it always is, at the close of the day
That gave us—
Hurray! Hurray! Hurray!
(With some restrictions, the fault-finders say)
That which, please God, we will keep for aye
Our National Independence!"
Will Carlton:—How We Kept the Day.

THE "sane Fourth" idea had not yet reached Bison Gulch. Consequently, Miss Millicent Wright was awakened early in the morning by banging cannons and exploding powder. For a moment she was bewildered, then recalling that it was Independence Day, she arose, threw on a lacy morning wrap, tucked her hair into a coquettish little cap, and went to the window, from which she cautiously pushed the curtain.

Below in the street more than a half-dozen grown men with a bunch of young America was gathered. The men had erected a noise-making affair which consisted of a large flat rock upon which they placed loose powder; upon this they dropped another rock which caused the powder to explode with deafening racket.

"All in my honor, I know," murmured Millicent, and she boldly pushed aside the curtain now, and looked out.

A cheer went up from the men in the street as they beheld her, and she waved to them tantalizingly.

"I guess Bison Gulch is celebrating its share, don't you think, Miss Wright?" called out Larry Smith.

"Why, I thought it was solely in my honor," she plagued.

"Our putting up this here thing was," he replied, his freckles becoming more prominent because of the blush that a word from Millicent always brought to his cheeks.

"Say, we're going to have some ball game this afternoon, Miss Wright. Don't forget to come," admonished Blue Gulch Billy.

"I won't," and she waved a shapely hand coquettishly which included them all, then dropped the curtain and sat waiting for the summons to breakfast, enjoying all the while the cool mountain breeze which carried with it the tang of burnt powder.

Millicent sighed. This Fourth of July was her last day in Bison Gulch.

Her entree had been sensational. Clad in a white suit, the coat of which was lined with brilliant scarlet silk, with a hat of white on which reposed a splash of crimson flowers and held on her head with crimson velvet streamers tied under her left ear, she rolled into town in her automobile, driving herself!

She had made a vivid picture!

No one knew who she was, nor what she was there for.

Millicent, however, knew why she was there, and trembled in spite of her roguish smiles at the thought of what she had done, and she never would have done it had she not been one of those irresponsible creatures, authors! For finding herself running out of material, with a brain drained of ideas, she set forth to find some adventures, and at Bison Gulch she had gathered together enough material for a novel of book length. The people whom she met in the streets she idealized into heroes, villains, comedians, love-sick swains and the like, picturing herself as a beautious city maid in distress, in thrilling situations, doing good, driving men distracted, or whatever her mood and imagination suggested.

Then the bold idea of encouraging all the fellows who came to worship at her shrine seized her, and immediately she put it into operation.

She led them on, until, one by one, they proposed and were accepted. She placed an embargo on them, however. They must not let it be known that they were engaged. So it happened that she was now engaged to seven men in and about Bison Gulch. She had promised to marry them all on the night of the Fourth of July, the very night when she planned to quietly motor out of the little town and back to her home in the East.

If any of her plans went awry, she would find herself in a very hornet's nest of enraged men, but the game was worth the candle. She didn't know but what it would serve her right if she did get caught in her own net, and she laughed and shuddered at what the outcome could be. But her own feelings she was able to transfer to paper, and so she didn't care, for being an authoress, she delighted in new experiences. If she "got away with it," it would make interesting reading, but if she didn't—well, she'd have plenty of cold chills to analyze if she were caught.

She glanced down the street where flags were waving and boys shouting as they touched off their firecrackers. At various places along the street she saw her seven suitors. There was Larry Smith with his red hair and freckles, Brazilian John whom she nicknamed "Don Quixote" because his looks reminded her of that hero of Cervantes, but whom, she knew, was just the opposite of that gallant knight; Blue Gulch Billy who worked in a mine in Blue Gulch; S. I. G. Rance, so called from the initials of the company for which he worked; Belmont who was a foreman for the S. I. G. Co., Charlie Singer who worked in a local store, and Mac Kitterage who was superintendent of the Weaver Ranch.

Somehow Millicent felt a little ashamed of leading on Big Mac, for he was a man who took things seriously; the rest of the fellows would quickly forget her, but Mac wouldn't—at least, not right off. And surely when he discovered how false she was, it would hurt him rather than affect him as she felt it would the others. They would simply curse and swear at her and let it go at that, while Mac would undoubtedly carry the wound for sometime.

Her breath choked a little at the thought, especially when she recalled the evening he had walked at her side, and told her of his love, an outburst so different from the others; a simple manly declaration of love from the heart of an honest man, a man who had always been honorable, a man who always would be. She recalled to the minutest detail that night when those strong arms, clothed in the simple gray shirt came about her, and she could still feel the beat of his heart against hers as he pressed her to his bosom.

To him alone had she allowed this privilege; her other admirers had been obliged to be satisfied with a mere pressure of her hand, and the further privilege of being allowed to place an arm loosely about her waist, for she was so wonderfully spirituelle and "fluffed up" they dared not touch her much, lest they "muss" her up!

She felt herself guilty, however, in feigning a semblance of love for the big, dark-haired fellow—then with a laugh and toss of her head, she dismissed all thoughts of him. After all, one cannot have conscientious scruples if he is an author in search of material!

After breakfast, she dressed herself most becomingly, adding a touch of patriotism to her costume in the shape of a bunch of red, white and blue silk ribbon, and started on her way to a certain pretty little gully where she often sat and made her notes.

She was not destined to reach it today, for her lovers would not allow it. The first one she met was Larry who grinned, showed his teeth and with a foolish smile asked her whether she didn't wish that it was seven o'clock, since that was the time they were to "elope!" She admonished him to silence.

This was the first event of a strenuous morning during which she had to use a general's tactics in keeping her seven lovers from revealing their secret to each other, and it was with a sigh of relief that she returned to her boarding place at noon, and was rid of them for some time.

But they were on the job a few hours later and bore her in state at the head of the impromptu parade which made its way to the ball grounds where Bison Gulch was to scrap it out with Red River, a town some ten miles distant.

Of her admirers, five were on the ball team, and they played even as gloriously as the knights of old jousted for their lady's favor. Mac Kitterage did not play, neither did Larry, and often the last named spoke so familiarly that many times during the afternoon, Millicent felt inclined to slap the presuming little wretch's face.

She had not realized how difficult it was going to be to get away, but as the afternoon wore on, she felt that she must escape somehow. Finally it dawned upon her to faint in the midst af an exciting inning. She accordingly did so.

Mac and Larry, thereupon, had to take her home and after seeing her safely in the house, camped upon the front porch. Millicent, peering cautiously through the curtains, saw there was no danger from that quarter, so she picked up her little handbag, kissed her landlady good by, and quietly went through the rear door of the house, and fled across rear lots and yards until she came to the place where her automobile stood in readiness for her.

Just as she sat to the wheel, a wild roar was borne to her on the languid breeze from the ball ground where Bison Gulch had won!

At the sound, Millicent advanced the gas, pushed in the clutch, started the machine and soon was racing down the alkaline trail as fast as the machine could fly.

She made nice progress for some miles, but as is sometimes the case, a perfectly decent automobile may get up on its ear, and this is just what Millicent Wright's did. With a gentle purr, the engine died down. Millicent thought she had simply "killed" it, so she was not troubled, and worked her electric self-starter. But nothing doing! She tried it again and again until the battery gave out, then getting out, she tried her handy little crank. But though she tugged and "threw it over," the engine remained dead.

"My word, what shall I do?" she thought, with mixed amusement and fright. She had a nice distance to cover to get to Durange, the town for which she was headed, for of course she couldn't go back to Bison Gulch. What was the matter with the machine, anyway?

Had she known it she could have probably fixed it. The wires had unfastened from the electric coil, a simple twist would have done the work. She didn't know, however, and consequently she was stalled.

A womanly impulse to sit down and cry came upon her, for she was in a plight indeed. Back in Bison Gulch were seven suitors awaiting her, forward she could not go unless she chose to leave the automobile out on the prairie. She wouldn't mind that very much, for the car was a roadster and not very costly, a thousand dollars would duplicate it, and a thousand dollars was not a great sum to an authoress who commanded royalties that were the envy of many near-famous writer folk.

Only the dusky, sunny prairie and alkaline dust blowing about greeted her in every direction, and how could she ever walk to Durange?

Apparently, that, however, was the only course left to her. Fortunately she had taken a bit of lunch, and a box of bonbons, and then there was a bottle of water in a scientific can which kept it cold. Well, this was her punishment, so the sooner she made up her mind to walk on, the better, and she had best do it at once since dusk was coming on.

With an amused laugh, she began to gather together what she would need. While so engaged, she happened to look up and saw a cloud of dust tearing along the prairie from the direction of Bison Gulch. For a moment her heart leaped up with relief, then she turned cold with terror. What if it were one of the seven? But it couldn't be for if one found out, all would, and there would be a comparing of notes, and the whole mob would swoop down upon her! No, it must be a stranger.

She would have run and hidden herself so that she might reconnoiter, but her automobile was the only thing to be seen on the flat prairie if we except the line of low hills in which Bison Gulch was hidden.

There was nothing left to do but await the on-coming horseman, who grew larger and larger as he came loping along, until he materialized into the figure of Mac Kitterage. He came up with a great flourish and stopped so suddenly that the broncho reared up. His face was grim.

"What's the matter?" was his greeting.

"Why, Mr. Kitterage," she smiled up at him, "I was out for a little ride and my machine balked——"

"And left you in a rather peculiar position, didn't it?"

"I was so frightened, I thought I might have to stay here all night and listen to the howling coyotes. Oh, suppose you hadn't come?"

"Then you're glad to see me?"

"How queerly you talk," she answered, her mein cool and calm.

"Well, I'll be—am I crazy, or are you?"

"What are you talking about?"

"Say, didn't I leave you at Mrs. Green's boarding house, sick with a headache?"

"I? Oh, Mr. Kitterage, won't you please see if you can find out what the trouble with the car is?"

"Didn't you faint in the ball park today?" he continued, ignoring her request.

"I was writing letters all the afternoon! Mr. Kitterage, how queerly you talk! Please, won't you look at the car?" for Millicent was in hopes that he might fix it, whereupon she planned to hop into it and give him the slip. She knew she could outdistance him in a couple of minutes provided he didn't shoot after her and puncture her tires.

"Now, listen here, my lady," he began quietly, bu with chilling tone, "I came out to help you if I could, but if you're going to make a fool of me, I'll quit. Larry told me that you had promised to marry him tonight! You made the same promise to me, too! And to Brazil, Billy, Charlie, S. I. G. and Belmont. At first they were going to beat each other up; then they began to compare notes. Mrs. Green told them you had gone for a little auto ride but that you would return. I guessed you had simply cleared out, but I wanted to be sure you were well on your way, because the boys are determined to come after you. Good night! There's the pack of them now," and he waved his hand toward another cloud of dust raised by the hoofs of six welted bronchoes.

"The boys compared their licenses," he went on, "and all were made out in different names which you led them to believe was your right one, and that 'Miss Wright' was simply an assumed name. I didn't understand Rev. Jones's smile when I asked him to perform the ceremony for us tonight and his statement that he'd be busy, as he had others to perform. I do now. Larry got a Catholic priest, Brazil held back the minister from Red River, and S. I. G. and Belmont each got a justice of the peace. Now, what does it mean? You haven't told me a word, and the boys will be here in a couple of minutes."

It was too good, and Millicent Wright, little realizing that she was dealing with men of flesh and blood and not the creations of her brain was highly elated with the maelstrom into which she had plunged, banking on her sex and personality to carry her through.

"I don't know what you're talking about," she said decidedly, her courage and spunk rising.

Mac sprang from his horse, and caught her wrist.

"Listen, young lady! It may seem a joke to you, but when you find yourself confronted with a half-dozen angry, passionate men, it will not be funny. I came on ahead, thinking I might be of some help to you, but since you disclaim all knowledge of your pranks, you may take the consequences!"

He glared fiercely upon her, for just then the six came up in towering tempers, their horses flecked with foam.

"Got here afore us, didn't ye?" blurted out S. I. G. Rance, "well, ye got the gal, now what are we going to do to her?"

The six dismounted, the horses trailed off to the byway to crop the prairie vegetation and the men made a circle about the undaunted authoress.

"Gentlemen," she queried, looking from one face to another, "gentlemen, what does this mean? You, once all my friends, looking so fiercely upon me. I thought you missed me, had feared for my safety and had come to look for me, lo, you come, but I find nothing but upbraiding and black looks. What does it mean?"

"We thought ye disappeared, eh?" grunted Brazilian John, otherwise Don Quixote, "well, we did, and I guess ye didn't mean that we should find ye. Well, we have, and we're going to get actions on ye, ye she Morman!"

(Millicent didn't know what a "she Mormon" might be, but guessed it meant, in John's understanding, a woman who wanted plural husbands!)

"Don't let her soft-soap us, men!" exclaimed Belmont. "She thought she could play her coquette's airs on us, and trap us into proposing to her and make fools of us. Now, let us fix her little wagon!"

"Mr. Kitterage, what does this all mean? Have you gentlemen all taken leave of your senses? All berating me, and talking in such foolish measures?" she asked, though her heart was sinking. "Suppose, I can't 'put it over them'?" she thought to herself. But if she couldn't, she'd use her feminine weapon. She'd cry!

"I think," she went on with trembling lip. "I think you seven big husky men would be ashamed to trap a poor defenseless girl in this fashion, and insult her and—and——" and bending her head, she went into a flood of tears not unmixed with hysteria. During the torrent, she was aware of a cubist-art impression of voices shouting questions until they became a conglomeration to which she entered a general denial. They asked her if she hadn't promised to marry them, if she hadn't given them all different names which she claimed was her right one, if she hadn't instructed them to secrecy regarding their engagments, if she hadn't suggested preachers, justices of the peace, and others to perform the ceremonies, and so on.

Dimly through it all, she could see that she had them confused, and that she had produced the effect she wished—to make them think she was utterly irresponsible.

"Poor kid, she's crazy as a loon," said Blue Gulch Billy, "better take her back to town, boys, and forget everything. It's clear she ain't responsible."

"You're a gentleman, Billy," she burst out, and it was exactly the wrong thing to do.

"Listen, boys," spoke up Charlie Singer, "that girl is as responsible as you or I. Whatever her right name is, I don't know, but while you boys were tearing around, I happened to pick up this book," and he drew a small volume from his pocket, "and it was written by Millicent Wright. The picture of the authoress is in the front of it, and if it isn't our Millicent Wright's picture, then I'm not Charles Singer. Boys, she's a writer of stories, and I wouldn't be a bit surprised if she didn't do this for the sake of a new book!"

"You villain," she cried, "you villain!"

"Because I guessed right?" he queried impudently.

Millicent didn't know how to extricate herself. Had it been a story, she would have done it easily, and cleverly, for she could have gulled her characters. But now—well, the only thing was to throw herself upon their mercy.

"You have guessed right," she said coldly, "and I shall take the consequences of my acts. I am an authoress, I did what I did for the sake of a story; add the sequel if you will."

"A nice sequel it will be if I have my way about it," snarled Belmont. "Shall I suggest what we make her do?"

They assented, for they little knew what to do with their fair captive now that they had her in their clutches.

"Well, what'll we do?" queried Larry.

"I'll tell you," said Belmont. "She promised to marry all of us—a thing which she can't do. But we'll make her marry one of us! We'll put the marriage licenses into a hat and let her draw one. Whichever one she draws, that's the fellow she'll tie up to!"

"Heaven!" she exclaimed in dismay, thinking of the possibilities, "you cannot be in earnest!"

"As earnest in this as you were not in your little game, my lady," Belmont replied.

"Will no one——" her voice died away as she saw only grim faces, "Mr. Kitterage——"

"Yes!" the man exclaimed.

"No, you don't! Be in the game or out of it, Mac! Hero stunts don't go," and Singer whipped out a gun and thrust it into Mac's face.

The whole thing was so melodramatic, so like a dream that Millicent couldn't really believe that they meant to make her marry one of them.

"Now, lady of many aliases, pick your future husband!" and Belmont held out the hat to her.

She grabbed one of the papers, opened it up and in the dusk read in a voice devoid of emotion: "Mac Kitterage."

"I?" Kitterage's eyes lighted up.

"Yes, you as well as any," she replied.

"That's over," Belmont said disgustedly. "Well, we must take our defeat decently. Get into your roadster, Miss Wright, Mac sit up alongside of her, and we'll tow you into town."

Meekly Millicent obeyed, while the men hitched the horses to the car by means of the tow-rope and soon they were on their way to Bison Gulch.

Darkness had fallen. Millicent stole cautious glances at the man at her side. If nothing happened, she must marry him. She wondered what his thoughts were.

In the distance, they could see the night Fourth of July display in Bison Gulch. How differently the day was ending.

"Please don't cart me through the streets; be a little merciful even though I was not," Millicent begged, as they neared town. How like a marquise of the French Revolution going to the guillotine in a tumbril, she felt!

The men heeded her suggestion and when the border of town was reached, they allowed her to alight, and while four of them kept guard of her and Mac (whom they did not quite trust now), two of them took the car to the town's garage, and shortly joined their comrades.

Their progress up the street bore the semblance of a triumphal march, for red, blue and green fire was constantly burning, rockets whizzed into the air and burst with their onomatopoeic "tock!" "nigger chasers" darted under their feet, and and torpedoes smashed all about them.

Millicent felt her face paling; often she glanced at Mac, but he avoided her looks.

Would nothing happen? No, nothing did; the minister's house was reached, they entered, the license was produced, *and they were married!*

When they came out again, they walked between a cordon of burning colored fire to Stillwagon's Cafe where the wedding supper was laid ready. The men had ordered individually, but with the turn of events, Stillwagon had been bidden to put the whole together, making quite a sumptuous banquet.

Millicent was seated at the head of the table with her husband—how suddenly she had acquired him!—beside her, while the men arranged themselves two on each of the remaining three sides of the table.

Millicent kept her eyes upon her plate, eating but little, drinking nothing, and utterly mute.

"I say, *Mrs.* Kitterage, won't you give us a toast!" asked S. I. G. Rance.

"Yes," she cried, suddenly stirred to life, "yes!"

She seized a glass of water, and rose from her chair.

"Here it is: To my independence! Gone, snatched from me on our country's Day of Independence!"

That practically broke up the little party, and Mac brought Millicent her light coat and hat. The men accompanied him to Mrs. Green's boarding-house, and then with a cheer, they left.

Mac stood on the porch of the house, his hand resting gently on Millicent's arm.

"Don't be afraid, *Miss* Wright," he said, with emphasis on the "Miss." "Your heart was not in

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

Your Child's Eyesight

By Dr. J. W. Miller

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

IT is unfortunate that poor eyesight may not be recognized at once in every home, but the truth is that there are many little symptoms which no one would connect with poor eyesight, and so few symptoms that foretell poor eyesight, that many a child gets so bad that permanent glasses are necessary before the trouble is suspected.

The careful parent will always be on the lookout for these things. Probably a million or more mothers have asked, "Do your eyes hurt you?" and the child, really believing he is truthful, has answered in the negative when in reality his eyes were weak and needed prompt attention.

It isn't the child's fault. Poor eyesight does not give much of a warning when it approaches—that is, a warning such as a child would understand,—and so the mother must keep a careful watch.

Perhaps your child seems unreasonably nervous, or cross, or restless; perhaps he has many little headaches, and you think it is his stomach or his "nerves," or just a bad temper (inherited from the other side of the house, of course). Watch him carefully. See if he does not squint a little when looking off, or hold his books too close to his face, or say that he hates to study because his lessons are so hard they give him a headache. Watch his report cards and see if he is not getting higher marks in the studies in which he does not need to use his eyes as much as in the studies where he must use his eyes constantly.

All these things, or anyone of them, may mean that your child has poor eyesight. And when a child has poor eyesight, it is never going to improve, of itself. The best of treatment must be given, and at once. At such a time the little eyes may be so treated that they will regain their strength. If delayed too long the youngster will have to go his way through the world depending upon glasses all his days.

Always go to a good opthalmolgist. Be sure he is a skilled man of experience. The best is the cheapest, the safest and the surest. If you have no specialist in your town, go to your family doctor. Family doctors are great men, not always appreciated. Your family doctor may not be an opthalmologist, but you may be certain that he knows enough about eyes to detect trouble in your child's eyesight upon examination, if trouble is there. And furthermore, your family physician will tell you just what to do about it and where to go. If it is a case where a specialist is needed, he will tell you.

If you are in a big town or city, better go to the eye specialist direct, without delay and have the youngster's eyes examined. If he says to get glasses for the child, have his prescription filled at once and no matter how much the child may weep and wail and protest, see that he wears them. This is the most important precaution a mother can take.

Of course the eyes should be given the greatest of care from birth. Probably half the cases of blindness thirty or less years ago were caused by that terrible disease called "opthalmia neonatorum." There was always danger that the child's eyes at birth might harbor some of the germs of this disease which, in a few days, caused the infant's eyes to grow red, discharge pus, the eyelids to swell and fall over the eyes, the eyeballs become infected and then partial or total incurable blindness followed.

The cure for this is so simple that it is regarded as a crime today for anyone to allow the disease to attack an infant. This cure consists of dropping into each eye of the new born child a two per cent solution of nitrate of silver. This is a powerful antiseptic, it kills the germs instantly, yet does not harm the eyes. Make sure that your physician does this when baby arrives. See to it that it is done to your grandchildren. And after that, the eyes need constant care for several weeks. This care consists of keeping baby's eyes clean. To do this properly use a solution made by dissolving in a cup of boiled and cooled water a teaspoonful of boric acid. See that the acid is the guaranteed chemically pure kind and that the water does not get cold but just lukewarm when applied.

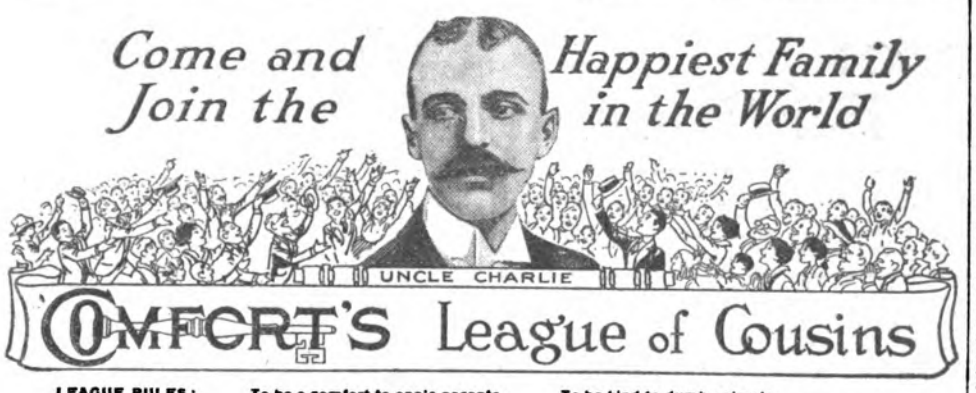
Every time you cleanse the infant's eyes, first sterilize your hands by washing them thoroughly with Castile soap and warm water and then dipping them into a half pint of water in which has been mixed a gill of peroxide of hydrogen. Now dip a bit of absorbent cotton, sterilized (it can be purchased all ready) into the boric acid solution and wash or swab out baby's eyes, wiping from the nose away toward the side, then throw away the cotton. Use a different piece of cotton for each eye and dry with a little piece of fine linen.

When your child goes to school, look at the schoolroom. If it is too dark for your child it is too dark for your neighbor's children. See them and have the room lightened. It can be done. Do not allow your child to bring home his book and do "home work" at night until he is at least fourteen years old, then allow him only half an hour. The modern method of crowding children with studies in so many of our public schools, just to make a good showing for the school "efficiency" has necessitated much home work at night and many and many a ruined eyesight.

Above all, be patient with your youngster when he seems nervous and cross, when he complains that going to school makes him sick, when he squints too much. Do not say right away that he is lazy and trying to get out of school, or that he is unduly cross. Of course few children really love school, but before you condemn the child, make quite sure that it isn't weakened eyesight that makes him squint, makes him hate school because school gives him a pain in the head, makes him irritable, makes him play truant, and various other things.

Better pay an expert a few dollars to tell you that your child's eyesight is excellent, than to wait and pay it anyway, and three times as much more for glasses, and endure the sorrow of seeing your child going about with glasses.

Above all, remember that the first symptom of bad eyesight in most children is irritation.



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

HOP up onto my lap and snuggle down close, big children and little children, and especially all you children born abroad, or of foreign parents. Do you know this is the last Fourth of July you may ever be allowed to celebrate in these United States? Well it may be, and don't forget that. If it were not for our allies, there would be no Fourth of July for you this year and probably for any year. To be perfectly frank the present generation has done nothing to deserve a Fourth of July and less still to deserve the splendid heritage the men of '76 and '61 passed on to us.

Directly Congress declared war on the Central Powers, every man, woman and child in America should have been ready to do their bit for the land of their birth or adoption. But were they ready? No, they were scandalously and shamefully unready, ignorant of and even indifferent to the issues at stake in this great world war. In addition a lot of hen-brained, provincial, dull-witted Congressmen were striving desperately to defeat a universal military service law, which aimed to place the burden of national defense squarely on the shoulders of all, instead of a willing, patriotic few, insisting the while that we fight the most perfect and most terrible war machine the world has ever seen with a discredited, wickedly unjust system of unfair volunteering. We might as well try to fight Germany with a feather duster as with volunteers.

On "Wake Up America" day in New York there were over sixty thousand paraders. The whole city was a mass of waving flags. The blare of trumpets and the roll of drums could be heard for miles and the people screamed themselves hoarse, so chock full were they with "let-George-do-it" patriotism. That afternoon I got Maria to take a look at the Borough of Brooklyn, which has a population of two million people. In the heart of that vast city she discovered a mob of between five and ten thousand people screaming themselves hoarse over the baseball returns as they were displayed outside the newspaper offices. Six people only were watching the war bulletin boards, and in two hours of careful observation, not one person was seen to enter a nearby recruiting station. These facts I at once forwarded to various members of congress, to aid them in their fight for conscription, a real army and real protection.

The day following the great "Wake Up America" celebration in the whole of New York State only one hundred and seventy odd people enlisted. Instead of waking up they went to sleep. In the city of London, with a population not very much greater than that of New York within forty-eight hours after war was declared and volunteers were called for, 288,000 men responded. In the whole United States, three weeks after war was declared only 33,000 men had entered the army while it has taken us nine weeks to get 100,000 men. On April 25 in the states of Delaware, Maine, North Dakota and Vermont, not a single man enlisted. Vermont in 34 days has enlisted 22 men. It took this once glorious state five days to enlist two men. In spite of the immense number of men who volunteered in England, conscription had to be resorted to, and now thank God we too have adopted it and have saved ourselves not only from disgrace, but from becoming contemptible in the eyes of the world. It was the French conscripts that hurled the German hordes back at the Marne and not only saved Europe, but probably America as well. In '61 the South adopted conscription and the North had to follow suit. Our Civil War was won, not by volunteers, but by drafted men. In our war with Spain, we never succeeded in getting all the volunteers that were called for, and of those we did get over seventeen thousand deserted. We could fool with impotent Spain but not with mighty Prussia. If ever a nation needed universal military training and universal military service under Federal control, the young men of these United States need it. They need the discipline and the physical training, for not one in ten is found physically fit for the fighting line. Our youth, too, need to be taught that there is something more in life than auto rides, cabarets, movies and the pursuit of idle pleasure. They must be taught that sacrifice and service, not pleasure and good times are what make men and nations noble and great. Hundreds of young men are rushing to get married so as to hide behind the skirts of women, but those skirts will not save them. Hundreds more are going to the recruiting offices without any idea of enlisting, so as to get medical examinations free of charge.

The New York American commenting editorially on the war situation says: "Here it is a full month since the President decided upon war—and not one single, decisive step toward real preparedness has been taken. The army that ought to have been on the way to the training camps is still a matter of academic debate. The chances are better than even that the European war will be ended before our citizen army has been collected into drilling camps."

Here is the kind of thing that flares out in bold type from every newspaper and makes one sick at heart: "Indirectly criticizing the war department, Representative Tilson of Connecticut said that only 66,000 service rifles have been made by the United States since the outbreak of the European war." When it was suggested, says the New York Times that information of this sort possibly should not be made public, Mr. Tilson replied: "Everybody knows it except ourselves. Our enemies know it. We need not try and keep it a secret now. We cannot increase our capacity to manufacture that rifle because of the difficulty of procuring gauges. We have waited too long."

The precious weeks that have been wasted may result disastrously for us, and if for us then for our allies, and all mankind. Monarchies and autocracies are ever ready for war, that is their business. Democracies fool with war as a child fools with its toys, and not until national extinction threatens will free governments and free peoples wield the sword efficiently. At present it looks as if Russia must crumble. German agents, sympathizers and propagandists have gained complete control of the socialist movement in the United States. Decent Americans have left the party by the thousands. The same contemptible game is now being worked in Russia, and the Russians are falling as easy victims to the Kaiser's agents as did the simple American comrades who knew nothing of the traitorous scheme that was being put over them. If Russia goes only our aid in men and munitions can save our allies France and Britain, and whether we shall be able to help or not largely depends on whether we can meet the menace of the submarine, and it is very doubtful if it can be met. No nation can stand starvation, and with our allies starved out we shall have to feel the full force of the mailed fist, and if you don't know what that means, look at bleeding Belgium, starved, crushed, annihilated and left with only her eyes to weep with. The wooden ships which were to break the submarine blockade will avail but little, unless we, too, can build unsinkable ships. Italy must have coal and supplies or she will soon be crushed, and if she too goes, democracy dies in the old world, and we who still think the war is a huge joke, will have to fight the battle of humanity alone against an all powerful foe, and at present we are incapable of fighting even a fried chicken. Germany's fleet is double ours and if England is starved out she will have to surrender her mighty fleet, then such an armada as the world has never seen will probably cross the seas. What will happen then? You may guess when I tell you that one of Germany's leading statesmen declared in the Reichstag the other day that they would make President Wilson "bite granite." Dr. Hahn too in the Reichstag shouted "Germany's future is a future of battle and conquest." While the Kaiser in 1908 at Potsdam said: "Germany over everything in the world, the first power on earth both in peace and war—that is the place which I have been ordered by God to conquer for him. This is my irrevocable decision. Whoever opposes my will, him will I break."

If the President has to be put on a granite diet you may know what is in store for the rest of us. Those poor pacifist idiots, many of them in the pay of or the victims of the Kaiser's agents, who have pestered me with their traitorous piffle for the last three years, have declared they would not have the United States turned into an armed camp. The poor boobs did not realize that it was far better for us to have an armed camp of our own than an armed camp full of our enemies. It had to be one or the other. For years I have warned you to cut out fireworks and flag waving on the Fourth and get down to serious thinking. I warned you that the storm was coming, but you would not believe me. But Uncle Charlie was right was he not? Everyone, man, woman or child, must do his or her bit in this great struggle if this nation is to survive. In these days war is not a mere matter of armies against armies, but nations against nations. In this conflict we are going to lose our roll and gain our soul. We are going to quit being a mob of idle, pleasure-loving profit seekers and become a nation. If this war brings the rod of affliction to every home in the land, so much the better for the land and those who inhabit it, for out of the fiery crucible of war will emerge a people united and purified by suffering, sorrow and adversity.

Every citizen of this country must be ready to offer himself a willing sacrifice on the altar of freedom and democracy. No thought of selfish interest must swerve him from this high and lofty purpose for today America holds in her hand the destinies of mankind. The world cannot be half free and half slave. The Almighty has decreed that our strong right arms must make it all free and we must do His bidding.

And now let me finish this article by quoting a few words from President Wilson's address to Congress:

"The world must be made safe for democracy. We have no selfish ends to serve. We desire no conquest, no dominion * * * * * no material compensation for the sacrifices we shall make. Our object is to vindicate the principles of peace and justice in the life of the world as against selfish and autocratic power. We are at the beginning of an age in which it will be insisted that the same standards of conduct and of responsibility for wrong done shall be observed among nations and their Governments that are observd among the individual citizens of civilized states. Only free peoples can hold their purpose and their honor. Right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts * * * * for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority, to have a voice in their governments. To such a task we can dedicate our lives and our fortunes, everything that we are and everything that we have, with the pride of those who know that the day has come when America is privileged to spend her blood and her might for the principles that gave her birth and happiness and the peace which she has treasured. God helping her she can do no other."

Let these extracts from our President's speech be read daily in every school and home in the land until the whole nation can quote them at will. These are words of fire and it is such sentiments as these and not firecrackers and foolishness that we need on Independence Day, for it is these sentiments alone that can keep freedom and liberty alive in this stormy, war cursed world.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

COURTOIS, MO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

We live on a large farm and raise chickens, turkeys and ducks. We are half a mile from the schoolhouse. I am in the sixth grade at school. I have gray eyes, light hair and fair complexion, four feet nine inches tall, and twelve years old. Uncle Charlie do you think it any harm for a girl of my age to use face powder. Other girls my age use it around here, and they think it no harm. I would like to see this in print and also would like to exchange letters with some of the cousins.

With sincere good wishes, NAOMI BLUNT.

I have expressed my opinion time and again, and my intense disapproval of the disgusting habit so prevalent the country o'er, especially among young girls, of disfiguring their faces with make up. I do not believe in using force if reason and argument can get results, but I can tell you this, Naomi, if you were a daughter of mine and I saw you trying to ruin your complexion and face, by trying to convert it into a flour barrel, you'd get the licking of your life. If I were your teacher and you came to school wearing a mask of chalk you'd be sent hiking home so swiftly it would make your head swim, I am glad that mother scolds, for there are a lot of mothers who would not even do that. Better still, mother should command, and if you don't obey you should be drastically disciplined and punished. Powder at twelve means paint at thirteen and a vain, spoiled, silly, frivolous, useless girl at fifteen and a ruined life and broken-hearted parents at sixteen. Life largely depends on how you start it, and you, Naomi, are starting it all wrong, and a bad start generally means a bad ending, and life is too precious, valuable and useful a thing to be ruined. If you plug the pores of your skin with chalk, in another five years your face will look more like a patch of alligator hide than that of a human being. Because those other girls make idiots of themselves and have fool mothers who have not sense enough to correct or discipline them, is no reason why you should make an idiot of yourself. The face that needs powder at twelve must be a mighty homely face, and the owner of that face must be desperate and foolish indeed to think that plastering it with chalk is going to improve it. It is about time you American mothers got busy with the slipper, the hair brush and the fence rail. These are the things that should be applied to your daughters, not face powders.

EAST BERLIN, Locust St., PA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a high school student and am in my sophomore year. I study the following branches: Spelling, rhetoric, algebra, Latin, zoology and that detested history. They do not teach penmanship, which is an excuse for my poor writing. Our large organized class consists of four.

I am five feet one inch tall on two-inch heels, have dark hair, eyes and complexion. I am on my way to sweet sixteen and have never had a beau.

I wonder whether every person is such a day-dreamer as I am. I don't have such horrible dreams in the daytime as I have at night.

Our town has about six hundred inhabitants, three churches, two blacksmith shops and one school building. If you keep Billy tied so he does not get this I may write again. I would like to hear from someone living in the Sunny South. I am greatly in love with that place, although I don't know very much about it.

I will close as it is bedtime.

Your niece, PHOEBE I. JOSEPH.

Phoebe, like yourself, I am a tremendous dreamer. Some foolish people regard dreamers with contempt. They seem to forget that without the dreamer there would be little worth while in the world. The greatest dreamer of all was Christ. He dreamed of the brotherhood of men, and His dreaming cost Him His life. All He dreamed however, will some day be realized. Emerson says: "What the tender and poetic youth dreams today and conjures up in articulate speech, is tomorrow the vociferated result of public opinion, and the day after is the character of nations." What we dream about today is the thing that will happen tomorrow, what we do today is the thing we dreamed about yesterday. Everything worth while in the world today is the result of dreams and imagination. But remember, dreams are no good unless you translate them into action. Many men dreamed of a great Western continent, but it took Columbus to demonstrate that the continent really existed. Many men dreamed that the sun revolved around the earth instead of the earth revolving round the sun, but it took Galileo to prove it. The world is divided into three classes, those who are behind the times, those who are ahead of the times, and those who are neither ahead nor behind the times. The people who are behind the times are people who never dream and have no imagination. They are the nuts and the nuts who make life hard for everyone. The man ahead of the times is the pioneer of civilization. He is immensely useful, but he can be very dangerous. The architect, the sculptor, the painter can realize their dreams, for they deal largely with material things. When, however, our dreams deal with human beings, we are up against an entirely different proposition. We humans are all alike and yet all different, and if we are not careful, conservative and level headed, our dreams are liable to become nightmares and drench the world in blood. If you want to watch the danger of a certain type of dreaming, keep your eye on Russia, where the socialists and a bunch of radical extremists are in control. All socialists are dreamers—most are sane dreamers, but every reform movement is cursed with its cranks and crack brained, dangerous visionaries, and usually the extreme and dangerous elements succeed in gaining control and spoil everything. The sane dreamer knows what can be realized now and what can't be realized for another fifty years. He deals with facts rather than theories. The insane dreamer, nihilist and anarchist wants to build right on the jump an ideal world out of impossible material and wants to do it under the very guns of the German war machine, the worst military despotism the world has ever seen, and is willing to bring the whole of civilization down about his ears and shipwreck all the hopes of humanity if he can but for five minutes see his dreams in action and realize something for which humanity will not be ready for a generation. The world needs practical dreamers, but the impractical, non-resisting, pacifist dreamer of the Cousin C. type, is a menace and should be placed in padded cells, while practical men deal with things as they are, building one step at a time until we reach the land of our dreams, the world as it ought to be, and as we want it to be.

JANNEY, FLA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

My mother owns a farm of three hundred and sixty acres. We can raise almost anything down here. Uncle, if you will come I will give you all the chickens hatched and not hatched and milk you want. I am in the eighth grade and am the oldest girl at home as my oldest sister is married. I have four brothers and four sisters. One sister is dead. I live five miles from the Suwanee River, in Levy county. I can sew iron cook wash, scour and climb trees, make beds cut wood and clerk in our store for mamma. I was climbing in a persimmon tree after Simmons and fell out and broke my arm one time and I have never liked Simmons since.

We have peach trees, pear trees, pecan trees and bananas. We raise cane and grind it with a gasoline engine.

I am five feet two inches short, weigh ninety-four pounds. Have brown hair, gray eyes and suntanned complexion, so you see I am not very pretty.

Your niece, ORPHA JANNEY.

Thank you for your offer of chickens, eggs and milk, Orpha. It would not, however, be fair of me to impose on your generosity. Many weeks ago we placed ourselves on a war diet. We have meatless days and we have substituted rice for potatoes. I have cut my egg allowance in halves—two eggs one day and one egg the next. Then too, we have corn bread every other day, so that there may be more wheat for those who are shedding their blood and fighting our battles in order that liberty and freedom may be kept alive on this earth. This is the only practical assistance I can give, and this much assistance to the cause of humanity all can give. God knows it is little compared to what some have had to give. Millions have had to give all they had in the world, and their lives into the bargain. Less so far has been demanded of us, but no one knows what the future holds. Orphar, we are all sorry that we cannot see you when you are sewing ironing cooking washing and climbing trees, and we are just tickled to bits to know that you can make beds cut wood and clerk in the store for Mamma. In these days when help is scarce and expensive it must be a real joy to see feather beds serving out the molasses in Mamma's store. Take my advice and leave Mr. Simmons alone. It is not dignified, correct nor proper for young ladies to be chasing gentlemen with arboreal inclinations, from the branches of the persimmon tree. If there is any chasing to be done let Mr. Simmons do it.

CHINA SPRINGS, TEXAS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am twenty-four years old, about five feet and three inches tall, weigh one hundred and twelve pounds, have black hair and brown eyes. I live on a farm with my father and mother, three sisters and two brothers. I like farm life fine. I like to work in the field. We raise cotton, corn and oats. Uncle, we have a nice garden. We have onions, mustard, radishes and English peas up, and growing fine. We also have Irish potatoes planted, so if you will come out here this summer we will feed you on vegetables. Uncle, I know you love Irish potatoes so I will try to have some when you come.

I feel sorry for the poor fellows who are going to have to leave home and friends and go to the war, and also for the poor people left at home.

From your new niece and cousin,

LILLIE ANDERSON, League No. 42,563.

P. S. I received my card and button and think they are pretty.

Lily, I am very much interested in the stuff you are raising in your garden, but if you take my advice you will never try and raise English peas and Irish potatoes within a thousand miles of each other. Once on a time I tried to raise these two vegetables side by side and with the most disastrous results. The Irish potatoes were always sassing the English peas and demanding Home Rule. The potatoes claimed the peas were a stuck-up bunch, and the English peas retorted by saying that the Irish potatoes were a low-down lot. The Irish potatoes always had their eyes on the English peas. One day there was a dreadful racket in the garden, and when I rushed out to find what had happened, I discovered that the potatoes were *shelling* the peas, and if Bryan hadn't come along in a Ford and delivered a lecture on peace, that would have been the finish of my garden. Racialism and nationalism are hard things to handle, but when this war is over a lot of the things that caused racial animosities will be straightened out, and in another century and that is a short time in racial evolution, everything will be working smoothly and we shall all be one big, happy family.

SAN JOSE, CAL.

UNCLE CHARLIE:

I hardly think you should live in the U. S. the way you slam it! I read in the March COMFORT the many things you said against the United States and I have read the same in other copies that you wrote. I should think you would be ashamed of yourself dishonoring your own land! If you do dishonor it, do not make your evil thoughts known. Please read the book, "A Man Without a Country."

Yours truly,

One who has more respect for their native land than you.

The writer of this note respects his native land so much that he has not even the courage when acting as its champion to sign his name. He is as courageous as the little boy who rings a bell then runs away. I have never said a word against the United States. On the contrary I have always said it was the grandest and most glorious country on earth. I have however, found fault with the American people for their self-centered provincialism, their indifference to their own interests, their lack of vision, foresight and forethought, their tolerance of lawlessness, graft and vice, and their political blindness, which burdens the legislatures of this great country with self-seeking, axe-grinding, pork-hunting nonentities instead of patriots and statesmen. The only worth-while patriot is not the man who waves flags, beats drums and runs away from the recruiting sergeant, and dreads criticism, but the man who dares to look his countrymen in the eye and tell them their faults and their shortcomings. This I have dared to do and shall continue to do. The only way to get people to right a wrong is to get them dissatisfied. I have fought for parcel post, income tax, popular election of senators, woman suffrage, abolition of child labor and the liquor traffic, also the white slave traffic and everything else that has made for progress and human betterment, and have been instrumental in helping to bring about many reforms. Above all else I have fought for preparedness and I have waged war

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)



The Truth About Corns

You have read much fiction about corns. Were that not so there would be no corns. All people would use Blue-jay.

Here is the truth, as stated by a chemist who spent 25 years on this corn problem. And as proved already on almost a billion corns.

"This invention—Blue-jay—makes corn troubles needless. It stops the pain instantly, and stops it forever. In 48 hours the whole corn disappears, save in rare cases which take a little longer."

That is the truth, and millions of people know it. Every month it is being proved on nearly two million corns.

So long as you doubt it you'll suffer. The day that you prove it will see your last corn-ache.

It costs so little—is so easy and quick and painless—that you owe yourself this proof. Try Blue-jay tonight.

BAUER & BLACK
Chicago and New York
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc.

Blue-jay
Stops Pain—Ends Corns
Sold by all Druggists
Also Blue-jay Bunion Plasters

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

and bottles which were wont to adorn her toilet table.

"She is very pretty," he assented. "And, then, she has a way of dressing," he added, thoughtfully.

"She lent me a pearl necklace and a big white fan to go to the dance. Fancy!"

"She must like you. As a rule, she affects boys rather than girls."

"Yes, she has been more than kind to Maurice," she answered, with a simplicity rather crushing, and so near to an astute snub as to please Mr. Fairfax vastly.

"She rides beautifully," he said, meekly. "Did you ever see her on a horse? When you go to stay with her she will teach you in no time."

"I don't know," doubtfully. "I think I am too old to learn."

"You are nearly twenty-five years younger than she is."

"But I shall never be half as clever," she replied, with calm directness.

Mr. Fairfax reflected on Lady Satterlee's career for a silent minute.

"Perhaps not," he assented, with honesty. "But about learning to ride. If you would let me bring over a horse, I could teach you while you are here."

"I have no habit." She drew her chair out of the way as the maid came in to set the tea-table. "I must wait, you see, till Mr. Mayne departs from Lispenard House. Then," triumphantly, "we are going to do everything we have never been allowed to do."

"I am going to stay with her by and by," said Joan, who had entered the room in the wake of the maid. "We are going to be all alone, and I am going to pour out tea at breakfast."

"Agatha will be married before Mr. Mayne leaves," Nerine observed, rather forlornly. "I wish people did not get married."

"I have wished so, often."

"Tea is ready," Joan announced cheerfully. "I'll call May. She is being washed, because she would help Mrs. Palmer makes cakes for tea."

But May appeared as she spoke, and the four sat down to tea. Mr. Fairfax felt secretly amused as he took the seat pointed out by Joan, which put him at the foot of the table, opposite Miss Lispenard and the tea tray. How lovely she was in her plain black frock with its little muslin collar and cuffs; and what a quaintly domestic flavor belonged to the whole scene.

"Nerine says she is always going to have a sit-down tea when she has a house. You can eat so much more," May observed kindly over her bread and butter.

"Miss Lispenard is quite right. A 'sit-down tea' has double the opportunities," he replied, gravely.

"You can eat more if there is more to eat," Joan remarked, with sound common sense. "There is plenty here, but at home we've bread and milk, and I always try to get mother to let me come to the drawng-room at tea time."

"So do I," responded May. "She never lets us stay, you know, but she always gives us a piece of cake, and then tells us to run away."

Fairfax laughed outright as he helped the jam with a prodigal hand.

"Mr. Fairfax will think you are remarkably greedy," Nerine said, with severity, "and you know you are not at all."

"No, we're not," said Joan, "but we'd like to be. Don't you remember, Nerine, the first morning you came to Belton? I was waiting behind the door for marmalade when you saw me."

"What is that she calls you, Miss Lispenard?" Fairfax looked up from Mrs. Palmer's excellent hot cakes. "Nerine, is that it?"

"Yes. It is an odd name, is it not?"

"It is quite uncommon; I never knew any one else called Nerine."

It certainly suited the girl admirably. Somehow it would have seemed out of place worn by any other girl than this, with her quick changes from child-like mirth to a cold, sweet dignity all her own.

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss August will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.



MISS JULY.

THE sign Leo (The Lion) governs the heart, the love and the emotions, being very marked from July 22nd to August 22nd. The heart might be likened unto a spring, from which all the fountains of life flow; it is popularly regarded as the seat of the affections and sensibilities, and the source from which characters are shaped. Persons born under these influences may have a variety of inclinations and tendencies which, if unrestrained, will result in over-adaptability. They are aspiring and energetic, and their decisions will be based on propriety, justice and order. They are likely to be a little blinded by their love and admiration of things beautiful, and in their dealings with people should look into them as well as at them. Their successes are in the intellectual spheres of life, being free thinkers, finely sensitive and emotional.

Women influenced by this sign make the finest of mothers. They possess self-control, and have a superior power over those whom they love. They are endowed with a faculty for creation, making them superior in all the departments of housekeeping and home-making.

When children, they are prone to imitate the life and habits of others; also to be influenced by their mental and physical condition. Because they live in an ideal world, and speak and act from their first impulse, they will often be misunderstood, and learn the hard facts of life from sad experience. Parents should carefully observe these children, lest the making of splendid men and women be lost. They require a broad education, and will profit by having the traits that in others make or mar pointed out. Nature intended them to be frank, trusting and loving, but if their fine sensibilities are constantly being injured, they will become doubtful whether reality or sincerity exists, and in self-defense they themselves may become tricky. Parents must not transgress from the rules and regulations laid down for such children, for they are naturally very observant, and will detect any changeableness and be influenced by it. They are very inventive and will succeed in a variety of spheres.

Ruby, the July Birth-stone

It appears most fitting that this precious gem, the Ruby, should symbolize Charity, which is by far the most precious trait in humanity. Charity in its truest sense is not typified by almsgiving; it is the disposition to think favorably of others; to do them good. It is the language that the deaf can hear, and the dumb understand. The fair interpretation, and the gentlest sentence, even if lost on the one bestowed, will work grace and beauty upon the heart of the giver.

Magic suggests mystery, yet, mystery is not magic but something of which we know that it is, though we do not know how it is. We are neither all-seeing nor all-knowing, and the power of influence, personal or otherwise, plays an important part in our lives. And thus it is, that a simple birth-stone ring, once its mission is understood, will have a guiding influence upon the wearer.

Miss July, dressed as the Goddess of Liberty, is in harmony with right guidance, for, "True liberty consists only in the power of doing what we ought to will, and in not being constrained to do what we ought not to will."

How to Give a Liberty Party

Miss July thinks that some of the COMFORT'S readers might like to give a Liberty party, and if so, offers these suggestions:

Make four sleevebands, marked Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii, Philippines. Have four ushers, each wearing one of these bands on the left arm. As the guests arrive, the ushers will escort them to their hostess, The Goddess of Liberty, who will receive, and will present them with a card, pencil attached, which on one side has written one question connected with Washington, D. C., socially, officially or politically. These questions may be very interesting, amusing and original. The other side of the card is written as follows:

Sscene—Cradle of Liberty (Faneuil Hall, Boston.-

Peace—Peace Heroic and sacrificial is the New Vision which only young men can believe in.—*Faunce.*

Below is written a list of the guests' names.

Miss July, the hostess, is dressed in national colors. A white skirt, a flag draped about the shoulders, and the Liberty cap made of red crepe paper.

The guests will hasten to meet, and inform themselves of each other's question, and the one guessing correctly the largest number of answers will receive an American flag as a reward. Have each question numbered, and the number and answer must be written on cards, which are in due time collected and passed upon.

Nature of some questions and answers:

What statement made by President Wilson has been most discussed? Ans. "Too proud to fight."

What does William J. Bryan most love? Ans. A silver dollar.

What White House visitor said, "You think you know. Guess again." Ans. Carrie Nation.

What is Roosevelt's favorite head-dress? Ans. Rough Rider's Hat.

What might be called a national fruit? Ans. Cherries.

What president's initials stand for a phrase which made him famous? Ans. U. S. (Unconditional Surrender) Grant.

"I always heave a thankful sigh when I find out that a lady's Christian name is not Gladys," he observed as Joan handed his cup to be refilled.

"I would rather be a Sarah than a Gladys or a Hilda," said Nerine, laughing. "Everybody is Gladys and Hilda nowadays. But when the fashion changes we shall be Susan and Deborah and Jane."

She stretched out her hand for one of Joan's sweets as she spoke, and Fairfax watched her covertly as she bit it with her small white teeth. What a lovely mouth she had, and how sweet and good a smile! He wondered if she had really minded about Satterlee, and what was exactly the story of that dance, for certainly there was one. Could that young duffer, Bobby, have made a mistake and proposed to this one first, and then got out of it? It sounded impossible, but few things—from the height of his thirty-three years—were impossible to subalterns of twenty-odd!

Nerine rose while he was pondering on the question, and after a few minutes he took his leave. But the reflection lasted him throughout his solitary walk home through the wet fields. He had eaten too much, and destroyed his appetite for his dinner. Perhaps that was why his big house felt so lonely that evening, and his box of new books proved so dull.

He thought it might be a good plan to marry and rid himself of these lonely evenings for the rest of his life. But a less serious way would be to leave England, and set out on a new course of globle-trotting. Mr. Fairfax was so bored and dull that he actually brought forth an atlas and began to search for a corner of the world he had not yet visited. He found nothing quite absolutely new but Patagonia, and pushed away his maps in disgust. Yet perhaps even Patagonia would be less dangerous than a quiet country life and propinquity to Miss Nerine Lispenard, who could look white and dazed at a ball on account of a nice boy like Bobby. Hang Bobby! And Mr. Fairfax smoked viciously till he went to bed.

CHAPTER XXI.

ON THE EDGE OF A MYSTERY.

Early on Tuesday afternoon, according to promise, Miss Lispenard knocked at the window of the lonely cottage.

There was dead silence. Presently, from somewhere at the back of the house, the fox terrier flew out barking; he sniffed at the girl, and then let her pat him.

"Where's your mistress, Snap? Gone out?" The dog whined. Nerine knocked at the window again, and this time a voice replied.

"Who's there?"

"It is I. You told me to come today."

There was a movement inside, then a groan.

"Come in by the kitchen. This door's locked, and I can't get up to open it."

"Where you came out, Snap, can I get in?" the girl wondered.

She walked round the house, the dog running before her. The back door stood ajar, and she went into a desolate kitchen, with no furniture but one chair and a cracked and fireless stove. With a return of her old terrors of the place, she made her way into the passage, and stood aghast. The dirt and disorder, worst of all the deadly closeness and chill of the atmosphere, nearly made her sick. The floor of the passage was strewed with bones, potatoes, boxes, empty bottles, and the smell was overpowering. Handkerchief to nose, the girl hurried on to the sitting-room.

Stretched on a low chair, with her feet on another, her face drawn with pain, sat the mistress of the house. Her dress was more frowsy than ever, but the room had been cleared up, as regarded the bottles, by throwing them out into the passage.

"You've really come. I didn't think you would. Oh, I'm so glad to see you."

"What is the matter—are you ill?"

The woman nodded.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
In and Around the Home Conducted by *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	3
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner	5
Thrift Without Parsimony in the Kitchen	5
Nerine's Second Choice (continued) *Adelaide Stirling*	6
Start Your War-time Economy by Daily Canning *Violet Marsh*	7
A Declaration of Dependence *Joseph F. Novak*	8
Your Child's Eyesight *Dr. J. W. Miller*	8
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	9
The Kingdom of Our Birthright	10
Crumbs of Comfort	10
The Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	11
The Road to Health in the Vegetable Kingdom *Ella Gordon*	12
The Dying Soldier Boy's Love Letter *Mrs. J. P. Draper*	13
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	14
The Modern Farmer	15
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	16
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	17
Talks with Girls	18
Veterinary Information	19
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps	19
Information Bureau	20
Family Doctor	21
Home Lawyer	21
Manners and Looks	22
Three Wheel Chairs in June	22
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	23
Comfort's Comicalities	23

AUGUST COMFORT

the Mid-Summer Short-Story Number, will entertain our readers with six delectable stories, all complete, besides a pretty episode of the Dapperling story for the children, large installments of the two serial stories and interesting and instructive special articles.

Take no chance of missing it. If the number over your name on the wrapper on this paper is 346 or any less number, it means that your subscription must be renewed at once if you want August COMFORT.

August Stories

"Van Allen's Circus Nightmare"

Under the lingering obsession of a Mid-Summer Night fantasy a young gentleman commits a social solecism that compels him to practise an embarrassing deception on the fair idol of his heart resulting in unexpected consequences.

"The Message"

A war story describing the soldier in the rage of battle, and how his grieving wife at home does her part bravely.

"The Sign of the Corner"

Amusing story of how a fatalist in love is led on by signs, in which he has faith, to meet his fate.

"Thorndike's Quest"

Story of the ludicrous and almost tragic outcome of the theological student's mistake in acting the too ardent lover.

"The Sheltering Hand"

The perilous adventure of an inexperienced society girl possessed with the notion of doing rescue work in the city slums.

"The Pawn"

The tragedy of a trusting girl's misplaced confidence in a pretended lover teaches a lesson and holds out a warning to girls.

"The Dapperling Episode"

Will delight the children, telling the naughty tricks by Simmie-Sammie and how the Dapperlings gave Pittysing a wonderful surprise.

"Home-Made Iceless Refrigerator"

A refrigerator that will keep food in hot weather without ice is a practical and almost indispensable utility where ice can not be obtained. How to make and operate one on the farm will be described and pictured in August COMFORT.

Send 30 cents today to renew your subscription two full years. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album. Even if your subscription is paid some months ahead, renew now at special low renewal rate and we will extend your subscription two full years beyond date of expiration. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.
I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name* .....

Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....

R. F. D. No. ..... *Box No.* ..... *State* .....

July, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

True toil is true leisure.
Right is right while God is God.
Rich soils are oftenest to be weeded.
God's rest floats about our restlessness.
Law should be the perfection of reason.
Who goes a borrowing goes a sorrowing.
Morality does not depend upon numbers.
Ostentation is the signal-flag of hypocrisy.
Death has many doors for us to go out at.
Error is a plant which flourishes in every soil.
A panic is the stampede of our self-possession.
Pain pays the price of each most precious thing.
The greatest of faults is to be conscious of none.
Old people's memories have no wrinkles in them.
Whatever we leave to God, God does and blesses us.
Money is best spent in purchasing tranquility of mind.
Nothing but a good life can fit people for a better one.
A good heart is better than all the heads in the world.
We cannot judge people by what they might have been.
The best fight we can make is the fight against ouselves.
Immortality is the desire of every rational human being.
Though fortune is blind she can see where she is going.
What is founded on truth stands while the world stands.
Whoever has no fixed opinions has no constant feelings.
The sure way to miss success is to miss the opportunity for it.
One smile for the living is worth a dozen tears for the dead.
The Indian scalps his enemy; the white man skins his friends.
Man never falls so low he can see nothing higher than himself.
Better build schoolhouses for children than jails for adults.
Private opinion may be weak, but public opinion is all-powerful.
The greatest country is that which has the greatest man or woman.
It is not ease, but effort; not facility, but difficulty, that makes men.
What we hope to be and are not is small comfort, and little credit.
Selfishness is the ugliest and meanest trait in the human character.
There is only one opportunity of a kind. Don't let your kind get away.
Prosperity is the blessing of the Old Testament; adversity of the New.
The disease of an evil conscience is beyond the cure of all the physicians.
Strike the iron, not only when it is hot, but strike it until you make it hot.
It is foolish to try to get people to come to us when we refuse to go to them.
Do not look for perfection in any one man, nor for long agreement among many.
When you read, read the new things in science and the old things in literature.
War is a game which, if the people were wise, their leaders would not play at.
What we find good of and what we find hurt of is the best physic to preserve health.
When we begin to listen for the voices we used to hear, we are beginning to listen for the voices of the angels.
Providence never sent into the world a few men, booted and spurred, to ride, and millions, saddled and bridled to be ridden.
Most people have ears, but few have judgment, and if you will tickle those ears you will catch their judgment, such as it is.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

The Careful Toilet

HAVE you ever noticed how often, in a gathering of people, the girl who gives the impression of being most attractive is really not pretty when you examine her features attentively, but only seems pretty or charming because of the care given to her toilet?

Louise, with her big blue eyes and real golden hair, may have twice her beauty, but Louise always looks a little sloppy about the waistline and her skirt never hangs evenly. Agnes is neat as to dress but pins her hair up unbecomingly, so that her really beautiful profile is entirely spoiled. Margaret, with the short stringy locks that will fall into her eyes, always looks untidy. While Frances, with very plain features, has



BE CAREFUL THAT YOUR HAIR IS PERFECTLY DRESSED.

such an atmosphere of freshness and daintiness, her hair is so painstakingly kept from straggling into her neck or about her ears, her waistline is so trim, her hose so smooth, her shoes so trig and smart-looking, that people go away from meeting her, under the impression that she is a pretty girl—when she isn't, at all.

You all know somebody just like Frances! Take the lesson to heart, and make up your mind always to make a careful toilet.

Be generous with invisible hairpins, and take time to see that every lock is where it should be and that it will stay there.

Never omit your morning body bath, and if you are going out in the evening take at least a quick all-over sponge before dressing, if you cannot conveniently arrange for a body bath.

Keep your nails well-shaped and above suspicion as to cleanliness, your eyebrows smooth and glossy.

Never wear a shoe with run-over heels—your cobbler will straighten them over night for twenty-five cents. Have the shoes trim and smooth-fitting about the ankle, and, if laced, see that they are laced evenly and snugly all the way from toe to top. Wear at least three side garters for each stocking, one on the inside of leg, one on the outside, and one in the back. These garters should be fastened to your corset, and be strapped short enough to keep your stocking absolutely free from wrinkles.

Have your waistline trim, and examine yourself in the mirror always before going out, to be sure skirt hangs evenly; that no bunch of corset strings or other under fastening makes a lump on the back of skirt or waist; and that your shirt-waist or your waist does not pull out from belt with more fullness at one point than another.

Of course I do not need to emphasize the value of beautifully kept teeth—your regard for your health and your comfort would make you brush them five times a day, in any case—yet perhaps it won't do any harm to remind you that perfectly white even teeth add a hundred per cent to the charm of a smile and the beauty of a face.

Don't let your eyelids get red or irritated. Washing out daily with boric acid solution and an occasional annointing of the lids with melted vaseline or olive oil will take care of this.

With your suit jacket wear broad white collar and cuffs—stiff—and be sure they are absolutely fresh and spotless. Carefully dressed hair, immaculate collar and cuffs, a hat pinned on carefully at the most becoming angle, shoes freshly polished, trim hose and waistline, will give you an air of smartness that will eclipse the prettiest peaches-and-cream complexion or the most perfect profile.

If you don't think you are especially pretty try the plan of the careful toilet, and see if it doesn't make up for any shortcomings you thought you possessed.

Answers to Questions

Smiles, M. E. K.—For your height, five feet six inches, you should weigh about one hundred and forty-three. Your bust and hips should measure thirty-nine inches, so you are a little over measurement. If you do not eat breakfast or supper, I am afraid you are apt to eat more than you should for dinner—that is the usual result. I should advise, instead, eating a breakfast of fruit and toast only. For dinner, lean meat, two vegetables (but not potato or rice, as these are fattening,), and a light dessert, preferably fruit, but certainly not pie or cake or preserves. For supper, you could eat fruit and toast again. Or you could have a baked apple and a bran muffin, or a dish of stewed prunes and some graham crackers. Eat something, but a very light meal. And be careful, at noon, to eat only a moderate amount. You shouldn't eat much meat, and it should be broiled or roasted. I don't think your stomach will trouble you at night, under this plan, and I also think you will lose some superfluous pounds. Don't take cream on your foods, or drink milk or eat much butter. And cut out sugar. In a short time you will be down to your normal weight, if you will do this. And be careful to keep the bowels open daily. In last month's COMFORT I gave an exercise for constipation, liver and fat abdomen. Practise it regularly every day.

Millie.—I am sorry that I can't give you much encouragement about your face, but it is possible that gently massaging the thin cheek will develop it. Do not massage the other. Use a little cold cream on your fingers and rub with a circular motion in small circle all over your cheek. Then at the end slap the face lightly with the flat of the hand many times, and finally rub the flesh of the cheek up from the chin toward the temple. No, indeed, you shouldn't have gray hair. Your body isn't in good condition, I should say. Exercise a great deal, bathe every night in warm water, and every morning in cool water (you can make this latter a sponge bath, if you like), be careful of your diet and the condition of your bowels. Massage your scalp every night, by slipping the flat of the fingers under the loosened hair right close to the scalp, and pressing the fingers firmly. Now, move the skin back and forth on the skull without lifting the fingers or letting them rub back and forth. Go all over the head this way, and keep it up for five or ten minutes. Do it every night. The skin of your head should be very loose, as if it is tight the blood cannot circulate properly. Continued massage will loosen up even a very tight scalp, and the hair will profit by it.

C. G. B.—Your age may have something to do with your pimples, and a little later they may entirely disappear. But I think, besides, that there are other things at fault. You must exercise daily, and bathe at least once a day all over, and drink lots of water, and see to the bowels. Some of these things you haven't been careful about, or you would not have been having pimples and boils. Chew your food until it is liquid before you swallow it, don't eat between meals, eat very few sweets, and read all I say about general diet. Yes, the hot water before breakfast—at least half an hour before—is a good plan. Drink at least a glass. Be sure to rinse your face very thoroughly after washing, and continue using soap only once a day—at night. Better, however, make yourself some small bags of rolled oats, and use those to wash with during the day, as they will remove dirt, and leave the skin soft.

H. F.—Yes, you weigh too much. You say you began to exercise, but did you no good and you stopped it. Exercise is necessary for you, but you must also cut down the amount of food you eat. See my answer to "Smiles." This is about what you should eat. Don't take any potatoes, rice, macaroni, hardly any butter, milk or cream, no gravies or fat meat, and no sweets. That seems to take away a lot of things, but you have ever so much left. You can eat: rare broiled or roasted beef, lamb, mutton, or you can eat fresh fish, chicken, turkey. Don't eat very much at a time—just a moderate-sized piece. Then there are string beans, asparagus, spinach or other green, rhubarb, cabbage, turnips, squash, corn, tomatoes, etc.; and there are apples, all berries, peaches, pears, apricots, figs, prunes, grapefruit, oranges, lemons, pineapple—in fact practically all fruits, except bananas. So you can't starve! And you must be sure to eat only a moderate amount of any. And no wheat bread for a time, and certainly no hot breads nor any cake or pie. And chew your food! Keep up the exercises—I gave some in last issue of COMFORT.

Kate.—Yes, you are forty-four pounds over weight! Read what I have said to "H. F." and "Smiles," and go thou and do likewise.

A COMFORT Reader.—For superfluous hair, use household ammonia and peroxide of hydrogen, dampening the hair one day with one, the next day with the other. It takes patience and perseverance, and is not a quick method, but it will do the deed in time.

Chick.—Anoint the edges of your lids with warm olive or sesame oil each night. You can apply with a new mucilage brush, or a small camel's-hair paint brush. This will help your lashes to grow. In addition, keep the body in good condition, and wash the eyes out daily with a four per cent solution of boric acid to keep them clean and healthy.

Miss C. U.—The reason your face is irritated by the use of soap is either that you rub it directly on the face, use too strong a soap, or do not rinse the skin sufficiently. Only use soap at night, and then only in water, not rubbed directly on face; rinse very carefully indeed, and be sure that the soap is a very mild one—I do not need to say that the strong kitchen soaps should never be used for either the face or the hands. Powders irritate your skin because it is too dry, I judge. Always rub in a little cold cream and wipe off with a pad of absorbent cotton or a bit of clean flannel before applying powder. Probably the dryness of your skin is also the reason why it reddens in the wind or when exposed to the cold. Better rub in a little cold cream each night, and always before going outdoors. Be sure to rub off all surplus. See, also, that your circulation is in good order and that neither shoes, collars, sleeves, waistline or corsets are tight. Exercise will help your circulation.

Discouraged.—Yes, indeed, wash your hair oftener than once in two months. Once in two weeks is better! And as to the oily face, which you say gets oily about an hour after washing, I am inclined, first, to think you do not rinse it thoroughly. Only use warm, soapy water at night, and rinse half a dozen times, first in warm, then cool, and finally cold, but never dash cold water on the face just after using warm water and soap. Cold water won't rinse off soap, of course. Use the rolled oats bags I have so often recommended for washing the face in the daytime, about three inches by three inches, half full of the oats, the bags made of cheese-cloth. Use instead of a wash-cloth, and take a fresh one each time. Dip very lightly in the water and apply at once to the face, rubbing the skin. Pat the face dry after this, and a fine white powder will be left which should be smoothed over the surface of the skin. It keeps the skin soft and white. Keep the bowels in good order and drink quantities of water if you want a good complexion, and to get rid of this oiliness.

Blue Eyes.—Better than what you are using for enlarged pores is one tablespoonful of Epsom Salts in one quart of warm water. Bathe face and neck with this, wipe off with smooth towel and repeat several times. Do it morning and night, rubbing gently. After using this solution, wash the face and neck with cold water. If your skin is very dry, you should not use any astringent on it—and any lotion to reduce enlarged pores is, of course, an astringent. For a dry skin, frictioning with the hand, a hot bath at night, followed by a brisk rubbing, then by a warm rinsing, then a cool, and finally a cold sponge or better still, a shower, will close the pores, if persisted in.

Eldora.—The probability is that your position makes you eat more than you realize, and that is why you have gained so rapidly. See my answer to "Smiles" and "C. G. B." Anybody can reduce by cutting down the amount of food. I had a striking example of this myself when, for some physical reasons, I was put on a pint of barley gruel a day and no other food. I lost ten pounds in four days! If you don't give your body material of which to make fat, it won't get fat. So look over your diet list and begin cutting out the things which should not be there; then reduce the amount of food you are eating, and you will begin to lose. You will probably need more of a breakfast than "Smiles," because of your work, but you can eat two soft-boiled eggs in addition and they will give you strength and nourishment without any fat.

Margery.—Indeed I am glad that you feel I am a friend. That is the way I like my girls to feel. About that thin hair of yours, brush it every night, one hundred strokes—soft ones,—and shampoo it once in two weeks, rinsing carefully. Massage the scalp every night, holding the fingers firmly against the scalp and moving it back and forth on the skull, first in one place and then another, without lifting the fingers or rubbing them on the hair. Exercise every day outdoors in some sort of pleasant way—a brisk long walk



PERFECT TEETH ADD TO THE CHARM OF A SMILE.

if you do not play tennis, or swim or row. Bathe every night in warm water, and sponge your body off every morning with cold water—except when you are not feeling well, when you should not use cool or cold water, nor get yourself chilled. Be careful about what you eat, and be sure to drink plenty of water. As to the fat legs, probably they won't be too fat, later, when you fill out a little in the rest of your body, but, in the meantime, roller skating, tennis, or swimming are all good ways to reduce fat legs. A good deal of rapid walking will do the same thing—wear off the fat but harden the muscles.

A South Carolinian.—Touch the mole with the acid every night until it turns black. It will fall off, later. The red spot won't stay, but a little white spot may. Don't use the acid when the mole feels sore or irritated.

Miss E. W.—The dark rings under the eyes, and the skin bagging there, are indications of trouble elsewhere in your body. Quite likely your kidneys are not acting properly. Begin, at once, to drink quantities of water—at least eight glasses a day. Be careful of your food, and do not eat rich dishes, such as gravies, fat meats, cakes, pies, preserves, candy. Exercise a great deal, and keep the skin in good condition by daily frictioning. Dark lines under your eyes might, also, come from some female irregularity. Of course your doctor is your best adviser, but be careful not to get your ankles chilled, and see that the bowels are kept perfectly free. This always helps female difficulties. Are your eyes themselves in good condition, so there is no eyestrain?

Martie.—Your hair is a very pretty dark brown, and nice and soft. Keep on taking good care of it. As to your size, don't get discouraged, but keep up the exercises. They are excellent for you in every way. The probability is that while you think you have been "starving yourself," you have been having much more food than your body needs. Our appetites are not the best guides always. You are a busy girl, I know, and no doubt have a very healthy appetite by the time the meal hour comes around, but the weight of your body shows that you do not need all of the food you are eating and that is why it is being stored up as fat. Eat less, and cut out the special fat-building foods. Some foods do not make fats—most fruits and green vegetables do not. Read my answer to "Smiles" and "C. G. B." Good luck to you. You could use peroxide and ammonia for hairs between the brows, but there is always the danger of getting some in the eyes and so I do not recommend it. The tweezers are all right for this part of the face, for while the hairs come back, they can be pulled out again, and are easier to treat in this way than elsewhere on the face.

A COMFORT Reader.—My dear, I couldn't possibly get your answer into the issue of COMFORT you asked for. Why, that was all ready for mailing and the next month was being printed, and the month after was all set up in type. With a magazine which goes to so many people, the presses have to start work a long time in advance. Most magazines work about four to five months ahead! About the brown spots, they may be liver spots, in which case drinking the juice of half a lemon in a glass of water before breakfast, and taking the liver exercises I have frequently recommended, would help. You will find a liver exercise in the last issue of COMFORT. You might try bathing the spots with peroxide diluted with a little water. This may bleach them a trifle.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

too much at once. Better a small garden well cared for than a larger one that the child is unable to care for properly without overtaxing her strength. Even a few plants will prove interesting and awaken a desire in the child to know more of Nature and her wonders. For rainy days you might let her make a scrap-book, since it is a generally recognized fact that children like to cut and paste things, as most parents know and to their sorrow sometimes. It is better to direct this energy in the proper channels and a scrap-book can be made educational as well as amusing. Perhaps her teacher will give you valuable suggestions and also appreciate the interest you take in her school work.—Ed.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have read with interest the letters in the COMFORT'S Sisters' Corner and I am sure that the exchange of ideas is both instructive and interesting. One letter that has especially attracted my attention is one in the March number signed Frances E. Morn, Post, Oregon. I greatly enjoyed her letter and trust that she will write again but (let me say it kindly) I cannot understand how a woman of her education can take the view she does of compulsory church attendance. She made this statement, "A friend of mine made her little son go to Sunday school every Sunday, rain or shine, as long as she had authority over him, then he stopped and will not attend either church or Sunday School."

I exclaimed reverently, "Thank God for a mother with the courage of her convictions to *make* her children attend Sunday school," for when these children do again resume the habit of church going, which they undoubtedly will, they will "take off their hats" in humble reverence to this God-fearing mother who taught them to love and reverence the house and services of God. Why do not our children grow tired of day school, when we insist on their going there? You will say, "They do tire of school." It is true that when the warm weather comes they become tired of school just as we mothers become tired of our hot kitchens but after a vacation we are eager to begin again and my children after a short vacation are always impatient to resume their studies.

One of the things for which I shall never cease to be thankful is that my parents (my father is a minister of the M. E. Church South) trained me to attend church and now when Sunday morning comes no "riverside out in the woods" could tempt me to leave my church. There is no joy to be procured from any source that is half as great as the joy of attending the house of God and with the Psalmist I exclaim, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord." My dear Mrs. Morn, do you not think that the lack of desire on the part of the boy to attend church is due to a desire to avoid the things of good and to cleave to the things of the bad. In other words, the good went out of the heart and the bad came in.

I am glad that I did not get in on the first discussion on dancing, but I see a hint that it has been discussed and I would like to say in the same kind spirit to Mrs. Sue Lorene Johnson of Hobson, Texas, as to Mrs. Morn of Oregon, that when she says "dancing is all right when the girls are chaperoned and then be careful," it is just like telling them they may get pretty close to the devil and take a peep at him but be careful that he doesn't get them. Dancing is all right in its place, but intelligent people have relegated it to the oblivion that it so much deserves.

Sincerely, MRS. F. M. FELMET.

WASHINGTON.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Mary, whatever you do, do not marry unless it is for love. I married when I was nineteen years old and not till I was thirty-one did I meet the man I really loved. You see if I had waited a few years longer I might have been happy now. But, like you, I was a hard-working girl and had been since I was a small girl as my parents were poor and I had to earn my own living. I thought if I had a home of my own I would be happy so I married, respecting my husband only, and my heart has cried out against it ever since. My mother was a good woman but she did not understand us children and we never talked to her about such things. What a mistake mothers make sometimes. If I am spared a few years longer it will be different with my girls for I mean to tell them all I have bought with years of suffering and bitter tears. After marriage there is so much to put up with that it is a hard fight unless love is there.

Am sending a little poem I read one day and I enjoyed it so much:

"If Love Is There"

"Is home a palace or a cot
In city street or country spot,
With stairways wide, or narrow halls,
With pillars high or low hung walls?
I cannot tell. Why should I care—
What matters it if Love is there?

"Is home among the crowded gay,
Or ours along some lonely way,
Where winds blow cold and ice is king,
Or where the balmy breezes sing?
Where clouds are black, or skies are fair—
What matters it if Love is there?

"Your home stands grandly on a hill,
Mine snuggles by the hidden rill;
The streaming lights afar you see,
A tiny lamp shines out for me.
Your home! My home! Just anywhere!
What matters it if Love is there."

MRS. G. W. B. E.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around The Home

Put salt in oven to prevent bread or cake scorching on bottom.

Sprinkle starched clothes in warm water instead of cold and they will dampen more rapidly.

Remember vegetables grown above the ground should be cooked in salted water while those grown below should be cooked in fresh water.

When linen is badly scorched, soak stain in luke-warm water, squeeze lemon juice over it, sprinkle with a little salt and place in sunshine to dry.

To make a good paste for wall paper, add a piece of common washing soap, about as large as an egg, sliced fine, to the boiling water that the paste is to be made of. It is sure to stick.

MISS AGNES TRAVIS, Platte, S. Dak.

Time and Life Saver Washing Fluid. One pound of sal soda, one half pound lime and five quarts of water. Let come to a boil, let settle and pour off the clear fluid into a clean jug. On washing day, cut half a cake of laundry soap into boiler half full of water and when it boils, add a cup of washing fluid. Soak clothes the night before, wring out and boil half an hour in this and no rubbing will be needed. Rinse thoroughly.

MRS. W. D. PRIEL, Louisville, Ky.

Remedies

BURNS.—The white of a raw egg turned onto a burn or scald will prevent inflammation and relieve pain. MRS. VELMA STEED, Mayflower, Ark.

SUMMER COMPLAINT.—Make a tea of the weed known as Colt's tail. It grows here on the prairies.

APPENDICITIS.—At first symptoms take one tablespoon of Epsom Salts internally. Then put one tablespoon of salts in one pint of water, make as hot as hands can be borne in it, wring out cloth and lay over appendix; when it cools, wash cloth in clean water and apply again as before. The water the cloth was washed in will turn green. This has been tried and is a sure cure.

MRS. CHAS. STAGER, Delaware, R. R. 2, Box 174, Okla.

Requests

How to care for a palm. The plant seems to be growing, but the leaves appear dead.

Mrs. Anna Noblitt, Paoli, R. R. 4, Ind., an invalid, would like cheery letters and cards.

Poem, "Tommy's Prayer." Send to Mrs. Newton Howard, Charlottesville, 214 S. W. 5th St., Va.

Hallie Allmon, White Water, R. R. 2, Box 18, Mo., would like temperance recitation, "Good Night Papa." Will return favor.

Will the sisters having them to spare, please send me slips and bulbs of house plants of all kinds. MRS. PHOEBE HAGELBURG, Charles City, R. R. 6, Iowa.

Mrs. Mollie Clark, Liberal, R. R. C, Box 43, Kans. would like to receive cheery letters from the sisters. She is a cripple. Will answer those containing stamped, addressed envelope.

Will someone loan me the December 1916 and January 1917 numbers of COMFORT. Will return papers and pay postage.

MRS. E. V. CLARY, Ketchikan, Box 426, Alaska.

Mrs. T. Garvey, So. Norwalk, 12 Lowndes Ave., Conn., would like copy of music "The Prodigal Son," by Dawson, published a number of years ago and now out of print.

Mrs. Isabel Clark Jenks, Ashmoor, Mont. would like to hear from any of the persons that crossed the Plains in the year 1866 in Capt. Bean's train in company with the Clark family.

Will some of the sisters in New Mexico or Arizona tell me how I can obtain the soap root which grows in these states. Will exchange or pay a reasonable sum for the root. Write first.

MRS. LULU LITHERLAND, Momence Ill.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

The Liberty Ring $1

Emblem of Democracy



Symbol of our Allies

SHOWS where you stand in the world-fight for Liberty.
Made of Sterling Silver (either French Gray or dull green-gold finish) set with fine quality red, white and blue cut stones. At dealers, or send us $1 for woman's ring (illustrated) 50c for misses ring (seven stones) 25c for children's ring (one stone). Liberty Lapel Buttons for men or Pins for women 25c postpaid.
Cohn & Rosenberger, Inc.,
1328-A Broadway, New York City.

Mr. Edison's Wonderful Phonograph



Only $1.00 After Free Trial

Yes, you may keep this new Edison—Thomas A. Edison's great phonograph with the diamond stylus—and your choice of records, too, for only $1. Pay the balance at rate of only a few cents a day. Try the New Edison in your own home before you decide to buy. Send no money down. Entertain your friends with your favorite records.

Write Today For Our New Edison Book. Send your name and address for our new book and pictures of the New Edison phonographs. No obligations.
F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Distributors
8304 Edison Block, Chicago, Illinois.

$1 a week buys a Black Beauty Bicycle



At Factory Prices—On Approval

Let us send you (freight prepaid) a Black Beauty on trial. If you don't like it, return at our expense. If you do like it, you pay only $1 a week. GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS by the largest exclusive Cycle House in America. WRITE TODAY for Black Beauty Color Catalog showing all sizes and styles.
Haverford Cycle Co., Est. 1896, Dept. H., Phila., Pa.

Freckles and Tan Removed FREE



Harwood's Freckle Cream Guaranteed—Money back if not satisfied. If you have never tried this cream we will send free a full size 50 cent jar and our Freckle book. Send 20c to pay wrapping and postage. Only one jar to a family.
Harwood Laboratories
Dept. 32, Aurora, Illinois

50c Trial Offer For 10c

Best Kodak Developing. Any size roll developed, 10c. Six prints free with first roll. Or, send six negatives, any size, and 10c (stamps), for six prints. 8x10 enlargements, 30c. Roanoke Photo Finishing Co., (formerly Roanoke Cycle Co.) 57 Bell Ave., Roanoke, Va.



Pink Cameo Ring FREE

Cameos are set in fine gold filled ring. Guaranteed for three years. To introduce new Ring Bargains, will send post paid, your size, upon receipt of 12c to pay advertising.
The Auction Co., Dept. 205 Attleboro, Mass.



The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

a pretty air of authority, that she was "going to carry her guest off up-stairs to bed immediately."

"You stay here until I come back, Roy," she added. "Charlie was obliged to go out upon important business, and I shall be glad of your company for a while."

"Very well, Nellie! I will stay for a little chat, for I have something important which I wish to say to you."

As he concluded he darted a smiling glance at Edith, which again brought the lovely color to her cheeks and revealed to her the nature of the important communication that he intended to make to his cousin.

She bad him a smiling good night, and then gladly accompanied her hostess above, for she was really more weary than she had acknowledged.

When Mrs. Morrell returned to the parlor, Roy related to her something of Edith's history, and also confessed his own relationship toward her, while the little woman listened with an absorbed attention which betrayed how thoroughly she enjoyed the romance of the affair.

"She is lovely!" she remarked, "and"—with a thoughtful air—"it seems to me as if I have heard the name before. Edith Allandale!—it sounds very familiar to me. Why, Roy! she was one of Sister Blanche's classmates at Vassar, and she has her picture in her class album!"

"That is a singular coincidence!" the young man observed, no less surprised at this revelation, "and it makes matters all the more pleasant for me to learn that she is not wholly unknown to the family."

"And you mean to marry her very soon?"

"Just as soon as I can settle matters with that rascal in Boston to her satisfaction," responded the young man. "I do not apprehend any serious trouble about the affair; still, it may take longer than I wish."

"And may I keep her until then?"

"Nellie! that is like your kind, generous heart!" exclaimed the young man, "and I thank you from the bottom of mine. But, of course, that will have to be as Edith herself decides, while this business which I have in charge for her may interfere with such an arrangement."

"Oh, you mean in connection with the strange gentleman who has been searching for her."

"Yes. But I must go now; it is getting late, and I have a couple of letters to write yet. Take good care of my treasure, Nellie, and I will run in as early tomorrow as possible to see you both."

He kissed her affectionately, then bade her good night and hurried away to his rooms at his club; while pretty Mrs. Morrell went back to her parlor, after letting him out, to await her husband's return, and to think over the romantic story to which she had just listened with deep interest.

There had been so much of a personal and tender nature to occupy their minds that Mr. Bryant had not thought to tell Edith anything about the circumstances that had led him to advertise in various papers for intelligence of her.

Some three weeks previous, a gentleman, of about fifty years, and calling himself Louis Raymond, had presented himself in his office, and inquired if he could give him any information regarding the late Albert Allandale's family.

He stated that he had spent most of his life abroad, but, his health beginning to fail, he had decided to return to his own country.

He had been quite ill since his arrival, and he began to fear that he had not long to live, and it behooved him to settle his affairs without further delay.

He stated that he had no relatives or family—he had never married; but, being possessed of large wealth, he wished to settle half of it upon Mrs. Allandale, if she could be found, or, if she was not living, upon her children. The remaining half he designed as a legacy to a certain charitable institution in the city.

He stated that he had been searching for the Allandales for several weeks; he had learned of Mr. Allandale's financial troubles and subsequent death, but could get no trace whatever of the other members of the family. He was wearied out with his search, and now wished to turn the matter over to some one stronger than himself, and better versed in conducting such affairs.

Mr. Bryant could not fail to regard it as a singular coincidence that this business should have been thrown into his hands, especially as he was also so anxious to find Edith; and it can well be understood that he at once entered into the gentleman's plans with all his heart and soul.

He, of course, related all he knew of her history, and when he spoke of Mrs. Allandale's death he was startled to see his client grow deathly white and become so unnerved that, for a moment, he feared the shock would prove more than he could sustain.

But he recovered himself after a few moments.

"So she is gone!" he murmured, with a look in his eyes that told the secret of a deathless but unrequited love. "Well, Death's scythe spares no one, and perhaps it is better so. But this girl—her daughter," he added, rousing himself from his sad reflections; "we must try to find her."

"We will do our utmost," said the young lawyer, with a heartiness which betrayed the deep interest he felt in the matter. "As I have told you, I have not the slightest knowledge of her whereabouts, but think she may possibly be in Boston. Her letter to me, written just previous to her departure, gave me not the slightest clew to her destination. She promised to write to a woman who had been kind to her, and I arranged with her to let me know when she received a letter; but I have never seen her since—I once went to the house where she lived, but she had moved, and no one could tell me anything about her."

It may be as well to state here that shortly after Edith left New York, poor Mrs. O'Brien fell and broke her leg. She was taken to a hospital, and her children put into a home, consequently she never received Edith's letter, which was of course addressed to her old residence.

"I think our wisest course will be to advertise," the young lawyer pursued; "and if we do not achieve our end in that way, we can adopt other measures later on."

"Well, sir, do your best—I don't mind expense; and if the young lady can be found, I have a story to tell her which I think will deeply interest her," the gentleman returned. "If we should not be successful in the course of a few weeks, I will make a settlement upon her, to be left, with some other papers, in your hands for a reasonable period, in the event of my death. But if all your efforts prove unavailing, the money will eventually go, with the rest, to the institution I have named."

Thus the matter had been left, and Mr. Bryant had immediately advertised, as we have seen, in several New York and Boston papers.

Three weeks had elapsed without any response, and Royal Bryant was beginning to be discouraged when he was suddenly made jubilant by receiving the telegram which Edith had written on the train after leaving Boston.

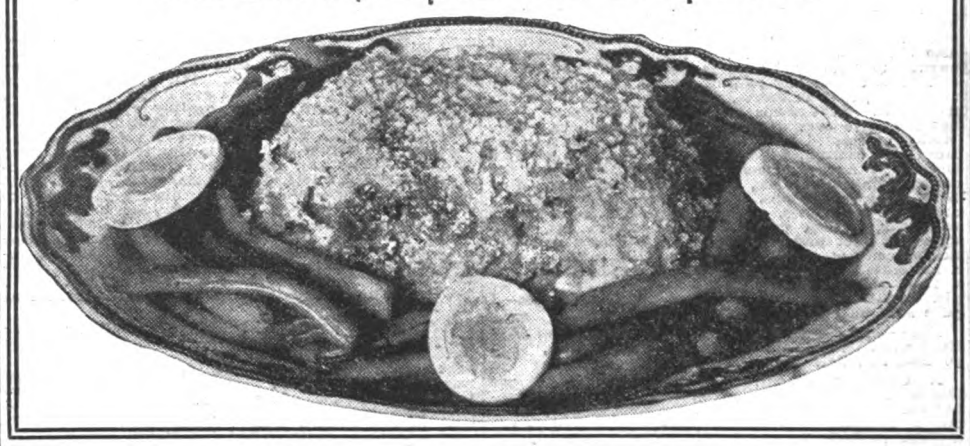
Thus, after leaving the house of his cousin, he repaired to his club, where he wrote a letter to his client, Mr. Raymond, telling him that Miss Allandale was found, and asking him to meet him at his office at as early an hour the following morning as possible.

CHAPTER XXVI.

AN EXCITING INTERVIEW AND AN APPALLING DISCOVERY.

We must now transport ourselves to Boston, in order to find out how Edith's flight was discovered, and what effect it produced in the God-

The Road to Health in the VEGETABLE KINGDOM



By Ella Gordon

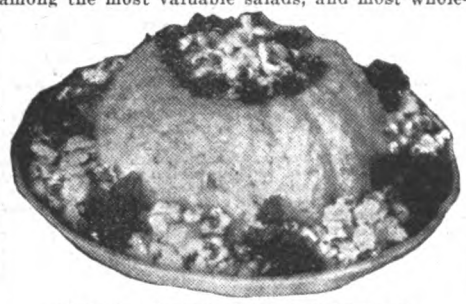
Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

The Road to Health

VEGETABLE food is as necessary to good health as is oil to machinery. Vegetables, as well as fruits, contain cellulose which supplies bulk and elasticity to the food, and which does not decompose in the digestive tract as readily as meat.

To prevent the food from becoming compact in the intestines is the first consideration of a physician when consulted regarding constipation, and this is just what vegetable eating does. Many of the vegetables carry as high as ninety per cent water, rich in saline substances which counteract the evil effects of eating too much animal food.

Too much cannot be said in favor of serving, at least once a day, a salad of raw fruits and vegetables, as cooking destroys a certain amount of the cell salts, which are absolutely necessary to prevent an accumulation of acid throughout the system. Oranges, grapefruit, apple, grapes, lettuce, celery, raw cabbage, radishes, onion, sweet pepper, watercress, endive and parsley are among the most valuable salads, and most whole-



POTATOES SERVED WITH CAULIFLOWER.

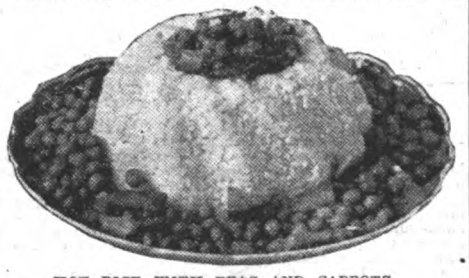
some when taken with pepper, salt, olive oil and very little vinegar, made into a French dressing.

Cooked cereals are an important food, particularly oats and corn-meal mush, though the latter is least used. Cereals should be served with rich milk, but no sugar, and the eating of uncooked fruit should precede the cereal, as the fruit supplies that part of the base salts lost in the cooking of cereals.

How to Cook Vegetables Properly

Among the most valuable of the vegetables grown for winter use are peas and beans which contain both starch and albumin. Dried peas and beans made into purees are more digestible than when cooked and served as a vegetable. Beets, turnips, carrots, squash, pumpkin, onions, and other vegetables which contain sugar should be slightly sweetened, as much of the natural sugar is lost in cooking. An addition of salt, butter or other fat is necessary, and a little red pepper aids the digestion of stored winter vegetables.

Green vegetables should be used as soon as



HOT RICE WITH PEAS AND CARROTS.

possible after gathering, and for this reason, when possible, every housewife, if she does not have her own garden, would do well to secure her vegetables from a gardener who each morning sells from house to house. Every green vegetable will better retain its color if boiled rapidly and uncovered.

Potatoes

Potato is, without doubt, the most used of any vegetable, combining, as it does, with meat and fish to give the desired food elements. To boil, potatoes should first be washed and, unless new, soaked in cold water one hour. Drop in boiling salted water and cook till soft, but not broken. Drain thoroughly and shake lightly around in kettle on hot stove till the steam escapes, then pare before serving.

Baked potatoes should be put in a hot oven, but not hot enough to brown before the centers are cooked. To be perfect. As soon as soft, slightly break the skin to let the steam escape, thus preventing the potato from becoming soggy, and then serve at once. Never put in covered dish.

Riced potatoes are boiled and then put through the ricer into the serving dish. A little melted butter may be poured over them, then sprinkled with finely chopped parsley and paprika. Heat



ONIONS WITH WHITE SAUCE.

serving dish and have butter melted before ricing potato, then serve at once.

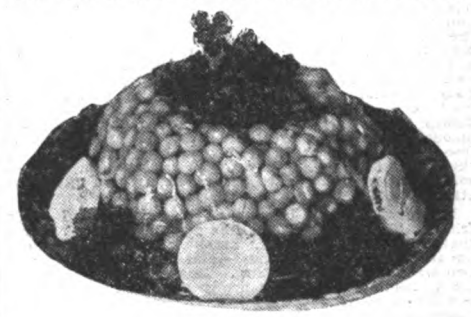
FRIED RAW POTATOES.—Pare and wash, then cut into narrow strips. Soak in cold salted water one hour, drain and dry between cloths. Drop into smoking hot fat and cook one minute, or till a light brown. Sprinkle with salt and serve.

Asparagus

Wash thoroughly and break off all the tough white part. Tie in bunches and cook fifteen to twenty minutes in enough boiling salted water to cover. Drain, arrange on crisp slices of buttered toast, and season with butter, pepper and salt.

Cabbage and Brussel Sprouts

Remove the outside leaves and soak in cold salted water one hour. Have a kettle of boiling salted water over a fire hot enough to keep water boiling uncovered. Drop in vegetable, part at a time so not to stop boiling, and cook till tender. When cooked uncovered, vegetables become soft in half the time and the flavor is su-



JELLIED PEAS.

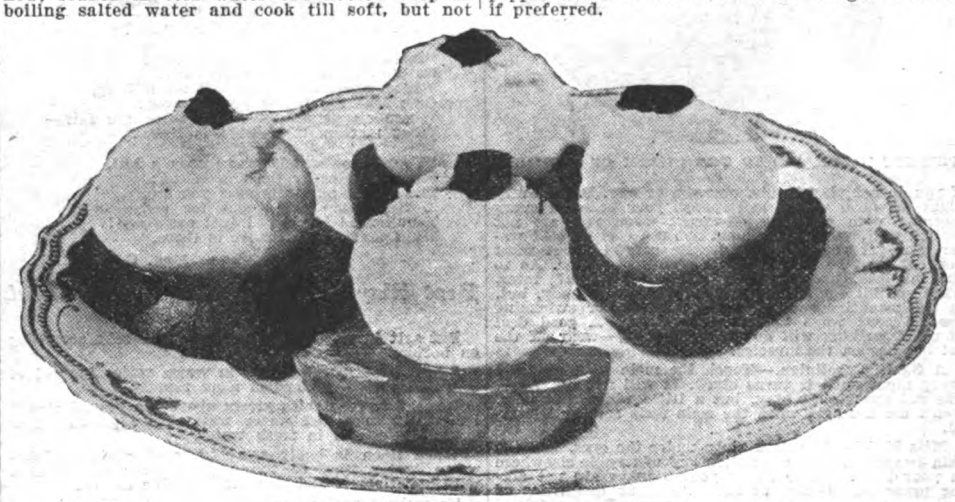
perior to those cooked in covered kettle. Chop cabbage, season with butter, pepper and salt and set in oven to reheat. Brussels sprouts are seasoned the same or served with white sauce.

Celery

Wash and scrape and cut into two-inch lengths; cook till tender in boiling salted water. Dip in batter and fry in hot fat. Make a batter by sifting one cup of flour with half an even teaspoon of soda and one even teaspoon of cream of tartar, and one saltspoon of salt. Beat two eggs, add one quarter cup of milk and a little grated lemon rind and beat in the flour. Let rise several hours.

Greens

Dandelions, young beet with tops on, mustard tops, turnip tops, spinach, and swiss chard are all cooked practically the same way, in boiling salted water till tender. Dandelions require plenty of water, but spinach and other tender greens may be cooked in their own juices, the moisture left on them from washing should be plenty to start cooking with. Lettuce that has gone to seed makes delicious greens. Greens should be very carefully picked over and washed in several waters, then drained, cooked and drained again. Chop fine, season with butter, pepper and salt and serve with vinegar and oil if preferred.



STUFFED BAKED ONIONS SERVED WITH BEETS.

Vegetables Attractively Served Together

It is becoming more and more the custom to serve several kinds of vegetables on one platter. The idea is a practical one, and a combination of vegetables is very appetizing in appearance. It simplifies the preparation of dinner, and does away with a certain amount of dishwashing.

Among other dishes that may be served together are the roast surrounded by potatoes pared and baked brown with the meat. The steam and fat keeps the potatoes basted, giving a rich flavor. Fish served with boiled potatoes and a white sauce poured over them and garnished with slices of hard-boiled eggs makes a good Friday dinner. A steak served on a large platter with sliced beets and carrots, mashed potato and peas makes a handsome dish, and may be garnished with olives and parsley.

Squash and String Beans

(SEE ILLUSTRATED HEADING OF THIS ARTICLE.)

Wash, cut in halves and remove seeds from squash. Put into baking pan, cut side down, and bake in a hot oven till done. Scoop from shell, mash fine, and season with butter, pepper and salt. If preferred, the squash may be steamed, but should never be boiled as the flavor goes into water.

Drain one can of white string beans, add fresh boiling water and cook one hour. Add salt when half done. If fresh beans are used, cook whole.

Make mound of squash on platter, surround with beans, and butter well. Garnish with slices of hard-boiled egg.

Potatoes Served with Cauliflower

Pare six potatoes and let stand in cold salted water half an hour. Drop into boiling salted water, one at a time, to prevent the water cooling below the boiling point, and use just enough water to cover. Cook till tender, drain and mash. Add enough cream to beat light. Wet a mold or bowl, press in the potato, and then turn out onto a serving platter and place in oven till very hot.

Remove the leaves from a firm white cauliflower and soak one hour in cold salted water. Drain, cover with boiling water and cook until tender. Separate the head into flowerets and place around mold of mashed potato, alternating with sprigs of parsley or celery leaves. Butter each floweret, and a very little salt and sprinkle with paprika.

Hot Rice with Peas and Carrot

Wash and drain half a cup of rice. Put into a two-quart stew pan one quart of water with one teaspoon of salt. When boiling hard add the rice, a little at a time, so the water will not stop boiling. Cook slowly till tender and drain, drying in the oven mouth. Press into a wet mold, keeping it hot. Turn out onto a platter.

Cut carrots in short strips and boil in enough salted water to cover. Drain and butter well.

Drain one can of peas, put into double cooker with one tablespoon of butter, a little salt and pepper and half a teaspoon of sugar, and let the water boil in cooker about ten minutes. Add the hot carrot, toss together and surround the hot rice.

Jellied Peas

Wash pods before shelling. Shell and cook pods twenty minutes, skim out pods and put peas into the same water. Cook about fifteen minutes or till tender, adding salt when nearly done. To three cups of peas, have left when cooked about one cup of liquid. Add to the peas just before taking from fire, one teaspoon of sugar and a little white pepper, and one even tablespoon of gelatine that has been soaked in one third of a cup of cold water twenty minutes. Pour into mold and when stiff it is ready to serve. Garnish with rounds of hard-boiled egg and parsley.

Onions with White Sauce

Peal and drop into boiling salted water and cook until tender. Change the water if less onion flavor is desired. Drain and place each onion on a round of bread toasted through in the oven. Cover with white sauce.

For sauce melt butter in sauce pan and slowly work in an equal quantity of flour until a smooth paste is formed, cooking very slowly all the time. To every two tablespoons of flour, add one cup of milk, salt and pepper to taste. Cook seven minutes, constantly stirring.

Stuffed and Baked Onions Served with Beets

Remove the outer skin from seven onions that are uniform in size. Boil fifteen minutes, drain, and cut a slice from the top of each onion and remove the center carefully, leaving the walls about one inch thick. Add to the portion removed an equal quantity of veal or chicken and a little bacon or ham, and chop finely together. Add half a cup of soft bread crumbs, season with pepper and salt and moisten with a little cream, and fry slowly in butter about fifteen minutes. Fill onions with this preparation, place in earthern baking dish with a cup of the water onions were boiled in, and bake in hot oven till tender. Place each onion on a slice of hot boiled beet about one inch thick, and garnish the tops with a square of the beet.

---

dards' elegant home on Commonwealth avenue.

Emil Correlli had been seated in the handsome library, reading a society novel, when his sister went out to make her call, leaving him as guard over their prisoner above.

He had been much pleased with the report which she brought him from Edith, namely, that she believed she was yielding, and would make her appearance at dinner; at the same time he did not allow himself for a moment to become so absorbed in his book as to forget that he was on the watch for the slightest movement above stairs.

He and Mrs. Goddard had agreed that it would be wise not to make the girl a prisoner within her room, lest they antagonize her by so doing.

But while they appeared to leave her free to go out or come in, they intended to guard her none the less securely, and thus Monsieur Correlli kept watch and ward below.

He knew that Edith could not leave the house by the front door without his knowing it, and as he also knew that the back stairway door was locked on the outside, he had no fear that she would escape that way.

He had not reckoned, however, upon the fact of an outsider entering by means of the area door and going up-stairs, thus leaving that way available for Edith; and Giulia Fiorini had accomplished her purpose so cleverly and so noiselessly that no one save Edith dreamed of her presence in the house.

The two girls had carried on their conversation in such subdued tones that not a sound could be heard by any one below, and thus Emil Correlli was taken entirely by surprise when there came a gentle knock upon the half-open library door to interrupt his reading.

"Come in," he called out, thinking it might be one of the servants.

But when the door was pushed wider, and a woman entered, bearing a child in her arms, the astonished man sprang to his feet, an angry oath leaping to his lips, and every atom of color fading out of his face.

"Giulia!" he exclaimed, under his breath.

"Papa! papa!" cried the child, clapping his little hands, as he struggled out of his mother's arms, and ran toward him.

He took no notice of the child, but frowningly demanded, as he faced the girl:

"How on earth did you ever get into this house?"

"By a door, of course," responded the intruder.

"Well, and what do you want?" he cried, angrily; then, with a violent start, he added,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.)

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

against the copperheads, the pacifist lunatics and monarchy loving hyphenates, and all the other traitorous elements that have been trying to stab Uncle Sam in the back, conspiring to make this country defenseless so that it could be the more easily invaded and conquered by the royal despots of Europe. I've been deluged with abuse and threats for taking this stand for genuine Americanism, but I can neither be muzzled nor bought. What this country needs is to know the truth about itself, and it is only by spreading truth, no matter how unpleasant that truth may be, that wrongs can be righted and mankind set free. We have been doing the ostrich act with our heads in the sand too long. For years I have warned you through these columns that the storm was coming. Weeks have elapsed since war was declared and we are but half awake. This is a war for the brotherhood of men, a war for our national existence. I shall din that fact into your ears from month to month, until this war is over and the fight for humanity won. As for being a man without a country. When a mother corrects her children, opens their eyes to the truth, warns them of the folly of wrong doing, disciplines and chastises them, do you call that mother a woman without a home? You do not, for you know she is the only worth-while kind of mother. Grave responsibilities rest on my shoulders, and what the good mother does in her home, I shall try to do in this larger home, the United States of America, and let me remind you of this, that a man without a country is much less of a menace than a *country without men*, especially that type of man who, when writing to an invalid, has not even the courage to sign his name.

CLAREMONT, N. C.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am thirteen years old. I go to school six months in the year, am in the sixth grade. I study Engish, arithmetic, geography, history and spelling. I like arithmetic best.

We live near a creek. I carry water from a spring a few steps from the creek.

We have one horse, one pig and about thirty chickens. I love to ride horseback. I have to brothers, the oldest one is Ralph, age six. Everett the baby is three.

This is my first letter to the COMFORT and don't let Billy the Goat get it.

Hoping to see this in print,

Your loving niece, MABEL E. YOUNT.

Mabel informs us that she is studying Engish. What sort of language is Engish, Mabel? I'm inclined to believe from your letter that a course of English would be highly advantageous to you. It would also be highly advantageous to millions of citizens of foreign birth or foreign descent, who never speak or read a word of English unless they are obliged to. There is a family in Pennsylvania that has been in this country one hundred and seventy years, and the whole bunch of them cannot speak a word of any language but German. If that isn't a ferocious indictment of our insane and wickedly stupid and dangerous method of neglecting the immigrant and failing to Americanize him, then I don't know what danger is. There was an Austrian who had been in Yonkers for twenty-four years (a citizen at that), who was called for jury duty the other day, and he could not speak a word of English. Of course he knew one word—dollar. They all know that, and you can't hand them a "one" spot and make them believe it is a ten. How did that man become a citizen? Ask the politicians, they know. He worked in a factory among people of his own race and kept in the same beaten track year in and year out. I wonder if the young man in California whose letter appears in this issue will criticize me for bringing this matter to your attention? What this man in Yonkers was doing, millions of men are doing, and then when we are plunged into a war that threatens our very existence, we wonder why it is people do not come forward and enlist. People who do not speak our language cannot love our country, sympathize with its policies or appreciate its institutions. It is on these people the foreign language press grows fat, and it is these who supply spies and plotters, incendiaries and traitors whenever we have trouble at home or abroad. I'm going to keep this matter constantly before your notice. Our indifference to the immigrant peril and our inability to absorb and Americanize those who have sought these shores to better themselves and to get away from military service and official tyranny, is the most menacing and dangerous factor in the structure of our national life, and it is right now that the menace is greatest. Stop the foreign language press until the war is over then limit its use to weekly publications every alternate column of which should be in the American tongue. Our language is the language of freedom and democracy, and only as it is universally used can this nation be secure and realize its destiny. Mabel, you say "I have to brothers." So many of you children and grown-ups fall down on this to business. Now here is a little sentence, study it and it will save you from making many ludicrous and at times, humiliating mistakes. "I have *two* brothers, and we are going *to* the city today, if it does not rain *too* much." Now Mabel study English and leave English alone.

GEORGETOWN, ARK.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am sixteen yeas old, have blue eyes, light brown hair and fair complected.

I live in a small town, about one hundred miles from Little Rock.

Mother has been taking the COMFORT for about two years and we like it fine.

Dear Uncle Charlie, is it proper for a young girl to take candy, chewing gum and fruit from a young man?

My letter is too long so will close with love to one and all.

I am your loving niece, ELSIE ———

P. S. Please don't print my full name.

Elsie, you want to know if it is correct, right and proper, to take candy and chewing gum from a young man. What an extraordiary question to ask. Surely my dear, you have been grounded in a few of the fundamentals of morals and ethics. The eighth commandment says "Thou Shalt Not Steal." Did you never hear about it? Of course if you were driven desperate by hunger you might be excused if you took anything in the edible line from a young man; but as Arkansas is not at present famine stricken, I can't see that you would be justified in relieving any young man of things that belonged to him and did not belong to you. That young man too many be poor and needy, and even if he is not it would not warrant you in relieving him of his property. What's that Billy the Goat? Elsie wants to ask if it was correct and proper to accept candy, chewing gum and fruit from a young man. Ah, that's a horse of another color. To take things from a young man savors of robbery, to accept gifts is strictly within the law and all correct and proper. Don't however, accept too many gifts from anyone as it puts you under an obligation to the giver. After some boys have spent twenty-five cents on a girl, they think they own her. Study the young man and don't let him throw his money away on you, or he will soon be expecting something in return. Gifts given to girls in many cases are merely bribes for favors that are expected later on; mere bait that is used skillfully to conceal a hook which is not so easy to wiggle away from when one gets on it. Perfect freedom of thought and action are the things most conducive to happiness, and a girl should be very careful how she parts with these most precious of all things.

DEPOSIT, ALA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I want your opinion and advise on this.

If you were a married man and your wife received a postal from her home town, with her address only on the card, and no other writing, what would you think? Hope this will not be overlooked as I will be anxious to read your reply.

Very truly, MRS. VIOLET ———

Mrs. Violet, I can't tell exactly what I would do if I had a wife and she received a postal card from her home town with the correspondence side entirely blank. I might fall in a fit and bite six inches off the cat's tail; I might jump in the Atlantic and make believe I was a submarine; I might go and buy a bottle of lemon extract and go on a jag for a few weeks; I might run all over Alabama and find if anybody was sufficiently up to date to be interested in woman suffrage; I might row a boat up to the top of Pike's Peak, and try and bite holes in the man in the moon's whiskers; I might run for Congress and add to the honor and glory of the South by getting sufficient pork out of Uncle Sam's pocketbook to build a million dollar post-office at every cross road that had a population of one grasshopper and two mosquitoes. There are all sorts of terrible things a man *might* do if his wife got a postal card with nothing on the back of it, but just what I'd do I can't exactly tell, as my married life only lasted five weeks, and I'm not an expert at knowing what people do when they are married and live together for two or three hundred years. Probably in this case there is a nut of a husband who is insanely jealous. I have a good deal of sympathy for people who are jealous, for jealousy is a horrible affliction, and there is no love (at least no worth-while love) where there is not a little reasonable jealousy, but extremes of any kind are liable to be dangerous. Unfortunately there are seldom any varying degrees of jealousy. People are insanely jealous as a rule or not at all. When people get to the point that they feel no stirring of the emotions and are indifferent as to what husband, wife, or sweetheart may be doing or what company they may be in then love is dead in that individual's heart. It is sweet and precious to know that someone cares, and the flame of love is still warm and bright when someone does care. True love implies perfect trust, but man is not a monogamous animal. Leave him to his own devices and he would be polygamous, for as the London costermonger says "'E 'as a very accomodatin' 'eart." Woman on the other hand is content to anchor her little love craft in one harbor and let it stay there. Of course there are exceptions. Possibly the woman in this case is one of the exceptions and the poor man may have had good cause to be jealous in the past, and this blank postal which may mean nothing to the average eye, may mean a whole world to him. Jealousy is a thing that thrives on doubt and magnifies trifles, or as Shakespeare puts it:

Trifles light as air are to the jealous
Confirmation strong as proofs of Holy Writ.

Jealousy is the green-eyed monster and tortures like the coals of Hades those who indulge in it. Most women can be trusted but mighty few men can where women are concerned. Wife stays at home happy in her husband's love and her children's love. Not once in a hundred times does she ever doubt or question. Hubby knows she is as true as steel and usually she is. Hubby however is buying silk stockings for the blonde stenographer and taking her out to lunch. It is just as natural fo. him to be doing that little act as it is for a bee to be buzzing from flower to flower gathering in all the honey it can comfortably store away. Men who are insanely jealous after they have had years of proof of a woman's devotion are an infernal nuisance, a dangerous nuisance in fact. They are a misery to themselves and a misery to everyone else. We should however be charitable in judging such people for this type of jealousy is often closely allied with insanity, but lunacy that injures other people and makes other lives miserable is not harmless. I'm inclined to believe that the man referred to in Mrs. Violet's letter is this type of lunatic, but no one should pass judgment in a case of this kind unless he has all the facts, and people who ask questions of magazine editors as a rule never give any facts upon which one can base a fair and honest opinion.

CHEYENNE, WYO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a boy nine years old, have light hair and blue eyes, I enjoy school work, I am in fourth grad. We took a homestead in Wyoming. We hove six pig, we hove twenty heod of cottle and three heod of horses, we hove twenty-five chichens I con milk. We con see the mountions and it is only twelve meils to the mountions. I hope I will see this in COMFORT. Sister con sew ond crochet milk ond cook. Her name is Flora. Don't let Billy the Goat get this.

Yours sincerely, ORIN SPURLING.

Orin, yours would have been a very nice letter, if you hadn't chased the letter a from out your alphabet. There is not a single a in all your letter. I have put one or two in to make it readable and trust you will excuse me for the liberty I have taken in so doing. Everybody seems determined to work o overtime and put the first letter of the alphabet on the retired list. The difference between these two letters is considerable and teachers are derelict in their duty if they do not point this out to their scholars. Children will go to all sorts of trouble to write a perfectly beautiful o, but it seems most of them would rather die than write the letter a. We are all sorry we can't come over and see your twenty head of cottle, Orin, and twenty-five chichens. I hope that a chichen is an improvement on chicken and that it is a new variety of fowl that will lay eggs at thirty-five cents a dozen all the year round. I'm so tired of pawning my bed, the piano and the victrola every time I want to buy an egg. Orin says "I have twenty-five chichens I can milk." A chichen that can be milked as well as egged would indeed be a valuable addition to our food supply in these hungry times. Orin you seem to be the Luther Burbank of the poultry yard. You have created some wonderful combinations. You might try your hand at creating a speechless Bryan, a patriotic pacifist a foreign language press printed in the American language, that was also willing to admit the United States could be right say once every ten billion years. You might try your hand at making a peaceful Mexico and a Middle West that knew it belonged to the United States. You might also invent a drug-store that didn't sell more whiskey than a saloon. You might also invent an America full of democratic people without a single traitorous monarchy worshipping, king-loving fanatic within its whole borders. That would be an awful task, but it is a task that will be done by somebody, and I'd give worlds if you would start the experiment. I am glad you can see the mountions, Orin, and that they are only twelve miles away. A fellow gets kind of tired looking at mountains all the time and I'm exceedingly glad to find that you invented a new brand and I hope you have made them high enough to keep all Uncle Sam's enemies at bay. Billy the Goat likes the name of Cheyenne. He is a little worried though as to whether a shy hen would be a good egg producer.

LOUIS, MINN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have read COMFORT since I was nine years of age. I enjoy your replies to the cousins' letters. They have been a great help to me, especially when you corrected the mistakes, as I had poor chances to get an education. I went to school in the country from the time I was seven years of age until I was fourteen, I was supposed to have been doing eighth grade work, but have found out since that it was about seventh. It was a typical "little red schoolhouse."

When I was fourteen my parents moved into a homestead country, northern Minnesota, and there were no schools. I wanted to go to our nearest town and go to high school and work for my board but my stepfather believed that a girl didn't need an education. Not being able to buy books, my education from that time on came from what I read in the paper COMFORT being the only one we subscribed to, besides a weekly newspaper, you can imagine how that was devoured.

Now will come down to the subject I wanted to write of, namely; blaming people for their lack of education and for the poor quality of their writing materials.

I have winced a great many times when reading those lectures. Suppose, for instance, that a great many were situated as I am, and I suppose there must be, they couldn't possibly help it.

I was married three years ago to an honest, upright fellow who owned, or rather had right on, a hundred and sixty acre homestead, with a small three-room house and a team of horses. He had almost enough saved to "prove up" on the homestead, but the first year I had poor health and he was unable to work and before we had been married two years, two babies were born to us, eleven months apart. The last one we lost and for several more months I had to be cared for, and it all took a great deal of money, so when he "proved up" he had to mortgage the farm for several hundred to pay bills. He obtained the position of mail carrier, but as we only have a star route the wages are small.

This summer I have had the best of health, so last fall took the teacher to board, to increase our income and to better my education by associating with her. My husband having had less chance for education than I. All in all our income is only fifty-five dollars a month which as you can plainly see, with present prices, no more than keeps us in necessities of life, consequently we cannot afford books or even a better grade of writing materials, so please don't be too hard on the medium poor class.

With best wishes for many more successful years, I am, MRS. W. SKINNER.

Dear Friend: Yours is a brave letter. No criticism of mine was ever directed at anyone, young or old, male or female, that was doing his or her level best, but only at the people who could do better and won't. I know what difficulties people labor under who live in remote rural communities. Such people have my love and sympathy, but even they should not get into the habit of pitying themselves overmuch. People who write business letters and letters for publication should, whenever possible, use ink. (Yours is in ink and beautifully penned.) Pencil marks are liable to rub off, and letters written in pencil are often terribly hard to read. Some day there will be a typewriter in every home in the land, and that day cannot come too quickly for those who have to examine vast quantities of correspondence. I shall continue to rail at the alarming amount of ignorance people display upon nearly every subject, political, economic and geographic, because there is no excuse for a great deal of this ignorance, except that those who are cursed by it are too mentally lazy, inert and slothful to use the brains and thinking apparatus that God Almighty gave them. A great many people will tell you they can't afford twenty-five cents a year for a magazine, or a dollar or two a year for newspapers, but they will spend fifty dollars for all sorts of trumpery junk, dope, cheap finery and what they call "good times." Nobody needs to go hungry for mental food. Many states have traveling libraries. A note written to any local paper asking for reading matter, will bring a deluge of mental food. Hundreds of people have been supplied with reading matter by making their wants known through our columns. As soon as the masses of the people realize that the earth is theirs and the fullness thereof, they will go after what belongs to them, but they can get nothing by resenting criticism or feeling hurt when they are prodded by those who are trying to put them wise to all the good things they are missing by going through a beautiful world with their brains asleep, and their eyes closed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

The Dying Soldier Boy's Love Letter

by Mrs. J. P. Draper



It started long ago in the early sixteen hundreds.

"Be ever your sunny self I love you" "Joe"

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THERE was put on sale last week at a fair held in a quaint New England village for the benefit of war sufferers a typewritten series of unusual love letters, copied exactly, with only personal addresses and revealing signatures omitted. Tucked away among the number was one which proved to be a link in one of the most fascinating romances outside of fiction.

Ran the letter thus:

KEY WEST, 1899.

"Dear little mate, mine never now to be:

"They tell me that I cannot get home to you after all, sweetheart. Perhaps it is best thus. Now I can dream my dream of your love till the end, and no hurt to you, little one, if it be but a dream.

"My love for you, Sunbeam, shall follow you through life, for though I am going on that far journey from which no traveler has been known to return the love which I send to you shall break through every barrier and shall guard and protect you until your call shall come. However full your life that same love shall meet your spirit on the other side.

"By Jack's mother, who will remain with me, I shall send you a little package.

"You remember the scarf pin with the romantic history? The larger stone I have left in the pin; I had hoped to see it in a ring on your finger. The smaller stone is set in a little ring which was my mother's, and which I want you to wear for the sake of my love for you and your precious friendship for me.

"Should some good man win your love, dear one, tell him the story of the little ring. I am sure that he will be willing that you should wear it, guarding his ring as my love shall guard his love, keeping it ever strong and true. Should you have a daughter you might have the larger stone set for her, in a pin perhaps, to be worn on her wedding day and passed down to her daughter. Thus far can you keep alive the old world romance which otherwise would pass with me.

"And now dear one farewell. There is more that I might say, but will refrain for fear of saddening you. Be ever your sunny self.

"I love you.

"JOE."

So redolent was this letter with hints of a fascinating story that the writer who was fortunate enough to secure one of the little volumes containi , it determined to call upon the compiler of the book and get if possible the key to the hidden romance.

It started long ago in the early sixteen hundreds, my hostess told me, across the seas in France.

An English girl of good birth was wooed and won by a French nobleman, and on her wedding day received a pair of diamond eardrops, brought to her in person by her royal mother-in-law, who told her that the gems had been in the family since time beyond memory. So delighted was the girl with the gift and the gracious manner in which it was offered that she determined that the eardrops should be passed on down through the centuries to each oldest daughter on her wedding day.

All worked well according to plan and without adventure until abut 1724 when a several times great-grandmother of the soldier writer from Key West was a young girl about to go to her first ball.

As young girls have since young girls were, and always will as long as young girls are, this French maiden gave much thought to her personal adornment. The diamond eardrops, with their pretty history, which her mother wore only on state occasions seemed to be the one thing essentially necessary to complete the resplendence of her toilet on the grand occasion of her first ball.

By much wheedling and coaxing she gained permission to wear the drops, though such a thing had never even been thought of before.

Whether the little jewels were magnetic or whether the young girl's charms blazed brilliant there was no disputing the fact that Helena was not lacking in favors at the dance that night.

A happier girl never returned home after an exciting festivity. But alas, when she came to unclasp the lovely eardrops one was gone!

It is no feat to imagine that the little debuante's dreams of conquest were mingled with almost nightmares of unsuccessful search for the missing jewel.

A few days later her mother called her to the drawing-room to receive greetings from a partner of the ball. As he bowed he held out on the palm of his extended hand the missing eardrop! He had found it caught on one of his decorations and learning from the hostess of the evening to whom it belonged had hastened to return it.

Occasion, atmosphere, characters, everything was ripe for romance. Some months later the young Frenchman led Helena to the altar and the eardrops swung and twinkled against her cheeks in satisfaction of a mission well filled.

And from them they came on straight down from daughter to daughter until they were fastened into the ears of a bride about to sail for America.

And now we come to the mother of "Joe:" Joe who wrote the letter which has revived this old world romance. When a slip of a girl in France she met a young art student from the United States and lost her heart to him. And she sailed away with him, as trusting brides will, to his home in Nevada.

On shipboard one of the lovely eardrops was stolen or lost; at least it disappeared, nor was it ever found again.

Some few years later a baby boy was born to this couple and the mother wrote out the entire history of the remaining eardrop, gathered from a collection of letters which she had brought from France with her, and which told the story in broken bits.

When Joe was a little fellow both mother and father were stricken with typhoid fever of which there was raging an epidemic in the town and when the mother realized her critical condition she entrusted the eardrop to a friend to have made into a scarf pin for the baby boy. With it she left a letter instructing him to wear the pin until he found his bride, at which time the stones were to be reset in rings for the girl of his choice.

Mother and father both died of the fever and a gentleman from Providence, who had been a lifelong friend of the boy's father carried the little fellow home to his wife and their two-year-old son. The two boys grew up as brothers and when the Spanish-American War called for volunteers both enlisted. One was killed on the battlefield and the other lived to reach Key West. One never told the girl of his love, for he suspected the secret of his adopted brother and the other wrote the letter herein given. In another part of the book is a letter from "Jack" which was delivered after the war—but that is another story.

It seems likely that the romance which had two continents for its setting, which has lived through many wars, and which several times came close to reaching an untimely end, now will run through many more volumes.

My hostess wears a quaintly set stone guarding her engagement ring, and her little six-year-old daughter brought me a pure white diamond of dazzling brilliancy when sent to get "Uncle Joe's" pin from mother's jewel case.

A Declaration of Dependence

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

this. To night a passenger train will be signaled to stop at Bison Gulch. You can board it, and I suppose, make connections with Reno, where you can get a divorce. You must not despise me for acquiescing in this, but somehow, I could not help but wish your heart was in it, as mine was, and the chance to call you lawfully and reverently 'my wife' was too sweet to let slip. Go to your room now, and I'll wait on the porch until it is time for the train."

He opened the door, and Millicent, looking at him in amazement, went in.

For a long time she sat in the darkness of her room; and listened to the clock as it ticked off its minutes. Once she stole stealthily to the window. She saw Mac sitting motionless.

The hour neared midnight; then a knock came at the door. She opened it. Mac stood there.

"'Come, it is nearly time for the train. Are you ready?"

She picked up her hat, and put it on. Then her eyes wandered to the clean-cut profile of the big man before her. She wondered what was on his mind, and the next moment he told her.

"Miss Wright," he began, "would you be offended if I asked you to kiss me, just once? Just once, that's all. I love you dear, love you so much, that it would make me happy in years to come to know that I once kissed you. If my request horrifies you, you need not, but because I love you so well I request what my legal right gives me, the right to caress you and love you, for you are my wife as far as the law can make you. The ceremony was a mockery, as far as you were concerned, but we had the license and the minister and all that———"

"How did you know my heart was not in it?" she suddenly demanded, "how did you know?"

"Millicent! Millicent! Was your heart in it?"

"Don't call me 'Millicent!' My right name was Dorothy Grenfall, the name by which you married me! My heart was in the ceremony! I loved you, but I wouldn't acknowledge it. But now, in your great goodness of heart, I can hold back the flood no longer. Oh, Mac, we're married! Don't send me away, I don't want to go! I want to stay!"

"With me?" The big fellow's eyes glistened with something that came to them.

"With you!"

"Oh, Dorothy, I can't believe it! You so brilliant, so independent———"

"I want to be dependent now. I'm willing to sacrifice my independence to you. Oh, Mac," and her proud head went down on his gray clad bosom. "I want you. Oh, how I love you, my husband!"

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1917, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

CHAPTER X.

A YELLOW SLEEPING BEAUTY

"BE careful, there," warned Pittysing. "Look how you're dragging that shawl."

Simmie-Sammie turned to look, caught his foot in the shawl, and, burdened as he was with a sofa pillow, a dinner-bell, a tin pan, a picture book and a sword, lost his balance and fell, amid a great clatter.

"I ain't hurt," he laughed. "I sat wight down on the pillow."

"You'll have to take two trips with your things. *I* can't help you load up again," Pittysing said. "I've got too much to carry myself."

"Playin' show's too much work," grumbled Simmie-Sammie. "You can do it alone. Guess I'll go swing."

"A-a-all right!" his sister said, in a way that meant it was anything but right—in fact, that it was all wrong. "You just wait and see if I play anything YOU want to! And I'll give Gyp your share of the little cookies."

Then she changed her tone, for she saw an obstinate look coming in Simmie Sammie's face.

"Aw, come on! Be a good boy, and we'll have lots of fun. Just think! you're going to be the prince in 'Sleeping Beauty!' And those cookies have raisins in 'em—raisins and currants too. You carry part of the things, and I'll come back for the rest," she coaxed.

They had to make several trips, both of them, before they had all the things they wanted to use in the "show." They were to give it down by the Mill Brook, with Teddy Bear, Sarah-Grace-Josephine, Cattie Puss and Gyp, the puppy dog, to be audience part of the time and help where they were needed.

Pittysing's toy piano was set down carefully on a level place near the barrel-top table.

"I'll dress you up first," Pittysing said, jamming a pasteboard crown, covered with gilt paper, which had done service in many shows, on Simmie-Sammie's head. "Your hair don't look very prince-ified. Seem's if you might have combed it."

She tied a red cambric sash around his waist, and fastened three large, gilt stars on the front of his blouse.

"Now the curtain's going up," she announced. "Ring the bell."

Simmie-Sammie paused, bell in hand. "The' ain't any curtain."

"Oh, of course not, silly! But can't we make believe there is? Oh, sometimes, Simmie-Sammie, I wish you were a girl! Here, I've got to have the crown. Now ring the bell."

Simmie-Sammie rang until commanded to stop.

Pittysing, wearing the crown, and with a large flag draped over her shoulders, posed as the Goddess of Liberty, and for the opening number of the program, sang a verse of America.

Simmie-Sammie tried to join in

"'Let musit smell the bweeze',"

he quavered, but stopped to box the ears of Gyp, who was sniffing at the cookies.

Next was an exhibition of wonderful trained animals.

Simmie-Sammie threw sticks, which Gyp ran after and brought back. Then Simmie-Sammie buried the sticks, and Gyp dug them up, and with shining eyes and short barks of joy, laid them at his little master's feet. This was one of their favorite games.

Cattie Puss, protesting, and with ears laid back, was made to dance, jump through a hoop, and play the toy piano. Gyp, with help from Simmie-Sammie, stood on his head, and walked about on his fore-paws. He howled beautifully, without any help, while Cattie Puss played the piano.

Next came a recitation by Pittysing, "Little Boy Blue," while Simmie-Sammie, wearing Pittysing's blue winter coat, slept, with twitching eyelids, under the hazelnut bush, which was, for the time being, changed into a haycock.



"I CAN PLAY ON IT! I CAN MAKE MUSIC. I KNOW I CAN! SHE SAID."

They played a duet on the piano, and then the stage was set for the grand feature of the show, "The Sleeping Beauty."

With two sofa pillows and the shawl, a couch was made for Beauty's sleeping place. Cattie Puss, who had been chosen for that part, was squeezed into a dress that had belonged to a large doll of Pittysing's, whose head Simmie-Samaie had broken long ago. A lace veil was folded and tied over her head, to hide her cattish ears, and a pink sash-ribbon tied about her waist. She didn't like it, you may be sure, but she had to stand it.

Sarah-Grace-Josephine was seated at the piano to furnish the music.

Simmie-Sammie, again wearing the crown, and with a toy sword in his red cambric sash, was the prince, and made his way through the enchanted forest. He met and bravely drove away with his bright blade two fierce wild animals, Teddy Bear and Gyp.

When he reached the enchanted palace and the Sleeping Beauty, Pittysing was lying beside the couch, with a firm grasp on the Beauty, who seemed to be troubled by uneasy dreams.

"YOU hadn't ought to be here," he objected. "I shan't be the pwince if you get in the way."

"Hush! can't you see it's all I can do to hold her still? I'm one of her maidens, asleep on the floor at her side. Kiss her quick! Next time I'll have Sarah-Grace-Josephine for Sleeping Beauty."

Cattie Puss gave a low growl.

The prince bent to give the kiss which was to rouse the fair lady from her long sleep. Just then, Cattie Puss freed one paw from Pittysing's hold, and raising it suddenly, with every claw stretched out, gave Simmie-Sammie's cheek a savage scratch.

That was not the way to treat a prince who had dared so much to come to her help! You see, Cattie Puss hadn't learned her part well.

The poor prince howled, Pittysing sprang up, and wicked old Cattie Puss left her couch with a bound and went tearing off as fast as she could in all her finery.

She didn't care where she went.

But she didn't mean to be a Sleeping Beauty any longer.

If the children had been looking, they would have seen Nattie then. She had been watching the whole show from behind a rock, and when the Sleeping Beauty ran away, had been so excited she just hopped out in plain sight.

Then, when the children followed the runaway, the Smallest Dapperling of All went to the toy piano, and softly touched the keys.

"I can play on it! I can make music. I know I can!" she said. "Oh, if I could only carry this beautiful piano home to the assembly hall!"

Taking Sarah-Grace-Josephine's place, Nattie tried all the keys, one after another; then, after starting and stopping a few times, brought such sweet music from the little piano as would have astonished anyone who heard it.

A little way off, down the brook there was a rocky ledge, and below, on the other side, grew some raspberry bushes. Cattie Puss, hesitating on the edge of the little ledge, saw the children coming, and tried to spring forward. Her hind paws were on the little dress skirt which she wore, and she fell head first into the prickly bushes. The children ran around the ledge, and there was poor Cattie Puss, struggling to free herself. The torn dress was caught in the bushes, and the folded veil had slipped over her eyes, frightening and nearly blinding her.

Pittysing reached up and tried to help her out, but got a scratched arm for her pains.

"Listen, Pittsy!" said Simmie-Sammie, "what's that noise? I b'lieve it's a hand-organ man I hear. Let's go back to the house an' see if he's there an' got a monkey with him."

Pittysing listened.

"That ain't hand-organ music," she said. "It sounds like my toy piano, played better'n *I* ever played it. Come, quick, and we'll see!"

When they got back to where they had been giving the show, the sweet, tinkling music had stopped, and Sarah-Grace-Josephine was sitting in front of the piano, where they had left her.

Nobody else was in sight.

Gyp had eaten the cookies and gone off home.

Pittysing looked puzzled. She touched the little keys half timidly.

"'TWAS my piano! I know the sound of it!" she said. "Sarah-Grace-Josephine never played before, only when I held her hands, and I don't s'pose she did this time. I never S'POSED dolls COULD! But—I—don't—know!"

Cattie Puss came to the house at supper-time for her saucer of milk, with part of the dress she had worn still buttoned 'round her throat. The rest of the dress, and the veil, were tangled in the raspberry bushes. As for the pink sash ribbon, it was never seen again.

The next chapter will tell of a naughty trick by Simmie-Sammie and how the Dapperlings gave Pittysing a wonderful surprise. Don't miss it in August COMFORT.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

nervously: "Wait; sit down, and I will be back in a moment."

Darting out of the room, he ran swiftly upstairs, to ascertain, as we have seen, if his captive was still safe.

We know the result, and how adroitly Edith allayed his suspicions; whereupon, wholly reassured regarding her, he returned to the library to settle, once for all, as he secretly resolved, with his discarded plaything.

"Well, Giulia," he began, as he re-entered her presence, "what has brought you here? what is your business with me?"

"I have come to ascertain if this is true, and what you have to say about it," she answered, as she brought forth the newspaper and pointed to the article relating to the wedding at Wyoming.

"Well, what of it?" he at last questioned, assuming a defiant air; "what if it is true?"

"Is it true?" she persisted; "have you really married that girl?"

"And what if I have?" he again questioned.

"I want the truth from your own lips—yes or no, Emil Correlli."

"Well, then—yes," he said, with a flash of anger.

"You own it—you dare own it to me, and—in the presence of your child?" shrieked the woman.

"Stop, Giulia!" commanded her companion, sternly. "I will have no scene here to create a scandal among the servants. I intended to see you within a day or two; but, since you have sought me, we may as well at once come to an understanding. Did you think that you could hold me all my life? A man in my position must have a home in which to receive his friends, also a mistress in it to entertain them——"

"Have you forgotten all your vows and promises to me?" interposed Giulia, in tremulous tones; "that you swore everlasting fidelity to me?"

"A man vows a great many things that he finds he cannot fulfill," was the unfeeling response. "Surely, Giulia, you must realize that neither your birth nor education could entitle you to such a position as my wife must occupy."

"My birth was respectable, my education the best my country afforded," said the girl, with white lips. "Had you no intention of marrying me when you enticed me from my home to cross the ocean with you?"

"No."

"Oh, had you no heart? Why did you do such a fiendish thing?" she cried.

"Because you were pretty and agreeable, and I liked pleasant company. I have been accustomed to have whatever I wished for all my life."

"And you never loved me?"

"Oh, yes, for nearly three years I was quite fond of you—really, Giulia, I consider that I have been as faithful to you as you could expect."

"Oh, wretch! but you love this other girl more?"

"It would be worse than useless to attempt to deceive you on that point," said the man.

"You lied to me, then, Emil Correlli!" cried the miserable woman, hoarsely; "you swore to me that the girl was nothing to you—that she was simply your sister's companion."

"And I simply told you the truth," he retorted. "She was nothing to me at that time; she was 'only my sister's companion.' However," he added, straightening himself haughtily, "there is no use in wrangling over the matter any further. I married Edith Allen the night before last, and henceforth she will be the mistress of my home. I confess it is a trifle hard on you, Giulia," he continued, "but you must try to be sensible about it. I will settle a comfortable annuity upon you, and you can either go back to your parents or make a pleasant home for yourself somewhere in this country."

"And what of this boy?" questioned the discarded girl.

"I will provide handsomely for his future," he said, after considering for a minute. "If you will give him up to me he shall be reared as carefully as any gentleman's son, and, when he attains a proper age, I will establish him in some business or profession that will enable him to make his mark in the world."

"You would take him away from me to do this?"

"That would be necessary, in order to carry out my purpose as I wish," the man coldly replied.

"Never! You are a monster in human form to suggest such a thing. Do you think I would ever give him up to you?"

"Just as you choose," her companion remarked, indifferently. "I have made you the proposition, and you can accept or reject it as you see fit, but if I take him, I cannot have his future hampered by any environments or associations that would be likely to mar his life."

"Coward!" the word was thrown at him in a way that stung him like a lash, "do you dare twit me for what you alone are to blame? Where is your honor—where your humanity? Have you forgotten how you used every art to persuade me to leave the shelter of my pleasant home—the protection of my honest father and mother, to come hither with you? how you promised, by all that was sacred, to make me your wife if I would do your bidding? What I am you have made me—what this child is, you are responsible for. Ah, Emil Correlli, you have much to answer for, and the day will yet come when you will bitterly repent these irreparable wrongs ——"

"Come, come Giulia! you are getting beside yourself with your tragic airs," her companion here interposed, in a would-be soothing tone. "There is no use working yourself up into a passion and running on like this. What has been done is done, and cannot be changed, so you had best make the most of what is left you. As I said before, I will give you a handsome allowance, and, if you will keep me posted regarding your whereabouts, I will make you and the boy a little visit now and then."

"You will live to repent," she remarked, as she gathered the child up in her arms and arose to leave the room, "and before this day is ended your punishment shall begin; you shall never know one moment of happiness with the girl whom you have dared to put in my place."

"Bah! all this is idle chatter, Giulia," said Emil Correlli, contemptuously; nevertheless, he paled visibly, and a cold chill ran over him, for somehow her words impressed him as a prophecy.

"What! are you going in such a temper as that?" he added, as she turned toward the door. "Well, when you get over it, let me hear from you occasionally."

"Never fear; you will hear from me oftener than you will like," she flashed out at him, with a look that made him cringe, as she laid her hand upon the knob of the door.

"Stay, Giulia! Aren't you going to let me have a word with Ino? Here, you black-eyed little rascal, haven't you anything to say to your daddy?" he added, in a coaxing tone to the child.

"Mamma, may I talk to papa?" queried the little one.

"By the way," interposed the man, before she could reply, "you must put a stop to the youngster calling me that; it might be awkward, you see, if we should happen to meet some time upon the street. I like the little chap well enough, but you must teach him to keep his mouth shut when he comes near me."

"Who taught him the name?" sharply retorted Giulia. "Who boasted how bright and clever he was the first time he uttered the English word?"

"Your tongue is very sharp, Giulia," he said. "It would be more to your advantage to be upon good terms with me."

She made no reply, but, opening the door, passed out into the hall, he following her.

"As you will," he curtly said; then added, imperatively: "Come this way," and, leading her to the front door, he let her quietly out, glad to be rid of her before the butler or any of the other servants could learn of her presence in the house.

He watched her pass down the steps and out upon the street, then, softly closing the door, went back to the library.

He threw himself into a chair with a long-drawn sigh.

"I am afraid she means mischief," he muttered, with a frown. "I must get Edith away as soon as possible; I would not have them meet for anything. What a little vixen the girl is, curse her!"

He glanced at the clock.

It was five minutes to three, and twenty-five since he went up to Edith's room.

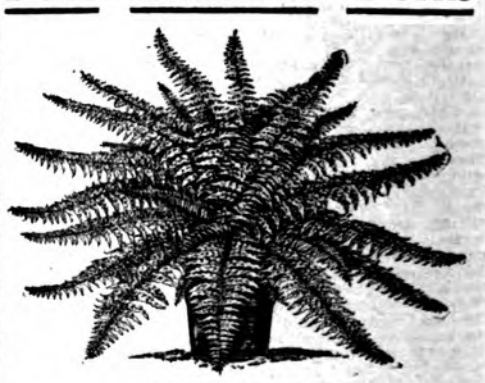
"It is about time she came down," he mused.

He arose and paced the room for a few moments, then passed out into the hall and listened.

The house was very still; he could not detect a sound anywhere.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

Four Beautiful Ferns



PREMIUM NO. 6112

Given For Two Subscriptions

OF all indoor foliage plants, none give more **lasting pleasure and satisfaction** than these popular house ferns. They need but little care and live indefinitely, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the largest, handsomest varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt,** the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Hay Making

JULY is the month in which most of the hay cut in the Northern states should be made. The first cuttings of clover and Alfalfa may come in June but timothy, redtop, prairie hay, the second cutting of Alfalfa, the late red clovers and alsike should all be harvested in July.

The Cutting Stage

In all hay making the "cutting stage," or the time of cutting, is important. At the proper cutting stage the hay has reached its highest amount of nutrients in their most digestible form and is filled with flavors and odors most attractive to stock. If cut too early the hay will be lacking in the amount of these desirable qualities, and if cut too late it will have lost some of its palatability and digestibility.

It is therefore important that the hay should be cut at the proper stage. Now what is the proper cutting stage?

WHEN TO CUT CLOVER.—Clover should be cut when in full bloom and before any of the blossoms have ripened and turned brown. It is at this time that it has reached its highest degree of excellence. It then contains a maximum amount of digestible protein, carbohydrates and fat and has the sweetest smell and the most attractive taste. If properly cured, clover cut at this stage makes the very finest quality of hay.

THE CUTTING STAGE OF ALFALFA.—Many farmers, having learned from experience the proper time to cut clover, assume that they can follow the same practise with Alfalfa. This is a serious mistake. If Alfalfa is let stand until in full bloom and then cut, the second and third crops will be spoiled though the hay itself may be of very fine quality. It is better, however, to sacrifice a little in quality than to ruin succeeding crops. Alfalfa should be cut as soon as the very first blossoms appear. The true guide to the cutting stage is the appearance of little sprouts at the base of the crown. As soon as the plant has reached a certain stage it puts out little sprouts or buds around the base of the plant. If the hay is cut immediately these sprouts begin to grow rapidly and soon a second crop is ready for harvest. If, however, the farmer waits until the plants have come into full bloom, these sprouts will have grown three or four inches long and their growing points will be cut off when the crop is cut. Or in other words, two crops will be harvested at one cutting. This is one of the reasons why so many farmers fail to get satisfactory returns after the first cutting.

THE TIME TO CUT MIXED HAY.—Timothy and red top should be cut just before or at the time of full bloom. Many farmers dislike to do this because they contend that the pollen of the blossom makes dusty hay. This is doubtless true, but this dust does not hurt the quality of the hay except for horses. If the pollen is objectionable, however, it is better to cut the hay just before the blossoming period and after it is fully headed out than it is to wait for the seeds to ripen. At this late stage the stems have become woody and indigestible, the hay has lost its fine flavor and odor and is neither rich nor palatable.

WILD HAY.—Coarse, wild prairie and marsh hay has very little feeding value if allowed to ripen and cure before being cut, as is often practised. It is then about as good for stock food as excelsior or hazel brush. It is a good filling but has little sustaining quality.

THE OTHER CLOVERS.—Alsike, like red clover, should be cut when in full bloom. With the crimson clovers, so common in the South, it is not only an unwise but a dangerous practise to allow any of the heads to ripen and turn brown before cutting. The ripe heads of this clover are covered with sharp prickles and form furry balls which may lodge in the digestive tracts of animals and cause trouble. For this reason such clovers should be cut very early, even before all blossoms have appeared.

Hay Curing

Much of the hay made in America is overcured. Over-curing reduces digestibility and decreases both agreeable odors and pleasant flavors. Cattle do not relish over-cured hay. It is less digestible, hence it takes more of this kind of hay for stock feeding.

Hay is likely to be over-cured because farmers fear to put green hay in the mow or stack. They say that green hay will mold or rot and spoil. If it doesn't it makes a very dusty hay. This is true. Too green hay will not keep in the mow. The fine art in hay curing comes in getting the hay cured "just enough." This point is reached when all of it has lost its bright green shade, is dry and tough, but never brittle. None of the leaves should be lost and the stems should not be dry enough to break. There should be no green portions in it, however. If hay in the right cutting stage is cut early in the morning as soon as the dew is off, on a bright, clear day, and is shaken up with a tedder about two hours later it should be pretty well cured by three or four o'clock in the afternoon. By proper management a farmer should be able to cut and haul in the same day. If hay must lie over night it should be freshly cut green hay. Dry hay, or partly dry hay, should never lie in the swath over night. Dew washes away the fine flavor and odor of freshly cured hay.

CURING CLOVER AND ALFALFA.—These hay crops are much more difficult to properly cure than timothy or red top or other grasses of the same class. It is now well known, however, that there is a constant stream of moisture flowing up through the stems of these plants and out through the leaves. This can be shown by covering any leafy growing plant with a tumbler. Moisture soon collects on the inside of the glass in little drops. Now this moisture is pumped up through the stem and out through the leaves by the action of the plant itself. It is this moisture that is in the plant at cutting time and which must be gotten rid of in hay making. Since there is so much more of this moisture in clover than in timothy it is much more difficult to make clover hay. It is pretty certain, however, that the plant continues to pump out this moisture even after it has been severed from the root. The sun does not dry the hay but the plant expels the moisture. All it needs, therefore, is to be let alone long enough and it will cure itself.

THE BEST WAY TO CURE CLOVER.—The best way to cure clover is to give it plenty of time to rid itself of this excessive moisture. This can best be done by cutting it after the dew is off and cocking it up immediately in small cocks. The outside layers will soon wilt and droop down so as to form a good protection in case of rain. Leave the hay in the cocks for a day or two to rid itself of its own water. Then in the morning of a bright day, as soon as the dew is off, go out in the field and turn these cocks upside down and spread them out a little. Drops of water will be seen all through the cock that the plants have forced out of themselves. When the sun and air get at these drops they soon disappear and if the hay is thoroughly wilted it is ready to be put into the mow. Alfalfa should be cured in the same way.

The Use of Hay Caps

As a further protection against rain, hay caps are often used in curing small quantities of both clover and alfalfa hay. For this purpose they are excellent but somewhat expensive, especially if large amounts are to be cured. By using good judgment in the handling of clover and alfalfa hay as already described, very satisfactory results can be secured without caps, however.

The Dairy Farmer's Ten Commandments

A recent writer on agriculture (Mr. Charles Christadoro) has issued what he calls "Ten Commandments for the Dairy Farmer." They are as follows:

1. Keep healthy cows.
2. Select and keep good producers.
3. Use only pure bred bulls.
4. Feed liberally.
5. Produce the feed.
6. Use the manure.
7. Keep the barn clean and well ventilated.
8. Keep the cows comfortable.
9. Be considerate to the cows.
10. Provide shade and wind protection.

These "commandments" are so good that they need no further comment. They speak for themselves.

Garden Suggestions for July

BLACKBERRIES AND RASPBERRIES.—Pinch back the young blackberry and raspberry canes to three feet in length. This will cause them to thicken up and store food for the next year's crop. On a small patch the pinching may be done with the fingers but if a large number of bushes is to be gone over it is much better to use a clipping shears for this purpose.

CUCUMBERS.—Cucumbers for pickling may be planted as late as July fourth. They will need very careful cultivation and close attention to protect them from "bugs," as already described in COMFORT'S Modern Farmer.

CURRANTS.—If currant worms are troublesome use hellebore instead of Paris green. The former is safe to use while the latter may result in severe poisoning if proper precautions are not taken. Currants may be prevented from ripening by shading. This is done by covering the bush with a piece of muslin or canvas. Where there is an abundance of fruit and a later picking it is often desirable to cover a portion of the currant patch thus insuring a later crop. Ripening may be delayed three or four weeks by this method.

TREE FRUIT.—Tree fruits should be thinned in July. This will insure a good growth of the very best specimens. The season is now so far advanced that the poorest fruits may be picked off, leaving only the best to come to maturity. The production of seed is much harder on the vitality of the tree than is the production of fruit. If two thirds of the seeds are picked off in thinning much more vitality will be left in the tree for the production of future crops. Besides, this increased strength and vigor of tree will produce much finer fruit during the present season.

LETTUCE.—Lettuce for late summer is better provided by picking the leaves of the plants for use, thus preventing them from going to seed, than by sowing the seed for new plants during July. Lettuce does not germinate well during hot weather. This plant requires a cool, moist soil for its best development. Best results can be expected by sowing in a cool, shady place, as on the north side of a building or between rows of trees or bushes. Lettuce can be held back by cutting off all the leaves about an inch above the crown when needed for the table.

MELONS AND SQUASHES.—These plants will need careful cultivation during this month. A close watch should be kept for bugs and tobacco dust used freely for both bugs and beetles. The squash bug should be picked off by hand and destroyed. The vine borer may be fought off by use of kerosene emulsion, prepared as described in a recent number of COMFORT'S Modern Farmer and diluted twenty times. While this is a little off the subject we may add that contrary to general belief squashes and melons do not mix, at least there is no reliable scientific evidence that they do.

Bug Poisons

Notwithstanding the war in Europe, the American bug continues to wage havoc on the farmer's crops. The price of Paris green, the old-fashioned potato bug remedy, has gone soaring but American made arsenate of lead is "just as good." Paris green contains about three times as much arsenic so that it is necessary to use three times as much arsenate of lead as is the custom with Paris green. Besides, arsenate of lead has several advantages over Paris green.

Its light color shows better on the green leaves, it sticks to the foliage better, does not blow off when the plants are dry and dissolves much better in water, hence does not need so much stirring when sprayed on.

Paris green and arsenate of lead are the standard remedies for all insects that eat the leaves, though white hellebore may be used with success for currant worms. Don't use these poisons for lice; they will do no good.

Lice Killers

The best remedy for lice is tobacco concoction, either made as explained last year in COMFORT'S Modern Farmer or purchased ready prepared on the general market.

If your local drug-store does not keep tobacco concoction in stock, and you do not care to go to the trouble of making it, you can always secure it direct from the seed houses. Dealers in seeds always carry garden tools, insect destroyers, fertilizers and the like for the accommodation of their customers. There are many other lice killer preparations on the market but the tobacco concoction is one of the very best.

Disease Destroyers

Like most other chemicals, those used for the destruction of plant diseases have gone skyward in price on account of the war. Germany is the chief source of our chemical supply and these chemicals are now exceedingly hard to get. The supply is short and the price is high. Blue vitriol, or copper sulphate, the chemical used in the making of Bordeaux mixture, is so high that it is doubtful whether or not it will pay the general run of farmers to spray potatoes for late blight this year.

Spraying Potatoes for Late Blight

The blight season is upon us, and it is certain that much damage will be done to our potato fields by this disease. This will mean, in all likelihood, a shortage of the crop, and consequently a high price. Of course there can be no certainty that this will happen, but if it does, the farmer with a good stock of potatoes will reap the benefit. Some farmers are willing to take a gambler's chance and pay the high prices for blue vitriol even if it does cost them five cents or more per bushel to spray for blight. While we do not advise all our readers to do this, we believe that those potato growers who are equipped with the best of spraying machinery, who have had experience with the manufacture and use of Bordeaux and who have promising potato fields, should take this chance and spray as usual for the control of late blight, even if the cost is high. In our judgment the chances are about three to one in their favor.

Utilizing New Feed

There is a great temptation to suddenly overfeed animals with new hay, new oats or new corn when the mow, granery or corn crib is again replenished. Men naturally are kind to animals, at least that can truly be said of the average farmer, and he only stints his stock when feed is scarce and high in price. He wishes to make speedy amends for the semi-starvation spell as soon as he can and so he overfeeds when feed again becomes plentiful. By so doing thousands of animals are killed annually upon the farms of the country.

The horse is the chief sufferer. Unless very regularly and carefully fed at all times, he is liable to an attack of colic and a severe attack or succession of attacks may result fatally. Horses cannot stand sudden changes of feed. All changes should be made gradually. New hay or oats may safely be used if fed in small quantities at first as a part ration with old hay and oats or other feed to which the horse has become accustomed.

The bowels should be carefully watched when changing the feed. The least derangement of the digestive organs is indicated by the manure. The passages become too soft, or "mushy" and bad smelling, or the feces come away in slimy, clay-colored balls. Whenever this is noticed, the new feed should be reduced at once for a time or altogether withheld if the horse is sick.

At threshing time we have seen horses tied at noon or night to the tail-board of a full wagon box of oats and allowed to eat their fill! Little wonder that horses so treated suffer from colic and founder and often prove a total loss. But the ill effects of new feed are not always so quickly apparent. The horse may escape an attack of colic or founder but suffer from sub-acute indigestion of a chronic type. The commonest symptom of such a condition is a change in the consistency and odor of the manure; then the horse either stops sweating when at work, has hot, dry skin and pants with distress, or sweats profusely and quickly "plays out."

The reasons for all this seem to be that all grains and forage plants have to go through a maturing process in the field, shock, mow or bin and the ferments present during the process cause derangement of the digestive organs. Knowing these things, owners of animals should be more careful to gradually accustom their horses to new feed.

Cows are not nearly so sensitive to changes of feed although cases of sudden disastrous bloating are not uncommon when cattle are first turned out on wet clover or alfalfa. They stand new hay and new oats with comparative impunity, but although this is the case, it is best with them, as with horses, to make the change to new feed gradually.

Thousands of hogs are killed each year by the sudden feeding of unlimited new, soft corn. So disastrous are the losses, that owners often conclude that cholera has broken out and caused the losses. That sometimes is the case, and the overfeeding of new corn is the exciting cause, for there can be no question that when the vitality and resistant powers of an animal are at low ebb, disease is most likely to successfully and fatally attack. It is as true that the perfectly healthy, robust pig may escape cholera when the disease is prevalent in a district while the weak ones and those living in an unsanitary environment are stricken and die.

It pays, therefore, to very gradually accustom hogs to new corn and especially to soft corn that has been nipped by frost. There is very little feeding value in such corn but much that is dangerous, so that if it must be fed, it should form but a small part of the ration in combination with other sound, nutritious feeds.

It pays, too, to go slow in making any change of feed for horses. We remember of an interesting case corroborative of this. Colic cases suddenly became common in a big city stable of transfer horses that had long been healthy. Investigation at length showed that the cause was the sudden feeding of Canadian oats which weighed well over 40 pounds to the bushel, whereas the oats to which the horses had for long been accustomed weighed little over 30 pounds per bushel. Either the lack of hull or excess of protein-rich grain in the heavy oats caused the trouble. Anyhow it promptly subsided when the allowance of heavy oats was correspondingly reduced in amount. We have known of similar outbreaks of colic, or other forms of indigestion, from the feeding of weevil infested grain or grain that had been heated in the bin and consequently become rusty or musty. Such "foxy" oats, as they sometimes have been termed, are especially liable to cause diabetes in horses. It is important, therefore, to feed sound grain as well as to be sure that it is thoroughly matured and cured.

Lift Corns out with Fingers

A few drops of Freezone loosen corns or calluses so they peel off



Apply a few drops of Freezone upon a tender, aching corn or a callus. The soreness stops and shortly the entire corn or callus loosens and can be lifted off without a twinge of pain.

Freezone removes hard corns, soft corns, also corns between the toes and hardened calluses. Freezone does not irritate the surrounding skin. You feel no pain when applying it or afterward.

Women! Keep a tiny bottle of Freezone on your dresser and never let a corn ache twice.

Small bottles can be had at any drug store in the United States or Canada.

The Edward Wesley Co., Cincinnati, O.

Summer Pruning of Fruit Trees

It is generally supposed that the pruning of fruit trees must be done during the winter and early spring months; in fact, such is the common practise, but there is no good reason why they may not be pruned during the summer-time. The Kansas, Virginia and Utah experiment stations have recently published results of their experimental work on summer pruning. These bulletins contain the information that it makes very little difference whether pruning is practised in winter or summer.

SOME ADVANTAGES OF PRUNING IN THE SUMMER-TIME.—The young shoots, especially the water sprouts, are young and tender and much easier to remove. They should be cut close to the main branch so that the wound will heal over. This it will do rapidly if the pruning is done before the growing season is ended. It may also happen that the labor supply can be employed in slack time during the summer season, or the pruning be done in connection with the thinning of fruit.

SOME OF THE DISADVANTAGES.—During the dormant period the limbs are bare of leaves and the branches to be pruned away may be more readily located. In the dormant period less injury is likely to result from pruning. Too early pruning in the spring after the sap has started may weaken the tree by robbing it of its regular food supply. On the whole the results of experiments indicate that while not necessary it is safer and better in the long run to prune during the dormant period than to attempt summer pruning. However, our readers should remember that summer pruning may be practised with success if conditions are such that they would prefer to prune at this time. Late summer pruning will be better than pruning earlier in the season.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

MELLOWING CLAY SOIL.—I have plowed my back yard for a garden, but the soil is so much like clay it cakes up hard after every rain. I had it plowed a few days ago and now it has dried hard in lumps from the size of a marble to as big as my head. Can you tell me what to do or what to add to it to lighten it so I can raise a garden? I have already dressed it well with barn manure. MRS. E. G., Terryville, Conn.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

Let "Old Glory" Wave Over Your Home!



Six Feet Long
Four Feet Wide

Warranted Fast Colors

This Large Handsome American Flag Sent You Prepaid For A Club of Ten!

NOW is the time for every good American to show his patriotism by displaying **the Stars and Stripes**—the most beautiful flag in the world. Fling **"Old Glory"** to the breeze—it's a duty you owe to your country, your loved ones and yourself. We know that there are no more patriotic, home-loving Americans anywhere than COMFORT'S own subscribers, so we are going to offer this large handsome flag which is **six feet in length and four feet wide.** It is made of special **fast color** material positively **guaranteed not to fade or run,** with sewed stripes and printed stars, canvas head and brass grommets. On account of its large size it will make a fine appearance when displayed from some upstairs window or from your porch or piazza roof. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that there is not a **handsomer** flag in the neighborhood. And please remember that we **guarantee** its wearing qualities. Neither sun, snow nor rain can affect it.

We will give you this fine American **Flag** as described on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For ten one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this American Flag, six feet long and four feet wide, free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 72810.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Mid-Summer Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



PERHAPS this is a fitting time to read "Near to Nature's Heart," at any rate there is a great call to go "back to nature," to dig, sow, weed and get the fill of the earth. If our menfolks are called to the colors, the women must do the ploughing and garden work, and must needs have comfortable, suitable garments for such work. With this in view, we wish to present a practical garden suit good for khaki, gingham, drill, linen, jersey or serge. The call for outdoors is urgent and sports models are in great demand, with a comfortable skirt and a smart middy a woman will be well-dressed these summer days.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.

Pattern Descriptions

2124—A Practical Work Suit for Women. This style is excellent for outdoor work in the garden, is popular also as an indoor work dress, since it affords comfort and ease in movement. The blouse may be made with or without the collar, and the sleeve in wrist or elbow length. Gingham, drill, jean, linen, poplin, repp, or alpaca, are good for this style.

Cut in four sizes; small (32-34 bust measure), medium (36-38), large (40-42), extra large (44-46). Size medium will require six and one quarter yards of 36-inch material.

2093—A Smart Style good for many occasions. One could make this model up in printed voile, challie, embroidered batiste, shantung, linen or tub silk.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires five and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2080—A Pretty "Party" or "Best" Dress. One could make this of dimity or dotted Swiss, or lawn or batiste. It is also nice for crepe and albatross, wash silk, challie and lawn. Flouncing or bordered goods could also be used for this model.

Cut in four sizes; one, two, three and four years. It requires two and seven eighths yards of 27-inch material for a four-year size.

2090—A Smart Shirt-waist Model. This smart little shirt-waist is lovely for the new, soft satins, crepes and pretty printed voiles. The collar is an attractive feature.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

2099—Mother's Girl's Favorite Play Dress. How simple, easy and comfortable, and how quickly made. There is the underarm seam, the back seam or closing (as you may prefer it), and the neck and shoulder finish—a simple hem, the belt stitched to position, and the dress is done.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires one and seven eighths yard of 27-inch material for a six-year size.

1909—A New Coat Dress for Misses and Small Women. Jaunty shaped cuffs and pockets, and a smart sailor collar complete a very stylish effect. Added to that is the fact that this model is comfortable and practical.

Cut in four sizes; 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires six yards of 44-inch material.

2085—A Smart and Popular Model. This design is especially attractive in wash fabrics, but will also develop nicely in silk, serge, gabardine and other woolen fabrics. It is made in "jumper" style, with closing on the shoulders.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires two yards for the guimpe and three yards for the dress, for a six-year size, in 27-inch material.

2098—A Smart, one-piece Model. This style is lovely for the new linens, for shantung, foulard, taffeta, gingham and other wash fabrics. It is made in "over dress" style, with a guimpe that may be of contrasting material.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three yards for the guimpe and five and five eighths yards for the dress, of 36-inch material, for a 36-inch size.

1670—A Pretty Summer Gown. Costume with sleeve in either of two lengths (for Misses and small women). Embroidered voile and insertion are combined. The model is most unique and attractive, and embodies some excellent style features.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires five and one half yards of 36-inch material for an 18-year size.

2082—A Popular, Comfortable and Practical Style, for Misses and small women. There is hardly any style so well adapted to slender figures as this one. It is easy to develop and good for any of the materials now in vogue.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires five and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for an 18-year size.

2084—A Good Dress for Mother's Girl. These one-piece dresses are so easy to make, easy to launder and so comfortable and practical.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. Size eight will require three and one quarter yards of 44-inch material.

2022—Ladies' Apron. Checked or striped gingham is nice for this model, but percale, satteen, brilliantine, lawn, drill and denim are also desirable.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. It requires for a medium size four and three eighths yards of 36-inch material.

2086—A Dainty Dress for Mother's Girl. This design is simple and charming. The waist is in Empire fashion and finished with tab extensions which may serve to hold a smart sash or girdle. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a four-year size.

2050—Girl's One-Piece Dress, with Bloomers. This design is good for chambray, gingham, linen, linene, drill, percale and lawn. It may also be developed in serge and gabardine. The bloomers may be of the same material as the dress or of sateen, drill, serge, galatea, or gingham.

Cut in five sizes; two, four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires three and one half yards of 27-inch material for the dress and two yards for the bloomers, for a six-year size.

2115—A Splendid "Cover All" Style. This apron may serve very well as a house dress, and with the "cool" neck and sleeve, is especially attractive for warm weather. The pattern is nice for chambray, gingham, linen, drill, percale, alpaca, jean or satteen.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. Size medium will require five and three quarters yards of 36-inch material.

2083—A Practical Under Garment. This model combines a comfortable brassiere and drawers. It is suitable for cambric, muslin, lawn, satin, silk and nainsook. The brassiere may be of drill or jean and may be boned like any corset.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2089—A Charming Negligee. Crepe, lawn, percale, albatross, cashmere, silk and satin are nice for this model.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. It requires six and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a medium size.

2094—Some Attractive Collars and a Smart Pair of Cuffs. One can develop these styles in any of the pretty materials of the season. They are nice for wear over a waist or dress.

The pattern includes all styles illustrated and is cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. No. 1 will require one half yard, No. 2 collar, five eighths yard, cuff No. 2, three eighths yard and collar No. 3, five eighths yard of 27-inch material for a small size.

2081—Ladies' House Dress with Sleeve in either of two lengths. The model is good for linen, chambrey, gingham, seersucker, lawn, voile, repp and poplin.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2071—A Smart Bathing Dress. This model may be worn with tights or bloomers. It has new and distinctive lines and is comfortable. Jersey cloth, washable satin, brilliantine, serge, satteen and silk are suitable for its development.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires five and one quarter yards of 27-inch material.

2097—A Smart, New Waist. Georgette crepe, crepe de chine, foulard, batiste, lawn, voile, linen and madras are nice for this style. The fronts may be tucked or gathered.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2070—Ladies' House Dress. Percale, linen, linene, drill, gingham, seersucker and chambray are good materials for this style. The fronts are finished so that the closing may be reversed from right to left or left to right, as in coat style.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2108—A Comfortable Play or Beach Suit for Small Boys. Gingham, drill, serge, linen, chambray, poplin, repp and galatea are nice for this style. The closing is at the side.

Cut in four sizes; two, three, four and five years. It requires two and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a three-year size.

2074—An Easy to Make and Practical "Cover-all" Apron. Striped seersucker was used in this instance; checked gingham, drill, percale, linen or alpaca are equally attractive. The belt may be omitted.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. It requires five and one half yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

2076—A Unique and Attractive Skirt Style. This is fine for satin, serge, mannish mixtures, Jersey cloth, poplin, voile, linen, repp, corduroy, taffeta, foulard, shantung, gingham and chambrey.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three and three eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.



USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents (three for 25 cents) unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $____ cash, (or ____
subscription and $____) for which please send me Patterns No. ____

Size ____ (or Age) No. ____ Size ____ (or Age) No. ____ Size ____ (or Age)

Name ____ Street and No. ____

R.F.D. No. ____ Box No. ____ Post Office ____ State ____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.



If You Are A Woman Who Loves Crochet And Tatting Here Is A Set Of Books You Will Be Delighted To Own!

ANY ONE of these books alone is a veritable **treasure house** of the newest, most beautiful designs. The seven books combined form a **complete library** in which you will find any pattern in crocheting and tatting you could possibly ask for. You will fairly revel in the many handsome designs shown. There are edgings, beadings, insertions and laces for every conceivable use. The illustrations are **actual photographs** of the finished work and show every thread so plainly that they are almost as good to work from as the directions themselves. The directions are adapted for either beginner or expert. They tell **stitch by stitch** how each pattern is worked, also the quantity and size of material required and the correct sizes of hooks to be used. Following is a description of each book. **They are 8 by 10 1-2 inches** in size with the exception of Volume I which is **9 1-4 by 12 inches. Please order by numbers.**

Volume 1 Crocheted yokes for combinations, envelopes, nightgowns, corset covers, etc.—**fifteen** all different, exquisite designs.

Volume 2 Handsome crocheted edgings and insertions suitable for handkerchiefs, underwear, dresses and a multitude of other uses,—**thirty-three** different designs.

Volume 3 **Eighteen** lovely designs in Cluny insertions and laces for centerpieces, library scarfs, boudoir caps, corset cover yokes, piano scarfs, curtains, chemises, envelopes or combination suits.

Volume 4 **Twenty-five** handsome designs in artistic crochet for yokes, boudoir caps, candle shades, baby bonnets, bedspreads, doilies, library scarfs, pillows, centerpieces, portiere, medallions, curtains, etc., etc.

Volume 5 **Twenty-five** designs in novelty crochet, including mile-a-minute and clover leaf crocheted yokes, primrose and sunflower yokes; doilies, centerpieces, boudoir caps, unique edges and insertions for serving trays; novelty aprons and collars.

Volume 6 **Thirty-two designs** in tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet,—a varied and beautiful assortment of tatted handkerchief edges, edgings and insertions, tatted yokes, boudoir caps, towel edges, medallions; yokes, breakfast caps, centerpieces, edgings and lace in Maltese crochet and yokes in Irish crochet.

Volume 7 **Thirty** handsome novelty crocheted designs including rose, sunflower periwinkle, and Venetian yokes; boudoir caps, monkey face library scarf, and lace pillow; large and small baskets, hat pin holder, jewel box, vanity tray, coin purse, utility bag, star fish doily, pineapple centerpiece; edgings and insertions in pillow lace; daisy edging; spider, bell, rick-rack, novelty and coronation braid laces.

WE advise you to order all seven of these splendid books before the assortment is broken. If however you do not care for the whole library at this time we have arranged the following **special offers** which give you the opportunity to secure any **two** or any **four** of the books. **When ordering please be very careful to state the number of each book desired.**

Offer 8011A: For one 1-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8011B: For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8012: For two 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you **any four books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8013: For three 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you the **complete library** just as described above—**seven different volumes in all,** handsomely bound, printed on high-grade paper and containing nearly **200 beautiful photographic illustrations** of all that is new and pretty in crochet and tatting designs with **complete directions** for working. **When ordering please be sure to mention number of each book wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Yarding the Fowl Increases Egg Production

IT is difficult to make farm people understand that fowls are better off kept in yards; in fact, that they must be so restrained if the highest egg records are to be reached. In way-back times, it was considered a detriment to yard fowls, but for some years past professional poultry keepers have yarded their fowls, because they found it was the only way to reach the top notch. Even now, the general farmers cling to the free range idea, and I am convinced that it is not purely because they consider it necessary, but it saves feed and other bother. It has been estimated that a flock of common dunghill hens, such as are seen on the average farm, lay in a year less than a hundred eggs each. The figures are eighty to ninety. Farmers who have become breeders, and who thus give the hen decidedly more consideration, and still adhere to the free-range system, have increased this yield to one hundred and fifty and better. Breeders who are following the strictly up-to-date methods and have yarded their layers, have obtained an average of one hundred and seventy-five eggs, and some have even reached the two hundred mark.

Please note that I say fowls or hens, and I do not mean this to include growing chicks. The line must be distinctly drawn between the two. The range cannot be too extended for growing stock. What we strive for in growing stock is frame, on which later we intend to put flesh. This frame can only be built by food, and plenty of it, converted into bone and muscle by exercise. After the chick has made the frame, we can safely yard her and put on the flesh, and thus convert her into a money-earning machine.

The advantages gained by yarding stock are manifold. First of all, by confining stock to a certain space, we are sure they eat the food provided, and in the quantity we mean them to have. Feeding layers to produce eggs is becoming every year a more delicate operation. Formula after formula is tried by different breeders, as an experiment, with the hope of increasing the egg yield. If we can force each hen to lay ten eggs a year more, it means a considerable increase in the total of the flock, and a better return in dollars and cents to the breeder. Yarding stock is a means to this end. The food fed is converted, as we mean it to be, into eggs, and not into muscle. It is decidedly more troublesome to care for stock in this way, and necessitates additional labor and expense, but we are looking for the increase all the time, and are thus continually hoping to be compensated for the extra trouble.

Fowls in yards must be supplied with everything they require, which means all they would naturally seek if running at large. This includes, besides the grain we feed by formula, green food, meat, a scratching place and dusting spot, and grit and water. Of all these I consider green food the most necessary, and the one thing to be impressed upon the mind, because it is the one thing too often forgotten. The ideal yarding of fowls is what is known as double yarding—a house in the middle and a yard on each side. These yards can be sown with rye or oats, and alternated so that the fowls will have a constant green run as long as the rye or oats will grow, which is until frost. Failing the double yard system, green food may be supplied by lawn clippings, whole cabbage, mangel wurzels, turnips, or any vegetable.

Meat can be fed in a variety of ways. Turning up the ground of the yards with a cultivator, or by shallow plowing, will bring the worms and bugs within reach, or sheep heads cut open and fed raw can be thrown in, and this is an ideal meat feed. Ground beef scraps softened may be mixed in mash—and last, and probably the best, cut green bone.

Yarded fowls need exercise. It must not be understood that because they are confined they do not get exercise, or as much as if let run at large. The yards should be at least one hundred and fifty feet long, if they are the width of the average coop, which is ten or twelve feet. Some breeds are decidedly more active by nature than others; for instance, the Leghorns as compared with the Cochins or Brahmas. This does not affect the health of the fowls particularly. A Leghorn is no healthier because of her activity than a Cochin is. It is simply the difference in their natures, but because of this excess of activity of one breed over another, the one must have more room than the other. The Leghorn stands the confinement of a small coop ten by twelve feet in winter, provided she can be kept actively hunting for her food; but the same bird would mope and become out of condition if confined too long in an exhibition coop in a showroom. On the other hand, a Cochin, being of a lazier nature, forages slowly, and wanders quietly over her yard, takes things easy in the winter coop, and stands the confinement of the exhibition coop excellently.

The foraging nature of any breed can be killed by excessive feeding. Even birds with free range, if overfed at special meal hours, will take but limited exercise, exactly as those treated the same way and yarded. Exercise is induced by short feeding. In other words, no laying strain should be fed all they can eat except at night. Hunger induces exercise, whether a fowl be let run or yarded. Therefore, fowls fed short and induced to hunt for more, will lay eggs, while those overfed, in the morning especially, will sit around moping in the sun, and convert the food into flesh instead of eggs.

Another advantage of yarding fowls is the certainty of finding all the eggs laid every day, and then being able to guarantee them as strictly fresh. This is a point of great importance, and constitutes the difference between eggs produced by an up-to-date breeder with yarded fowls, and those sold by the "honest" farmer who collects them every day, and cannot swear that they were laid today—not two weeks ago.

It is strange that few people except the real poultry farmers realize that July is one of the most important months in the year. The desire to have eggs in zero weather invariably compels good attention to hens during the winter. Baby chicks arouse interest in the spring, but as the weather gets warmer, eggs are plentiful, and the pretty, fluffy babies, developed into long, lanky creatures, who seem nothing but a nuisance specially ordained to destroy the garden, so the poor things are shut up in small quarters and wofully neglected. During the fall and winter I am repeatedly asked how to make pullets and hens lay, but I can rarely suggest a remedy, because nine times out of ten it is the result of blunders made the preceding summer.

If poultry is to be profitable, the old and young stock must have been kept apart, because it is impossible to feed correctly when they are all together. Young birds need plenty of nutritious food to push them along quickly, and laying hens must be put on special rations to bring about early moulting, which is the foundation of a good winter supply of eggs.

Moulting

About July 5th commence to cut down the feed gradually, until at the end of two weeks forty hens are having a pint of oats and a pint of wheat mixed, night and morning. Scatter it amongst cut straw or some litter, so they will have to scratch for every grain. The first of August commence to increase the rations, and keep it up for a week, so that by the fifteenth they are getting two quarts of mash in the morning, a quart of meat scraps and a pint of cracked corn at noon, and wheat and oats or barley at night. Give them just about all they will eat up clean in fifteen minutes. The morning mash should be composed of two parts ground feed (corn and oats), one part white middlings and one part oilmeal, mixed with scalding milk or water. The semi-starvation followed by the heavy feed forces the moulting season and allows plenty of time to feather out and get into condition before October, when their rations should be made up of the essentials for egg-production, which are clover hay, bran, wheat, corn and animal food.

You see, it takes about three months for hens to get rid of their old feathers and put on a new coat, and if the process is not forced in some way, they will not commence before August, which would make it October before they finished. Of course that would be time enough if it happened to be a warm, late fall, but if cold weather sets in, as it often does in November, hens would not lay before spring, as moulting leaves them in a more or less debilitated condition.

Lots of people make the mistake of selling off hens as soon as they cease laying at this season, which means that they are usually parting with the birds that would make the real winter layers. Hens that lay through the summer and do not cease until the fall will be idle and unprofitable in the winter. It is the general disregard of the moulting period which causes so many failures in the winter supply of eggs. The rule should be to sell off all the hens that have been laying steadily through the summer and commenced to shed feathers in September. Growing feathers is a trying ordeal, and the consequence is that when the hen begins to moult she ceases to lay, for she cannot produce eggs and feathers at the same time.

Feathers are composed largely of nitrogen and mineral matter. That is why the food at moulting time has to be so very nutritious. To feed nothing but corn at such a time is simply waste, as the hen cannot produce new feathers from such a diet. If she is on free range she would have a better chance of gathering the necessary material, but even then, if the feathering process is delayed too long, the hen becomes exhausted, and is susceptible to cold and all sorts of diseases. This is the real reason why roup and swelled head are so prevalent in the fall.

Young birds hatched out in April or thereabouts, usually commence to lay in November, because they have not been subject to the drain upon the constitution caused by moulting. But chickens that have been hatched in February or early March are very liable to moult late in the fall, just when they should be commencing to lay. For this reason it is as well to market all the first hatched chickens, and hold over those hatched late in March or through April, to increase the laying flock.

Cull all young stock down closely. Don't keep a lot of young cockerels to eat up the profits during the winter. Even pullets which are at all backward should be marketed, for they won't develop after cold weather sets in, and it does not pay to keep them for summer layers. Most of the failures made in the poultry business are due to people not having the courage to clean out unproductive birds. Just calculate how many quarts of feed ten growing birds will eat in seven months, and I think you will be convinced that it is unfair to expect the flock to support them and still show a profit. The trouble is that people don't realize that young stock stand still as soon as cold weather starts, remaining almost stationary until spring. Another evil of keeping undeveloped stock is that they occupy house room and crowd the older birds.

Before I forget it, let me remind you not to feed new corn to the fowls. Every year, about this season, I get quantities of letters telling of good, fat hens, the picture of health, which have been found dead. Acute indigestion, brought on by eating unseasoned corn, is the cause. So be careful. If your last year's supply has run out, it is better to buy a few bags than lose hens on whom you depend for winter eggs.

Have you made any provision for supplying the hens with green food this winter? Remember, your egg basket will suffer if you don't have a bountiful supply, so it behooves you to give the matter immediate attention. If you don't get eggs in the winter, you can't make money out of your fowls. Sprouted oats are the best green food in the winter, because they can be grown in the house. There are several sprout cabinets (as they are called) on the market, which are well worth the price, which ranges from five to fifteen dollars; but there are plenty of people who don't want to spend five dollars, so I am going to tell you about a home-made cabinet which cost only two dollars.

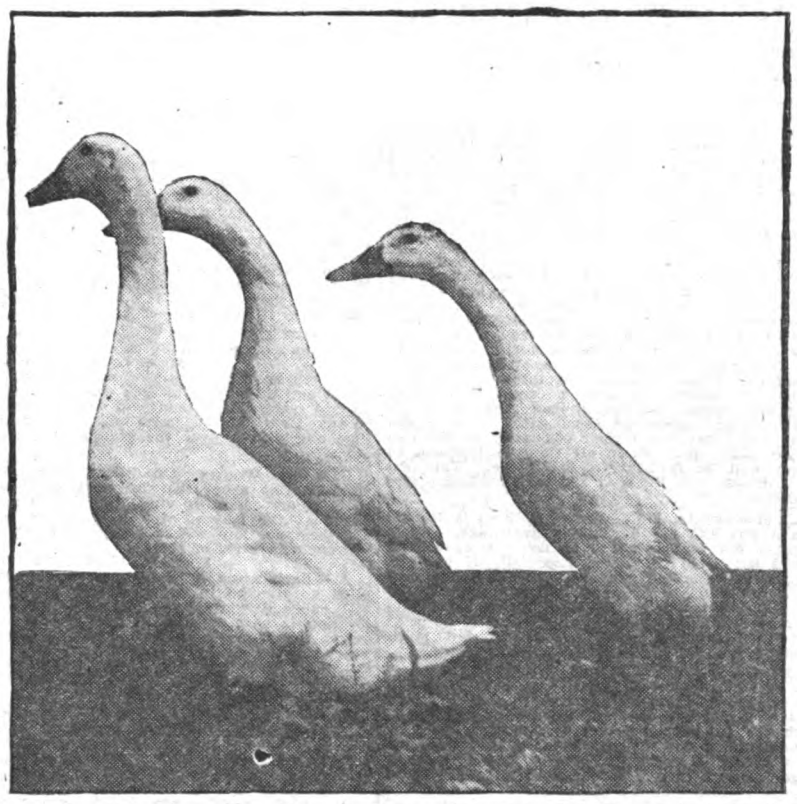
Get a case from the village store, five feet long, two feet wide and two feet deep. Line this with zinc at the front end, running the zinc up to about fifteen inches. Then set the box up on end, making what had been the top the front, and from loose boards make a top to fit it. Then get eight pairs of iron shelf brackets from a five and ten cent store, and put the first set of four brackets, two on each side of the cabinet, six inches from the bottom, and the other two sets nine inches above. Make legs nine inches high, to lift the bottom of the cabinet from the floor, cut a hole four inches square in the center of the bottom, to permit the chimney of a lamp to go through and strike on the bottom of the first tray, which rests on the first set of brackets. This tray must be made at a plumber's shop, but it won't cost more than seventy-five cents. The three other trays can be made of light wood. The strips of wood at the bottom of the trays must be left open, and a piece of burlap tacked over to prevent the oats from falling through.

A brooder lamp which has a tin chimney is the best to use, so there is no fear of smashing. When in use, after the chimney has been pushed through the hole in the bottom of the cabinet, a block of wood must be put under the lamp, to raise it high enough to hold it firmly in place and bring the top of the chimney to within an inch of the zinc tray, which is kept filled with water. The oats are put into pails of warm water the night before the trays are to be filled, and then spread two inches deep in each tray.

I almost forgot to explain that there was another hole two inches square in the center of the top of the cabinet, which was covered with flannel, to act as a ventilator. When the door of the cabinet was closed and the lamp lighted, the heat kept the water in the zinc pan steaming slightly, and insured a moist, warm temperature throughout the cabinet.

The three oat trays were made about an inch smaller than the inside of the cabinet, to permit the moist air to circulate all round them. Naturally, the bottom tray getting the most heat, is the first lot of oats to develop sufficiently to feed, and at that point it can be removed, and the trays dropped down so that the second and third trays are at the bottom, and what was at the bottom is at the top.

The oats are ready to feed when from two to five inches high. Just cut a sod—roots and all, of course—and feed to the hens at noon—the improvement in the egg yield will surprise you. A sod six inches square is enough for twenty-five hens. Divide it into small pieces before feeding, so that they are all sure to get a fair share. Don't neglect roosters, for a good percentage of sprouted oats in their rations insures fertile eggs, which will mean good hatches when the incubators and broody hens get busy.



THE LEGHORNS OF THE DUCK TRIBE.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

F. T. D.—I am inclined to believe that the people who sold you the turkeys told you the truth, and that the hen's eye had been accidentally injured, for if it was the result of disease, she would not eat and seem bright, for turkeys mope the moment they are sick. Continue to press out any pus that may form, and bathe with a solution of boric acid. It seems a pity to kill her. Let her lay out her next clutch of eggs, and when she gets broody, set her in some dark coop. The enforced rest will in all probability work a permanent cure. The Leghorn pullet was the victim of egg cramp. What is commonly known as egg cramp is frequently met among immature stock that has been forced along with a view to early egg production. In the case of cramp or paralysis the affected birds lose the use of their legs and squat about the ground. There is no doubt that the ailment results from the resistance of the walls of the undistended oviduct to the passage of the first egg produced. Not only are immature pullets liable to suffer with egg cramp, but the fully developed birds are equally liable to contract the ailment if the walls of the oviducts are coated with fat, the result of erratic feeding. Anything that causes great pressure on the walls of the oviduct is liable to cause paralysis. So pullets should be carefully fed with a view to perfect maturity before they are placed in the laying quarters. What is required in the pullet intended for egg production is a well developed frame padded with hard muscular flesh. Such features can be obtained only by rational feeding and exercise, and the bird possessing them will enter the laying quarters well fitted to pass through the initial laying stage with safety. All that can be done for a fowl suffering with egg cramp is to keep her perfectly quiet, and to dose her with Castor oil with the object of clearing her system. The success of the treatment depends upon its timely application when the bird is first attacked. If the bird is left to recover as best she can, Nature may right herself for a time only, and other and more serious attacks may follow, owing to the debilitation of the nerves surrounding the oviduct. It is very doubtful whether fowls affected with the ailment are worth retaining, where egg production is the main consideration, as birds calculated to render a profitable account of themselves as layers must steer clear of any ailment likely to debilitate the egg organs. The best remedy for egg cramp or paralysis undoubtedly lies in its prevention.

C. A. S.—This is another case of trouble with the egg organs. It often happens that when a good layer who is being heavily fed reaches the end of the laying period, she will continue to produce a few very small eggs, which are merely shells covering a small portion of albumen. Such eggs have never been attached to the ovary, and are only the result of excessive activity of the organs, which will return to normal production after a period of rest; but as this hen has never laid a normal egg, she must lack the natural egg producing organs, and so the case is incurable.

E. F.—Pip usually develops after an attack of roup, bronchitis or pneumonia, and is caused by a feverish breath passing over the bird's tongue. After removing the hard scale or pip, anoint the tongue with honey and borax or glycerine. Keep the bird as quiet as possible, and give only soft food for a few days. For two mornings make pills of moistened bread and twenty grains of Epsom Salts, and feed whilst fasting. Pheasants are almost as easy as chickens to raise. Yards must be entirely closed over the top as well as the sides, with wire netting; but they require no house nor coop; nothing but a shelter over the roosts, as they are healthier when they sleep in the open, and don't need nest boxes, and prefer to lay in a pile of brush, which should be placed in the corners of the yard. A mixture of small grains should be left before them at all times, as they never overeat, but it must be kept in a model self feeder, to prevent it from becoming scattered or becoming damp. As pheasants soon sicken if they get any moudly grain. The best plan is to steal the eggs, and set them under bantams or small hens. Incubation takes from twenty-five to twenty-six days. If you look through the advertising columns of COMFORT, you will find the addresses of breeders of pheasants.

B. H.—The turkey hen must have some malformation or lack of egg organs as C. A. S. wrote about. Read answer to her in this issue. You will understand that the turkey will never be of any use for breeding. Don't give the young turkeys anything to eat for thirty-six hours after they are hatched, then put a dish of real sour milk before them, and nothing else for two days. If they were hatched by a common hen, they will not wander so far, nor will she hunt food for them, as a turkey hen does, so they will have to be fed lightly. Give them the curds from sour milk, mixed with finely chopped green onion tops, until they are two weeks old. After that, add a little cracked wheat at night, and continue to supply all the sour milk and curd they will eat. If the weather is damp and chilly, add one fourth of a teaspoonful of powdered ginger to half a pint of curds.

E. L. F.—You don't say how you feed your young chicks, and if they are being raised in a brooder or with hens, so it is almost impossible to guess what the trouble is. If you feed cracked corn, it should be passed through a sieve which will let nothing pass larger than Kafir corn. Lots of chicks are killed by swallowing a piece of cracked corn too large to pass into the crop. If the chicks are confined, you must supply fine, sharp grit, green vegetable and animal food.

M. T.—Scaly legs are caused by small parasites which bore under the skin of the feet and shanks. Clean the perches and paint them with sheep dip or kerosene oil early in the morning, so that they will have plenty of time to dry before the birds go to roost. Fill a two-quart pail with warm, soapy water. Hold the bird's feet and shanks in it for a few

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

"Always Does the Work and Does It Right"
ROUGH ON RATS
DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE
Unbeatable Exterminator of Rats, Mice & Bugs
Used the World Over. Used by U. S. Government
It Can't Fail—It's All Exterminator
Stop Fattening Rats, Mice & Bugs!
On your food or on Catch Penny ready-to-use substitutes—whose bulk is inert flour and grease.
Why Trap Rats & Mice, One By One, while those uncaught rapidly increase!!!
END THEM ALL TO-NIGHT WITH a 25c box of ROUGH ON RATS
The Recognized Standard For Half a Century
At Drug & Country Stores.

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!
$29 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Light running, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.
30 Days' Free Trial! Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.
ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12)
2182 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO
100,000 now in use

Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business
Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars. Star Drilling Machine Co.
675 Washington St., Akron, Ohio

Driver Agents Wanted
Drive and demonstrate the Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. My agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back.
Five-Pass., 34.7 H. P. 32x3½ tires
114-in Wheelbase
Delco Ignition—Elect. Stg. & Ltg.
Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. H. Bush. Pres. Dept. 704.
BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois

COMFORT'S New Tatting Book

Premium No. 8031.



Handsomely Illustrated With Over Half a Hundred of the Newest Prettiest Designs With Full Directions for Working.

THIS is COMFORT'S own tatting book—published by COMFORT—every design in it by a COMFORT worker—beautifully illustrated and containing full working directions as well as explaining by word and picture **just how tatting is done**—the various positions of the hands and the different movements used in making the stitches. These instructions are so plain, simple and easily understood that the beginner can readily master them and soon become an expert worker. There are **sixty-one illustrations** in all and the designs range from the simplest edgings and insertions to the handsome designs worked with two threads. Included among them are **ring, star, shamrock, pointed, half wheel, and whole wheel edgings; clover leaf beadings, edgings and insertions; two color insertions, two thread beadings, clover leaf scallop, round medallions, boudoir cap, doily, pointed medallion, trimmed waist, collar corners, medallion trimmed corset cover, tatting applique, and tatted silk bonnets, net collar with tatting applique, medallion edged centerpiece, pillow covers, primrose hand bag, chemise or nightgown yoke, Vandyke point sideboard cover and dresser scarfs.** Each design is illustrated by a fine, large **photograph** of the finished work which shows every thread and stitch so plainly that directions seem hardly necessary—one could almost make the various pretty things going by the pictures alone.

Remember that this book is totally **unlike** any other tatting book ever sold or offered as a premium—the designs being the work of COMFORT'S own subscribers are of course **different** from all others and—as we think—much prettier than any ever yet published. While most tatting books show only about fifteen or twenty designs and ordinary ones at that, this new book contains fifty-six, all different, beautifully illustrated by **genuine photographs**, with full working directions as well as a **whole page of instructions** on how to do tatting—instructions that should enable any inexperienced woman or girl to become an expert worker after a very few trials.

We will send you this tatting book free if you will accept either one of the following special offers:

Offer No. 8031 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you a copy of COMFORT'S Tatting Book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 8031.**

Offer No. 8031 B. For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you this Tatting Book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 8031. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Stylish Figured Scarf



PREMIUM NO. 7315

For A Club of Five

A dainty **shoulder throw,** and head covering for summer, or for evening wear the year round. For **trimming** there is nothing so practical or so easily and attractively arranged. Each Scarf is **two yards long** and 27 inches wide, with hemstitched edge.

The edges are handsomely ornamented to a width of six inches with **large and small roses,** roses in **clusters** and **wild roses,** all in **delicate shades** of **pink** with green leaves, on ground of contrasting color. The center is all white, and the whole scarf has **stripes, coils, rings and dots** of **satin white,** so there is a variety of color and design for all tastes. We will send you this handsome and stylish silk muslin scarf free and prepaid upon the terms of the following:

CLUB OFFER. For five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one of these scarfs free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7315. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Self-Pronouncing Bible

Illustrated with Colored Maps



Premium No. 7444

Given For A Club Of Four

SMALL enough to be carried conveniently in the hand or in pocket or hand bag, yet **complete and unabridged** containing full books of both the **Old and New Testaments,** is **self-pronouncing** and handsomely illustrated with **colored maps** showing different interesting portions of **Palestine** and surrounding country. It is 6½ inches long, 3¾ inches wide and one inch thick, beautifully bound in black leatherette and contains over **a thousand pages** finished with round corners and red edges. The name "Holy Bible" is stamped in gold on back and front cover. This is an unequalled opportunity for Sunday School workers, teachers, in fact **all Bible students** at home or in church to secure a Bible without cost and we feel that among COMFORT'S readers there must be thousands who have been waiting for us to make just such an offer as this. Remember that you are not going to receive a cheap, paper-bound book, but a splendidly made Bible, finely printed, handsomely and durably bound, and absolutely refined and perfect in every detail. We will send to any address this self-pronouncing Bible exactly as illustrated and described upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this Bible free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 7444. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Silk Remnants



Premium No. 5561

All Sizes, Shapes and Colors—A Large Package Sent You For One Subscription

REMNANTS of real silk, in all shapes, sizes and colors. They are **carefully trimmed and just what you need for making up beautiful quilts, tidies, pillow tops and all kinds of "crazy patchwork."** We will send you a **package** containing more than **one hundred** of these beautiful **silk pieces and 5 skeins embroidery cotton in different bright colors.** If you order **at once** we will also send you, **in addition** to everything else an **Instruction Book with eight full-page illustrations** showing how to ornament seams of crazy patchwork and other work where fancy stitches are used. It tells you how to put pieces of patchwork together **to get the best effect,** how to **cover up seams** with fancy stitches, how to **join the edges,** etc. This book illustrates over **one hundred and fifty** of these besides containiug full and explicit directions for working the **Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille Embroidery, ribbon work, plush or tufted stitch,** also directions for **Kensington painting.** Remember you get one nice lot of these Silk Remnants (over 100 pieces), 5 skeins Embroidery Cotton and an Instruction Book, as above described, all sent to you **free by Parcel Post prepaid** if you will accept either one of the following offers.

Offer No. 5561A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you one package of these Silk Remnants, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 5561B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you one package of these Remnants free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5561.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

WELL, well, July is here and you, my dears, have had the whole month of roses to be summer girls in and I just wonder how many of you have neglected your opportunities. Not many, I am sure, because the S. G's. are the ones who have the most questions to ask about beaus and there is an awfully big pile of letters on my desk. What the questions will be about, goodness knows, but there'll be plenty of heart throbs in them I'll bet a cookie, whether it is summer-time troubles or not. That's all I have to say and I'll get after that pile.

The first one I open is from Unhappy, away up North at Fairbanks, Alaska, where the Summer Girl hasn't much time between frosts, and she is unhappy because her parents wouldn't let her answer a certain young man's letter and he has gone somewhere and she can't find him, now that her parents say she may write. They tell her not to worry, because if he thinks very much of her he will find her, which is true enough in a way, but as they were just becoming interested in each other, maybe her silence will prevent his writing again. She wants to know if she should try to find him, or just wait, and I advise that she help him to find her. She is to blame for losing him, if anybody is, except her parents.

Black Eyes, Little Rock, Ark.—If your adopted parents "is able" to send you to school, why don't they do it? Ask your teacher if you don't get my meaning. But I won't scold you, this time, for you need a mother's love and advice (with special emphasis on the advice) more than anything else. Don't let that precious adopted brother of yours fool you with any more of his brother-and-sister talk. Real brothers keep their sisters from doing anything wrong, or try to. Refuse to go with any boy unless he behaves himself and tell him your reasons if he wants to know. He will respect you more for it and you will have more respect for yourself. Ask your mother that question about your health you asked me and study your lessons more than ever. Tell Joe that he must stop "imposing on you" or you will tell your adopted mother, and if he still persists you should go to her with your complaint.

Broken-hearted, Alliance, Fla.—Is it any reason to think he doesn't care for you because he has joined the army? Your common sense should teach you better. It is the most natural thing in the world for any real man to want to go to war when his country needs him. You should be proud of him for being patriotic and ready to make such a sacrifice. I am receiving many letters from girls who seem puzzled to know why their lovers should have volunteered for the defence of their country. "Would he have enlisted if he had loved me as he pretends?" they ask. Of course he would. Patriotic men have always been ready when their country called. Mothers, wives and sweethearts will suffer many a heartache, but will be proud to possess such men. Wouldn't you rather have the love of a manly man who has the courage and health to go and fight for his country's honor, than to possess the love of some skulking coward? War is an awful thing and it is hard on those of us who have to remain at home and think of our dear ones who are fighting to keep a cruel enemy from ravaging our homes, but we women must be brave and patriotic and encourage them with our love and sympathy and never doubt their constancy or love because they place duty above all things. Faithful to duty they will be faithful in their love. This answers "Troubled," O. P., Ky., and others whose lovers have enlisted.

M. L., Mooresville, Mo.—Whenever there is trouble between a girl and her parents or guardians, over a young man, the best thing to be done is to wait a while and not force the issue. Especially if the girl is under twenty-one, as you are. If the young man is the right kind, he will be willing to wait, for he can see that marriage has enough risk in it anyway not to make a bad start when there is no need of it. No harm can come of waiting, but much harm might come of being in too great a hurry.

Blue Eyes, Fay, Tenn.—You might drop him a postal and ask if he had received a letter from you, written about Christmas time. Just ask him that in a purely business tone and say no more. Give him that much of a chance to be polite. (2) Of course, engaged couples may kiss, but whether he should do the kissing, or she should, is not, I believe definitely settled. I suppose it is a matter of choice, each doing equal duty.

M. M. C., Clarkton, Va.—Don't be disturbed over the picture of the New York millionaire you saw in the paper and don't write to the millionaire enclosing your photograph. New York millionaires have so many beautiful show girls in Broadway whom they can flirt with at a minute's notice, that they pay no attention at all to country girls who send them their photographs. What he would do with your photograph and "mash" letter would be to show them to the show girls and they would laugh themselves into fits over your silliness.

Blue Eyes, Rocky Point, N. C.—A girl eighteen years old should be allowed to have the company of nice young men, and parents who think otherwise make a mistake that they are sometimes very, very sorry for. It is the natural thing for her to do and as she will meet them anyhow, her parents should help her select the right kind. And they shouldn't watch her all the time, either, or send somebody along with her to watch her, if she ever does go anywhere with one. Such parents are more to blame than the girl is, if trouble comes. (2) A lady and gentleman may go autoing very properly, even if they do not stay wholly on the public roads. (3) There is no harm in sensible dancing, round or square, but a preacher should indulge in very little of it, if at all, as it is not quite in tone with his sacred calling, however harmless it may be.

Black Eyes, Summerfield, Okla.—You are not helping matters any by meeting young men as your parents will not let you have company, and you will be sure to be sorry before you are through with it. A better way is to make the best of unkind parents and abusive brothers until you have prepared yourself to make your own living properly, and then leave them all and be honorably independent. Only the foolish girls or the naturally bad ones, go away from home without any preparation to make an honest living. By and by the nice young man you like and who likes you, will be ready to let you make his home for him and you will live happily ever after.

Perplexed, Mocasin, Mont.—If you are a wise girl you will break your engagement with this young man who writes warm letters to you from college and freeezs you when he sees you, and only kisses your hand. Just think what it would be to live with a man like that all your life. Tell him that a boy in school has something else to think about besides getting married and you don't intend to handicap him. Tell him that and stick to it. If he ever talks warm, you can listen to him about making a new engagement, unless you are otherwise engaged by that time. (2) Accepting the attention of other men depends upon whether your fiance does not object.

Country Girl, Albuquerque, N. M.—If you do not love him enough to know whether you do or not, don't marry him, because you may find out when too late that you do not.

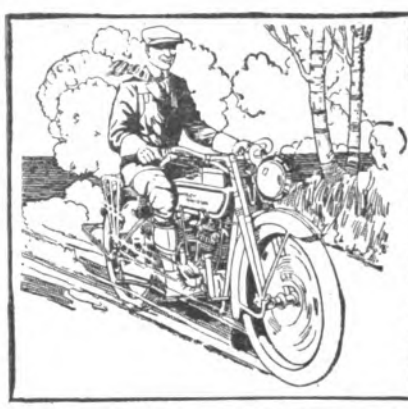
Troubled Girl, Mt. Olive, Miss.—As you are two years older than he is, and he has doubts whether to marry you and stay at home, or to become a missionary and go to foreign parts to save the souls of heathen, you should assume the superiority of age and tell him by all means to save the heathen. You are no heathen and do not need him, half as much as the heathen do.

Blue Eyes, Center Ridge, Ark.—You say, "I am sixteen years old and am going with a gentleman whom is twenty-three," and I say, don't you think a sixteen-year-old girl like you should be going with her grammar instead of a gentleman "whom is twenty-three?" Think it over and let me know.

Unwhipt, Greenville, Ky.—If a girl is young enough to be whipped by her mother for accepting the company of young men she is young enough to wait until she is too old to be whipped. In the mean time, when young men ask to go home with you, tell them you'll be whipped by your mother if they do and they will let you alone and seek some other lady for a mother-in-law and your mother will change her mind. By then, you will be old enough to have company.

There, my dears, your questions are answered, except such as were not worth answering and those which were not in my line and had to go to other departments, which see. This being summer-time I have kept quite cool, I think, and have said very little that was real scoldy, don't you think? Anyway, this is Summer girl time and what do you care for a little scolding? So run along and be good girls and I hope you have a fine time, but don't forget that your country is at war and you have a patriotic duty to perform as well as the men and women have and all of us. By, by.

COUSIN MARION.



$310 Harley-Davidson Motorcycle

FIRST GRAND PRIZE

In the picture are hidden a number of faces. How many can you find? Some are looking right at you, others show only the side of the face—you'll find them upside down and every way. Mark each face you find with a pencil, clip out picture, send to us with name and address NOW. We will give away a $310 1917 Model Harley-Davidson Motorcycle, as First Grand Prize, and Thousands of Dollars in Cash Rewards, Prizes and Special Premiums. There will be no losers. Solve the puzzle. If you can find as many as FIVE FACES we will send you immediately

1000 Free Votes toward the $310.00 Motorcycle and other Grand Prizes. We will also give away several 1917 model Coaster Brake $40.00 Bicycles. These will be given free and extra, regardless of who gets the motorcycle. Someone will win motorcycle. WHY NOT YOU?

FARM LIFE, Box 157 SPENCER, IND.

The Modern Farmer

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15.)

A.—Top dress the soil with 1,000 pounds of air-slaked lime to the acre and work this into the surface. Do not plow it under. Sand and loam also would be excellent for top dressing purposes if they could be had. The land no doubt was worked too wet. This is a great mistake in managing heavy clay. Plow and work in fall and seed to winter rye to be again plowed under when green in spring. Do this each year in addition to plowing under farmyard manure and in time the soil should become lighter, but it cannot be done all at once.

SERRADELLA.—Seed firms about here have never heard of Serradella which you speak of as a "sandy soil clover" in March COMFORT. Can you tell me where to procure the seed and whether it is an annual or perennial? H. M. H., Grand Rapids, Mich.

A.—Serradella is an annual plant. Clover and other legumes will do better in Michigan. Try the big seed houses that issue large catalogs for seed. This seed is scarce this season.

BEAN LEAVES TURN YELLOW.—The bottom leaves on my pole and bush beans turn yellow and fade. Can you tell me any remedy? S. J., Shreveport, La.

A.—This is quite common to some extent and may be due to one of several causes. Don't worry about it unless the crop is injured or destroyed, in which case send samples of plants to your experiment station at Baton Rouge, La., for examination and advice. They will be glad to help you. If it is a disease of the plant they will find it out by examination and tell you what, if any, cure or preventive can be applied.

CABBAGE AND TURNIP WORMS.—Can you tell me how to prevent or get rid of cabbage worms, also turnip worms? MRS. L. S., Twin Falls, Ida.

A.—Spray with a pail of water to which has been added and thoroughly mixed: One ounce of Paris green or two ounces of arsenate of lead. Paris green may be mixed with six times its bulk of flour or air slacked lime and dusted over the plants from an old pepper box.

CABBAGE WORMS AND CUCUMBER BUGS.—Little white worms about the size of a small wire eat the roots of my cucumber vines and kill them, and yellow bugs eat the leaves. Green worms on my cabbages eat them so they will not grow. What can I do to prevent or get rid of them?

MRS. E. M. W., Arnett, W. Va.

A.—Paris green or arsenate of lead prepared and applied as directed in above answer to Mrs. L. S. will kill cabbage worms and cucumber bugs. Change of location is best remedy for root worms and vine borers. Ashes and road dust sprinkled over cucumber vines may or may not keep off the bugs. To kill all kinds of bugs that eat leaves, poison their food by spraying or dusting the leaves with Paris green. This rule will always work.

WOOD ASHES FOR FERTILIZER.—How can I use wood ashes with stable manure? On what crops? (2) How can I use hen manure? On what crops with best results? (3) Are wood ashes good on cabbage? (4) Will wood ashes ensure a good crop of potatoes?

O. K., Waldoboro, Maine.

A.—Apply each separately, first plowing ashes under. Best for fruit and vegetables. (2) Apply thin coating, plowing under. All crops, particularly good for vegetables. (3) Yes, on marsh or peaty soils. (4) No, but are big help to crop.

LICE ON CUCUMBERS.—Last year the lice began at the roots and worked out toward the ends of my cucumber vines and killed them. What can I do to prevent or destroy them? MRS. J. T. S., Bakersfield, Cal.

A.—Spray with a mixture of soap suds and kerosene whipped together with an egg beater. One pint of water, one half pint of kerosene and one small cake of soap. Dilute to five gallons. Or use tobacco concoction for lice for sale at drug-stores.

PEANUT CULTURE.—Please tell me how to grow peanuts. MRS. B. O., Morrisonville, Ill.

A.—Send to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Publications, Washington, D. C., for bulletin on "How to Grow Peanuts."

MUSHROOM SPAWN.—Please tell me where I can get mushroom spawn, also where I can get instructions on how to raise mushrooms? MRS. A. S., Dubuque, Iowa.

A.—Send to the nearest seed house for spawn. Write the U. S. Department of Agriculture for bulletin on "How to Grow Mushrooms." It will be sent you free.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

"I've sprained my ankle. I did it on Sunday," with a short laugh, "and I've been sitting here ever since, I think."

"Oh, how dreadful!" The girl looked pitifully at the sodden, haggard face. "Do you mean you have been all alone all this time? How did you get anything to eat?"

"Oh, I managed. I don't eat much. Do you know, I hardly thought you'd come back again. Didn't they tell you I was not a person for you to come and see?"

"I never asked any one. For one thing, you see, I don't even know your name."

"They call me Mrs. Simpson." She gave a groan of pain as the dog brushed against her foot.

"Well, names aren't very important, are they? The important thing, I think, is your foot. Will you let me look at it?"

She was down on her knees, and unwinding the piece of an old dress which was wrapped around the ankle. It certainly looked very bad, swollen out of all shape, and bruised green and purple.

"Have you any liniment?"

"Yes, but it's up-stairs and I couldn't get it." As she spoke her pale face turned an ugly red. Nerine put two and two together; the terribly inflamed ankle told its own story.

"Can I go and get it?"

"Look on the table in the room at the head of the stairs."

Mrs. Simpson leaned back and closed her eyes as if an angel had suddenly descended to cure her.

Nerine flew up the dirty stairs, and into an unfurnishd room, where a quantity of odds and ends stood on an old table. There was the liniment, conspicuous in its yellow wrapper. It looked a little as though Mrs. Simpson were accustomed to hurting herself and kept her liniment at hand.

Nerine returnd to the sufferer, and bathed the ankle with her handkerchief soaked in the strong stuff, finally wrapping it softly round it.

Presently she would get something for a bandage. The first thing to be done was to make the fire, for the damp cold of the house was piercing.

"Have you been here all yesterday and today without a fire?" she said.

Mrs. Simpson nodded.

"I couldn't make one. I held Snap in my arms to keep me warm last night. Oh, don't you make it," anxiously, "you'll get so dirty."

"No, I won't. And I won't be long."

She vanished into the pestilential passage, but it was not so bad as it had been, for she had left all the doors open behind her as she entered.

There was wood and coal in the kitchen, and she returned laden to the sitting-room. The flame of the dry, crackling chips made the place more comfortable looking. Nerine wondered if Mrs. Simpson had had anything to eat since she hurt herself. Certainly she had not cooked anything. She drew her bow at a venture.

"May I make some tea when the fire is better? The saucepan is here."

"Would you?" Mrs. Simpson gasped. The pain of her ankle was relieved by the liniment and a faintness was creeping over her. Except for a biscuit and a little milk, she had eaten nothing since Sunday.

Nerine departed to the kitchen pump for water. As she was returning she heard some one pass the door; it was the girl with the afternoon's milk, and Nerine ran out and spoke to her as she was putting it on the window sill.

"Mrs. Simpson has hurt her ankle," she said. "Don't you know of anyone who could come and keep the house tidy for her till she is better?"

The girl gave an impertinent giggle.

"There's nobody in this neighborhood that's going to do work for a woman who drinks," she said, superbly. "She's dangerous, too, with her shooting, and that violent no one can stay in the house with her."

"I haven't witnessed any violence," Nerine replied coldly; "I suppose you won't try to help me find any one to come and help her."

The milk girl tossed her head.

"There's nobody as would come. Anyway, she's here today and gone tomorrow. One of these days she'll set the house on fire."

Nerine looked at her. Then she said something in the uncompromising Lispenard manner which may have had an effect on the milk girl; she did not wait to see.

The fire was burning grandly as she sat the saucepan on it. The latter had evidently been cleaned since her visit, and was no longer so objectionable. She went to the cupboard for the tea, as she had seen Mrs. Simpson do. But though there was tea, there was nothing to eat. She turned somewhat blankly to her hostess.

"There aren't any biscuits here," she said; "where do you keep them?"

"There's a box full of things in the kitchen, but I couldn't open it," Mrs. Simpson turned face from her visitor as she spoke.

"I can," and Nerine departed to the kitchen to look for the box. Pushed behind the stove were,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 19.)

FRECKLES

Now Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as the prescription othine—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots.

Simply get an ounce of othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Advt.

WHAT WILL YOU CHARGE

to display an elegant sample **PIANO** in your home and allow us to refer to you as our local representative? Write today for Special Agents' Display Plan No. 20.

HAGGERTY-COOK CO. Warren, Pa.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7286

For a Club of Six!

We will also include free of charge one **Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known **"Premo"** camera, made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.,** therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in **broad daylight,** so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book,** all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free** by **Parcel Post, prepaid,** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. **Premium No. 7286.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

FISTULA.—I bought a mare a couple of months ago and the man of whom I bought said that a sore on her weathers was caused by a saddle. I think it's a fistula. What will cure it? MRS. J. M. W.

A.—Clip off the hair and wash the skin clean, then open up each pocket and pipe to obtain free drainage, swab wound with tincture of iodine and then once daily pack with oakum saturated with a mixture of equal parts of turpentine and raw linseed oil, or use a commercial fistula cure. It would, of course, be best to have a trained veterinarian do the cutting and even then the trouble may prove very troublesome to cure.

TAIL RUBBING.—I have an eight-year-old riding mare that rubs the roots of her tail. She is hearty in every way and always in good order. Is it a disease, what is it called and is there any permanent cure for it? F. C. S.

A.—In mares such tail rubbing sometimes is induced by a foul condition of the udder. Cleanse that perfectly. Lessen the rich food and increase exercise. Scrub the tail clean, then pour on and rub in a mixture of one part of kerosene and three parts of cottonseed oil or machine oil and repeat every other day for three times; then keep the parts saturated with a mixture of two ounces of sulphur, one half an ounce of coal tar dip or disinfectant and one part of raw linseed oil.

SLOBBERING.—My father has a horse that slobbers a good deal and doesn't eat much. He cannot do very hard work. (2) Can you give me a remedy to rid dogs of ticks and also the scratches? E. J. S.

A.—The teeth need attention and you should take the horse to a veterinarian for that purpose. (2) Dogs do not have "scratches." That is a disease of the horse's heels. Mange may be present, or the fleas and ticks may cause the loss of hair. Buy some coal tar dip and use it according to directions given by the manufacturer. Flowers of sulphur added at the rate of 16½ pounds per 100 gallons of solution will make the dip more effective.

HEAVES.—Can you tell me how often juniper berries should be fed to horses? Are they good for the kidneys? How should oil of tar be given to a horse that has heaves? Is Fowler's solution of arsenic good for the heaves? How is it used? E. L. D.

A.—Kidney disease is very rare in horses and there is no need of giving juniper berries or a preparation from such berries. It would have no beneficial effect. Oil of tar will not help in heaves. The disease is incurable, but half an ounce of Fowler's solution of arsenic given night and morning in feed or water, will relieve distress. See recent answers on heaves.

OVERHEATED MULE.—I have a mule twelve years old that hasn't shed his hair for two years. It is about two inches long. He cannot work in warm weather without getting too hot. Can you tell me what to do for him? O. L. W.

A.—Have the mule clipped at once and he may work better, but an overheated animal never is quite comfortable in hot weather. Do not feed green grass or corn. Work mule in cool of morning and evening.

HEAVES.—I have a mare twelve years old that always had a dry cough. Last winter she had distemper. An abscess formed and broke at throat between the cheek bones. Since then she coughs a great deal and breathes very hard. J. J. S.

A.—The mare no doubt has heaves, which is incurable, but may be relieved as follows: Let her live on grass in summer and if she must work add oats and bran. In winter feed wet oat straw or oat bundles instead of hay. Do not feed any bulky roughage at noon and do not work her soon after a meal. If she does not sufficiently improve give her one half an ounce of Fowler's solution of arsenic night and morning and gradually increase the dose up to one ounce if necessary. Gradually discontinue the medicine when no longer needed.

SLOBBERING.—I have a mare eight years old that has a frequent running of the mouth. She is in poor condition. Can you tell what causes it and what I can do for it? A. H.

A.—Irregularities or disease of the teeth is the probable cause. Have her attended to by a veterinarian.

COUGH.—My cat has had two attacks, about three months apart, of difficult breathing accompanied by a wheezing cough, each attack lasting about a week. There is no swelling in the throat and no discharge from nostrils. Animal in good condition and is not stupid. G. A. M.

A.—Let the cat live an outdoor life without luxuries of any sort and such attacks should not occur. Feed very lightly.

SWEATING.—Could you tell me how to keep a horse from sweating? I have a mare four years old, in good condition. When I work her she sweats so much that the hair comes off the shoulders, but they do not get sore. Is there any help? P. B., Jr.

A.—Have the mare clipped and then have her worked or well exercised every day. Do not feed corn or Alfalfa.

LAMENESS.—I have a mule seven years old that has three or four soft lumps or puffs on his hind ankles and he gets very lame in the left one when worked. I have been told it was Bog Spavin. (2) I also have a brood mare nine years old that gives birth to weakly colts. She seems to be strong and healthy. She gave birth to a mule colt last spring that did not seem right in its hind legs. They were crooked and the colt only lived three days. This spring she gave birth to a mule colt and its front legs were so crooked it could not stand up. I fed it on cow's milk. It appeared healthy and had a good appetite. The third night the colt died. I have been advised to breed her to a stallion. E. E. R.

A.—Bog spavin affects the hock joint, not the ankle. The mixture you speak of would remove "hair and hide" and probably do far more harm than good. Do not use it. Bandage the leg with cotton batting and flannel each time the mule comes in. That may do some good, but at this distance we cannot, of course, tell just what is the cause of the lameness. (2) It would be all right to try breeding to a stallion but we fancy that more generous feeding of oats and bran throughout pregnancy would do more good.

LAME COW.—My cow, nine years old, has a calf three months old. After the calf was born the cow became stiff in her hind legs and now it has gone to her hips and she has to be helped up. Her hide is tight and when pulled it pops. What causes it? W. McC.

A.—We suspect that the cow is in an advanced stage of tuberculosis which is contagious and incurable and makes the milk dangerous for man and animals. We should not feel justified in prescribing treatment. If tuberculosis is present she should be destroyed. Have her examined by a qualified veterinarian.

GRAVEL.—I want information as to gravel in mules or horses. W. P.

A.—We cannot advise unless you give full particulars. Do you mean gravel in the bladder or in the hoof?

LOSS OF HAIR.—I have a horse ten years old and every spring he loses the hair from the top of tail. He does not rub it. A chalk mark I made is there. J. M.

A.—Mix together one part of kerosene and three parts of cottonseed oil and rub into affected parts every three days. Oil and sulphur also is effective.

FEEDING A COW.—What kind of feed is the best milk producer for a part Jersey cow? She has a calf six weeks old. I have been feeding cottonseed meal, three quarts a day, and get about five quarts of milk. She is very thin. Is beet pulp a good feed? R. C. T.

A.—As the cow is thin you should feed cracked or ground corn and ground oats, bran and oil meal along with your grass. If she then fails to pick up it would be wise to have her tested with tuberculin as she may have tuberculosis and that is incurable and makes the milk dangerous for man or beast. Beet pulp is unnecessary when a cow is on grass.

Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

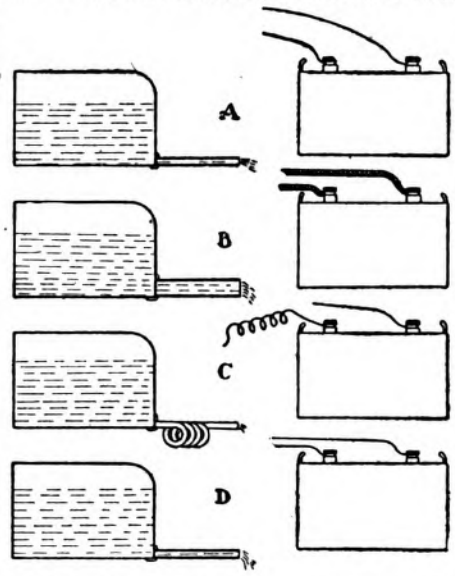
Ignition

ALL automobile engines regardless of make or design must use some form of electric ignition. It is commonly stated that nothing is known of electricity. This statement can be considered as both true and untrue. No one has as yet been capable of stating exactly what electricity is, but on the other hand considerable is known concerning the laws which govern the action of electricity.

Frankly, all ignition systems consist of two indispensable parts, namely the source of electric current and the apparatus to use this current so as to produce a spark in the cylinder. However, before taking any of the features into consideration it is necessary to understand a few of the laws whicl govern the action of electricity.

For the sake of comparison consider water to represent electricity. Nobody will have cause to doubt the statement that if water flows from a higher to a lower level, it is capable of being harnessed, as for instance the driving of a water wheel. The greater the height from which the water falls the greater amount of work it is capable of doing because of the pressure. The same condition is true of electric current. While the water pressure is spoken of in pounds the pressure of electric current is referred to in volts. Electrical engineers refer to the volt as corresponding to one foot of "head" in a system for developing power by water.

The flow of water is measured by the number of gallons of cubic feet through a pipe in a given amount of time. On the other hand the flow of electric current is measured by a unit known as the ampere. It is a well-known fact that the larger the pipe the more water will flow through it under a given head or pressure. In the same manner the flow of electric current is affected by the size of wire used. For instance, if it is desired to use a large number of amperes a large wire is needed, and for less number



A.—The quantity of water flowing from tank A is governed by the size of pipe. The water will drain away more quickly if a larger pipe be used such as at B. Likewise more electric current will be drained from storage battery B in a given time than from battery A due to the use of larger wires at B. Because of the greater length and number of coils in the pipe less water will flow in a given time from tank C than from tank D, although both pipes are of the same diameter. Likewise less electric current will be delivered at the end of the wire fitted to battery C than through the wire fitted to D, because of the difference in length of these wires.

of amperes, a smaller wire. However, bear in mind that a small wire can carry a current of little amperage (quantity) but of high voltage (pressure) just the same as with water flowing through a pipe of a given size, the greater the pressure or head the larger the quantity of water that can be made to flow through pipe. Likewise a large wire can carry a current of great amperage with little voltage (pressure).

The quantity of water that will flow under a given pressure or head depends upon the size of pipe through which it is led, however, if two pipes of the same diameter but different in length be used a greater quantity of water would flow from the shorter pipe because the friction of the water in the longer pipe is greater.

Although there is no unit applied for the resistance of a pipe to water, the resistance of a wire to the flow of current is called the ohm. If a pipe be coiled or crooked it affords a greater resistance to the flow of water. The same is true of electricity. The longer the wire and the greater number of coils, the greater will be the resistance to the flow of electric current.

The ampere-hour is the measure of quantity of current. For example one ampere-hour is the amount of current that will flow at the rate of one ampere in one hour. A storage battery rated at 60 ampere-hour will produce current at the rate of one ampere for 60 hours, or two amperes for 30 hours, or 60 amperes in one hour, etc.

Electric current must be either direct or alternating. Direct current as the name would imply flows always in one direction in the wire. On the other hand alternating current first flows in one direction and then in the other. The reversals take place many times per second. In the next issue batteries will enter the discussion.

The Magneto

It is a recognized fact that the average motorist knows very little concerning the fundamentals of the ignition system and should he tamper with same the tendency is for conditions to be made worse rather than better. There are times however when it is necessary to remove the magneto from the motor so it may be accessible to work on. The majority of motorists fear to remove the instrument because of a general opinion that correct replacement is a difficult matter, though in fact the work is not as difficult as many believe.

Let us imagine that the ignition unit has been removed and is on the workbench ready to be reinstalled. The first step is to find the firing point of the No. 1 cylinder, this being the one nearest the radiator or front of car. Turn the motor over by means of the hand crank until the piston in the No. 1 cylinder is at the height of its compression stroke. At this point both the inlet and exhaust valves in the No. 1 cylinder are closed and there is also a tightly compressed charge of gasoline and air in the combustion chamber ready for firing.

Next turn the attention to the magneto. Take off the distributor cover and turn the armature of the instrument until the distributor arm is directly opposite the point or brush that supplies current to the spark plug in the first cylinder. No difficulty should be experienced in determining the firing point because after judging with the eye that the distributor arm is directly opposite the brush or point for the No. 1 cylinder rock the armature back and forth and carefully watch the breaker points. When the breaker points are just about to separate the instrument is ready to furnish current to the plug in the No. 1 cylinder. With the cylinder holding a charge about to be fired and the magneto in position to furnish current the instrument can be coupled to the engine with the assurance of being properly timed.

The Car Brakes

If anyone will stop to give thought to the matter for a moment, it will be obvious that next to the ability to go the important factor is ability to stop. The early types of automobiles were equipped with but one brake. Had this one brake been properly designed it would have answered the purpose well. Such, however, was not the case. The manufacturer directed almost his entire efforts on the "ability to go" with the inevitable result that the braking apparatus was not to be relied upon. Then came the demand for two sets of brakes, one known as the service and the other for emergency use only. The only objection which the editor has to offer against such an arrangement is that it tends to overconfidence on the part of the operator. Knowing that he has two sets of brakes he does not properly look after either set. Should the time come when either set refuses to respond the result is an accident. The safest plan is properly to care for the service brake, also test the other set frequently. If either brake refuses to act properly determine the reason and promptly make the necessary adjustments or replacements. An instruction book usually accompanies each car sold and incorporated therewith you will find detailed instructions for caring for the brakes. This subject is not selected for the reason of filling up space in the book. The suggestions are the result of much research work on the part of the engineers and are well worth following to the letter.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.)

not one, but two boxes, and one of them Mrs. Simpson evidently had been able to open. It was a case of whisky, and one bottle was missing. That was why she had looked away when she spoke of the box; that was also the probable cause of the sprained ankle. There was a hatchet lying on the case of whisky, and Nerine toiled at the second box till the tightly-nailed cover gave way. As she took out package after package, it was plain to her that Mrs. Simpson had extraordinary tastes and money to indulge them; also, that she must live on such things as required least labor in cooking. There were soups in tins, potted meats, caviare, anchovy paste, all sorts of biscuits, such as might suit a jaded appetite. But of ordinary household supplies, there were none except a small parcel of lump sugar.

"Does this extraordinary individual never eat bread, I wonder? And is she going to dispose of all that whisky?" She surveyed the latter doubtfully, wishing she dared throw it all out of the window; but decided that such measures would not be justifiable, and would also be useless, as Mrs. Simpson would only procure another case. She filled her arms with various articles, and returned to the sitting-room, after painfully opening a tin of soup with the hatchet.

"You will feel much better after you have some of this," she said, cheerfully, pouring the water on the tea and putting the soup in its stead in the saucepan. "I can't find any bread, but you can eat a biscuit with it, can't you?"

"I never eat bread, nor meat, except potted meat. I hate the sight of it."

"No wonder you feel nervous if you live on these things: they can't be good for you—except of course, the soup." She inspected it, to see if it boiled.

Looking up, to reach for a cup off the table, she caught Mrs. Simpson's dull eyes fixed on her.

"When you stoop over like that, I feel as if I'd seen you before," the woman said, vaguely.

Nerine was startled, for she had just the same odd feeling about Mrs. Simpson.

"I don't think so," she answered. "Perhaps you know some one like me."

She racked her brains as she spoke, to think just when and how she and her hostess had met for met they had, she knew; both face and voice were not new to her. And yet it was absurd, too, for the people she had spoken to outside of her few acquaintances might be counted on her fingers.

"Perhaps I've seen you in London," Mrs. Simpson persisted.

"I have never been in London," shaking her head and dismissing her idiotic search for a previous encounter. Here is your soup. You will feel much better when you have had it."

Mrs. Simpson took the cup; her hand was rather steadier today, still she spilled it as she poured some into her saucer.

"Would you mind breaking a biscuit into that for Snap?" she said, faintly. "The poor dog is hungry."

Nerine took the saucer and filled it with broken biscuits. She began to really like Mrs. Simpson, who was drinking her hot soup as if she were starving, but had taken thought for the dog before she put her lips to it.

She poured out some tea for herself, and drank it slowly, gazing about her with a design of making the invalid comfortable for the night before she left her. There was no sofa in the room, but if the next room was Mrs. Simpson's bedroom, as seemed probable, perhaps she could get one from there. Or she might manage to get her into bed.

"You must lie down and keep your foot up,"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)



GET MY PRICES

I can ship at once any size or style WITTE High-Grade Engine—2 to 22 H-P.—Kerosene or Gasoline—Stationary, Portable or Saw-Rig—ready to run—Guaranteed 5 Years. You don't have to wait 6 to 8 weeks for a WITTE. You save $25 to $100. Choice of engines—Cash or Easy Payments. My Free Book "How To Judge Engines," by return mail.—Ed. H. Witte, Pres.

ED. H. WITTE

WITTE ENGINE WORKS,
3640 Oakland Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
3640 Empire Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.





FREE DIAMOND RING OFFER

Just to advertise our famous Hawaiian im. diamonds—the greatest discovery the world has ever known. We will send absolutely free this 14k gold f. ring, set with a 1-2k Hawaiian im. diamond—in beautiful ring box postage paid. If this is satisfactory pay postmaster $1.25 to cover postage, boxing, advertising, handling, etc. If not satisfactory return at our expense and money refunded. Only 10,000 rings given away. Send no money. Answer quick. Send size of finger.

KRAUTH & REED, DEPT. 24.
MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO



ARMY or NAVY RINGS

Sterling Silver FLAG RING Enameled in colors. REGIMENTAL Ring with 3 initials or Reg't No. engraved FREE, 18c. each; both, 35c



MONOGRAM JEWELRY CO., 119 NASSAU St., Dept. 16, New York

Automatic Fibre Limbs



Easy Payments—Do Nature's Work. AGENTS WANTED who use Artificial Leg. Good Pay. FREE Fibre Sample. DESCRIBE STUMP TO **WORMAN CO.** 507 ANDRUS BLDG., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S

Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address UNCLE CHARLIE, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN

Prem. No. 7283



Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Three

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome lustrated herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch **genuine rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the **rolled-gold plate** pendant is also made of **own birthstone** and set with **your** and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond,** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald,** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are solitaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7283.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

You Can Enjoy Solid Comfort In A "COMFORT" Hammock

Premium No. 3916



We Will Send You One Prepaid for A Club Of Six!

ON warm summer days what is there that can afford more **real pleasure or satisfaction** than the quiet hours spent in a comfortable hammock on the porch or in some cool shady spot under the trees on the lawn or in the orchard? If you do not already own a hammock, or if the one you now have is becoming a trifle worn, then here is an offer that should interest you. We will send you **without a cent of expense a** "COMFORT" hammock—one of the latest styles, strong, serviceable and handsome, 10 feet long and over 32 inches wide, in attractive interwoven colors of red, black, yellow and white. It is fitted with strong wooden stretchers at either end, so attached that they are a part of the hammock itself and **always in place** thereby giving it suitable spread for comfort. We can guarantee this hammock to give you real satisfaction because it is in no respect cheap or cheap looking but made throughout of high-grade material that will withstand the wear and tear of **constant use.** This handsome full size, guaranteed hammock is yours without cost on the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER For a club of only six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you the "COMFORT" Hammock as above pictured and described **free** by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 3916.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Freckles

Tan or Liver Spots positively removed by using **Stillman's Freckle Cream.** Prepared for one purpose only—*clearing the skin.* If you have freckles, write us today for our **Free Booklet** "*Wouldst Thou Be Fair?*" Stillman's Cream is sold by most druggists, 50c a jar, or direct from us, same price, prepaid. Write now. We can help you.

Stillman Cream Co., Dept. 10, Aurora, Ill.

Colored Underskirt

"Fit-Top" Model **Prem. No. 7318**



Your Choice Of Green, Blue Or Black **Given For A Club Of Eight**

THE stylish petticoat pictured above is one of the new exclusive "fit-top" models having a patent adjustable top that will fit **without alteration** the various waist-sizes resulting in a **snug and perfect fit over the hips.** It is the latest style, extremely well made of a splendid good wearing material, having a beautiful **soft lustrous finish.** The deep flounce is trimmed with four pinch tucks and two narrow ruffles which give just the desired finish to this smartly styled petticoat. All seams are double stitched. It comes in sizes **34 to 44 inclusive** and three of the season's most popular colors—**green, blue and black. When ordering be sure to mention size and color wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each we will send you one of these fashionable "fit-top" Hudson silk petticoats free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention size and color wanted. Premium No. 7318.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Birthstone Rings

Genuine Gold Filled **Guaranteed For 5 Years**







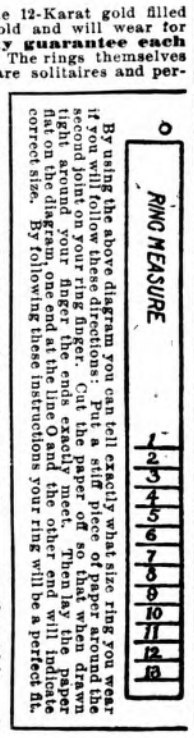
Given For A Club Of Two!

THE most popular lady's rings worn today are these beautiful birthstone rings. Not only is it considered lucky to wear one of them but they are now and always will be exceedingly stylish. We are able to illustrate only three of the rings but there are **twelve** in all—a different stone for each month of the year and of course you should wear the stone that is symbolical of the month you were born. The following is a list of the twelve rings, names of the stones, the month to which one applies and its symbol.

No. 7632. January, The Garnet, Symbol of Power.
No. 7642. February, The Ameythyst, Symbol of Pure Love.
No. 7652. March, The Bloodstone, Symbol of Courage.
No. 7662. April, The Diamond, Symbol of Purity.
No. 7672. May, The Emerald, Symbol of Immortality.
No. 7682. June, The Agate, Symbol of Health and Long Life.
No. 7692. July, The Ruby, Symbol of Charity.
No. 7702. August, The Sardonyx, Symbol of Happiness
No. 7712. September, The Sapphire, Symbol of Constancy.
No. 7722 October, The Opal, Symbol of Hope.
No. 7732. November, The Topaz, Symbol of Friendship.
No. 7742. December, The Turquoise, Symbol of Prosperity,

Each ring is guaranteed genuine 12-Karat gold filled which looks exactly like solid gold and will wear for years. **In fact we absolutely guarantee each ring for at least five years.** The rings themselves are perfectly plain, the stones are solitaires and perfect imitations of the real gems. The setting of each ring is the ever popular "Tiffany." As a Christmas, Birthday or all-the-year-round gift for wife, mother, sweetheart or sister nothing could be more appropriate and acceptable than one of these beautiful guaranteed rings set with the birthstone of the person to whom it is given. And not only the women and girls but men and boys as well are now wearing them.

Please do not class these rings with the cheap "electro-plated" rings that turn brassy after they have been worn a month or two. Remember that every one of them is guaranteed to be 12-Karat gold-filled and positively warranted for five years. If you want a handsome birthstone ring for yourself or some dear friend or relative you will make no mistake in taking advantage of this offer at once. **When ordering be sure to specify the size and number of ring wanted.** You can easily tell just what size ring you wear by following the directions at the right.



Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each, we will send you one of these beautiful gold-filled birthstone rings by parcel post prepaid. **Please be sure to give size and number of ring wanted. Address**

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

L. E. M., North Branch, Mich.—If you want to become a Campfire Girl you will have to get enough girls together in your neighborhood to organize a Camp. Just what you will have to do to organize you may learn by writing to Campfire Girls of America, 461 Fourth Avenue, New York City. We may add that this is one of the finest girls' organizations in the country and are glad to give it our heartiest commendation, and advise that other girls all over the country get together and organize camps in their communities.

L. E. O., Phelps, Wis.—Information on the subject of the Florida banana is very meager in our office owing to the fact that very few bananas are raised in that state. Write State Commissioner of Agriculture, Tallahassee, Florida, for information. Bananas are raised in the West Indies and Central America mostly. Write to United Fruit Co., Boston, Mass., for literature on the subject. The U. F. C. people not only know all there is to be known about bananas, but they own most of the bananas.

H. H., Deleon Springs, Fla.—As previously announced in this column, we wish to repeat that any one wishing to secure information regarding the new farmers' loan legislation should make inquiries at his local bank. The information received there will be direct and will apply to local conditions.

C. B. D., Quitague, Texas.—As we have often said to inquirers, we repeat to you that when you find anything on your land, vegetable, animal or mineral that is strange to you and to those living in the neighborhood, you should notify the state authorities, through the Secretary of State, say, and have it examined as a possible natural resource for the benefit of the commonwealth.

S. P. S., Chelan, Wash.—For information about your legal standing and privileges as an Indian claimant write to Hon. Cato Sells, Comm'r Indian Affairs, Dep't of the Interior, Washington, D. C., stating all the facts in your case.

J. K. V.—B., Speedwell, Tenn.—We believe a college course is now required to enter medical colleges. Of course, this includes Latin. Suppose you write to Dr. Brown Ayres, Pres't, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and make inquiries on all points of information you require. That's the surest way to get at it. Any COMFORT readers wishing educational information should write to the President of the State University of the state in which they live and they will get it at first hand and reliable.

M. Z., Grundy Center, Iowa.—You transfer money from one bank to another by drawing a check on the bank of deposit to cover all your account with it, and this check you deposit to your new account in the other bank. Or you may cash the check, or get exchange for it and deposit that. The check is usually made to the order of the cashier of the bank to which the account is transferred, or the check may be certified, which is a guarantee that it is good for its face. But why, ask in Maine when the bank in your town could have told you in much less time, and isn't anything like so far away?

D. A. N., Sylvarena, Miss.—We have said over and over again that when a COMFORT reader finds anything vegetable, mineral, or animal that neither he nor his neighbors know what it is, he should communicate his discovery to one of his state officials and learn from headquarters where samples shall be sent for examination as a possible natural resource of value to the state. We say it again because we don't want anything lost which may be valuable.

Mrs. A. W., Dunlap, Mo.—For information about mothers' pensions' laws and regulations ask your county officials, especially the sheriff, who ought to know if he does not. COMFORT readers in other states please make a note of this and act accordingly.

L. K., Bentinville, Ark.—Old papers, or junk of any kind can be sold to better advantage than by shipping it away, unless you have enough to make a carload, or live near enough to a large town for you to haul it in and sell direct. COMFORT inquirers please note.

Mrs. M. R., Clayton, Wash.—Lunar caustic is the usual remedy for warts. Get it at the drug-store and ask the druggist how to apply it. We are informed by a reader that water in which potatoes have been boiled will remove them in a few days, if frequently applied when fresh.

Mrs. Lot, Geraldine, Mont.—We cannot tell you how to find a person's age who lived in a distant city some years ago. If it was a woman, we don't believe anybody could tell you, but the woman and she wouldn't. You might look over the election register of voters.

Mrs. R. M., Bremen, Ala.—We have nothing to say against chiropractise, or any other practise that will help heal the wounds of this world, but our advice to you is not to spend money to study this art of healing until you have talked to the regular practitioners of medicine in your locality and they advise you to undertake it. No doubt some practitioners of these new sciences have a fair degree of success, but those that do would have been quite as successful at anything they had undertaken, because they are the kind of people who command success, which the great majority of people are not.

K. F., Paris, Ky.—For information about Camp Fire Girls write to Camp Fire Girls of America, 461 Fourth Ave., New York City, and write also to C. F. Outfitting Co., 16 West 22nd Street, N. Y. City. We heartily recommend the Camp Fire Girls and sincerely hope that COMFORT girls will become interested all over the country and where possible get into it.

I. J. N., Royal, Wash.—We believe it has been shown that showers of frogs and lizards and worms have come down from the sky, but they did not grow there. They had beent aken up somewhere else by a cyclone or whirlwind and whisked through the skies until they got out of the power of the wind when they dropped back to earth where they came from and where they belonged. (2) Just how much the changes of the moon affect the weather we cannot say, but they have some effect, because if it were not for the moon the farmers would never know what kind of weather they were going to have.

W. W. H., Pottsville, Ark.—There is no such thing as a dark or a light moon, but there is the dark *of* the moon and the light *of* the moon, the first being when the moon is shadowed by the earth and the other when it is not and its light makes the night lambent and lovely. (2) For information about coins consult coin firms advertising in COMFORT.

Mrs. M. T., Berryville, Ark.—We know of no hospital anywhere which will give treatment in return for work. Hospital patients, as a rule, are not in much condition to do hospital work, or they would not be there. Besides in many, if not all, patients, who are not able to pay, are not charged anything. If you could get a position in a hospital and needed treatment you would get it and you could stay as long as you did your work properly. Talk to your local doctors about it.

H. H. H., Geiston, Pa.—Pipe dealers in this neighborhood say that a meerschaum properly and naturally colored—that is by smoking it—will not fade, though it may grow gray if not used for a long time and its supply of nicotine thus kept from it. A little smoking again will bring it back if this should happen. A meerschaum should not be thoroughly cleaned inside, a pack being always left in the bottom. It should also be protected by a chamois skin covering. Nor should it be permitted to get wet. Meerschaums are delicate creatures and require about as much attention as a baby. Consult local tobacconists. Maybe they know more than ours do. Artificially colored meerschaums are not fast colors and they may do most anything in the color line.

COMFORT Reader, Van Wert, Ohio.—Red Cross nurses who are efficient and of good character and health are in demand. The more intelligent the better and your three years of High School will be of value, if you got out of your books what you should have got. The cost will depend upon where and how you get it. For definite information write to Chas. L. Magee, Secretary American National Red Cross, Washington, D. C.

J. K., Sauk Rapids, Minn.—A man is not of age in any state of the Union until he is twenty-one. When you are that old your guardian has no further control and you may go where you please and may bring legal action against him if you want to. This, however, must be done through a lawyer. Get a good one, not one who will take the least pay for his services.

R. S. N., Chambersburg, Pa.—After all we have said in this department about fake old violins, you still think you have a genuine Strad, write to Lyon & Healy, Chicago, and get their opinion which may assist you to a change of mind.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for July

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

W. B. Balleu, Sparta, Tenn. Helpless from rheumatism. Has family of four small children, in need of food and clothing. Send him some of the sympathy that buys bread. Callie D. Barefoot, Four Oaks, R. R. 2, N. C. Helpless invalid for over thirty years. Depends on the charitable for support. Send her a dime shower. Mrs. Daisy Huff, Spencer, Va. Invalid with one child four years old. Deserted by her husband. Needy and well recommended. Send her some help. Willie Price, Crabtree, R. R. 1, Box 101, N. C. Nineteen years of age. Crippled from rheumatism. Would appreciate picture post-cards and any assistance you care to send him. Mrs. James Traverse, Waterbury, R. R. 2, Vt. Invalid. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Joanna Caldwell, Nesbitt, Miss. Has a son afflicted with curvature of spine. Would be grateful if anyone could tell her of a place where she could send him to be treated free of charge. Mrs. Frances Watts, Taylorsville, N. C. Invalid for many years. Needy and worthy. Well recommended. Remember her. Mrs. J. W. Williamson, Floyd, R. R. 1, Va. Has tuberculosis. Very poor. Send her some cheer. Rebecca Whitefield, Finleyson, R. R. 2, Ga.. Invalid. Send her some cheer. Lewie J. McClurg, Triplet, Ky. Helpless shut-in. Is very lonely. Would appreciate cheery letters.

A dime or a dollar sent to any one of these poor souls is laying up for those who give treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal. If all who read this would cut out their whiskey and beer money for one day and send it to the poor souls listed above it would make them independent for life.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

Uncle Charie's Poems are A Scream From Start to Finish!

If you are sick and out of sorts, if you have business cares and worries, if everything that should go right is going wrong, if life seems a bore and existence a nuisance, there is just one thing that will put you in harmony with the joys of life and prove melancholy and misery impostors, and that is a 160-page, lilac silk bound copy of Uncle Charlie's Poems. This superb book of fun contains the best recitations ever gotten together, also a sketch of the author's life, and some splendid pictures of Uncle Charlie and his faithful Maria preparing his monthly talks for COMFORT. This exquisite volume, a princely gift for young or old can be obtained free for a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. Write for it today.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book Is the Best Ever!

Yes, it is all that and then some! You simply can't beat Uncle Charlie's Song Book. Most song folios contain one good song and the balance slush. Uncle Charlie's song folio, with its superb cover, on which are four splendid pictures of the composer, contains twenty-eight song hits, songs for every occasion, and every song a gem. Here is the chance of your life. Secure five dollars' worth of music free for a club of only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c each. Both books free for a club of six. Work for them today.

THIS FORD FREE



Send Us No Money

JUST YOUR NAME

You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars. **I have given away dozens of them.** You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away, and say: **"I want to get one of your Ford cars."** A post-card will do.

RHOADS AUTO CLUB
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 60 Packages Soap Powder **FREE**



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only 5 doz. pkgs. of our famous washing powder **FREE** among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. **NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO**



SILK HOSE FREE

Try our hosiery before selling it. We want you to become familiar with our hosiery line. A hosiery proposition that beats them all. Write quick for particulars if you mean business, and state size of hose worn.

THOMAS MFG. CO.
5330 Elk St. Dayton, Ohio

SUGAR 4c Per Pound one of our leaders. We save you money on groceries. Write for particulars

COLE-CONRAD CO., Dept. B-82, CHICAGO, ILL.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19.)

she observed, replenishing the empty cup with soup. "You would feel ever so much more comfortable. Don't you think I could help you into bed, and put everything you wanted just by you? Then I should know you were all right till I came again in the morning."

"Are you coming again in the morning? You are an angel, if evere there was one," said Mrs. Simpson, unsteadily, tears coming to the faded bloodshot eyes. Nerine nodded, laughing.

"No one ever heard of an angel with black hair," she said. "Now what do you think about going to bed? Is that your bedroom in there?" pointing to a door at one side of the room.

TO BE CONTINUED.

We Will Give You This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling romance by Adelaide Sterling. It is a beautiful story having a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compels the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine. To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

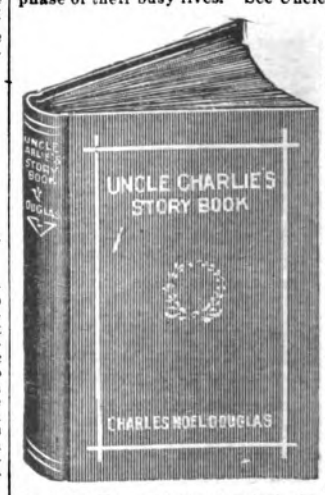
We are sure our readers will enjoy this delightful story which will run as a serial in COMFORT through the remainder of the winter and the spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, halftone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. W. H., Blue Ridge, N. Y.—The scaling and discoloration of the skin on your knee is some form of eczema, or other cutaneous disorder, whose nature can be determined only by examination. You have already delayed too long seeing a physician and should do so at once and receive proper treatment before it develops into something serious.

C. S., Klondyke, Ariz.—Boric acid is a colorless crystalline substance; dissolved in water it is much used as a healing, soothing wash, especially for the mouth and eyes. It is found in chemical combinations as borax, and you know borax. Boric and boracic acid are the same. Tannic acid is an astringent compound derived from gallnuts. A galinut is the gall-apple or oak-apple. Tannic acid, or tannin, the same thing is derived from other plants. Its chief use is in tanning leather and making writing-inks. It also has many uses in medicine.

C. M. H., Rock Rapids, Iowa.—Your husband may have tried in his weak way to quit tobacco, but any man, in fair physical and mental condition and twenty-eight years old, can quit tobacco if he really wants to, and unless he wants to, all the "cures" you can give him will have no effect. Show him this answer to your question and ask him if he is in fair physical and mental condition. If he says he isn't, have a doctor examine him and see what's the matter. If he says he is, tell him to stop the tobacco, or admit that he doesn't want to stop.

Miss B. C., Bingham Lake, Minn.—Before trying to redden your blood, ask your physician to make a test and tell you what is wrong with it and what is needed to correct it. We might guess at it from this distance and say you needed iron, when the fact was that you had enough in your system to make a crowbar.

Mrs. M. S., Huntsville, Ala.—Your nervous headache, with preliminary disordered vision when you can see but half an object and have numbness of the limbs and slight chill, is migraine, or "the megrims," as it is commonly called, and while it will probably always be with you, more or less, it may be controlled so as not to trouble you very much. But you must be treated by a physician who knows just what to do with it, as most of them do. It is quite common among all classes and all ages and ordinarily requires only home treatment. Attacks last from a few minutes to a day or more and causes are various. We have had it ourself, off and on, for forty years without any serious results. It may be in some cases quite severe and sometimes continues for several days, with very painful headache, so that you should consult a doctor and have him instruct you in its treatment, especially when you notice it first in the disordered vision. Alcohol at that time is very beneficial and will often stop it before it gets fairly started. COMFORT readers, who have these so-called "nervous headaches," will please take notice. (2) The heart trouble may be due to the indigestion and the kidney trouble be mixed up with the others, but in any event, the complications are too serious to be treated except by a physician who can make a thorough examination.

Mrs. R. W., Upper Marlboro, Md.—You are another one of those COMFORT mothers with a baby who shouldn't have one. Instead of writing away off to Maine and waiting weeks, as you must, for an answer, you should go to a doctor near you and get advice at once for yourself and the child, such as you can get only personally from a physician. It may cost you a little more, but isn't the baby worth it? Not to mention your own health and comfort!

G. F., Weimar, Texas.—The best way we know to "increase the cheeks" is to eat plenty of nourishing food and get fat. Unless the wrinkles are due to thinness of the face, they can be greatly ameliorated by gentle and frequent massaging, rubbing them out, so to say. Massage is the standard remedy for wrinkles, but it must be done regularly and frequently. "Beauty doctors" treat masculine patients. Why not apply to one?

Mrs. D. N. W., Durant, Okla.—Quinine is recognized as the specific for ague, or chills and fever, but the only real remedy is to get out of the part of the country where ague prevails. It is introduced into the system by the bite of the mosquito and medicine is only temporary relief. As long as the cause remains, the disease will manifest itself. You have found all medicines fail and they will continue to fail, not because they are not the right kind, but because they are weaker than the cause. The ague will stay with you as long as you stay where you are, if you let the mosquitoes bite you. Why don't you and your neighbors exterminate the mosquitoes?

Subscriber, Hillside, Colo.—Your short breathing and fast heart-beats with disordered blood circulation would indicate that the elevation, though you have lived in it most of your life, is to blame, rather than any organic trouble. Seventy-five hundred feet is away up in the air and as you are only twenty-three now, you are not used to it, in our judgment. Very many people, in good health at lower levels, couldn't stand that elevation twenty-four hours. We advise that instead of taking medicine, you go to the Denver level for a month, and then drop another thousand feet or so at intervals until you find your condition is normal. It may take three or four years, but health is worth it, isn't it?

C. D. A., Hortense, Ga.—Riggs' disease, or pyorrhea, is a disease of the gums characterized by suppuration and recession of the gums until the teeth become loosened so that in extreme cases they will fall out. It is very painful, affects the entire system and at one time was beyond the skill of physicians, but medical science has discovered a treatment which is practically a cure. (2) You speak of goose grease as a cure for cataract. We have heard of cases of cataract yielding to that treatment though we have no personal knowledge of an instance. In rare instances cataracts disappear without a surgical operation, which is the usual remedy. If a cataract disappears under goose grease treatment, we believe it is a mere coincidence or possibly the result of the gentle rubbing rather than the grease.

I. Y. E., Bristow, Okla. writes that a cure for warts is potato water, that is water in which potatoes have been boiled. Fresh juice should be saved every time potatoes are boiled and should be frequently applied. She says that her baby's hands were covered with warts and two weeks' treatment with potato water removed them all. This treatment is milder than the lunar caustic treatment and we should like to hear from COMFORT readers who try it. We do not hesitate to recommend it because though it may not be always efficient, it is always harmless.

Primrose, Meridan, Kans.—There are various remedies for piles to be had at drug-stores which are really efficient in milk cases, but when these fail to relieve and the trouble continues, something more should be done than simple applications, and a physician should be consulted before the case reaches a point where the knife must be used. Piles are more common among women than men, but they are very general and are due to various causes, rheumatism, gout, constipation and liver disorders being chief. Chronic diarrhea will bring them on and they prevail among persons of sedentary life and as well among those who live in the open, but must sit a great deal, as teamsters and cowboys. Regular movements of the bowels are the best means of prevention or relief, but these are not always sure and treatment by a physician is necessary. Cleanliness counts for much and a sponge and water should be used after evacuation. Cascara cordial in tablespoonful doses once or twice a day is a good laxative and injections of tepid water before evacuation are also good. A salve of tannin and opium, or compound gall ointment may be used, but under direction of a physician to begin with. The greatest sufferers from piles and the most numerous are those who refuse to get a physician's advice and try to cure themselves.



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

Mrs. A. A. W., Texas.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that all persons of sound mind, twenty-one years of age, may dispose of all their property, both real and personal, according to their own will, but that a will must be signed by the testator himself, or in his presence by his direction, and unless wholly written by himself, signed by two witnesses in his presence; we think it the better practise to have the will witnessed in any event. We do not think testator can bar his wife from her rights to the the property is homestead property.

O. R., North Dakota.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that one, of two owners of real estate, as tenants in common, can only convey such interest as he, himself, owns in the property, and that it would require the deed of both to convey good title to the whole of the property; in your state we do not think the signature of the wife is necessary to the conveyance of the real estate of the husband, unless the property is homestead property.

Mrs. E. D., Ohio.—We know of no law to compel your husband to speak more gently to you, unless, of course, his treatment of you amounts to cruelty, in which event we think you could make him support you in case you separated from him, but perhaps you can find some better solution of your troubles.

Mrs. D. A. S., Oklahoma.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that you cannot compel your husband to turn over to you any interest in his separate property, during his lifetime; we think you are entitled to support from him, and in case you survive him, we think upon his death you would be entitled to your share in his estate.

J. C., South Dakota.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that your county treasurer has a legal right to collect interest and penalties on taxes remaining unpaid after the expiration of the time allowed by law within which to make such payment.

S. S., Kentucky.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a surviving husband is entitled to an estate for life in one third of his deceased wife's real estate held by her in fee simple, unless his claim has been barred by an absolute divorce or forfeited by living in adultery or otherwise released by him; we think in case a provision is made for him by will in lieu of this interest, he can elect which provision he prefers to take from her estate; except for this we think a married woman can dispose of her property by will in any manner she may see fit.

C. A. H., Tennessee.—We think that if your invention is in any way a complicated one it will be necessary for you to employ a patent lawyer to procure your patent and protect your interests in connection therewith; we think you should protect yourself against the dishonesty of your attorney by selecting one of good standing and a reputation for honesty.

E. S., Kansas.—Under the laws of Indiana, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man leaving no child or descendant and no parent, and leaving no will, his whole estate after payment of debts and expenses, would go to his surviving widow; we think such property as vested in him at the time of his mother's death would be included in and form part of his estate.

C. W. O'H., Perrysville, Ohio.—Upon your statements, we are of the opinion, that you should have refused to take the paper you mention from the postoffice or had the postmaster return same to sender, if you did not wish to bind yourself for payment of the subscription price.

H. N., New London, Iowa.—Under the laws of your state, we think you should apply to the juvenile court of your county or some other county court with similar functions for a widow's pension. We think that in your state, such pensions are allowed a dependent mother who is a widow or whose husband is an inmate of the institution under the State Board of control. We think the maximum allowance in your state for one child is two dollars a week. We can form no opinion as to whether you will be successful in such application without further information as to your financial condition. We think that you would not be entitled to any pension under the law unless you were entirely dependent and the children are entirely dependent upon you for their support.

C. M. V., Campbell, Mo.—As you will note by reading the heading of this column, it is not the policy of this paper to answer questions relating to divorce. We think you should take this question up with someone else.

Mrs. E. R., Edmondsville, Ill.—Upon your statements, we are of the opinion, that if your husband cannot come to an adjustment of his claim against the man you mention, he should bring action to enforce same. We think he should take action in this matter as soon as possible in order to protect himself against having his right to recovery barred by the statute of limitations.

Mrs. T. B., Calfox, Wash.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that except as to some limitations in favor of a surviving widow or husband and minor children, a decedent can dispose of his or her property by will in any manner he or she may see fit. We think, however, that such person must, at the time of making such will, possess testamentary capacity, must not be under undue influence and that the will must be legally drawn and executed and express his or her true intent, but the law allows a testator to prefer any one person above another in case he so desires and except as above stated.

H. A. M., Batesville, Ind.—We think the legal settlement of the estate of the woman you mention would be to have, an administrator appointed, and that such administrator should collect the assets of decedent and pay the just claims against the estate, dividing the balance, if any, among her children. We think that in case her personal property is not sufficient to pay the debts, her real estate or her interest in real estate could be disposed of to pay her debts, the balance, if any, being divided among her children. We think that each child would be legally entitled to an equal share of the estate, after payment of the just debts and expenses, but that debts and expenses are legally paid first and the balance of the estate only divided. Of course, if all of the children are adults, we think that it may be possible to settle the estate among themselves, through a series of releases and deeds to the real estate without the appointment of an administrator, but as a general rule, we think the appointment of an administrator and a legal settlement of the estate is a cleaner way to settle the estate.

Mrs. L. S., Janesville, Wis.—Upon your statements, we are of the opinion, that payment of the grocery bill against the man you mention can be enforced against any property he may own not exempt by law from levy under execution. Of course, if this man should move to another state, it would be probably necessary for his creditor to sue him in the state to which he moved.

Mrs. M. P., Houstonia, Mo.—Under the laws of your state, we do not think that the second wife of the man you mention nor his child by such second wife would have any interest in the real estate or other property which formerly belonged to his first wife, except such portion of the same as came to the husband absolutely upon the death of such first wife. Of course, this portion will upon his death be administered as part of his estate, but as to the first wife's estate, we think that unless she left a will making other disposition of same all her property, except the husband's share therein, would go to her own children and no further part would go to her husband's second wife or his children by a subsequent marriage.

Poultry Farming for Women

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

minutes to soften the hard skin, then scrape gently with a soft brush and plenty of white soap. Wipe on a clean, soft rag, and while still soft and moist, rub with a mixture of equal parts of lard, flour of sulphur or carbolic vaseline. If necessary, repeat after three days. The gobbler might have had cholera, but as no other birds have been attacked, I am inclined to think he might have eaten some irritating substance. The best treatment for all such uncertain cases of bowel trouble is a dose of Castor oil—about three tablespoonfuls for a full-grown turkey.

Mrs. E. T., Rike Co.—As the goslings could not get out of doors, they should have had a tablespoonful of sharp sand or fine grit added to every cupful of food, and at least one half of the food should have been green stuff—young clover and grass cut fine and mixed with wheat bran. This is a good mash for goslings or young ducks. Water must be kept in vessels so constructed that the birds can only get their heads into them, but deep enough to allow them to submerge the whole head; otherwise the two small holes at the base of the bill, through which they breathe, get filled up with mash or dirt, and the birds die for want of sufficient air in the lungs. Goslings hatched from eggs laid by young geese are very liable to die off without any special cause. Geese should be at least two years old before they are used for breeding.

E. L.—As your land is too rocky to cultivate, the only remedy was lime or wood ashes, but I hope you have plowed it before the hatching season, and when you could keep the fowls shut up for a few days, as fresh lime and wood ashes are both severe irritants, and if picked up by fowls or chicks, will make their mouths sore, and if any quantity is swallowed, inflame the crop and cause bowel trouble. As you know the place has been infested for several years, it would be well to yard your fowls for a week or two in the fall, and dress the land very heavily with unslacked lime. Meantime, move all the brood coops as far from their old stand as possible, as I suppose you know the gapeworm is a parasite, and the eggs are often carried by earthworms that live in the ground that has been defiled for many seasons by poultry droppings. If you could confine the baby chicks to inclosures thickly covered with clean sand or cut hay or straw, it would prevent their being infected whilst too young to doctor. A good protective measure is to add three drams of silicate of soda to every quart of drinking water.

E. S. L.—As several birds were ill in the early spring with cramp and diarrhea, accompanied by foul breath, I fear your flock is in a bad condition, probably inbred, or have inherent roupy tendencies, which have been aggravated by the damp house in the spring and the overfeeding of table scraps and the lack of green vegetables in winter. Kill all birds whose breath is foul, and burn the carcases. Remove all pieces of fat from the table scraps. Mix a grain mash with Castor oil, and give the first thing in the morning. Three days later, repeat the dose. Feed about half the quantity you ordinarily give at breakfast time. Use all the oil the meal will take up without becoming sloppy. Follow this treatment by dissolving twelve tablets of mercury bichloride, one one-thousandth of a grain each, for three days. Stop feeding oats for a time, and let the birds have an unlimited supply of fresh green vegetables. Clean and disinfect the house and all fixtures.

L. S.—The only safe and honest way to prevent eggs you sell for table use being used for hatching is to keep no male birds with the hens, for if you use any method of killing the germ in a fertile egg, the result will be the same, viz.: decomposition of the germ, which will, of course, affect the whole egg, and cause it to be unusable within a few days.

J. M. E.—Had you opened the geese after death you would have found small growths on the kidneys, caused by a minute form of animal life called coccidia. They also attack hens, pigeons, and small animals, but in these cases the trouble is found in the small intestines, near the gizzard. In geese they attack the kidneys. As they are distributed in the bird's droppings, the disease is likely to spread through the flock and other poultry, unless the place is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. The first symptom, which you probably did not notice, is loss of flesh, though the appetite remains good. A slight diarrhea is the only symptom until the end approaches, when the birds become suddenly weak and cannot stand. The treatment is to put three grains of sulphate of iron or fifteen grains of colchicum in every quart of drinking water, and give two tablespoonfuls of Castor oil every second night until they have had four doses. Better doctor the drinking water for the whole flock, and feed a mash of ground corn and Castor oil one day a week for three weeks to check any further outbreak.

Be a Detective Excellent opportunity, good pay, travel. Write C. T. Ludwig, 121 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet BX 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW. EARL HOPKINS, Washington, D. C.

C. S. A. Money I guarantee what I handle are not Reprints of Confederate Money. Write for price list. Frank J. Shilling, Navarre, Ohio.

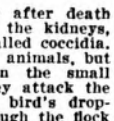
OLD FALSE TEETH. We pay up to $10 a set. Also buy bridgework and platinum. Eastern Dental Depot, Dept. Y, Lynn, Mass.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties, Catalog Free. D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.

Raise GIANT RABBITS for us. We sell you stock and pay $3. each for all you raise from same. Book and contract 10c. A. DAVIS, Box 216, Sawtelle, Cal.

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers." RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.

LOOK YOUR BEST. Make sure of smooth white arms, face and neck in spite of sallowness, blotches, freckles, blackheads etc. If you want to be charming and attractive—Don't pay 50c but send 10c at once for sealed Package, which will transform your appearance instantly. Warranted. TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927A, Boston, Mass.



Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

F. G. Winquist, Denbigh, R. R. 2, N. Dak. Mrs. Maggie Baswell, DeLeon, R. R. 1, Texas, Joe Kirby, Elmer, R. R. 1, Box 56, Okla.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' Column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Wanted, help in locating my son, W. B. Woolsey, last heard from at Waynoka, Okla., in 1915, Mrs. Chas. Woolsey, Rolla, Mo.

Initials or date **Engraved Free** Friendship or Anniversary RING your size, for 12c., both for 25c. Warranted Sterling or Rolled GOLD. Monogram Jewelry Co., 119 Nassau Street, Dept. 12, New York

RAISE BELGIAN HARES FOR US. HUGE PROFITS. Easily, pleasantly made. We furnish stock and pay you $6.00 a pair and express charges for all you raise. Contract and book "Fortunes in Hares," 10c. Nothing free. NATIONAL FOOD & FUR ASSOCIATION Dept. 20, 557 12th St., Milwaukee, Wisc.



WHITE ROSE FACE BLEACH Will make your Complexion as white as the virgin snow. 2-cent stamp for free particulars. Address MME. BOGETT, Box 496, Desk 4, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.



SHAC For Headache More Than 25 Years on the Market Used Wherever Heads Ache 12 Wafers—12 Doses At all druggists for 25 cents

EVERY WOMAN WHO EMBROIDERS Will find pleasure at last in stamping her own embroidery designs. No soiling of hands, no spoiling of material. See how many odd pieces of material you can make into dainty embroidered articles in doing your own stamping. All you need is a hot iron. **80 Embroidery Patterns for 10c** Handsome Centerpieces, 3 complete Alphabets, Baby Clothes, Pillow Tops, Scollops, Underwear Designs. Also Embroidery Hints brimful of the latest Needlework novelties at bargain prices, all the latest stitches. Don't miss this Magazine. ALL FOR 10 CENTS. Peerless Supply Co., 36–35th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

38-Piece Fishing Outfit

Premium No. 2862



FREE FOR A CLUB OF TWO

BOYS—no need for you to wait until you have enough money to buy that fishing outfit you want—we will give you this dandy Outfit absolutely free. It contains everything you see in the above illustration—in all 38 different pieces.

There are Two Dandy Fish Lines, one of them on a fine Wood Winder equipped with Hook and Sinker all ready for business, and the other is a Special Braided Line. Then there are 25 Assorted Fish Hooks, of all sizes for all kinds of fishing, 6 High-Grade Snelled Hooks, 1 Adjustable Cork Floater or "Bobber", and 1 Ringed Sinker—38 pieces in all. When you get this splendid Outfit you will have all the fishing tackle you need with exception of fish pole to do all kinds of fishing with, as the lines, assorted hooks in different sizes, etc. are adapted for brook, river, lake or pond fishing. And remember that we guarantee everything in this Outfit to be good quality.

We will send you this splendid Fishing Outfit, if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For a club of two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this 38-Piece Fishing Outfit packed in a good, strong box free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 2862. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

26-Piece Daisy **TABLE SET**

Premium No. 6808

Sent To You Prepaid For A Club Of Eight

WE have in the past made many offers of table ware, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer a **complete set of 26 Pieces** in return for such a small club of subscriptions. And please don't think that because we are giving away this set on such liberal terms that it is plated on a brass base and consequently will change color and have that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. This Set which we offer you here is plated on a **white metal base** therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will not show signs of wear, even after years of constant use. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—**6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife.** Each piece is **full regulation size** for family use, the handles are handsomely **embossed and decorated** with the beautiful **Daisy design** which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and the bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and **bright polished.**



WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to offer it as a premium for so few subscriptions. It is by far **the greatest value** we have ever offered, in fact we are so **sure** that it will please and satisfy all who accept this offer **we are going to guarantee every Set sent out for a period of five years.** We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Daisy Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this 26-Piece Daisy Table Set Free by Parcel Post prepaid. Premium No. 6808.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Troubled, Chestertown, N. Y.—Maybe a Seventh Day Adventist, aged twenty, and a Roman Catholic, aged thirty-five, might marry and live happily ever after, both loving as you say you do, for love overcometh all things, but if the Seventh Day Adventist says she does not want to be married by a priest, and insists on not being so married, then there will be no marriage, at least no marriage that is a sacrament, because according to the principles of the Roman Church, the ceremony must be performed by a priest. Of course, if they love each other with the love that knows no turning, there will be a marriage in spite of Seventh Day Adventism and Roman Catholicism, and objecting parents and every other earthly obstacle. Have both of you got it that good and plenty? If not, better stop now before the trouble begins. (2) Third cousins may marry as they are not considered sufficiently consanguineous to make any difference. (3) No lady should ever try to win back any gentleman who shows no signs of coming back of his own accord. Love is not a winable proposition.

Kid, Spencer, W. Va.—You may be abused at home and life may seem to be very hard for you there, because sixteen-year-old girls have youth and spirits, but it is much safer there for you than to go out and try to make your own way in the world, unless you are prepared to do well some kind of work which will support you comfortably. We should advise you to study stenography, because you cannot acquire that until you have learned to spell and write grammatically which you are far from doing now.

Daht, Weatherford, Okla.—We hope you will have better judgment than your mother had, and not marry at fifteen, but in the mean time, don't imagine that you know more than your mother does now and can better take care of yourself than she can. We think she should watch you very closely now, but as you grow older, she should permit you to meet the respectable young men of your community and associate with them and she should meet them herself and know what kind of company her daughter is keeping. Parents neglect this safeguard and then wonder why their daughters get into bad company and sometimes come to harm. You are lying to your mother now and playing the sneak to have company, and she is partly to blame, but not nearly as much as you are, for she is trying to do right and you are not.

Butterfly, Cogswell, N. Dak.—You sign yourself "Butterfly," but you are not old enough to be out of the cocoon, or you would know that it is very bad form for a lady to try to win a gentleman's attention, especially as his father has an auto which he is allowed to drive at times. He knows you and where you live and if he wants you to have his attention he will bring it around to you without any effort on your part beyond the usual ladylike politeness. You are too young yet anyhow for the attention of gentlemen, and don't spoil your future chances by seeking them instead of letting them seek you.

B. B. S., Britton, S. Dak.—Don't measure the true worth of a man by his stature. The height of his mind above the average is not gauged by the height of his head above the ground. If you love the five-foot man better than any other you know, he's the one for you, even if you are half a head taller. (2) It is proper for the lady to drive the gentleman's car, if he is willing to risk his neck and the value of the machine with her at the wheel. At the same time, some women are much safer and saner drivers than men. (3) Your writing is fair, but could be better, because if it could not be better, it would be perfect and there is nothing perfect in this world.

Doll, Burleson, Texas.—We have met talkless men and we know women who have married them and between us we have come to the conclusion that the man who can talk and won't talk is about the most tiresome thing on earth. If your caller will not talk when he comes to see you, we advise that you don't talk, either, and try the silent treatment on him and see how long he can stand your silence added to his own. We have asked several of these talkless individuals why they do not talk,—we know they know plenty of things to talk about—but have never yet received a satisfactory explanation. (2) If the lady does not wish to wear the gentleman's ring or pin, she should decline it when offered, instead of taking it and not wearing it. Do you think deceit is preferable to honest frankness? (3) Possibly when a lady is singing it would be rather difficult for her to return his smile, but conditions are rare when a smile is not to be returned. However, the gentleman should not smile at the lady when she is using her face in her vocal exercises.

Golden-hair, Guthrie, Okla.—Etiquette does not prescribe how long a lady shall, or may, go with a gentleman whom she does not intend to marry. He frequently prescribes that for himself. (2) A lady must either keep company with a gentleman who is present when the one she cares more for is absent, or have no company at all, which is a lonely life. (3) The only presents a lady may properly accept from a gentleman to whom she is not engaged are books, flowers, candy and other inexpensive evidences of masculine appreciation.

Blue-eyes, Plainview, Nebr.—It was inexcusable for the gentleman not to introduce his friend to the ladies he had invited to accompany them in his car. Did he forget it, or didn't he know any better? Sometimes introductions are overlooked inadvertently, and it is quite proper to call the host's attention to it good-naturedly by making your own introductions. We hope you did not spoil the occasion by declining to speak to the gentleman because he had not been introduced. That would have shown more ignorance of polite society than the failure to introduce.

Friend, Hickman, Ky.—A gentleman, who kept company with a lady and went to her house to a dance where he danced more with a lady "who wasn't considered much" than he did with his hostess, is utterly beyond the limits of the rules and regulations of polite manners. If he is further recognized by the lady who gave the dance, it will be her own fault.

Lonely Rose, Coulterville, Ill.—By all means wait a while longer till your two little girls have grown up to be able to take care of themselves and you, if necessary, and then, if your husband is as neglectful as he now is, you and the girls can quietly go away by yourselves and let him go his own way. During the years you must wait, you should do everything you can to have your daughters prepare themselves for positions that they can fill honorably and well. Your years of suffering should make you want to do all you can to prevent a similar fate befalling your daughters.

Wild Rose, Shuff, Va.—You can't be told what to say to the young men who call on you, or whom you meet elsewhere, because what you say will depend entirely upon the circumstances of your meeting. Certain set forms of speech are used on particular occasions, but even these are not rigid and one may shape them to suit the circumstances. Why don't you get a book on etiquette and study the subject? That's the best way to learn the theory of it. The practise you must get by going among people who know.

Black Eyes, Black Mountain, Okla.—When a gentleman takes a lady to an entertainment at which they must be separated until it is over, they should before parting settle between them on some point where they should meet again. If both of you were too careless to do this, or didn't know enough, you have our sympathy in trying to find each other after. (2) The lady waits for the gentleman to begin the correspondence.

Anxious, Harrisville, Pa.—At the marriage ceremony the bride stands at the left of the groom.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.)

He went slowly up-stairs, walked up and down the hall once or twice, then rapped again upon Edith's door.

There was no response from within.

He knocked again.

Still silence!

He tried the door.

It was not locked; it yielded to his touch, and he pushed it open.

A quick glance around showed him that no one was there, and with a great heart-throb of fear he boldly entered.

After a fruitless search of the rooms he turned into the rear hall and went down the back stairs.

Ah! the door at the bottom was ajar.

Another moment he was in the lower hall, to find the area door unfastened; then he knew how his bird had flown.

He instantly summoned the servants, and took them to task for their negligence.

Both the cook and the chambermaid avowed that no one but the gas-man had entered or gone out by the area door that afternoon.

But, upon questioning them closely, Emil Correlli ascertained that the outer door had been left unfastened "just a moment, while the man went to the meter, to take the figures."

A close search revealed the fact that the key to the stairway door was missing, and, putting this and that together, the keen-witted man reasoned out just what had happened.

Mr. and Mrs. Goddard returned about this time, both looking as if they also had met with some crushing blow, for the former was white and haggard, and the latter wild-eyed, and shivering from time to time, as if from a chill.

Both were apparently too absorbed in some trouble of their own to feel very much disturbed by the flight of Edith, although Mr. Goddard's face involuntarily lighted for an instant when he was told of her escape.

Emil Correlli flew to the nearest telegraph office and dashed off a message to a New York policeman, with whom he had had some dealings while living in that city, giving him a description of Edith, and ordering him, if he could lay his hands upon her, to telegraph back, and then detain her until he could arrive and relieve him of his charge.

He reasoned—and rightly, as we have seen—to her old home, where she knew every crook and turn, rather than to seek refuge in Boston, where she was friendless and a comparative stranger.

A few hours later he received a reply from the policeman, giving him an account of his adventure with Miss Edith Allandale and her escort.

"By heavens, she shall not thus escape me!" he exclaimed; and at once made rapid preparations for a journey.

Half an hour afterward he was on the eleven o'clock express train, in pursuit of the fair fugitive, in a state of mind that was far from enviable.

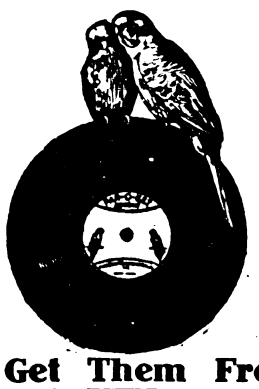
TO BE CONTINUED.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form

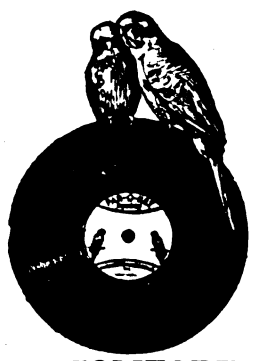


If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Don't Spend Money For Records!



Get Them Free By Raising Clubs For COMFORT!

IF you own a phonograph you know what it costs to buy records for it. You know it is a big expense. Here, now, is your opportunity to get your records without paying a cent. By special and exclusive arrangement with the manufacturers we have secured the privilege of offering the new **Par-O-Ket** records as premiums to COMFORT readers.

Par-O-Ket records are not the cheap ten and fifteen cent kind. They are 7¼ inch, double disc (a selection on both sides)—made by the finest musical talent—and in tone quality are equal to higher priced records. **They will play as long as any 10-inch record**—and on any machine using the ordinary steel needles. If you have a "Victor" or a "Columbia" only a simple attachment is necessary—can be put on in a minute by a child—and we furnish the attachment as explained below. If your machine is any other make having the universal tone arm no attachment at all is needed.

We publish below a partial list of the latest, most popular song hits, dance music, concert and other instrumental numbers which can now be had in these new **Par-O-Ket** records. Send at once for at least one of them to convince yourself that they are really **high grade** and just as satisfactory as the higher priced records. **We guarantee you will be pleased, and that you will spend no more money for records knowing that you can now get them from us without cost. When ordering be sure to give the number of each record wanted,** and if your machine is a "Victor" or a "Columbia" send us one extra one-year subscription (not your own) at 25 cents or 12 cents cash for which we will send you the necessary attachment postpaid. We will send you your choice of these records upon the terms of the following

CLUB OFFER. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you any one Par-O-Ket double disc record (two different selections) free by parcel post prepaid. For four one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you any two records, for six one-year subscriptions any three records—and so on. In other words, send two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each for each record wanted. When ordering be sure to give number of each record wanted.

REMEMBER—a small and simple attachment is necessary to play these records on either a Victor or Columbia machine. We will send you this attachment if you will send us one extra one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents or, if you prefer, you can send 12 cents cash. If your machine is a **Victor** ask for **Attachment No. 8051.** If it is a **Columbia** ask for **Attachment No. 8061.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

POPULAR SONGS

47 **L-I-B-E-R-T-Y** (Ted Barron) John Wilbur, Baritone.
Under the Mellow Arabian Moon (Leopold) Excelsior Trio.

49 **On the South Sea Isle** (Von Tilzer) Sterling Trio with Hawaiian Orchestra, Accompaniment.
Dear Little Mother O'mine (Sterling) Irving Gillette, Tenor.

50 **In the Sweet Long Ago** (Solman) Campbell and Burr, Tenor Duet.
Armourer's Song from "Robin Hood" (De Koven) John H. Meyer, Basso.

56 **I Know I Got More Than My Share** (Clarke-Johnson) Baritone Solo, John Wilbur.
A Friend of Mine "Told a Friend of Mine" Kendis-Paley) Harry Dunn.

58 **Carry Me Back To Old Virginny** (Bland) Rose Bryant and Male Quartette.
Robin Adair, Tenor Duet by Webster and Gillette.

63 **Shades of Night** (Friedland) Par-O-Ket Mixed Quarette.
In the Time of Roses (Reichardt) Soprano Solo, Louise MacMahan.

64 **Barcarolle from "Tales of Hoffman"** (Offenbach) Soprano and Contralto, Grace Nash and Rose Bryant.
The Last Rose of Summer, Soprano Solo by Louise MacMahan.

65 **Silver Threads Among the Gold** (Danks) Henry Burr and Quartette.
Gate O'Donohue, Tenor Solo, Albert Campbell.

66 **Onward, Christian Soldiers** (Sullivan) Vesper Mixed Quartette.
Come Thou Almighty King (Giardini) Vesper Mixed Quartette.

CONCERT NUMBERS

(Rogers' Military Band)

11 **Prepare for Action**—March (Blankenburg).
Stars and Stripes Forever—March (Sousa).

12 **Baltimore Centennial**—March (Herbert).
Blaze Away—March (Holzmann).

13 **El Capitan**—March (Souso).
Under the Double Eagle—March (Wagner).

14 **Semper Fideles**—March (Sousa).
Warnock—March (Casey).

16 **Violets**—Valse (Waldteufel).
La Gitana—Valse (Bucalossi).

17 **Light Cavalry** (Suppe). Overture, Part I.
Light Cavalry (Suppe). Overture, Part II.

18 **Carmen** (Bizet) Scenes, Part I.
Carmen (Bizet) Scenes, Part II.

19 **Mikado** (Sullivan) Melodies, Part I.
Mikado (Sullivan) Melodies, Part II.

20 American Patrol (Meacham).
National Emblem—March (Bagley).

74 **Pictures of the North and South (Part 1)** (Bendix).
Pictures of the North and South (Part 2) (Bendix).

POPULAR SONGS

22 **Just Before the Battle, Mother** (Root) Sterling Trio, with orchestra.
Where is My Wandering Boy Tonight (Lowry) Henry Burr, tenor, with orchestra.

23 **Calvary** (Rodney). Campbell and Burr, Tenor duet, with orchestra.
Abide With Me (Lyte-Monk). Campbell and Burr. Tenor duet with orchestra.

25 **Nearer My God To Thee** (Mason). Echo Male Quartte.
Annie Laurie (Scott). Echo Male Quartette.

27 **Alice, Where Art Thou** (Gurnsey-Ascher). Sterling Trio, with orchestra.
Where the River Shannon Flows (Russell). Henry Burr, tenor with orchestra.

28 **The Preacher and The Bear,** Arthur Collins, baritone, with orchestra.
'Way Down East, Byron G. Harlan, tenor, with orchestra.

29 **Bake Dat Chicken Pie,** Collins and Harlan, with orchestra.
Moonlight in Jungle Land, Collins and Harlan, with orchestra.

31 **Marching Through Georgia** (Henry C. Work) Sterling Trio.
I'll Be Waiting in The Gloaming, Sweet Genevieve (J. Fred Helf) Campbell and Burr.

33 **When Johnnie Comes Marching Home** Sterling Trio, with orchestra.
The Palms (Faure) Henry Burr, tenor, with orchestra.

46 **The Sunshine of Your Smile** (Ray) Henry Burr, Tenor.
Aloha Oe (Queen Lilliuokalani) Echo Quartette, Hawaiian Orchestra Accompaniment.

NEW and POPULAR DANCES

(Par-o-ket Orchestra)

2 **Blue Danube Waltz** (Strauss)
Amoureuse Waltz (Berger).

3 **The Skaters**—Waltz (Waldteufel).
"Sobre Las Olas"—Mexican Waltz (Rosas).

4 **Old Home Songs**—Waltz (Lazie).
Dreaming—Waltz (Joyce).

5 **King Cotton**—One-Step (Sousa).
New York Girl—One-Step (Katzenstein).

6 **Southern Echoes**—Fox-Trot (Morrison).
Cocoanut Dance—Fox-Trot (Hermann).

7 **The World Is Mine**—Waltz (Fahrbach).
Love's Confession—Waltz (Waldteufel).

52 **Evelyn**—One-Step from "Pom Pom" (Felix) Introducing "Pom Pom's Here."
Kilima Waltz, Hawaiian Guitars, Louise and Ferera.

53 **Johnny Get a Girl**—One-Step (Puck) Introducing, "Hello My Sweetheart."
Red Fox Trot (Ted Barron).

54 **Turn Back the Universe**—Waltz (Bill) Introducing "Good-by, Good Luck, God Bless you."
Ukulele Blues, Hawaiian Guitars, Louise and Ferera.

55 **The Missouri Waltz** (Knight-Logan).
I'm Going to Hit the Trail—Fox-Trot (Erdman).

Above is but a partial list of Par-O-Ket records. We will send you a complete list free upon request. We can furnish you with any Par-O-Ket record listed at the rate of one record for two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each.

3 Wheel Chairs in June

418 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

Only three wheel chairs in June is indeed disappointing; the more so because the present year, up to June, has been the biggest and most successful in the history of our Wheel-Chair Club. Why this sudden decline in activities and drop in results in June? Is it due to the disturbing influence of the war? Or is it the weather? Or are people too busy planting and cultivating on an unusually large scale to give their accustomed thought and time to the interests of helpless shut-in sufferers? I know the weather has been unfavorable, the spring has been late and you have had your hands full of work, but I implore you not to forget or neglect the appeals of the shut-ins for aid in procuring wheel chairs. Surely you can find time to do your "bit" as usual for them.

The three June wheel chairs go to the following shut-ins. The figures opposite their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Mrs. Martha Timberlake, Sidan, Miss., 127; Paul S. Forbes, Shawboro, N. C., 105; Mrs. Catherine Fraisure, R. R. 1, Box 18, Fort White, Fla., 93.

Mrs. Timberlake, age 79, is a helpless paralytic. She suffered a stroke of paralysis five years ago. She is a widow dependent on her two daughters, one a widow, and both in poor health. The wheel chair will be a great boon to these women.

Paul S. Forbes, age 20, is so crippled by rheumatism and hip disease that he can not walk. He has been afflicted with sickness, pain and suffering all his life; when a small boy he fell a victim to the terrible hip disease. He is dependent on his parents. He and they will be very grateful for the much needed wheel chair.

Mrs. Fraisure, age 65, suffers severely from rheumatism which has drawn one of her legs up so that she can not touch the floor with her foot. She writes me that she is confined to her room, but if she had a wheel chair she could get out and about. She is a widow and is dependent on her married daughter who has a good husband but not plentifully endowed with worldly goods.

You will find this month's Roll of Honor and the following letters of thanks interesting. Give the poor cripples a helping hand by boosting the efforts of our Wheel-Chair Club.

Sincerely yours,
W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT, at 25 cents each, sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours. Any shut-in who has friends to help him get subscriptions can obtain a wheel chair free. Write me for information.

Wish You Could Have Seen Her Enjoying the First Use of Her Wheel Chair

OAKWOOD, GA.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

The wheel chair that we have been working to get for Miss Ann Allen came in perfect condition and very fine indeed and freight charges all prepaid. I can't thank you enough for it. My husband and I took it to Miss Ann and put her in it and rolled her about the house and to the table where she ate her dinner which she enjoyed the better for the wheel chair which enabled her to eat with the family in comfort. I wish you could have seen her enjoyment and pleasure at that time. Miss Ann is grateful to you and sends her thanks to all who helped to get the chair for her. The chair will be a joy to her and a great help to her sister, Miss Martha, in caring for her. I hope it will be so I can help get another wheel chair for another shut-in. Sincerely your friend, MRS. T. A. IVEY.

Sure Her Wheel Chair Will Be a Comfort to Her

EUREKA, UTAH.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

The wheel chair has come and I am much pleased with it. I am sure it will be a comfort and I shall get so much pleasure out of it. I cannot express my gratitude to you and those who helped me get it. With many thanks, I remain your grateful friend,
MRS. L. T. CARTER.

Little Cripple Girl Enjoys Her Wheel Chair

VERNON, Box 46, CONN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I received my wheel chair all right and was more than pleased with it. The first day I got it I had my mother put me in it and now I have got so I can get from one room to the other very handy and find great comfort in it. I can sit up straight in it, which I couldn't do when I was in bed. I don't know what I would do without it now as I can't use my legs, but I think my arms are getting stronger, and you don't know how much better I feel in the chair. I ate my supper at the table sitting in my wheel chair for the first time in four months the night my chair came. You don't know how thankful I am to you all for the chair. Thanking you all with all my heart,
Yours truly, WILHELMINA MOORE.

P. S.—I wrote this just as the little girl wanted me to, as her hands are not quite strong enough yet to write much. Her father, WILLIAM MOORE.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

Mrs. L. A. Williams, N. C., for Paul Forbes, 68; Mrs. Carrie Balsom, Kans., for Mrs. Margaret Balsom, 48; Lear Jack, Tenn., for Annie Jack, 37; Mrs. Emma Pentecost, Miss., for Mrs. Martha Timberlake, 35; Mrs. J. F. Clepper, Texas, for Martha Louise Sullivan, 26; Mrs. K. Gallwas, Alaska, for Roland Chewning, 24; W. M. Holder, N. C., for Mrs. Mollie McNeill, 22; Nancy McBride, Ga., for Mrs. W. T. McBride, 22; Lela Darter, Ark., for Leithor D. Darter, 21; Ruth Knight, N. C., for Mrs. Mollie McNeill, 20; Mrs. W. F. Needham, N. C., for Paul Forbes, 17; Mary J. McLean, N. C., for Mrs. Mollie McNeill, 17; Mrs. Lillie O. Ward, N. C., for Sallie and George Jordan, 15; Mrs. Mary Karnes, Okla., for Mrs. E. V. Stalnaker, 15; Veva Sherrod, Wash., for Mrs. Arabella Sherrod, 15; Mrs. C. M. Duncan, N. C., for Paul Forbes, 14; Miss Anna Pickett, Miss., for Mrs. Martha Timberlake, 12; Vifnie Lee Tyson, Ga., for Mrs. W. T. McBride, 10; Mrs. J. C. Kirby, Tenn., for Annie Jack, 10; Arthur W. Taylor, Ark., for own wheel chair, 10; Mrs. A. E. Mitchell, La., for Mollie Fay Belle Ferguson, 9; R. J. Terry, Texas, for Mrs. Jane Terry, 9; Dollie Jones, Texas, for Cleo Jones, 9; Mrs. Freddie Hallmark, Okla., for General Fund, 8; Mrs. S. A. Strong, Oregon, for Nada Pearl Strong, 8; W. L. Terry, Texas, for Mrs. E. Terry, 8; Mrs. Ovilla Empey, Utah, for Community chair, 7; M. A. Williams, Ark., for Callie Williams, 7; Mrs. J. A. Criswell, Wash., for General, 6; Mrs. Richard Williams, N. C., for Paul Forbes, 6; Anna Rinehuls, Mich., for General, 6; Alice Skiles, Mo., for J. R. Claxton, 6; Mrs. Mattie Anderson, Iowa, for General, 6; Mrs. Ella McPhetridge, Mo., for Mrs. E. V. Stalnaker, 5; Mrs. Tena Rubish, N. Dak., for Mrs. H. B. Newell, 5; Fannie Walker, Okla., for Preston Morgan, 5; Jeppie Bynum, Ala., for Max Hazel, 5; Mrs. E. Gustavson, Mich., for Mrs. Catherine Fraisure, 5; Mrs. Ed. Brown, Ga., for General, 5; Mrs. Mollie McNeill, N. C., for own wheel chair, 5; Louis Baker, Ark., for Leithor Darter, 5; T. J. Moxley, Ga., for Mrs. W. J. McBride, 5; Mrs. J. H. Sandusky, Okla., for Preston Morgan, 5; Mrs. J. W. Dikeman, Colo., for Preston Morgan, 5; Mrs. Alson Foust, Pa., for General, 5.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities

Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.



AGENTS WANTED

Agents.—Big summer seller. Water filter. Makes muddy water clear as crystal. For farm or city homes. Prevents typhoid. Sells like wildfire. Every home needs it. Write quick for territory and sample. **Thomas Mfg. Co.,** 1819 North St., Dayton, O.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 503 Broadway, New York City.

Agents—Pair Silk Hose Free. State size & color. Beautiful line direct from mill. Good profits. Agents wanted. Write today. Triple-wear Mills, Dept. G, 720 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

Agents—To Travel By Automobile Introducing our Big Line of fast summer sellers. The greatest line on earth. Make $10 a day easy. Complete outfit and automobile furnished to workers. Write at once for exclusive territory. American Products Co., 8515 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents Wanted—To advertise our goods by distributing free sample to consumer 90 cents an hour. Write for full particulars. Thomas Mfg. Co., 519 North St., Dayton, O.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free. William Ragsdale, East Orange, N. J.

Agents sell shirts direct to consumer. 15c will bring sample outfit. Money back with first order, paying proposition. Niznem Shirt Co., 4050 3d Ave. New York, N. Y.

"Washwhite" makes repeat orders and big profits. Catchy sales plan. Free samples. Nacma, 21L, 20 W. Lake, Chicago.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn while you learn. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of members we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 a month. Address nearest office. Dept. B-28, National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles, poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1278 Washington, D. C.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents: Big Hit: Our 5-Piece Aluminum Set is all the rage. Cheaper than Enamel Ware. Sells like wildfire. Guaranteed 20 Years. Retail value $5.00. You sell housewives for only $1.98. Biggest seller of the age. 9 sure sales out of every 10 shown. Others cleaning up $10.00 to $20.00 a day. Answer this quick to secure your territory. Div. E. X. 5. American Aluminum Mfg. Co. Lemont, Ill.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 131 Locust, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

$1000 Per Man Per County—Strange invention startles world—Agents amazed. Ten inexperienced men divide $40,000. Korstad, a farmer, did $2,200 in 14 days. Schleicher, a minister, $195 first 12 hours. $1,200 cold cash, made, paid, banked by Stoneman in 30 days; $15,000 to date. A hot or cold running water bath equipment for any home at only $6.50. Self-heating. No plumbing or waterworks required. Investigate. Exclusive sale. Credit given. Send no money. Write letter or postal today. Allen Mfg. Co., 396 Allen Bldg., Toledo, O.

Agents Wanted—Big money selling our Automatic Self-Sharpening Shears. M. W. Snowdon Co., 270 Hudson Ave., Albany, N. Y.

Rush Request For Free Sample "Spik & Span." Wonderful new washing tablet. Washes clothes spotless, without rubbing. Tremendous seller. 200% profit. Free samples to boost sales. Newberry, 900 Lake, Chicago.

$2.65 For Men's Made-To-Order Pants—worth $5.00. Sample free. Money-making offer for agents, part time or all. Write today. Chicago Tailors' Association, Dept. 671 So. Franklin St., Chicago.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 98c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

FARM LANDS

Productive Lands. Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 14 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

FARMS FOR SALE

Money-making Farms. 15 states, $10 an acre up; stock, tools, and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue. Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3027, New York.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel, 232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Four books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg., Wash. D. C.

HELP WANTED

$100 Month. Government Jobs. Men and Women Wanted. List positions free. Franklin Institute. Dept. D 9. Rochester, N. Y.

MALE HELP WANTED

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $120. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 828 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

Do You Want a sure job with big pay, easy hours and rapid advance? Write for my big Free book, DW1450 which tells you how you can get a good Government position. Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Be A Detective. Excellent opportunity, good pay, travel. Write C. T. Ludwig, 287 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate. 451 St. Louis, Mo.

ROOTS, HERBS, ETC.

Cash Paid For Medicinal Roots, Barks, Herbs, etc. Easily gathered. Write for circular. Grund Co., Logan Sta., Philadelphia, Pa.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 228 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Free For Six Months—My special offer to introduce my magazine, "Investing for Profit." It is worth $10 a copy to any one who has not acquired sufficient money to provide necessities and comforts for self and loved ones. It shows how to become richer quickly and honestly. Investing for Profit is the only progressive financial journal and has the largest circulation in America. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200; write now and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 408, 26 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

Women—Learn expert dressmaking. Dress better for half. Write for sample lessons. Franklin Institute, Dept. D850, Rochester, N. Y.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Given To Any Woman. Beautiful 100 piece gold dec. dinner set for distributing (not selling) only 5 dozen packages. Diamond Dust Soap Powder free among friends. No money or experience needed. New Method Company, 730-738 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Ills.

MISCELLANEOUS

Wanted—Old False Teeth. Doesn't matter if broken. $1 to $12 a set. Send by parcel post. Receive check by return mail. C. Block, 717 Shukert Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards: One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

Land For You! Stop working for the other fellow! Buy fine land in Michigan's best counties at $15 to $25 an acre. $5 down, $4 monthly for ten acres; larger tracts also. Gen'l farming, stock, poultry, fruit. Good schools, towns. Big booklet with 115 illustrations free. Swigart Land Co., C1246 First Natl. Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

Farming Is Pleasant and profitable in Va. and N. C. Good land $15 acre up, easy payments. Climate, schools, churches, roads and neighbors that make life worth living. Close to markets—Fruit, Dairy and Stock Farms pay big here. Farm lists, magazine and interesting literature Free. Address F. H. LaBaume, Agrl. Agt., N. & W. Ry., 269 N. & W. Bldg., Roanoke, Va.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

Save all odd-looking money and stamps and send only 4c for Large Illustrated Coin and Stamp Circular. It may mean much profit to you. We pay cash for all rare coins, bills and stamps. Send now. **Numismatic Bank,** Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

INVENTIONS

Inventions Commercialized on cash and royalty basis. Inventors and manufacturers write at once. Adam Fisher Mfg. Co., 2091 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

Write Photo-Plays—One dollar brings our sure system. Literary experience unnecessary. Start today. Photo-Play Association, 337-338 Hippodrome Theatre Bldg, Peoria, Ill.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Will Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct free—and sell on Commission. Big rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31. Auburn, N. Y.

POULTRY

Day Old Chicks for sale cheap. 10 Varieties. Hatched by one of the oldest Hatchers in the country. Circular Free. Old Honesty Hatchery, Dept. C, New Washington, O.

PHOTO FINISHING

Films developed free. High class work, perfect prints at 3 to 7c. We do the best work in the Photo City. Remit with your order and get returns same day. Bryans Drug House, Rochester, N. Y.

Will Develop any six exposure roll under 4x6 make the prints and one 8x10 enlargement for 40c. Motion Picture Products, 3238 Harrison St., Chicago, Ill.

MUSIC FOR SALE

Patriotic—Up to the Minute Song—"When the Flag of Peace is Waving I'll Return." Every American needs One—Copy 25 cents. 350,000 already sold. Unlimited Success; Great Hit. Meyer Music Company, Glynn Co. Bank Bld'g. Brunswick, Ga.

CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

All Live Advertisers use advertising movies. Writing them both profitable and pleasant. New, uncrowded field. Special 30 days offer: Set of lessons and my four textbooks, $12. Free particulars. Ernest A. Dench, 326 Decatur St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

The Famous Beau Brummel

It was Beau Brummel who was described as the "glass of fashion and the mold of form" and today there are ordinarily only two things which the famous dandy of the English court suggests. One is an arbiter of fashion, and the other the incident in which Brummel asked of a companion of the Prince of Wales; "Who is your fat friend?"

Eighty years ago Beau Brummel was still living though today the character seems little more than tradition, but he was very real, though an obscure individual without fortune or rank. However, he conceived the idea of placing himself at the head of society in a country the most thoroughly aristocratic in Europe, relying, too, upon no other weapon than well-directed insolence; for the same individual to have triumphed splendidly over the highest and the mightiest—to have maintained a contest with royalty itself and to have come off victorious even in that struggle—for such a one no ordinary faculties must have been demanded.

A paper published in 1836 recalls the fact that George Bryan Brummel's father was Lord North's secretary, that the son at Eton and later at Baliol college acquired a reputation for being a "swell dresser," and that still later he was a favorite of the Prince of Wales who was to become George IV. of Great Britain.

The familiar story of the "fat friend" immortalized in a Punch cartoon, explaining the circumstances which led up to it, has so often been told. A mutual friend had dared Brummel to give an order to Wales, who was then Prince Regent, and at a dinner the dandy said to him: "Wales ring the bell." The Prince did so, and when a servant appeared said: "Show Mr. Brummel to his carriage."

It was to repay the Regent for this public humiliation that Beau Brummel uttered his famous question the next day in the street. The Prince was growing corpulent and sensitive of the fact, so a feud between the two was launched with the remark.

Up to this point the story is not new but there are other facts which the Mirror, a publication devoted to literature and the fine arts—almost a hundred years ago gave to the world and they have not been probably published since.

Beau Brummel boasted that he would put the Prince Regent out of fashion, and made his plans at once and sprang his coup at a brilliant ball given by the Duchess of Devonshire: In the Mirror's own words—"When the whole assembly were conversing upon his supposed disgrace, Brummel suddenly stood in the midst of them. Could it be indeed Brummel? Could it be mortal who thus appeared with such an encincture of radiant glory about his neck? Every eye was upon him, fixed in stupid admiration; every tongue, as it recovered from its speechless paralysis, faltered forth with 'What a cravat!'"

And then the description of the cravat which confounded the guests at the Duchess of Devonshire's ball:

"There it stood, smooth and stiff, yet light and almost transparent; delicate as the music of Ariel, yet firm as the spirit of Regulus; bending with the grace of Appollo's locks, yet erect with the majesty of the Olympian Jove; without a wrinkle, without an indentation. What a cravat! The Prince Regent saw and shook, and uttering a faint gurgle from beneath the wadded bag which surrounded his royal thorax, he was heard to whisper with dismay: Damn him, what a cravat! The triumph was complete."

Stumped

Little Lemuel—"Say, paw, what does 'cleave' mean?"

Paw—"It means to unite or stick together."



Little Lemuel—"Then if a butcher cleaves a bone does he stick it together, paw?"

Paw—"Why—er—I guess in that case it does mean to separate, son."

Little Lemuel—"And when a man separates from his wife does he cleave to her, paw?"

Paw—"Young man, you go and tell your maw it's time you were in bed."

The Terrified Traveler

The dangers of travel by sea at this time have played havoc with the nerves of timid passengers.

Early one morning recently there was considerable commotion on the decks of a coastwise vessel plying between Savannah, Ga., and Baltimore, Md., when a scantily clad man hurried from his stateroom and dashed toward the upper deck. On the way he ran into the captain of the vessel.

"What's the matter, captain?" he managed to gasp. "Have we been torpedoed?"

"Calm yourself, my dear sir, and be prepared for the worst," answered the official.

"Oh, don't tell me we're going down!" moaned the other. "Quick, where are the life preservers?"

"They wouldn't be of any service at this stage," explained the captain.

"Too late?" quavered the despairing passenger.

"Yes," said the captain, very solemnly. We've done all we can for you. You'll have to look out for yourself from now on. You see, we've just tied up to the dock."

That "Stale" Egg

Some workmen on an ostrich farm in South Africa one day found an unexploded artillery shell left by gunners who had been at target practise on the plains a few days before. Not knowing it was loaded, they whitewashed it and placed it in an ostrich's nest, thinking to play a joke upon the boss.

The next morning one of the hands, an Irishman, came around to look for eggs, and finding, as he thought, a large one, he seized on it at once.

In his astonishment at finding it so heavy he dropped it, with the result that it exploded with direful effect. Pat was hurled several yards away but, strangely enough, beyond lying stunned for a few minutes he was unhurt.

"Whew, boys!" he murmured, when he recovered his speech, "bedad, that egg was the stalest I iver came across!"

"Auto" Be Ashamed

A New York man was driving an automobile over one of the smooth, hard roads of New Jersey when a man suddenly appeared in the highway and held up a warning hand.

"Halt!" he exclaimed in a voice that had the ring of authority. "You are exceeding the speed limit."

"What are you talking about?" indignantly cried the autoist, bringing his machine to a stop. "I wasn't going fifteen miles an hour,"

"That's what they all say. You can tell your story to the justice of the peace. It's just seven miles beyond. Drive on, please."

There was no help for it, and seven miles for the autoist were slowly traversed. Finally the town came in sight.

"Much obliged to you, pard," said the man, jumping from the car and starting away. "I hated to take advantage of you, but I was so tired I couldn't walk another step."

Very Unusual

"I had an unusual experience today."

"That so? What happened?"

"I upset an ink bottle on a clean tablecloth."

"Nothing unusual about that."

"Yes, there was. The bottle was empty."

Wrong Quarry

With a wild sweep the wind tore around a corner and removed the hat from the head of a respectable and near-sighted citizen who chanced to be passing.

Peering wildly around the man thought he saw his hat in a yard, behind a high fence. Hastily climbing over, he started



to chase it, but each time he thought he had caught it it got yet another move on. Then a woman's angry voice broke on his ears.

"What are you doing there?" she demanded, shrilly.

He explained mildly that he was only trying to retrieve his hat. Whereupon the woman said, in wonder:

"Your hat? I don't know where it is, but that's our little black hen you're chasing."—Tit-Bits.

The Voice of Authority

"Well, Aunt Rachel," said the young lady in the traveling suit, "I shall have to bid you a long farewell."

"If you're going on this train, ma'am," said the conductor, signaling to the engineer to go ahead, "you'll have to make it pretty short."

The City Nephew

Willie was on a visit to his uncle in the country and was watching him milking one evening. When he returned to the house his aunt asked him: "Is Uncle Hezzie through milking yet, Willie?"

"Not yet," answered Willie. "He's finished two faucets and has just commenced on the other two."

That's Right

The teacher was asking questions. She said:

"Now, pupils, how many months have twenty-eight days?"

"All of them, teacher," replied the boy on the front seat.

Good Advice

A minister was questioning his Sunday school concerning the story of



Eutychus, the young man who, listening to the preaching of the Apostle Paul, fell asleep and, falling out of a window, was taken up dead.

"What," he asked, "do we learn from this solemn event?"

The reply from a little girl came:

"Please, sir; ministers should learn not to preach too long sermons."—Tit-Bits.

Had to Have Him

The artful boy applied for a job.

"Do you want a boy?" he asked of the manager of the offices, standing before him, cap in hand.

"Nobody wants a boy," replied the manager, with unpleasant emphasis on the "wants."

"Do you need a boy?" asked the applicant, nowise abashed.

"Nobody needs a boy," came the discouraging reply.

The boy stuck his cap on the back of his head.

"Well, then, mister," he inquired, "do you have to have a boy?"

The manager collapsed.

"I am sorry to say that we do," he replied, "and I think you're about what we have to have."

Just a Sample

Jacky had been asked out to a "grown-up" dinner. Swelling with pride, he took his seat at the bottom of the table and looked round—slightly awestruck—at the imposing collection of aunts and uncles.

Then his attention became fixed on the ancient relative who was carving an enormous turkey, and his mouth watered as he saw the big helpings being handed round.

But the carver, who did not know much about little boys, cut off a tiny portion for Jacky

"Is that the part of the bird you like, my little man?" he asked, as the servant handed Jacky the plate.

Jacky looked at it a moment and then handed it back.

"Yes," he said; "I'll have some of that, please."

Bereaved

A vicar in England visited a widow, 75 years old, who had six children, all of whom had married and left her. The clergyman endeavored to sympathize with her. "Well, Mrs. Higgins," he said, "you must feel lonely now."

"Yes, sir," she said, "I do feel it lonesome. I've brought up a large family and here I am living alone. An' I misses 'em an' I wants 'em, but I misses 'em more than I wants 'em.—Christian Register.

The Prince of Wales sent an emissary to Beau Brummel to learn the secret of the wonderful creation in neckwear, and that Brummel sent back word: "Tell your master that you have seen his master."

It was not until his debts forced him to leave England and to take the obscure position of British Consul at Caen, in France, where he contracted more debts and finally died insane in 1840, that the secret of the cravat became known.

There was found, after his departure, written upon a sheet of paper upon his table, the following epigram of scorn: "Starch is the man."

The cravat of Brummel was merely starched. Henceforth starch was introduced into every cravat in Europe.

Touching Wood

How we love to find our weaknesses duplicated in other folk—most especially if they are personages! It tickled me to read the other day that when Mr. Asquith referred in a war speech in the house of commons to the insignificant number of British losses in the transport of men and stores to the theater of war, the first Lord of the admiralty, A. J. Balfour, leaned forward and gravely touched the wood of the clerk's tables. His colleagues on the front bench who observed his perfomance of this superstitious rite smiled not cynically but amusedly, but Mr. Balfour's face never relaxed.

It surprised me to find on investigation that this "touching wood" as a supposed safeguard from the consequences of exultation or boasting is a superstition of ancient origin. Authorities on these mythological matters tell us that it dates from the time when the oak, the ash were held sacred to the gods of the heathen. All the while I had a suspicion it was the byproduct of a "touch" habit so generally practised on and off the American stage!

Investigation further disclosed the fact that in many parts of England the custom of "touching wood" still prevails just as it did among past generations. In Scotland the superstition of the touch is not unknown, although in their case it is "iron" that is believed to possess the charm of averting evil. For instance, it is the fisher people of Scotland, who regard the sight or mention of a pig as a bad omen, who are accustomed to "touch iron."

There is an amusing story told of a clergyman who was preaching to a congregation of Scotch fisherfolk. He read the chapter dealing with the Ganderene swine. The first mention of these animals perturbed the congregation. Both men and women fumbled for nails in the woodwork of the pews or in the soles of their boots. At the second mention of the swine there were murmurs of "Cauld iron" and before the minister had finished the chapter he was reading to empty pews.

Biggest Port in World

Figures recently issued by the department of commerce show that the total imports and exports of New York City for the past year reached nearly $2,125,000,000. This exceeds London's annual foreign trade and makes New York the biggest port in the entire world.

Year's Wheat Crop

Forecasts recently made by the Department of Agriculture place this year's wheat crop at a much lower figure than it was a year ago. Insects working in Kansas, Oklahoma and other states are largely responsible for the shortage of winter wheat, and the late spring has also materially reduced the acreage of spring wheat.

Overland



The Smile That Won't Come Off

What is *her* smile worth to you? Probably nothing you could do would bring quite so much gladness into *her* life as to drive home some afternoon and say "How do you like your new car?"

It would mean *her* liberation—and a bigger, broader, healthier, happier life for the whole family.

Nothing else would make that smile so nearly *her* habitual expression.

Isn't that worth far more than it costs?

In the Willys-Overland line of motor cars is the car of her heart's desire which you can buy for her and still keep on friendly terms with your pocketbook.

It is the most complete line of motor cars ever built by any one producer.

And there is a distinct advantage for you in many types built by one producer.

Our total production of motor cars is huge—second only to one other producer of very much smaller cars.

This huge production enables us to distribute costs over a larger number of cars and to produce every type of car with virtually the same proportionate saving as though our entire production was centered on the one model of your selection.

And so you now can have virtually any kind of car you want at a lower price for the value offered than any other producer can deliver.

Look over the Willys-Overland line—you can discern this excess value with half an eye—and you have a wide range of selection.

And after you have made your selection you have the satisfaction of knowing that *back of your car you have a company that stands four square for integrity of value in its product throughout the whole of its life in your service.*

See the Willys-Overland dealer and make your selection now so that *she* may begin without delay to wear "the smile that won't come off."

Willys-Knights
Seven Passenger Four, Touring, 121 inch wheelbase
Seven Passenger Eight, Touring, 125 inch wheelbase
Four Passenger Four, Coupe, 114 inch wheelbase
Seven Passenger Four, Touring-Sedan, 121 inch wheelbase
Seven Passenger Four Limousine, 121 inch wheelbase

Light Sixes
Three Passenger Touring-Coupe, 116 inch wheelbase
Five Passenger Touring-Sedan, 116 inch wheelbase

Light Fours
Five Passenger Touring, 106 inch wheelbase
Two Passenger Roadster, 104 inch wheelbase
Four Passenger Sport Model, 104 inch wheelbase

Model 85 Fours
Five Passenger Touring, 112 inch wheelbase
Three Passenger Roadster, 112 inch wheelbase
Three Passenger Touring-Coupe, 112 inch wheelbase
Five Passenger Touring-Sedan, 112 inch wheelbase

Catalogue on request. Please address Dept. 912

The Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio

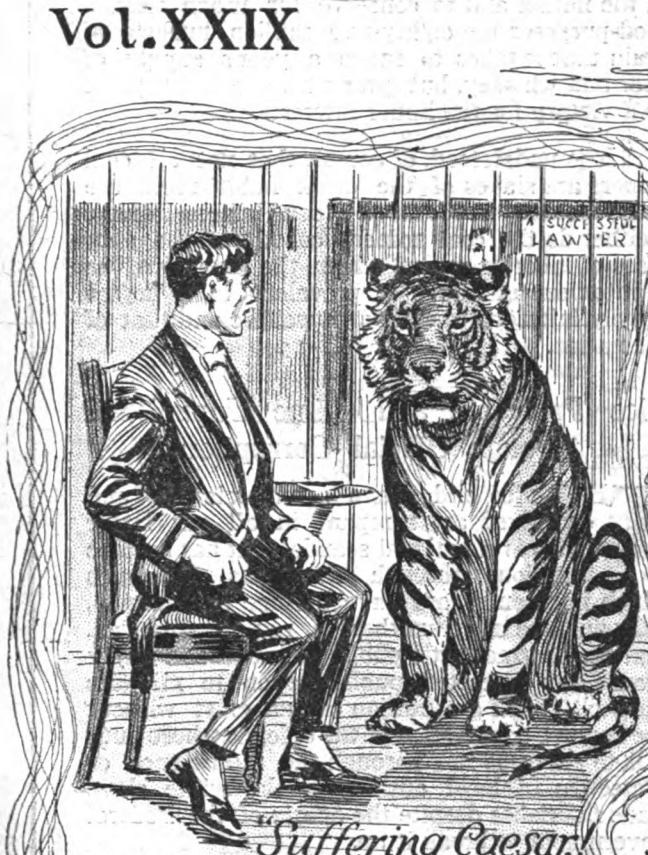
Manufacturers of Willys-Knight and Overland Motor Cars and Light Commercial Wagons

AUGUST SHORT STORY NUMBER

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

Vol. XXIX — 1917 — No. 10



"Suffering Caesar! what does it all mean?"



They were executing some very graceful steps.



"I happen to be, yes," she replied with terrible frigidity.



Van Allyn stroked the kitten for some time.



Were they married? Why, of course!

Published at AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Van Allyn's Circus Nightmare, See Story on Page 3.

Copyright, 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on Page 10

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

Frenzied Economy and Miserly Hoarding Rank Next to Wanton Waste in Evil Consequences

THE great crusade against waste is making a profound impression and serving a most beneficial purpose, but some of the war-economy propaganda is so injudicious and even mischievous in its tendency that a warning against the danger of frenzied economy and miserly hoarding seems to be in order. Wastefulness, especially of food, is a sin any time and in the present exigency of the world war is unpardonable. Make every scrap of good food count. Waste nothing that is useful and avoid extravagance but do not be penurious. There is no economy in reducing the quantity, variety and nourishing quality of the food allowance to yourself and family below the requirements of health and strength. Such curtailment would result surely in weakness and inefficiency and probably in sickness. Tuberculosis preys on the underfed while pellagra finds its victims among those whose diet is unbalanced through lack of sufficient meat, milk and eggs. In order to feed our soldiers and our allies we must economize food by eliminating waste, but to produce the necessary munitions will strain the energies of our entire people, and insufficient nourishment would impair their efficiency as disastrously as it would that of our soldiers.

Our government has also assumed the stupendous undertaking of financing this war not only for ourselves but as well for our allies who are near the limit of their financial resources. The money has to come from our people through loans and taxation, and in order to bear this burden every line of productive industry must prosper. Everybody must be kept busy producing, earning and, what is equally necessary, spending the normal proportion of their earnings so to consume the products of industry and keep money in circulation. If the people stop buying business will stagnate, industrial products will accumulate, factories will shut down, workers be thrown out of employment, earnings cease and the result will be general business depression and hard times.

We shall feed our army and have a surplus of food to supply the needs of our allies by producing larger crops and eliminating waste without scanting the diet of our own people. With the present prospect of a larger harvest than last year of all principal crops, especially potatoes, food prices are dropping.

Likewise if the people do not get panicky in their notions of economy and penurious in their expenditures the country will prosper amazingly, for there will be a paying job for everybody that wants work and a market for every product of farm, mine and factory. Money will be plenty—there never was so much money in this country—but the need is to keep it moving. The war taxes and the money raised by the Liberty Loan will be expended and the larger part of it will find its way back to the pockets of those who have labor or products to sell. In a recent message on this subject President Wilson said: "It is evident to every thinking man that our industries on the farm, in the shipyard, in the mines, in the factories, must be made more prolific and more efficient. We need prosperity in war time even more than when we are at peace. Business depressions are always bad, doubly so when we have a fight on our hands. The declaration of war can have no real effect upon business. What bad effects are apparent are purely psychological and largely of our own foolish making, for our markets are the same in April as they were in March. We need more business, not less. There is real danger in hysteria! Indiscriminate economy will be ruinous! Now is the time to open the throttle. The Council of national Defense gives excellent advice when it says: 'To prosecute a war successfully requires money and lots of it. The only source from which money can be obtained is from the people who have it.'

"The only way people can get money is by producing something whether the product be that of brain or brawn and exchanging that product for money. Then the use of that money to purchase something which somebody else produces keeps it in circulation, encouraging production and furthering business activity.

"A single dollar in active circulation contributes more towards promoting general prosperity than the entire wealth of this nation if allowed to remain dormant. There is more money in the country today than ever before in our history. The government is preparing to raise several billions of dollars, but that does not mean that these billions are to be withdrawn from circulation. Every man supplying his own wants makes it possible for another man to supply his wants. No nation whose people confine themselves to the bare necessities of life ever became rich or prosperous.

"The Council of National Defense then exhorts us to 'Live as we have lived, clothe ourselves, build homes, keep our factory fires burning, keep our men employed, buy implements and machinery for the farms and to build our roads as busily as always.'"

That is excellent advice and only as we follow it can we avoid disaster and win the war. This is not a mere theoretical conclusion, for the identical course here recommended has been tried out by our neighbor Canada with eminently satisfactory results during her three years of active participation in the great war. Canada, with a population ten times smaller than that of the United States and with less than that proportion of wealth, has raised and equipped nearly half a million soldiers for this war and has sustained her full share of the financial burden. The same ratio would mean an army of five million men from the United States. Yet, because of her moderate system of taxation and wise financial and industrial policies, Canada has experienced a continually increasing measure of prosperity since the beginning of the war. In the light of Canada's brilliant achievement like results can be confidently predicted for our own country in this war.

All Suffer from the Effect of the Liquor Traffic

IT has often been pointed out that nobody can escape his share of the burden imposed on the nation by the liquor evil. Directly or indirectly the enormous loss and damage reaches and affects everybody in innumerable ways. One way, that few would think of, recently came to light in the testimony of J. D. A. Merrow, of the Pittsburg Coal Producers' Association, before the Interstate Commerce Committee of the U. S. Senate. Mr. Merrow said: "Eliminate strong drink from the coal producing States and coal production can be increased twenty-five million tons a year with an adequate car supply. Alcoholic liquor is one of the worst enemies of the miners in western Pennsylvania. It is impossible to get men to work more than a few days a week even when the car supply permits. The same trouble exists in Illinois and Ohio."

The entire country is, and during the past year has been, suffering from the scarcity and high price of coal. Not only have the people felt the pinch in their homes but in many instances the shortage has been such as to shut down factories for a time and seriously interfere with the operation of railroads and steamships and thereby caused an interruption of business and even threatened a food famine in certain sections last winter. The present shortage foreshadows like distressing conditions next winter. Herein is another strong argument in favor of a national prohibitory law to prevent these coal-producing States from imperiling the health, comfort and safety of the people of other states by permitting the sale of liquor. The country at large has a vital interest in having an adequate coal supply which at present is menaced by the inebriety of these miners and has a right to protect itself by appropriate legislation. It was hoped that Congress would give us nation-wide prohibition as a war measure to promote the general efficiency of the nation and to conserve for much needed food purposes the eighty-five million bushels of grain that it takes to make a year's supply of beer and whiskey, but present indications point to a victory for the liquor interests.

It is understood, of course, that not all coal miners are slaves of the drink habit; there are many sober, industrious men among them. Neither do the coal miners constitute the only class of laborers among whom the excessive use of intoxicating liquor is prevalent to a degree largely injurious to their own welfare and that of the nation.

Vice Protected and Crime Unpunished through Official Corruption

THAT vice and crime commercialized and organized are rampant in all our larger cities is a national scandal that has become notorious through numerous exposures which in recent years have become so common, following one after another in rapid succession, that they attract little public attention and rarely arouse any concerted public action to mitigate the evil. Such a condition cannot exist without the corrupt connivance of the officials whose duty it is to suppress it. Through the indifference or protection of local authorities the white slave trade flourishes despite the efforts of the Federal Government to break it up.

It is but a few years since Lieutenant Becker of the New York police paid the death penalty in the electric chair for instigating a gang of "gun men" to murder a gambler who had set out to inform against him. But his fate and the general shaking up consequent on the investigation of his case appear to have made no lasting impression on his fellow officers, for the investigation of the recent murder of Ruth Cruger, an innocent girl of tender years by a lecherous brute in human form, has brought to light a horrifying prevalence of vice in New York that has again subjected the police of that city to renewed suspicion and started an official inquiry.

According to complaints on file more than 800 girls between the ages of ten and twenty years had disappeared from their homes in that city between the first of January and the twentieth of June. How little attention was given these complaints is shown by the fact that the police had no accurate figures as to how many of these missing girls had returned to their homes. Presumably those of the missing girls that were not otherwise accounted for had fallen victims to the white slave traders. The business being thoroughly and systematically organized the regular practise is to hurry the girls, as soon as captured, to a distant city beyond the range of search by their friends and relatives.

German People Tired of Autocracy

RECENT food riots in German cities and other public demonstrations of unrest indicate that the German people are tired of military despotism, but Prussian bayonets and the hope of victory through a separate peace with Russia have enabled the war lords to keep them in leash. Now that this hope has been blasted by the brilliant victory with which the Russian army has initiated its resumption of hostilities the peace party has become insistent in demanding that the people be given a voice in the government, and the Kaiser has offered some concessions. This is a gratifying development tending toward an early ending of the war.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. *We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.* If you do not get your magazine by the 25th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we *must* have your *former* address, as well as your *new* address to make the change. Be sure to send *both*. We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second-class mail matter. Copyright, 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

The Message

Anna S. Ells



Each message had touched the baby lips; each prayer was sent out across its downy head.



The sleet stung him; he shook his head to clear the icy drops from his eyelids.



He was alone with God.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

LONG after he had left her she sat motionless in the home that was now only a house, for he was gone—gone forth as did the men of old, to fight for home and country.

Tensely she sat listening. The sound of cheers came to her from the distant streets, crowned by martial music, triumphant as though victory were already won. The cheers and shouts of the people who drowned sorrow with noise, was as a dull background for her new and awful outlook on life, pierced by the lightenings of the bugle's call.

She was very bitter; for years each had struggled alone to bring about the perfection of their home together, and now this Juggernaut of war had blighted it. Love had shown a gentle God to whom it had been easy to pray, but this grim reaper of death was a stern Presence to whom a puny, individual, human soul was lost in the onrush of horror. No, she could not pray to the God of war. She was left quite alone.

Strangely still it seemed as though the world held its breath in silent suspense. She started and looked wildly around. No sound came now from the empty streets; the tramping feet were moving on—on toward the line of fire. They were not going to go; they were gone, beyond love's recall. He was gone! Great God in heaven, he was gone, gone to fight with death, and she was left alone.

She reached out her hands to the empty world, and the moan, so long suppressed, escaped her tortured lips. For a moment she seemed to see again his boyish face, then the darkness came.

When life struggled back, and those watching feared remembrance, a great light shone in her gray eyes; she had remembered her child, the little, loved one who was to come to bless her lonely days, and make the empty house a home again. Remembering she forgot the bugle's cry in the hope that held, like a single thread, her trust in God.

A month later her boy was born. She fought her own great battle with death on woman's common battlefield, and the victory was hers; she held in her weak arms his son. Could her full heart but bridge space and let him know! Hour after hour she thought of him; through the long nights she saw him fighting amid a rain of fire; she heard his moans as he lay dying, untended, on the field of battle; she saw him dead and cold and alone. When the sun shone she saw him doing wonders with his brave young life, his face aglow with victory. Out into the unknown she reached blindly, wildly for news of him. Only her dreams answered her dreams. There was no news from the front.

As she grew stronger her tireless hands found work to do for some brave man, perhaps for him who was more than man to her, the keeper of her heart, the father of her boy. Day after day she knitted the homely, warm, woolen socks so scorned at home, so welcome in the field, and in each sock she put the same message:

"John Brewster Winter:
"I hold our son in my arms while I wait for you. Keep brave for Tanette."

As she pushed each slip with its message of cheer deep into the toe of every sock, she sent into space toward that mighty force called God, a prayer. Perchance He might rest for a moment from looking at death, and catch the little cry as it sped through the air. Each message had touched the baby lips; each prayer was sent out across its downy head. God had reverenced motherhood.

Knee deep in half frozen mud stood John Brewster Winter in a trench at the front, his eyes lined along the gun he held in his red, chapped hands, too numb to sting with the biting cold. His brown hair was matted, the bristle of unshaven beard an irritation, not a protection to his weather-worn face. The sleet stung him; he shook his head to clear the icy drops from his eyelids, the better to see to kill. His gun barked; a peeping head crashed down. John Brewster Winter smiled grimly; his cracked lips bled as he moved them. He lined the gun again, but before he cold pull the trigger there came between him and the rain-soaked wretches waiting for "honorable death," a picture, Tanette, little Tanette. For a moment she stood before him as he had left her, trying bravely to smile, then through a darkness he could see her tossing in her pitiful agony. Great drops of perspiration stood on his half frozen face as he seemed to see her silent and cold, the tossing over, the brave little heart gone away into unfathomed mystery. Could he ever find her again amid the thousands who passed, unshriven, through the narrow gate of death? He only thought of her, Tanette. He had forgotten the child.

Half blinded by misery, he bleared along the line of his gun, and it spoke; another soul crowded among its fellows in the silent road to eternity. Could he bear another day like this?

Darkness came early this November night. The wind shrieked above the trenches; the sleet turned to snow that cut as it fell. It sank into the trodden, reddened mud, and blushed to find earth so foul. Other soldiers came to save their country with dying souls, wrecked lives, buried hopes, the glory of war, the honor of a nation. John Brewster Winter limped painfully away to rest, if rest there might be for body carrying its own pains, and soul full of anguish.

The word went round that supplies had come. There were forced mirth and rivalry, wild betting and rough jokes.

"Me for the silken hose," cried a Beau Brummel. "What's your color, old man, orange or rose?" He pointed to the box of clumsy, warm socks of every hue save white. John roused for a moment. Warmth to a soldier on a frozen battlefield is one of the little voices of God. He reached out his hand.

The Beau had chosen a mauve some artistic maid had wrought.

"Some blawsted maid with an eye knit yon foot-warmers, bless her heart!" he cried. "What say you to the crimson?"

"Brown for mine," answered John.

They looked so warm, like a jolly, little brown dog. Tanette had loved brown. John ran his bruised fingers along the long, soft length of them. How good they felt! How they reminded one that women still lived in this soul-tortured earth; that women still cared; that there were still homes to fight for, that God must still dwell on high. With misty eyes he held them closer. Around the curve of the heel his numb fingers crept. It was like touching a woman's hair. He was still human, still a living man. Perhaps Tanette still lived; perhaps—it was then he touched the toe; his fingers lingered; into his somber eyes a wonder crept. He turned aside to draw out the slips of paper. With assumed carelessness he swung toward the faint fight; no man should chaff over these notes from some woman's hand. His heart beat thunderously; no battle had shaken him like this. No, oh, no, he hoped nothing, but some woman from the world of women had spoken across the line of fire, and from that raging hell he reached out his hand, and found:

"John Brewster Winter:
"I hold our son in my arms while I wait for you. Keep brave for Tanette."

There were no battlefields for him; no comrades of the night. He was alone with God, and Tanette held "our son" while she waited.

Van Allyn's Circus Nightmare

By Joseph F. Novak

See front cover illustration.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

VAN ALLYN stretched luxuriously, and picking up the flaming circus poster, he looked with boyish interest at the pictures emblazoned thereon. For some time he studied the sheet by the flaring light of the camp-fire. Behind him stood the tent, tinted red in the ruddy light, behind it rose the tall, silent trees, their shadows the blacker because of the firelight.

"Say, Gordon," he called softly, to a supine figure almost lost in the shadows.

"Ah-m-m-m-yaw-m," was the vague response.

"Gordon!" He gently kicked the soles of a pair of shoes lying at his feet, then his eyes followed the line of khaki trousers which ended at a leather belt. The rest of the man was lost.

"Ah-m-m-yaw, oh, don't bother me," mumbled Gordon.

"Let's row across the river to the circus tomorrow, shall we?"

"Yaa-s, anything you like, only don't disturb my dreams," Gordon yawned.

"I've a good notion to wait and see the circus come to town," continued Van Allyn. "Will you stay up?"

"Not me," answered Gordon, more promptly than a presumably sleepy person would answer.

"Did you ever meet Miss Leonora Galesworthy, Tommy? The golf champion, I mean?" inquired Van Allyn after a moment of silence.

"Naw," answered Tommy Gordon inelegantly. "What makes you mention her?"

"Because I understand she's camping around here somewhere," replied Van Allyn.

Gordon grunted.

"Well, I think we ought to try and meet her," persisted Van Allyn.

"Oh, don't bother me!"

"Well, if you're so stupid and sleepy and don't want to talk, go to bed. This night air is pretty heavy."

Gordon sat up with a sudden spring and rubbed his eyes.

"Coming too?" he inquired.

"No, I'm going to enjoy the lovely night and look my fill of that aggregation of stars," Van Allyn replied. "This is a wonderfully lovely mid-summer's night. Why, I wouldn't be a bit surprised if a drove of elves and fairies didn't visit me and tell me wonderful stories."

"Better be careful that a mob of imps don't fill you full of malaria germs," laughed Gordon. "Just see the heavy dew on the grass, and look at those fireflies! Did you ever see them so thick? It looks as if there is an electrical rain over the river. Good night, I'll leave you to your dreams," and he went into the tent.

Van Allyn stirred the fire a bit, and it snapped and cracked into a brighter blaze. He put on another log from the supply near-by, and when it flamed, he turned his attention to the poster again.

It was one of the old-time wood-cut affairs. A dozen splendid horses stood tirelessly upon their haunches, an immaculate ring-master cracking his whip above them. A dainty equestrienne stood on tiptoe on the flank of another splendid example of horse-flesh. A be-painted clown thrust his head through a paper hoop, another was rubbing his star-laden pate, the aforesaid stars being caused by still another clown who had just landed a slap-stick upon his colleague's head. Up in the air above all this, trapezists of both genders in gaudiest of tights and fleshlings, indulged the wildest sort of aerial flights, with proudly smiling faces.

"The best part of it is that they do exactly what they picture here," mused Van Allyn, as he looked at the bewildering lay-out.

He leaned back and stretched full length, his head resting on his hand on an elbow bent akimbo. The firelight lit up his handsome tanned features and dark curling hair thrust carelessly back from a fine forehead and temples.

As he lay thus, a faint meow came to him. He roused up a bit and in a not particularly inviting voice called:

"Come, kitty."

"Kitty" responded to the invitation, and nestled up. This feline wayfarer, a yellowish creature of mongrel breed, had strayed into an adjoining camp that day, and the children had adopted it temporarily. "Kitty" was now evidently seeking new pastures.

Van Allyn stroked the kitten for some time, when suddenly it said:

"Petting is extremely well for kittens, but now that I am grown up, it is hardly befitting. I am a lady and it isn't according to Dame Grundy for you to caress me, even if you are a human."

Now, if a little mongrel kitten should suddenly grow up to a full-sized female tigress and almost before your very eyes, wouldn't it be enough to make you use your favorite ejaculation? It was for Van Allyn, and he exclaimed:

"Suffering Cæsar! what does it all mean?"

"If you wish to know, sir," the lady tigress answered, "it simply means that we have captured you and you are to be a part of our circus. I am your trainer."

"Great heaven, have I changed into a beast?" he exclaimed. He looked at himself, but he was still clad in his gray shirt, whip-cord trousers and tan leggings, and he was still, to all appearances, human. Then he looked up at the lady tigress, and she regarded him as if he were a handsome collie.

"I don't think I'll put you through your act today; you look as if you were a little tired. Besides, I want to talk to Tessie, the lioness. She has been having trouble with her human."

And with the words, the lithe creature rose up and started off. Van Allyn rose to follow her, but she shooed him back sharply, opened a barred door deftly with her paws, and sprang out. The door locked automatically behind her.

"Well, this is certainly a pretty mess," mused Van Allyn. "Am I truly penned up?"

Indeed, he was, he discovered. But his cage was furnished most tastily. There were plenty of comfortable chairs about, a table, smoking set, cigars, matches and a bottle of seltzer. He sprang to the bars in protest, and railed angrily.

At this, the tigress came forward, but being a tender-hearted creature, she did not brandish a whip, but merely said:

"Now, behave yourself, Mr. Arthur Van Allyn. If you raise a fuss, the manager may order you flogged, a thing I wouldn't like to see. Take example from our species 'American Guide' across the way."

"This is splendid, being penned up by wild beasts and commanded to do their bidding. But what—as I live, I won't stand for that!" for across the way in a cage was Sam Billings, their guide, being whipped by a leopard.

"Quit that!" Van Allyn roared.

"Please stop," said the lady tigress angrily, "or I shall be obliged to do likewise."

Just then, Sam Billings began trowelling the air beautifully, in the manner Van Allyn had seen him do time and time again on the river, whereupon the leopard condescended to hand him a cigarette and an encouraging pat.

"Well," thought Van Allyn, "either I've gone crazy, or the coming circus has gone mad, or else the world is turned upside down. Changes are occurring before my very eyes, and seem plausible. Well, well, who'd ever think it?"

He turned and walked to the end of his cage. Just obliquely from it was another, and looking through the bars, he saw Gordon reading a magazine.

"Gordon," he called.

"Good morning," that gentleman greeted, as if it were perfectly proper that human beings should be penned up and under the care of jungle beasts.

"Talk gently," continued Gordon, "and we'll get along all right. My trainer doesn't pay any attention to me if I talk low or sing softly." The trainer in question was a noble-looking lion.

"Suffering Cæsar, Tommy, what does it all mean?" Van Allyn demanded.

"Mean? Why simply that these beasts came along and captured us to exhibit us to the denizens of the wilds, even as we show them off in our circuses. We're all properly labeled, though I can't read mine. You are designated 'Society Man of Leisure.'"

"Society Man——" began Van Allyn, but sure enough, he was clad in immaculate evening clothes!

"But Tommy," he protested, "I just had my camping outfit on a minute ago."

"Artie, don't growl so loudly. You'll be disciplined," was Gordon's reply.

"But Tommy how did we get here?"

"How did we get here? We were lassoed in regulation fashion and caged up."

"That's downright scandal, Tommy! This cage just grew up around me, that's all. I was sitting by the camp-fire when all of a sudden I found myself caressing a bloodthirsty tigress. I swear, it's a shame."

"Well, this has its compensations," returned Gordon philosophically. "I had a charming conversation with a pretty girl whom they have labeled 'Society Girl.' I understand you've got to fox-trot with her!"

"I?"

"Yes, for the edification of the beasts of the jungle. But tell me, what am I labeled?"

Van Allyn leaned up against the bars of his cage and glimpsed the sign on Gordon's.

"You're labeled 'Successful Lawyer.'"

"They got my profession, didn't they?" Gordon laughed. "Say, Artie, I believe that they're going to have you do a little practising. Here comes the girl."

Van Allyn turned his eyes in the direction Gordon indicated. A cage door had been opened, and the daintiest of girls stepped forth. She was dressed in a gown of shimmering white, over which was thrown a cloud of flimsy gauze. A wide girdle of rose silk encircled her waist, and she wore a great cluster of pansies. A big sun hat, adorned with a few rose-buds and streamers of deep-rose velvet, rested lightly on hair the color of dull gold.

Altogether she was a most charming picture, a girl of dreams.

She walked proudly and came toward Van Allyn's cage, the door of which was presently opened, and she entered. The tigress came in, so did the big white polar bear, who was the girl's keeper.

"How do you do?" she greeted. "I hope you don't think me unconventional, but I'm afraid we're obliged to cater to these beasts, who wish us to fox-trot and do others of the present day freak dances. Do you dance, sir?"

"Somewhat, Miss ——" he hesitated.

"I am Leonora Galesworthy," she laughed merrily.

"The golf champion?"

"I have that honor," she responded.

"I am Arthur Van Allyn. So sorry that this thing has occurred—that is, sorry for your sake that we must obey these creatures."

"I don't seem to mind when I have you nearby," she said naively.

"Thanks," he returned, and just then as the order to dance came, Van Allyn held out his arms.

Miss Galesworthy seemed to float into them, and in a moment they were executing some very graceful steps to the great admiration of the circle of beasts who crowded around outside, and who commented on the performance.

When the dancers finished, these beasts engaged each other in conversation.

"Have you heard anything from your uncle who is with Ting-a-ling Bros.' Circus?" asked one elephant of another.

"Not recently," was the reply.

"My two sisters and three of my brothers are with Farnum & Hailey's," chimed in another elephant. "They are horribly provoked. Those enterprising humans are an ungrateful lot. My brothers and sisters were formerly the stars of Farnum's. Now they managed to capture some stranger and brought him to Farnum & Hailey's, claiming he is the biggest elephant in captivity. All he does is simply march around the arena in the Grand Entree, wearing a glittering cloth of gold blanket and a gilded howdah on his back, in which three painted humans lounge. My brothers and sisters were mighty angry and for a while refused to do their tricks, for they can do things that humans do in their daily life."

"What did Dandy of Bells Brothers' Show write, Lioness?" queried a black bear.

"Oh, he's got so accustomed to his lot that he doesn't mind it. At first he used to rage and tear about and he almost killed his keeper on several occasions. But now he says that the fire of youth is leaving him and he is content to just sit in his cage. He's well fed and can sleep as much as he likes. It bores him somewhat to be stared at all the time, but now and then he gets a little thrill when he observes how he frightens visitors. He says he is the most popular creature in the whole menagerie as that he always has a bunch of humans admiring him, so his life isn't as bad as it might be," said the lioness.

"Well, it is nearly time for the afternoon performance, so I suppose we'd better get ready. I expect the whole jungle will turn out! Gracious! What is that noise?" exclaimed a zebra.

The giraffe stretched his long neck above all, and sniffed superciliously. "Oh, it's that bunch of human freaks. Because they are placed on pedestals in the side shows of Ting-a-ling Brothers', Farnum & Hailty's, and other circuses, they fancy they are our equals here. I wonder what they've been scrapping about?"

Van Allyn looked out of his cage. Sure enough! There were a couple of Midgets, the Giant, the Blue Man, the Circassian Beauty, the Albino Couple, the Bearded Lady, the Legless Wonder, Zow-Zow, the strong man, and several others.

These freaks burst out laughing as they beheld the human menagerie.

"'Hang it!" exclaimed Van Allyn, "I don't propose to be sneered at by any freak. And I'll be hanged if I'll let any animal have dominion over me, any longer. I'm going to rush those creatures and get out even if they tear me to pieces!"

"Oh, Mr. Van Allyn!" Miss Galesworthy screamed. "Please don't leave me!"

"You'll come along too. There, they're opening the door!"

He sprang up, seized the girl in his arms, and fled toward the door. A wild howling arose, screams and shrill shrieks of: "The Society Man! The Society Man broke loose! Head him off!"

Van Allyn fought his way. With one arm he

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

The Pawn

By Elizabeth Dorothy Sargent

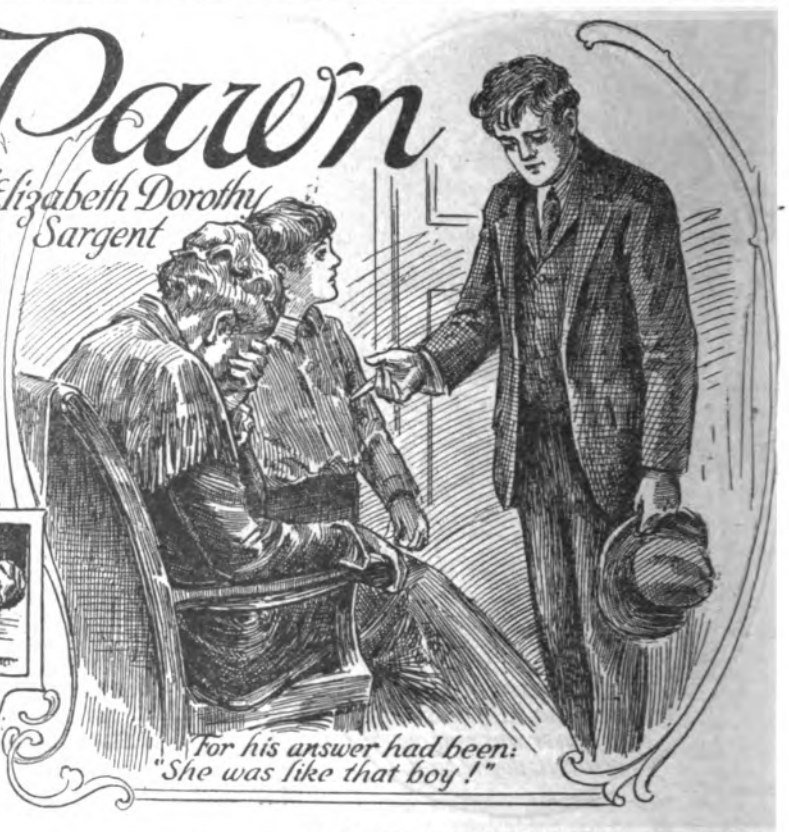


"Oh, Juan. I'm so glad, so glad. Hurry now and hear my song which mother sent today."



"I will work, missee. work for you and you can forget the Captain."

"The Cross—to kiss the Cross—"



For his answer had been: "She was like that boy!"

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

JUAN GARCIA three years before as happy and carefree a nature as ever came out of happy carefree Spain, sat this evening in California, in a bunkhouse room of a foothill mining camp, thinking. He sat on a box before a rough table looking at the spinning cylinder of an Edison phonograph—"at last to learn to kiss the Cross, to kiss—" he dropped his head into his hands and the cylinder spun on. It was worn smooth in places and some of the words were gone entirely. A man's voice joined the woman's and the last verse was repeated. The song was ended; the record grated against the tiny needle and whirled on with low, squawking jerks, but the man on the box sat still, his head in his hands and made no move to stop it.

For him it was two years ago and he was far away on an island of the Pacific, a soldier at Manila in the service of the United States. He was going up the steps of a broad veranda, a girl was running toward him, eager, laughing. Behind her a phonograph was playing. The words on her lips were:

"Oh, Juan, I'm so glad, so glad. Hurry now and hear my song which mother sent today. It's 'The Rosary' I've been telling you about. Oh, there, it's on the last verse and I don't like that—It's the first two verses that are so beautiful and the two voices at the end of the second. I always stop it before it gets to the cross. Now sit right here and listen."

And he had sat right there and listened and she had turned it off when it came to the cross. Then they had visited the afternoon away. It was in the early twilight that he said, as she was starting "The Rosary" just once more.

"The Captain wants to meet you."

Even in the shadow he could see the new eagerness in her face. It was in her voice, in spite of the attempted carelessness with which she said:

"Bring him with you some day, if you like."

Then as she questioned him about the captain, about what he had said and when he thought he could come, he noticed while she didn't that the singer had finished the two first verses and was well through the third—"at last to learn to kiss the Cross—to kiss the Cross." She turned impatiently and moved the lever.

"I can't bear that verse," she muttered. "I hate it."

She shivered a little and he thought that the breeze must be colder up at her exposed corner of the veranda than it was where he was sitting.

The needle chewed around the edge of the cylinder until the point grating on the record aroused the man on the box. He turned it off mechanically, stared absently at the cut cylinder and dropped his head again, this time upon his arms outstretched upon the table.

Again he was going up the steps of the broad veranda. His feet got heavier with every step until on the last he stood still and looked around, keeping his eyes from, yet directing them at last to the corner where the girl knelt beside the low phonograph table. Her hands clutched its sides; her eyes followed the revolutions of the small blue cylinder, at times her lips moved slowly. Though he knew what he'd hear, he stepped toward her and listened to her low murmuring:

"The Cross—to kiss the Cross——"

Again it was early twilight, but this time he knelt beside her, this time it was he who turned off the phonograph and he who said with no impatience, only a wondering dreariness:

"I can't bear that verse; I hate it."

The dreariness when he spoke again had given way to a tone half comforting, half imploring.

"Oh, missee, come with me, come with me to the great California. I will work, missee, work for you and you can forget the Captain. You will forget him and this cruel Manila."

The man on the box shook now to remember. He left his seat, walked to the window and stood staring out into the black, winter night. There in the flickering, reflected light of the lamp at his back, he saw her as she started up and shoved him away. He heard her again as she mocked:

"Go with you to the mines, to the California mines, with you, you who brought him here. And forget the Captain. You'd take what the Captain's thrown aside and tell it to come with you and forget the Captain? How long would you forget him? As long as he remembered me and for the same reason. Ha! forget the Captain! Yes, Juan, I'll forget him, but here in Manila. I won't have to go to California to do that. California——" the word came slowly from her lips. Her manner had changed at mention of it, and when she spoke again it was to question musingly:

"Ah, Juan, you brought him and you didn't know—how could you know—how could anyone know? And he's gone and I'm here and not here. I'm back there with the girl I was before he came."

She was quiet, then spoke suddenly, changed again in the moment's pause.

"Juan, where are you going in California? To Amador county. Surely, that's where they all go. You're bound to make amends, you can. It's easy too. Never tell anyone in California my name. Never in all the world mention my name to a living soul. Forget that I have one—forget me. Ha! I won't have one much longer. A name, my name—Ha!"

The man at the window drew back even now, remembering the new recklessness of the last words:

"And, Juan, I'm giving you a present. You must take my phonograph. For I'm forgetting the Captain, you know, and I'll be rid of everything that makes me remember—the phonograph most of all. Now you're going to tell me good by, because Senor Howard is coming and I must be pretty for him, la bonita senorita, eh, Juan? la bonita!"

So he had left her. And now he was here with her phonograph and her song and his memories; for he had done it. He Juan Garcia had brought the Captain to her. Why not when the Captain had asked to come, when he was so beautiful and she was so beautiful and he had loved them both so much. But the end! And he had done it—he! He sat down on the bunk to think; he was always thinking lately.

There was a short knock at the door followed by a laughing:

"Clear the decks, Juan, I'm here," and the boy stuck his head in. The boy whose dancing blue eyes and mouth that was meant to be laughing though it was old and drawn now, reminded him vaguely of Azile Cherton, his missee, the girl whom he had found, a happy-go-lucky, dance-sing-and-be-merry creature of the moment, teaching school in Manila, and had left cast off, bitter and in her bitterness, with her old love of happiness turned into recklessness, making of herself a pretty senorita, "la bonita senorita, eh Juan?" The boy who reminded him of her was laughing now and pulling at his arms.

"Come on, Juan, come down to the house and talk Spanish to me. Don't sit here thinking. Mother'll love to have you, too. She said so this morning and told me to bring you. She's always mighty glad to see any one from the Philippines. I asked for your mail today and there wasn't any."

So chattering English and remembering now and again to say a few sentences in Spanish they went down the hill to the low, white house which rambled over the knoll above the bend in the river.

During the evening before the fireplace the boy told of his doings at High School, Juan of his boyhood in Castile, his working in his father's mines and his early years of service in the Philippines. The mother sat in a large chair at one side of the fireplace, putting in an occasional word, smiling now and again, but not, until Juan was going, showing any eagerness. then she leaned forward, her tone half hopeful, half hopeless, wholly imploring.

"Mr. Garcia, did you, in Manila, know, perhaps, a girl, a young lady, Azile," her voice broke, "Azile Cherton? She was a teacher there."

Juan was standing in front of the fireplace idly framing his adieux when she began and had bent toward her to catch the low words. At the name Azile, even before the voice broke, he straightened up and squared his shoulders—then he remembered her command—"Never in all the world tell my name to a living soul." His hand fell from where it had rested on the mantle, to his side. He stood as at attention and said slowly:

"I'm sorry, I did not know her."

The words sounded cold, formal, even cruel in his ears. He turned with a mumbled goodnight and left the room.

The boy followed him out and down the walk.

"Juan," he said, "didn't you really know her? You acted so funny."

They reached the gate and the boy stood with his back to it, facing the man.

"She's my sister, Juan," his voice was hoarse, "tell me what you know about her. I know you know something."

Juan's eyes were old and tired, his lips twitched beyond the control of the resolution which gave the new setness to his face.

"I have said I know nothing," he repeated and made a move toward the gate. His one idea was to get home, to think and to adjust his thinking to the terrible new state of affairs.

Anger, quick and uncontrolled, made of the suppliant boy, a coarse and intolerant man. He drew himself up beside the gate until he met Juan eye to eye.

"I'm Tom Cherton," he thundered, "and I'll know about my sister, Azile, and why you're sneaking around hiding something about her or I'll—what! Oh, Juan!"

He was all boy again and throwing his arm around the shoulders of the shaking figure whose hands were gripping the fence, whose head was upon his hands.

"I'm crazy, Juan, crazy to insult you so, but she's my sister, Juan, my sister. She's been lost for over a year and we can't get any word of her. It killed my father; it's killing my mother and I guess it's killing me. Can't you tell us something? Everything else has failed. We've done everything. Tell me what you know."

The man at the fence heard the voice, but the words he understood were in a voice like this one, laughing eager: "Bring him over some day, if you like," low and terrible: "to kiss the Cross, to kiss the Cross;" reckless, defiant: "la bonita senorita, la bonita, eh, Juan?"

"Missee!" he choked, "Missee!"

His agony startled the boy so that he dropped his arms and drew back. Juan lifted his head, stared dully at him, stumbled out through the gate and up the road, home.

He sat on the bunk that night and in the morning his resolution was made. He must get away before he added to what he had done already by telling about it. He would go back to Spain where girls didn't leave home—where lots of things were better than they were here.

So he made his plans and by the end of the week was ready to start. The evening before he was to leave he was sitting again before the fireplace with the boy and his mother. He had brought the phonograph to give to them, for in some vague way he felt that it was theirs. He had made up his mind that he would tell them nothing. He would just leave the phonograph and go. They had made up their minds that he would tell them everything, so they kept him on while they tried out pieces.

When the boy who was putting on records, came to one at the end of a row in a far corner he slipped it on, murmuring:

"Here's sister's song, mother," and before Juan realized it "The Rosary" was begun, was through the first verse, was beginning the second, had finished it, was starting the third. The worn record blundered on and Juan blundered on and the boy blundered on. The mother watched it all. Juan's first blunder was, as usual, to drop his head into his hands, the boy's was to drop on his knees beside him, put his hands upon his shoulders and beg.

"Tell us what you know, Juan. Tell us about the girl who used to play the record."

Over Juan came the feeling that he was a pawn moved about by the Great Hand in the game for the destruction of this family.

"Tell us, Juan," said the boy.

The mother sat and waited. The needle was grinding at the end of the record. Juan looked up, gazed thoughtfully at the spinning cylinder, reached out his hand and turned it off. He glanced at the mother, looked hard at the boy, saw in his face another face and felt the Great Hand move him.

"Tell us," the boy whispered.

"The girl who owned that record was in Manila. She was a teacher there. The Captain came. I brought him—I brought him," he spoke as one whose mind has wandered far, "and then he left, and left her—so now she loves all the soldiers. Now she's a pretty senorita—la bonita senorita—for all the soldiers."

The mother had moved forward to the edge of her chair, her hand on its arm trembled. When she spoke each word came with a gasp.

"And her name?"

The word changed him. He was remembering his command.

"I do not——"

Before he could finish she broke in:

"Her face, her face! What was she like?"

Again the Great Hand moved him; he spoke—the game was over. He ran from the room, left the next morning for Spain, his happy carefree Spain—happy no longer—and carefree—bah! Carefree! Everywhere he turned he saw them—the girl—"la bonita senorita, eh, Juan?"—the boy, all the laughter gone from his dancing eyes, the too-old mouth drawn and desperate—the mother, pale and terrible, overcome at last, by a blow greater than anything her greatest fears had conceived of. For his answer had been:

"She was like that boy!"

Van Allyn's Circus Nightmare

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3.)

held the girl to him, with the other he disposed of any attempts to block his passage. The tigress snapped at him. He seized her by her waving tail, swung her around his head and she sailed off through the ether. Another beast got in his way, he kicked him soundly and sped on. The giant with great strides intercepted him with his big bulk. His abdomen was on a level with Van Allyn's shoulder. Van Allyn crashed his fist with horrible force——

A very real howl came from Van Allyn's own throat and he opened his eyes to find himself standing before a very tough old tree whose trunk he had hit a resounding whack, as his bleeding fist testified. Up in the boughs of this same tree, the poor mongrel kitty, blinking and bewildered from her sudden aero-planing into space, hung and meowed weakly. Under his arm he clutched a log of wood, evidently the beautiful "Miss Galesworthy!"

From the tent Gordon emerged, wild-eyed and terrified, brought to stark wakefulness by Van Allyn's scream. He now stood open-mouthed as Van Allyn crawled up into the tree and released the kitten, crushed between a crotch.

"Thunder and dynamite!" ejaculated Gordon at last, "what's the matter with you?"

The two men stood facing each other in the morning dawn. In the trees, the birds twittered their morning songs; from a blanketed bundle on the ground issued the unmistakable evidence that their guide still slept.

"Well, what's the rumpus?" queried Gordon.

"Nightmare, 'Successful Lawyer.' I've just escaped from my keeper, a splendid lioness. She made me fox-trot with stunning Miss Leonora Galesworthy—behold her," and he held forth the log.

"Tell it all from soup to nuts, boy," Gordon said, as he raked together the scattered sticks which Van Allyn had kicked about.

Van Allyn did, and finished up with a declaration of finding the girl and winning her if she really existed.

"Are you still awake?" queried Gordon, pityingly.

"Oh, yes. Look across the river," Van Allyn directed, and their eyes crossed the shimmering water where the early morning dew clouds rested on the glassy surface. "I see blue tent poles and canvas and hear dim murmurs as the shouting of the builders of the tented city, so you see I am awake."

All the morning he harped upon the nightmare, and as soon as breakast was over, he insisted on going to town to the circus-parade.

The two men joined in the jollity of the day, buying traps and gew-gaws lavishly. But privately, Van Allyn was watching, wondering if perhaps he might not actually see the girl of his dreams, or more properly, his nightmare, for he knew there was a Miss Leonora Galesworthy, the golf champion, that she was camping thereabout, and he wondered if she was anything like the girl of his dreams.

And, wonderful to relate, he saw her! She wore a simple white dress, and a sun-hat with pink rose buds and velvet streamers. Her hair was dull gold! And she wore a cluster of pansies at her belt!

"Miss Galesworthy!" he exclaimed.

She looked up, ready to smile, then her features relaxed into the look of one who has made a mistake.

"Are you not Miss Galesworthy?" he persisted, desire overcoming caution and good breeding.

"I happen to be, yes," she replied, evenly, and with terrible frigidity, "but I believe we have not met."

"Pardon me, I didn't mean to annoy you——" he stammered, flushing scarlet as he realized his solecism. But Gordon came to the rescue.

"Miss Galesworthy, pardon me. I know you, but merely through reputation, and from having seen your picture in the paper. Please do not mind my friend. He is not responsible. We are camping across and a little up the river. Arthur pleaded so hard to be allowed to visit the circus that I simply had to take him. You'll pardon us, I hope? My name, if you care to know it, is Thomas Gordon, attorney for the Consolidated Steel Company."

Miss Galesworthy bowed and moved away with her friends.

Van Allyn's eyes blazed.

"What did you want to make a 'nut' of me in her eyes for?" he demanded.

"How else did you act?" coolly returned Gordon.

Van Allyn laughed outright. "You're right, Tommy, I did act like a fool, but I'll keep up the comedy. But say, boy, how do you account for my getting such an excellent picture of her in my dreams? I don't believe I ever saw her before."

"Possibly you saw a picture of her and your sub-conscious mind made note of it, unknown to you, until the dream brought out the impression," suggested Gordon, and they let it go at that.

When the big tent flop was opened to admit the audience, Van Allyn watched for Miss Galesworthy. And when she entered he followed and took a seat next to her. He smiled at her as if at an old acquaintance, and she smiled back, humoring him evidently!

During the performance he told her of his nightmare, in detail, but relating it as an actual fact. She listened with perfect good-humor. Once he thought he heard her murmur, "too bad he's crazy," and there was a note of sympathy in that murmur that made his heart leap.

The show finally ended, but all too soon for Van Allyn, and as they left the tent, he whispered to her:

"Won't you let me call and see you sometime when you are in town? It would make me so happy."

And Leonora Galesworthy, the dear, sympathetic heart, pressed his hand gently and said, "yes."

* * * * * * * * * * * *

It was October, the month of brown leaves and chill winds. Miss Galesworthy was at home in the city. Often she thought of a frankly friendly, boyish young man in whipcord suit, soft gray shirt and leggings, who had asked to call. And she had granted his request, because, poor fellow, he was harmlessly crazy.

One evening a card was brought to her. The name was not familiar. But she would see the gentleman.

She went down the steps slowly, her studied descent setting off her gown of shimmering white over which was thrown a cloud of gauze. A wide girdle of rose silk encircled her waist, and she wore a great cluster of pansies.

She bowed graciously to the gentleman who rose courteously. His opera coat opened as he did so, displaying his faultlessly fitting evening clothes.

"Your *madman*, Miss Galesworthy," he said politely but with roguish tone, nevertheless, "I expect you do not remember me."

"Well——" she hesitated a bit, "well, perhaps I do."

"I called, Miss Galesworthy, to apologize. I am Arthur Van Allyn. You remember the rubbish I told you at the circus? It was all true—an actual nightmare. With the nightmare vividly in mind, I was much amazed to see the girl of my dreams materialize, and interest got the better of my caution. To shield my breach of etiquette Mr. Gordon put on me, the guise of a madman. Since then, I've thought a great deal about this, and I felt you deserved an apology. It was all mid-summer-night madness, Miss Galesworthy, and I trust I may appeal to your generosity and ask your forgiveness?"

"No apology is necessary," the girl smiled forgivingly, "You really made me believe that you were not in your right mind, though. I thought it was a great pity."

"Did you really give the poor young madman a thought after that day?" he queried, his eyes so bright that Miss Galesworthy averted hers.

"Yes, I did. I speculated, womanlike, as to what it might have been that caused you to become a distracted person. I'm glad it was a joke," she answered, more fervently than she realized.

"Thank you. Well, I shall detain you no longer unless it be for one more request. May I not find a mutual acquaintance who will introduce us according to the conventions, and then may I not make a formal call?"

His brilliant eyes were fixed upon hers, and they were saying things—all those things that make a man seek out a woman—but those things convention does not allow spoken upon first acquaintance.

"I give you the privilege, Mr. Van Allyn," she said.

"Thank you. Good night."

THE END.

What's that?
Were they married? Why, of course!



This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

JUDGING from the letters received from farm women who are doing their bit by working in the vegetable garden, or even helping with the larger crops, it will not be a hardship for them to turn their overalled or otherwise appropriately garbed persons to the flower garden and devote a little of their time and newly acquired muscles to the planting of bulbs for next summer's flowers. Next month, September, seems to be the best time for this work as the early planting enables the bulbs to make the necessary root-growth before cold weather and insures earlier blossoming in the spring. Old barnyard manure is the best fertilizer and should be used liberally, thoroughly mixing it with the soil. One sister asks about her tulips and narcissus, and these bold leading place in most gardens though hyacinths and various others are close seconds. The tulips and hyacinths should be set about five inches apart and about four inches under the surface, while the narcissus should be set at least seven inches apart and four inches under ground. Personally I prefer keeping the different colors of tulips and hyacinths separate but a bed of mixed colors is such a delight to the eye and heart that the most methodical person can but approve.

SHILOH, MICH.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I was much interested in Northern Spy's letter for I never could understand why it was all right for my brother to go to public dances, etc., and yet my parents said they were not fit places for me to attend.

I wish some of the sisters would tell me what to do for my narcissus and tulips. They grow all to foliage and do not blossom. Do they need taking up? If so, should I replant them at once or wait until fall? Perhaps some of you have had the same trouble and can tell me how to make them bloom.

I was a primary teacher before my marriage but for nearly five years I have been a farmer's wife and like housework and farm life better than teaching.

I will be glad to hear from some of the sisters and will try and answer all letters.

Best wishes to you all, MRS. R. H. MIKESELL.

MISSOURI.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I want to join this interesting circle and see if I can help a little.

There is just husband, baby and I in our family and, of course, to us baby is the most interesting little creature ever seen. She is now twenty months old, fat and chubby with rosy cheeks and a wealth of dark hair, which I keep bobbed. She can talk very plainly for her age. I have a very quiet, Christian husband. He is kind and attentive to baby and I think we have a happy home.

To the sister who wrote for a baby outfit, I want to tell her what I made for my baby before she came. First I bought two silk wool skirts, then enough Shaker's flannel half wool and half cotton) to make two petticoats which I made one yard long, with opening on shoulders so if one got soiled I could remove it and put on a clean one without removing the dress. I got ten yards of bleached canton flannel to make twelve diapers. I had two tablecovers made from cheese-cloth that I cut up into twelve little bands, twenty by six inches (straight). I also had a band pattern with straps over the shoulders. I made four of these from long cloth. I made three flannelette gowns, cut in one piece and opened in the back. Then I made a nice dress and petticoat, of white batiste and trimmed with lace and insertion. Instead of hemming the bottom of the dress I scalloped it and put a lace ruffle around the scallops. The underskirt I made somewhat the same way only I did not scallop it around the bottom. I made two plain white dimity dresses for everyday wear and out of the tablespreads I made squares eighteen inches wide to use for diapers the first three days so they could be burned. As for hose, cap, coat and such, wait until later before buying these. Have good pure soap, plenty of wash rags and bath towels and vaseline, camphor and talcum also. For yourself have a good-sized roll of absorbent cotton, a small vial of carbolic acid and plenty of soft, sterilized cloths. This is as good an outline as I could give an inexperienced person.

Mrs. H. L. Holder, if you will have the child that your baby bites, bite him until he cries, he won't attempt it any more. I've seen this tested with good results.

Mrs. L. T., if your disposition were like mine you would soon show Mr. L. T. who would boss the placing of the furniture, no matter what he said. I fear you are too good and easy.

Foodstuff in Missouri is scarce and dreadfully high. I wonder if it is that way everywhere.

I hope my letter will find its way to that expectant mother. Yours as ever, "Willie."

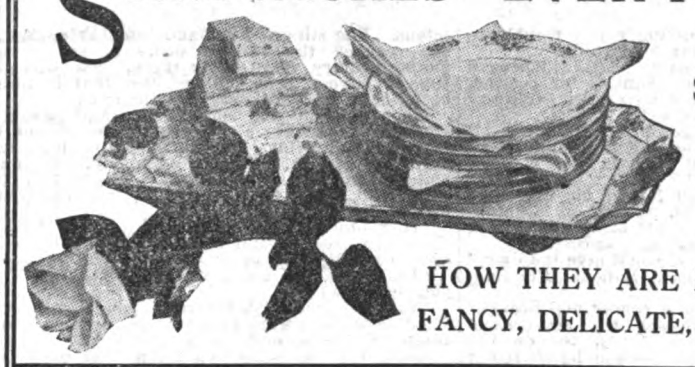
Willie and others. The U. S. Dept. of Labor in a book on Prenatal Care gives a list of supplies needed if the confinement is to take place at home, as follows:

Two to four pounds of absorbent cotton.
One large package of steril gauze (25 yards).
Four rolls of cotton batting.
Two yards of stout muslin for abdominal binders.
Twelve old towels or diapers.
Two old sheets.
Two yards of bobbin, or very narrow tape, for tying the cord.

From these supplies the mother or nurse may make the necessary pads and bandages, which should then be sterilized, in accordance with directions which follow. Other things that may be needed are:

One hundred bichlorid of mercury tablets.
Four ounces powdered boric acid.
One bottle of white vaseline.
One pound of Castile soap.
One quart of grain alcohol.
One douche pan.
One stiff hand brush.
One slop jar or covered enamel bucket.

SANDWICHES—EVER POPULAR



NOTHING SO GOOD FOR MANY OCCASIONS AND PURPOSES

HOW THEY ARE MADE—PLAIN, FANCY, DELICATE, SUBSTANTIAL

TO make thin, even sandwiches, use bread baked the day before and be sure it is fine grained. Cream the butter with a spoon in a warm bowl so it will not break the bread while spreading. Cut off the end slice and then butter the loaf before cutting the slice from the loaf. Make a cloth damp by wetting one half in cold water and wringing dry as possible and then fold over the dry half and roll and wring together which should make the whole cloth just damp. Keep this cloth thrown over the sandwiches while making and when finished wrap around them till ready to serve. Cut sandwiches either in rounds, square or three-cornered.

CHEESE SANDWICHES.—Mix together equal parts of cream cheese and finely chopped walnuts and season with salt and a dash of cayenne pepper. Moisten with just cream enough to make the mixture spread evenly. Either sweet or sour cream can be used. Spread between buttered slices of graham bread.

SANDWICHES IN BASKET.—Anyone desiring a change from the usual way of serving sandwiches and coffee,



SANDWICHES IN BASKET.

particularly for party lunches, will find the above suggestion of interest. Arrange the sandwiches and little cakes on doily, either cloth or paper, in basket tray.

GRAHAM SANDWICHES.—Cut bread in rounds with cake cutter, large size, and spread with any desired filling.

BAKED BEAN SANDWICHES.—Mash cold baked beans to a paste, season, add a little chopped celery and spread between thin slices of buttered brown bread.

VEGETABLE SANDWICHES.—Mix raw tomatoes, cucumbers, chopped tops of green onions and small pieces of bacon with cottage cheese and place between slices of bread.

MARMALADE SANDWICHES.—Take very thin crackers of any kind, spread one with orange or peach marmalade and the other with cream cheese and press the two together. Spread both marmalade and cheese thinly.

SHRIMP SANDWICHES.—Mix half a cup of shrimps with one half cup finely chopped chicken, half a red pepper and quarter of a Bermuda onion. Chop all together and mix with mayonnaise dressing. Spread on slices of brown and white bread, putting the slices together and cutting into fancy shapes.

SARDINE SANDWICHES.—Take graham bread, cut it in small rounds, fill it with a paste made from hard-boiled eggs and sardines, mashed together. Cover it on the top with a slice of hard-boiled egg and crossed sardines on the top.

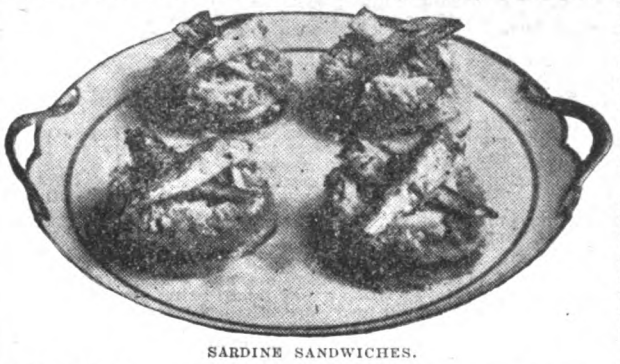
MARY H. NORTHEND, Salem, Mass.

APPLE SANDWICHES.—Slice tart apples very thin, spread with salad dressing and put between buttered slices of white bread. Make just before serving.

BOILED SALAD DRESSING.—Melt three tablespoons of butter with one teaspoon of mustard, one scant teaspoon of salt, one tablespoon of sugar and a dash of cayenne pepper. Cook in double boiler five minutes and pour over three well-beaten yolks of eggs; add one half cup of hot vinegar, one cup of rich milk and the beaten whites of eggs. Return to double boiler and cook till mixture thickens, taking care it does not cook long enough to curdle.

False Economy of Leaving Out Sugar in Canning Fruit and Berries

Again we urge our readers to can a liberal supply of all kinds of fresh vegetables, fruit and berries, but do not make the mistake of putting up fruit and berries without sugar. There is no economy but there is positive disadvantage in leaving out the sugar. It is strange how inconsistent people are and how they go from one extreme to the other. Following the recent mad



SARDINE SANDWICHES.

rush of the housewives to buy and hoard large quantities of sugar in anticipation of future scarcity and higher prices comes the talk of canning without sugar in order to save expense.

There cannot be any saving in leaving out the sugar now unless sugar should happen to be lower in price next winter when you come to use your canned fruits and berries. As there is small prospect of sugar being much, if any, cheaper during the war, and it may go higher, you take a speculator's or gambler's chance on that, for the sweetening, if omitted now, must be added when the contents of the cans are eaten.

Just stop and reckon how little would be saved by canning without sugar in case the price should drop later on. The requisite quantity of sugar varies according to the kind and ripeness of the fruit, but the average is less than half a pound to the quart jar. At the present writing (July 6), the retail price of sugar in twenty-five pound bags ranges, according to locality, from eight and one half to nine cents per pound. If the price should drop two cents a pound next winter the saving would be only one cent per quart jar.

Some people seem to think that at the present price of sugar they cannot afford to put up much fruit and berries nor make much jam, jelly or marmalade. Sugar is fuel, producing animal heat and bodily energy, and even at the present price is one of the most economical forms of this class of necessary nutrients. Sugar in goodly allowance is recognized as a necessary constituent of the army ration, and jam is one of the mainstays of the soldiers in the trenches of the Allies and the Germans.

Five years ago sugar sold at the exceptionally low price of five and a half cents per pound. Even now at nine cents it costs only one and three quarters cents more per quart can of fruit or berries.

Jam, jelly and preserves can be used to a considerable extent as a satisfactory, wholesome and nourishing substitute for butter now retailing at forty-five cents or more per pound.

Fruit and berries put up without sugar are never so good. Sugar has much to do with keeping the fruit flavor and preserving the fruit. Fruit and berries canned without sugar are so inferior, and as there is nothing saved in the end by leaving out the sugar, we advise the use of the usual proportion of sugar in canning, unless you happen to be unable to obtain it; in such case, of course, it is better to can without sugar than not to can at all.

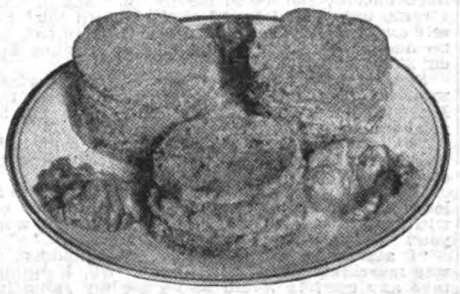
CANNED PEACHES.—Wipe peaches and put in boiling water long enough to loosen skins. Remove skins and cook fruit in syrup made by allowing one third weight of fruit in sugar and two and three quarters cup of water to each pound of sugar. Boil this ten minutes to make a thin syrup; then add peaches and cook. Fill sterilized jars with fruit and add syrup to overflow. Put on rubbers and fasten sterilized covers on. Let stand till cool and again tighten covers.

CANNED PEARS.—Pare fruit. Remove stems, cut in quarters and core. Follow directions given above for canning peaches. A little lemon rind cooked with the syrup, improves the flavor of the pears greatly.

CANNED PINEAPPLE.—Remove skin and eyes from pineapples; cut in thin slices and then into cubes. Follow directions for canning peaches. If the pineapple is to be used for sherbets, etc, it may be shredded and cooked in one half its weight in sugar, adding no water, and then sealed in jars.

CANNED QUINCES.—Wipe, quarter, core and peel equal amounts of quinces and apples. Follow directions for peaches.

TOMATO PRESERVE.—Cover two pounds of tomatoes with boiling water and let stand until skins may be removed easily. To this add two pounds of sugar and let stand over night. In the morning pour off syrup and boil till thick; skim and add tomatoes, four ounces of preserved ginger and three large lemons, which have been sliced and seeds removed. Cook.



GRAHAM SANDWICHES.

CARROT MARMALADE.—One dozen raw grated carrots, one cup of sugar to each cup of carrots, juice of three lemons, and three quarters teaspoon each cloves, cinnamon and allspice. Mix carrots and sugar and let stand over night. In morning add lemon juice and spices. Cook three quarters of an hour.

RASPBERRY JAM.—Clean and wash six pounds of raspberries. Put on stove with just enough water to keep from burning and boil half an hour. Add one pound of raisins, stoned and cut into small pieces, and three and one half pounds sugar. Boil until thick. Blackberries may be used instead.

PICKLED PEACHES.—One peck of peaches, one quart of vinegar, one quart of water, two quarts and a half of sugar and a few cloves. Wipe the peaches carefully with a clean cloth and divide into two parts. Bring the water, sugar and vinegar to the boiling point and add one half the peaches and boil for one half hour; remove and put in other half and cook same length of time. Stick a clove into each peach, put peaches into jars and cover with the boiling syrup and seal at once. Do not use peaches that are too ripe. The skin should be removed.

SWEET PICKLED PEARS.—Remove the blossom end from five pounds of pears, not quite ripe, and cook in boiling water till tender. Remove fruit and strain water. To one pint of this water add one pint of vinegar, two and one half pounds of sugar and one quarter cup of mixed whole cloves, allspice, cinnamon and mace. Boil for half an hour and then add pears. When well scalded remove and pack in glass jars. Boil the syrup down to just enough to cover fruit, pour over and seal.

WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE. (Requested.)—Ten large ripe tomatoes, five medium-sized onions, three sweet green peppers, one tablespoon cinnamon, one tablespoon allspice, one tablespoon salt, one tablespoon ginger, one tablespoon mustard, one cup sugar, one quart vinegar and a little celery if desired. Boil slowly one and one half hours. This makes about five pints.
MRS. W. A. HAYNES, McClure, N. Y.

CANNED PORTER APPLES. — Wipe, pare, quarter and core Porter apples then weigh. Make a syrup by boiling one third their weight in sugar with water, allowing two and one half cups to each pound of sugar. Cook apples in syrup, until thoroughly done, doing a few at a time. After they are done, then boil syrup ten minutes, putting the apples back in syrup and heating them to a boiling point. Fill jars and seal.

GRAPE JELLY.—Pick the grapes over, wash and remove stems. Mash a few in the bottom of preserving kettle using a wooden potato masher. Heat to boiling point and boil thirty minutes. Strain through coarse strainer, then let juice run through a double thickness of cheese-cloth or a jelly bag. Measure, bring to boiling point, and boil five minutes; add an equal measure of heated sugar, boil three minutes, skim and pour into glasses. Place in a sunny window and let stand twenty-four hours. Cover the top of glasses with paraffin and keep in a cool, dry place.

Three pottery or agateware basins, one 16 inches, and two 11 inches in diameter.
Pitchers, at least three, holding one quart and upward.
One and one half yards of rubber sheeting, at least 36 inches wide, or
One and one half yards of white table oilcloth, to protect the mattress.
One two-quart fountain syringe.
One medicine glass.
One medicine dropper.
One drinking tube.

GREENVILLE, PA.

DEAR EDITOR:

Some time ago I wrote to you about a wheel chair for my little girl who had been helpless since a baby. She was then four years old. I sent in several subscriptions and the reason I did not send more was because the Lord gave her strength and she now walks. She still has the lump between her shoulders and walks like all who are in her condition but she walks and can get along with the rest except in the game of running. She had whooping cough a year ago last June and was sick until September. Then she began to get stronger and in October walked. I am sending you a small snapshot showing her with her baby doll and carriage, given her by one of the nurses at the hospital where my husband is employed. Mothers, don't let younger children carry the babies around in their arms. I have been careful since little Erla got hurt and oh, how I wish I had been careful before. A neighbor's girl who dearly loved babies but who was not accustomed to handling them used to hold her every chance she could get and did not support her back and let her fall, causing her lameness. She is now six years old and is very bright. She will sign her name to this letter. She says to tell you to hurry along with the next COMFORT as she wants to see the Dapperlings. She delights in hearing the little stories and we all enjoy the paper and read it from cover to cover.

If any kind person sends in subscriptions for her wheel chair just credit them to some other unfortunate.

With best wishes, MRS. J. G. MCCOY.

Mrs. McCoy. If it were at all possible I would like to print little Erla's picture and reproduce her well-written signature, so the sisters could see what a smiling faced, intelligent child she is, but since that cannot very well be done perhaps they will take our word for it.—Ed.

KITTY HAWK, N. C.

MY DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Just as soon as I receive my paper I sit down and read it.

I was very interested in the letter written by Mrs. H. B. B. about adopting little orphan children. She surely knows about the wistful eyes when someone comes to adopt an orphan. I lived in an Orphan's Home for nine years and I can truthfully say the happiest moment of my life was when the superintendent called me into his office and told me he was sending me to relatives down in North Carolina. During the nine long years I cannot recall one loving face of any teacher or matron but can distinctly remember much cruel abuse and hard punishment. My mother had never whipped me when she was living. I was nearly seven years old when she died of tuberculosis and I suppose I was quite spoiled and I received my first whipping the second day after my arrival and not until then did I miss my mother. I have two little girlies of my own, eleven and seven years old and how I love them, but I hope they never will have to go where people try to raise children by the wholesale or by the tap of the bell and where they are dressed alike (like prisoners) and their hair clipped close to their heads. My husband, who is twenty years my senior, does not earn a large salary but I had rather stint myself over and over again than to think they would ever be in an Orphanage.

And now sisters that we've discussed all kinds of problems in our corner, let's hear how many different ways we are trying to cut down expenses during these terrible war times. I am working out in the fields every day, just like a man, trying to raise vegetables to eat and to sell and my little girlies help too. For with only one dollar a day to spend on a family of five (we have given a poor, crippled old man a home) and with flour one dollar and five cents a sack, it surely takes the sleep from your eyes to find ways and means to feed us. I wish some of the sisters would write to the old man we have given a home to; he has been crippled for thirty years and although he is able to wait on himself he is not able to work. His name is "Uncle" Charlie Hayman and if the sisters think more of their Uncle Charlie than we do of ours they are loving him some. So please all of you write some cheering letters to him. His address is Kitty Hawk, N. C.

I will close, with best wishes to all of our sisters,
MRS. W. H. MIDGETTE.

Mrs. Midgette. Keep up your courage and have faith that some way will be provided to care for you and your family. Your goodness to the crippled old man deserves a reward.—Ed.

BROOKFIELD, MO.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have just read a letter from a soldier boy. They are having a great many hardships and I am wondering how much the women are doing to help out in the war. A few brave women are taking active part by going as Red Cross nurses and some sad mothers are sending their boys to fight. That is well enough, and maybe they are doing all they can to make their boys as comfortable as they can but are the rest of us doing very much? We are in the midst of a work unfinished. Who knows but what every son, husband and brother may be called to help fight for our liberty so let us be prepared to feed and clothe them. Let us get busy now before it is too late to do any great amount of good. Now is the time for us to lay our fancy work aside. I would suggest that we organize canning clubs instead of embroidery clubs. A reliable canning outfit for the entire neighborhood (one that would can vegetables as well as fruit) would cost about fifteen dollars and they are indeed a great time and labor saver. The high cost of canned goods would soon enable a neighborhood to pay for their outfit with the surplus vegetables and it is the duty of everyone to have one on their farm this year. And why couldn't we have just as much fun at a canning club

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8.)

HOME CANNER

Many are making $15.00 and up per day, canning Fruit and Vegetables for market, neighbors and home use with a

"FAVORITE" HOME CANNER

Made better, last longer, no waste, gives best results, uses less fuel, easy to operate. Prices, $2.30 and up. We furnish cans and labels. Write for FREE BOOKLET.

The Carolina Metal Products Co.,
Post Office Box 35, Wilmington, N. C.

$1 a week buys a Black Beauty Bicycle

At Factory Prices—On Approval

Let us send you (freight prepaid) a Black Beauty on trial. If you don't like it, return at our expense. If you do like it, you pay only $1 a week. GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS by the largest exclusive Cycle House in America. WRITE TODAY for Black Beauty Color Catalog showing all sizes and styles.
Haverford Cycle Co., Est. 1896, Dept. H., Phila., Pa.

CONSERVE YOUR FOOD SUPPLY

INSTRUCTIONS FREE

For Canning and Drying Vegetables and Fruits

Write National Emergency Food Garden Commission
Maryland Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Send 2 Cents for Postage.

Nerine's Second Choice

By Adelaide Stirling

Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith. Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XXI. (CONTINUED.)

MRS. SIMPSON looked at the door with a nervous shudder. "Yes; but I can't bear going to bed in it. There's a broken window, and I always think," speaking very fast, "that if my husband were to come at night and try to get in, he would try the bedroom window first, and I wouldn't be able to keep him out. I keep the door locked, so that he can't surprise me in the daytime."

"Why are you so frightened of him?"

"You'd be frightened of him if you knew him. He's a bad man, Simpson, for all he's a gentleman and has manners like a lord. And he's terrible angry with me now for something I did the last time I was on a spree——" She pulled herself up sharply. "Oh, I didn't mean to tell you. You'll never come near me again if you think I drink. Drink!" Her voice rose wildly. "You'd drink, too, if you were all alone in the world, but for a husband who hated you and a brother he'd ruined. I'd go mad if it wasn't for drink sometimes—and if it wasn't for Snap!"

Nerine put a quiet, gentle hand on the rose-pink satin shoulder.

"You poor soul!" she said. "You won't need to drink while I'm here to come and see you, will you? May I go into your room and see if there isn't a sofa I could bring in here for you? I could draw it close by the fire, so that you could put on coal without getting up. It would keep you more cheerful in the evening."

"You couldn't move the sofa," doubtfully, "do you think you could? Oh, you don't know what last evening was like, sitting here in the dark! The night before"—with a sullen sort of shame—"I was drinking, and I didn't care; but last night I sat here and listened till I thought every sound was him trying the door."

Nerine shuddered herself as she thought of the woman sitting alone all those dark hours, clutching the dog to her for warmth and protection, while she listened, lame and helpless, for the coming of the man she feared.

"You ought not to be left alone," she said, indignantly. "Don't you think I could get some woman who would stay with you?"

Mrs. Simpson shook her head.

"They're afraid of me about here. They say I'm violent, but I'm not—only sometimes, when I get excited. But don't you be afraid, miss, will you?"

"If you frighten me I shall go away and not come back again," smiling. "But I don't think there is much danger."

Nerine unlocked the bedroom door as she spoke, and went in. It was as untidy as the sitting-room, with clothes, brushes and combs, boxes and bottles. A pane of glass had been completely smashed in the window, and the chilly spring air blew unhindered through it. The bed was just as it had last been slept in, but it looked rather clean, and Nerine approached it gingerly, but when she laid her hand on the blankets they were soaked with damp. It had rained in the night and the wet had blown on the bed.

A sofa stood at the other side of the room, and, being out of range of the window, was perfectly dry. Miss Lispenard wheeled it briskly into the sitting-room. "Your pillows are damp, and so are your blankets," she observed. "But if you will tell me where to find a rug, some of these cushions will do instead of pillows." She picked up a once gorgeous cushion, covered with dirty red satin.

"There's a new eider-down quilt in one of the boxes there, I bought it when I was in London. The key's in it." Mrs. Simpson was sitting erect, rocking with pain, for the effect of the strong liniment had worn off a little.

"If you will help me, I'll lie down now," she said. "I feel sick."

"I'll bandage your foot properly in a moment," the girl said, when the transfer to the sofa had been completed with some difficulty.

Going into the bedroom, she knelt down by the trunk which had the key in it, and pulled out from the very top a down quilt covered with common silk. When it was out, she gave a choke of mingled horror and surprise, which was nearly being a shriek; the next thing to the new bed covering was her own black-and-purple brocade skirt, rolled up into a ball.

Nerine, on her knees beside the open trunk, fell to trembling. No wonder she had seemed to recognize Mrs. Simpson, and no wonder the woman had thought her figure familiar, as she bent over the fire; for that was the very way she had been leaning over the bag when the chloroformed handkerchief had been put over her mouth.

Her old wild horror of the woman came back to her. For a minute it was all she could do not to seize her skirt and fly from the house forever. She clinched her hands on the edge of the trunk, while she drew her breath hard.

"No, my good Nerine, you won't run away," she said to herself, grimly. "You've got to the edge of a mystery, and when you've got to the bottom of it, you can run away—not before."

Oh, how she wished for Agatha to help her through. Should she go and confront Mrs. Simpson now, skirt in hand, or should she wait? She felt less angry with the milk-girl for her impertinent giggle; no wonder no woman would come and look after Mrs. Simpson if that was the sort of person she was!

CHAPTER XXII.

MR. FAIRFAX OFFERS SOME ADVICE.

A call from the other room brought her back to the present moment; decided her too—oddly enough—on her course of action. The words were nothing, the voice that of a woman in miserable pain.

"Can't you find it?" Mrs. Simpson repeated.

"I'm coming," Nerine answered quietly, putting the cover of the box down on her own gown, as if it were nothing out of the way to find it there, and rising to her feet. She felt curiously stiff and tired, as though she had been kneeling there for a long time. As she looked about the room, for something to tear up into bandages, the hand with the quilt in it shook like Mrs. Simpson's own; she felt glad of the cool air from the window. She picked up the first linen garment which came to hand, a clean but ragged petticoat, with remnants of lace on it.

"I suppose I may tear this?" she asked, and Mrs. Simpson only nodded; the moving to the sofa had jerked her foot and she was speechless with pain. Nerine, to her own wild surprise, as she remembered the first time she had ever seen Mrs. Simpson, found herself kneeling by the side of her enemy, binding up the aching foot with the careful fingers of a born nurse.

"That's better, isn't it?" she inquired when she had tucked the eider-down around her patient and put another cushion at her back. "I think you will be as comfortable there as if you were in bed."

"It's like heaven," weak and grateful tears running down her pale face. "I can't bear to think of the likes of you doing all this for me."

Nerine surveyed Mrs. Simpson curiously through her long black lashes, while she went about the room arranging it for the night. She found oil, and filled the lamp, and put it with some matches on the table by the sofa; and then filled the coal box with lumps easily thrown on by the not too fastidious fingers of the invalid.

"I've put you very close to the hearth; I hope you won't catch fire in the night," she observed. "I think you will have to manage with milk and biscuits for the night," putting them within reach, "and I will be over early in the morning. If your foot aches, you can take off the outside wrapping, can't you, and pour some liniment on the bandage?"

"I didn't think I would ever be so comfortable again," with a sigh. "But don't you trouble to come over early, it's so far," wistfully.

"Oh, I don't mind walking." Miss Lispenard felt rather guilty at being thanked for coming, when wild horses would not have kept her away after that discovery of the skirt.

"I wonder if I can't get her to tell me all about it," she pondered as she locked the bedroom door and made all fast in the kitchen. "I will try to make her."

"There, now you are all locked up, and here are your keys," Nerine said, putting on her well-worn coat and gloves. "I could bring you a book tomorrow—if you like reading," uncertainly.

"I've a book over there, if you'd give it to me," eagerly. "I brought it from—London. I'm fond of reading."

Nerine found the book in a corner and brought it without a syllable, though her self-control was stretched nearly to breaking, for on the cover, in a well-known and odious handwriting was "C. Mayne."

She was getting nearer to the mysterious robbery by every minute she was in the house. But she felt, somehow, that she must act shrewdly if she wished to come at the real truth.

"Good by," was all she said. "Oh! and you'd better let me have the front-door key, so that I can get in tomorrow morning. I will come in time to get your breakfast."

She let herself out of the unused front door, escorted to the threshold by Snap, and locked it after her, greatly to the astonishment of a solitary individual who was slowly approaching across a field. Nerine was so wrapped in her own thoughts that she did not see him till he vaulted over a stile into the lane just in front of her.

"How do you do, Miss Lispenard?" said a familiar voice, as she looked up sharply. "I hope I did not startle you!"

"No, no! Not at all."

Absently she shook hands with Fairfax, who turned and walked beside her. He was saying something about the stuffing of Tommy, but she did not listen, only surveyed furtively his strong, but clean-cut face, and the pleasant expression of his mouth. He looked trustworthy.

"Tell me"—she cut in ruthlessly on his account of the beautiful and lifelike appearance Tommy was to assume—"you live near here; do you know anything about that woman?"

Fairfax hesitated.

"Not much," he said at last. "She is not one of the village people, but a stranger, though she has been here for a good while. I've heard she was somewhat dissipated."

The last was a mild statement, and he felt rather proud of it.

"If you want to know about her, I could ask the vicar; but I believe you'll find her rather a difficult subject for district visiting," he concluded, dryly.

"I don't district visit," she hotly responded; "and I banged into the cottage one day when I was caught in the rain."

Fairfax looked at her lovely face, flushed with the hard work and excitement of the afternoon, and thought of the unpleasant tales he had heard of the occupant of that lonely cottage.

"If you will forgive my saying so, I don't think you ought to go there alone. I don't see how you got in at first, for I hear she has a pleasant way of threatening to shoot strangers."

Nerine nodded gravely.

"She was going to shoot me at first, but when she saw I was inoffensive, she let me in, and gave me tea."

"What!" Mr. Fairfax was surprised into standing quite still in the middle of the road. He had known, from personal observation, that Miss Lispenard had a good courage of her own, but there are not many even courageous girls who would go into a lonely cottage and take tea with a woman who had threatened the moment before to shoot them.

"Yes." Nerine, quite unconscious of his opinion of her courage, stood still, too, and looked at him with lovely gray eyes. "And I think she quite liked me, for she asked me to come again. And I came today, and found that she had hurt herself and had had nothing but biscuits to eat, and no one to do anything for her, ever since Sunday."

She blushed suddenly at the thought that she was pointing out her good deeds, also that Mr. Fairfax had stopped, of course, to bid her good by, and that she was keeping him.

"Oh, your ogress is not so bad," she said, lightly. "Don't let me keep you; you were going the other way."

"I am going to walk home with you, if I'm allowed. Miss Lispenard, you will take some one with you if you go to that house again, won't you? Or perhaps you're not going again."

"I am going in the morning." Unbidden, he was marching along beside her. "Oh, I couldn't take any one! It would be no use my going if I did."

Fairfax marveled in silence.

"But a nurse, or some one, could be got to look after her. I could manage that," he suggested at last.

Nerine turned on him with a sharp touch of that imperious manner to which she had treated the milkmaid.

"I would rather be alone with her."

"As you like, of course; but it is not safe for you," obstinately. What a high and mighty, self-reliant young woman this was, to be sure, and how prettily her determination became her. "If you are so set upon visiting your unpleasant protegee," he said, smiling, "I may as well show you the short cut across the fields to Combe Farm," pointing to the stile just ahead of them.

Nerine looked doubtfully at the young grass.

"Perhaps I ought not to tramp over the fields," she said.

"Oh, I think so. They are my fields, you know," laughing.

He gave her a hand over the stile, and the two walked on through the fresh spring fields in the quiet sunshine of the late afternoon. It was not far to the farm, but to Fairfax it seemed the shortest walk he had ever taken.

"I am afraid you have a long walk home," she said, as he bade her good by.

"No, only a couple of miles or so, and my solitary dinner is a movable feast. I expect Tommy tomorrow," smiling; "I suppose I may restore him to his owner when he arrives."

"You have been very kind about him," with friendly, sweet eyes meeting his. "But you won't bring him till the afternoon, will you? Because the children are going into the village with nurse in the morning, and I shall be visiting Mrs. Simpson."

"You are incorrigible with your Mrs. Simpson," he said, as he shook hands with her. "Well, then, Tommy shall arrive in the afternoon."

CHAPTER XXIII.

THE MISSING KEY.

As Miss Lispenard surmounted the second stile on the way to Mrs. Simpson's abode, the next morning, she stood gazing over the sunny landscape, her dark, slight figure sharply defined against the sky. Mr. Fairfax, from a distant post of vantage, shut up his field glass with the air of a man who has seen what he expected.

"That girl possesses uncommon qualities," he said, and filled his pipe in preparation for a long and idle morning. He was taking an uncommonly vivid interest in this determined slip of a girl. As he sat smoking in the sun, he explained to himself that it was because she was so unlike other women he had met. He fancied Lady Satterlee tying up old women's ankles and lighting their fires, and laughed to himself. It would not be precisely in dearest Dora's line.

Nerine meanwhile marched on quite unconscious. She slipped her hand into her pocket as she reached the cottage door, to see if her mother's diary were safely there. She was getting to have a superstitious idea that it would be unlucky to go anywhere without it.

Mrs. Simpson was better. She had passed a good night, without any nervous tremors, she informed her visitor, and ate a better breakfast than she had eaten for many a day. She made many protests as Nerine proceeded to tidy the room, and put fresh bandages on the greatly improved ankle.

"How long are you going to stay at the farm?" she asked presently. "I suppose you will be going away soon, and I'll never see you again."

"I'm not going for a week or so. Why? Will you miss me?"

"I'll be just lost without you," earnestly. "You've been as kind to me as my own daughter could have been, and you a born lady."

Gratitude and soap and water had made her look a very different woman from the dirty virago who had threatened to shoot her visitor on that wet day last week. Her eyes followed Nerine as a dog's might who had been lost and found again.

"I was thinking last night I'd like to give you something to remember me by," she said suddenly, "if you wouldn't be affronted by me offering it."

Nerine surveyed her.

"The best thing you could give me would be that case of whisky to throw out," she said. "And then to know that you were going to leave this lonely place, and go to your friends in London, where you would have something to do, and people to see."

She was a little frightened at her own boldness, but Mrs. Simpson did not go into a fury, as might have been expected. Instead, she sat perfectly quiet.

"Don't you think I'm right?" Nerine asked at last.

"I know you mean me kindly," with a choking voice, "but I told you the truth the other day. I haven't a friend in all the world but the dog, and what's London better than this, if, after you have walked the streets and bought things, you've no one at home to show them to? And Simpson would never send me another penny if he thought I was leaving this place. He'd be frightened of my getting to know people in London, and talking. He knows there's no fear of my telling on him here. No, no," wildly, "the best for me to do is to stay here and drink myself to death. Heaven knows my life's no pleasure to me."

She began rocking herself to and fro, crying.

"Oh, if I'd only had a child, I might have been better, I'm not bad, I'm not indeed; only when I've been drinking I get fits, when I'd do anything to get money or to be revenged on Simpson. I'm his wife; I've my marriage lines, and I darn't show them; for if ever I do, he swears he'll ruin Jim, and put me in an asylum. So he lives like a lord, with his nieces and nephews, and I live here like a pig."

"What does he know about your brother, that you're so frightened?"

With steady gray eyes which would not be denied fixed on her, Mrs. Simpson had to answer.

"Manslaughter!" she said in a sickly whisper. Then, as Nerine started back, "No, no, it wasn't murder," she almost shrieked. "I tell you Jim couldn't be hanged for it."

A thousand thoughts were whirling through the girl's brain; she sat down rather dizzily on the nearest chair.

"Tell me, could you live without the money your husband gives you?" she said after a time.

"No, I'd starve in the gutter; or I'd have left here long ago." She was utterly outspoken once she had begun, and she went on with a horrible frankness. "If I have no money, and the craving comes over me for drink, I'd do anything to get it. I don't want to leave here only to die in jail." Her excitement died away as suddenly as it had come. "Oh, it's no good talking," she said, wiping her eyes; "I've been like this for many a year; it's too late to change things. I suppose you won't take what I want to give you, now you know what a bad lot I am."

"I don't want you to give me anything, unless you would really like to." Her kind soul was unwilling to hurt the feelings of even a woman like Mary Simpson. "I wish——" She stopped abruptly; it did not seem time to introduce the subject of the skirt, or to tell Mrs. Simpson that she had indeed seen her before. She must find out something more first.

Mrs. Simpson misunderstood her silence.

"You don't want to take anything from me," she said, bitterly.

"It's not that," Nerine quickly replied; she did not want Mrs. Simpson to get excited again.

"Well, then, if it isn't," only half mollified, "would you just give me that box over there?" She pointed to a leather case on a shelf, and the girl brought it.

As she took it down, Mrs. Simpson said slowly:

"It's funny that your back should seem so familiar to me, and I don't recollect your face at all."

Nerine, from the midst of her preoccupation about the skirt, laughed outright.

"Perhaps you've seen my back oftener," she said, putting the heavy case down on the sofa, and narrowly observing if her hostess' forgetfulness was real or assumed.

"Perhaps I have." The answer was really unconscious. "There!" opening the box; "you see I've a few things left that I haven't sold."

A few things! Nerine gasped. Certainly there were not many ornaments in the box, but they were gorgeous indeed. Diamond rings winked at her, a string of lovely pearls stood out milky white against the crimson-velvet tray, all tangled up with barbaric Indian ornaments of carved gold and emeralds.

Mrs. Simpson held up a ring.

"Would you believe that ever fitted my finger?" she said. "It did once, and I had as pretty a hand while I took care of it as any lady, Simpson used to say. But these aren't what I meant for you; they're not good enough!"

She lifted out the tray.

"There!" triumphantly, "what do you think of that?"

She held up a far more beautiful ring than any Nerine had ever seen Lady Satterlee wear, which was saying a good deal. It was a half hoop of five huge pearls, beautifully set in fine gold wire, and Nerine sat staring at it.

A horrid thought possessed her. How had Mrs. Simpson obtained all these fine things? With a sick shudder, she remembered the chloroformed handkerchief clapped so firmly over her own face.

"I know you wouldn't want to have any things Simpson ever gave me, and I wouldn't give them to you either; they might bring you the bad luck they did me." Mrs. Simpson was looking hard at the ring and did not see Nerine's pale face. "But Simpson had no part in this; it was before ever I saw him. You wouldn't think, would you," dreamily, "that I ever was a dancer at a theater? Well, I was, and a good one, too, and I was going to be married to a man who gave me this." She paused, holding the ring tenderly. "He died just before we were to have been married, and I was wild, just wild! It was after that I fell in with Simpson. I had to go on and dance the night he was buried."

"But are you sure you want me to have a thing you value so much?" The woman was telling the truth about the ring, Nerine could see that; and, indeed, with all her sins, Mary Simpson was no liar.

"No one has been as good to me as you since he died," she rejoiced. "And if I had to burn it Simpson should never get it."

She leaned forward to put it on the girl's slim finger, but Nerine, with wide eyes, was staring into the box.

What was that little silver key lying among the trinkets?

Her hand fell to the pocket of her dress and clutched her mother's diary.

"What a funny little key!" Her voice was amazingly calm and natural to her own ears. "What does it open?"

"It's none of mine; it was among some rubbish of Simpson's I took to provoke him. I don't know why I put it in here; it must have been here for ages," she added, indifferently.

"I wish you'd give it to me."

"Take it if you fancy it. It's a pretty little thing. Look at them two stones set in the handle of it!"

Nerine, with a wildly beating pulse, and in dumb astonishment, felt her fingers closing on the key of her mother's diary. For that it certainly was; the work on the key was the same as on the silver clasps of the book and it was exactly the size and shape to fit the odd keyhole of the diary.

"You'll have the ring, too," Mrs. Simpson said; "that trumpery key's nothing."

Nerine shook her head.

"I would rather have just the key." Then she continued, as she saw the other woman's keen disappointment. "But before I go, if you still want me to have it, I will take your lovely ring. Only don't make me take it today."

"Well, perhaps you're right; you might lose it knocking around a farmhouse. But you'll take it for good by when you're going!"

"If you still wish me to."

"Who would I rather give it to?"

Nerine rose, and began to see after her hostess' dinner. The morning had been getting on, and by the time she had heated some soup, and got Mrs. Simpson to eat it and some potted meats and biscuits, she put on her coat to go home. She was aching to get out into the fresh air and unlock her mother's book; the problem of Mrs. Simpson's connection with Mayne had faded out in comparison with that. She had brought over a parcel of books, and she put them within easy reach of the invalid, promising to come back the next day.

"Or I might even come this evening, but I must go now."

She cast a glance at the jewel box as she turned away. It did not seem a safe possession for a woman in such a lonely place.

"Hadn't I better put that away for you before I go? I suppose you want me to lock you up as usual."

Mrs. Simpson laughed.

"Put it under my sofa; I'll take care of it." And she reached over to a small table just behind her. The top lifted up in her hand, and Nerine saw a small shining revolver. "I told you I could shoot any one who meddled with me. How do you suppose I've kept Simpson's hands off those things all this time?"

She spoke simply, and as a matter of course, but Nerine shuddered.

"Do be careful," she entreated. "But I know you wouldn't use it. Good by; and if I come again to night I'll knock at the window. I wouldn't like you to make any mistake, and imagine I was Simpson!"

She hurried out of the house, and ran as hard as she could to the stile that led into the fields. When she reached it she was dizzy with excitement; she leaned breathless against the stile.

Her mother's book was open to her at last, but it was not that which made her heart beat and her hand shake. It was the thought which was getting so plain in her mind, growing fast from a suspicion to a certainty. Could Mayne be Simpson? And, if so, what difference would it make to her?

She mounted the stone stile and took her book from her pocket. The key slipped in, and the covers sprang apart. The book was full of loose papers crammed between the thickly written leaves.

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE CONTENTS OF THE BOOK.

Fairfax, from his seat beyond the cottage, saw the girl come running from the house, and saw how blindly and dizzily she stood leaning against the stile.

"That beast of a woman has frightened her," he said to himself. "I knew it wasn't safe for her to be there alone."

He was glad he had come to keep an eye on Miss Lispenard's safety, and he strode down through the fields to the stile, to see what the trouble was, with a comfortable "I told you so" sort of feeling eminently masculine.

Nerine had her back to him; and as he reached her he saw that she was crying, for she turned her head sharply on his approach.

"My dear Miss Lispenard," furious within himself that he had not taken up a post nearer to the cottage and looked after her properly, "what has that wretched woman been saying to you? I'm afraid she has frightened you horribly."

Nerine shook her head, making a desperate lunge for her handkerchief.

"Oh, don't say that; you mustn't say that!" rather widly. "It was not that she frightened me, only——" She held out an old-fashioned leather book with silver clasps. "That is my mother's book, and I found the key to it at Mrs. Simpson's," incoherently.

Fairfax stared at her. She was trembling, and her cheeks were wet with tears.

"I don't understand," he said, quietly.

"Neither do I. If I did, do you think I should be sitting here, crying with rage?" she exclaimed, with angry impatience. "Oh, I wish Agatha were here! I don't know what to do, and I want some one to help me."

Fairfax sat down beside her on the roomy stile.

"Will you tell me, and let me help you?" he asked with a slow diffidence very foreign to him. "That is, if you feel like trusting me!"

Nerine looked at him through her wet eyelashes.

"Oh, it would bore you," she said, wretchedly. "And yet—oh, I don't know! I must talk to some one."

"Nothing which concerned you would ever bore me."

Something in his eyes, in the very quality of his voice, told her he was in earnest.

She pushed the book and the loose papers into his hand.

"Read those—the papers and these leaves," she said, "and tell me what you think is in them."

Fairfax looked up after a long period of silence, more puzzled than ever at the girl's excitement. He thought it extremely odd that she should find the key of her mother's book in the possession of a perfect stranger.

"I see that you and your sister were baptized twenty-two years and six months ago, and your brother Maurice just a year later, just before the death of your father. And this," holding up a paper, "seems to be the certificate of Mrs. Lispenard's marriage with your stepfather, when you were four years old."

"And my stepfather has always said that Agatha and I were twenty this year, and Maurice nineteen. And we have been of age, all of us, while he has been living in our house, and grudging us the bread we ate. Oh, why did I not find it out before!"

"You are sure?"

"Sure that I have often gone without proper food, and have been cold in winter, while Clarence Mayne stayed on, knowing he was no better than a thief! Oh, indeed! I am sure," she exclaimed.

"Well the sooner we get him out the better.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

The Sign of the Corner

By W. W. Hatfield

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

SIGNS and hunches were the guiding stars and compass by which George McMahan always steered his course. He believed in them firmly, and no matter where they led, there he followed. More than once they led him to see and hear and do strange things.

On this particular evening he brushed the unromantic dust of the Walker Manufacturing Company from his hat, bought an evening paper, and boarded a city-bound car of the folding door type. A conductor with a nervous disposition highballed the car and shut the doors hastily—so hastily that McMahan's paper was caught between them. In extricating it a little irregular strip was torn from the corner of a page.

McMahan, somewhat peeved, paid his fare and sat down. He had the typical American spirit in regard to his daily paper—he wanted the news all there. Consequently, the first thing that commanded his attention was the corner of which he had been partially defrauded. The mutilated item was of one paragraph, and, boldly headed, ran thus:

$1,000 REWARD.

Herman Spatz, famous book collector, states that the "Dante's Inferno" which he recently secured has been t is without doubt the most valu extant. He put it upon his by the next day had disappe its intrinsic value is smal contains important secret worth. One thousand dol offered for information "Dante's Inferno to re

McMahan read it twice, and after due deliberation decided that it was one of those prognostications of fate which were the basis of his philosophy. For some good and sufficient reason which was hidden from him the goddess had seen fit to destroy a portion of this intelligence. Possibly it was with a view to arresting his attention. Possibly—but there was nothing to be gained by questioning her motive. It was enough that she had shown him the sign.

A newsboy boarded the car at the next stop, and McMahan drew some change from his pocket with the intention of buying another paper. But he replaced the money, guided by the hunch that Fate, if she had wanted him to read the entire item, would never have torn the corner from the page.

So on the way home he occupied his time by filling in words to complete the meaning. This was not difficult. It was apparent that a book, Dante's "Inferno," had been lost by, or stolen from, Mr. Herman Spatz, and just as clear that a thousand dollars was offered for its return. Also, he easily divined that the value of the volume lay not in its market price, but in the mysterious secret contents.

Now McMahan was a book fancier of sorts himself. Many an evening, in fact all of them for the last week, he had spent in the little second-hand bookstore of old Levi Levi, browsing around among the musty volumes, eventually emerging with an episode of Nick Carter or an adventure of Sherlock Holmes. In addition to these, he had during the past week purchased six volumes of the works of Mary J. Holmes. You are right, he was in love. The disease had attacked him in its most virulent form, that subtle, insinuating, untractable variety commonly called love at first sight.

But even such a tremendous occurrence as this will not lead a man whose literary taste runs to Poe and Diamond Dick to enjoy himself reading different versions of the story of the false scrub girl and the beautiful duchess. McMahan had not bought them to read. He had bought them, primarily, on account of that intangible, evanescent odor of violets. That was the sign which fate had used to point out the girl. Incidentally, when the young lady had left the shop with the dime old Levi had given her for her dog-eared book, McMahan had become aware of the shy, half-recognizing glance; aware, too, that in spite of her worn, commonplace, factory-girl clothes, and her pinched, starved cheeks, there was something ineffably tender and appealing about her—something that was tying a hangman's noose in his heart-strings. So, in the absence of any other tangible clue, he had bought the book, and taken it to his room at the Cosmopole Hotel.

The novel, however, contained nothing enlightening on the subject, or object, of his heart's desire, beyond the intangible odor of violets. The inscription on the fly-leaf had been carefully erased.

The next evening McMahan had gone back to the bookstore and undergone a replica of the previous night's experience. In short, the scene had recurred each evening of the week, with no change in the relative standing of the actors, beyond the possible exception that the nightly glance which she bestowed upon him had gradually assumed an expression as near to scornful hauteur as her poverty-stricken appearance would permit. And from his six volumes of duchesses and scrub girls he had elicited only one fragment of information. An erasure less thorough than the others had enabled him to trace the letters of her first name, "Mary."

This evening, being Monday, he had not seen Mary for two whole days, although he had spent the entire Sunday searching for her according to the most approved methods of Sherlock Holmes and Nicholas Carter. Therefore, on reaching the Cosmopole Hotel, which was an ordinary lodging house filled with commonplace people, drab, uninteresting all, from the quiet little lady with housekeeping privileges in the attic room just above him to the fat, garrulous dressmaker in the first floor front, he was not slow in changing his clothes and setting out for his self-appointed rendezvous.

It was two hours before she came. She was a little paler this evening, and laid her book down for Levi's inspection with such a tired, resigned air that McMahan wanted to pick her up in his arms and carry her home. He tried to speak to her, but just then a hot flash came over him, a lump of his heart jumped up into his throat, and locomotor ataxia developed in his knees. By the time he had recovered she was gone.

McMahan, when his violet-struck wits had reassembled themselves, picked up the book which she had brought. Involuntarily an exclamation of surprise arose to his lips. He checked it, trying to appear calm and unconcerned, as though casually inspecting an ordinary book. Just because it was *a* Dante's "Inferno" one had no right to assume that it was *the* Dante's "Inferno." But when he had turned a few pages he came across a slip of colored paper, and shut the book with a snap, fearful lest the other should see it too.

"How much?" the query trembled on his lips in spite of himself.

"Seventy-five cents," answered Levi, craftily.

McMahan tossed him a dollar, muttered something about keeping the change, and dashed out upon the street with his prize, leaving the old Jew staring after him in wide-mouthed amazement. The girl had already disappeared, and although McMahan made hurried trips around all the adjacent corners, and thoroughly scoured the vicinity for an hour thereafter, he found no trace of her.

At length he gave it up and went to his room. A thorough, painstaking search of the book, leaf by leaf, brought to light ten of the colored slips. McMahan got his paper and read again, carefully, the lines:

"its intrinsic value is smal * *
contains important secret * *
worth. * * * * *

"Holy mackerel!" he ejaculated. "'Important secret!' Donner und blitzen! No wonder Mr. Herman Spatz wants his book back! No wonder he's willing to pay a thousand dollars for it!"

He placed the precious bits of paper in his wallet, thrust the book into his pocket, and went out, muttering to himself:

"Well, me for that little old thousand dollars, anyway, just as quick as a directory can tell me where to find this man Spatz."

His objective was a drug-store a block down the street. Halfway there he came to a dead stop, scratching his head in perplexity. In the excitement of his important discovery he had for the moment forgotten the girl.

Privation, no doubt, had driven her to the theft. As a mere book, it was a petty thievery which might have passed unnoticed, but viewed in the light of his own startling discovery, her crime had assumed ominous proportions. He would in all probability have to furnish information as to how the book had come into his hands. This would bring about a cross-examination of Levi, which would result in the arrest of Mary.

McMahan stared thoughtfully into the window of a delicatessen store. It was useless, he decided, to attempt to reason out his proper course. According to his theory, there should be a sign to indicate his next move.

It came to him, after several minutes of gazing at a roast chicken in the window, that he had had nothing to eat since noon. Could anything be more evident? Not accident, but design had halted him before this window. His path was clear as day. Besides, that roast chicken gave him a hollow feeling clear down to his toes. A spread in his own room would be a welcome change from the fare of the local beaneries.

Ten minutes later he was back in his room laying out the feast. Besides the roast chicken, there were spring onions and all the appropriate trimmings, everything from canned soup to pickles and peach pie and a fresh newspaper for the tablecloth. From a bureau drawer he resurrected a tin teapot and an alcohol stove. While the water was coming to a boil he engaged the teapot in conversation.

"Well, old tin-face," he expostulated, "who cares if she did steal it? I reckon if you were as near starved as she was, you'd have done worse than that. Thief or no thief, the next time we come together, there'll be arrangements made for a wedding."

As the pot made no answer other than a gurgle indicating that the water was boiling, he threw in a handful of tea and set it aside to steep while he washed the onions.

"What's a feast without an onion," he muttered blithely as he placed his favorite delicacy upon the table. Then he stared ruefully. "And what's an onion without salt? I wonder what made me forget salt. Could it be——?"

McMahan broke off and gazed interrogatively at the teapot.

"It is," he decided. "It's a sign. But where am I to get the salt? Not outside, for the tea will get cold. I'm to borrow it of someone in the house. But who? Let's see, only two housekeeping roomers in the shanty, the first floor front and the attic."

He drew a coin from his pocket.

"Heads up, tails down," he said as he flipped it.

The coin fell heads.

"Me for the attic," grinned McMahan, as he felt his way up the dark stairway. "Wonder if she'll have me pinched."

"Come in," a soft voice sounded in answer to his rap.

Somewhat doubtful as to the propriety of his act, he opened the door. The dim light of the flickering gas jet showed him a woman seated at a bare table across the room. She started up, frightened, as she saw him standing there.

"I—I beg your pardon, madam," he stammered. "I live in the room below you. I came up to see if you would lend me a little salt."

"Certainly," she smiled. "I thought you were the landlady when you knocked, or I would have come to the door. Nobody ever comes to see me but the landlady," she added with the bitterness known only to those who find difficulty in raising their rent money.

The woman had crossed the room toward him with the salt-shaker. McMahan noted that her dress was tattered, and that she walked unsteadily. She would have fallen if he had not caught her arm to support her. And then, his nostrils were filled with the delicate fragrance of johnny-jump-ups and the hangman's noose in his heart-strings had tightened to a throttle hold.

"Mary," he whispered, almost unconsciously.

Mary looked up at him with the expression of one who has heard the voice of her Prince Charming after she has given him up. Then she smiled.

"Yes—George," she answered.

McMahan almost let her fall in his surprise.

"You know me, Mary," he exclaimed wonderingly.

"I've lived here for a year," was the smiling reply, "and until a week ago I worked for the Walker Manufacturing Company, where I saw you every day. Then I fell sick and lost my job and I—I've been living on the ten cents a day that I got for my books," she finished weakly, closing her eyes.

McMahan did not answer—in words. He picked her up bodily, carried her down to his own room, and deposited her in a chair which he had drawn up to the table.

"Now," he ordered gruffly, as he poured her a cup of tea, "when there's nothing left of this chicken but the bones, you can talk—no sooner."

The warm tea and wholesome food soon brought color to her cheeks and sparkle to her eyes. To McMahan, as he watched her, the world seemed filled with great possibilities and johnny-jump-ups. Words are inadequate here. It is worse than folly to attempt to describe a picnic dinner on the altar of Isis, with Cupid shooting shafts through the holes in the doughnuts. I can only say that, though those ready-roasted delicatessen store chickens at a dollar thirteen per are mighty small, a wing and the neck was still left when Mary promised to be Mary McMahan.

"Why not?" she said. "I've made eyes at you for a year. And you," she pouted, "you never even looked at me."

"I never saw you," McMahan confessed, "until you came into Levi's last Monday evening."

"Oh, my books," she sighed. "That was the worst of it. It was like parting with my old friends."

"There they are," he pointed to a row of books upon the mantel. "I bought every one of them as soon as you got out of the shop."

Mary ran over to them with a little cry of delight.

"My poor, dear friends," she said. "They were all that I was able to save when father died, two years ago. Everything else was taken for debts. Everybody thought that father had money, but he was such a poor business man. He made all sorts of foolish speculations, and when they got his affairs untangled there wasn't a penny left." Here she broke off and stared wistfully at the books.

"Didn't you get—the other one—the last one?" she asked in a strained voice.

McMahan had forgotten it. He drew it from his pocket now like one performing an unpleasant duty, and handed it to her in silence. He wondered what she would say.

"It nearly broke my heart," Mary was saying, "when I sold my own books. But this one—it was like committing a crime. It was the only thing of his very own that father left me. And I never read any farther than the first page."

"What?" exclaimed McMahan, "you say your father left you that?"

"Yes, I always kept it in the bottom of my trunk, wrapped in——"

McMahan did a war dance about the room.

"You little goose," he fairly yelled in his excitement. "Living on ten cents a day with—look here! This is what I found in your book."

He extracted the slips of paper from his wallet and thrust them into her hands.

"Each one of those slips," McMahan went on, "is a certificate for one hundred shares of Bay Lynx gold mining stock. Two years ago you could have bought it for a dollar a share. Today it's selling for a hundred. A hundred thousand dollars in the bottom of your trunk, and you living on ten cents a day!"

Then there was a heated discussion about who owned the money, and as neither would take it, they decided to spend it together, in the plans for which the evening passed rapidly.

It was late when they separated for the night.

McMahan, left alone, gazed reflectively at the teapot.

"Well, old tin-face," he interrogated, "where do you suppose Mr. Herman Spatz comes in on this?"

As the teapot maintained a discreet silence, McMahan set about to clear away the remains of the repast. He was in the act of wrapping up the remnants in the pewspaper which had served as a tablecloth when this paragraph, in the corner of a page, caught his eye:

$1,000 REWARD.

Herman Spatz famous book collector states that the "Dante's Inferno" which he recently secured has been tested and is without doubt the most valuable cure extant. He put it upon his corn, which by the next day had disappeared. While its intrinsic value is small, the fluid contains important secrets of medicinal worth. One thousand dollars' reward is offered for information of a corn which "Dante's Inferno Corn Remedy" is unable to remove. Get it at any drug-store.

"Well, well, old tin-face," McMahan mused as he restored the teapot to its hiding place in the bureau drawer, "signs are funny things, ain't they?"

How to Make an Iceless Refrigerator

By Ella Gordon

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

A VERY useful convenience for the farm home where ice is not obtainable is the iceless refrigerator, and may well be called a companion convenience to the fireless cooker for hot summer days. To be a conservator of every bit of food is becoming a household rule throughout the country, and here the iceless refrigerator can serve a war purpose.

There are many ways of lowering temperature by utilizing the fact that water when evaporated draws off heat from surrounding objects. Every



ICELESS REFRIGERATOR.

nurse is taught that if a pitcher of water be wrapped with a cloth which is kept saturated and exposed to a draft of air, the temperature of the water in the pitcher will be lowered by several degrees, and this is exactly the principle upon which the iceless refrigerator is operated. Any one can easily construct this refrigerator, and the preserving of supplies, and the keeping of left overs and unused portions until they are needed will be made easier.

CONSTRUCTION.—A wooden frame is made forty-two inches high, with a solid top and bottom sixteen by fourteen inches. The door is made to fit closely, fastened onto the frame with brass hinges and kept closed with a larger wooden button. Make adjustable shelves of strips of wood three inches apart. These rest on side braces placed at desired intervals. A covering of white canton flannel, smooth side out, or of white duck is fitted to the frame; one edge on opening down the side where the door is not hinged, and the other on the edge of door with hem to overlap one inch to keep the cool air from escaping through the crack. The lower edge should extend into a drip pan which will be necessary if the refrigerator is kept in the house. On top of the refrigerator is placed a pan filled with water as large, or nearly so as the top itself. Extending down each side is a wick made of double canton flannel abo t half the width of door. Several inches of the ends of the wicks lay in the top pan and they then fall to nearly the bottom of covering. It is well to fasten each wick where it passes over the top edge of covering, as when it is wet the weight is liable to pull it out of the pan.

The pan on top should be kept well filled with water; let the upper ends of the four wicks overlap in the pan and place a stone on them where they overlap as a weight to keep them in place. The wicks, as they hang down the sides should be kept in close contact with the covering so that the water soaked up by the wicks will be carried to the flannel covering and keep the latter always wet. It is the evaporation from the wet covering that carries off the heat and thus lowers the temperature of the interior of this kind of refrigerator.

When opening the refrigerator, lift back the front wick and lay over the top of door as shown in cut. When the refrigerator can be kept in a shady place where it catches the breezes, the temperature may be reduced to fifty degrees Fahrenheit. Days when the air is damp and lifeless, the refrigerator will not work as well.

CARE OF REFRIGERATOR.—Clean and sun regularly. It is well to have two covers, so that a fresh one may be used each week. Give the woodwork and pans two coats of white paint and white enamel.

Care of Food Suggestions

In using butter, try to turn back the paper in which it is wrapped and cut from it without letting the hands come in contact with the butter. Rewrap and place in deep bowl of light brine and keep covered.

Left-overs of rice, cereal, or cooked macaroni should be put into bowls, the surface smoothed and covered half an inch with cold water. Drain before reheating.

As canned fruit rapidly loses its flavor after being opened, any remaining portion should be put into a glass jar.

To insure the keeping of fat taken from gravy, bacon, stews, etc., it must be boiled in water with a few slices of raw potato added, put away to cool and the fat removed and heated hot in the dish it is set away in.

Berries should never be kept in boxes, but turned out on platters and kept separated and in a cool place. This prevents mold and treated in this way, berries will keep from one to two days longer.

Do not let food of any kind remain in a warm kitchen.

Food that is a little warmed will spoil very quickly. Therefore, when reheating stews, baked beans, soups, vegetables, etc., make sure they have been brought to the cooking point all through.

Food should be kept covered.

Pack yeast cakes in salt with the tin foil wrapper left on. In this way several yeast cakes may be kept on hand.

When sweet cream is on the point of changing, add a pinch of cooking soda to each cup.

If butter becomes rancid, soak in water to which cooking soda has been added, one teaspoon to a quart. Wash in sweet milk and the unpleasant flavor will have entirely disappeared.

Poultry should be carefully drawn as soon as killed and hung in the coolest available place.

Eggs packed in bran, oats or dry salt will keep longer than if exposed to the air.

Smoked fish and meats should hang in cloth bags.



Operate Your Home on a Business Basis

Reduce household expenses—stop wasteful buying—be methodical in the home. The McCaskey System will help you.

No trouble to keep accurate records of daily, weekly, monthly and yearly purchases of every commodity bought for the home. Provides instant information on how much is spent for groceries, rent, clothing, amusements, etc., during any period. Enables a comparison of costs from month to month. Works well with budget system. Requires only a few minutes' time daily. Nothing complicated.

The McCaskey System encourages thrift and careful buying; makes your allowance go farther. The only simple, easy-to-keep home accounting system on the market. Soon saves its small cost of One Dollar.

Cut Out This Coupon Today

McCaskey Alliance, Ohio

Name _____

Address _____

Enclosed is $1.00 in payment for a McCaskey Home Account System to be mailed to above name and address. Dept. C.

LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR.—Records of the Tuskegee institute at Tuskegee, Ala., show that 54 persons were lynched in the United States in 1916. Fifty of the persons put to death in this manner were colored and three of these were women. Forty-two of the 54 victims were charged with offenses other than assault. In 1915, 67 persons, 54 colored and 13 white, were lynched. In 1914, the record was 52. In the past 30 years about 3,600 persons have been summarily executed by lynchers.

$2.25 a Month Buys a Genuine KIMBALL ORGAN At Factory Prices.



FREE Music Instruction by our New Diagram System if you write at once.

We will send them to reliable people anywhere, on our extremely easy payment plan.

Operating the largest piano and organ factory in the world—the Kimball system positively saves you $25 to $50 on strictly first-class organs.

Send for Money-Saving Plan and Free Catalog

Under no circumstances can you afford to buy or consider any other organ until you have our money-saving proposition. Our half-century's manufacturing experience, our financially strong guarantee mean much to you.

W. W. KIMBALL CO., 305-C Kimball Hall, Chicago.

Please send me FREE your 1917 Organ Catalog, factory distributing prices and the Nation's Home Songs with words and music FREE.

Name _____

City _____ State _____

St. or R. F. D. _____

IF WE SEND YOU THIS BICYCLE



For you to keep and use for a month as your own, Would You then agree to show your bicycle to ten or more of your friends and tell them the ridiculously low factory price, easy terms, unusual conditions and exceptional offers I would make, all of which I will explain to you if within ten days from seeing this you will say in a letter or on a postal, "*Send particulars of Bicycle Offer*" and address your postal card or letter:

Personal for **O. L. LEWIS, Manager**

MEAD CYCLE CO., H-3 Mead Block, Chicago

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1917, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

CHAPTER XI.

A SURPRISE IN GARDENING

"NOW we have our two sets of garden tools," said Pittysing one day, "we've got to make some gardens. 'Cause, what good are they if we don't use 'em?"

"We could play with 'em," suggested Simmie-Sammie.

"It's rather late in the season to commence a garden," said their father. "This is August, and frosts may come next month. Seeds are usually planted in the spring."

"I guess maybe they could SPRING up 'most any time, couldn't they?" asked Pittysing. "They'd grow a little while, and 'twould be fun to watch 'em. And, don't you see, we'd learn something about it, and be all ready to do it good next year? Have you got anything we could plant?"

A search of the house brought to light corn, peas, beans, radish seeds, and, for flowers, sweet peas and nasturtiums.

Out in a corner of the vegetable garden there were some empty beds where radishes and lettuce had been growing earlier in the season, and here the children set to work. Shovels, hoes and rakes were plied with a will, and when the beds were smooth and soft, the seeds were planted.

Pittysing planted some of all the kinds she had, putting them very close together, so if some didn't grow there would be sure to be plenty to make a good showing.

Simmie-Sammie planted mostly beans, secretly hoping that they might spring up in a night, like Jack's in the shivery story his Christmas book told about.

"Now we must water the gardens every single day it doesn't rain," said Pittysing.

Next morning Simmie-Sammie ran out early in his little pajamas to look at his garden, and came in with a disappointed face.

"Mean old things!" he said. "My beans didn't gwowed any yet."

"Well, what did you expect?" asked his sister. "That they'd be up this morning?"

"Jack's did," Simmie-Sammie declared. "Way up—big, big! An' he climbed up on 'em!"

Pittysing looked at him pityingly, then smiled in a grandmotherly way. "When you're six years old, going on 'most seven," she told him, "you'll know better than to believe such things. Mamma told you it was only a story when she read it to you. We'll have to wait days and days before our things grow, so you might just as well be patient, and think of something else. Bring your clothes, and I'll help you dress, so you'll be ready for breakfast when mamma calls us."

Every day the children watered the gardens with the little green watering-pot, and every day Simmie-Sammie dug up his seeds to see if they were growing. When the beans swelled and began sprouting, he pulled them apart to see the tiny leaves inside, then jammed them down into the earth again. Of course, as might have been expected, the beans refused to grow at all after such treatment.

After a few days, nasturtiums and beans pushed up through the soil in Pittysing's garden, followed soon by radishes and corn. She was delighted, but Simmie-Sammie didn't enjoy it.

"'Tain't any fair!" he complained. "You had the best garden, an' the best seeds! You taked your choose, an' left things for me what wasn't any good."

"'Twas just because you dug them up," Pittysing told him. "You'll understand better what to do next spring. Or maybe you could plant some more things now," she added, watching his unhappy little face.

A bad little thought came into Simmie-Sammie's mind, but he didn't say anything about it. That night, after supper, when Pittysing was helping mamma with the dishes, he softly called to Gyp, and together the little boy and the puppy dog went out into the garden.

And the next day, when Pittysing, carrying the little green watering-pot full of water, went out to her garden, what do you think she found? Her beautiful little garden bed all trampled and spoiled; every little seedling, every tiny green leaf, scratched up and killed. It didn't take her long to decide what enemy had been at work.

With fast-beating heart and flashing brown eyes, she ran back to the house.

"Mamma, mamma!" she shrieked. "Oh, WHAT do you think that naughty boy has done now? Spoiled my lovely garden, every last speck of it, just 'cause he'd spoiled his own, and didn't want me to have one!"

Then she threw herself face downward on the couch, and lifted up her voice and wept.

Simmie-Sammie's face was very red, and he stooped over and began tying up his shoestrings.

"Oh, Samuel," asked mamma sadly, "did you really dig up the things in sister's nice garden?"

"No, I never!" declared Simmie-Sammie. "An' there ain't any Samuel here. Papa's Samuel. I'M Simmie-Sammie!"

"Oh, hear how he fibs!" cried Pittysing, sitting up and showing a face all red and smeary from crying. "After he promised me, too, he'd be a good boy so I wouldn't have to watch him! And I was going—"she went on, her voice trembling, "I was GOING to give him the very first radish that was big enough to eat, out of my garden, 'cause I was so sorry he'd spoiled his!"

"Now, Simmie-Sammie," said his mother firmly, putting her arm around the little boy," I want you to tell me the truth. Look up here. Leave your shoe-strings alone—you're tying them into hard knots. Now, what did you do to Pittysing's garden?"



NO WONDER PITTYSING WAS ASTONISHED AT WHAT SHE HAD FOUND.

Simmie-Sammie couldn't look up in his mother's face. He did manage to raise his eyes to the pin in her collar, but they wouldn't go any farther.

"I never pulled up her plants," he said. "*I*—I just planted something else in her garden."

"What do you mean?" asked his mother. "I'm afraid, oh, Simmie-Sammie, I'm afraid I shall have to put you to bed until you can tell me the truth."

"Wait—wait!" cried Simmie-Sammie; "I AM a-tellin' the twooth! I planted some STICKS in her garden, an' Gyp digged 'em up! He must have spoiled her plants when he scwatched for the sticks. Gyp's a bad puppy dog. MAYBE you better punish him."

"Yes, and who told him to scratch and dig? It's bad enough to spoil folks' gardens, but it's a good deal worser to try to have a poor little puppy dog punished when you're to blame your own self!" Having said this, Pittysing buried her face in the sofa pillow and went on crying.

"Don't you think," said their mother, "that you ought to do something nice for Pittysing to make up for your part in it? Gyp didn't know any better, but you did."

Simmie-Sammie thought a while. He was sorry for what he had done. He hadn't thought Pittysing would cry so over it. But he didn't like to say so.

At last he climbed up into his mother's lap and whispered, "I'll make it all wight. You'll see."

Then he kissed Pittysing's ear, which was the best he could do, with her face buried like that, and her hair tumbled all about.

"I'll twy not to be bad to you any more," he promised. "I'll give you half my hen, an' I'll take the milk over to Gwandma Bwown's all the nights for a week, an' I'll—I'll—*I* know! I'll wipe the dishes in the morning, two mornings, so you won't have to."

Then he went out and watched his hen a while, wondering which half of her he would give away, and thought that if Pittysing wasn't satisfied with his peace-offering she must be hard to suit.

In the morning, Pittysing was swinging in the hammock, while Simmie-Sammie wiped dishes, as he had promised.

"Guess I'll go and look at my garden," she thought. "I can smooth it out, and have it all ready to plant seeds in next spring."

Five minutes later, she rushed into the house, more excited than she had been when she found her garden spoiled.

"Mamma! Simmie-Sammie!" she shouted. "Oh, come! come quick!" Then she darted back again toward the garden, her mother and Simmie-Sammie following.

Simmie-Sammie was dragging the dish towel after him as he ran. Of course Gyp thought it was for him to play with, so he seized it and ran off under the barn with it, and what became of it Simmie-Sammie never knew.

No wonder Pittysing was astonished at what she found. So was her mother. And so was Simmie-Sammie. Not even Jack, whose beanstalks grew so tall in a single night, had a greater surprise.

For there—maybe you won't believe it—but there, all around Pittysing's garden bed, were some pretty, round stones for a border; next to the stones a row of dainty maiden-hair ferns were growing; there were six pansy plants, with large, velvety purple and yellow pansies all in bloom; and in the very center of the bed, a clump of tall scarlet poppies were nodding gaily.

Of course you've guessed who had prepared the beautiful surprise. Yes, the Dapperlings!

Skippywink had been skipping around, and had heard all about the children's gardens. When Nattie learned from him how badly Pittysing felt over her spoiled plans (and plants) she coaxed the other Dapperlings to help her, and all in the silent night, with only the starlight and glowworms to see by, they had made this beautiful garden.

They didn't expect any thanks, but did it just out of the kindness of their Dapperling hearts.

Of course the tiny ferns grew in the woods, and the round stones could be picked up almost anywhere, but don't ask me where they got the pansies and poppies, for I know no more about it than you do.

The next chapter tells how dreadfully frightened the Dapperlings were when Pittysing found them all having an open-air concert and she caught little Nattie and held her. What do you think she did to Nattie? What happened to the others?

Don't miss September COMFORT which will tell all about it. Watch for the nice Cubby Bear story coming in October.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

as we could at an embroidery club? Unless the war stops very soon, on our women will rest the responsibility of caring for the aged and feeble. Let those of you who live in the city remember this and begin right now to organize sewing circles and make useful garments for the poor little children who need them. The money spent for embroidery material would buy almost enough clothing but most of you have out-of-date clothing that will do very well. Try this and I am sure you will be a thousand times happier and better satisfied with your day's work.

Those of you living on ranches where fruit and vegetables do not grow and who wish to be of service to your country, and to make money besides, can raise a few more sheep.

That will help to supply the 200,000 pounds of wool that is needed for soldiers' uniforms.

I would be pleased to hear from all the crippled girls from twelve to twenty-five years of age.

Sincerely, MISS EDITH SCHERER.

SEBASCO, MAINE.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Will you admit a sister from 'way down in Maine? I have read COMFORT ever since I was a small girl and used to borrow Grandma's. I enjoy the letters about children as I have two, a boy nearly five years old and a girl three years of age. When they cry and pout I don't scold them but say, "I wish my good little boy (or girl) would come. I don't want a naughty baby." In a few seconds I hear, "Here I is, Mamma, I'se come."

I live in a small fishing village and for about two months have been a shut-in. I haven't any folks or friends here and I live quite a distance from any other house so sometimes it is weeks that I never see a person except my husband and the children. My husband goes to work in the early morning and doesn't get home till night and I get very lonely here. I am praying as I write that this will be published but I cannot write an interesting letter for I never had the privilege of securing even a common school education. I am the oldest of twelve children. We lived a long distance from the little schoolhouse and when I grew old enough to go I had to go to work. My parents were poor and sometimes it was impossible to make both ends meet. By studying nights after my work was done I learned to read and write and spell a little. I also studied arithmetic and that study was the only one I could manage to make much headway in alone. At the age of eighteen I was broken down from hard work and when a young fisherman offered me a small home and his care I was glad to accept, but my health was ruined and I can truly say that in the seven years I have been married I have never felt well one day. Have been in the hospital for a serious operation. Do I believe in large families? No, unless there is plenty of money (and good health on the part of the mother) for in poor families the oldest children are always sacrificed for the younger.

I will close by asking the sisters to please send me reading matter or anything that will help pass away the long, lonely days and will you pray that I may have better health to care for my little ones.

Mrs. Wilkinson, may the Lord bless you and may you live many long years to carry on the good work you have begun.

Very sincerely, MRS. ADA PERRY.

MONTANA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT two years and think there is no other paper like it. I find so much in it and I have come for help today and I feel sure I will get it.

I have been married four years to a "dear Jack" and we have a baby girl two years old whom we both love dearly. Jack is good to me and kisses me good by when he goes to work and when he returns but here is my trouble—he has been married before but his wife lived only two months. He has told me hundreds of times that he loves me more than he loved his first wife and has told me all about his past life and I believe him. But he has three sisters living near who seem to think the world of me and I know would do anything for me but at times they will tell me how happy Jack was with his first wife and that no man ever thinks so much of his second wife and things like that and it nearly breaks my heart. Sometimes I fancy I cannot endure it to think my husband loved another woman. Do you think he ought to go to them and talk to them about it? I have told him that and he says it would be no use for they don't know anything about it and they did not live with him at the time. He was only nineteen then and twenty-eight now. I often think why shouldn't he love me better? We have lived together longer and have a dear baby to love and we are so happy together. Will someone who is a second wife give me her idea of it.

With love to Mrs. Wilkinson and all the sisters,

MRS. J. M.

Mrs. J. M. I think maybe that Jack of yours ought to administer a spanking to you the next time you show signs of doubting his love. Now be sensible and ask yourself which is the more lasting, the love of a boy of nineteen or a man's love at twenty-eight? How lasting were your own love affairs when you were sixteen or seventeen years old? Of course he reverences the memory of his dead wife but there is every reason why he should love you more. What do the others think?—Ed.

CLEATON, KY.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have been married eight years and have three boys, Lois, seven years, Otto, five years, and Marion, three years. Also a baby girl, Bertha Grace, five months old. We live with my father and baby sister, Nettie, six years old (my mother has been dead over two years), so you know that I am very busy and the sisters' letters and helps are always interesting. We live on a small farm in the western Kentucky coal fields. Most all farm and garden produce finds ready sale here.

Now sisters I am going to say a few words on a subject which I have never seen in our corner—the high cost of living. Try to reduce the high cost of living by raising all for your table at home, and canning your own fruits and vegetables in their season when they are best and cheapest. A very small garden, rightly cultivated, will be a great help. A small back yard (if you can't do any better) has its possibilities. A row of tomatoes or beans along the back fence will more than pay for their trouble if you do not keep chickens. A pig, kept in a pen if necessary, fed the table scraps and enough corn and bran to keep it growing steadily is a paying proposition at killing time.

For last winter we canned about seventy-five gallons of fruit and tomatoes and lost only three or four gallons. We also put up dried peaches, sulphured peaches and apples, canned beet pickles, salt cucumber pickles, sweet and Irish potatoes, cabbages, dried peas and beans and some meat and lard. Some of you will say, "You live on a farm so that is easily done." No, it is not easily done, but it is worth while.

Another suggestion and I will stop, sisters, teach the little folks their alphabet and how to read and spell some before you start them to school and it will save the teacher a lot of work and worry and give the children a better start, too. A set of letter blocks are a great help.

Long live COMFORT and all its staff.

I cannot answer letters. MRS. PEARLIE GRAHAM.

Mrs. Graham. Your recipes for canning fruits and vegetables would be a great help to the sisters and I hope you will favor us with a few of them. In a recent number of COMFORT the editor has spoken of the possibilities of the home garden and I can only agree with him—and you.—Ed.

MONROE, Lock Box 570, N. Y.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I received so many letters in reply to my letter in February COMFORT that really it was impossible for me to answer all of them, some two hundred or more. However, I answered all who enclosed stamp. I received many kinds of seeds and will plant all of them and to those to whom I haven't sent the hollyhock seeds—it is because my supply ran short and if you will write again, about August or September, and enclose a stamp, I will send you some of all the kinds I have. Those who asked other questions, if they will write again and enclose stamped envelope for reply I will answer their questions. One person asked about chickens but I could not make out what the name was so couldn't answer. But if you will write to Dept. of Agriculture at Washington, D. C. and to the capital of your state, they will gladly send the bulletin on chickens, artificial brooding, etc. These farm bulletins are free. I don't want money for any information I send to anyone. We are all sisters and brothers through Christ and I think it a very small thing not to willingly give any information I may know, whether it be about the climate, chickens, farms or historic places.

I am an Episcopalian but I trust I am broad minded enough to be a friend with all, no matter what their faith may be. We all think we are right in our belief and are striving to live the right kind of a life and hope to reach the same goal with the same reward for all who come in His name.

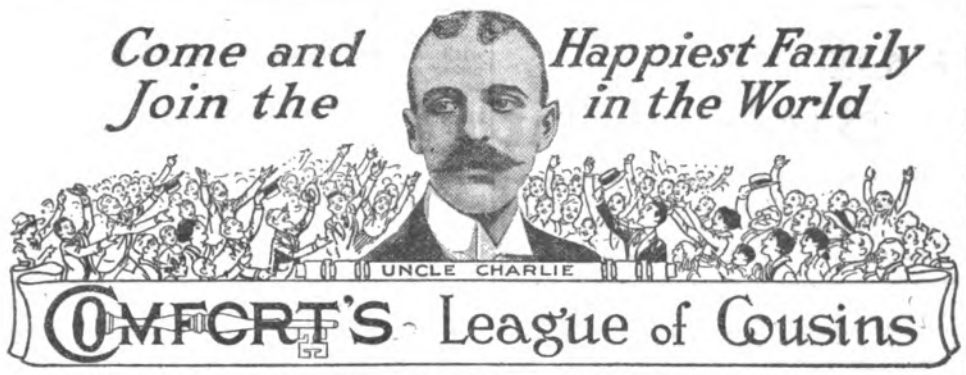
I thank all who sent me pieces for my quilt. I am making it "Odd Fellows' Chain" in all kinds of calico; with the heavy goods I am making it "Uncle Tom's Cabin." All colors are appreciated, light or dark.

To the sister from Harrisburgh, Nebr., I lost your letter. If you will write again I will answer.

Since I wrote my last letter to COMFORT I have moved and am now on a very large farm and expect to raise lots of pigs, calves and chickens. I have two heifers now, and one cow, one pig, one horse and two hundred chickens. I just love the great outdoors and am now in perfect health.

Some of you thought I was too happy and had no cares. Ah, you didn't know that for the past three years I had been in miserable health. I used to sit in the house and sew or embroider and my health was very poor. But since I moved up here, right under the mountains, almost, I have been out of doors almost ten hours out of the twenty-four. I haven't lung trouble now, and can laugh at most any trouble. I always think everything happens for the best, so why question God's superior wisdom. I almost radiate and my friends wonder why I am so healthy looking. Good health is the foundation of all beauty. Anyone can make the most of their looks, whether ugly or pretty, if their health is good. Women ride too much. Instead, walk one or two miles, or more, a day. There is no better exercise than walking. It is the best exercise for the expectant mother. Don't stay in the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.)



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

IF this country is to continue to exist and your homes and children made secure, you will have to have Wake up America talks dealing solely with the war in these columns, until every man, woman and child in the United States realizes that the very existence of this country is at stake, and unless each one does his or her bit with all the frenzied, patriotic intensity that the men, women and children of Germany are doing their bits, this war and the cause of world freedom will be lost.

It is a terrific job to arouse a people, a people that has been doped and poisoned by the propaganda of peace at any price traitors, largely in the pay of our enemies, and poisoned with the lies of the reptile foreign language press, a people occupying a vast continent and indifferent to anything but local and parochial affairs, to the grim realities of a war which may yet dim with sorrow every home in the land. You have simply got to realize we are at war with the most savage, relentless enemy that has ever cursed the earth and face the music, and that music may be a funeral dirge for you and yours, and for liberty and freedom the world over, unless you take the issues of this war to heart with passionate intensity.

For years I have been warning you of the great crisis that was coming into your lives and the life of this nation. I am a deep student of world affairs, and everything I have prognosticated so far concerning this world struggle, has come true. It cannot be wondered however that you are asleep. You had your merry, frenzied, peace-at-any-price ghost dancing, and fooled yourselves with the craven, contemptible election cry of "He kept us out of war!"

I often told you that there were certain responsibilities that no individual, and no decent self-respecting, honorable nation could side step or avoid. We had to be true to ourselves and our ideals and principles, we had to meet the impudent challenge of a murderous foe, and we must be prepared to shoulder our responsibilities and to shed rivers of our best blood, ere we can safely lay them down. We did not seek this war, this war sought us, and we simply could not dodge it, and, thank God, we have gone into it, just as our Allies have, with clean hands. I told you you had to fight this fight or become slaves; I told you that there were two forces struggling for dominance in this world, the democratic, republican idea, represented by France, England, Italy, Canada, Australia, Switzerland, Portugal, the United States and other liberty-loving countries, and the autocratic, monarchical, king by divine right idea, represented by the Central Powers and that curse of the world—Turkey.

No one seeks to destroy the German nation, but the German nation will destroy you if you don't protect yourselves and curb the murderous mania of its rulers and people. The Teutonic idea of "Germany over all," the superman, the man on horseback, with its fiendish and brutal militarism, its hateful system of spying and lying, intriguing and plotting, which has cursed the whole earth, and made creation a hell, has got to go, and you've got to make it go, and when it's gone, the world will be rid of its greatest menace, and we can realize dreams of peace and brotherhood and live in a world of roses.

Every nation, more or less, is afflicted with a dominating, exploiting class, but this class is easily kept under control in all countries except those of the Central Powers, where the Kaiser and his junkers, his fiery military satellites, his arrogant nobility, hold despotic sway. You who gave little thought to world affairs could not conceive how the Allies could be fighting and making common cause with a despotic country like Russia. Russia was a menace under the Czar, but not one millionth of the menace that Germany was. You however, did not know that there was more real, revolutionary spirit in Russia, a more intense longing for liberty than there was probably in all the rest of the world put together. Everyone who could look an inch beyond his nose knew that this war would give the Russian his chance to dump the Czar and his bunch of royal hangers-on, who were intriguing with Germany to keep junkerism and royalty in the saddle. When the Czar went the only weak spot in the Allied cause went too. Now the issues are clean drawn, and it is up to you to say what kind of a world we are to have, whether we are to be Belgiumized, Prussianized, terrorized, robbed of everything that Washington and Lincoln fought for and held dear, robbed of everything bequeathed us by the men who wrote our glorious Declaration of Independence, become slaves, wear the Prussian helmet, fight Prussia's battles and be kicked around like dogs, or fight the battle of liberty and remain free men in a free, instead of a slave world.

The Allies have been shedding rivers of blood and expending mountains of gold that we might enjoy in peace all that our freedom loving fathers, with the help of France, won for us. They would have won this war without our help had not the devil placed in the Kaiser's hands an American invention, a slimsy, snaky, crawly, creeping, treacherous, fiendish instrument of destruction called the submarine, which makes murder and piracy a fine art. Not even the food ships for starving Belgium, the cargoes of which have been gathered at such immense cost and sacrifice, and which were given safe conduct permits by the German government, not even hospital ships full of wounded soldiers and Red Cross nurses, not even passenger ships loaded with women and children, are safe from these hell hounds of the deep, typically Prussian in their ferocious methods, typically Prussian in their merciless ruthlessness. To sink ships filled with food for the crushed, tyrannized, enslaved and starving Belgians, whose men and women and young girls have been dragged into a slavery worse than death, whose cities have been sacked, robbed and burned, whose people have been tortured and destroyed as though they were vermin, whose household goods and possessions have been carried off by their pitiless conquerors and whose people like the people of Northern France have been left with only their eyes to weep with, people it was Germany's bounden duty to feed, is the last word in diabolism fiendish cruelty and unspeakable deviltry. This is Germany's policy of frightfulness. She believes just as the Mohammedan believes, that it is her sacred duty to make war as terrible as possible, to be fiendishly cruel, ruthless and merciless, so that no living soul of inferior breed (and in Prussia's eyes we are all inferiors) may dare look the all-conquering Teutonic superman in the face and live. It is absolutely necessary for you, the people of the United States, to know the kind of foe you are going to face, a foe that spares no living thing, neither women, children nor even fruit trees, and to know the kind of fate that awaits you—the fate of France and Belgium—if you do not rush to the battlefields and hurl the brutal hordes of godless and diabolical Kaiserism back to the land from whence they came, and in which hereafter they should be forced to stay. The Kaiser has informed you that Germany has kept the peace for forty years. He forgets however to tell you that Prussia was the first nation to militarize her entire population, an act which forced conscription on nearly all of Europe. The first to start permanent military alliances. Thrice she has sunk her teeth in the living flesh of poor Poland, and between 1860 and 1870, Prussia ruthlessly invaded and dismembered Denmark, Austria and France, and after cutting France to pieces in 1870, a year or two later she wanted to go back and bleed her white all over again, and was only prevented from doing so by Russia and England. There has been peace in Europe only because Germany has had her own way. France, existing miserably, never knowing from day to day when the storm might again break upon her, had to dismiss Delcasse, her brilliant foreign minister, because he succeeded in laying the foundation of friendship between Great Britain and France (who previous to this had been hereditary enemies) thus incurring Germany's displeasure. Great Britain is accused of planning to attack Germany, just as if a nation with practically no army at all, would dare attack the greatest military power of the age. Twice Great Britain approached Germany and begged for a naval holiday, a year in which neither side would build a single warship, and was repulsed.

Previous to war being declared, munition factories in Great Britain were shut down because the government would give them no orders. Democracies always sleep when war is in the air. That great socialist Robert Blatchford, and that fine old soldier Lord Roberts, pleaded with the Britons to arm, the latter pleaded so persistently, that he was officially warned to shut up under pain of losing his pension.

Next month I will tell you how this war started and make plain to you all the historic facts that made this conflict inevitable. The crackbrained vicious idiots who tell you this is Morgan's war, lie and lie wickedly. It comes nearer to being God's war than any other war, horrible as it is, for if democracy triumphs, and I cannot believe that the Almighty will allow it to be defeated, the whole of humanity will simply bound forward on the pathway of progress, and more for justice, righteousness and freedom will be accomplished as a result of this hideous carnage than could have resulted from a hundred years of peace, while if we lie down and let the Kaiser walk over us, the world will degenerate into a Prussian slave pen. No nation has ever showed such great patience under tremendous provocation, as has this nation in the last three years. The greater patience we showed the more arrogant, impudent and murderous the junkers of Prussia became. Now no less than thirteen nations are arrayed against this common enemy of mankind. At the Hague conference of 1907, Germany was hostile to all projects of limited, compulsory arbitration. In conjunction with Austria, her present ally, she succeeded in having these plans dropped though they had been passed by the overwhelming vote of 32 against 9. It was the same way when the munition question was brought up. Germany insisted on selling to the whole world, for the making of munitions is one of her greatest industries. Though her sympathies were all with the Boers, she sold England huge quantities of ammunition to help her down the Boers. Germany objected to us doing what she has always done herself, and which we could not refrain from doing without favoring Germany, and as a neutral nation we had no right to show her any favors. We did what we had a legal and moral right to do and no more. Fanatics and Teuton sympathizers yelled "Put an embargo on munitions and stop the war." That was another bit of subtile hypocrisy. Stopping the war meant at that time a German victory, and a German victory would have meant that we should have had to face the full might of Prussia alone. Now do not deceive yourselves. If you want to keep what Washington and Lincoln fought for you too must fight. Better to fight in France by the side of those French and British and Canadian heroes, our democratic brothers, than have all the horrors of Belgium, Poland and Serbia re-enacted all over again on our shores. Enough nations have been devasted without devastating ours. You read in histories of the great Crusades, of the tens of thousands of Christians who swept from the remotest corners of Europe to the Holy Land to free the Holy Sepulchre from the impious hands of the Saracen infidel. Even the children joined in those crusades, and if you know nothing about those crusades, and probably you don't, for God's sake get your histories and read about them. In those days men were men and women were women. Today we simper "We're too proud to fight. Let George do it. He kept us out of war," while thousands of poltroons are or were hiding behind the skirts of women and marrying and adopting children to save their craven hides. Thank God this war will show us who are loyal Americans and who are traitors. It will cast out the human dross and bring the true mettle of American manhood and womanhood to the front, and put the fear of God into the hearts of plotters and traitors. The American people are at war, the American people are once more standing guard o'er the altars of liberty and freedom, learning anew the glorious lesson of service and sacrifice, giving the best of their blood in a holy cause, ridding the world of tyrants, fiends and despots, and making justice, truth, righteousness and democracy forever secure for mankind.

On the twenty-fifth of next month I celebrate my fifty-fourth birthday and shall be glad to have a word of cheer and encouragement from all my friends. Shall also be glad to hear from my enemies as the Department of Justice is most anxious to get in touch with them.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

TARRYALL, COLO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I live on a farm near Tarryall, Colo. It is a nice one; it contains one hundred and sixty acres. My father is away, so my brother and I do all the farm work. Some if it is hard, and some of it is easy. I like to work. My brother and I are training a horse to ride. I went to get on a horse and he whirled and began to buck, but I got the rest of the way on him and got him stopped. It sure was fun. I am thirteen years old but sometimes I feel like forty. I come in from the field as tired and pokey as a donkey.

Yours sincerely, HARLAND H. PATTEN.

So Harland, you are training a horse to ride are you? Well, well, that's quite an idea. I've heard of men training horses to be ridden, but I never yet heard of one being trained to ride. Well, horses have been ridden for ages, why shouldn't they have a rest now and take a ride themselves? In a circus once I saw a horse that was trained to ride an elephant. Are you going to buy an elephant Harland, for your gee gee to ride? If you are please let me know and we will have all the cousins on hand to see the sight. The Goat informs me I'm all wrong as usual and that you mean you are trying to convert a bucking broncho into a gentle saddle horse. That must be lots of fun. Harland, I fear you are doing too much work. It is not right that you should be forced to toil until you are all worn and exhausted and feel like a man of forty. The health of the nation is its most precious possession and the people of the United States are rapidly becoming invalids. Out of 11,000 men who were examined for the Navy the other day, all but a thousand were rejected as physically unfit. Better leave some of the work undone than have a physical breakdown. You are at a delicate age, when not too much exercise and plenty of rest are needed. Tell your papa what I said.

LANDIS, ARK.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a country girl. I am sixteen years of age, and have blue eyes, blonde hair, am five feet five inches tall and weigh one hundred and eight pounds.

My sweetheart has blue eyes, blonde hair and is twenty-two years of age and weighs one hundred and twenty-two pounds. We have been keeping company two years and have been engaged seven months. He has always treated me nicely. We are third cousins. Do you think it would be all right for third cousins to marry? He has never made a date with any other girl since we have been keeping company. He walked with a girl one time but he said he didn't walk with her over one hundred yards. Would it be proper for him to accept a tie from me? Asking you to answer and tell me if you think he is true to me or not,

I will ring off, BESSIE LAWRENCE.

Bessie, I don't think there is any objection to third cousins marrying, nor even second cousins. if there is a record of good physical and mental health on both sides. It is only when there are hereditary taints and mental disorders that the inter-marriage of cousins accentuates these disorders and makes such marriages undesirable. So your beau only walked with that girl for one hundred yards. Ah, Bessie, I'd like to bet they were mighty long yards. He might have walked only a hundred yards, but he might have stood still every other yard for a couple of hours and so have made that hundred-yard walk last for several weeks. I think that young man will bear watching. Now as regards giving that young gentleman a tie. I suppose that would be all correct, but what is he going to do with it when he gets it? Who is going to help you dig that tie up, and don't you know if you start appropriating railway ties, you are liable to be arrested for felony? Then too you might cause a wreck. What's that Billy? She means a tie to wear round her best fellow's neck and not a railroad tie? Excuse me. You see it is twenty years since I had a tie round my neck, and as these are practical days when lumber is scarce and costly, it's not to be wondered at that I am liable to get a little mixed occasionally. Wait a couple of years Bessie, before you get married. Four years would be better still. You are twenty pounds below the normal weight for a girl of your height, and that young man of yours needs another twenty pounds. I hope Bessie, by now you have sacrificed him to his country and that he is in the army gaining weight and experience that will make him a better and more efficient citizen, and a more capable defender of his wife and his country.

MAZENOD, SASK., CAN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have not seen many letters from Saskatchewan printed. Do many Canadian people take COMFORT, Uncle? (Yes, thousands of them, Uncle C.)

We came to this country from Michigan. We like it fine here. It is a little cold in winter though. This is a great country for raising all kinds of grain.

Last year we raised wheat, oats, flax and barley. We own a half section of land, that is, three hundred and twenty acres. We just live in a sod house now, but we are planning to have larger and better buildings in a year or two. Uncle, I am sending you some snapshots I took with my camera. I like to take pictures and have quite a collection. I am planning to have a nice flower garden this year. Two years ago our municipality had a Junior's Fall fair. I received five dollars, first prize for the best potatoes; first prize of one dollar for a three-minute address on any farm subject. (My subject was, "A Progressive Farmer"), second prize, fifty cents, for bread, and second prize, fifty cents, for a drawing of our schoolhouse and grounds. I think it is a good thing to have those fairs as it encourages the children to be producers.

The one who received the most prizes got a scholarship of one hundred dollars.

My, but this war is terrible. I was glad to hear that the United States had declared war against Germany.

My brother is fifteen years old. He is not quite old enough to fight. I heard they had the Czar of Russia locked up. I guess that is the place for him. Well Uncle, I guess you and the Goat will both be angry with me for staying so long. I am seventeen years of age, five feet seven inches tall, have dark gray eyes and brown hair, Your niece,

MABEL ERB. (League No. 42,667.)

Thanks Mabel, for your newsy, chatty letter, and the pretty pictures that accompanied it. I don't wonder you got a prize for potatoes. We could not make out what those peculiar cylindrical things in the picture were. The Goat thought they were watermelons. Maria thought they were Zeppelins, and I hazarded a guess that they were footballs or balloons. They remind me of potatoes we used to have out West. I was staying on a ranch and volunteered to go out and dig up a few potatoes for dinner. It took me three hours to uncover the top of one, and then we had to get dynamite to blast it out of its earthly bed. Whenever we wanted potatoes for dinner we used to go to this grandpa potato and excavate a few square yards. People who live in the effete East have simply no conception of the tremendous size of the potatoes that are raised on the virgin soil of our Western states. What a lot of prizes you have won, Mabel! I did not know there was so much money in Canada. Just hold on to that money, and I will come up and help you spend it. Billy the Goat has joined a canning club and wants to knew if Canada is the place where cans come from. Billy the Goat is most anxious to can Bill Bryan, then he's going to can all the pacifists that the government hasn't already canned, and too he's going to can all the kings and queens. Later on he is going to can the Kaiser and his friends Stone and La Follette. We are also tickled to bits that Uncle Sam has gone into the canning business in time to prevent the War Lord gentleman with the mailed fist from canning Texas, New Mexico and California. No, they have not got the Czar of Russia locked up, Mabel, they have got him canned and that is better still. It is a pity we could not grab some of the anarchists, impossibilists and extreme socialists who are doing their level best to spoil the whole Russian revolution and turn their country into a jungle and can them too. Canada has done gloriously well in this war. If we had got on the job as soon as she did the war would have been over long ago. If you are going to put out a fire put it out before it has time to spread. That is the only safe, sane and sensible way.

ALBUQUERQUE, 710 N. 6th St., N. MEX.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am going on a claim shortly so I can raise that one potato you spoke of recently. Well Uncle, give us some more talks on the churches. I am a mother of five children and it seems almost impossible to keep them in Sunday School as everything is so high here. Four potatoes for twenty-five cents.

I think I am as good a Christian as my neighbor who goes every Sunday to church. The question is can one be a good Christian and never go to church. On the wages my husband makes I can't afford to dress well enough to go, as the children come first.

Well, Uncle, I consider you lucky to own a goat. If the high cost of living keeps up we'll all be glad to be goats and eat tin cans. With love,

MRS. GEORGE FRANKLIN.

Don't keep your children out of Sunday School dear friend, because potatoes are dear. Everybody understands (or should understand) that the whole world, or at least the greater part of it, is going through its Gethsemane right now. On the way this country plays its part in this terrific world crisis rests the whole future of mankind. As long as the women of America can feed their children, how they are dressed matters little. Personally I think it would be a glorious thing, if, while this bloody conflict is going on, the women and children could adopt some kind of semi-uniform as simple and convenient as the Khaki worn by the man, and put gaudy trappings aside. We are on the whole the most over dressed nation in the world and we talk more about clothes than any people on earth. Looks and duds are the main topics in nearly every magazine one opens. The war has led to simplicity in dress in the old world, why not here? Our girls seem to be trying to imitate war fashions in the matter of dress, or lack of dress, for most of them don't wear enough clothing to flag a hand car or make a pair of pants for a humming bird. The modern mother too often is a slave to her children, and she would starve herself and go around all the year in a gunny sack if she could succeed in making her pampered brats resemble a bunch of brazen chorus girls. I don't believe children like to be all dolled up like a sore thumb, or like a millionaire's Christmas tree, in fact I know they don't. This competition amongst mothers as to whose kid shall most nearly resemble the feathered denizens of a Brazilian forest, is all wrong. The more people have on their backs, as a rule, the less they have in their heads and pocketbooks. The great Count Tolstoy clothed himself in the costume of the Russian peasant. He wanted to get down to Christ like simplicity. The barefoot business however is dangerous. You don't need to do the Tolstoy act, and you mothers don't need to worry so much about clothes. It is what the children have inside their heads and not what they have on their backs that counts, and it's mighty little any of you worry as to what the girls have in their heads. Going to church does not make one a good Christian, but all good Christians ought to go to church at least once a week. If we can pack the movie picture theaters every night, we ought to be able to pack the temples of our God once a week, and the churches will be packed when we get the right

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)



STOP!
Paring Corns Is Dangerous

AND so are harsh liquids. The only safe way is Blue-jay.

If you want instant relief, if you want to end your corns in 48 hours, use the gentle Blue-jay. Last year millions of corns were ended in this quick, easy way.

Most cases require but one treatment. A very small percentage require a second or third treatment.

Touchy corns are needless, and it is needless to risk dangerous ways to get rid of them.

Decide now to gain utter freedom from your corns. Purchase a package of Blue-jay Plasters at your druggist's.

You gain instant relief, and in 48 hours your corn may be removed without pain.

BAUER & BLACK
Chicago and New York
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc.

Blue-jay
Stops Pain—Ends Corns
Sold by all Druggists
Also Blue-jay Bunion Plasters

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

You had better write to your sister and brother at once. But tell me about the book? Have you always had it? And could you never find the key?"

"The key is the strangest part of it. I found the book this winter in Mr. Mayne's room. That was the first of the queer things. And Mrs. Simpson is the last."

Sitting on the stile, in the warm morning sunshine, she told him of the robbery of the silver; of finding her skirt in Mrs. Simpson's house; of the book with "C. Mayne" on it—evidently taken at the same time.

"And now I find my mother's key, and Mrs. Simpson says she has had it for ages!" She paused for a few moments, and then added: "What do you think? What would you do?"

"I think," said Fairfax slowly, "that you are the bravest little lady in this world."

Nerine flushed scarlet at this praise.

"Oh, nonsense!" she said; "I do things from anger, not courage. I was deathly frightened when I shoved the silver into the chimney."

"It is all the more to be proud of, then, that you did it. Look here, Miss Lispenard! You have found out that Mr. Mayne has deceived you about your age, while he appropriated an extra two years' income. Well, I think you are going to discover more facts about him, if you act carefully with Mrs. Simpson."

"What do you mean?" Nerine asked, very pale.

"I mean that I think Mayne is—Mr. Simpson!"

"So do I." She put her hand on his arm excitedly. "I feel as if I must go back to Mrs. Simpson at once, and get all out of her," she cried. "Would you? Or would you wait till to-morrow?"

"You are sure she does not know who you are?"

He would have liked to kiss the brave little hand lying on his arm, but he did not even look at it.

"Yes, certain. She has been going to ask me what my name was twenty times, but I have always put her off the subject."

"Well, she is tied by the ankle. She can't get away from you, and I think you have had quite enough of her for today. Why not go home, and write to your brother and sister, and tell them what you have found out before you try any more?"

"I think I will. Do you know," half laughing, as she slipped down from the stile, "I feel quite ridiculously tired."

She was very silent all the way to Combs Farm; she was tired, indeed, and her face was very white when they reached the door.

"Good by," Fairfax said. "You look quite done up. Take the advice of an experienced and elderly person, and eat all the lunch you can obtain."

"I don't think I want to eat; I never can eat when I'm angry; and"—she clinched her slim young hand—"you can't imagine how I'm feeling about Clarence Mayne."

"That is a waste of energy," he returned, quietly. "You are just beginning to get the upper hand of him; you ought to feel rejoiced instead of angry. It is Mr. Mayne," smilingly, "whose impotent rage, if he knew of your discoveries, should prevent him from enjoying his meals."

The girl surveyed him gravely, with eyes very dark from worry and fatigue. What was there about him which made him so good to rely upon?

"You are quite right," she gave him a rather pale and watery smile, "but I am so accustomed to being defeated in my battles with Mr. Mayne that I am not very sanguine about this one."

"I am," Fairfax returned, firmly. "Now, do go in, and if you really can't eat, have a sleep."

"I'm not sleepy."

"Oh! Aren't you?" He laughed as he took off his cap and departed.

Sleepy or not, she was glad to lie down on her bed when she got up-stairs, and let nurse bring her some luncheon on a tray. Every limb ached; and when nurse, unbidden, drew down the blinds, the girl turned her head restfully on her pillow and fell into a sound sleep of exhaustion.

It was four o'clock when she woke. She sat upright and looked about the room, full of the soft, mellow light of an afternoon sun through the blinds. She felt rested, and herself again, but as she put her feet on the floor and felt for her shoes, a sudden strange feeling came over her. Mrs. Simpson was alone in that cottage; she must go to her at once. Everything depended on it.

"Oh, what nonsense!" half aloud. "The woman had been alone there for years, and what was this afternoon more than another? Besides, she could not go. Mr. Fairfax was coming over with Tommy, and it would be rude to go out."

Yet, even as she laughed at herself, she was bathing her face and dressing with steady haste in her blue serge frock, with the book in the pocket. It was odd that when Fairfax was coming to tea, she did not put on her black frock; odder still that she pinned her hat to her coils of black hair and put on her jacket.

Fairfax, established comfortably in the sitting-room, with May and Joan hanging over the recovered and life-like Tommy, heard the front door shut sharply, but took no especial notice. Joan had informed him on his arrival that Nerine was sound asleep in the middle of the day.

"And nurse said we was not to disturb her on any naccount"—Joan was fond of n's—"for she looked very poorly."

So his advice had been taken. Mr. Fairfax subdued his soul to patience, and sat conversing with the two children quite contentedly, till nurse entered with the tea tray, half an hour behind time.

"I was waiting for Miss Lispenard to ring, Miss May," she said as she put it down, vexed that her nurslings should be kept waiting.

"She's asleep," Joan returned, promptly. "I shall pour out."

"She was, Miss Joan; but she's up and gone out, this hour and a half gone. I did not have her told that you were here, sir," turning apologetically to the secretly dismayed visitor, "fearing to disturb her; but when I went to see if she was awake, Mrs. Palmer told me that she saw her going out about four o'clock. Will you be pleased to take a cup of tea, sir, with my young ladies?"

"Thank you, nurse, if Miss Joan will pour it out for me."

Even in his annoyance and secret uneasiness about Nerine, he could not disappoint the children by flying off after her without his tea. But he swallowed it very perilously hot, and ate his cake in indigestible gulps, allowing only a sufficient time to pass to save appearances in the astute eyes of the stout and respectful nurse, before he seized his cap and stick and went off at a good round pace in the wake of Miss Lispenard; for, in spite of his excellent advice as to waiting, of course she had gone straight back to Mrs. Simpson.

At all events, he would be in time to walk home with her. He wished he dared scold her well for her childish impatience. Surely Mayne had enjoyed her money for so long that another day could not matter.

He was very warm, and rather put out, by the time he reached the stile nearest the cottage. Not because Miss Lispenard had gone out when she knew he was coming (hunting through his pockets for a match to light his pipe; and smoke while waiting), but because it was so unsafe for her to be alone with that abominable woman, who might be drunk and violent, and half kill the girl.

He sat smoking, with his eyes on the cottage, waiting for her to come out. Presently he saw a figure coming round the back corner of the house. It was not Nerine, it was a man, and he was making his way very quietly and cautiously past the kitchen window to the door.

The kitchen door was fast, and the man tried the window, wiping his fingers fastidiously after their contact with the damp frame. Then, more cautiously than ever, he passed round to the front door and disappeared from the watcher on the stile.

"Now, I wonder what that means," Mr. Fairfax observed.

He put his hot pipe in his pocket, regardless of a good coat which did not deserve such treatment, and walked toward the cottage, with his hands in his pockets.

Through the open door came a sound of voices; as he listened one rose shrill and furious.

"I tell you I'll kill you if you lay a finger on the girl!"

Mr. Fairfax took his hands out of his pockets and disappeared within the door.

CHAPTER XXV.

PREPARING THE NET.

Mrs. Simpson had looked up joyfully as Nerine tapped at her window before letting herself in at the front door. She was flushed and lovely after her hasty walk from the farm, and rather mischievously pleased at having left Fairfax in the lurch, for he really was too silly with his warnings about the cottage.

"Here I am, after all," she cried; "just in good time to have a cup of tea. Down, Snap, my dear—down!" as the dog jumped joyfully up at her. "Run out, Snappy, and have a run while I make some tea for us all."

"I feel gladder than ever to see you, the day's been that long, and I've been nervous somehow. I was wishing terribly that you'd come when you knocked at the window."

"Perhaps your wishes brought me," smiling, as she came back from filling the kettle in the kitchen, "or perhaps I just wanted to come. I wish I had brought some bread and butter; you must be very tired of biscuits."

"I never eat bread or meat," with a superior air. "But I wish you wouldn't wait on me; I was trying my foot a while since, and it's quite strong."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss September will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.



MISS AUGUST.

THE sign Virgo (The Maiden) is strongest felt from August 22 to September 23, and influences that great vital function, the solar plexus, which controls the digestive forces, and may be called the chemist of the human organism. "Eat after your own fashion; clothe yourself as others do," is an old adage not to be despised by persons born under this sign, for the appetite will dictate what they should eat, if allowed to. The desire for food and its digestion will be controlled by the general physical condition, work and surroundings, and such persons should get far away from the idea that when the appetite lags, it should be whipped into activity by highly seasoned foods, or stimulating drinks. Artificial stimulation of the gastric juices leads to enervation of the digestive organs, which is but the beginning of a long line of disorders. Fasting and sleep are Nature's restorative for such persons, if they would accomplish all that nature intended. "As a man eats, so he works."

Men and women born under this sign have unusual aptitude for learning and teaching. They possess fine discriminating powers, and will succeed wherever accuracy and rapidity are the qualifications, and develop great endurance if their duties are in accord with their natural impulses. They are very sensitive to flaws in color combinations, things awry, or discordant sounds.

Such women are devoted and worshipful and control husband and children by a natural, pure love that quickly discern anything destructive to their well-being, and will rally all their forces to its elimination. They make acceptable companions to their children in all outdoor pleasures, and have youthful endurance.

The children may be peculiar about their diet, and what appears to be notional, is but nature's way of expressing their needs. Their senses are acute, and any extended sickness will greatly reduce them. They should choose their own vocations, guiding them only through education and developing a tendency toward greater deliberation before action. They will readily follow studies pertaining to anatomy, physiology and chemistry.

The August Birth-stone is Sardonyx for Happiness

Lovers born in August may proudly wear a sardonyx engagement ring, for it symbolizes happiness, and is very beautiful as well, being a variety of onyx and consisting of alternate layers of sand and milky-white chalcedony.

The Ancients prized it very highly for the making of cameos, and in preparing for some noble mission, or when some great contest was on foot, that happiness might follow, the sword-hilt was often ornamented with sardonyx and an amulet of the same jewel worn next to the heart, carrying the symbol of their hope. Faith in the tradition of the gem caused the brave to be braver, and the strong, stronger.

Happiness is entirely from within and defies conditions; it is more from enjoying than possessing. Its first principle is the love of something outside of self. There must be the incentive to labor, to concentrate on the deeper and simpler things of life, which take away all desire for sham and pretense. The wife who can, with a modest income, concentrate on making her home bright and happy, so that it shall be the cleanest, sweetest, most cheerful place her husband can find refuge in, has found happiness in her consciousness of well-doing. The husband who appreciates a standard of living, who is unselfish and kind, ever ready to hearten the struggling ones, who makes himself something more than "the man that pays the bills," is certain to reap a reward of happiness.

Miss August, in her tennis costume, comes to proclaim the gospel of the great outdoors, where the very essence of happiness reigns; where, with head and chest up, and shoulders back, you give yourself a chance to breathe. Miss August tells us the familiar fact that it is difficult to walk, just for the sake of walking, which alone is sufficient reason why outdoor sports should be cultivated. Furthermore, that the best kind of exercise is that which works, at the same time, both brain and muscle, and here no greater opportunity is offered than an the diversion of the fields, streams and woods.

If you are not blessed with a family for companions, write some congenial spirit to meet you just as "Old Sol" peeps up over the distant hills and hie yourselves to the woods and stream, clad in raiment and footwear conducive to a cheerful frame of mind. It is life, and when you recall the orders of the doctor to walk with shoulders squared and chest arched, you will discover the fact that you are already doing so.

Wear the birth-stone and seek the simple, deeper things of life, that you may be happy and healthy.

How to Make Miss August

To make Miss August, shape a doll from white cloth and stuff with cotton or sawdust. Cover with yellow crepe paper, representing a princess dress. Make buttons of red and tie to match; also put a touch of red on a white paper cap. In the right hand fasten a racquet made by covering a heavy cardboard racquet shaped, with brown wrapping paper, and represent the stringing with wrapping twine. In the left hand fasten a round button or marble to represent a tennis ball. Outline face with water colors.

CONTENTS

		Page
Editorial		2
The Message	*Anna S. Ellis*	3
Van Allyn's Circus Nightmare	*Joseph F. Novak*	3
The Pawn	*Elizabeth Dorothy Sargent*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner		5
Sandwiches Ever Popular		5
Nerine's Second Choice (continued)	*Adelaide Stirling*	6
The Sign of the Corner	*W. W. Hatfield*	7
How to Make an Iceless Refrigerator	*Ella Gordon*	7
The Doings of the Dapperlings	*Lena B. Ellingwood*	8
Comfort's League of Cousins	*Uncle Charlie*	9
The Kingdom of Our Birthright		10
Crumbs of Comfort		10
The Pretty Girls' Club	*Katherine Booth*	11
The Sheltering Hand	*Arthur W. Peach*	11
The Masked Bridal (continued)	*Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	12
In and Around the Home	Conducted by *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	13
Home Dressmaking Hints	*Geneva Gladding*	14
Talks with Girls		15
The Modern Farmer		16
Poultry Farming for Women	*Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	17
Veterinary Information		18
Thorndyke's Quest	*Elbert Wasgatt Wells*	18
Information Bureau		19
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps		19
Family Doctor		20
Home Lawyer		21
Three Wheel Chairs in July		22
Manners and Looks		22
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities		23
Comfort's Comicalities		23

SEPTEMBER COMFORT

will be the Home Outfitting Number with many helpful hints on styles, clothing, dress goods and other matters that concern fitting out the family and putting the home in a state of preparedness for fall and winter. It will help you to economize wisely.

You can't afford to miss it. If the number over your name on the wrapper on this paper is 347 or any less number, it means that your subscription must be renewed at once if you want September COMFORT. These are some of the

Special Features for September

"Brass Tacks and Denim"—By Geraldine Ames

A timely and practical article telling how the housewife can renovate the furniture and furnishings and beautify the home by the use of brass tacks and denim or cretonne, and do it as well as the professional upholsterer.

"Once to Every Man"

A thrilling two-part love story conveying deep significance quite out of the ordinary.—By Maude Mary Brown.

"Common Sense Economy"

Valuable household advice on the subject that is uppermost in everybody's thought in these times of high prices.

"A New Vision"

A pretty romance prettily told in which ideality is roused to triumph over grossly material instincts.

"When the Light Went Out"

A strong love story with a most pathetic appeal, true to life—one of Hapsburg Liebe's very best.

Send 30 cents today to renew your subscription two full years. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album. Even if your subscription is paid some months ahead, renew now at special low renewal rate and we will extend your subscription two full years beyond date of expiration. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.
I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name*.....

Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....

R. F. D. No. ..... *Box No.*..... *State* .....

August, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

Lack of labor is not rest.

Idleness is paid in poverty.

A great mark is soonest hit.

Betting is the fool's argument.

A little bait may catch a big fish.

Ducks lay eggs; geese lay wagers.

The Devil put the "dice" in Paradise.

The noblest motive is the public good.

Follow the river and you will reach the sea.

Youth is an intoxication sobered only by age.

It takes all a lazy person's time to do nothing.

Gray hairs may indicate age, but not wisdom.

They, who forgive most, shall be most forgiven.

Great riches and great poverty are alike stubborn.

To die and part is a lesser evil than to part and live.

Be not clay in the hands of the potter—be the potter.

Industry is Fortune's right hand, and frugality her left.

What some sermons lack in depth, is made up in length.

If you would create something, you must be something.

Party is the madness of the many for the gain of the few.

A poor reason weakens the good ones you may have given.

Consider an enemy a lion until you prove him to be a mouse.

Show is not substance. The world is easily deceived by ornament.

All are born to observe good order, but few are born to establish it.

If the wise were as zealous as the fools there would be fewer fools.

Pride is the master sin of the Devil, and the Devil is the father of lies.

Remembrance is the only paradise out of which we can not be driven.

A room hung with good pictures is a room hung with good thoughts.

Every parting is a form of death, as every reunion is a type of heaven.

Half the world must be blind for it can see nothing except what glitters.

Union through pain has always seemed more real and holy than any other.

Things without remedy should be without regard—stop worrying about them.

The trimming on the clothes of a vain world would clothe all the naked ones.

Fishes live in the sea as men do on land, the little ones to be eaten by the big ones.

Be just and fear not; let all the ends you aim at be your country's, your God's and truth's.

Passions at first are in our power, but when they are well started they sweep away our resolution.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Dont's About Fingernails

DON'T tear a hangnail, if one develops. Clip it carefully with your manicure scissors, and rub on a little cold cream or vaseline. You can form the habit of hangnails and it is an unbeautiful as well as an uncomfortable one.

Don't let the cuticle grow up on the nail at its base. Learn to push back between thumb and forefinger every time you wipe your hands, and painstakingly do this every night with fingers dipped in olive oil, vaseline, or cold cream.

If you have never cut the cuticle at the base of the nail, don't begin, even though it has grown up over nail. Push it carefully back once a day, with the blunt end of an orange-wood stick, after soaking the fingers in warm, soapy water, scrubbing thoroughly, and working back the cuticle as much as possible with the thumb of other hand.

Do not shape the nails with the manicure scissors, but with a nail file. Be careful not to file too deeply on the under surface of the nail, as you will rub and roughen the skin of the finger.

Do not polish the nails too brilliantly. It is not considered in good taste. Burnish with the palm of the other hand.

Do not use a steel nail cleaner, but an orange-wood stick. Scrub and soak nails in tepid soapy water, and dip the orange-wood stick in same before each movement with it. Go, also, over outside of nail where it joins cuticle at base, with orange-wood stick wrapped in a bit of cotton and dipped into the soapy water.

Do not try to shape nails while they are soft. The shaping should be one of the first steps in a "home manicure," before the hand is put into water. When the nail is softened with soaking, it is much harder to file. You can put the hand to soak after filing and before cleaning nails.

If the nail is difficult to clean, dip the wet orange-wood stick in a nail bleach, such as you can buy at any druggist's, and clean under the nail with this. This may also be rubbed around the edge of the cuticle where it touches the nail at sides and base.

Always be careful to thoroughly scrub nail free from all bleaches, polishing powders, or other substances, at the close of manicuring, using soapy water and a nail brush. Then rinse the fingers thoroughly, dry and rub in some hand lotion to keep the skin soft and white. A good lotion is as follows:

To Soften and Whiten Hands

Rosewater, four ounces; orange-flower water, four ounces; borax, one half dram; spirits of benzoin, one dram; bruised almonds, one ounce.

Add rosewater and orange-flower water to the almonds, and shake. Let stand for twenty-four hours, then strain, add the soda, shake until dissolved, then add the benzoin, drop by drop, shaking constantly.

Do not affect oddly shaped nails or nails of unusual length. They are not in good taste, nor are they beautiful to look upon. Round the nail to conform to the contour of the finger-end, and have it just about as long as the finger itself.

Keep the knuckles thoroughly scrubbed and softened, so that they will not be an undue mass of wrinkles. Thorough rinsing is essential to prevent the skin from becoming harsh and dry from soap left on.

If the nail is ribbed, your body lacks some of the elements it requires, as is also the case when the nails are brittle and crack easily. Rub them in such cases, with vaseline nightly, but in the meantime reform your diet and your bodily habits. You need, quite likely, more water more vegetables, and probably more fats, such as cream, milk and butter.

Do even half of the things, and you will have ample reason to be proud of your hands, I can faithfully assure you.

Answers to Questions

Proud Old Thing.—I thought your letter remarkably sensible and sane. Indeed you have every right in the world to take care of your personal appearance. I should wear gloves wherever gloves were correct to wear, and never any place else. You will not need to wear gloves, however, I am sure, if you will coddle yourself a little. I know you cannot do much of this with a house and family to take care of, but try to do a little. To begin with, you want to remember that skin cracks for several reasons, but the most usual one is too sharp a change of temperature. If you have your hands in very hot water, give them a hasty wipe on apron or towel, and go to the door for something, you may be sure a crack or two will soon appear. Moisture is also responsible for many cracked hands. If your hands are in hot water and you must go to do something else, rinse in warm water, then in cool water, and dry very thoroughly indeed, so that there is not a bit of moisture. Too much time, you say? It will get to be second nature if you practise it for a little while, and if you want to save your hands you must never go with them wet for a minute out of water. If you could keep a jar of almond meal on your toilet table or, rather, your washstand, and pour a little into the palm of your hands always after washing them, rubbing them thoroughly on each other until they were perfectly dry, you would find it of great use in keeping them free from chapping and also firm and white. Even corn-meal kept in the kitchen for this purpose is not to be despised. Be sure you keep it in a jar, however, and never put your hands into jar but, rather, pour meal out on hands. Putting your hands in moistens all the meal and takes away its value. Get an orange-wood stick, and wind a little bit of cotton around one end, dip in peroxide and use to mop off the stains at side of nails, of which you speak. Be careful to clean nails thoroughly with orange-wood stick when washing them—not every time you have them in water, of course, but every time you wash them just to wash them. Have the stick just beside the wash-bowl. Indeed, try to group the things you may want to use, conveniently. A little low shelf above the bowl is sometimes the best way. Here is a good lotion to rub on your hands after washing or at night. I think it may prove cheaper than the preparation which has helped you, and be as effective.

Lotion for Hands

Orange-flower water, four ounces; rosewater, four ounces; borate of soda (borax), one half dram; spirits of benzoin, one dram; bruised almonds, one ounce.

Mix first two ingredients and the almonds, and shake until creamy. Let stand for twenty-four hours, strain through cheese-cloth, add the soda, shake until thoroughly dissolved, then add the benzoin a drop at a time, keeping the mixture constantly shaken. It is convenient to use a long olive bottle for this, with a cork. Benzoin always softens water, and your water may be hard and thus crack your hands unnecessarily. Borax added to hard water will soften it, also. It takes only a few drops of tincture of benzoin to soften a bowl of water. I shouldn't use alcohol on my scalp, nor bay rum. Shampoo the hair once in two weeks—see what I have said to others this month—and massage the scalp when you have time. Alcohol dries up the scalp, and that is not good for the health of the hair. I could not tell you how much milk to take for the baby, without adding fat to yourself. You can only tell that by trying. If you have'a't enough nourishment for it and rich enough milk, then you need more food of some kind—milk or something else.

Mrs. S. V. P.—Building the body up all over will build up legs also, but in addition you should take leg exercises. To develop the calves of the legs, there is nothing better than rising slowly on the very tips of the toes and then very slowly and gradually indeed sinking to the heels again. You should keep this up for five minutes, if you can do so without too much fatigue. You will feel the strain in the calf of the leg, which shows that you are exercising and developing that muscle. The squatting exercise is also good. Put heels together, hands on hips. Now, keeping the body perfectly straight above waist, sink slowly to a squatting position, the buttocks resting on the heels. Without removing the hands from the hips or bending the upper half of the body, rise to an erect position again. You can see that this will exercise the legs thoroughly.

Mrs. G.—You should not use either the peroxide or ammonia and "leave the face dripping." Merely mop it on the hairy spots, not on the whole face. A couple of times a day is enough, and you most certainly should wash your face in addition. Every night, wash your face thoroughly with warm soapy water, and rinse many times. After the last rinsing in cold water, and drying, you may carefully mop the hairy spots with peroxide or ammonia and let dry on. But do not touch any other part of the face with it. In the morning, wash the face with tepid water without soap, dry, then apply the ammonia or peroxide, and let dry on. You may, if you choose, use it one more time during the day; and you can, after an hour, wash the face at any time it needs it. I am glad the hairs are getting whiter and finer. Keep right on with the remedy. The ammonia you are using is all right, and you need not weaken either it or the peroxide, if it does not irritate your skin.

Kathleen H.—Your cheeks and neck will thin down again, I am sure, before you are two years older. This is just a temporary condition. But, in the mean time, you can practise this exercise.

To Reduce Fat Neck

Standing perfectly straight, turn the head as far to the left as possible, as if trying to see over the left shoulder; then turn back and as far to the right as possible. Continue for ten or fifteen times. Drop the head on the chest and, letting it hang as if it had no connection with the body, roll it around toward the left shoulder, then over the shoulder, and let it fall back as far as it will, roll it along to the right shoulder, over the right shoulder, and let it fall front again. In other words, roll it around in a complete circle, starting with it hanging on the chest; letting it, later, hang backwards, and finally hang on the chest again.

Lottie.—You should weigh from one hundred and ten to one hundred and fifteen. Wear your dresses at fifteen, about an inch above the shoetops, if you wear quite high shoes. If you do not wear such high shoes, wear skirts about nine inches from the floor. Part your hair from forehead to neck. Comb one half up behind the ear, and braid. Do the same with other side. Now, tie the first braid to the part where the second braid begins, with a big bow of ribbon. Tie the second braid to where the first braid begins, using another bow. Really, I like to see the hair of young girls in one or two braids hanging loose. It is quite a fashionable way to wear the hair.

Country Girl.—For the hair that has been burnt around the face, there is nothing to do but wait. Massage that portion of the scalp nightly, to stimulate its action, and brush it, as well as the rest of the hair. In time, a new growth will come, I feel sure. You do not weigh too much for your height, though more than a girl of your age usually does. Your measurements are not much out of the way, and will get into proper proportion later. I expect, however, you need a little more exercise than you are getting. You should be outdoors every minute you are not needed in the house. And you should play every outdoor game possible. Roller skating would be good for you. Your skin peels because probably, you use too much soap or do not rinse sufficiently. Use a camel's-hair complexion brush at night, as I have so frequently advised. Rinse face very thoroughly, always, and rub entirely dry. Take care of your bowels at least once a day, and drink lots of water, and your skin will not trouble you much longer.

H. L.—See answer to "A South Carolinian" in last month's issue. Sorry that it is against the rules of this department to answer inquiries by mail.

Mrs. W. H. C.—Use the ordinary household ammonia. I imagine what you are using is diluted too much, or rather that you diluate it too much. You might try it at its full strength on the skin of the leg, and see how much too strong, if any, it is; then dilute it accordingly. Of course, the stronger it is, so long as it does not irritate your skin, the more effective its work. I am so glad you enjoy the magazine.

B. J. H.—The way to get over being fat, Miss Sixteen, is to cut out fat-building foods. Quite likely you are rather fond of candy, cake, pies, preserves and other sweet things. If you really want to reduce, you must cut them out for a while. Oh, no, not for always, only until you are a normal weight. Then you can eat them in moderation. Don't eat between meals,—that is another thing to remember; and *do* chew every particle of food until it is liquid. Don't eat potatoes, rice or macaroni, either. If you read last month's COMFORT, you learned a lot about how to reduce. You need exercise, too. Don't you play tennis? I wish you did—that's a mighty good way to reduce a too fat bust. So is swimming. And practise the arm exercises you find in these columns from time to time.

L. C.—Your hair will begin to get stronger and come back as you regain your strength. That is the only sure way to improve it—build up your entire body. As to the dandruff, a shampoo once in two weeks may be sufficient, if you anoint the scalp the night before with olive oil, well-rubbed in, and tie the head up in a towel. Always take down the hair at night and shake and air, and then either let it lie loose or braid very loosely indeed. A sunning, whenever you have time in the day—letting the hair down and occasionally shaking and lifting it, as you sit in the sun—is very good for it. If the sun is too warm for you, take the crown out of a broad-brimmed farmer's hat, and slip the hair through the opening thus left. The brim will shade your face, while the hair can be left to hang free in the sunshine, getting warmed and vitalized. Your general health should be your main concern, for on that the health of your hair depends. I hope you read what I had to say to club members in some of my answers last month.

O. B.—If your face and hands are dry, and you have blackheads, your body is not functioning properly. Probably you are drinking altogether too little water, not eating the right kinds of foods, and not seeing that your bowels move freely daily. Cut out hot breads, pies, sweets. Take an entire bath every night and rub the skin thoroughly with a coarse bath towel. Sponge off the skin each morning with cool water. Before using powder, rub a little cold cream into the skin. Scrub all this off at night with warm, soapy water and a complexion brush, and many rinsings of warm water, with finally a cool rinsing and then a cold rinsing. You won't have blackheads if you take these precautions.

S. P.—You may use the ordinary household ammonia, instead of the toilet ammonia—there is scarcely any difference.

Miss E. M. C.—The pimples which come under your eyes and on chin and only stay a week are probably due to your age, and a little later they will not trouble you in this way. However, if you will be careful to see that your bowels move freely every day, you can help this condition very much, even now. Drinking quantities of water and eating fresh fruit at least twice a day helps to keep the bowels free and to clarify the complexion and make it white and clear. The pimples would not leave scars, I am sure, unless you pick them. Do you? You should not do that, as little scars will surely result. Touch them with alcohol or boric acid, but otherwise let them alone. Pulling out the thick black eyebrows over the nose with a pair of tweezers is probably the best way of treating them. They are too near the eyes to make it safe to use a depilatory. They will come back, but you can pull them out whenever they do. If your freckles are the summer freckles, they will probably yield to the application of the following lotion:

Freckle Remover

Horseradish root, ground, one ounce; boiling water, one pint; borax, two drams.

Apply just to the freckles and not to rest of skin, and be very careful not to get it too near the eyes.

Address all letters containing questions to KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

The Sheltering Hand

By Arthur W. Peach



Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

RACHEL turned gray, beautiful and scornful eyes upon him. "If I were you and had your money——"

"You may have it, if you will say one word—'Yes.' Of course, you will have to take me in the bargain——"

She rose in the quick graceful way that was in keeping with her athletic little body. "Merton, I shall send you home, if you joke about such things!"

He interposed his big frame between her and the door toward which she was about to escort him. "I am serious, dear——"

"Don't call me 'dear' until I give you permission!"

"Well, then, I am in dead earnestness, Rachel. I think this scheme of yours in going down into the slums to do settlement work is all foolishness. Wait just a moment, please. The Lord made you to make me happy—not some dirty little urchin who will misunderstand your desire to help him——"

"That's enough. I have made up my mind; Auntie is willing. I'm going to go down tomorrow and join the staff of the Morse House. You are big and lazy and the good you do in the world won't make the world much better. I think you better——"

The fun had gone from his blue, merry eyes. "I think, myself, that settlement work is a noble calling; but to do it you ought to have a long and special training. Besides you weren't made for such work. The Lord called a certain type to be His disciples, remember. There's sin and sorrow and privation—and other things there which I wish you wouldn't see."

"May I ask how much you, with your cars, your leisure, your clubs, your hunting know about the sin, privation, and other things there."

His lips parted as if he were about to speak; then they sat rigidly. "Good by."

He started to leave the room, but with a swift stride, after watching his face, she caught his hand. Her voice was gentle. "Really, though, Merton, you make a splendid friend."

He glanced down at her, and she knew the struggle that was going on within him to keep him from seizing her in his arms; but she knew he would not do it without her permission; so she felt safe.

"Little girl, I spoke the way I have because I love you—you know that. Much that you have said to me is true; I am big and lazy, and have money—yet—well, good by."

She watched him go with a little regret, but the regret soon passed, for she was happy in her preparations to take up the work of a good Samaritan.

She reported at the Morse House the next morning, going down in her aunt's car. The grave weary face of the Superintendent lightened as she appeared, then shadowed. Very carefully the Superintendent explained to her the work; and Rachel found that she was expected to stay at the house and teach one of the children's classes. She immediately in her quick way rebelled; and the end of it was that she had her way. After a little training she was to go out.

The Superintendent was so reluctant about giving permission that Rachel was afraid for a moment. She recalled Merton's unnecessary brutal words—so she thought—to the effect that they would let her do what she wanted to in the end, for her gifts of money to the House were part of the support that kept it alive.

But she went—down into the region which of all places under heaven should not be called Eden and yet was. Saloons on every corner, shadowy alleys, dirt, dust and destitution; and she came and went unmolested. She saw sin and privation and "other things" and she lay awake many a night over her memories; and more than once she was willing to give up. At the House the Superintendent's face always lighted with relief when she appeared, and she found it a constant trouble to avoid being given an escort or sent on some light errand of no danger.

On the last day of the week, she overheard the Superintendent discussing a case which was pitiful; and nothing would do but that she was to go to succor it. Her money made possible that succor; and she went.

The place she sought was in the worst section where she had never been; where the rotting buildings were piled upon each other, sheltering lives that were black.

For the first time she was frightened as she stepped into the dark entry of the building, and that is the reason why, perhaps, a man with a face that bore the deeply bitten marks of a life of dissipation accosted her.

"My, what a pretty one!" he said softly, his eyes greedy.

She started up the stairs—to find herself gathered in strong arms—held by a man's arms in a clasp she had never known. Stricken and frightened, she struggled and started to scream. A hand closed her mouth, and she was borne swiftly inward. The terror in her soul made her faint, and half-fainting she dimly saw herself brought into a room where three men were sitting. She heard the voice of her captor:

"See what we have here!"

She saw, in that instant, one of the men start up with an oath, and beating upon her consciousness word by word came his words. His manner was savage.

Faintly she heard—"Put her down—know what you're doin'—want the Boss—to skin you?—She's Hale's girl—and the Boss sent word—if a man touched her—he'd get his—Put her down—quick!"

She was put down, and a glass of cold water held to her lips. Her brain cleared. She sat up trembling, but confident from the attitude of the men about her that she need fear nothing. They all seemed frightened, the man who had seized her especially so. She was puzzled.

The younger man of the three who had first spoken, looked at her with anxious eyes. "Are you feeling all right?"

She nodded, half in tears. "I'd like to go, please."

He turned to the man with the scarred face. "Jack, go up to Eber's and get his car. I'll take her."

It seemed only a few moments before word came that the car was ready. She was almost weeping in spite of the efforts of the young fellow to comfort her; she still felt the rude grasp of those arms about her and in her mind was the threat of what that grasp meant.

She barely heard the pleading tones of her abductor begging her to say nothing. She promised—to get rid of him. Through her mind one question was beginning to take form: What power was it that had saved her? the Boss? Could it be O'Hanan—the boss of the Ward—a man she had never seen?

Once more in the open air, she steadied herself, and she asked questions. The young fellow with her refused to answer at first; then he turned to her with a brief, curt statement.

"You're in the wrong place, Miss. You don't belong down here. You're too pretty. I don't know anything 'cept the Boss sent word everywhere that if you was hurt somebody'd get his, an' nobody wanted to get what the Boss meant, see? Jake's just come on from Chicago, see? He didn't know. The rest of us are wise—all 'round here. You've been looked out fer." He glanced around furtively. "I guess I'll let you out here; then I'll hustle to the Boss an' explain things."

She went up the street, into the house, and into her room; and there she surrendered completely. Finally she managed to say she would like to see Merton.

She was nearly herself when he came, for he had been in the country hunting, and had been stopped twice for over-speeding on his way back to her.

His face was gray with anxiety as he stepped in at her bidding. He knelt on one knee by the chair in which she was sitting and took one of her hands in his. The old mischief came to the surface—proof that she was herself if anything could be. She let him hold the hand, but she propounded a question:

"Will you tell me the reason why it seems that 'Hale's girl' has been safe everywhere in Eden?"

He glanced away for a moment. "I am sorry I didn't tell you, that other day. I don't wish to tell you now, but every year I give O'Hanan money to use in helping those who need help down there in Eden. O'Hanan is a rank politician, but he knows and loves his people. I suppose he feels grateful to me. Anyway, I told him I wanted him to protect you—that I loved you—and that if a hair of your head was harmed—Well, I told him a lot; and he sat there smiling. Then he told me that he understood; that his girl was in Ireland—had been for thirty years—in a Kilkenny cemetery—and he'd see to it that you were safe."

He turned his face, and she saw the lines that anxiety for her had engraved there in the few hours; she saw the signs too of some hidden pain; she took his hand and drew his arm around her shoulder; then she leaned toward him ever so slightly, and whispered in his ear with a whisper that was tremulous:

"Now, if you wish, you may call me 'Dear'!"

Lift Corns out with Fingers

A few drops of Freezone loosen corns or calluses so they peel off



Apply a few drops of Freezone upon a tender, aching corn or a callus. The soreness stops and shortly the entire corn or callus loosens and can be lifted off without a twinge of pain.

Freezone removes hard corns, soft corns, also corns between the toes and hardened calluses. Freezone does not irritate the surrounding skin. You feel no pain when applying it or afterward.

Women! Keep a tiny bottle of Freezone on your dresser and never let a corn ache twice.

Small bottles can be had at any drug store in the United States or Canada.

The Edward Wesley Co., Cincinnati, O.



The Masked Bridal

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XXVII.

MRS. GODDARD BECOMES AN EAVESDROPPER.

WHEN, after her interview with Edith, Mrs. Goddard went out to make her call, leaving her brother to keep watch and ward over their fair captive, she proceeded with all possible speed to the Copley Square Hotel, where she inquired for Mrs. Stewart.

The elevator bore her to the second floor, and the pretty maid, who answered her ring at the door of the elegant suite to which she had been directed, told her that her mistress was engaged just at present, but, if madam would walk into the reception-room and wait a while, she had no doubt that Mrs. Stewart would soon be at liberty. "Would madam be kind enough to give her a card to take in?"

Mrs. Goddard pretended to look for her card-case, first in one pocket of her wrap, then in another.

"Ah!" she exclaimed, "I must have left my cards at home! How unfortunate! But it does not matter," she added, with one of her brilliant smiles; "I am an old acquaintance, and you can simply announce me when I am admitted."

The girl bowed and went away, leaving the visitor by herself in the pretty reception-room, for she had been told not to disturb her mistress until she should ring for her.

Presently the sound of muffled voices in a room beyond attracted Mrs. Goddard's attention.

She started and bent her ear to listen.

She could catch no word that was spoken, although she could distinguish now a man's and then a woman's tones.

With stealthy movements she glided into the next room, which was even more luxuriously furnished than the one she had left, when she observed that the portieres, draping an arch leading into still another apartment, were closely drawn.

And now, although she could not hear what was being said, she suddenly recognized, with a pang of agony that made her gasp for breath, the voice of her husband in earnest conversation with the woman who had been her guest two nights previous.

As noiselessly as a cat creeps after her prey, Anna Goddard stole across that spacious apartment and concealed herself among the voluminous folds of the draperies, where she found that she could easily hear all that was said.

"You are very hard, Isabel," she heard Gerald Goddard remark, in a reproachful voice.

"I grant you that," responded the liquid tones of his companion, "as far as you and—that woman are concerned, I have no more feeling than a stone."

At those words, "That woman," spoken in accents of supreme contempt, the eyes of Anna Goddard began to blaze with a baneful gleam.

"And you will never forgive me for the wrong I did you so long ago?" pleaded the man, with a sigh.

"What do you mean by that word 'forgive'?" coldly inquired Mrs. Stewart.

"Pardon, remission—as Shakespeare has it, 'forgive and quite forget old faults,'" returned Gerald Goddard.

"Forget!" repeated the beautiful woman.

"Ah, if you could," eagerly cried her visitor; then, as if he could control himself no longer, he went on, with passionate vehemence: "Oh, Isabel! when you burst upon me, so like a radiant star, the other night, and I realized that you were still in the flesh, instead of lying in that lonely grave in far-off Italy—when I saw you so grandly beautiful—saw how wonderfully you had developed in every way, all the old love came back to me, and I realized my foolish mistake of that by-gone time as I had never realized it before."

"It strikes me, Mr. Goddard, that it is rather late—after twen y years—to make such an acknowledgment to me," Isabel Stewart retorted, with quiet irony.

"I know it—I feel it now," he responded, in accents of despair. "I know that I forfeited both your love and respect when I began to yield to the charms and flatteries of Anna Correlli. She was handsome, as you know; she began to be fond of me from the moment of our introduction; and when, in an unguarded moment, I revealed the—the fact that you were not my wife, she resolved that she would supplant you——"

"Yes, 'the woman—she gavest me and I did eat,'" interposed his companion, with a scathing ring of scorn in the words. "That is always the cry of cowards like you, when they find themselves worsted by their own folly," she went on, indignantly. "Woman must always bear the scorpion lash of blame from her betrayer while the world also awards her only shame and ostracism from society, if she yields to the persuasive voice of her charmer, admiring and believing in him and allowing him to go unsmirched by the venomous breath of scandal. It is only his victim—his innocent victim oftentimes, as in my case—who suffers; he is greeted everywhere with open arms and flattering smiles, even though he repeats his offenses again and again."

"Isabel! spare me!"

"No, I will not spare you," she continued, sternly. "You know, Gerald Goddard, that I was a pure and innocent girl when you tempted me to leave my father's house and flee with you to Italy. You were older than I, by eight years; you had seen much of the world, and you knew your power. You cunningly planned that secret marriage, which you intended from the first should be only a farce, but which, I have learned since, was in every respect a legal ceremony——"

"Ha! I thought so!" cried her companion, with a sudden shock. "When did you hear?—who told you?"

"I met your friend, Will Forsyth, only two years ago—just before my return to this country—and when I took him to task for the shameful part which he had played to assist you in carrying out your ignominious plot, telling him that you had owned to his being disguised as an aged minister to perform the sacrilegious ceremony, he confessed to me that, at the last moment, his heart had failed him, whereupon he went to an old clergyman, a friend of his father, revealed everything and persuaded him to perform the marriage in a legal manner; and thus, Gerald Goddard, I became your lawful wife instead of your victim, as you supposed."

"Yes, I know it. Forsyth afterward sent me the certificate and explained everything to me," the man admitted, with a guilty flush. "I received the paper about a year after the report of your death."

"Ah! that could not have been very gratifying to—your other—victim," remarked Mrs. Stewart.

"Isabel! you are merciless!" cried the man. "But since you have learned so much, I may as well tell you everything. Of course Anna was furious when she discovered that she was no wife, for I had sworn to her that there was no legal tie between you and me——"

"Ah! then she also learned the truth!" interposed his companion. "I almost wonder you did not try to keep the knowledge from her."

"I could not—she was present when the document arrived, and the shock to me was so great I betrayed it, and she insisted upon knowing what had caused it, when she raved like an insane person, for a time."

"But I suppose you pacified her by being married over again, since you have lived with her for nearly twenty years," remarked Mrs. Stewart.

"No, I did not," returned her visitor, hotly. "To tell the truth, I had begun to tire of her even then—she was so furiously jealous, passionate, and unreasonable upon the slightest pretext that at times she made life wretched for me. So I told myself that so long as I held that certificate as proof that she had no legal hold upon me, I should have it in my power to manage her and cow her into submission when she became ungovernable by other means. I represented to her that, to all intents and purposes, we were man and wife, and if we should have the ceremony repeated after having lived together so long, it would create a scandal, for some one would be sure to find it out, sooner or later. For a time this appeared to pacify her; but one day, during my absence from home, she stole the certificate, although I thought I had concealed it where no one would think of looking for it. It has been in her possession ever since. I have tried many times to recover it; but she was more clever than I, and I never could find it, while she has always told me that she would never relinquish it, except upon one condition——"

"And that was—what?"

"Ever the same old demand—that I would make her legally my wife."

"But she never could have been that so long as I lived."

"True; but she would have been satisfied with a repetition of the ceremony, as we did not know that you were living."

"If you have been so unhappy, why have you lived with her all these years?"

"There have been several reasons. In spite of her variable moods and many faults, Anna is a handsome and accomplished woman. She entertains magnificently, and has made an elegant mistress for our establishment. We have been over the world together several times, and are known in many cities both in this country and abroad, consequently it would have occasioned no end of scandal if there had been a separation. Thus, though she has tried my patience sorely at times, we have perhaps, on the whole, got along as amicably as hundreds of other couples. —Besides—ahem!——"

The man abruptly ceased, as if, unwittingly, he had been about to say something that had better be left unsaid.

"Well—besides what?" queried his listener.

"Doubeless you will think it rather a humiliating confession to make," said Gerald Goddard, "but during the last few years I have lost a great deal of money in unfortunate speculation, so—I have been somewhat dependent upon Anna in a financial way."

"Ah! I understand," remarked Mrs. Stewart. "Are you not engaged with your profession?"

"No; Anna has not been willing, for a long time, that I should paint for money."

"And so your talents are deteriorating for want of use."

The scorn in her tones stung him keenly, and he flushed to his temples.

"You do not appear to have lacked for the luxuries of life," he retorted, glancing about the elegant apartment with a sullen air, but ignoring her thrust.

"No, I have an abundance," she quietly replied.

"Will you explain to me the mystery of your existence, Isabel?" Mr. Goddard inquired, after an awkward silence. "I cannot understand it—I am sometimes tempted to believe that you are not Isabel after all, but some one else who——"

"Pray disabuse yourself of all such doubts," she quickly interposed, "for I assure you that I am none other than that confiding but misguided girl whom you sought to lure to her destruction twenty years ago. If it were necessary, I could give you every detail of our life from the time I left my home until that fatal day when you deserted me for Anna Correlli."

"But Anna claims that she saw you dead in your casket."

A slight shiver shook the beautiful woman from head to foot at this reference to the ghastly subject.

"Yes, I know it——"

"You know it!" exclaimed the man, amazed.

"Exactly; but I will tell you the whole story and then you will no longer have any doubt regarding my identity," Mrs. Stewart remarked. "After you left Rome with Anna Correlli, and I realized that I had been abandoned, and my child left to the tender mercies of a world that would not hesitate to brand her with a terrible stigma, for which her father alone was to blame, I resolved that I would not live. Grief, shame, and despair for the time rendered me insane, else I, who had been religiously reared, with a feeling of horror for the suicide's end, would never have dared to meditate taking the life that belonged to God. I was not so bereft of sense, however, but that my motherhood inspired me to make an effort to provide for my little one, and I wrote an earnest appeal to my old schoolmate and friend, Edith Allandale, who, I knew, would shortly be in Rome, asking her to take the child and rear her as her own——"

"What! Then you did not try to drown the child as well as yourself!" gasped Gerald Goddard:

"No; had I done so, I should never have lived to tell you this story," said the woman, tremulously. "But wait—you shall learn everything, as far as I know, just as it happened. Having written my appeal, which I felt sure would be heeded, I took my baby to the woman who had nursed me, told her that I had been suddenly called away, and asked her to care for her until my return. She readily promised, not once suspecting that a stranger would come for her in my place, and that it was my purpose never to see her again. From the moment of my leaving the woman's house—that last straw of surrendering my baby was more than my heart and brain could bear—everything, with one exception, was a blank to me until I awoke to consciousness, five weeks later, to find myself being tenderly cared for in the home of a young man, who was spending the winter in Rome for his health. His sister—a lovely girl, a few years his senior—was with him, acting both as his nurse and physician, she having taken her degree in a Philadelphia medical college, just out of love for the profession. And she it was who had cared for me during my long illness. She told me that her brother was in the habit of spending a great deal of his time upon the Tiber; that one evening, just at dusk, as he was upon the point of passing under a bridge, a little way out of the city, he was startled to see some one leap from it into the water and immediately sink. He shot his boat to the spot, and when the figure arose to the surface, he was ready to grasp it. It was no easy matter to lift it into his boat, but he succeeded at last, when he rowed with all possible speed back to the city, where, instead of notifying the police and giving me into their hands to be taken either to a hospital or to the morgue, as the case might demand, he procured a carriage and took me directly to his home, where he felt that his sister could do more for me any one else."

"Who was this young man?" Gerald Goddard here interposed.

"Willard Livermore," calmly replied Mrs. Stewart, as she steadily met his glance, although the color in her cheeks deepened visibly.

"Ha! the man who accompanied you to Wyoming night before last?"

"Yes."

"I have heard that he has long wanted to marry you—that he is your lover," said Mr. Goddard.

"He is my friend, stanch and true; a man whom I honor above all men," was the composed reply.

"Then why have you not married him?"

"Because I was already bound."

"But you have told me that you did not know you were legally bound until within the last two years."

Isabel Stewart lifted a grave glance to her companion's face.

"When, as a girl, I left my home to go with you to Italy," she said, solemnly, "I took upon myself vows which only death could cancel—they were as binding upon me as if you had always been true to me; and so, while you lived, I could never become the wife of another. I have lived my life as a pure and faithful wife should live. Although my youth was marred by an irrevocable mistake, which resulted in an act of frenzy for which I was not accountable, no willful wrong has ever cast a blight upon my character since the day that Willard Livermore rescued me from a watery grave in the depths of the yellow Tiber."

And Gerald Goddard, looking into the beautiful and noble face before him, knew that she spoke only the truth.

"All efforts upon the part of Miss Livermore and her brother to resuscitate me," Mrs. Stewart resumed, "were unavailing. Another physician was called to their assistance; but he at once pronounced life to be extinct, and their efforts were reluctantly abandoned. Even then that noble brother and sister would not allow me to be sent to the morgue. They advertised in all the papers, giving a careful description of me, and begging my friends—if there was such in Rome—to come to claim me. Among the many curious gazers who—attracted by the air of mystery which enveloped me—came to look upon me, only one person seemed to betray the slightest evidence of ever having seen me before. That person was Anna Correlli—— Ah! what was that?"

This sudden break and startled query was caused by the rattling of the rings which held the portieres upon the pole across the archway between the two rooms, and by the gentle swaying of the draperies to and fro.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

ISABEL STEWART ASTOUNDS MR. GODDARD.

Mrs. Stewart arose to investigate. She parted the draperies and looked curiously into the room beyond.

But her act only revealed a pretty maltese kitten, which, being thus aroused from its slumbers in its cozy place of concealment, rolled over on its back and began to play with the heavy fringe that bordered the costly hangings.

"Ah, Greylocks! so you are the rogue who has startled us!" said the lady, with an amused smile. "I feared that we had an eavesdropper. You are a very innocent one, however, and we will not take the trouble to banish you."

She went back to her chair reassured, and without a suspicion of the presence of one who hated her with a deadly hatred, and who still stood, pale and trembling, concealed by the voluminous folds of the draperies, but waiting with eager curiosity to overhear what should follow.

Meantime the maid who had admitted Mrs. Goddard, feeling that she must become wearied with her long waiting, had returned to the reception-room to ascertain if she still desired to remain until her mistress should be at liberty; but finding it empty, had concluded that the lady had left the house, and so went about her business, thinking no more of the matter.

"Yes," resumed Mrs. Stewart, after she had resumed her seat, "I knew, from the description which my kind friends afterward gave me, that Anna Correlli had come there to assure herself that her rival was really dead. When—suspecting from her manner that she might know something about me—they questioned her, she told them that, 'from what she had read in the papers, she feared it might be some one whom she knew; but she was mistaken—I was nothing to her—she had never seen me before.' Then she went away with an air of utter indifference, and I was left fortunately to the kindness of that noble-hearted brother and sister. They did everything that the fondest relatives could have done, and, in their divine pity for one so friendless and unfortunate, neglected not the smallest detail which they would have bestowed upon an own sister. Only they, besides the undertaker and the one Protestant pastor in the city, were present during the reading of the service; and when that was over, Willard Livermore, actuated by some unaccountable impulse, insisted upon closing the casket. He bent over me to remove a Roman lily which his sister had placed in my hands, and which he wished to preserve, and, while doing so, observed that my fingers were no longer rigid—that the nails were even faintly tinted. He was startled, and instantly summoned his sister. Hardly had her own fingers pressed my pulse in search of evidence of life, when my eyes unclosed and I moaned:

"'Don't let her come near me! She has stolen all the love out of my life!'

"Then I immediately relapsed again into unconsciousness without even knowing I had spoken. Later when told of the fact, I could dimly recall the sensation of a sudden shock which was instantly followed by a vision of Anna Corelli's face and the sound of her voice, and I firmly believe, today, that it was her presence alone that startled my chilled pulses once more into action and thus awoke to new life the torpid soul which had so nearly passed out into the great unknown.

"Of course," Mrs. Stewart continued, "Mr. and Miss Livermore were both thrown into a state of great excitement at such an unexpected manifestation; but my words told them that there was some sad and mysterious story connected with my life and the rash deed I had committed, and they resolved to still surround me with their care and protection until I should recover—if that were possible—instead of committing me to a hospital, as many would have done.

"They bound both the clergyman and the undertaker to the strictest secrecy; then I was immediately conveyed to Miss Livermore's own room, where that noble girl cared for me as tenderly as a mother would nurse her own child. For weeks I hovered between life and death, then slowly began to mend. When I was able, I related to my kind friends the story of my wrongs, to receive only gentle sympathy and encouragement, instead of coldness and censure, such as the world usually metes out to girls who err as I had erred. As I grew stronger, and realized that I was to live, my mother-heart began to long for its child. Miss Livermore agreed with me that it would be better for me to have her, and went herself to make inquiries regarding her. But the nurse had moved and none of her neighbors could give any information about her, except that for a time she had charge of an infant, but after its parents had come to claim it, she had moved away, and no one could tell whither she had gone.

"From this I knew that my old friend, Edith Allandale, had responded nobly to my appeal—that she had taken my child and adopted it as her own. At first I was inclined to be disappointed, and contemplated writing to Edith, telling her what had happened and ask her to surrender the little one to me; but after thinking the matter over more at length, I reasoned that it would be best to let everything rest just as it was. I knew that my darling would be tenderly reared in her new home; she would grow up to a happy womanhood without ever knowing of the blight that rested upon her birth, or that her father had been a villain, her mother a wronged and ruined woman—almost a suicide. So I decided that I would never reveal myself to my old friend, or undeceive her regarding my supposed fate, to disturb her peace or her enjoyment of the child.

"But, following the advice of my new friends, I finally wrote to my father and mother, confessing everything to them, imploring their forgiveness for the grief and shame I had brought upon them, and asking their counsel and wishes regarding my future. Imagine my joys and gratitude when, three weeks later, they walked in upon me and took me at once to their hearts, ignoring all the past, as far as any censure or condemnation were concerned, and began to plan to make my future as peaceful and happy as circumstances would allow.

"They had come abroad with the intention of remaining, they told me; they would never ask me to return to my former home, where the fact that I had eloped with an artist was known, but would settle in London, where my father had some business interests, and where, surrounded by the multitude, our former friends would never be likely to meet us. We lived there, a quiet, peaceful, prosperous life, I devoting myself assiduously to study to make up for what I had sacrificed by leaving school so early, and to keep my mind from dwelling upon my unhappy past.

"So the time slipped away until, five years ago, this tranquil life was suddenly interrupted by my father's death. Six months later my mother followed him, and I was again left alone, without a relative in the world, the sole heiress to a half-million pounds——"

"A half-million pounds?" interposed Gerald Goddard.

"Yes; but of what value is money without some one to share it with you?" questioned Isabel Stewart.

Her companion passed his hand across his brow, a dazed expression upon his face, while he was saying to himself, that, in his folly, he had missed an ideal existence with this brilliantly beautiful and accomplished woman, who, in addition, was now the possessor of two and a half million dollars.

"Occasionally I heard from my child," Mrs. Stewart resumed, after a moment of silence, while tears started into her beautiful eyes. "My father crossed the ocean from time to time, for the sole purpose of learning something of her, in order to satisfy my hungry heart. He never revealed the fact of my existence to any one, however, although he managed to learn that my darling was happy growing up to be a pure and lovely girl, as well as a great comfort to her adopted parents, and with nothing to mar her future prospects. Of course such tidings were always gleams of great comfort to my sad and quiet life, and I tried to be satisfied with them—tried to be grateful for them. But, oh! since the death of my parents, I have yearned for her with an inexpressible heart-hunger——"

A sob of pain burst from the beautiful woman's lips and interrupted her narrative at this point.

But she recovered herself almost immediately, and resumed:

"A year or two after I was left alone I happened to meet your former friend, Will Forsyth, and from him learned that I had always been your legal wife, and that he had sent you proofs of the fact, about a year after your desertion of me.

"This astonishing intelligence animated me with a new purpose, and I resolved that I would seek the world over for you, and demand that proof from you.

"I returned immediately to this country and established myself in New York, where, Mr. Forsyth told me, he thought you were residing. Soon after my arrival I learned, to my dismay, that Mr. Allandale had recently died, leaving his family in a destitute condition. This knowledge changed my plans somewhat; I gave up my quest for you, for the time, and began to search for my old friend who, for eighteen years, had been a mother to my child. I had no intention of interrupting the relations between them—my only thought was to provide for their future in a way to preclude the possibility of their ever knowing the meaning of the word poverty. But my utmost efforts proved unavailing—I could learn nothing of them; but I finally did get trace of you, and two months ago came on to Boston, determined to face you and compel you to surrender to me the certificate of our marriage."

"Ha! did you expect that I would yield to you?" questioned Gerald Goddard, a note of defiance in his voice.

"Certainly—I knew I could compel you to do so."

"Indeed? You were sanguine! By what arguments did you expect to achieve your desire? How could you even prove that I had such a paper?"

"I do not know that I could have proven that you possessed the certificate," quietly responded Mrs. Stewart; "but I could at least prove that such a paper once existed, for Mr. Forsyth assured me that, if I needed assistance to establish the fact of my marriage, he would be ready to give it at any time. I did not think I should need to call upon him, however; I reasoned that, rather than submit to an arrest and scandal, for—bigamy, you would quietly surrender the certificate to me."

Gerald Goddard shivered at the sound of those three ugly words, while the listener, behind the draperies, clinched her hands and locked her teeth to keep herself from shrieking aloud in her agony, and thus revealing her presence.

"I am afraid you will find that you have reckoned without your host, madam," the man at length retorted.

"Ah! how so?" quietly inquired his companion.

"No power on earth would ever have compelled me to relinquish it, Mr. Forsyth's assurance to the contrary notwithstanding."

The man paused, to see what effect this assertion would have upon his listener; but she made no response—she simply sat quietly regarding him, while a curious little smile hovered about her beautiful mouth.

"You look skeptical," Mr. Goddard continued, gazing at her searchingly; "but let me tell you that you will find it no easy matter to prove the statements you have made—no person of common sense would credit your story."

"Indeed! But have you not already admitted that you received the certificate of which Mr. Forsyth told me?"

"Yes; but we have been here alone, with no witness to swear to what has passed between us. However, as I have already told you, Anna stole the paper from me years ago, and I have never seen it since."

"Yes, I know you told me so!"

"Do you not believe me?"

"I think my past relations with you have not served to establish a feeling of excessive confidence in you," was the quietly ironical response.

The man flushed hotly, while anger for the moment rendered him speechless.

"Possibly you might be able to induce your companion to surrender the document," the lady added, after a minute of awkward silence.

"You have very little idea of Anna's spirit, if you imagine that she would ever yield one jot to you," Mr. Goddard at length retorted, his face crimson with rage.

Isabel Stewart arose from her chair and stood calm and cold before him.

"She will never be asked to yield to me, and I am spared the necessity of suing to either of you, for—that all-important certificate of marriage is already in my possession."

As we know, Gerald Goddard had feared this; he had even suggested the possibility to Anna, on the night of the ball at Wyoming, when she told him of the disappearance of the paper.

Nevertheless, the announcement of the fact at this time came upon him like a thunderbolt, for which he was utterly unprepared.

"Zounds!" he cried, starting to his feet, "can you mean it? Then you stole it the night of the ball!"

"You are greatly mistaken, Mr. Goddard; it was in my possession before the night of the ball," quietly returned his companion.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.)

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or stitches each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through both loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a si. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and bmitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Terms Used in Knitting

K. knit plain; o. over; o. 2, over twice; n. narrow 2 stitches together; p. purl, meaning an inversion of stitches; sl. slip a stitch; tog. together; sl. and b., slip and bind; k. p. knit plain; stars and parenthesis indicate repetition.

Square of Filet Crochet for a Bedspread

MATERIALS required, ecru or white mercerized crochet cotton No. 10 or 15, and a suitable steel hook.

Begin by making a chain 122 sts. The pattern is wholly of spaces and blocks. A block is made by working 4 double sts. a space, by working 2 double sts. separated by a ch. of 2.

1st row.—1 d. c., in the 6th st., ch. 2, slip 2, 1 d. c. in third stitch, continue in the way, making in all 39 spaces, ch. 6, turn.

2nd row.—2 sps., 3 blocks made by putting 1 d. c., in each st. of 3 sps., 7 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 4 blks., 1 sp., 4 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 7 sps., 3 blks., 2 sps., ch. 6, turn.

3rd row.—1 sp., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 5 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., ch. 6, turn.

4th row.—1 sp., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 3 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., ch. 6, turn.

5th row.—1 sp., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 5 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., ch. 6, turn.

6th row.—2 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 5 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 3 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 5 sps., 1 sp., 3 blks., 2 sps., ch. 6, turn.

7th row.—5 sps., 1 blk., 6 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 6 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., ch. 6 turn.

8th row.—5 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 5 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 3 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 5 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 5 sps., ch. 6, turn.

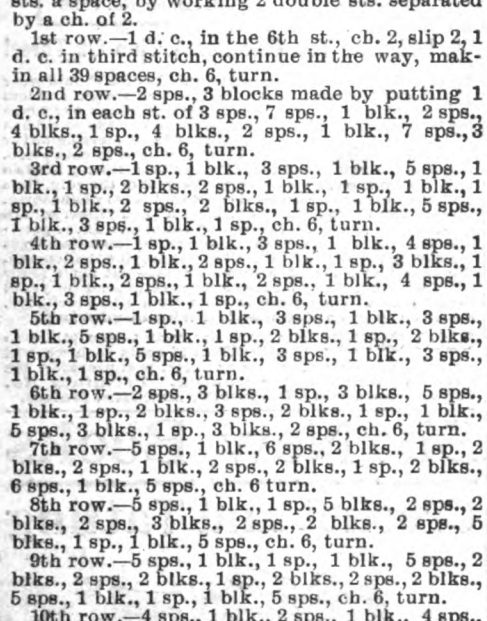
9th row.—5 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 5 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 5 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 5 sps., ch. 6, turn.

10th row.—4 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 3 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 4 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., ch. 6, turn.

11th row.—3 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 3 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., ch. 6, turn.

12th row.—2 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks., 3 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., ch. 6, turn.

13th row.—1 sp., 1 blk., 4 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks., 4 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1



KNITTING BAG.

blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 4 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., ch. 6, turn.

14th row.—2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 5 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks, 2 sps., ch. 6, turn.

15th row.—2 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 6 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 1 blk., 6 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., ch 6, turn.

16th row.—1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 6 blks., 3 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 6 blks., 2 sps , 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., ch 6, turn.

17th row.—1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 8 sps., 1 blk., 8 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., ch. 6 turn.

18th row.—1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 6 sps., 1 blk., 6 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., ch. 6, turn.

19th row.—1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 4 sps., 3 blks., 4 sps., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., ch. 6, turn.

20th row.—2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 1 blk., 3 sps., 5 blks., 1 sp., 5 blks., 3 sps., 1 blk., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., 2 blks., 2 sps., ch. 6, turn.

21st row.—Same as 19th row.

22nd row.—Same as 18th row.

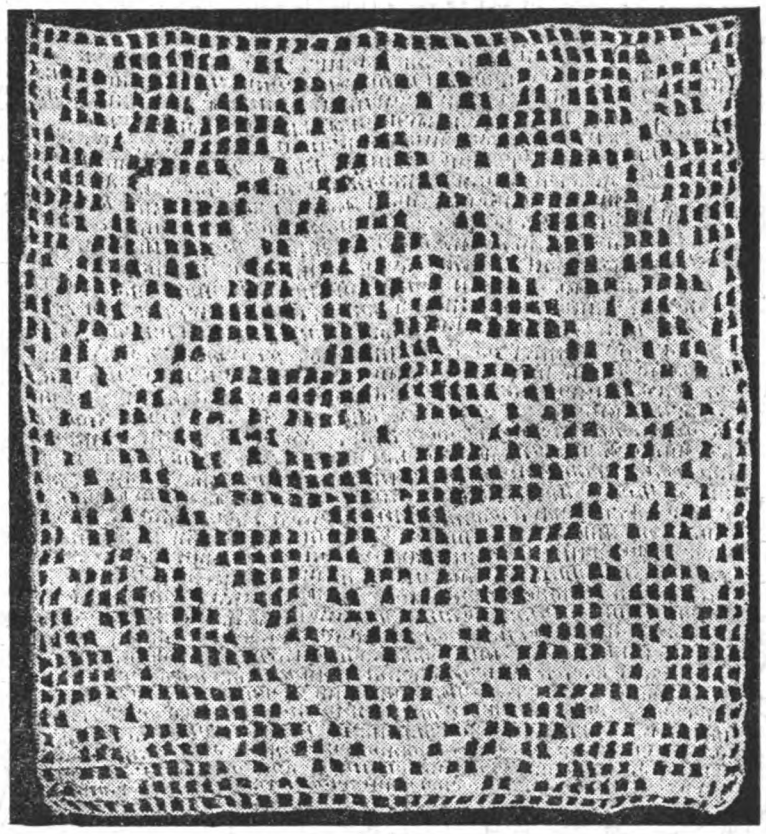
23rd row.—Same as 17th row.

24th row.—Same as 16th row.

25th row.—Same as 15th row. Continue in this way. After reaching the center of the square the pattern is simply repeated as shown in the illustration. In making a counterpane all of the squares can be worked alike, or every other square can be all spaces or all solid double crochet. Or a row of squares can be joined by strips, half the width, of solid crochet of an entirely different stitch. However, in either case, in finishing the spread, it is best to make a border of close work of some kind, as it will wear much better.

Also, if one prefers, treble crochet can be used throughout instead of the double, as this being a little longer stitch the work can be done somewhat quicker.

Mrs. A. Joseph.



CROCHETED BEDSPREAD SQUARE. By Mrs. A. Joseph.

Knitting Bags

As every one is knitting nowadays, and much of the work is on big articles—sweaters etc. which bulk up pretty well as they near completion, big roomy bags are a real necessity.

Bright flowered cretonne is perhaps the most popular material, although goods of all sorts from khaki to silk can be used.

One of the newest bags called the Uncle Sam Knitting Bag is of khaki colored linen. The front and back pieces being cut in the shape of a shield which is outlined with narrow red, white and blue ribbon. A straight piece 20 inches wide and a yard and one half long is fulled and sewed around the sides and bottom of the shield.

Another bag, such as is here illustrated, can be very easily made and is handy and practical. As shown it is developed of cretonne lined with plain satteen. The bottom is a seven-inch circle of pasteboard covered.

Cut material a yard and a quarter by 16 inches, seam up and join to circle. Cover four or five-inch embroidery hoop with ribbon and to this attach a band one and one half inches wide by eight long, sewing the lower end of the strip across the seam of the band, near the bottom as shown.

This bag is roomy can be easily closed by gathering up the top and slipping through the ring, and conveniently carried by slipping on the arm.

Sleeveless Sweater for Army or Navy

For the benefit of our readers we give these directions, as furnished by the COMFORT's Committee of the Navy League. If one desires, all finished articles can be sent to this League 509 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Material required—Three quarter lbs. of gray Scotch knitting yarn.

Cast on 84 stitches. Knit 2, purl 2, until work measures 4 inches. Knit plain until work measures 23 inches. Knit 28 stitches, bind off 24 sts. for neck.

Knit 28 sts.

Knit 7 ribs (14 rows) on each shoulder, cast on 24 sts. Knit plain for 19 inches. Purl 2, knit 2 sts. for 4 inches. Sew up sides leaving 9 inches for armholes.

Crocheted Four-in-Hand

(REQUESTED)

One spool motor silk, 1 No. 8, steel crochet hook.

1st row.—Make ch. 22 sts., turn, 21 s. c. on ch.

2nd row.—Ch. 1, 9 s. c; be sure to take up both loops of each st., draw loop through 10th st. of ch., take off both sts., make 1 puff by making long single through st. in previous row. Ch. 1, 1 s. c. in next st; draw loop through 12th st. of ch. make 1 puff, ch. 1, 9 s. c., ch. 1, turn.

3rd row.—9 s. c., 1 puff in 10th st., ch. 1, 1 s. c. in center s. c. 1 puff in 12th st., ch. 1, 9 s. c., ch. 1, turn.

4th row.—9 s. c., draw loop through puff in preceding row, ch. 1, 1 s. c., 1 puff, ch. 1, 9 s. c., ch. 1, turn.

Repeat until tie measures 14 or 15 inches. Decrease 1 st., each side by skipping 2nd st. every other row, (always be sure to take up first and last sts.)

Make 13 or 14 inches for band 9 s. c. wide.

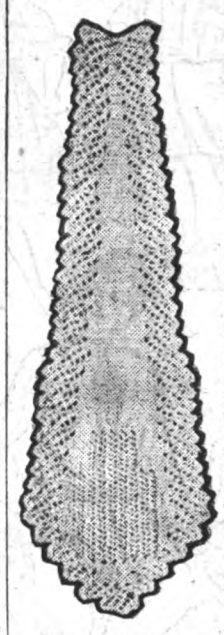
Increase 1 st. each side every 2nd row by making 2 s. c. into first and last sts. on edge of first row from neck-band. Make 6 s. c., 1 puff, ch. 1, 1 s. c., 1 puff, ch. 1, 6 s. c., increase until you have 19 sts.

Then crochet 12 inches more. To finish last row leave long thread of silk, thread sewing needle and pass same through every st., thus making a cord-like finish similar to other end.

Hand Knit Petticoat for Five-Year-Old Child

Cast 10 stitches of split zephyr on a medium-sized steel knitting needle and knit across plain.

1st row.—K. 4, o. n., o. n., o., k. 2.
2nd row.—K. 7, o. n., o. n., o., k. 2.
3rd row.—K. 8, o. n., o. n., o., k. 2.
4th row.—Bind off 4 sts. to make the little scallop, k. 11, o. n., o. n., o., k. 2 and bind off 4 to make little scallop opposite.



ONE SECTION OF CHILD'S PETTICOAT.

5th row.—Continue, from this row, to knit back and forth, widening each row by the over before the last 2 sts., binding off, each side 3 sts., to make the scallops, as above.

When there are 25 scallops, k. 7, o. n., 4 times, k. 4, o. n., o. n., o., k. 2. Continue this way, back and forth, binding off 4 sts., each side, as before, for scallops. till 7 rows are knit. Then o. n., 5 times in the middle back and forth for 8 rows. Then o. n. 7 times, back and forth, in the middle. As before o. n., o. n., o. k. 2, and bind off 4, when knitting the o. n. rows in the middle. When as long as wanted, narrow off by knitting 2 less stitches each side, every other row and finish the bottom with a scallop.

Five of these sections make the front of the petticoat, by sewing the scallops, point to point, with needle and thread.

The back of the petticoat can be knit plain. Divide the sts., evenly on two needles and k. 1, p. one row for a finger's length. Then k. all the sts. on one needle, which makes and joins the placket. Finish the bottom with a lace edging or turn up and hem.

Georgia T. Drennan.

A Change Purse

This convenient little purse is very pretty made up of ecru or greyish pearl cotton and of either of these shades will give a season's wear without becoming soiled or shabby in appearance.

It is made lengthwise and as shown measures 3 1-2 by 2 inches. The size may however be varied very easily and the open-work pattern remain the same, by simply adding to width or length of the work.

To make a purse this size make a chain 8 inches long, add 3 sts., turn, make 1 d. c. in fourth st. from hook, and 1 d. c. in every other st. of ch., ch. 3, turn.

2nd row.—1 d. c., ch. 2, sk. 2, 1 d. c., thus making 1 space, repeat, making 8 more sps., 1 d. c. in each st. for next 4 1-2 inches, 1 sp., 1 d. c. in each st. to end of row, ch. 3, turn.

3rd row.—1 d. c. on each d. c. to meet in 3 doubles of sp. in last row, then ch. 2, sk. 2 d. c. 1 d. c., 1 sp. over sp., ch. 2, sk. 2, 1 d. c., thus making 3 sps. over 1 sp., 1 d. c. in each st. to next sp., 3 d. c. over first sp., 7 sps., 5 d. c., ch. 3, turn.

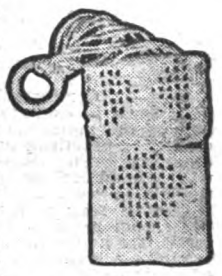
4th row.—5 d. c., 3 d. c. over sp., 5 sps., 1 d. c. on each d. c., to next group of sps., then 5 sps. made over 3 sps. in same way as explained in last row, ch. 3, turn.

5th row.—Doubles, 7 sps. over 5 sps., doubles, 3 sps. over 5 sps., doubles to finish row, ch. 3. turn.

6th row.—Doubles, 1 sp. over 3 sps., doubles, 9 sps. over 7 sps., doubles to end row, ch. 3.

7th row.—Doubles, 11 sps., doubles to end of row, ch. 3, turn.

8th row.—Doubles, 1 sp. opposite last sp., doubles, 9 sps. over 11 sps., doubles, ch. 3, turn.



A CHANGE PURSE.

9th row.—Doubles, 7 sps. over 9 sps., doubles, 3 sps. over 1 sp., doubles to end row, ch. 3, turn.

10th row.—Doubles, 5 sps. over 3 sps. doubles, 5 sps. over 7 sps. doubles, ch. 3, turn.

11th row.—Doubles, 3 sps. over 5 sps., 7 sps. over 5 sps., doubles, ch. 3, turn.

12th row.—1 double, 9 sps. over 7 sps. doubles, 3 sps. over 1 sp. over 3 sps., doubles to end row, ch. 3, turn.

13th row.—All doubles.

Finish around edge of flap with ch. 5, 1 s. c., ch. 5, and repeat. Break thread. Join in opposite end of work in top of first row, ch. 6 inches, run chain through first of spaces and back through second row of flap, then join with s. c. in end of second row. Repeat, making chains of same length from end of each row running through flap, as explained, see illustration. Crochet over small ivory or brass ring and join these chains to it.

Fan and Picot Edging

The illustration shows a very dainty and attractive edging in crochet. It is not at all difficult and will make attractive trimming for summer frocks and undergarments. Use number 100 crochet cotton or number eighty linen thread. This edging made up in heavy crochet cotton will make a handsome and effective edging for scrim curtains or made in medium heavy crochet cotton in the popular sand, ecru or tan shades is appropriate for trimming linen suits etc.

To make the edging ch. 8, join in ring, ch. 3, 17 (d. c.) in the ring, ch. 3, 3 d. c. in first 3 sts.



FAN AND PICOT EDGING.

of d. c. in the ring taking off but two loops at each d. c., at the last d. c. take off all loops on the hook and this will form a point, ch. 5, and repeat until there are six points and five spaces, ch. 1 and turn; 3 (s. c.) in the last chain of 5, ch. 5 to form a picot, 3 s. c., ch. 5, form picot; repeat until there are 3 groups of singles and 2 picots in each loop when the fan will be finished. For the second fan ch. 8, catch in second picot from end of last row in first fan, ch. 3 and proceed as for first fan. By using carpet warp this pattern will make up beautifully for trimming ends of heavy crash runners or porch pillows, as of this material the edging will be about four inches wide.

Gracia Shull.

A Narrow Edging of Coronation Braid and Crochet

* cross the braid as in the illustration and s. c. 2 over the 2 bars, ch. 12, sl. 1 knot, repeat from * along the braid to length desired.



A NARROW EDGING OF CORONATION BRAID AND CROCHET.

2nd row top.—Ch. 5, sl. 2, 1 d. c. in next, * ch. 2, sl. 2, 1 d. c. in next; repeat from * along.

Lower Edge

1st row.—1 s. c. over bar, * ch. 12, 1 s. c. over knot, ch. 12, 1 s. c. over bar, ch. 10, sl. knot, 1 s. c. over bar; repeat from * along.

2nd row.—* 12 s. c. over ch. 12, 12 s. c. over next ch. 12, ch. 4, 1 s. c. over center of ch. 10, ch. 4, repeat from * to end of row; fasten off. Use braid and crochet cotton of any desired size. The edging may be used for many purposes but is especially attractive for trimming the edge of crash doilies cretonne or scrim curtains, etc.

Tatting Book Notice

In response to the demand and for the benefit of our readers who are interested in tatting, we have issued a 16-page booklet of special designs by COMFORT workers.

This Tatting Book illustrates very plainly just how the work is to be done, by showing the various positions of the worker's hands, which are accompanied by explicit directions for the different movements used in making the stitch.

It also contains a complete range of patterns from the simplest edgings and insertions to handsome designs worked with one and two threads, including patterns for doilies, centerpieces, scarfs, lingerie, waists, yokes, collars, infants' and boudoir caps, bags, etc.

We will send a copy of this book free for one new yearly subscription (not your own) at 25c., or for your own subscription or renewal and ten cents extra 35c in all. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Mid-Summer Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



LITTLE summer maidens are as much interested in the styles as "grown-ups" and are to be congratulated that their clothes may be made simple and practical. Dresses with front closing are ever popular and the low neck and short sleeves are comfortable in warm weather. Over blouse and jumper dresses may be worn with guimpes of crepe or lawn, and made of serge, gingham, linen, voile, pique and other wash fabrics.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

2102—A Comfortable Dress for Mother's Girl. This style is easy to develop, and suitable for any of the materials now in vogue. The front closing is practical, and makes the garment easy to adjust. The sleeve may be in wrist length, with a band cuff, or finished in short length, with the cuff in "turnback" style.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires three yards of 44-inch material, for a six-year size.

2139—A Practical and Comfortable First Set of short clothes. Lawn, cambric, batiste, dimity or crepe, silk or challie, cashmere or gabardine could be used for the dress, while cambric, crepe or lawn are desirable for dress and slip. Any desired trimming may be employed.

Cut in five sizes; one, two, three, four and five years. The dress will require two and one quarter yards of 36-inch material. The slip one and one half yard. The drawers one and one quarter yard for a four-year size.

1784—A Neat Blouse Dress for Mother's Girl. The entire dress may be of one material. The skirt is buttoned to the blouse at the belt. The sleeve may be in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 10-year size. Plaid gingham, in brown and blue tones, would be nice for this skirt, with white linen for the blouse, and collar and cuffs of the plaid.

2116—A Set of Serviceable Caps. These models are good for silk, satin, poplin, cravennette and other rubberized cloth. They are ideal for motoring and traveling. Pattern includes the three styles portrayed.

It is cut in two sizes; medium and large. No. 1 will require one yard. No. 2 will require seven eighths yard. No. 3 will require seven eighths yard of 27-inch material for the medium size.

2106—A Smart "Pocket" Dress for the growing girl. In brown chambray with trimming of check or plaid material to correspond, or in linen, with embroidery on collar and other trimming pieces; this style will be very attractive. The pockets may be omitted.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires three and five eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 10-year size.

1795—A Practical and Easily Developed Outfit. This combination includes a simple one-piece dress, a comfortable underskirt or petticoat, and one-piece drawers. The dress is good for all wash fabrics. The underskirt is composed of a long-waisted body to which a straight skirt is gathered. The drawers are simple, with side seams only, thus insuring ease and comfort in wearing. Pattern includes all three garments.

Cut in five sizes; two, three, four, five and six years. It requires seven eighths yard for the drawers, one and one half yard for the underskirt, and two and one eighth yards for the dress, of 36-inch material, for a four-year size.

2142—A Simple Summer Gown. The skirt may be made without the ruffle heading. The style is nice for shantung, crepe, novelty silk, challie, batiste, voile, bordered and embroidered materials.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires for an 18-year size six and three eighths yards of 36-inch material. The skirt measures about two and one quarter yards at the foot.

2128—A Stylish, Attractive Model. As here portrayed the skirt section is fitted with wide plaits and joined to a long waist, in moyer age style. The collar may be finished in straight or notched outline; the sleeve in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires five and one half yards of 44-inch material for an 18-year size.

2122—Ladies' One-piece dress. This popular design is easy to develop and suitable for any of the pretty summer fabrics. The sleeve is quaint in wrist length with the ruffled edge and new and smart in its bell shape.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires eight yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2140—A Popular Model. These dresses in "one-piece" effects are very attractive and comfortable. The sleeve may be finished without the cuff, in bell style. Pattern is good for all wash fabrics, silk, voile, embroidered and bordered goods.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. Size 36 requires seven yards of 36-inch material.

2117—Waist. 2126—Skirt. A Pleasing Combination. The waist pattern 2117 is cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40. 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires two and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

The skirt 2126 is cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size. *Two* separate patterns, ten cents *for each* pattern.

2123—A Simple Dress for the little girl. One-piece dresses are always becoming to little children and so simple to make that they are a comfort to mothers. The sleeve is pretty in the bell shape and in wrist length will be equally attractive and nice for cool days.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a six-year size.

2134—Boys' Blouse and Trousers. This model is ideal for warm weather, with the low neck and short sleeves, and the trousers with straight lower edge. The blouse and trousers may be of the same material, or the blouse may be of linen or other wash fabric and the trousers of serge or cloth.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. Size eight will require three yards of 36-inch material.

9163—Infant's Set, consisting of a cap, sack, night gown and a dress. For the dress or flouncing, it will require one and three quarter yard of 36-inch material with one and one quarter yard of plain material for yoke and sleeves. Of nainsook or lawn 36 inches wide it will require two and one quarter yards. The gown will require two and one half yards of 24 or 27-inch material. The cap, one half yard of 18-inch material. The sack requires seven eighths yard of 27-inch material.

2119—A Becoming Popular Style for the growing girl. This dainty model may be made of lawn, batiste, challie, novelty silk, gingham or chambray. The guimpe is separated. The heading on the skirt may be omitted.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. Size 10 requires two and one eighth yards for the guimpe, and three and one half yards for the dress of 27-inch material.

2087—A Smart Coat for the little miss. This model is good for linen, pique, serge, gabardine, cheviot and broadcloth. The fronts are lapped at the closing.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and seven eighths yards of 44-inch material for a four-year size.

2133—A Smart and Popular Style. This is a lovely dress for the growing girl and may readily be applied to various combinations of materials. The blouse has tuck plaits in front and back, and is finished with a shaped sailor collar. The skirt is a five-gored model.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 10 will require four and one quarter yards of 44-inch material.

2120—A Simple Model for home or porch wear. This is a practical style, adapted to gingham, percale, chambray, lawn, linen, gabardine and other seasonable fabrics. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1841—Boys' Blouse, with yoke in square or pointed outline, and with two styles of collar. Madras, cambric, linen, linene, silk, soisette, and pique are good for this model.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires three and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a 12-year size.

2101—A Most Attractive Style. Georgette crepe, linen, madras, voile, batiste, lawn, taffeta, shantung and wash silk, are fine for this style. The sleeve may be in wrist length, or short.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2100—Ladies' Combination garment of corset cover and drawers. Lawn, batiste, dimity, crossbar, muslin, crepe and silk, are all lovely for this style. The garments may be finished separately.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires three and seven eighths yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2091—A Smart and up-to-date model. This style is good for linen, gingham, voile, chambrey, gabardine, serge, silk and crepe.

Cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires three and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

2103—A Practical Work Dress. This style is popularly known as a "cover all" apron or dress and is indeed a useful, desirable garment.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1984—Ladies' House Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style is simple, attractive and comfortable. The fullness at the waistline is to be confined by a belt or to be gathered, with a casing underneath. Gingham, seersucker, drill, linene, linen, alpaca, gabardine, and serge are all good for this style.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires six and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2132—Ladies' "Cover All" Apron. This model will make an ideal morning house dress, especially for warm weather. The design in good for gingham, seersucker, lawn, percale, alapaca, brilliantine and satteen.

Cut in four sizes; small, 32-34; medium, 36-38; large, 40-42, and extra large, 44-46 inches bust measure. It requires four and seven eighths yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

2079—A Practical Skirt Model. This style is excellent for sports goods, for serge, linen and tub silks, gingham and chambrey. The model has the waistline slightly raised.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated





Are You Wearing A Liberty Ring?

Premium No. 7733

We Will Send You One For A Club Of Three!

EVERY American man, woman and child should wear one of the new Liberty rings. They are the emblem of freedom—of liberty—to preserve which our country is now engaged in the most terrible war the world has ever known. Liberty rings are made of sterling silver and **real money**—a United States dime or 10-cent piece. A special machine stamps or "raises" the liberty head so that it stands out sharply from the rest of the coin, thus giving a heavily **embossed** effect that is very handsome. The words "United States of America" and "Liberty" are plainly seen as is also the date of the coin. These patriotic Liberty rings are so popular that manufacturers are having the greatest difficulty in supplying the demand. We have just received a small supply—but don't know when we can get any more—so be sure to send for yours **right now.** They come in sizes from 4 to 8 inclusive. **Be sure to give size wanted when ordering.**

CLUB OFFER: For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you a Liberty ring free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention size wanted. Premium No. 7733. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Six New Books

Crochet and Tatting



Over 300 Late Popular Designs Never Before Offered To COMFORT Readers

THEY are the newest and prettiest ideas yet published. Each book is 7⅛ x 10¼ inches in size and besides the illustrations contains full directions for working.

Tatting Book, No. 8071 has **thirty-five** beautiful designs, illustrated directly from **photographs**—a splendid assortment of edgings, beadings, insertions, medallions, centers, corners, table runners, yokes, bedspread squares, baby caps, candle shades, etc., etc.,—all with simple and complete directions. **Book No. 8081, Crochet Edgings and Insertions,** shows a handsome variety of edges, insertions and beadings for every conceivable use—**seventy** different designs in all, each one illustrated directly from a photograph. **Complete Crochet Book, No. 8091,** displays the latest ideas for bedspread squares, strips, borders and corners; pincushions, sash curtains; curtain edges and insertions; infant lap pads, centerpiece borders, tatted yokes, towel edges and borders, tidies, nightgowns, boudoir caps, sheet and pillow-case edges, pillow-case laces, lunch cloths; tatting edgings, insertions and motifs; lace collars, doilies, filet insertions and edges—**sixty-five** all different designs illustrated from photographs with complete directions for working. **Book No. 8101, New Designs in Filet Crochet** contains **sixty-seven** beautiful patterns, all of them illustrated with photographs and diagrams, accompanied with full and explicit directions. There are wide and narrow insertions, towel borders, table runners, pillows, bags, sheet and pillow-case insertions, corset bags, curtain bands and edges, alphabets, medallions, chair backs, tray cloths, tidies, luncheon sets, bed strips and borders besides many miscellaneous designs for every purpose. **Book No. 8111, Maltese and Hairpin Crochet** shows many new handsome edges, insertions, yokes, medallions, laces, fringe, doilies, lace collars, handkerchief edges, bungalow or dresser sets, etc.—**thirty-seven** different designs, illustrated from photographs, with complete directions for working. **Book No. 8121, 32 Prize Yoke Designs,** contains **thirty-two** new beautiful ideas for nightgown, chemise, camisole and corset cover yokes in filet, daisy, knot stitch, astor and diamond, Irish, spider web and clover leaf, medallion, maltese, open diamond and hairpin crochet. Each design is illustrated directly from a photograph and the directions for working are full and complete.

We will give you your choice of one or more of these new books upon the terms of either one of the following free offers.

Offer A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you your choice of **any one** of these books free and postpaid. **When ordering be sure to give number or numbers of books wanted.**

Offer B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription, for one year at 25c and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all) we will send you your choice of **any one** of these books free and postpaid. **Be sure to state number of book wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash, (or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me Patterns No. _____

Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____

Name _____ Street and No. _____

R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____ Post Office _____ State _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents (three for 25 cents) unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

OH, my dears, in spite of how much I love to advise you and scold you and try to help you in your perplexities, I would rather be doing something else this dogdaisy, humid August day. Doesn't August always seem to you like the month that should be given up to buggy riding and auto riding and boating in the moonlight, and lolling beside the ocean waves and reading or dozing in a lazy hammock? Doesn't all that sound deliciously cooling and restful this hot vacation month? I hope the most of you are getting some of these pleasures. None of that comfort for me this year. I can't rest any more than is necessary when I know I can help make the things the Red Cross needs for the comforts of the sick and wounded soldiers. I love to think of the comfort my efforts will bring. So, dearies, I must get to work and answer these questions at once and then get back to my patriotic work once more.

The first letter I open today is from L. G., Webb City, Ark., and it is one that perplexes me and makes me real mad—with the parents this time. She is engaged to a young man she has known from childhood and whom she has every intention of marrying as soon as he is of age. So far as I can see the only objection her parents have to the young man is the very silly excuse that his parents are Democrats while they are Republicans. Why will parents be so foolish? I always feel for parents when they are sad at losing their daughter, but it is something that is bound to happen and is what they should desire to happen. In this case, if, as I believe, the sole objection to the young man is his politics, I wouldn't blame the young people if they took matters into their own hands when arriving "of age" and marrying in spite of the objection. They wouldn't have much backbone if they didn't.

Sad Girl, Piedmont, Fla.—I hardly think your father will kill you, as he says he will, if you insist upon going with this young man you tell me is a drunkard and generally mean besides, yet you love him anyway, but it would really be happier for you, if he did, than for you to marry such a man and live a life of lingering misery. I think, judging from your letter, that if you devoted yourself wholly to the study of grammar and spelling, you would become so interested in your books that you would love them instead of the worthless drunkard. It is, at least, worth trying. Try it and see for yourself.

Betty, McMillan, Mich.—It is quite proper for a boy of seventeen to love a girl of fifteen, but it is a whole lot sillier than it is proper. You say you have loved "for years." You haven't. You only think you have; and you think so because your thinker hasn't been used enough to get it in good working order. In the same class are the seventeen-year-old boys who talk of love. My, My! !

Poppy Garden Girl, Madera, Cal.—No attractive girl on earth can exist where men are without their making love to her. She may try to "chum" with them, but chumming isn't enough for them and they love. Usually serious and sincere, too, and they can't help themselves. Nature is stronger than they are. There are attractive girls who have more head than heart and they are not seriously affected, generally, but by and by, the right one comes along and the wedding bells go ringing. Don't worry about natural conditions. Let the men make love to you and you jolly them along in friendly, not flirty, fashion till your turn comes. P. S. You write a very good letter, indeed, in a "hand-write" that might be improved and still remain individual.

Red Rose, Coldwater, Miss.—As you are engaged to the young man and he is attentive to another girl and is frank enough to tell you he doesn't know whether to choose you or her, it seems to me you might help him to make up his mind by breaking the engagement so short off that it would make him dizzy with the jar. What are you thinking about, anyhow?

Heart-broken, Wapakoneta, Ohio.—By all means hold fast to the divorced man who has lied to you about a number of things and, as you think, will lie more to his wife than his sweetheart. Marry him in due time because he is the kind a girl, of such poor judgment as you have, needs to teach her some sense. As you want him for a friend always, lie or no lie, don't hurt his feelings by sending him away. Marry him and raise a family of the same stripe.

Puzzled, Vidalia, Ga.—You may think you are as attractive as the other girl is, but apparently the young man who told you you would always be first with him, doesn't think as you do, or he would not have so utterly thrown you over for the other one. And why ask me what to do? Your own self-respect should tell you that!

Telephone Belle, Kaufman, Texas.—If your mother loves him as well as you do, you will be safe in marrying him, if he wants you. Men may have loved their mothers-in-law, my dear, but there is no record, that I know of, of one marrying his mother-in-law. I don't say no man ever did, but I never heard of it.

Brown Eyes, Union, Okla.—Between two stools one falls to the ground, says the old adage, and between your "Okla. boy" and your "Colo.boy" you'll be sitting on the cold, cold ground, next. If you can't make up your mind and haven't any heart in it, anyway, suppose you drop them both and make a new start.

Cousin, Essex, Vt.—Really, my dear, there isn't anything finer in all the history of men and women, than a girl of sixteen finding some man rather too old just then for sweethearting with a child, and both of them being lovely, congenial friends, say, for as much as ten years, and then, marrying beautifully and being friends till the end. There are such marriages and if you at sixteen know such a man cherish him as fine gold till the time you two shall be one.

Only Me, Placerville, Cal.—Your mother may be right in saying the thirty-six-year-old man she wants you to marry has more sense than the twenty-four-year-old one, you want to marry, but he hasn't very much sense, I should say, if he is willing to marry a girl who wants to marry another man. Don't marry to please anybody except yourself and the man you marry.

Blue Eyes, Clay, Ky.—You did absolutely right in not letting the young man kiss you "good night," if it has turned out that he has left you for that reason. His intentions and his love could not have been very deep, if he stopped calling on that account. At the same time, it is no reason for a coolness. If a man loves you, you can't blame him if he wants to kiss you, but he should honor you all the more if you refuse him until you are engaged. You have nothing to ask forgiveness for. If he wants to call, by all means let him. Don't chase after him.

A Girl, Winnsboro, S. C.—When your fiance kissed you under the impression that it was your friend you should have returned the kiss, explaining that it wasn't meant for you, and doing it in such a way that he would prefer your brand of kisses ever after. As your fiance, he is entitled to a few kisses and I can't understand why you don't want him to, but remember, some wise old philosopher said, "Nothing in excess." You might feel better if you were to talk it over frankly with him and then if you let him kiss you and he still shows symptoms of kissing your girl friend (and I'd get a new girl friend immediately) and you want to taste the very quintessence of revenge on both—let her have him! An engaged woman should not accept a present, except of the most, trifling value, from any young man other than her fiance, or brother, even at Christmas. I am astonished that a girl of your "old-fashioned" ideas of propriety did not resent that "brotherly" friend's proposal to give you a pair of pink silk "Teddies." You should have treated it as a gross insult.

B. H. M., Corinth, Miss.—If you look upon marriage with either of your suitors as a leap in the dark you are not yet sufficiently in love with either one to be married yet. When you are really in love you feel you are doing the right thing in whatever you do I would not advise marrying the one simply because your mother desires it, any more than I would advise you to marry the other one because your mother hates him.

Curls and Dimples, Dublin, Texas.—The idea of two girls of fifteen asking me how to catch a beau. I don't know and if I did I would not tell you. You are too young to be thinking of a beau. Attend school the next four years and put your minds on fitting yourselves for your life work.

W. S. H., Balmy Beach, S. C.—You have possibly been the victim of a sharper. How many times have I cautioned you girls as to the impropriety of permitting a young man to wear your ring! It will teach you not to be so trustful of strange young men. If you had not lost the ring you might have been humiliated by the way he displayed it and talked. You did right, of course, in not letting him kiss you without being engaged.

Brown Eyes, Waynesburg, Ky.—Consider yourself fortunate in losing the young man who was to marry you but loves someone else better—and still loves you. My sympathy is for the woman who gets him for a husband.

Reader, Basile, La.—Is there any reason why that young man must write to you when you live in the same town? Why can't he call at your home?

Brown Eyes, Corvallis, Oregon and also R. A. C. J., Roanoke, Va.—I don't think it would be a good plan to suggest starting a correspondence with a young man. Such a request should emanate from the man, and should be acted on by the girl with caution.

Brown Eyes, Middle Georgia.—If your fiance really loves you, the war ought not to prevent your marriage. Perhaps he thinks you are rather young. He can serve his country even though married if he is called. I do not advise against kissing where the parties are engaged to each other.

Rose, Wesson, Miss.—I won't give any assistance in an attempt to keep two young people apart. That is asking too much of me. You are too young to be engaged in such an idea. Perhaps your absence at school will help you to solve your problems.

"B" Louisville, Ky.—It shouldn't be very hard to break off the engagement. It will be easier than marrying a man so much older, and who falls in love with every pretty face. If you marry him your troubles are likely to be greater than that of breaking it off now.

There, don't you think I have done pretty well, considering the heat and the desire to be out playing and the thought of my Red Cross work ahead of me? By,-by till next month, dears,

COUSIN MARION.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

house always. After washing your face, rinse it well in cold water that has just a little salt added to it. Don't put on any powder; how can your skin breathe with all its pores clogged with powder. My cheeks are always red enough and anyone with pale cheeks can have the envied rosy cheeks easily if they take the bracing air of the out of doors. A slap on each cheek will often bring the blood to the surface of the skin, but look first to your health. Don't let it get undermined.

I have two children, a girl five years and a boy three and a half years old. I have been married nearly seven years.

Love and good luck to all,
Cordially your sister, MRS. HARRY BENJAMIN.

OHIO.

DEAR SISTERS:

Here comes a new writer from the Buckeye state.

Lonely One, I think you almost deserve to be lonely, but it must be awful to feel as you do. I do not think you are doing your duty for if you are able to have a child I think you should, or if not, I think you should adopt one. It is not all smiles and sunshine to raise a family but I think it is the best and happiest way. I have a little boy three years old and a little girl one year and they are the sunshine of our home. You say you think you would be insane. Have any of the sisters ever gone insane while waiting for the necessary time to elapse, or have you ever heard of any cases like that? I never have heard of any and I don't think you would, Lonely One. It puzzles me when I read some of the sisters' letters and they say just how many children they have decided to have, but then, we have some very smart people in this world today. Some people think a large family is a disgrace, but I don't. In some cases I think it is the mother's own fault if she gets all worn out and tired. She should take better care of herself.

Country Jake, you have expressed my feelings toward Georgie. She must think us farmer folks filthy, but just invite some city folks out to your country home for a meal and see if they hesitate a minute.

I think it a good plan on Saturdays when you are baking white cakes to use the yolks for mayonnaise and then Saturday or Sunday cook potatoes for salad and fix your salad; that will save you from building a hot fire, especially in hot weather, and then if you have baked things and fruit, you have a good meal and with but little work.

I have taken COMFORT only since 1915 but would not have missed it had I known of it earlier.

Happy Farmer's Wife.

I have a beautiful poem which I wish to pass on to others. I do not know who wrote it.

MATTIE M. BOWMAN, Baker, Idaho.

Why

Why do we oft withhold the loving tribute
From those who strive to help us day by day,
With tender, loving, patient service,
And praise the absent who are far away?

Why do we save our rarest, sweetest blossoms,
To place upon the graves of loved ones gone?
Knowing that all around us lives grow weary
Of planting roses but to gather thorns.

Why do we think while swift hours past are rushing,
"I have no time to tell my love today,"
When we know hourly some fond heart is longing
For just the words our own would like to say?

Why do we smother tender, sweet expressions,
That almost reach our lips, love's offerings;
When we know, within our sight is living,
A soul that longs for just these blessed things.

Oh, let us praise and clasp the hands outreaching,
And press the hearts that would beat 'gainst our own;
Life is so short—its sweetest blossoms fading
Soon they may leave us, then we weep alone.

OKLAHOMA.

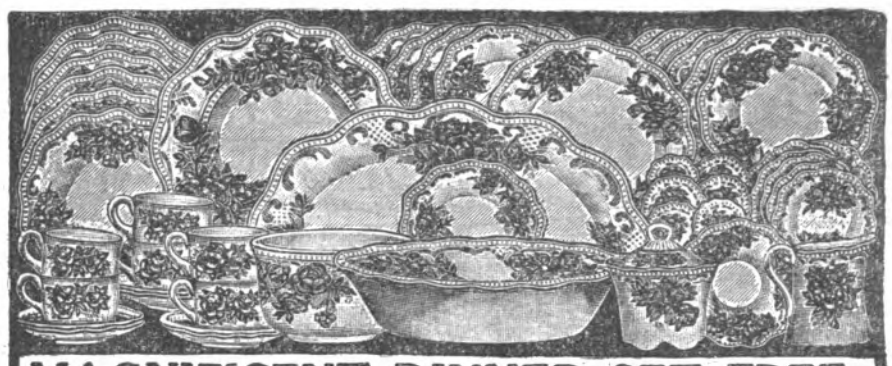
DEAR SISTERS:

I fear my "mite" will be of small interest to anyone; however, I wish to say to U. A. M., who wrote several months ago, in regard to her little boy's crying spells, do not whip or punish him in any way for it but keep a constant watch over him to see when he is going into one of these spells. Pick him up and blow hard in his face or dash cold water in his face and do everything possible to prevent him holding his breath and I think in time he will outgrow or overcome it. I have a little girl who was affected the same way. I did everything I could think of to prevent the spells and finally I kept a strict watch over her all the time for I was afraid she would die in one of the spells. She would fall to the floor, seemingly almost gone and when I would revive her she would moan and cry for hours and say her head hurt. I consulted a doctor and he said it was contraction of the breathing muscles and when they failed to expand it affected the heart and almost caused circulation to cease, therefore the cause of the headache. But no matter who tells you he does it because of temper, do not whip him for it.

Will say to Mrs. Pete that she has a difficult problem to solve. However, if she can give up her desire for "going" and stay at home she may be happy. I have in mind a very dear friend whose husband cared nothing for going to any place of amusement so she gave up everything and stayed at home only when she could persuade him to go with her. It was generally supposed he loved her though he seldom expressed it in any way. In the course of fifteen or sixteen years, when she had lost a good deal of her youth and girlhood charm in caring for their family, along came one of the "fair angels" a good deal younger than the wife, and she soon found that she had a very small part of her husband's affections, so you may know how much happiness there was in her future life. But, Mrs. Pete, do not understand me to say that anything like that might happen to you. I was merely illustrating one incident.

I believe in birth control and I don't see how it is going to send souls to hell, as one sister said it would. I have three children, but I think it would be a sin to bring more children into the world than we can care for.

With best wishes to the sisters, OUIDA.



MAGNIFICENT DINNER SET FREE.

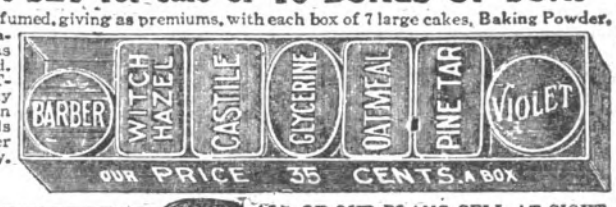
The Most Gigantic Offer Of The Century.

You Need No Money. We Trust You. We Pay Freight.

To gain a wider distribution for our strictly pure, high-grade groceries and family supplies, we now offer ABSOLUTELY FREE, a magnificently embossed, artistically floral decorated, full size

52-PC. DINNER SET for sale of 10 BOXES OF SOAP

of extra quality and finely perfumed, giving as premiums, with each box of 7 large cakes, Baking Powder, Perfume, Talcum Powder, Teaspoons, Shears and Needles (as per Plan 2351) here illustrated. QUALITY as well as QUANTITY are in this offer, as we buy in such large lots that we can afford to give more good goods for less money than any other concern in the entire country.





ALL OF OUR PLANS SELL AT SIGHT. One pleased customer brings another and with our other Baking Powder, Tea, Coffee, Spice, Extract, Perfume and Soap Offers, you will get duplicate orders and earn some of our many useful premiums such as Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Linen Sets, Silverware, Clocks, Lamps, Furniture, Graniteware, Rugs, DryGoods, Wearing Apparel, in fact, anything you need. We also pay large cash commissions.

WE PAY THE FREIGHT

on Soap, Dinner Set and Premiums, allowing you plenty of time to examine, deliver and collect before paying us one cent. Write at once for FREE SAMPLE OUTFIT and other things. If, after receiving them, you decide not to get up an order, you may keep everything we send you FREE of charge for the trouble in answering this advertisement. No license needed. We protect you. Our methods are honest. Satisfaction guaranteed. Reference: First National Bank, Provident Bank, Postmaster.



SPECIAL FREE PRESENT.

We give a 6-Pc. High-Grade Granite Kitchen Set, or 12-Pc. Silverine Knife and Fork Set, or Elegant Decorated Parlor Lamp, FREE of all cost or work of any kind. Simply send us your name and address and ask for this FREE PRESENT.

We also give Beautiful Presents for appointing one or more Agents to work for us. You advance no money. You have nothing to risk. Remember, the SPECIAL PREMIUM AND SAMPLE OUTFIT are both absolutely free. A 2-cent stamp or post card is your only expense. WRITE TODAY.

THE PURE FOOD CO., 706 W. PEARL ST., CINCINNATI, OHIO.

SAHARA, UTAH.

DEAR FRIENDS OF COMFORT:

I am another who is writing to the Sisters' Corner for the first time. I have read it since I was a little girl.

Now, about birth control. There are two sides to that as there is to any question. Let those who are "happy wives and mothers" go on the even tenor of their way. But there are those, that have been wronged and stunted perhaps in their lives and powers, to speak. Now I believe every one in this world has a perfect right to be born in the best way mentally, physically and spiritually with all God-given powers for great good. It is a well recognized fact that our great "what we are" is at the time of conceiving. If the "average" is fairly good, how much better could the "above the average" be?

My mother conceived with me, three months after she had given birth to her first baby. Hardly time to get back her strength and courage; besides, every mother knows that a first baby is lots of worry and care to the new mother. Then at that time there was sickness and death to grieve her.

Does anyone blame me if I feel just a little cheated? And wouldn't it have been better for all concerned if I had come into the world a year later?

I do not believe that birth control will lessen or make so much difference that way. But when we have a better quality we must have a happier people. The doctors needn't worry—most good women would go very near to death in order to have babies of their own to love, and the other kind—well, they will do about as they have always done—take what they think is the easiest way.

May we hear from others about this.

With good wishes to all, from
One who would be a Happy Mother.

BIG RAPIDS, MICH.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Just a message to L. T.

Convince that man of yours that you do not approve of the Absolute Monarchy form of government and that he will have to introduce a reform or there will be a revolution. If he really cares for you as he should he will change; if not, the sooner you are rid of him the better. It takes tact, patience and judgment and no person can advise exact methods unless on the ground and acquainted with both parties and circumstances.

J. A. G.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around The Home

A little kerosene in hot starch will prevent irons sticking.

In cooking tough fowl or meat, one tablespoon of vinegar in the water will save nearly two hours boiling.

Put one tablespoon of starch in a quart of water and sprinkle tablecloths with it. It makes them look like new.

Fill cracks in floor with putty mixed with paint of shade floor is to be painted.

MRS. EARL GRANT, Newburgh, N. Y.

A tablespoon of vinegar in the lard that you fry doughnuts in will prevent them sticking.

MRS. VELMA STEED, Mayflower, Ark.

A cloth wet in diluted peroxide and laid over scorched spots and dried by a moderately hot iron will effectively remove every sign of scorch.

MRS. SEWARD HANYAN, Chivington, Colo.

How many of you have trouble in keeping tomatoes in glass jars? I did, until I tried putting one teaspoon of salt on top of each quart of tomatoes.

MRS. ANNIE WATERS, Nelsonville, Ky.

To kill Russian moths, put ordinary toadstools on a sheet in room infested with moths and leave for some time. The moths gather around these and can be swept up and burned.

BESSIE GLASS, Hartville, Mo.

Remedies

NEURITIS.—A home treatment. Apply hot water and mustard poultices to parts. Also one ounce laudanum, one ounce oil of origanum, and one and one half ounces each of oil of hemlock and oil of sassafras. Mix and rub on affected part. Also place a flannel saturated in camphor to painful parts and cover with a dry cloth.

SUNSTROKE.—Reduce temperature as quickly as possible. Remove person to cool place and loosen and remove as much clothing as convenient. Apply cold to head and body by rubbing cold water or ice over face neck, chest and arm-pits. Wring sheets out in ice water and wrap patient in them, keeping the sheets wet. If this is done the body should be rubbed. When conscious give cold water to drink but no stimulants.

Requests

How to cook carp.

How to make scones.

Poem, "The Skeptic."

How to dry corn in sun, for table use.

How to can lettuce and sweet potatoes.

Poem, "Since Ma Got Christian Science."

How to prepare beef tallow to use for shortening.

Poem, "Jimmie Butler's Adventure with the Owl."

How to remove grease spots from rubber raincoat.

Mina Christianson, Ulen, Minn. would like to hear from Christian Science sisters.

Mrs. Cora Thornton, Bethesda, N. Dak., would like quilt pieces of all kinds.

Mrs. Kate Davis, West Milton, Ohio, asks for poem entitled "Brennen on the Moor."

Mrs. Bessie Owens, College Station, Texas, would like pumpkin seed remedy for tapeworm.

Miss Sadie Kellum, Kellum, N. C., asks the sisters to send her flower seeds and cancelled postage stamps.

Mrs. Louis Block, Dodge Center, R. R. 4, Minn., would like to correspond with COMFORT sisters living in Hunter, Garwood or Eastwood, Mo.

Song mentioning names of states and containing this line:

"And what would Delaware?" (Dela wear?)

Mrs. A. M. Swan, Garrison, Texas would like the June and December, 1916, numbers of the Illustrated Companion. Write first and she will send postage.

Poem containing the lines:

"He played on a harp of a thousand strings,
The spirits of just men made perfect."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

Let "Old Glory" Wave Over Your Home!



Six Feet Long
Four Feet Wide

Warranted Fast Colors

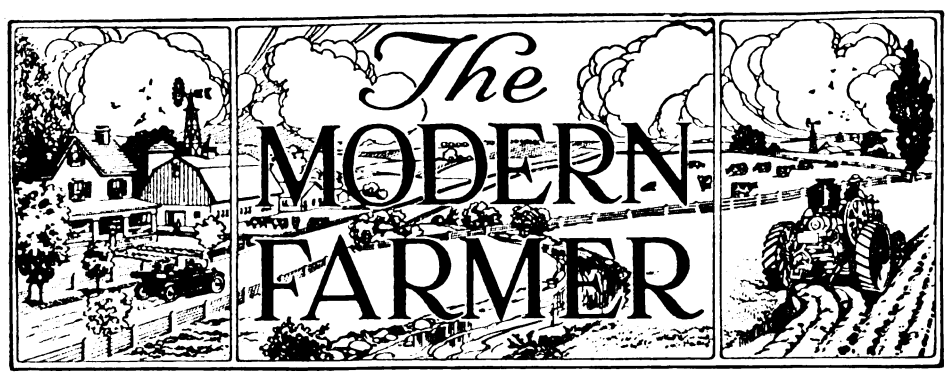
This Large Handsome American Flag Sent You Prepaid For A Club of Ten!

NOW is the time for every good American to show his patriotism by displaying **the Stars and Stripes**—the most beautiful flag in the world. Fling **"Old Glory"** to the breeze—it's a duty you owe to your country, your loved ones and yourself. We know that there are no more patriotic, home-loving Americans anywhere than COMFORT'S own subscribers, so we are going to offer this large handsome flag which is **six feet in length and four feet wide.** It is made of special **fast color** material positively **guaranteed not to fade or run,** with sewed stripes and printed stars, canvas head and brass grommets. On account of its large size it will make a fine appearance when displayed from some upstairs window or from your porch or piazza roof. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that there is not a **handsomer** flag in the neighborhood. And please remember that we **guarantee** its wearing qualities. Neither sun, snow nor rain can affect it.

We will give you this fine American Flag as described on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For ten one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this American Flag, six feet long and four feet wide, free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 72810.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

The Kind of Calves to Raise

FARMERS are being given a deal of advice these days and some of it is coming from well-meaning people who never have farmed, but are sure that they know just how it should be done. The advice to save every dairy heifer calf offered in wholesale manner may well be criticized. It certainly seems at first thought that every heifer calf should be allowed to develop, have a calf, and become a milker, but on more mature consideration such advice will be seen to be foolish.

Thousands of heifer calves are the offspring of "robber cows" and sired by scrub bulls. The sooner such beasts, including sires and dams, are slaughtered, the better will it be for all concerned. Possibly some may argue that it might pay better, in the present shortage of food supplies, to feed all calves beyond the vealing stage so that they might supply a greater quantity of meat, but that, too, is open to question.

The crying need of the hour is for the mating of pure bred sires of producing ancestry with cows that have proved profitable producers, and with heifers from such cows. Were such sensible breeding to become general, the calves might, in a majority of instances, be worth raising, but that is not the case now.

Together with this improved system of breeding imperatively should go proper care and feeding of the progeny. We venture to say that at least one third of all of the heifer calves now raised are imperfectly developed, and for that reason do not yield a maximum profit as cows.

Hundreds of thousands of dairy heifer calves after being fed some whole milk and then skimmilk are turned on pasture to fight flies, half starve, and merely survive until better feeding can be given them in winter. Lungworms commonly infest such calves. The poor beasts become pot-bellied, dry and tight in the hide, show "anxiety of countenance" and are stunted for life by such "penny wise, pound foolish" management.

More than increased numbers of dairy calves on the farms of the country is needed better development of those raised now, and that means adequate feeding from birth until one year old, during which time the less the calf is exposed on pasture, the better will it be for the future cow.

Every robber cow and every cow that merely pays for her keep should as soon as possible be replaced by a profitable high grade cow and such improved cows can only be obtained by perfectly developing the well-born calf. No practical improvement can possibly be achieved by raising a multitude of ill-bred calves to add to the present horde of unprofitable cows.

A campaign for fewer and better calves to develop fewer and better cows would be a much wiser economical movement than one for the raising of an additional host of worthless calves that might practically "eat us out of house and home."

Care of the Foal

All things considered, we believe that it would be better not to allow the foal to run with the dam while she is at work in the field or on the road. Exercise is good for the foal but too much of it is injurious and that is likely to be taken if the foal follows the mare. Then, too, the foal should not drink milk from the mare when she is tired, hot and sweaty. Milk under those conditions deranges the digestive organs and this is the reason for foals losing hair and assuming a "moth bitten" appearance. Suffering from indigestion and over-exercising in the hot sun the foal fails to thrive and we need scarcely state that loss of "milk flesh" and stunting during the early months of life mean stunting that cannot later be remedied perfectly by generous feeding. Apart from the welfare of the foal it must be conceded that the mare is annoyed and impeded in her work by the presence of the youngster or is so solicitous for its welfare that she works less efficiently. It would be better to leave the foal in a roomy, clean, airy box stall, having a yard or paddock attached for exercise, when the mare goes to work. There the foal should, if possible, have the companionship of other foals and should be supplied with pure, cool water and access to a box containing crushed oats and wheat bran, that it may early learn to eat and so come to the weaning time in thriving condition and able to live without the milk of its dam. At first the foal will have to nurse once or twice during the forenoon, the mare being brought in for the purpose, but soon it will suffice to have the foal drink at noon after the mare has cooled off a bit while eating a pound or two of hay. If the mare is perspiring freely and quite tired when she comes in at noon, it is advisable to strip away at least part of her milk and allow the foal to nurse later when fresh milk will be secreted. The object should be to keep the foal growing and gaining in weight every day and to prevent all causes of stunting. Only then will a foal profitably develop. Allowing it to run with its dam certainly retards growth.

Apple Blight

We all have noticed the dry brown leaves on the tips of twigs and branches of apple and pear trees. These branches have the appearance of being scalded by fire, hence the name "fire-blight." Sometimes the injury is so great as to completely kill the tree, at others the trees are hurt so badly that it takes years for them to recover.

CAUSE OF "FIRE BLIGHT."—Fire blight is caused by a germ which gets into the blossom and feeds upon the honey in it. Under these conditions, accompanied by cloudy, damp and rainy weather, these germs multiply very rapidly and work their way down through the sap of the tender young twigs and leaves. This cuts off the food supply from the twigs and the leaves curl up and die, and turn brown.

WHAT TO DO FOR FIRE BLIGHT.—Fire Blight cannot be cured by spraying, like blight in potatoes, because the germs are inside the twigs, not on the surface of the leaves as the spores are in potato blight. Diseases on the *outside* of plants can be controlled by spraying but those on the *inside* must be treated in some other fashion. The best known control for fire blight is the removal and burning of the diseased branches. All blighted twigs should be cut off several inches below the dried leaves and promptly burned. The tools used in pruning should be disinfected by dipping them in a solution of one part of corrosive sublimate dissolved in 1000 parts of water, after each cut. This is a deadly poison and must be used with great care and kept away absolutely from children and animals. Trees badly affected should be completely destroyed.

HOW THE DISEASE IS CARRIED OVER.—Fire blight is carried over from year to year in diseased spots on the trees known as "cankers." These are simply old sores to be found around the base of diseased twigs. These cankers should be dug out with a sharp knife and the wound treated with the corrosive sublimate solution used in disinfecting the tools.

HOW BLIGHT IS SPREAD.—Blight is spread from branch to branch and tree to tree largely by insects, of which lice are the most important. Any spray, then, that is used with success to control these insects becomes an indirect means of controlling the spread of fire blight. The tobacco concoctions frequently mentioned in these columns are among the best means of controlling lice on fruit trees. The lime sulphur sprays generally used in orchards are also effective.

Grow Wheat

Now is the time to plan to sow wheat this fall. The world's supply of wheat is short. This year's crop is still further reduced. Bread is the one essential for winning battles. The world needs wheat. America is in the best position to produce a big crop next year.

WHERE WHEAT CAN BE GROWN.—Winter wheat can be grown successfully throughout the two Northern tiers of states. The upper Mississippi Valley and the great plains of the West are particularly adapted to wheat growing. The crop is comparatively easy to grow and harvest and requires little labor to produce; in fact wheat is the easiest food stuff we have to produce. This is the chief reason why it is grown continuously year after year on the same land until the soil is worn out.

WHEAT SHOULD BE GROWN IN A ROTATION.—Many places where wheat was once the main crop have abandoned its culture altogether. This was unnecessary and in the present crisis exceedingly unwise. Wheat should be grown in rotation with other crops. One good four-year rotation for wheat is as follows:

First Year.—Second crop clover, plowed under and sown to wheat.

Second Year.—Manured, fall plowed and planted to corn in spring.

Third Year.—Oats or barley seed with clover, or clover and Timothy mixed.

Fourth Year.—Hay or pasture.

Other equally good rotations for wheat can be easily devised. The above is adapted to the general farm or the dairy farm where dairy cows or beef cattle are kept and hogs raised for the market. Such a farm raises small grains, hay and cultivated crops, like corn, produces large quantities of barnyard manure and for these reasons is particularly adapted to wheat growing, provided wheat is given a place in the rotation.

PLAN NOW TO RAISE SOME WHEAT.—Six bushels of wheat provide bread for one person for a year. Thirty bushels will feed the average family of five. Why not raise bread for your own family? One acre of good wheat will do it. Five acres will feed four other families. Why not raise five acres and have some to sell at these high prices? It is safe to predict that wheat will not fall to one dollar a bushel for several years after the war stops. An acre of wheat yielding thirty bushels—this is a big yield, about twice the average for the United States but easily possible in a rotation since yields of forty and even fifty bushels are common on good land—will bring in between $40 and $50 at threshing time and requires less labor to produce than an acre of almost any other crop.

NOT ALL SOILS GROW WHEAT.—Wheat does not do well on all soils. If too rich, the grain may lodge, if too poor the yield will be small. Fertile loam and well drained clay are soils best adapted to wheat. Sand and marsh are poor wheat soils. On new land wheat does exceptionally well.

TIME TO SOW WHEAT.—Winter wheat may be sown the last week in August and all during September in the localities mentioned in this article, depending of course on the locality. The main thing is to sow it early enough so that it covers the ground and holds the snow to protect the roots and prevent winter killing. If sown too early it may get too far along before winter sets in.

HOW TO SOW.—Use from one and one half to two bushels of seed to the acre. Sow with drill seeder or broadcast on well prepared land. There is no danger of having the soil too fine and mellow. If loose it is a good plan to run the roller over the land to compact the soil. The hard red winter varieties are preferred on the market. Wheat can be sown immediately after the harvest rush is over and is then out of the way until harvest time again when it is the first crop to require attention. Why not grow wheat this fall?

Buckwheat and Bread

In pioneer times buckwheat was a popular crop. Old-fashioned self-raised buckwheat cakes are still popular in some quarters. During the war we will doubtless be forced to adopt again many pioneer practises. The eating of buckwheat cakes should become one of the first and most popular. One meal a day of pancakes during winter will make just that much less draft on the bread basket and reduce the price of flour correspondingly.

WHERE BUCKWHEAT IS GROWN.—Buckwheat can be grown with success throughout the Northern tier of states. It can be sown late, the latter part of June and the first of July, on land where other crops have failed. It is easy to grow, on sandy soils, on clay, on wet soils, on wornout fields, on newly cleared land,—anywhere that other crops will grow. It is our most persistent and most hardy bread crop. Of course it does well on good soil, but first-class land is not essential to buckwheat. It is a good crop to sow as a nurse crop for grasses, clover and Alfalfa. Besides this it has broad leaves and hence is a good weed killer by shading the ground.

HARVESTING BUCKWHEAT.—Buckwheat is cut and laid in small bundles which are tied together near the top and set up by spreading out the butts, each bundle separately. It cures in the gravel in this way and when dry may be hauled directly to the threshing machine. The ordinary grain thresher will handle buckwheat if the concaves are lowered so that there will be more space and that the seeds be not hulled or crushed. With the present high price of wheat and rye flour, buckwheat is also certain to command a good price and to be more widely used as long as the war lasts.

New and Valuable Bulletins

Two new and valuable bulletins have just been issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. One deals with canning and other methods of food preservation and the other is devoted exclusively to drying and contains many valuable recipes for the cooking of dried fruits and vegetables. The first is Farmers' Bulletin No. 839 and is entitled "Home Canning by the One Period Cold Pack Method;" the second is Farmers' Bulletin No. 841 and is entitled "Drying Fruits and Vegetables in the Home." Both these bulletins should be in every home that has vegetables and fruits to save.

HOW TO GET THESE BULLETINS.—These bulletins are to be had *free* for the asking. If you want either or both of them write a letter or postal card to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and ask that these bulletins be sent to your address. Be sure to give full title of bulletin exactly as above, with the number of the same. Don't forget to give your address and be sure to sign your name. Thousands of requests for bulletins are received by the Department of Agriculture from persons who fail to sign their names or to give their proper addresses. Don't make the same mistake when writing for the above bulletins.

Farm Labor and the World War

It is now universally admitted that there is a world shortage of food. The war will be ended quite as much by "billets of bread" as by "bullets of lead." When conscription goes into effect the supply of farm laborers already fifteen per cent below normal will be still further reduced. This will do for this country what it has already done for Europe,—still further decrease our power to produce food. Hence in supplying the trenches we may cut off automatically the food supply for the men in the trenches. Some plan must therefore be found for securing larger production per each man left at work on the land.

A PLAN THAT WORKS WELL.—All over this country such plans are being worked out. One such is here outlined for the benefit of our readers with the hope that it may help them to solve the farm labor problems in their own communities. The principles underlying this plan are:

I.—Farm family labor is most efficient; hence let all members of the family do as much of the farm work as possible. Hire only such labor as is necessary to completely work the land.

II.—Of hired help, experienced farm labor is the most efficient; hence, always give preference to men known to be experienced.

III.—Employ miscellaneous or inexperienced labor only for irregular work and seasoned jobs where the work is all of one kind.

HOW THESE PRINCIPLES ARE APPLIED.—In each trade center someone is found who is willing to act as labor leader for the community. He makes a list of all men and boys, retired farmers, school boys and others who have worked on farms and keeps this list always handy. Any farmer needing help in that community is thus able to get it by applying to the local leader. If it's odd jobs, like thinning sugar beet, or cutting tobacco, or work with the threshing crew where the process is easily learned, the school boys and the inexperienced laborers are used. If it is regular farm work of considerable variety requiring experience, the retired farmers come in handy. If it is regular farm work the year round or for the season, married men with families are preferred, in which case a share in the profits in addition to the regular wage becomes an added incentive to do one's best. These local communities are keeping in touch with each other through the county agent and exchanging their surplus laborers to help each other out. In the same way the counties exchange with each other so that the best workers are always given preference in hiring men to work the land.

WHEN THE DRAFT COMES.—The draft will not come until after most of the crops are harvested, but it is hoped that when it does come the best farm hands will be left at work where they can produce most. If any food producers must be taken let it be those who have failed as farm laborers. The kind of organization outlined above will furnish the basis for finding out those most efficient. Another point which must be kept in mind is that farm hands should not be withdrawn from the farms to take the place of those taken by draft from the factories, without their places on the farm is filled by more efficient farm laborers.

Wolf Teeth and Dentistry

The removal of a "wolf tooth" is immaterial. Such teeth neither cause weakness of the eyes nor periodic ophthalmia (moon blindness), common erroneous belief to the contrary. In rare instances, they interfere with the bit of the overhead check rein and then should be extracted. They are merely little insignificant short-rooted teeth, situated one on each side of the upper jaw close against the first premolar tooth. Comparatively few horses have such teeth whereas eye disease is extremely common. Wolf teeth are vestiges, through atavism, of the anterior premolar teeth of the prehistoric horse. The modern horse has six grinding teeth above and below in each jaw. The prehistoric horse had seven. The hog is our only domestic animal that has such a dental battery today. Far more important than removal of wolf teeth is attention to the incoming incisor teeth of the colt. Often the milk teeth which should be shed, their roots having been absorbed, become jammed between the permanent incisors and remain there causing considerable pain and, possibly, ill-thrift. They also distort the position of the incisor teeth and give the mouth an abnormal appearance. They should be extracted promptly when seen to be lodging and causing discomfort. This, too, is true of the "shells" or "crowns" of the first three premolar teeth on the upper and under jaws. The three true molars come in behind the premolars. Only the latter have shells and these should be removed as they frequently cause ill-thrift in young horses and cattle. This is most necessary when the colt is rising three or four years and when the bull, steer or heifer is from one year and nine months to two years and six months old. It also is well to lance the gums over the incoming incisor teeth of the young colt if they are seen to be red and swollen. Such work commonly is necessary when a colt has "lampas," that being merely a swollen condition of the hard palate just behind the upper incisor teeth in sympathy with swelling of the gums associated with the irritation of teething.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

HOME-GROWN SEED.—Kindly tell me whether I can grow my own tomato seed and, if so, how to save it. (2) Can beet seed be raised here successfully? (3) Does rhubarb ever seed?

MRS. R. G. K., Red Oak, Ga.

A.—Yes, tomato seed may be saved from ripe tomatoes. Simply remove the seed, wash off the pulp and dry seed in the sun. Store in a dry place. (2) Beet seed can be raised in this country though most of it is produced in Europe. (3) Yes, rhubarb "goes to seed." New varieties are produced by planting the seed though rhubarb is usually propagated by dividing the root.

SEED BEANS, WEEVIL.—Would Lima beans grown near ordinary pole beans produce seed that would come true to the variety? Would Lima beans and butter bean (which are a mere variety of Lima beans) grown near each other come true, or would they mix? Would different varieties of ordinary pole beans come true if grown near each other? (2) How can weevils be prevented from destroying bean seed?

I. S., Knoxville, Tenn.

A.—Beans usually fertilize in the blossom before the blossom is open; hence there is little likelihood of crossing. Different varieties usually blossom at different times in which case there is no chance of crossing. There is therefore small probability that Lima beans would cross with other varieties if planted near them. (2) Weevils in beans can be destroyed by the use of carbon bisulphide. Place beans in a box. On top of the beans place carbon bisulphate in open dishes like plates or bowls. Cover the box tight. When the carbon bisulphide is evaporated, which will be in about twenty-four hours, the weevils will be destroyed.

CAUTION.—Keep fire away. No smoking, no lamp, no lantern, because carbon bisulphide is very inflammable and the fumes are explosive—worse than gasoline. Air out thoroughly as you would after using gasoline.

Grew 108 Bu. of Wheat from 1 Bu. Sown —Says J. H. Nyberg

A Remarkable Wheat—a Heavy Yielder a Seed Saver

W. A. Jarrett wrote us he raised 3430 bu. of wheat on 70 acres, an average of 49 bu. per acre. The crop was worth more than the land it grew on. We have many letters from farmers in Ala., Ark., Ill., Ind., Ia., Kan., Ky., Md., Mo., Nebr., N. Y., N. C., Ohio, Okla., Pa., Tenn., Tex., Va., W. Va., etc., reporting as remarkable results. It will cost you less to sow this large yielding variety of wheat than to use common wheat from your own granary. It's a fact! You can sell the wheat you intended to sow and with part of the money received buy this heavy yielder and sow the same acreage. If you grow winter wheat, send for our proposition and printed letters from hundreds of farmers—many from your own state. Now is the time to increase the wheat yield. Let us tell you how to save money in sowing the crop and produce more bushels per acre.

O. K. SEED STORE, Dept. 25, Indianapolis, Ind.



Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business

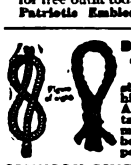
Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars. **Star Drilling Machine Co.** 875 Washington St., Akron, Ohio



WE TRUST YOU

Send your name and address—no money—and we will send you 24 of our new patriotic emblem buttons with American flag (to be worn in buttonhole) to sell among your friends and neighbors at 10c each. When sold, remit us $1.20 and keep $1.20 as your cash commission for your trouble. Or you can remit full amount, $2.40, and receive valuable premium of Moving Picture Machine, Baseball Outfit, Watch or other article from our premium sheet. These emblems sell fast. Everybody wants one. Send for free outfit today and earn premium or cash commission.

Patriotic Emblem Co., A-6 237 W. Madison St., Chicago



Book on **ROPE SPLICING,** Useful Knots, Hitches, etc.

A most practical handbook giving complete and simple directions for making all the most useful knots, hitches, splices, rigrings, etc. Over 100 illustrations. All about wire rope attachments, lashing, blocks, tackles, etc. 27 Heraldic Knots illustrated. Worth many times its cost to mechanics, riggers, campers, boatmen, farmers—anyone using rope. PRICE 25c. postpaid. 5 copies for 60c.

JOHNSON SMITH & CO., Dept. 3, 7121 N. Clark St., Chicago

Butterfly Brooch

Gold and Colored Enamel



A splendid lifelike imitation of a butterfly with all a butterfly's gorgeous colors brought out by the skillful blending of rose, gold and green enamel. Not "flashy" but as pleasing to the eye as one of Nature's own winged beauties. These brooches are so popular this season that we decided to offer them as a COMFORT premium. Our illustration shows its exact size but utterly fails to convey any idea of its handsome appearance. You will be delighted with it. We will give you one of them free upon the terms of the following special

Premium No. 8412

Club Offer: For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one of these handsome gold and enamel Butterfly Brooches free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 8412. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Six Rogers' Silver Teaspoons

Premium No. 7356



Warranted For 10 Years

New Plymouth Design

FOR A CLUB OF SIX

NO woman ever has too many teaspoons—especially the "Rogers'" kind—so here is an offer that will surely interest thousands of our women readers. For a few subscriptions to COMFORT secured among your friends we will send you this handsome set free. They are the famous 1881 Rogers' A1 brand which is guaranteed to be a full standard silver plate upon a genuine 18% nickel base. Please notice the beautiful design—the new "Plymouth"—which is a splendid reproduction of the universally popular hand-hammered ware. You will have to see the spoons themselves in order to fully appreciate this latest fashionable pattern as our illustration does not do it justice.

We will give you this set of six Rogers' silver teaspoons on the terms of the following club offer. Remember—they are the genuine 1881 Rogers' A1 brand—the Rogers' trademark is stamped on each and every one. This protects you fully, furthermore each spoon is absolutely warranted for ten years.

CLUB OFFER: For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this set of six Rogers' silver teaspoons free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7356. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Fighting the High Cost of Grain

THE high cost of corn and wheat seems to be scaring people all over the country into parting with their poultry, which is regrettable; for if corn and wheat are high, eggs and meat are higher still, and every family which stops keeping chickens is simply pushing the price still higher, for, as you all know, supply and demand are the leading factors which control market prices. So if people who have been keeping only a few chickens just to supply their own table with eggs, dispose of their birds and buy market eggs, they decrease the supply and increase the price at the same time. Remember that our beauteous land and our mighty ocean are made up of grains of sand and drops of water.

Food conservation is now, and will be for the next two years at least, an imperative necessity for the welfare of humanity, so everyone should consider the production of food in any form a duty which they owe to mankind, and like the grains of sand and drops of water, every egg or vegetable you produce, either for home consumption or for market, helps to swell the supply—and keep down prices.

Of course, grain and wheat are high, and it is a serious matter to people of moderate means who live in villages or on the outskirts of towns where they have only small yards or small acreage, and cannot grow their own supply. But if, instead of selling off recklessly, they will use discretion, cull out all the old, fat, lazy and unproductive hens, and keep the bright, busy pullets, the returns in the shape of eggs will far exceed the expense of feed.

I tried one or two experiments last winter with two pens of pullets,—ten birds in each, and had very satisfactory egg yields, though the birds did not have grain or wheat all winter, and very little corn. Their rations consisted of oats scattered in deep litter at seven in the morning; at eleven o'clock, sprouted oats and beets; buckwheat and Kaffir corn mixed in equal parts—a pint for each pen. At three o'clock, a warm mash made of potato peelings or small potatoes which have been mashed and mixed with commercial beef scraps, oil meal and ground oats. About two tablespoonfuls of scraps and half a cup of oil meal and a pint of oats to every quart of mash peelings; two quarts of the mixture to each pen. For supper, they had buckwheat, barley and oats mixed—one quart for each pen. The potatoes, buckwheat, and oil meal are all fattening, so of course generate heat, which is necessary in winter rations, and balance the want of these qualities in the oats almost as well as corn would have done.

When there is a large family to supply the table scraps containing meat, potatoes and bread, beef scraps and oil meal can be omitted, but to get the best results from table scraps, they should be put through a meat chopper and be thoroughly mixed; otherwise one hen is liable to get all the fat, another all the vegetable, which means that neither will get a balanced meal. And what is more, the hen who wins a large piece of fat is very likely to have an attack of diarrhea and become dangerously ill.

Another small and useful economy is to dry all the egg shells left from the table cooking. Crack them up and add them to the mash, for they will take the place of grit and oyster shell. Of course such a method of feeding is only practicable for the small flock. Farmers should cull just as rigidly and get rid of all the unproductive birds, but as they usually grow much of the necessary food and have sufficient room to keep good-sized flocks, it is better to devote their time and energy to making birds produce as many eggs as possible during the winter months, in spite of the price of grain.

Feed and cleanliness are the two great factors. When I say feed, I don't mean quantities of one kind of grain. The hens must have a variety to furnish the different elements necessary to keep them in good condition and provide a sufficient surplus to form eggs, or they can't lay them. You can feed a hen lots of food, but if it lacks the ingredients which are necessary for the different parts of the egg, it is just wasted, for the hen won't produce eggs, even though she may be so fat that she develops liver trouble or apoplexy.

What constitutes a well-balanced ration varies considerably in different parts of the country. In cold climates it takes a good deal of rich food to sustain bodily heat, therefore what would be a well-balanced ration in Dakota would be positively detrimental for birds in the South. For this reason, I collected information from experiment stations in different parts of the country about their methods of feeding laying hens, hoping that our readers will be sensible enough to accept the vicarious experience of the experienced poultrymen who made a study of the subject in the different climates.

New York Ration

This ration has given the best results when used with large and small flocks at the Cornell Experiment Station, and is widely used in the Eastern states.

SCRATCH FEED.—Fed morning and afternoon in straw litter: Wheat, 60 pounds; corn, 60 pounds; oats, 30 pounds; buckwheat, 30 pounds.

DRY MASH.—Fed in hopper which is kept open during the afternoon only: Corn meal, 60 pounds, wheat middlings, 60 pounds; wheat bran, 30 pounds; Alfalfa meal, 10 pounds; oil meal, 10 pounds; beef scrap, 50 pounds; salt, one pound.

GREEN FEED.—Beets, cabbage, sprouted oats, green clover or other succulent food given at noon in a quantity that the hens will immediately eat up clean so that none is left to spoil. Oyster shell, grit and water are available at all times.

The New Jersey Ration

This ration is designed for use with laying hens throughout the year, with slight modifications according to the season.

SCRATCH FEED.—Every morning about nine o'clock the following mixture is fed in deep litter inside the house at the rate of about five pounds of scratching ration to each hundred birds: Wheat, 100 pounds; oats, 100 pounds.

At four or five o'clock in the afternoon the following mixture is fed at the rate of 10 pounds to each hundred birds: Cracked corn, 200 pounds; wheat, 100 pounds; oats, 100 pounds; buckwheat, 100 pounds.

DRY MASH.—Kept before the birds at all times during moulting season in self-feeding hoppers. In early fall oil meal is substituted for gluten meal. In spring Alfalfa is omitted and beef scrap is reduced: Wheat bran, 200 pounds; wheat middlings, 200 pounds; ground oats, 100 pounds; corn meal, 100 pounds; gluten feed, 100 pounds; Alfalfa, cut short, 100 pounds; high grade meat scrap 200 pounds.

GREEN FEED.—Beets at the rate of four or five medium-sized ones to each hundred hens, or sprouted oats at the rate of 100 to 150 square inches for 100 hens.

Sour or skim-milk is given when available. Grit, oyster shell and pure water are always provided.

The Kansas Ration

SCRATCH FEED.—Fed in small quantities early in the morning as soon as the birds leave the perches; and also two or three hours before the birds go to roost, a quantity that will give them all they desire: Wheat, 300 pounds; corn, 200 pounds; oats, 100 pounds.

DRY MASH.—Fed in hoppers at the rate of one pound of mash for every two pounds of scratch feed: Corn meal, 60 pounds; meat scrap, 50 pounds; wheat bran, 30 pounds; linseed oil meal, 10 pounds; wheat middlings or shorts, 60 pounds; cut Alfalfa, 10 pounds; salt, one pound.

GREEN FEED.—At noon the hens are fed as much green feed, consisting of sprouted oats, roots and so forth, as they will clean up in 20 minutes. Fresh water, oyster shell, grit and charcoal are always before the birds.

The Indiana Ration

SCRATCH FEED.—Scattered in litter morning and evening, about one third of the daily allowance in the morning and two thirds in the evening: Corn, 100 pounds; wheat, 100 pounds; oats, 50 pounds.

DRY MASH.—Fed in an open hopper accessible at all times except for heavy breeds, in which case hoppers are kept closed until noon: Shorts, 100 pounds; bran, 100 pounds; meat scraps, 60 pounds.

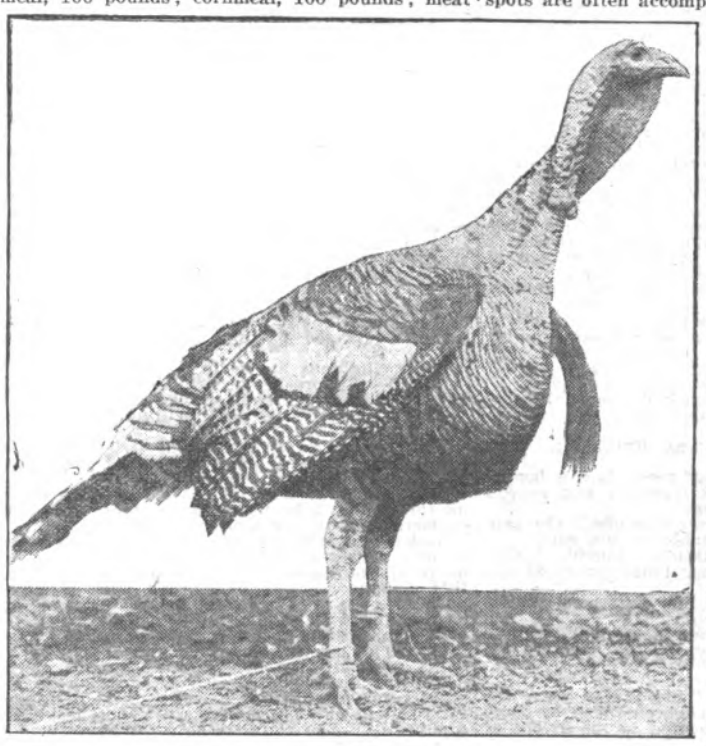
GREEN FEED.—Alfalfa silage, beets and cabbage, as much as the hens will eat immediately. Milk is fed regularly when available. Grit, shell and charcoal are kept constantly available in open hoppers. Fresh water is always at hand.

The Maine Ration

This ration is used successfully in Northern New England and in other portions of the Northern states where cold winters are the rule. It is designed for laying pullets during the winter period.

SCRATCH FEED.—Cracked corn is fed in the litter in the early morning. At ten to eleven o'clock in the morning equal parts of wheat and oats are fed at the rate of two quarts to each fifty birds.

DRY MASH.—Kept before the birds at all times in open hoppers so that they may eat all they like of it. After the fifth month or just past midwinter linseed meal is only given every second month: Wheat bran, 200 pounds; gluten meal, 100 pounds; cornmeal, 100 pounds; meat scrap, 100 pounds; low grade flour, 100 pounds; linseed meal, 50 pounds.



A PRIZE WINNER.

GREEN FEED.—Sprouted oats, cabbages, mangels, or a mixture of these, as much as the hens will eat up clean once a day. Grit and water always at hand.

The Connecticut Ration

This ration has been used in the International Laying Contest with certain modifications by the poultrymen in charge, according to the condition of the birds. During the first two years it was fed in an automatic feeder with good results, but later hand feeding was practised.

SCRATCH FEED.—In mild weather the feed is given only at four o'clock in the afternoon, but during cold weather a light feed is also given in the morning to induce exercise: Cracked corn, 60 pounds; barley, 20 pounds; wheat, 60 pounds; Kafir, 10 pounds; coarse beef scrap, 10 pounds; heavy white oats, 40 pounds; buckwheat, 10 pounds.

DRY MASH.—Kept before birds in hoppers so they may eat as much as they like: Coarse wheat bran, 200 pounds; ground oats, 100 pounds; beef scrap, 30 pounds; corn meal, 100 pounds; standard middlings, 75 pounds; gluten meal, 100 pounds; fish scrap, 30 pounds; low grade flour, 25 pounds. Green feed, grit and water are always available.

The Ontario Ration

This ration is well suited to Canada and to Northern states where there are severe winters.

SCRATCH FEED.—Morning: Whole wheat in litter. At noon a second feed of wheat with green food. At night give all the whole corn the birds will eat just before they go to roost.

DRY MASH.—Bran, 100 pounds; low grade flour; 100 pounds; barley chop or meal, 100 pounds.

WET MASH.—In the middle of the afternoon give a light feed of wet mash, including boiled vegetables, waste bread or kitchen scraps thickened with ground grains used in dry mash, including 10 per cent beef scrap.

GREEN FEED.—Whole mangels or clover hay, boiled vegetables with green cut bone as a separate feed. Grit, oyster shell and charcoal should be provided.

The Missouri Ration

The following rations are used successfully on the Missouri Poultry Experiment Farm with birds in laying contest.

SCRATCH FEED.—Fed at the rate of one pint to ten hens in the morning; one and a half pints for ten hens at night in straw litter: Coarse cracked corn, 200 pounds; wheat, 100 pounds.

DRY MASH.—Ground oats alone is kept before birds at all times in open hopper. When this is not available the following is used: Bran, 200 pounds; corn meal, 100 pounds; shorts, 100 pounds.

WET MASH.—Between one and three o'clock each afternoon laying hens are fed a mash consisting of equal parts of corn meal, wheat, bran and shorts, moistened with sour milk or buttermilk.

GREEN FEED.—Sprouted oats, cabbage, beets, fresh cut Alfalfa, in a quantity that the hens will eat up clean without delay. Oyster shell, grit and charcoal are always provided in separate hoppers. Fresh water is always supplied.

Every month brings letters about sick turkeys, and in almost every case the writer is sure that the trouble cannot be blackhead, because the birds' heads are not discolored or sore. Of course the name blackhead" naturally leads people to think that discoloration of the head is the principal symptom of the disease. As it is impossible to spare space in the correspondence column to explain the disease fully, it seems wise to give a sketch of it here, so that our readers may be better able to recognize the symptoms and understand the answers.

As far back as 1895, Dr. Theobald Smith reported on "an infectious disease among turkeys caused by protozon (infectious entero-hepatitis)," and stated that in Rhode Island the disease was known as "blackhead." He further stated that "while it might be well to retain this as a popular name, we do not believe that all cases of blackhead have the specific disease herein described, nor do all turkeys afflicted with this disease manifest the appearance of blackhead.

Dr. W. A. Moore, in a report on the "Direct Transmission of Infectious Entero-hepatitis in Turkeys," accepted the common name of blackhead as a synonym, a name which, though unsatisfactory for many reasons, has been retained in this article.

Smith first ascertained that the disease, which is especially characterized by great sores in the cæca and liver, was caused by a protozoan, Amœba meleagridis. In explaining the character of the disease it has been compared to amœbic dysentery in the human subject—a disease which also attacks the large intestine and liver.

Amœba meleagridis, a minute protoplasmic animal, is found to vary between six and ten millionths of an inch in diameter. While they are microscopic in size, they are at least three to four times larger than the red blood corpuscles, but they are, nevertheless, small enough to float in the blood capillaries of the portal system from the cecum to the liver, where they seem to be stopped from going further.

This short description of the parasite contains all that is of general interest. It may be summed up as follows: the amœba is a microscopic animal or parasite capable of living within the tissues of the turkey, its host. It can, therefore, eat, grow, and reproduce itself in large numbers, thereby causing irritations, destruction of the tissues, and nearly always the death of the invalid turkeys.

When the amœbæ invade the liver, they cause a decided increase in size, which becomes normal again only when the sores heal. The infected spots are often accompanied by signs of destruction of liver substance (necrosis), indicated chiefly by bile stained, irregular markings. These are probably caused by the pressure exerted by the spots, acting as foreign bodies, and by the cutting off of the circulation and food from other parts. Bacteria and the irritation which they produce also play an important part in these secondary disturbances.

An explanation of many extensively diseased livers and cæca, and comparison with others less diseased, leads to the belief that death in the latter cases is not always produced directly as a result of blackhead disease, but is effected by secondary causes, such as climatic changes, bacteria, and starvation, acting upon an already weakened body.

Chronic cases furnish a large variety of morbid changes, evidently caused by the inability of the tissues of the patient to overcome and reduce the irritating masses. The liver and cecal sores are always present in recent cases, and disappear only in the turkeys which have recovered.

The cæcum may exhibit but a minute sore, but the liver, excepting when nearly healed, always exhibits a large number of sores. When turkeys die after a long continued illness, their heads which are usually red in health, become more or less darkened. In acute cases they die so quickly, however, as to leave no impression as to a change of color of the head.

The majority of young poults die after a day or two of droopiness. Adults may droop longer and pass into chronic stages of the disease. Refusing to eat and standing apart constitute late symptoms. Starvation in chronic cases produces thinness.

When the disease in the cæcum is slight, it is doubtful if the affected animals have diarrhea, which is more or less present in other cases. In many of the older poults the droppings will be liquid, and stained orange yellow; this is the most characteristic symptom of all. Sometimes there are blackened blood clots in the droppings, indicating slight hemorrhages.

Experiments show that more than four fifths of the young poults exposed to infected yards, die before they are six weeks old. The disease has been popularly supposed to be one confined to older birds. It is notably a disease affecting young turkeys, but one from which the older turkeys do not escape. Of the one fifth who do escape or survive its ravages, at least ten to twenty per cent may die throughout the year, at almost any age. Examination of the organs is the only re means of telling the cause of death.

The amœbæ are transmitted from diseased turkeys to others through the droppings, which contaminate the food with which they come in contact. Evidence obtained here indicates that the amœbæ may also be carried by ordinary fowl, and may be transmitted by the turkeys in the same manner. So you see once again the importance of exercising strict cleanliness is impressed upon us poultry people, for if droppings are removed regularly there is little danger of infection. Plow up the old yards and ground where poultry usually congregates. Disinfect the coops and houses, and don't let the turkeys roost in the same house with the hens. An open shed is the best place for them, even in zero weather.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

J. Y. C.—The trouble is unquestionably poison in some form, as the birds are fat and in good condition until a few hours before death. The feathers being loose and the comb turning black, are also symptoms of poison. As only grown hens and guinea fowls that drink at the pond in the pasture are affected, it suggests the idea that the pond is contaminated in some way; possibly when it gets low or after heavy rains which bring the water line above the usual height. If possible, have it drained, and clean it. The only thing I can recommend for any future cases is to give two tablespoonfuls of Castor oil as soon as you notice any symptoms. If worms had caused the trouble the birds would have been thin and the comb pale.

M. L. A.—Young turkeys should have nothing but sour clabbered milk after the first four days; after which, just a pinch of cracked wheat and hulled oats may be added to their sour milk rations. Read about blackhead in this month's article.

L. F.—As the turkey's face has been in the same swollen, red condition for so many months without her health and appetite being affected, I think it must be some odd condition of the skin, unless it looks like a deep fleshy growth, in which case I should be afraid of its being a tumor, and should kill the bird and burn the carcase.

E. N. A.—We have no such books or pamphlets.

M. M.—The chicken had some abnormal condition, or was hurt soon after being hatched. Probably the lungs were injured by other chicks crowding on it, or hens stepping on it. As it was the only one you lost out of one hundred and nineteen, it could not have been disease of any sort, as most chick troubles are contagious.

E. W.—Read answer to M. L. A. Geese and goslings are really grazing creatures, and the young ones do best when given free range on short young grass, and very little grain. But if it is not practicable to give your birds free range, chop up young clover, Alfalfa, and such weeds as plantain and dock, etc. Mix with wheat bran and ground oats—equal parts of each. To each quart add half a cup of gravel or fine sand. Feed lightly five times a day for the first three weeks; then three times a day.

J. M. H.—It is a case of whitecomb, which is a contagious disease. Remove the sick birds from the flock, and keep them in a small coop by themselves. Clean and disinfect the house. When only the head is affected, a cure may be accomplished, but if the disease has spread to the body, treatment is useless, and the bird should be killed and the carcase burned. When the head only is attacked, an application of iodine may check it, or a mixture of soft soap and carbolic acid—twenty parts of soap to one of carbolic, applied every day.



Mr. Edison's wonderful New Phonograph

Only $1.00 after Free Trial

Keep the New Edison—Thomas A. Edison's great phonograph with the diamond stylus—and your choice of records, for only $1.00. Pay balance at rate of only a few cents a day. Free trial in your own home before you decide. Nothing down. Write Today for our New Edison Book and pictures, free.

F. K. BARSON, Edison Phonograph Dist., C304 Edison Blk. Chicago

$1.95 Made to Your Order

Special Offer — to prove our fine quality: These fine Pants for Dress or Business, choice of many handsome styles, guaranteed for 18 months solid wear and satisfaction or MONEY BACK, absolute $5.00 value while they last, one pair to a customer. Express prepaid for only $1.95



PANTS

No Extra Charges

No charge for big Extreme Peg Tops or Cuff Bottoms, nothing extra for fancy Belt Loops or Pocket Flaps, no charge for Open Welt Seams or Large sizes—all novelty features Free — no extra charges of any kind.

Cash Profits to you for taking measures of relatives and neighbors. Young George Gekovich made $66.16 in one day. Write for FREE samples today.

Chicago Tailors Association Dept. A-10, 515 S. Franklin St., Chicago

Send No Money

Only $2 Down

One Year to Pay!

$29 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Lightrunning, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable, Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.



30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.

ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12) 2183 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO

100,000 now in use

BE YOUR OWN POULTRY DOCTOR!

New Book Tells how to Safely, Successfully treat 25 Poultry Diseases. Easily understood. Make your own simple remedies. Page for free consultation. 25c Postpaid. STAG SPECIALTIES CO., SUITE 1101 MUNSEY BLDG., BALTIMORE, MD.

Four Beautiful Ferns



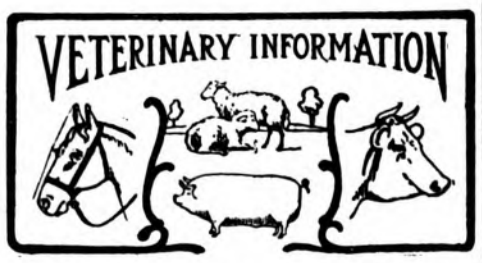
PREMIUM NO. 6112

Given For Two Subscriptions

OF all indoor foliage plants, none give more **lasting pleasure and satisfaction** than these popular house ferns. They need but little care and live indefinitely, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the largest, handsomest varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt,** the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address. but we will print only initials if so requested.

SELF-SUCKING COW.—I notice in a recent issue of COMFORT someone wants a remedy for a self-sucking cow. I suggest that he put a bridle bit in her mouth and keep it there all the time. It is the most successful and convenient method I ever saw and I am glad to recommend it to any one. F. J. P.

A.—We are obliged to our reader for this suggestion which we had heard of before, but forgotten. We have no doubt our readers will be glad to give it a trial if need occurs.

INDIGESTION.—I have a mule five years old. She eats heartily, but looks badly. When I take her out of the stable her ears will be sweating cold and also sweating across her loins. In working her in the wagon her bowels get loose. Plowing does not seem to affect them. I feed her on corn and hay. Will you tell the cause and give me a remedy? R. E. C.

A.—Indigestion is the probable cause of these symptoms. Allow the mule a roomy box stall when in the stable but never allow the animal to stand for a single day without work or outdoor exercise. Clip the mule each spring. Stop feeding corn when there is no work to be done.

LAMENESS.—I have a six-year-old buggy horse that has been lame for two years. She walks as though on hackles. Some suggest it may be rheumatism. P. F. L.

A.—It is impossible for one at a distance to determine the location or cause of a mysterious lameness. A personal examination would be necessary. The symptoms seem to indicate chronic corns or navicular disease, but the local graduate veterinarian should be asked to diagnose the trouble and prescribe appropriate treatment.

STIFFNESS.—I have a fine young heifer about three years old. She has her first calf. Three weeks ago she began to get stiff in her right shoulder and now she is stiff in both shoulders and left hind hip. Her feet are swollen. She eats all right, but lies down all the time, when in the pen. When I turn her out she will eat for a little time and then lie down. A. H.

A.—The fact that the feet are swollen would suggest that the entire cause of stiffness is there. Allow the heifer a roomy box stall in the stable and poultice the feet with warm flaxseed meal. Add coal tar disinfectant if you find sores between the toes or on the hoof heads. Cleanse the feet perfectly before applying poultices.

CHICKEN-EATING HOGS.—Could you advise me what to do for hogs that are eating chickens. The hogs are of good breed and I want to keep them. A. H.

A.—Cover the eyes of the hog with the bent piece of leather from the heel of an old shoe attaching it to the ears by means of hog snout rings so that it will act as a mask. The hog will be able to see to eat and graze, but not be able to catch chickens. Feed the chickens elsewhere when the hogs are being fed.

RINGBONE.—I have a mare five years old that has a knot on her left hind leg between her ankle and hoof. It has been there about eighteen months and does not seem to hurt her. It feels like a wen. What ails her and what can I do for her? J. T. B.

A.—If you mean that a boney growth is present it is a ringbone and should be left alone as it is not causing lameness. If it is a callous not attached to the bone, clip off the hair and apply tincture of iodine every other day if you must give treatment.

WOUND.—I have been a reader of COMFORT for several years. I have a fine four-year-old horse that was shot with a rifle, just behind the bladder, about thirteen months ago. A veterinarian took the ball out and it nearly healed. A very small place runs all of the time and more so when he stands in the stable. (2) I also have a horse with bog spavin. If I let him stand a little while he will limp for a few steps and then go all right. MRS. H. S.

A.—The wound still contains a bullet, some other foreign body or diseased tissue or bone which will have to be removed, before healing can take place. (2) Have the hock joint and spavin fired and blistered by a competent veterinarian; then tie the horse up short in a stall for a six weeks' rest.

GASOLINE FOR SHEEP.—I noticed in April number of COMFORT where E. S. asked for a remedy for his sheep. My brother lost several before he found a cure. Give them two tablespoonfuls of gasoline. He cured a lamb also. I know this to be a sure cure. MISS H. I. F.

A.—We have prescribed gasoline many times in these columns for lambs and sheep but it would not do to give it undiluted as advised by our correspondent. The average dose is one tablespoonful (four teaspoonfuls) of gasoline for a good-sized lamb. Adult sheep may take a larger dose. Give the gasoline shaken up in a mixture of two tablespoonfuls of raw linseed oil and half a cupful of new milk slowly and carefully from a long-necked bottle. The dose usually is repeated two or three times at intervals of 24 to 48 hours.

ABSCESSES.—Can you tell me what disease my calves have and if curable what treatment I should employ. Five of my young calves, which were running with their mothers, but were kept in a wet barn at night became ill. Three had lumps on their jaws. One of them died and on being opened had pus in the swellings on its jaws and the lungs were filled with abscesses. Two others have lumps on their jaws but seem to be getting along all right. The last two to take the disease had no lumps on jaws, but on opening, after death, the lungs of one were full of abscesses and the other had a diseased kidney. MRS. C. D.

A.—You should arrange to have the lungs examined at the state agricultural experiment station at Ft. Collins. It would seem that the calves are too young to have tubercular abscesses in the lungs, although you do not state their age, and it is therefore more likely that there is pyemia or pus absorption of the system. Calf diphtheria (necrobacillosis) might present similar symptoms but we cannot decide the matter without making an investigation. Report the matter to the state veterinarin.

APPLYING A BLISTER.—After applying a mustard plaster to an animal should it be left to wear off, or should it be washed off? (2) After blistering a horse with biniodide of mercury does it do harm for the horse to get that part wet? A. S.

A.—The mustard paste should be applied on heavy paper to exclude air and should be washed off in twenty minutes; then apply vaseline or sweet oil. (2) A horse should be kept tied up short for forty-eight hours after applying a mercurial blister, then apply lard daily. Wetting will not then injure the part.

SWELLING.—My two-year-old colt has a knot swollen over each eye about the size of a common-sized hen's egg. They have been there about three weeks. A week after they came she turned her head at one side when she ate grain. There is no discharge from the nose but her throat seems to be sore. C. H.

A.—Paint the lumps with tincture of iodine every other day. If pus is present it will have to be liberated. Abscesses often form at such places in the irregular or "bastard" form of strangles (colt distemper.)

COLIC.—I have a mare seven years old. She eats good and is fat, but has some kind of spells every once in a while. She had three last spring. She lies down and stretches out, then gets up, looking back at her side, standing and stretching as though in paln. Her bowels move all right. She acts as though it were a light attack of colic but does not swell any. C. C. G.

A.—The mare has slight attacks of colic and will have to be more carefully fed and managed. Give the drinking water before feeding. Add cut hay, straw or chaff to the oats to prevent bolting. Do not feed any hay at noon or feed her when hot and tired. Have her teeth attended to by a veterinarian. Give her a pint of raw linseed oil and two tablespoonfuls of turpentine slowly and carefully from a bottle, by way of the mouth each time she has an attack. Never let her stand for a single day without work or exercise.

Thorndyke's Quest

By Elbert Wasgatt Wells

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

VANCE WARNER had gone through college heart-free. The many courtships for which a "co-ed" institution is often famous, meant nothing to him. He was too dignified to take part in the escapades, without which a college love-match is not up to standard.

"I'm sorry for you old man," said Joe Graham, a classmate of Warner's, in one of their parting conversations.

"Why so?" Vance asked with a little shiver of apprehension.

"Because you are leaving college and her fair co-eds with a heart untouched. You have no anchor for your affections save that mystical something all theologs are supposed to have."

"Isn't that sufficient?"

There was a touch of impatience in Graham's reply: "You are to become a minister, I believe, not a priest."

"I expect to be married to my work."

"That listens good, but it won't hold water," said Joe, chopping his grammar and figures into bits and making them into a rhetorical chowchow. "The tenets of the religion you profess, teach that the family is the unit of society. If you would preach a whole gospel, you must enjoin the family, its obligation and sacredness upon your people. Then, you will see the inconsistency of your preaching and practise. When you do see this, you will find yourself suddenly developing an overwhelming susceptibility for feminine charms, but, having gone through college, as you have done, fearful of giving a young lady a second glance, you will fall victim to a pair of dreamy eyes and reap as much wedded woe as your great Wesleyan prototype."

Warner's first years at the seminary was devoid of any but theological interest. The time some of his colleagues put in on writing tender missives, he devoted to exegesis. The dining-room girls were about the only ones of the tender sex with whom he became acquainted, but that he, or other theolog, should have "soft" designs on aught in the hall, save the fare, was unpardonable.

Miss Emmazette Thorndyke, the matron of the dining-room at Hensley Hall, had never had a love-affair of her own and was too short on sentiment to cherish one, had the poor foundling strayed into her preserves. This qualification held her job. Like the straitest Pharisee, she lived up to the letter of the faculty's iron-clad rule that no student should carry on a flirtation, or a love-making, with any of the dining-room girls. The execution of this law was Thorndyke's vindictive delight.

Now, a theolog must not be a flirt. Studying divinity and flirting is like serving two masters—he will cleave to the one and despise the other.

On the other hand, a young preacher has as much right to a love-affair as has a young layman. His heart is as prone to hunger as is that of his secular brother. So thought little Miss Ruth Mackenzie, who fulfilled Graham's parting prophecy, though the fulfillment was in milder tones than Graham had painted.

She entered the dining-hall near the beginning of Vance Warner's second year and came, gradually, to interfere with his interpretation of the major prophets. Following her advent into his life, he found Greek roots irksome digging. On every page of his Hebrew, he found a pair of laughing eyes, and they were always brown.

One day, Professor Batchelder was giving his class a test in Bible history and, referring to the Moabitess, asked:

"Of what nationality was Ruth—Mr. Warner?"

"Scotch," was the instant reply, but, a hearty laugh ensuing, he blushed furiously and asked: "Which Ruth do you mean?"

"I didn't know there was but one," the professor replied with a twinkle in his eyes.

"That's what Warner thinks," blurted Wolfe, the class wag, and another laugh arose at the luckless theolog's expense.

As they came out of the classroom, Vance sidled up to Wolfe and said:

"I want to punctuate the old prophet's 'saddle me the ass' into 'saddle me, the ass.' Thanks, old fellow, but I'll do better."

And he did.

Well, before the end of his junior year, the citadel of his affections had been taken by force and the little Scot reciprocated to the extent of thinking him "bonnie."

They found means of communication—love always does. President Hurley and his faculty might curtail all the social privileges, but cupid laughed in the crook of his elbow, not having a sleeve big enough to hide a giggle; for he taught these lovers the use of the wireless telegraph, before marconigrams were patented. Clandestine meetings took place, and moonlight strolls. The escapades Vance used to think beneath his dignity became part of their very existence, and the little danger attending these spiced them to a good wholesome flavor.

The beginning of his senior year found Vance and Ruth engaged. Just after the next commencement, they would be married and go away to his new work, which a superintendent friend had promised him in the West.

This mutual understanding and the fact that it was pretty generally understood among the other students, begot a little recklessness, and the pitcher, on one of its trips to the well, came near getting broken.

As he left supper one evening, toward the end of his senior year, Vance spoke over his shoulder to Ruth:

"A minute or two at ten o'clock?"

She gave him an answering smile, but turned to her work with some confusion, as she caught a gleam from the corner of Thorndyke's eye. Her confusion was aggravated when the matron followed her to the kitchen and asked what "young Warner" said was wrong with the clock. Let us hope her answer is not recorded.

Before ten, he stood himself by a pillar in the dimly lighted hall. Presently, there came, tip-tipping along, a feminine figure, and, gently whispering: "My dearest," Vance caught her in his arms.

His disillusionment was literally "fierce." He could not tell whether he had laid hands on a buzz-saw, a full-tuned dynamo, or one possessed with devils. Then arose a quick succession of screams, which tore the air into shreds and almost split his tympanums. Vance beat a retreat and stood not on the order of his going; for he made the stairs four steps at a jump and turned a half-summersault over a trunk which chanced to be in the upper hall-way.

The theologs—every mother's son of them—came pellmell to rescue fair lady from foul fiend. The president's house stood beside Hensley Hall, and Doctor Hurley rushed in, clad in lounging robe and slippers. His first question was:

"What is this unearthly trouble about?"

"It's unearthly, all right," somebody snickered.

Somebody else answered the doctor: "Thorndyke's got hugged!"

Said another, more remote from the center of the stage of action—in the wings, as it were—where the light was dimmer:

"It must have been her first experience."

Whether to brand this as a canard or to rebuke the prevailing spirit of levity, is not clear, but declaring it "an insult to a self-respecting female," she slammed the door between herself and her would-be rescuers.

The most dignified folks unlimber on occasion, and sixty-nine theologs decided this the time and this the place to indulge a good laugh. Every fellow tried to add something to lubricate the rollicking good humor. So, everybody's wit, native and acquired, exerted itself to make a "home run."

"Delivered to the wrong address?"

"Who was the addressee?"

"Not Thorndyke."

"That's the reason she screamed."

"'Twas a scream of delight."

"She mustn't take her delights so noisily."

What other nonsense might have been brewing, Doctor Hurley obviated by saying:

"Young men, this is shameful; get to your rooms. We will look into this affair tomorrow."

From the head of the stairs came a voice, squeaky in its disguise:

"Better go, too, Doctor—you'll catch your death o' cold!"

In matters of discipline, the doctor had a method all his own, or rather a lack of method nobody else would claim. Indeed, cases requiring discipline were so few he forgot from one to the next what was the procedure best calculated to conserve the dignity of the seminary.

At the close of the next morning's chapel-service, Doctor Hurley said:

"We shall dispense with the first-hour recitations. It is our purpose to investigate the unfortunate affair which occurred last night, at Hensley Hall. All may be excused, who know nothing about it. It will save time if any one who does know, will tell us what he knows. The quickest way of all would be for the culprit to confess."

Just how the doctor knew the offender was a student, is not clear, but nobody left the chapel—doubtless, all knew something, and wanted to know more.

Hurley gave a slight, mirthless laugh—about as long as two syllables—and said:

"Do I understand this was a kind of community affair?"

Vance Warner rose in his place and replied:

"Doctor Hurley, it seems that I know more about this unfortunate affair than any one else, for it was my offense."

Dead silence followed this burst of information. The students, generally, had an understanding as to the culprit, but they felt that honor must be maintained, even among theologs. So, while not expecting him to deny if charged with it, they did not think he would be so frank about it and were no little surprised. To the faculty, the confession and its antecendent "transgression" were incomprehensible; for, among themselves, they were coming to regard Vance Warner as the probable winner of the Berlin fellowship, but now—and they stared at him in blank amazement.

At last, Hurley found his voice—probably among the rafters, for it had a lofty pitch—and exclaimed:

"You, Vance Warner?"

"Yes," Vance replied; "but I am sure I regret it as much as any one."

Seated in an inconspicuous corner of the chapel was Thorndyke. The possible meaning of the foregoing remark struck her ear unfavorably and she sniffed in a defiant undertone.

"Your regrets come on the wrong side of the affair, young man," was Hurley's chilling response; "besides, you yourself know it is poor repentance that arises from being caught."

"If I had known it was Miss Thorndyke," and Warner's tone had the ring of sincerity, "I should not have done it for anything in the world."

This was greeted by the students with a hearty laugh, but it was entirely too personal to suit the outraged matron's notions and she hissed:

"The villainous hypocrite!"

"Oh!"—the president's exclamation indicated his belief that he had struck a warm trail—"Miss Thorndyke was the unwilling proxy of another?"

"She seemed to be in the hall of her own free will," Vance replied, and a good-sized, man-made giggle swept through the chapel.

"No nonsense, now, Mr. Warner—please tell us the young lady whose being late proved so embarrassing to our worthy matron."

Vance was still standing, having arisen when he first addressed the president. So it was that many of the students could see his face, and, at this demand, it was overspread with a slight flush of pain, but it was only for an instant; for, brightening with sudden resolution, he said:

"Doctor Hurley, I beg your pardon, but I have told you all my conscience demands I tell."

"If you will not——" Hurley seemed to be measuring his words as well as screwing up his respect for presidential authority and dignity—"if you will not, I say, every girl shall leave the dining-hall. You claim to be a Christian man—you can furnish some proof of it by sparing the innocent."

With equal deliberation and emphasis, Vance responded:

"I think it ill becomes a teacher of the Christ-life to punish the innocent to reach one whom you are pleased to call guilty."

The president winced under this thrust, but asked:

"Will you tell her name?"

Warner stood a moment, as if pondering. Then, turning so that he was more nearly facing the students than the faculty, he smiled and said:

"Miss Thorndyke can tell you—she had the young lady's coat over her head."

The effect was instantaneous. The ludicrousness of it was fatal to chapel decorum. Those theologs—some of them ordained ministers,—became a roomful of boys who had to laugh or "bust." It was a laugh of no mean proportions—loud, long and sincere. Professor Batchelder was tickled like the other boys, and the humor of the situation gradually gained on the faculty till, finally, after readjusting his countenance a time or two, a chuckle broke in Hurley's throat and ended in an explosion. This explosion, like an earthquake in mid-ocean, produced another tidal wave, and it was several minutes before Doctor Hurley found his voice.

When quiet was finally restored, and the doctor had wrestled a while with his face, he said: "Mr. Warner, it seems you and Miss Thorndyke have both been imposed on—my advice is the Scriptural injunction, 'go and sin no more.'"

Straw Clock Six Feet High

A clock made in Germany contains absolutely nothing but straw. Not even a piece of stiffening cardboard or a drop of glue has been used. It is six feet high and two feet square we are told. There are eight pendulums which allow speed regulations. By pressing a button which comes out automatically on one side the clock work is wound up and runs for five hours. By pushing another button the hands can be set. The dial, pendulum, figures, hands, even the chain, weight gears and the skeleton are of straw. The chain is fourteen inches long and endless. In the construction of this clock thousands of stalks of straw have been used, mostly three and fourfold, to give strength.

$3.00 Brings This SUIT



Tailored To Your Measure

on an offer so easy, so liberal, so wonderful, you can hardly believe it. The very latest 1918 style, a perfect fit, magnificent new design, *delivered prepaid. Send no money now, not one cent,* just write us a letter or postal and say, *"Send me your new amazing $3 suit offer"* and get the latest big set of cloth samples to pick from, a great book of all the brand new 1918 fashions shown in gorgeous colors *all FREE,* an offer so splendid, so marvelous, it's hard to believe; greater and better than any tailoring offer you ever saw. *How to get all your own clothes free,* how to make all your spending money in your extra spare time, how to become more important, influential and prosperous. Don't wait, don't put it off, write us your name and address now, today, this very minute. Address

BANNER TAILORING CO., DEPT. 618, CHICAGO

"DON'T SHOUT"



"I hear you. I can hear now as well as anybody. 'How?' With the MORLEY PHONE. I've a pair in my ears now, but they are invisible. I would not know I had them in, myself, only that I hear all right. "The Morley Phone for the DEAF is to the ears what glasses are to the eyes. Invisible, comfortable, weightless and harmless. Anyone can adjust it." Over one hundred thousand sold. Write for booklet and testimonials.

THE MORLEY CO., Dept. 766, Perry Bldg., Phila.

Driver Agents Wanted

Drive and demonstrate the Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. My agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back. Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. H. Bush, Pres. Dept. 804.



Delco Ignition—Elect. Stg. & Ltg.

BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois



SHAC

For Headache

More Than 25 Years on the Market

Used Wherever Heads Ache

12 Wafers—12 Doses

At all druggists for 25 cents

AUTOMATIC REPEATING RIFLE

FIRES 20 SHOTS IN ONE LOADING!



This is a regular size automatic revolver. Shoots B. B. shots obtainable anywhere, same as other rifles and guns. Repeats 20 times with one loading. Handsomely finished in gun metal. No caps or load necessary, as it works with a spring and shoots with rapidity and accuracy. Simply load with 20 B. B. Shot, then press the trigger. Nothing to explode—absolutely harmless and safe. Remember it is not a mere toy but the same size and shape as a REGULAR AUTOMATIC. Sent complete with a round of shot for ONLY 25 cents, postpaid.

JOHNSON SMITH & CO., Dept. 3, 7121 N. Clark St. CHICAGO

Refined and Stylish — Will Fit Any Wrist



Gold-Filled Birthstone Bracelet

For A Club Of Three

WHERE is the girl who does not want one of these handsome and stylish bracelets? Set with a perfectly colored imitation gem denoting the month of your birth—with two tiny flashing white solitaires nestling in the dainty filigree design of gold—all of your friends will exclaim **"My, what a beautiful bracelet!"** the minute they see it. Filled with enough real gold to give it lasting wearing qualities, yet it feels light as a feather when worn. And you are assured of a perfect fit because it is **self-adjusting.** It will fit **any** size wrist. Here is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month represented by each: **No. 7413,** January, Garnet: **No. 7423,** February, Amethyst: **No. 7433,** March, Bloodstone; **No. 7443,** April, Diamond; **No. 7453,** May, Emerald; **No. 7463,** June, Agate; **No. 7473,** July, Ruby; **No. 7483,** August, Sardonyx; **No. 7493,** September, Sapphire; **No. 7503,** October, Opal; **No. 7513,** November, Topaz; **No. 7523,** December, Turquoise.

You can earn one of these handsome gold-filled birthstone bracelets free by doing us a small favor as explained in the following offer. When you send for it **be sure to mention number of birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one of these bracelets free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to give us the number of stone wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

LOCKET AND CHAIN

Rolled Gold Plate!

Warranted For 5 Years!



MOST every young lady wants a Locket and Chain. Other styles of neck ornaments may come and go but a gold Locket and Chain is **always** fashionable, can be worn with any dress and at any season of the year. The locket offered here is one of the latest designs. One side of it is beautifully engraved as shown in the illustration while the other side is plain. It measures exactly one inch in diameter and on the inside there is space for **two pictures.** The cable chain is 15 inches long and both Chain and Locket are made of **heavy rolled gold plate** that is absolutely guaranteed to stand an acid test and warranted **for five years.** It is dainty, refined and attractive and we are sure that it will more than please everybody. This locket and chain guaranteed to be exactly as described is yours free upon the terms of the following

PREMIUM NO. 7295

Club Offer. For five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this guaranteed rolled gold Locket and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7295.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Ambition, Louisburg, Minn.—Ambassadors and Consuls are appointed to their positions, though the consular service is now under civil service rules and men are appointed according to fitness after examinations. Ambassadors are selected by reason of merit, whether political or otherwise, and sometimes the selection is worthy and sometimes not. We would not say they are appointed as the result of a "stand in," as you put it, but they do use "influence," so to speak. Yes, a lawyer by working hard might in time get such a place, but a great deal of his work would not be at the law, though legal, no doubt. Don't try to be an Ambassador, but if you will qualify, by acquiring a foreign language or two, and otherwise educating yourself, you have as good a chance as the next one to become a Consul, which is no mean job, unless you happen to be sent to some part of the world where you will either melt or freeze.

M. L. F., Flat River, Mo.—Unless Flat River is a wireless station, your opportunities to become an operator must be found elsewhere. Just where is for you to find out if you are anxious enough to become one to make the effort. If you will write to L. R. Krumm, Chief Radio Inspector, Bureau of Navigation, Washington, D. C., you can get the government side of it, and if you will write to Mrs. Herbert Sumner Owens, Hunter College, Park Ave. and 68th St., New York City, you will get the school side of it. Though it has been said that women do not make the best wireless operators, Miss Helen Campbell, a New York girl, twenty-two years of age, passed the government test in May, eight words above the requirement, which is twenty words a minute. There are seven other young women training at the Marconi School. Elm and Duane Sts., New York City. This school was started by the National League for Women's Service.

N. M. M., Boonton, N. J.—To prevent the sticking which occurs in cooking vessels of aluminum they should be cleaned dry and not put in water at all. You can get steel-cloth cleaners which keep the aluminum in proper condition.

Mrs. M. S., White Post, Ky.—Cousinship is commonly reckoned by generations. If A and B were first cousins, the children of B would be considered second cousins of A. The grandchildren would be third cousins. The relationship of A's children and grandchildren to B's children and grandchildren would be that of cousins once and twice removed.

Herbs and Roots.—Many of our readers want to know how to recognize medicinal herbs for which there is a ready sale, and where to find a market for them. Almost any druggist can help you in this, and you can obtain the prices paid from a wholesale supply drug house. Inquire of your druggist or storekeeper where to write to the nearest big dealer near you. Write to L. G. Grund, Logan Station, Philadelphia, Pa., and to "Botonical," New Haven, Conn., for full information, as these two concerns advertise to buy medicinal herbs.

Jim McP., Breckenbridge, Texas.—Write to the McKesson & Robbins Co., 91 Fulton Street, and to Parke Davis & Co., 183 Hudson Street, and ask what they are paying for rattlesnake oil. These are both New York city firms.

J. J. S., Fortine, Mont.—The Indian Method of tanning was first to thoroughly scrape off all fat, the skin being spread over a large, smooth log and carefully and patiently gone over with a blunt-edged knife that would cut no holes in the hide. After the scraping, the brains of the animal, or of some other recently killed animal, were thoroughly worked into the skin. If the hair side had become soiled or greasy, it was washed in a weak lye made from wood ashes. When the skin was finally stretched for drying, if the Indians had any gunpowder, some of this was often sprinkled upon the hide.

Mrs. C. C. S., Abington, Mass.—The best method for anyone wishing to earn money at home is to watch for some local want in their home town, and to fill such want if they can. Home-made breads, cakes, and preserves always find ready market, and can be placed with dealers on commission, or sold at the house. It is surprising how quickly a profitable trade can be built up for a "Home Kitchen"—we have seen it accomplished many times. Anyone having skill in that direction can make luncheon sets and tea cloths. Little trimmed hats for small children often find ready sale when tastefully and skillfully made. Use your brains and fingers.

Interested, Greenville, Va.—You will require at least a high school education, or its equivalent, for admission to a dental college. Send for a sample copy of the Dental Digest, 220 West 42nd street, New York City. (2) Publications of the type you desire would be: Illinois Teacher, Bloomington, Ill., The Teachers' Journal, Marion, Ill., The School News, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City, and The School Review, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill.

A. M., Farmington, Wash.—We do not know of any market for pressed flowers. If any COMFORT readers know where this fragile merchandise could be turned into cash we would be glad to hear from them. Submit samples of your straw flowers, if they are well-made, to the Artificial Flower Decorating Company, 1545 Broadway, New York City.

Mrs. D., Chicago, Ill.—We are unable to tell the value of your 17th century medal. If you have tried coin dealers in vain, we suggest that you write the same description you gave us of this medal to the American Numismatic Society, 156th street, West of Broadway, New York City, and also to the American Numismatic Association, De Kalb, Ill.

Mrs. J. A. W., Wellsville, Ohio.—Experts differ as to the number of genuine Stradivarius violins in existence today, but all agree that they are very few in number. There are about thirty well-known and authenticated instruments. Violins being made in those far-off days by slow and careful hand labor, and many having been lost and worn out in the past two hundred years, it is easy to see that a genuine Stradivarius is a great rarity. But the imitations are turned out in large numbers, and many of them seem to be owned by inquirers to this department. The following is a description of a Stradivarius of 1690: Length of body, fourteen inches; width across top, six and six-sixteenths inches, across bottom eight and one quarter inches; height of sides, at top, one and three-sixteenth inches, at bottom, one and seven-thirty-seconds inches. Back in one piece, supplemented at lower part for width. Belly of two pieces of soft pine. The violin is coated with fine orange-red-brown varnish, untouched since making. A great part of the tone superiority of the Italian instruments is thought to have been secured by the varnish used at that time.

Dennie Burgans, Brantley, Ala.—This is another inquiry for a "needle to find gold and hidden treasure." There is no such article for sale except from those who are "finding gold" by selling a worthless fraud to credulous buyers.

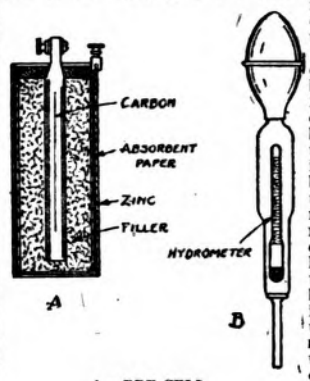
COMFORT'S Friend, Maud, Texas.—Here is another COMFORT reader who has a violin with an interior inscription that makes her think it is a genuine Stradivarius. As we have stated before it would have been impossible for old Antonius Stradivarius to make all the violins that are cheerfully attributed to him by dealers who have something to sell. These inquiries reach this department every month. Without doubt the inscription in COMFORT'S Friend's violin is a faked one. But if it is a good violin and you have had it twenty years, as you say, we should not worry about its actual ancestry.

Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

The Battery

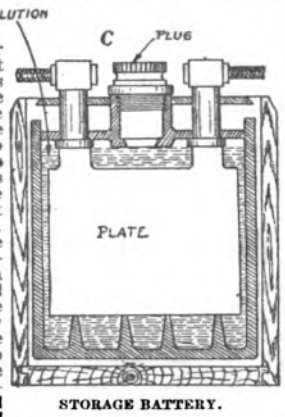
NATURALLY when considering the electrical system the motorist allows his mind to wander to the source from which the electric current is furnished. In automobile work the electric current is obtained from either one of two general sources, namely; battery and magneto. In this installment only the battery will enter into the discussion. Batteries may be split up under two headings, dry and wet. Almost everyone is acquainted with the dry cell battery due to the fact that it is commonly used to furnish current for the propulsion of toys and operation of door bells and therefore requires little introduction. It can be briefly described as consisting of a cylindrical zinc shell around the inside of which is wrapped a piece of absorbent paper saturated with a paste made of zinc chloride, zinc oxide ammonium chloride, plaster of Paris and water. The zinc shell forms the negative terminal of the battery and the carbon element passing through the center, the positive. The usual voltage of the dry cell ranges between 1.5 and 2 volts. The life of this kind of battery depends upon the way it is used, the life being greater if used only intermittently. The main objection to dry cell ignition however is that the life of the battery is short if used continuously and it is not good economy to attempt to recharge it.



A—DRY CELL.
B—HYDROMETER.

Under the heading "Wet Battery" comes the so termed storage battery. The term "storage" appears to be somewhat misapplied as the storage battery does not in reality store electric current in the same way that we speak of a pail holding water, but on the other hand the electric current is produced by chemical action.

Let us now briefly outline the make up of the average storage battery. The device is based upon the theory that if two plates of lead compound be immersed in a solution of sulphuric acid and a current passed through the cell there is a tendency to produce an oxide of lead on one plate and a spongy or metallic lead on the other. Present practise is to use plates in the form of grids filled with certain lead compounds, this preparation being kept secret by the manufacturers. The plates are known as positive and negative so termed due to the direction of flow through them. Current always leaves the battery by the positive end and returns by the negative. Positive terminals are usually called plus and negative minus. For the positive plates lead peroxide which is of reddish brownish color is used while for the negative plates, a soft spongy lead. Connect a number of similar plates such as positive or negative and a unit called a group is formed. Arrange two groups, one negative and the other positive so that the negative and positive plates alternate, and there is formed a unit termed an element. A positive plate however is not permitted to touch a negative plate and for this purpose separators usually made of wood are used. The next step in order is to place one of these elements into a hard rubber jar filled with a solution of sulphuric acid, commonly termed electrolyte and the complete cell is formed. Slowly charge the cell with direct current and we have a completed battery. A battery, however, may be composed of as many cells as desired, this of course being determined by the amount of work required of the battery.



STORAGE BATTERY.

It is a recognized fact that the reason for much premature battery failure is due directly to ignorance and negligence on the part of its owner. Man would not think of trying to exist without eating and drinking or in other words he requires nourishment to restore wastage of the body, yet he often expects the battery to continue its excellent service without giving it any attention whatsoever. The owner need not worry about the actual construction or the materials that enter into the battery, this being carefully taken care of by the manufacturer. The owner's only concern is the attention. The following are a few of the things he must do if the battery is to give satisfactory service:

Add distilled water, never a solution of sulphuric acid, until the solution is level with the inside cover.

Never allow the solution to get below top of plates, air is detrimental to the plates.

Make sure plugs are securely screwed into top of cells after peering into battery or adding water.

Make frequent inspections and make a practise of adding water once every week in warm weather and once every two weeks in cold weather. Use only distilled or rain-water caught in a porcelain vessel. Use no water known to contain even small quantities of salts of any kind.

The best way to ascertain the condition of the battery is to test the specific gravity (density) of the solution in each cell with a hydrometer. See sketch B which shows a common and convenient form of hydrometer syringe used to test the specific gravity of electrolyte. To take a reading remove the plugs in top of battery and insert the end of the rubber tube in the cell. Squeeze and then slowly release the rubber bulb, thereby drawing up solution from the cell. The reading on the graduated stem of the hydrometer at the point where it emerges from the liquid is the specific gravity of the electrolyte. After testing return the electrolyte from the cell from which it was taken by squeezing the rubber bulb. Always take the test before adding water because a reliable specific gravity test cannot be taken afterwards as the solution has not mixed by charging.

The gravity reading is expressed in points for example the difference between 1.250 and 1.275 is 25 points. When all cells are in good order the gravity should not vary more than 25 points. The electrolyte in a battery should not be allowed to drop lower than 1.250 but should a test disclose the electrolyte to show a gravity of 1.150 indications are that the battery is completely discharged or run down and must be charged from an outside source. Whenever the gravity is found to be below 1.250 but above 1.150 use the lamps and electric starter sparingly or in other words conserve the current for charging. In this way all other things being normal the specific gravity will slowly rise.

Simple Way to Foil a Thief

There is an old saying that it takes a thief to catch a thief therefore why not a thief to prevent a theft? According to reports the leader of a tribe of automobile bandits was captured in St. Louis and contrary to the usual custom seemed inclined to be talkative. During the conversation with the police he offered some good suggestions for the prevention of theft one of which was how to prevent the taking of an automobile by anyone except the rightful owner or operator. The trick is to cross two or more of the spark plug wires thus preventing the cylinders from firing in order. For example on a four cylinder motor place the wire for the No. 1 spark plug on the No. 2 spark plug and vice versa. The principle involved is that the motor will not operate and it will require long search on the part of the thief to determine what the trouble is. The owner can of course make the necessary change in approximately a minute.

"Emergency" Cement

Nothing detracts more from the pleasure of motoring than tire trouble. However as long as the pneumatic tire continues to be the favorite it is impossible to gain absolute freedom from this trouble, and it is therefore good policy to carry extra equipment or the necessary tools and material for making roadside repairs. There are times in the life of every motorist however when he ventures from home with no spare tires and little equipment for making repairs. When there is no cement at hand to stick a patch on the inner tube it is said that a good substitute is to dissolve small pieces of rubber in gasoline. If there are no pieces of rubber in the tool kit, cut off a few small strips from one of the outer casings.

Know Your Own Car

In a previous issue certain precautions were specified which should be taken against the theft of the car. It is surprising how very few owners really know their own cars. For example, if the car is stolen it is quite natural that the owner should first seek the services of the police. It is then that he realizes for the first time how little he knows concerning his own car. He usually knows the name of the car, the state license number, the horse-power of the engine and the color of the paint, but beyond these few facts he knows comparatively nothing. It is obvious that the police search would not go far with such meager details with which to work. The following is a blank form handed to the unfortunate when registering his complaint in one of the large Illinois cities. If you lost your car and were handed such a sheet how many questions could you answer? Better scribble these facts down in your note book. The slogan of the country at the present time is "Preparedness."

Make .....
Model (year, h. p., special name of manufacturer)
Color .....
Passengers .....
License No. —— Battery Number.....
Steering Post No. —— Radiator No. .....
Motor No. —— Transmission No. .....
Body No. —— Clutch No. .....
Top No. —— Front Axle No. .....
Starter No. —— Rear Axle No. .....
Tires, size and number and make .. ..
Front left .....
Front right .....
Rear right .....
Front right .....
Remarks: Special identification marks, dents, noticeable scratches, description of monogram of letters, upholstering; any special unique feature or device?

Questions Answered

ENGINE KNOCKS.—After being run about 1,000 miles the rear cylinder of my new Ford car has begun to knock or rather make a clicking sound. Otherwise the car runs smoothly and seems to have plenty of power. Can you suggest the cause and remedy? L. A. R., Wheelersburg, Ohio.

A.—Remove the cylinder block and examine the No. 4 piston. It may be that the piston is a trifle undersize causing a slap in the cylinder. If such is found to be the case try to find a piston that is slightly oversized. Look at the wrist pin for the No. 4 piston. It may be of a loose fit.

KEROSENE AS FUEL.—Is there any means or appliance by which I can use kerosene as fuel in my car? It is a four-cylinder machine, bore three and seven eighths, stroke five inches, r. p. m. 900, value-in-the-head type engine. O. R. H., Chandler, Ind.

A.—Kerosene is not a suitable fuel for automobile engines. Much difficulty is at present encountered in the vaporization of the low grade of gasoline it being almost impossible to generate sufficient heat to bring about this end. It is obvious therefore that steps would have to be taken in order to insure the necessary heat to vaporize kerosene. Because of its present lower cost every motorist is of course interested in the substitution of kerosene for gasoline as a fuel for the automobile. The chief difficulty in the way of bringing about this end is that it is practically impossible to start a cold motor on kerosene, unless some complicated preheating arrangement be used. From time to time several types of combination (kerosene-gasoline carburetors have made their appearance only to disappear in very little time with absolutely no profit to their makers. In view of the fact that many automobile engineers have given much attention to using kerosene as a fuel for automobile engines and to date have been unsuccessful our advice is that you abandon the idea of using kerosene and purchase only the best grade of gasoline available.

AGENTS—FARMERS—SALESMEN!

WE GIVE YOU THIS FORD AUTOMOBILE



AND A

BIG PAYING BUSINESS BESIDES

We want a man in each community to work with us on our big new plan—to travel by automobile and handle the big Wilbur Line of Stock Tonics, Farm Remedies, Medicines, Extracts, Spices, etc. We equip each man with an automobile and set him up in a business of his own that will pay him

$100.00 TO $300.00 A MONTH

This offer is open to you, no matter who you are or where you live. No experience necessary—we teach you everything. No capital required—everything furnished. Liberal credit—big commission—exclusive territory—brand new plan. Write us at once—today—don't put it off. Full details of our plan, how to get started, etc. will be sent at once. 60

WILBUR STOCK FOOD CO., 257 Huron St., Milwaukee, Wis.

GET MY PRICES



I can ship at once any size or style WITTE High-Grade Engine—2 to 22 H-P.—Kerosene or Gasoline—Stationary, Portable or Saw-Rig—ready to run—Guaranteed 5 Years. You don't have to wait 6 to 8 weeks for a WITTE. You save $25 to $160. Choice of engines—Cash or Easy Payments. My Free Book "How To Judge Engines," by return mail.—Ed. H. Witte, Pres.

ED. H. WITTE

WITTE ENGINE WORKS,
3640 Oakland Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
3640 Empire Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.



$1.00 PANTS MADE TO MEASURE

Not $1.00, not even 50c, not one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. No extra charges for extra big, extreme pegtops, fancy belt loops, pearl buttons, no extra charge for anything, all free. Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. Write and say "Send Me Your Offer" the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges.



KNICKERBOCKER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 666 Chicago, Ill.

AGENTS AT LAST—A Safe Self-Heating Iron

The only KEROSENE (coal oil) Iron in the world

No competition. Every woman wants a safe self-heating Iron. Low priced; every home can afford it. Demand perfectly enormous. Big profits. A winner for agents. Write quick for terms while your territory is still open.



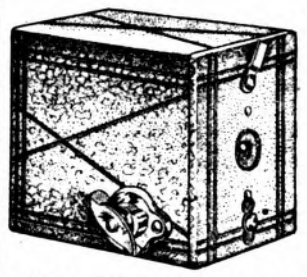
Sample FREE to Workers

THOMAS IRON CO., 2130 Gay St. Dayton, O.

Are You An American?

Use Patriotic Stationery. Show your colors, 25 beautiful printed envelopes and 25 letter-heads. National flag printed in colors. Send 29c coin or stamps today. ROSE, 316, Trust Bldg., Binghamton, N. Y.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7286

For a Club of Six!

We will also include free of charge one Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and a complete Instruction Book. This is the well-known "Premo" camera, made by the Eastman Kodak Co., therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality Meniscus lens and an automatic shutter adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in broad daylight, so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book, all packed together in a strong box and sent to you Free by Parcel Post, prepaid, on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. Premium No. 7286.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Artist's Paint Box

For A Club Of Four

Premium No. 7484.



NEARLY every boy and girl and many grown people, too, like to paint pictures of flowers, animal life, bits of scenery, etc. To get the best results, however, you need a good set of colors like the one shown here. The box is 8½ inches long, 3 inches wide and made of black enameled metal. It contains eight regular colors in pans and ten moist colors in tubes, including Red, Yellow (two shades), Violet, Cerise, Green (two shades), Blue (two shades), Crimson, Lavender, Brown (two shades), Black (one tube and one pan), White, and Orange (two shades). There is also a good quality camel's-hair brush 6¾ inches long, two porcelain mixing cups and practical directions for mixing paints. Anyone who has a talent for drawing or painting should have one of these outfits because it is of good quality throughout and we know it will give the greatest satisfaction. You can have this Paint Box complete as described upon the terms of the following

Club Offer:

For four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this fine Paint Box free by parcel post prepaid. Premium No. 7484.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Mrs. J. P. S., Goldfield, Nev.—The muscular and nervous condition of your entire left side, affecting the control of your left arm and resulting at times in numbness of the body and face and other muscular and circulatory disturbances are too serious for an ordinary physician to treat with any degree of success, and you should go to a hospital where several physicians of the highest skill could examine you and prescribe such treatment as might be necessary. A cure is hardly possible, but great relief might be afforded.

Mrs. O. S., Dallas City, Ill.—Your symptoms would indicate chronic hay fever, but as hay fever is seasonal, or local, it must be something else which examination by a physician would discover and his treatment would relieve, if it did not cure. The mucous membrane of the nasal passages are inflamed from the catarrh and the air coming in contact with the sensitive surface causes the constant sneezing. The ordinary remedies failing, you should see a physician at once for the constant sneezing will produce results much more serious than your present annoyance.

Mrs. L. F. S., Hooser, Kans.—You have what is known as chronic nasal catarrh of the mucous passages of the nose, may be also some involvement of the soft bones of the nose—known as the turbinate bones. A good remedy for this condition is Dobell's Solution, which can be obtained at any druggist's. Bone involvement will require a slight operation.

Mrs. P. W., Randolph, Nebr.—Liver spots so-called, may be due to a local parasitic trouble of the skin, or to a constitutional taint. Hardly ever due to liver disease directly. Liver spots sometimes occur about the time of the "change of life" and then are of no special significance—simply a fatty thickening of the skin of yellowish tinge, and usually located on the eyelids.

"Reilly," Bridgeport, Conn.—There is no remedy or lotion, which will remove small-pox scars. You should consult some good skin specialist. There is no remedy under the name given.

Mrs. J. H., Loveland, Colo.—The condition is possibly of rheumatic origin—or arthritis of mild form. One of the best local remedies is oil of wintergreen rubbed on the joints at night, using a few drops only. Massage is also good.

Mrs. E. H., Belvidere, N. C.—Your case is quite complicated; but seems to be a case of auto-intoxication of long standing. Possibly also your kidneys are at fault. The swelling of your limbs, short breath, and inability to work without effort, all point to some kidney or stomach trouble, due possibly, as before stated, to a chronic poisoning of the system from intestinal fermentation and decomposition of undigested foods. You should consult a good stomach specialist at once.

L. H., Buffalo Ridge, Va.—We think you are perfectly safe in using the water as you have been doing for the past year. As a safeguard, you might send a bottle of the water to some good chemist and have it tested chemically. Your state health officer might suggest the best way of getting the examination made, as well as the best way of shipping sample and obtaining the same for shipping.

Mrs. R. M., Joplin, Mo.—You may have what is known as night-blindness due to disease of the retina. Or you may have an ear lesion. Consult some good eye or ear specialist in your city. Your mother's case is probably what you guess it to be. Change of climate is the best treatment for her.

Mrs. J. M. H., McHenry, N. Dak.—Your leg condition will probably improve after you stop nursing your baby. Bandaging your legs with flannel bandages before you get up in the morning, and removing them when you retire, would be beneficial. Until you consult your family physician, cover a large flat piece of cork with absorbent cotton and gauze and make pressure over the naval. Retain it in position by an adhesive plaster, known as Z. O. plaster.

G. F., Weimar, Texas.—Know of nothing to plump up the cheeks. Paraffin has been used by injection, but this is injurious, if not dangerous. Massage by a competent masseur would remove your wrinkles. This treatment might also fill out the cheeks.

Mrs. L. M., Miles City, Montana.—Can't recommend the remedy mentioned in your letter.

Mrs. E. S., Lebanon, Kans.—Operation is the only cure for your son. You should consult a good surgeon at once.

Mrs. F. C., St. Louis, Mo.—There is no remedy for "barreness." May be an operation, or some form of electricity would help you. Consult your family doctor.

Mrs. A. L. D., Mt. Selma, Texas.—Veracolate tablets have been very useful, if not curative in conditions such as you have described. You should consult some competent stomach specialist and have him make a careful examination. If possible have an X-ray picture made of your intestinal tract. This is one of many methods of finding out the true condition. May be another radical operation for the complete removal of your gall bladder will be advisable. You undoubtedly have an intestinal intoxication also. Some of the various preparations of so-called Russian oil taken in tablespoonful doses, three times a day, might be beneficial. The mineral oil emulsion is the best form. You should also find out the food that is best adapted to your condition and limit your diet to such food. Entire wheat bread, as well as bran bread, might be tried.

Mrs. J. F. D., Waynesville, Ga.—Your liver is evidently the seat of your trouble and you should take some liver medicine prescribed by some competent physician. The pain in your legs and shoulder are secondary and will right themselves with proper treatment along the lines indicated. You should also look after your diet, and leave sweets and pastry alone.

C. C. W., Deport, Texas.—Stick by your doctor, and continue the sweet pills he prescribes. Stop worrying over your condition, which is not necessarily fatal, but annoying. Worry will make you worse—one of the causes of diabetes is constant worry. Would not advise marriage on general principles, at least for the present. Change of climate will do you no good, but pleasant associations will. Continue the diet suggested by your doctor, and add a good Ceylon tea to your diet. This is sometimes very helpful if not curative.

Mrs. J. J., Youngstown, Alberta, Can.—You, of course, know that your trouble arose from a large thyroid. This has been removed as you say. Nervousness is one of the concommitants of this disease, plus excessive heart action and vascular changes. At your age, with proper rest, quiet and cheerful surroundings, and no hard work, you should improve if not wholly recover. Would not advise your having more children for the present.

Blue Eyes, Scranton, Pa.—Your child is rachitic—does not have lime enough in his system to make bone. See some good physician and have him prescribe the proper diet and some bone building medicine or food. Keep child off his feet as much as possible and consult an orthopedic surgeon for the bow legs. He may suggest a proper support or brace which would arrest this tendency to crooked legs. As to yourself, proper food with some malt drink should help you—food of the starchy type. As you get older, you will undoubtedly improve in weight.

A. B. C., Goldhill, Mo.—Depilatories, or hair removers, are all useless if not dangerous. See some competent skin specialist, and have him remove the hairs, by the only sure method, electricity—the electric needle.

Mrs. F. J., Montgomery, Minn.—You should consult some competent doctor as to your daughter's painful menses. A careful diet will do much to modify the pimple trouble. Give her a plain, simple diet free from sugar, pastry, and tea or coffee. Let her have cereals, fruits of all kinds, plenty of outdoor exercise and see that her skin is cleansed often, using little or no soap in the water, especially soaps of the highly scented variety. The walk to school will do her no harm, weather being favorable. Have her eyes examined at once for possible eye-strain. This in many cases results in a cure of the most remote nervous and diatetic troubles. Have her use skimmed or buttermilk. Milk sometimes will not agree with the stomach, when skim-milk will be grateful and curative as well as nutritious.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

"Well, you will have plenty of chances to use it without beginning this minute. Wait till later on in the afternoon," she advised, with unconscious prophecy.

"But you a born lady, Miss Belton."

Nerine settled the kettle more securely on the fire. Here was her chance to make Mrs. Simpson make a clean breast of things, but she let it slip for the present. Wait till she was fortified by a cup of tea.

"I see you've been walking about since I was here," was all she said, looking at the fine, clean white cloth on the table.

Mrs. Simpson nodded.

"I was in my bedroom getting that when you came. I had a sort of feeling you might be here to tea. I left all my boxes open, too; and before you go perhaps you'd lock them up for me, if you won't let me walk so far."

"All right," rather absently, as she poured the boiling water into the teapot, and sat down to wait for the tea to draw.

Snap had returned, and she gave him a biscuit and some milk, which he ate, hastily growling the while.

"He's been like that all day, as if he heard something," remarked the woman, apprehensively. "It made me feel nervous, as if Simpson were about. Snap does hate him!"

Nerine laughed and looked out of the window.

"There isn't a soul within miles. You let yourself brood too much on Simpson," she cheerfully returned, and began to pour out the tea.

"By the way, I had a letter from Lady Belton today; Miss Belton is nearly well, and the doctor says I can take the children home in ten days or less. I want you to promise me something when I'm going."

Mrs. Simpson put down her beautiful china cup so suddenly that the saucer cracked.

"You going! Whatever am I going to do without you? You've been so very kind, though it isn't that. I think it's the way you've spoken to me, as though I were as good as yourself, and not one who'd get drunk and steal." Miserable tears stood in her eyes as she spoke. "You don't know what you've saved me from with your kindness and your not being afraid of me. Why, I'd kiss the ground you'd walked on." The dismay with which she began changed as she spoke, through bitterness to an untold love and gratitude which somehow brought a lump to Nerine's throat. She did not deserve it; come what may, she could no longer go under false pretenses with Mrs. Simpson.

"Perhaps by the time I go you will not be so sorry to lose me," she said, bravely. "When you know what my name is, even."

"I do know; it's Belton," Mrs. Simpson returned, quite placidly. "I don't see what that has to do with it; and before I forget it, won't you promise me to take that ring today? I can't feel happy in my mind when I think I'm alone here, and it might be stolen from me. I want somebody I care for to have it, because of who gave it to me."

"I'll promise to take it if you'll promise to tell me something first." Nerine spoke slowly, wondering just what was best to say. "And if you still want to give it to me, when I'm going home."

Mrs. Simpson had never been a shrewd woman, even before loneliness and excessive drinking had reduced her to what she was. Nerine felt almost ashamed of the utter trust in her eyes and voice as she answered:

"I'll tell you anything in this world you want to know, even if it's about Jim! I know you'd never use anything I said to get either him or me into trouble."

"It has nothing to do with Jim. And I give you my word of honor that whatever you tell me I'll never use against you," Nerine cried earnestly.

She rose swiftly and went into the bedroom. Coming back, she threw down a bundle at Mrs. Simpson's feet.

"The first thing I want to know," she said, quietly, "is where you got my silk skirt."

"Your silk skirt!" Mrs. Simpson turned a sickly purple. "It never was you! That's not how I know you! Oh, it can't be!" she ejaculated, wildly.

"You nearly killed me," the girl said gently. "Oh, why did you do it? You'll promise, won't you, never to—to do a thing like that again?"

But Mrs. Simpson only stared at her. At last she spoke in a groaning whisper.

"You said your name wasn't Belton—what is it?"

"Lispenard—Nerine Lispenard."

"What!" she shrieked, "you a Lispenard! You, Simpson's niece!" She rose from the sofa, transformed once more into a fury. "And I've talked to you about Simpson, told you how I hated him, while you came from him just to spy on me and find out how I was living." She came close to the girl, her hand raised threateningly. "I suppose he sent you here to find out how I lived, and when you go back and tell him, he'll stop my money!"

"Hush! Go and sit down; you have no right to speak to me like that." She held her breath while she stared down those furious eyes. "I am no niece of Simpson's," she said as soon as she dared speak, "and I hate him as much as you do."

Mrs. Simpson sat down, as suddenly as she had risen; she quailed before the tall girl with her steady eyes, though she scarcely believed her.

"You'd tell me the truth, wouldn't you?" she said. "Simpson didn't send you here, did he?"

"Send me!" Nerine laughed outright. "He would be ready to kill me if he knew I was here. That is, if your Mr. Simpson is my Mr. Mayne."

"That's the name he goes by now; you must know it as well as I, being his niece, and living in that grand big house with him."

Nerine stamped her foot.

"I tell you," she said, angrily, "I'm not his niece! I'm his stepdaughter. He married my mother when I was four years old." She pulled the diary from her pocket, "Here is the marriage certificate, if you don't believe me!"

"Married your mother! Simpson!" She clutched the girl by the hand. "Do you tell me it's all a lie that he's told about his nieces that he's paid for living with, and that I went and took the silver from when I found he'd gone away without leaving me any money?"

"He may have fifty nieces for all I know! But he lives with us at Lispenard House, and he is our stepfather; Agatha's, Maurice's and mine."

"Then where does he get his money?"

"He has our income, all of it till we're of age; and he has deceived us—oh, deceived us! just as he has you. I found out today that we are all two years older than he says we are. He has been taking our money, living with us, making our lives miserable, for eighteen months after he had any right to dare to stay in our house."

"That's true—you swear it?"

"True as that I sit here in your house. Do you see this book? It was my mother's; I found it in in Mayne's room while you were in Lispenard House, and I never could open it till today, when you gave me the key."

Mrs. Simpson stared at her.

"I took that key from Simpson—that's his real name—years ago. He never rightly knew what it belonged to, though he was wild when it disappeared."

With the haste born of a horrible suspicion, she almost tore the book from the girl's hands.

"I'm married to him! I've got my marriage lines!" she cried. "Let me see when he married your mother."

She fumbled desperately through the papers, and Nerine, leaning forward, helped her to find the certificate. It was dated at some little place in Canada, nearly twenty-two years ago. The woman gave a choking sound of relief.

"He married me in London, twenty-four years ago, come Christmas," she said. "Then he deserted me, and I came across him by accident, and made him support me. He'd good reason to support me, and him living with a wife that was no wife! No wonder he brought me here and found out Jim, and kept me in terror that he'd give him up to the police if I came to the house where he was living with his nieces. And all this time it's me might have kept him in terror if I'd only known. Nieces indeed! And me his lawful wife, for that's the only thing he's never deceived me about."

Nerine sat stunned. What was this she had brought about her ears? If Mrs. Simpson was Mayne's wife, what had her mother been? It was too horrible; she gasped for her breath.

Mrs. Simpson was staring at the book and the papers.

"What's this you say about finding out you were older than you thought?" she demanded.

Nerine told her, wearily, almost with indifference.

"Well, you can get back the income for these two years, and all the others besides. He never had any right to it—he never was married to your mother. You can go to court and prove it."

"Don't, for heaven's sake, don't! Can't you see it kills me to think how my poor mother——" She broke off sharply. "Let me see your certificate," she said peremptorily.

Mrs. Simpson pulled her jewel box from under the sofa.

"It's in the lowest tray—the one we didn't look in this morning." And with scant attention to the other contents she tumbled them all out on the table and held up her precious paper. It was all plain enough, the girl saw; the marriage of Clarence Simpson and Mary Lister and its date was written down in black and white.

Nerine leaned back in her chair, sick and faint. What should she do? There was all that money in Mayne's possession, and all he had spent to which he had never had any right; and to get it back she must blacken the memory of her mother. Never! oh, never! She would not tell anyone, not even Maurice or Agatha, of what she had found out this day, other than the two years' extra reign which Mayne had enjoyed. Tears were streaming down her face. "Oh, my mother!" she thought. "My poor, pretty, young mother!"

"Oh, lovey! don't cry like that." Mrs. Simpson's heavy, kindly hand fell on her shoulder. "You can turn Simpson out now, and live happy. And it isn't as though he were your father, you know."

"I can turn him out, and make him give back what he has taken from us; but if I were starving I would never tell any one that my mother was not his wife. Can't you see that?" she demanded, fiercely.

For a wonder Mrs. Simpson did see it. She sat quite still, lost in what was deep thought for her.

"I hate him, and you hate him, and we can't do nothing to him, either of us," she said slowly. "If it wasn't for that about your mother, and that trouble of Jim's at Satterlee's, we could make things hot for him in England."

Nerine lifted her head from her hands, the tears wet on her cheeks.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Value in Peanuts

The man who purchases a nickel's worth of peanuts to munch at the ball game, to feed to the squirrels in the park or to gladden the hearts of the children at home scarcely realizes that he has contributed to an industry that last year farmed a million-dollar crop, which, when placed on the market in various forms, reached the stupendous sum of $36,000,000.

Scientists claim that the peanut is the only staple food that will at once nourish man, beast, bird and field. It is the most nutritious of the entire nut family, rich in tissue building properties, and the cheapest.

Many Southern farmers are now using the peanut in their regular system of crop rotation. It has the added value of extracting oxygen from the air and feeding it to the soil.

We Will Give You This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling romance by Adelaide Sterling. It is a beautiful story having a pathetic appeal and heart interest that compels the reader's sympathy and admiration for the lovely and lovable heroine. To the bleeding heart disconsolate because of unrequited love it bears a message of transcendent hope that lights the pathway out of despair up to the heights of triumphant and enduring bliss.

We are sure our readers will enjoy this delightful story which will run as a serial in COMFORT through the remainder of the winter and the spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

German Silver Mesh Purse

Given For Four Subscriptions.



Premium No. 7374

THIS is the new "Gate Top" mesh purse with a ten-inch wrist chain, made throughout of **German Silver**, handsome, stylish, and **perfectly safe for the carrying of money and other valuables.** A slight pull with the forefinger of each hand instantly opens the purse, a gentle pressure with thumb and finger closes it. Our illustration shows the purse closed. When open the top is as large as the bottom, or in other words, two inches in diameter. When closed it leaves an opening only three-fourths of an inch wide over which the brightly polished German silver cover snaps down tightly so that the contents of the purse cannot possibly become lost. This dainty purse is now extremely fashionable so we have purchased a quantity for the benefit of those of our lady and girl readers who like to be up-to-date in these little accessories. You can have one of them free by taking advantage of the following

Club Offer. For a club of four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this handsome and stylish German silver mesh purse free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7374.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



THIS SUIT FREE

TO INTRODUCE OUR NOBBY CLOTHES IN YOUR TOWN

It's the very finest suit you ever saw. $50 couldn't buy a better one, but you can get it free. It's made to your measure from the most beautiful cloth. Don't fail to get one of these suits. You can earn it while you wear it and make

$50 A WEEK

by taking orders. Drop us a postal for latest sample outfit, select the style you want and the cloth. Let us prove our amazing offer. We send everything free the same day your request is received. Address.

Paragon Tailoring Co. Dept. 807 Chicago.

Freckles

Tan or Liver Spots positively removed by using **Stillman's Freckle Cream.** Prepared for one purpose only—*clearing the skin.* If you have freckles, write us today for our **Free Booklet** "*Wouldst Thou Be Fair?*" Stillman's Cream is sold by most druggists, 50c a jar, or direct from us, same price, prepaid. Write now. We can help you.

Stillman Cream Co., Dept. 10, Aurora, Ill.

TO ANY WOMAN FOR Giving Away 60 Packages Soap Powder FREE



This beautiful fabricord leather, biscuit tufted, 22-steel spring parlor couch, over 6 ft. long by 2 ft. 3 in. wide for distributing (not to sell) only 5 doz. pkgs. of our famous washing powder **FREE** among friends and neighbors, to introduce. No money or experience needed. **NEW METHOD CO., 731 FRANKLIN ST., CHICAGO**



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM

A toilet preparation of merit. Helps to eradicate dandruff.

For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair.

50c. and $1.00 at druggists.

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers." **RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112. WASHINGTON, D. C.**



DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU? Agents wanted to sell glasses. Send for catalog. **COULTER OPTICAL CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.**

UNCLE CHARLIE'S

Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address **UNCLE CHARLIE, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.**

Free To Every Little Girl!

Golden Locks And Her Lovely Twin Babies!

All Three Dollies Given To You Without Cost!



Premium No. 4631.

Mothers, Don't Fail To Read This Offer!

COMFORT wants to give **free** to **your** little girl and **every** little girl this handsome **doll Family** stamped in **beautiful colors** on strong cloth with **full directions** so that you can cut them out, stuff and sew them up **in less than ten minutes.** "Golden Locks" is almost as big as **a real baby,** for she stands **one and one half feet high** and her cute little twin babies which you see in the picture stand **over half a foot high. These dolls cannot be broken** no matter how much they are thrown around or dropped on the floor and you can make them **bend their arms and legs, stand up and sit down in a chair and assume all sorts of natural positions.** They have beautiful **golden hair** which hangs in the **dearest curls** you ever saw and fastened with a **bright red ribbon bow** that cannot get lost or become untied, **handsome red cheeks, rosy lips and lovely blue eyes** which smile at you in such a **lifelike way** that you would almost think **they were ready to speak and say "Mama."** As shown in above illustration they are dressed in **dainty lace-trimmed underwear with bright red stockings and black buttoned boots.** The three dolls together—"Golden Locks" and the two sweet Baby Dolls—make the **cutest and prettiest** Doll Family any little girl ever had to play with. They are lots better for the little folks than the more expensive bisque and china dolls **because they will not break or snarl their pretty hair or lose their eyes.** There is no little girl who will not instantly **fall in love** with this beautiful Doll Family and spend many happy hours with it, so we hope that every mother who reads this offer will take advantage of it at once. We will send you **all three dolls free by Parcel Post prepaid** on the terms of the following special offers.

Offer 4631 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **all three dolls** free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 4631 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **all three dolls** free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4631. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared ***at our expense by eminent counsel.***

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

Mrs. N. E. Q., Redondo Beach, Cal.—Under the laws of Montana, we do not think that you have any vested right in the property of your husband during his lifetime except that you would be entitled to support from him. We think that in case he predeceases you, you would be entitled to dower of one third interest for life in his real estate, unless the same had been released or some other provision was made for you in lieu of dower in his will. We think that the disadvantage you are now under consists in the fact that you are so far away from him and the probable necessity of your going to where he now is in order to enforce your claim for support against him. Of course, if he left or abandoned you for some good and valid reason, you may have forfeited this claim for support.

Mrs. A. J., Peabody, Kans.—Upon your statements, we are of the opinion, that a verbal separation agreement in the case you mentioned would not amount to much of anything. We think that in case of the separation of the couple you mention, the agreement as to the property should be reduced to writing and the share of each of the parties transferred by proper written documents in accordance to the terms of such agreement.

Mrs. J. B. E., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that your judgment creditor can enforce the payment of his judgment against any property you may own, not exempt by law from levy under execution.

A. McL., Washington.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that children can be legally disinherited by the will of the parent, provided they be named in the will. We think this is usually done by leaving a small bequest to the child.

B. J. P., Idaho.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that homesteads after the same have been declared are exempt from levy under execution where the selection is made by the husband or, in case of his failure, by the wife or other head of a family, such homestead may be selected to the value of five thousand dollars, and to the value of one thousand dollars by any other person. The declaration properly acknowledged and recorded is prior to all claims against the property which were not existing heirs at the time the declaration of homestead was recorded, and in addition thereto there are the following exemptions from execution: 1. chairs, tables, desks and tools to the value of $200. 2. Necessary household furniture to the value of $300, wearing apparel, paintings, etc., and provisions provided for the individual or family use sufficient for six months, two cows and two hogs with their increase, also special itemized exemptions to a farmer, mechanic or artizan, miner, teamster or other laborer, surgeon, physician, surveyor, dentist, attorney, counsellor, judge and clergyman. Seventy-five per cent of the earnings of the judgment debtor, if necessary for his family residing in the state, for services rendered within the thirty days next preceding levy of execution. If earnings do not exceed fifteen dollars per week all such earnings are exempt, but in no case shall the exemption exceed one hundred dollars at any one time. Also certain exemptions of shares held by a member in a homestead or building loan association, certain exemptions as to life insurance and exemptions to live companies, public buildings, etc.

L. H., West Virginia.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that upon the death of the man you mention, leaving no will, his widow would receive dower of a one third interest for life in his real estate, and one third of the personal property absolutely, after payment of debts and expenses, the balance of the estate going in equal shares to his children; we think the share of the son who survived his father, but died before the estate was divided, leaving no will and no widow or descendant, would go to his mother and his brothers and sisters, and would be administered as his estate.

J. F. R., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that upon the death of an unmarried man, leaving no will, and leaving no kindred nearer than first cousins, his estate, subject to the payment of debts and expenses would go to such cousins. We think such cousins would have to pay an inheritance tax to the state and the United States upon such share if the amount of the inheritance was more than the exemption.

Mrs. M. W., Tennessee.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the property of your deceased uncle would be disposed of in conformity with the terms of his will, if he left a valid one. We do not think his foster son could be punished for using his name, even if he was not legally adopted.

Mrs. F. F., Wisconsin.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that the statute of limitations runs against a claim for wages within six years from the time the cause of action accrued, or the last evidence of indebtedness thereof.

C. D. L., Oklahoma.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that the wife of the general guardian of the young girl you mention has no legal right to punish such minor without the guardian's consent. We think that if the guardian subjects his ward to cruel treatment he would be liable to be removed as such guardian.

Mrs. K. A. B., Alberta.—We think the laws of your Province provide for the Torren's system of land registration whereby all titles to land and every interest therein, except household interests for a period of three years or less, issue from the government. We think the owner named in the certificate holds the land subject to such incumbrances, liens, estates or interests as are notified on the folio of the register which constitutes the certificate of title; we think an abstract of title is a certificate or statement as to the title of property made by some individual or title on abstract company. Under the laws of Minnesota we are of the opinion that the property, of a decedent who died leaving no will, and leaving no surviving issue nor spouse nor father, nor mother, would go to brothers and sisters of decedent, the lawful issue of any such as had predeceased the decedent, taking the parent's share.

Mrs. M. B., Oklahoma.—We do not think it necessary or the common practise to file or record a will until after the death of the person who makes it.

Mrs. A. B. S., Manville, Wyo.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that if the man gave the colt you mentioned to your sister, he could not again sell the same and give a good title to another purchaser. We think the paper you described as a bill of sale would be evidence substantiating the gift of this colt to your sister; just how conclusive evidence it would be, we think would depend on other circumstances. We think that you and your sister would be entitled to recover from this man such wages as he agreed to pay you, provided your right to enforce the payment of the same has not been barred by the Statute of Limitations.

Mrs. C. W., Merced, Cal.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of the wife, the entire community property without administration belongs to the surviving husband, except such portion as may have been set apart to her by judicial decree for her support and maintenance. We think if there was no such judicial decree, upon the death of your mother, the community property went to your father and upon his death, leaving no will and leaving a surviving widow and one child, would go in equal shares to each. If more than one child, one third to his surviving widow and the balance to the children in equal shares. We do not think the daughter of your mother by a former marriage would have any rights of inheritance from your father's estate.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

kind of ministers and the right kind of religion, a religion that deals with this world as much as it does with the next. The government is using all the tin for war purposes so we have decided to eat the Goat.

Fort Robert E. Lee, HAWKINS, TEXAS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I've been reading your prepardness speeches and haven't read anything I liked better since Lincoln's Gettysburg address or Spartacus to the Gladiators. When anybody sounds a war cry or a bugle call, I stick up my ears and listen. There's just one thing, Uncle Charlie, that I want to criticize you for—you say we join Preparedness parades but won't enlist to fight. Maybe you don't know Texas. Recruiting offices don't do much business here in time of peace, the boys know they can make more than $17.50 a month and serve their country better in some industrial work—but when there was a prospect of a real war with Mexico or Germany the office was open night and day enlisting men and one broad-chested six-foot farmer boy walked thirty miles to enlist. In a Texas family the father can show fourteen saber cuts from Chickamauga and the twelve sons each a bullet wound from El Caney and the whole famiy ready to go again. I've been among 20,000 soldiers the past twelve months and my opinion is this:

When Uncle Sammy mixes in this European scrap,
You bet he'll get to old Berlin,
And grab the Kaiser by the chin
And make the French and British grin
As he gives the Dutch a slap.
The Kaiser he'll feel awful blue,
He'll drop his sword and then skiddoo,
And then with war we'll be through.
And the cud of peace we all can chew
When Uncle Sam sticks out his chin,
Rolls up his sleeves and mixes in!

The first lesson in patrotism is to buy a flag, raise it at sunrise and lower it at sunset, never let it rain upon your flag, and fly it at half mast when some one who has served his country dies. Take off your hat and hold it over your heart when the flag goes by, and honor and protect your flag even when there is nobody looking. Well, Uncle Charlie, I'll close for this time, I just wanted you to know that here in Texas we still remember George Washington and the days of '76. (Some do Rob, but there are piles that don't.—Uncle.)

Patriotically, ROBERT LEE HARRIS.

This department Bob, is not conducted for traitors or lunatics but for sane, sensible, redblooded Americans, and that's why it always makes a hit with worth-while manly men and womanly women. Yes, Bob, I do know Texas, and the very last thing I clipped from my twelfth daily newspaper last night, was a little speech made by General Pershing who is leading our first division of soldiers to France. General Pershing said we were a nation asleep and continued thus: "The feeling among our people is very lax. They have not begun to realize that we are in this great war. It is all very well to write editorials about it and talk about it on the platform, but it has not yet been impressed on the people out West. I have just come from Texas where they say 'Oh, well we haven't lost anybody. None of our vessels have been destroyed, and we don't really feel that we are at war.' I put the question to all such men 'do you realize that you must take the places of every man who is killed among the Allies? * * * * * Bring the people to the full realization of the seriousness of this war and that the burden of its success is going to rest on these United States.' Texas with a population of some four million people forty-five days after the declaration of war had enlisted less than 3,500 men. Little Switzerland with a population nearly a million less than Texas can within a few hours, put 425,000 bayonets into the field. Germany knew better than to try and go through Switzerland. She knew if she did she would strike a hornet's nest. Belgium was only half prepared and you know what happened to her. Canada with an English speaking population but a little larger than Texas, has put half a million men into the field. It is a good thing for us that there is a lot of water between us and Europe and that the Swiss are a peaceful people, or they might take it into their heads to come and smash the stuffing out of our little professional army of 80,000 men. So you see we have nothing yet to be chesty about. We have done some big things in the past, but that was a long time ago. This generation has yet to prove it can make good and we hope to God it will make good, and we feel sure it will; but up to the present it has not shown much inclination to do what it must do if liberty and righteousness are to rule in this world. The soldier's pay has been increased to thirty dollars a month. That ought to have been done years ago. People who want other people to do their fighting and dying for them should be willing to pay the price. By the way only about three thousand people in Texas have been honest enough to pay income tax. That means there must be at least 20,000 income tax dodgers in the Lone Star State. What an outrage.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.



$1.50

6 YEAR GUARANTEE

Sample Watch Free

Genuine full standard size railroad style watch with locomotive on dial and locomotive handsomely engraved on back. Full nickel plated case, extra dust proof, Arabic numerals on dial, heavy R. R. style figures. Genuine American make, stem wind and set, fully GUARANTEED for 5 YEARS. To advertise our business and introduce this wonderful watch and our great catalogue of Elgin, Waltham and Hampden watches we will send this elegant watch to any address by mail postpaid for ONLY $1.50 and if you sell two of these watches we will give you ONE SAMPLE WATCH FREE for your trouble. Send this advertisement with $1.50 and watch will be sent by mail postpaid, or send $3.00 for two and we will send ONE EXTRA WATCH FREE. Order today as this offer may not appear again. Address R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 538 So. Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for August

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Miss Fannie B. Leeson, Wake Co. Hospital, Raleigh, N. C. Helpless shut-in for twenty-four years. Would appreciate reading matter, cheery letters and any financial assistance you care to send her. Mrs. Martha A. Harper, Trevilians, R. R. 1, Box 17, Va. Blind, old and helpless. Send her some cheer. T. H. Byers, Monson, Cal. Helpless from injuries to spine, hip and shoulder, caused by loaded wagon running over him. He has no means of support, is alone in the world, fifty-four years of age. Help him. J. Mattison Johnson, Concord, R. R. 2, Box 65, Tenn. Suffers from epileptic fits and other troubles. Unable to work. Needy and worthy. Well recommended. Send him a dime shower. Mrs. S. L. Danner, Cushing, Okla. Widow, invalid. Has one daughter in poor health. Well recommended. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Martha F. Bell, 46 E. Clay St., Springfield, Ill. Invalid. Well recommended. No means of support. Very needy case. Send her a dime shower. Mrs. Bula Noland, Banning, Ga. Invalid. Widow with five little children. Very sad case. Send them some help. Claud Shifflet, Richmond, R. R. 3, Ky. Helpless invalid, fourteen years of age. Send him some cheery letters and anything that will brighten his life. John D. Moore, Spencer, Va. Paralyzed. No means of support. Very needy case. Send him a dime shower. John B. Adkins, Branchland, R. R. 1, Box 116, W. Va. Invalid. Would appreciate reading matter, letters, cards, and if anyone has a printing outfit they could pass on to him, would be grateful. Roland E. Chemung, Boone Mill, R. R. 3, Box 104, Va. Invalid, fourteen years of age. Would appreciate a card shower.

The poor souls whose names are listed above are in too desperate need to care for anything but substantial financial aid. Sympathy and cash make a splendid combination, but sympathy without cash cuts no icicles. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

Uncle Charlie's Poems Will Make You Laugh, Scream and Yell

That is exactly what they will do, and they are the best and cheapest medicine for the blues in the world. Only one in two hundred of our readers have availed themselves of the opportunity to secure this exquisitely beautiful 160-page volume of screamingly funny verse bound in lilac silk cloth, free for a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. This elegant book contains splendid pictures of Uncle Charlie, and a touching account of his life. It contains the funniest recitations ever written. It is a present fit for a king, and no home should be complete without it. If you won't get it for yourself get it for the children and make them happy. Free for an hour's easy work. Start your clubbing today.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book Is A Knock Out! The One Best Bet!

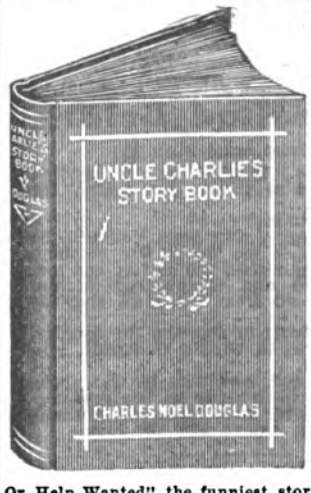
A home without music is a home without joy. Uncle Charlie's Song Book contains twenty-eight of the dandiest songs ever written, songs for churches, parlors and concert platform. Here you have a great, big, beautiful music folio, containing such gems of mirth and melody as "My Beautiful Queen of Dreams," "The Old Village Choir," "The Dream That Never Came True," and "Broke Again." Five dollars' worth of music, with full score for voice and piano, a splendidly gotten up folio with a handsomely decorated cover on which appear several pictures of Uncle Charlie, equal to photographs, and all free for a club of only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. Both books free for a club of six. Greatest premium bargains ever offered. Work for them today.

ODD PUBLICATION.—The Mountain Echo, a California weekly, recently came out printed on fig leaves instead of print paper. In the editorial columns the editor explained that because of the high cost of paper and the failure of subscribers to pay up he was forced to use this makeshift or suspend publication.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, half-tone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.

Ought to Eat with the Horses

"UNCLE JOE" CANNON, former speaker of the national House of Representatives, enjoys telling the following story at his own expense. One summer toward the close of a protracted session of Congress an old farmer from Vermillion county, Illinois, of which Danville, the speaker's home, is the county seat, visited Washington and called on Mr. Cannon at the capitol. They had been boys together and Mr. Cannon invited his visitor to accompany him to dinner that evening. Mr. Cannon had no home of his own in Washington at that time and was boarding at a fashionable and expensive place in a select part of the city. It happened that the first of the season's sweet corn was being served that evening and Mr. Cannon, who is inordinately fond of corn on the cob, consumed ear after ear of it to the amazement and astonishment of his guest who watched the speaker in vain for some indication that his appetite was being satisfied.

"Joe," he asked at length, "how much do they charge you for board at this place?"

"Well, Bill," replied Mr. Cannon, "this is an expensive place. I pay twenty dollars a week."

"I thought as much," said the farmer from Illinois. "Why in Halifax don't you board at a livery stable? It would be so much cheaper for you."

THIS FORD FREE



Send Us No Money

JUST YOUR NAME

You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars. I have given away dozens of them. You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away, and say: "I want to get one of your Ford cars." A post-card will do.

RHOADS AUTO CLUB
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

FREE A 52-PIECE FULL SIZE HANDSOME DINNER SET



WE TRUST YOU
NO MONEY NEEDED
WE PAY FREIGHT

Sell 10 boxes of 7 cakes fine Toilet Soap, and with every box, give as premiums to each purchaser all of the following articles; a Pound of Baking Powder, Bottle Perfume, Box Talcum Powder, 6 Teaspoons, Pair Shears and Package of Needles and the **Dinner Set is Yours.** Many other equally attractive offers and hundreds of useful Premiums or Cash Commission given for your time. **Special Extra Present** of a 6-Pc. High-Grade Granite Kitchen Set FREE of all cost or work of any kind, if you write at once. You advance no money. You have nothing to risk. Write today for our **Big FREE Agents Outfit.** Act quickly—don't delay. **THE PURE FOOD CO.** Established 1897. 720 W. Pearl St. CINCINNATI, O.



FREE DIAMOND RING OFFER

Just to advertise our famous Hawaiian im. diamonds—the greatest discovery the world has ever known. We will send absolutely free this 14k gold f. ring, set with a 1-2 k Hawaiian im. diamond—in beautiful ring box postage paid. If this is satisfactory pay postmaster $1.25 to cover postage, boxing, advertising, handling, etc. If not satisfactory return at our expense and money refunded. Only 10,000 rings given away. Send no money. Answer quick. Send size of finger.

KRAUTH & REED, DEPT. 24.
MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO



Pink Cameo Ring FREE

Cameos are set in fine **gold filled ring.** Guaranteed for three years. To introduce new Ring Bargains, will send post paid, your size, upon receipt of 12c to pay advertising.

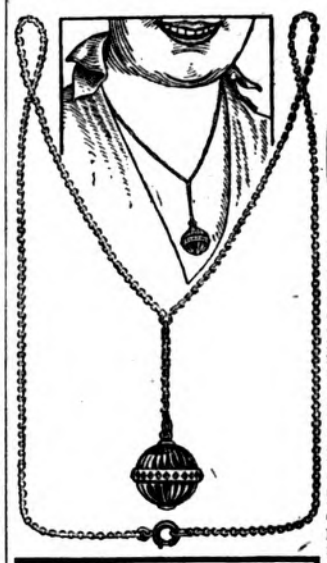
The Auction Co., Dept. 209 Attleboro, Mass.

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet BX 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW. EARL HOPKINS, Washington, D. C.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties. Catalog Free. D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.

GIRLS! WEAR ONE OF THE NEW

Perfume Balls



PREMIUM NO. 7494

YOU use perfume —of course—but did you ever have the opportunity of carrying it in such a beautiful and attractive form? The charm—the tasteful delicacy—of these new Perfume Balls make them easily the greatest jewelry novelty of the season. To be seen wearing one immediately suggests sweetness and refinement. The chain is made of **sterling silver** with soldered links. The ball has a sterling silver band and is handsomely enamelled in the following colors: **blue, white, pink, green,** and **lavender.** You should wear the color that matches your dress. To scent the ball you simply let a few drops of **your favorite perfume** fall on the absorbent within. The delicate fragrance escapes through the tiny openings and it will not be necessary to replenish for some time.

Now is the time to wear a Perfume Ball—while they are the fashion. We will send you one free if you will accept the following special offer. **When ordering be sure to specify color wanted.**

Club Offer. For four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one of these handsome Perfume Balls with sterling silver chain free by parcel post, prepaid. **Be sure to mention color wanted. Premium No. 7494. Address COMFORT Augusta, Maine.**

For A Club Of Four

Three Wheel Chairs in July

421 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

The three July wheel chairs go to the following shut-ins. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Mrs. Mary Bryan, Frederick, Okla., 109; Mrs. Adella Albiston, Soda Springs, Idaho, 105; Sallie and George Jordan, R. 2, Tyner, N. C. 104.

Mrs. Mary Bryan has suffered several years from rheumatism which has permanently crippled her so that she can not walk. The entire 109 subscriptions for her chair came all in one bunch on July 6, and were sent by her good friend Mrs. Maude Yohe who writes that she will soon send 91 more subscriptions to complete the club of 200. Mrs. Yohe certainly is a good worker as well as a good friend.

Mrs. Adella Albiston, age 48, is a great sufferer and is badly crippled with rheumatism which has rendered her lower limbs entirely helpless. She is a widow and has four children. She and her two younger children are taken care of by her oldest son and married daughter. She is blind in one eye and partly deaf, but she is expecting to derive much pleasure in getting out of doors in her wheel chair.

Sallie and George Jordan are children of Mrs. Mary Jordan. Both have been crippled from birth. Sallie is 21 and George 10 years of age. They will share the chair together, taking turns in using it. Even in this way it will be a great benefit to them and help their mother in caring for them, though they each ought to have a chair.

Here is an interesting picture of little Mary Florence Hart in her COMFORT wheel chair which she very



MARY FLORENCE HART.

much enjoys, and below is her mother's letter.

The Roll of Honor this month is short for the reason that, as usual in hot weather, few take the trouble to work for the poor shut-ins in summer. I hope you will do better for these unfortunates next month. Summer is the time they most need and enjoy wheel chairs.

Sincerely yours,
W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new one-year subscriptions to COMFORT, at 25 cents each, sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours. Any shut-in who has friends to help him get subscriptions can obtain a wheel chair free. Write me for information.

Wants Her Friends to See How She Looks in Her COMFORT Wheel Chair

FOGEL, June 23, 1917, OKLA.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I am sending you a picture of my little girl, Mary Florence Hart, in her wheel chair, for publication in COMFORT so that her many friends who helped her get it may see what she looks like. I thank you and all who helped. Respectfully yours,

MRS. H. J. HART.

COMFORT Wheel Chair Is Just Fine

BREMEN, ALA.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

I received my wheel chair and it is just fine. I am well-pleased with it. I thank you very much and all who helped me to get it. I will keep on working to get subscriptions to help the good work of the Wheel Chair Club. I am your friend,

JOHNNIE MAY HEATHERLY.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

Mrs. Maude Yohe, Okla., for Mrs. Mary Bryan, 109; Lessie Campbell, Texas, for Lorena Campbell, 31; Jim Sebern Gardner, Texas, for own wheel chair, 28; Mrs. C. A. Lynch, Idaho, for Mrs. Adella Albiston, 26; Cassie L. Boyce, N. C., for Sallie and George Jordan, 25; Lear Jack, Tenn., for Annie Jack, 23; Tilda Weaver, Texas, for Lorena Campbell, 21; Mrs. Nellie F. Waggoner, Texas, for Lucille Little, 20; Blanche McNallie, Tenn., for Sanford Shillings, 19; R. W. Terry, Texas, for Mrs. Jane Terry, 19; Kathren Bumpers, Ark., for Elma Williams, 15; Mrs. R. A. Cannoy, Tenn., for Howard Carr Cannoy, 15; Mrs. Mary Karnes, Okla., for Mrs. E. V. Stalnaker, 14; Mrs. Bessie Clopp, Texas, for Ruby Pearl Clopp, 12; Mrs. L. A. Williams, N. C., for Paul Forbes, 12; Miss Anna Pickett, Miss., for Mrs. Martha Timberlake, 12; Velma Rector, Okla., for Lucille Little, 12; Irene Hicks, Ark., for Elma Williams, 10; Mrs. Myrtle McCarty, Mo., for Willie Clinton, 7; Mrs. Tena Rubish, N. Dak., for Mrs. H. B. Newell, 7; Mrs. J. C. Kirby, Tenn., for Annie Jack, 6; Mrs. T. J. McGuire, Texas, for Lucille Little, 5; Mrs. J. A. Hall, N. C., for Dolly V. Lanier, 5; Miss Florence Page, N. H., for General fund, 5.

WORLD'S GREATEST MILK PRODUCER.—Cremelle Topsy Omsby Tobe, developed by B. T. Boyson of Rome, is the world-record-breaking Holstein cow. The cow has just completed a year's test, supervised by a Cornell expert, with a production of 28,436 pounds of milk and 1,050 pounds of butter. This shatters the world's milk production record by about 4,000 pounds.



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Domith, Mineral Wells, Texas.—It is neither wrong nor improper for engaged couples to kiss. If you had been reading this etiquette department with any degree of care you would have known that long ago. (2) A year's engagement is too long, unless there is an excellent reason. (2) A woman five feet tall should weigh between ninety-eight and one hundred and thirty-two pounds, average one hundred and fifteen.

Two Pals, Obert, Nebr.—If two young ladies of seventeen cannot in four years discover the intentions of a gentleman of twenty-one, the matter is not for an Etiquette Editor to determine, but it should be referred to a detective agency. We suggest that you try The Pinkerton.

Two, Bussey, Iowa.—By rule the lady speaks first when meeting a gentleman, but friends do not wait for rules when they see each other. (2) If you apologized for your declination of his invitation and he should ask you again, it would be quite proper for you to accept. You can show him that you care for him by being more considerate next time.

Myrtle S., Oakland, Mo.—If the widower of twenty-four who wants to marry you and is able to support you, is willing to wait until you are sure you love him, we think you are lucky and should try to love, especially if you are sure he is as "nice" a man as you say. There is no law of etiquette that would prevent your giving a beau a bunch of flowers that you are wearing. But don't write it "waring."

E. C., Nemaha City, Nebr.—You have a hard situation to handle, and you have our sympathy. Do not lose your temper, and try and have some of your male relatives—older men, if possible—have a serious talk the matter over with her. You are young going to the girl—why not take your baby along—and talk the matter over with her. You are young enough to know her viewpoint, and if you could prevent anger entering into the conversation you might shame her from further attempts to attract your husband. For your child's sake, a separation should be the last resource.

Inalene A., California.—There would be nothing better to give the young man in Texas who gives you a present every Christmas, than a book. We think he might give you a fountain pen, and then it would be easier for you to write him. Perhaps he thinks of this in offering it. Too expensive presents should not be exchanged unless you are engaged.

Peggy Jane, Shelley, Idaho.—Nothing but little, inexpensive gifts, and preferably candy, books or flowers, should be accepted from a young man to whom you are not engaged. There is no reason for you to return any accepted gifts upon the breaking of your friendship, unless you think best to do so.

Edna B., Aurelle, Ark.—The length that a girl of fifteen should wear her dresses is largely governed by her height. To her shoe tops is about right; or how her mother wants her to wear them is better yet. A girl of fifteen should "fix her hair" neatly and as the other girls in Aurelle do. Do not try to be a woman too soon.

Frenchy, Petersburg, Ind.—If you are ready, as you should be, when your "boy friend" comes to take you somewhere, there will be no need for him to remove his overcoat or other wraps. If he has to wait he may do as he likes or is asked. If he is waiting you may say when it is time to go. (2) You may ask the young man to call again; if you do not and he wants to very bad, he will ask himself.

White Lilies, Baltimore, Md.—It is perfectly proper for a young lady to shake hands with a gentleman with her gloves on. (2) Pineapple when served in slices should be eaten with a fork.

Anxious Inquirer, Harrisville, Pa.—The bride should stand at the right of the groom. (2) The hat should be worn, and the glove removed from the hand on which the ring is to be placed.

Brown Eyes, Hansen, Idaho.—If you have tried all the remedies you say for your freckles and still have them, we fear we can offer no specific that will remove them. We have known lots of pretty girls with them, even on their noses,—and there is no certain cure. Do not go bareheaded in the sun.

Lorine D., Muenster, Texas.—We are not in favor of any kissing before couples are engaged. (2) It is kind and also "polite" for a girl to meet her caller at the door.

Lilly Wood, Greedy Hog, Texas.—Your friend could hardly answer a letter that he had failed to receive, unless you told just what you had written. If it is important for him to know, write again. (2) A girl of nineteen may "go with boys" but not too long with one that she has no intention of ever marrying. This would be for her good and his also.

P. N. W., Selma, N. C.—Wait until your girl friend knows you better. It is hard to overcome another person's bashfulness.

Blue Eyes, Millsap, Texas.—It might not be proper for a young girl to "hold" a young man's arm when walking at night. But it is perfectly good form for her to take his arm if he offers it, or if the walking is bad.

Bashfulness, Refugio, Texas.—Bashfulness is generally caused by thinking too much about oneself. Try and think of other people when you are with them. Do little things for them; speak to them of subjects that you know they are interested in; and center your thoughts on them and not upon yourself. This is a sure remedy, and the only one.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

"I do not believe it!" cried the man, excitedly.

"I will prove it to you if you desire," Mrs. Stewart remarked.

"I defy you to do so."

"Very well; I accept your gage. You will, however, have to excuse me for a few moments," and, with these few words, the stately and graceful woman turned and disappeared within a chamber that opened from the room they were in.

It would be difficult to describe the conflict of emotions that raged in Gerald Goddard's breast during her absence.

Ten minutes passed, and then he was aroused from his wretched reflections by the opening of the chamber door near him, when his late housekeeper at Wyoming walked into the room.

CHAPTER XXIX.

"OUR WAYS PART HERE, NEVER TO CROSS AGAIN."

Gerald Goddard arose from his chair, and stared at the woman in unfeigned astonishment.

"Really, Mrs. Weld! this is an unexpected meeting—I had no thought of seeing you here, or even that you were acquainted with Mrs. Stewart," he remarked, while he searched his recent housekeeper's face with curious eyes.

"I have known Isabel Haven all her life," the woman replied, without appearing in the least disconcerted by the gentleman's scrutiny.

"Can that be possible?" exclaimed her companion.

"Yes."

"Then I presume you are familiar with her history."

"I am; with every item of it, from her cradle to the present hour."

"And were you aware of her presence in Boston when you applied for your position at Wyoming?"

"I was."

"Perchance it was at her instigation that you sought the place," Mr. Goddard remarked.

"Mrs. Stewart certainly knew that I was to have charge of your house," calmly responded Mrs. Weld.

"Then there was a plot between you—you had some deep-laid scheme in seeking the situation."

"I do not deny the charge, sir."

"What! do you boldly affirm it? What was your object?" demanded the man.

"I perceive that you have your suspicions, Mr. Goddard," coolly remarked the woman, without losing an atom of her self-possession in view of his anger.

"I have. Great Heavens! I understand it all now," cried her companion, hoarsely. "It was you who stole that certificate from my wife's room!"

"Yes, sir; I was fortunate enough to find it, two days previous to the ball."

"You confess it!—you dare own it to me, madam! You are worse than a professional thief, and I will have you arrested for your crime!" and Gerald Goddard was almost beside himself with passion at her cool effrontery.

"I hardly think you will, Mr. Goddard," was the quiet response. "I imagine that you would hesitate to bring such a charge against me, since such a course would necessitate explanations that might be to you somewhat distasteful, if not mortifying. You would hardly like to reveal the character of the document, which, however, you have made a mistake in asserting that I stole——"

"But you have admitted the charge."

"I beg your pardon, I have not acknowledged the crime of theft—I simply stated that I was fortunate enough to find the document in question."

"It seems to me that that is a distinction without a difference," he sneered.

"One can hardly be accused of stealing what rightly belongs to one's self," Mrs. Weld composedly said:

"What on earth can you mean? Explain yourself."

"Certainly; that is exactly what I came here to do," she answered, as, with a dexterous movement, she tore the glasses from her eyes, and swept the moles from her face, after which she snatched the cap and wig from her head, and stood before her companion revealed as Isabel Stewart herself.

"Good Heaven!" he gasped, then sank back upon his chair, staring in blank amazement at her.

Mrs. Stewart seized this opportunity to again slip from the room, and when she returned, a few minutes later, her superabundance of cellular tissue (?) had disappeared and she was her own peerless self once more.

She quietly resumed her seat, gravely remarking, as she did so:

"A woman who has been wronged as you have wronged me, Gerald Goddard, will risk a great deal to re-establish her good name. When I first learned of your whereabouts I thought I would go and boldly demand that certificate of you. I tried to meet you in society here, but, strange to say, I failed in this attempt, for, as it happened, neither you nor your—Anna Correlli frequented the places where I was entertained, although I did meet Monsieur Correlli two or three times. Then I saw that advertisement for a housekeeper to go out to Wyoming, to take charge of your house during a midwinter frolic; and, prompted by a feeling of curiosity to learn something of your private life with the woman who had supplanted me, I conceived the idea of applying for the situation and thus trying to obtain that certificate by strategy. How did I know that it was you who advertised?" she interposed, as Mr. Goddard looked up inquiringly. "Because I chanced to overhear some one say that the Goddards were going out of town for the same purpose as that which your notice mentioned. So I disguised myself, as you have seen, went to your office, found I was right, and secured the position."

"Now I know why I was so startled that day, when you dropped your glasses in the dining-room."

"Yes; I saw that you had never forgotten the eyes which you used to call your 'windows of paradise,'" responded his companion, with quiet irony.

Gerald Goddard cowered in his chair.

Suddenly there rushed through his being a great over-powering passion. He longed to take her in his arms, and call her by the endearing names he had known her in the days gone by.

He started up from his chair, vowing again his love for her, and repudiating the woman with whom he had lived for twenty years.

Quietly but firmly, she told him that it was quite impossible for her to ever again care for him; that all the love that she had ever borne him had been killed that day when he had deserted her in Rome.

And the man knew that she spoke only the truth.

TO BE CONTINUED.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

PANTS
$2.50
MADE TO ORDER
EXPRESS PREPAID
Remarkable low price for fine pair of made-to-order pants, style, quality and fit guaranteed. Think of it. An amazing bargain at this extra low price.
This great offer just to prove that we make finest tailored-to-order clothes at lowest prices obtainable anywhere.
NO EXTRAS TO PAY
for big peg-tops, fancy belt loops, pocket flaps, novelty features. Not a penny of extra charges for anything.
AGENTS WANTED
Make $50 a week or more for easy spare time work. Write now. Get complete outfit free, latest fabrics, fashions, order blanks, stationery & supplies.
THE CAPITOL TAILORS, Dept. 123, CHICAGO

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15.)

Miss Hanna F. McCord, Edinburg, 302 N. Kyle St., Indiana, would like to correspond with sisters living on homesteads in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

Cassie Craig, Lookout, California, would like song "Mt. Vernon Bells," beginning:

"Where Potomac's stream is flowing
Virginia's border through,
There the white sailed ships are going,
Sailing to the ocean blue."

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Mr. L. E. Patrick, Criterion, Oregon.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

LOOK YOUR BEST. Make sure of smooth white arms, face and neck in spite of sallowness, blotches, freckles, blackheads etc. If you want to be charming and attractive—Don't pay 50c but send 10c at once for sealed Package, which will transform your appearance instantly. Warranted. TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927A, Boston, Mass.



Silk Remnants



Premium No. 5561

All Sizes, Shapes and Colors—A Large Package Sent You For One Subscription

REMNANTS of real silk, in all shapes, sizes and colors. They are **carefully trimmed and just what you need for making up beautiful quilts, tidies, pillow tops and all kinds of "crazy patchwork."** We will send you a **package** containing more than **one hundred** of these beautiful **silk pieces and 5 skeins embroidery cotton in different bright colors.** If you order **at once** we will also send you, **in addition** to everything else an **Instruction Book with eight full-page illustrations** showing how to ornament seams of crazy patchwork and other work where fancy stitches are used. It tells you how to put pieces of patchwork together **to get the best effect,** how to **cover up seams** with fancy stitches, how to **join the edges,** etc. This book illustrates over **one hundred and fifty** of these besides containing full and explicit directions for working the **Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille Embroidery, ribbon work, plush or tufted stitch,** also directions for **Kensington painting.** Remember you get one nice lot of these Silk Remnants (over 100 pieces), 5 skeins Embroidery Cotton and an Instruction Book, as above described, all sent to you **free by Parcel Post prepaid** if you will accept either one of the following offers.

Offer No. 5561A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you one package of these Silk Remnants, free by parcel post prepaid.

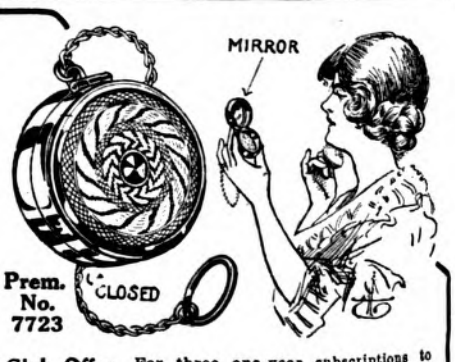
Offer No. 5561B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you one package of these Remnants free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5561.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Dorine Or Vanity Box

Beautiful—Dainty—Useful. Every Woman—Every Girl Should Have One

YOU carry it suspended from the little finger which is slipped through the ring at the end of the four-inch chain. Press a tiny hidden spring and the hinged cover flies open displaying a fine little mirror and powder puff. Handsomely silver finished and enameled in colors, these new Dorines have become immensely popular with well-dressed women. They are small, light and dainty measuring only an inch and a half in diameter and five-eighths of an inch in width. City stores are selling hundreds of them. We will make you a gift of one of these Dorines or Vanity Boxes if you will perform the slight favor requested of you in the following



Prem. No. 7723

Club Offer: For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you a Dorine free by parcel post prepaid. Premium No. 7723. **Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities

Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.



AGENTS WANTED

Prohibition Everywhere. Alcoholic Extracts prohibited. Hit the iron while it's hot. Sell Zanol Non-alcoholic Food Flavors; contain no alcohol. Ten times stronger. Can be sold anywhere. Here's your chance to make $6 to $12 a day. Send postal now for territory and free outfit offer. American Products Co., 5415 Third St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents! Quick Sales! Big Profits! Outfit Free! Cash or credit. Sales in every home for our beautiful Dress Goods, Hosiery, Underwear, etc. Write today. National Importing & Mfg. Co., Dept. EB, 425 Broadway, New York.

Agents Wanted—To advertise our goods by distributing free sample to consumer. 90 cents an hour. Write for full particulars. Thomas Mfg. Co., 519 North St., Dayton, O.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco," 131 Locust, St. Louis, Mo.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses, waists, skirts, direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 503 Broadway, New York City.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women, $30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free. William Ragsdale, East Orange, N.J.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Photo Pillow Tops, Portraits, Frames, Sheet Pictures, Photo Plates, Pennants, Paper Mache Frames. Rejects credited. Prompt shipments; samples & cat. free to agents. 30 days credit. Jas. C. Bailey Co., Desk S1, Chicago, Ill.

$1.95 For Men's Made-To-Order Pants —worth $5.00. Sample free. Money-making offer for agents. Write today. Chicago Tailors' Ass'n, Dept. 674, So. Franklin St., Chicago.

Steady Income assured taking orders for ladies' silk waists. No cash required. System Manufacturing Co., 800 Altoona, Pa.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

Wanted Stories, articles, poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1318 Washington, D. C.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Will Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct free—and sell on Commission. Big rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31. Auburn, N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED

Agents—Pair Silk Hose Free. State size & color. Beautiful line direct from mill. Good profits. Agents wanted. Write today. Triplewear Mills, Dept. G, 720 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

Agents—We want 150 hard workers to take orders for Buckeye Raincoats. You can easily make $75.00 a week. Wonderful raincoat for $3.95. We deliver and collect. Complete outfit free to you. The biggest fall season just starting. Join our big money-makers at once. Hurry! Buckeye Manufacturing Co., M1 Union Square, New York City.

"Washwhite" makes repeat orders and big profits. Catchy sales plan. Free Samples. Nacma, 21-M, 20 W. Lake, Chicago.

Agents: Big Hit: Our 5-Piece Aluminum Set is all the rage. Cheaper than Enamel Ware. Sells like wildfire. Guaranteed 20 Years. Retail value $5.00. You sell housewives for only $1.98. Biggest seller of the age. 9 sure sales out of every 10 shown. Others cleaning up $10.00 to $20.00 a day. Answer this quick to secure your territory. Div. E. X. 5. American Aluminum Mfg. Co. Lemont, Ill.

Reliable People Wanted to place Eggine in stores and appoint agents. Takes the place of eggs in baking and cooking at less than 9c doz. Package and particulars 10c postpaid. Morrissey Co., 4424 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Agents show our made to order guaranteed $15.00 suits real $25.00 values. No experience necessary. Wonderful selling plan. You furnish prospects we make sale. Chicago Woolen Mills, Dept. 19, Chicago.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 85c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn while you learn. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of members we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 a month. Address nearest office. Dept. 105-K—National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Salesmen Wanted—Reliable Men That can furnish team and wagon to travel in the country and sell old established line of medicines, flavorings, spices, soaps, toilets, condition powders, etc. Permanent work. Pay Big. Write today for free copy of "Opportunity." It tells how. Seminole Medicine Co., Boone, Ia., Box 228.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Start Dressmaking business in your homes. $100 month. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. E850, Rochester, N. Y.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Given To Any Woman. Beautiful 100 piece gold dec. dinner set for distributing (not selling) only 5 dozen packages. Diamond Dust Soap Powder free among friends. No money or experience needed. New Method Company, 730-738 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Ills.

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

FEMALE AGENTS WANTED

Women Make Money introducing Priscilla Fabrics, Dresses, Underwear, in spare time among personal friends. Beautiful samples furnished. Fitzcharles Co., Dept. 183, Trenton, N.J.

Earn $5.00 a day distributing Guaranteed Hosiery to customers. Mill prices. All or spare time. Protected territory. Credit. C. Weber Mills, Nicetown Station, Philadelphia, Pa.

HELP WANTED

Hundreds Clerks (men-women) wanted by Government. $90 month. List positions free. Franklin Institute, Dept. E 9 Rochester, N. Y.

MALE HELP WANTED

No Strike: 8 Hour Day. Men everywhere. Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, $130. Colored Porters, Experience unnecessary. 522 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

Wanted. Men and women to qualify for Government positions. Several thousand appointments to be made next few months. Full information about openings, how to prepare, etc., free. Write immediately for booklet CG1456. Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis, Mo.

MISCELLANEOUS FARMS FOR SALE

Money-Making Farms, 15 states, $10 an acre up; stock, tools and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue, Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3027, New York.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Free For Six Months—My special offer to introduce my magazine, "Investing for Profit." It is worth $10 a copy to any one who has not acquired sufficient money to provide necessities and comforts for self and loved ones. It shows how to become richer quickly and honestly. Investing for Profit is the only progressive financial journal and has the largest circulation in America. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200; write now and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 408, 26 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel, 232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Four books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free. R. B. Owen, 16 Owen Bldg., Wash. D. C.

MISCELLANEOUS

Wanted—Old False Teeth. Doesn't matter if broken. $1 to $12 a set. Send by parcel post. Receive check by return mail. C. Block, 717 Shukert Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 811, St. Louis.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$50.00 Nightly—In the Moving Picture Business on installment plan. No experience needed. Catalogue free. Monarch Film Service, 238 Union Ave., Dept. D, Memphis, Tenn.

$20 to $50 Nightly. Complete outfit, Machine, Film. Everything furnished on Payment Plan. Catalog free. National Moving Picture Co., Dept.-C, 537 So. Dearborn St., Chicago.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

22 Caliber Rifle Free. Guaranteed safe, reliable, accurate. Sell 24 10c pkgs. Sachet. Monitor Products, Freeland St., Worcester, Mass.

Wanted Boys to learn typewriting. Typewriter Free. Write for particulars. Tublin Distributing Co., Lock Box 300, Danville, Ill.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

PHOTO FINISHING

Kodak Films Developed. 10c. per roll, any size. Prompt attention given mail orders. Prints 2¼ x 3¼ to 3¼ x 4¼ 3c.; 4 x 5 to 3¼ x 5½, 4c. J. M. Manning, 1062 Third Ave., New York City, Box S.

Send Ten Cents and this add as payment for developing and finishing your first roll of films. Hopson, Burlington Jct., Mo.

Films developed free. High class work, perfect prints at 5 to 7c. We do the best work in the Photo City. Remit with your order and get returns same day. Bryans Drug House, Rochester, N. Y.

Developing, Printing, Enlarging.—Quality and service guaranteed at reasonable rates. Price list by request. Klever Kamera Kraft, 555 West 150th St., New York City.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

Will Pay $100.00 for Trade Dollar 1885; $7.00 for 1853 Quarter without arrows; $50.00 for certain $5.00 gold without motto. Cash premiums for rare coins to 1912. Get posted. Send 4c. Get our large Coin Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

Southern Farmers Are Prosperous and contented. Favored by nature with mild climate, long growing season and abundant rainfall, fruit, poultry, stock, trucking and general farming succeeds amazingly here. Little Farms in Shenandoah Valley colony of Little Planters, $250 and up, complete, on easy payments. Good near-by markets, excellent transportation, low freights. Full information on request. F. H. LaBaume, Agrl. Agt., N. & W. Ry., 269 N. & W. Bldg., Roanoke, Va.

Land For Everybody! In the Swigart Tract, Michigan, you can get good land for general farming, stock, dairying, poultry, fruit, vegetables, at $15 to $35 per acre. Terms $5 to $100 down, $4 to $15 monthly on 10, 20, 40, 80 acre tracts. Good towns, schools, markets, roads. Excellent transportation. Write today for big booklet free. George W. Swigart, Owner, C1245 Firt Nat'l Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

INDENTIONS

Inventions Commercialized on cash and royalty basis. Inventors and manufacturers write at once. Adam Fisher Mfg. Co., 2091 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Big Money can be made selling the Best-Phone. A new talking machine that "speaks for itself." Previous experience unnecessary. By our new selling plan the Best-Phone sells itself. Write for particulars. Chas. W. Shonk Co., 146 Seventh Street, Maywood, Ill.

The Crown Jewels of England

By C. L. Chapman

SOON after the beginning of the war the English papers announced that the crown jewels would be on exhibition on a certain day and between certain hours. This announcement caused a great deal of speculation, criticism and amusement on the part of the majority of Americans visiting in London during that first crowded period before transportation could be arranged.

We in America can hardly understand the delight, reverence almost, with which an Englishman contemplates the crown jewels—the orb, the staff, ampulla and the crowns. They not only mean royalty, but in them he sees the secret and history of the power of the greatest empire of the world, the nation on which the sun never sets. Schooled as he has been in the history of his native land, he sees the glorious occasions of the realm when these jewels were claimed, the events which their possession has marked, the state occasions the royal crown has graced. So that it is this sentiment and reverence that caused the lord chamberlain to decide to open the gates to renew at this time of war the steady flame of patriotism in every Englishman's breast.

The present crown of England is called St. Edward's crown, and its shape and form date from the earliest annals of English history. Many of the stones have been used over and over again in the various crowns for centuries and centuries, for although the form has never been changed, the weight has been made less. Long, long ago the poor English kings had to stand for nine and ten hours during the coronation with a crown upon their heads weighing almost six pounds.

Perhaps the most famous stone in the imperial crown, historically, is the famous uncut ruby, glowing bright and smooth below the famous Cullinan diamond. For this ruby armies have fought, kings have been murdered, and treaties made which have lasted to this day. Don Pedro, the cruel king of Castile, murdered the king of Granada for it, and with this king's death came an end to the romantic kingdom of Granada. And a few years later, when the adventurous black prince, son of Edward III of England and ruler of Aquitaus, was mixing in the affairs of Spain and aiding Pedro against his brother Henry, Pedro in a burst of affection gave him the thing he prized above all others, the black ruby, which the English prince wore like a blazing eye in the front of his helmet all during the battle of Najara.

Upon his return to England the jewel was finally given to his son, Richard II and later appeared in the helmet of Henry V, at the famous battle Agincourt. Its first appearance in the crown was in 1422, and it was at this time that another precious stone which is in the present crown was taken from the mace, which is a part of the coronation regalia, and added to the headpiece of the king.

This stone is the wonderful sapphire from Edward's the Confessor's ring, and was supposed way back in the tenth century to have healing properties. Edward the Confessor used to stretch out his hand with the sparkling blue sapphire on his finger over the head of the crippled and the sick and the blind and they went away cured.

Then there is an amethyst which William the Conqueror wore in his helmet for good luck, and there is the sapphire which was Charles the II's favorite, and which he wore exactly over his forehead.

The second largest Cullinan, called the Star of Africa, is also in the crown. No one has forgotten the wonderful stone which was discovered a few years ago, which was so big that nothing could be done with it, and that was finally cut into five exquisite stones, each enormous, the largest of which is in the imperial staff, the second largest in the crown, and two others in the queen's crown. This Cullinan diamond replaced the famous Kohinoor, "the Mountain of Light," which was removed to be set in the queen's crown, which is made entirely of diamonds.

The English crown has no fewer than 2,783 diamonds and 1,892 pearls in the crossed arches, and nearly a thousand lesser stones sprinkled through to give color and beauty-stones such as the ruby, the emerald and the sapphire and even less valuable ones, as a few turquoises, topazes, and opals. The jewels are mainly in the broad band which fits over the forehead, and pearls outline the arches which culminate in the cross at the top. This space is filled in with a rich dark red velvet and a band of narrow ermine softens the edge of the gold which rests on the head.

In former centuries the crown used to be the favorite way of raising money, and the royal jewels used to be in pawn most of the time. At the time of the coronation of George IV the crown was in pawn, and was hired out for the occasion at a cost of $35,000. The king wanted to buy it, but Lord Liverpool thought it an unnecessary extravagance. Finally they browbeat the poor pawnbroker down to $850,000, although the crown was then valued at $750,000, and in the celebration George IV had to march through the streets for miles wearing a five and a half pound weight on his head.

In value the crown has increased today with the addition of larger, newer stones, notably the two lesser stars of Africa and today is worth over a $1,000,000.

The whole regalia which constitutes the crown jewels is valued at $20,000,000, and consists of five modern and historic crowns, St. Edward's Staff, which is four and a half feet long and weighs ninety pounds, and is said to contain a piece of the true cross in the orb at the top; the royal scepter adorned with the largest Cullinan diamond, and four other historic scepters, the orbs of the king and queen, the coronation bracelets, the spurs, the ampulla, swords of justice, pointless sword of mercy, the spoon and salt cellar of state.

These were the heirlooms of the kingdom, which were exhibited to remind the people of their past victories, the ancient kings and their royal history, and to spur them on to deeds of patriotism.

Enjoy present pleasures in such a way as not to injure future ones.

Learn the art of saying kind and encouraging things, especially to the young.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

Told by Prof. Taft

"I know a certain little boy," says former President Taft, "who used to bite his nails. 'Look here,' said his nurse to him one day, 'if you bite your nails like that, do you know what will happen to you?'

"'No,' said the youngster, 'What?'



"'You'll swell up like a balloon and go off pop!'

"The boy believed the nurse," continues Mr. Taft, "and he stopped bitinghis nails at once. About a month after the discontinuance of the habit, he met me at luncheon. He surveyed me with stern disapproval. Then he walked over and said to me accusingly:

"'You bite your nails.'"—Louisville Herald.

In Exalted Company

One of the members of a committee of inspection on its tour of a certain penitentiary found himself in conversation with one of the convicts. The latter was disposed to be confidential and thus unburdened himself:

"It is a terrible thing to be known by a number instead of a name, and to feel that all my life I shall be an object of suspicion among the police."

"But you will not be alone, my friend," said the visitor, consolingly. "The same thing happens to people who own automobiles."

Should Go in When It Rains

"Say," said the man as he entered the clothing store, "I bought this suit here less than two weeks ago, and it is rusty-looking already."

"Well," replied the clothing dealer, "I guaranteed it to wear like iron, didn't I?"

Cocksureness Blamed

Gen. Leonard Wood was talking at the Pittsburg camp about the sin of cocksureness.

"Gen. Sherman," he said, "once got word during a battle that Roscoe, his favorite horse, had been killed by a cannon ball. So he sent for his servant and said.

"'Go skin Roscoe.'

"'Why, General,' said the man, 'is Roscoe dead?'

"The General frowned, martially.

"'Never you mind whether Roscoe is dead or not,' he said. 'You go skin him.'

"It was evening when the sergeant returned with Roscoe's skin on a push-cart.

"'Does it take you four hours to skin a horse?' asked Gen. Sherman, impatiently.

"'No, General; only one hour,' said the servant; 'but it took three hours to catch him.'"—Exchange.

Double Proof

A tramp knocked at a farmer's door and called for something to eat.

"Are you a Christian?" asked the good-hearted country man.

"Can't you tell?" answered the man. "Look at the holes worn in the knees of my pants. What do they prove?"

The farmer's wife promptly brought out the food, and the tramp turned to go.

"Well! Well! asked the farmer. "What made those holes in the back of your pants?"

"Backsliding," replied the tramp as he hurried on.—Christian Herald.

Tasty Grounds

"I often think," observed Chauncey M. Depew, at the club one day, "of the ever-ready answer which our dear departed friend Mark Twain always had at his tongue's end.

"At one time, Twain and myself were walking over the golf course watching a



friend's stroke. The friend was considerable of a duffer. Teeing off, he sent clouds of earth flying in all directions. This confused him to a considerable extent, and, turning toward us, he endeavored to draw our attention by asking:

"'Well, gentlemen, what do you think of our links here?'

"'Well,' replied Mark Twain, quickly, as he wiped the dirt from his lips with his handkerchief, I should say they were the best I ever tasted.'"

Restricted Range

Marie, supple and slender, and Aunt Clara, bulky and benign, had returned from a shopping expedition, during which each had been trying to buy a ready-made suit.

At the house Marie was asked what success each had had in her efforts to be fitted.

"I got along very well," said Marie, "but Aunt Clara is getting so fat that about all she can get ready-made is an umbrella."—N. Y. Times.

Synonymous

A polite and elderly and absent-minded man whose wife was both talkative and high-tempered, and who had just installed a hot-air furnace in his home, was accosted by a neighbor woman:



"How is the hot air, Mr. Jones?"

"She is very well, I thank you, ma'am," said Mr. Jones.—Life.

Her Own Affair

A story illustrating the reticence of the Scotch regarding their private affairs was told by Ian Maclaren. A train was at a railway station, when a porter put his head into a carriage and called out: "Any one in this carriage for Doun? Change for Doun! Any one for Doun?" No one moved; and in a few minutes the train was speeding along, not to stop again for nearly an hour. Then an old Scotch woman turned to a lady sitting near her and said, "I'm for Doun, but I'd no tell that man so!"

On a Slow Train

A Kansas man says this is one of the best ones he has heard recently:

"I was on a small western railroad. The train was a little more deliberate than usual on this occasion, and the only passenger besides myself was a woman, evidently a stranger on the line. She was becoming very nervous, fidgeting about, and every time the conductor or brakeman passed she would ask:

"'Aren't we ever going to get to W——?'

"At last the conductor grew tired of it, and replied rather snappily, 'Please have a little patience, madam. Why, I've been on this line three years——'

Before he could finish his sentence the woman exclaimed:

"'My gracious! What station did you get on at?'"

Boy Wanted

"Mr. Jones," said the boss, "I want you to put an ad. in the papers for an office boy with a hare-lip."

"With a hare-lip, sir?"

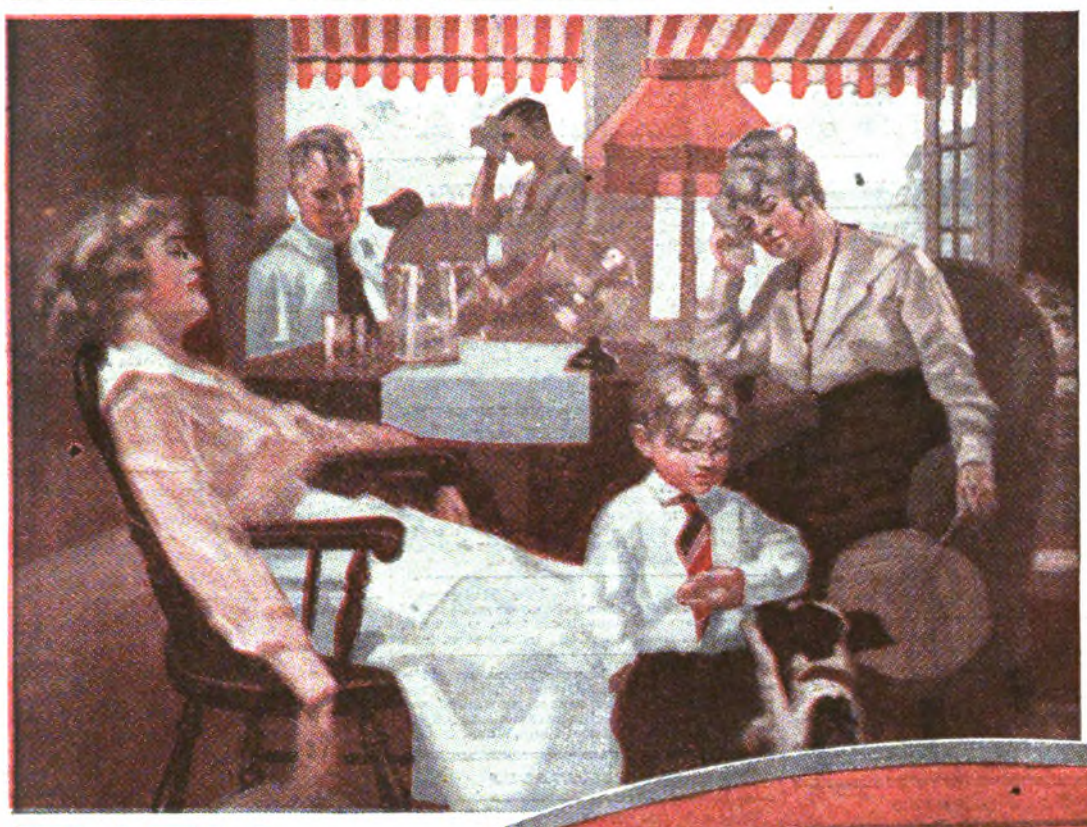
"Yes. I want one who can't whistle."

A New Swear Word

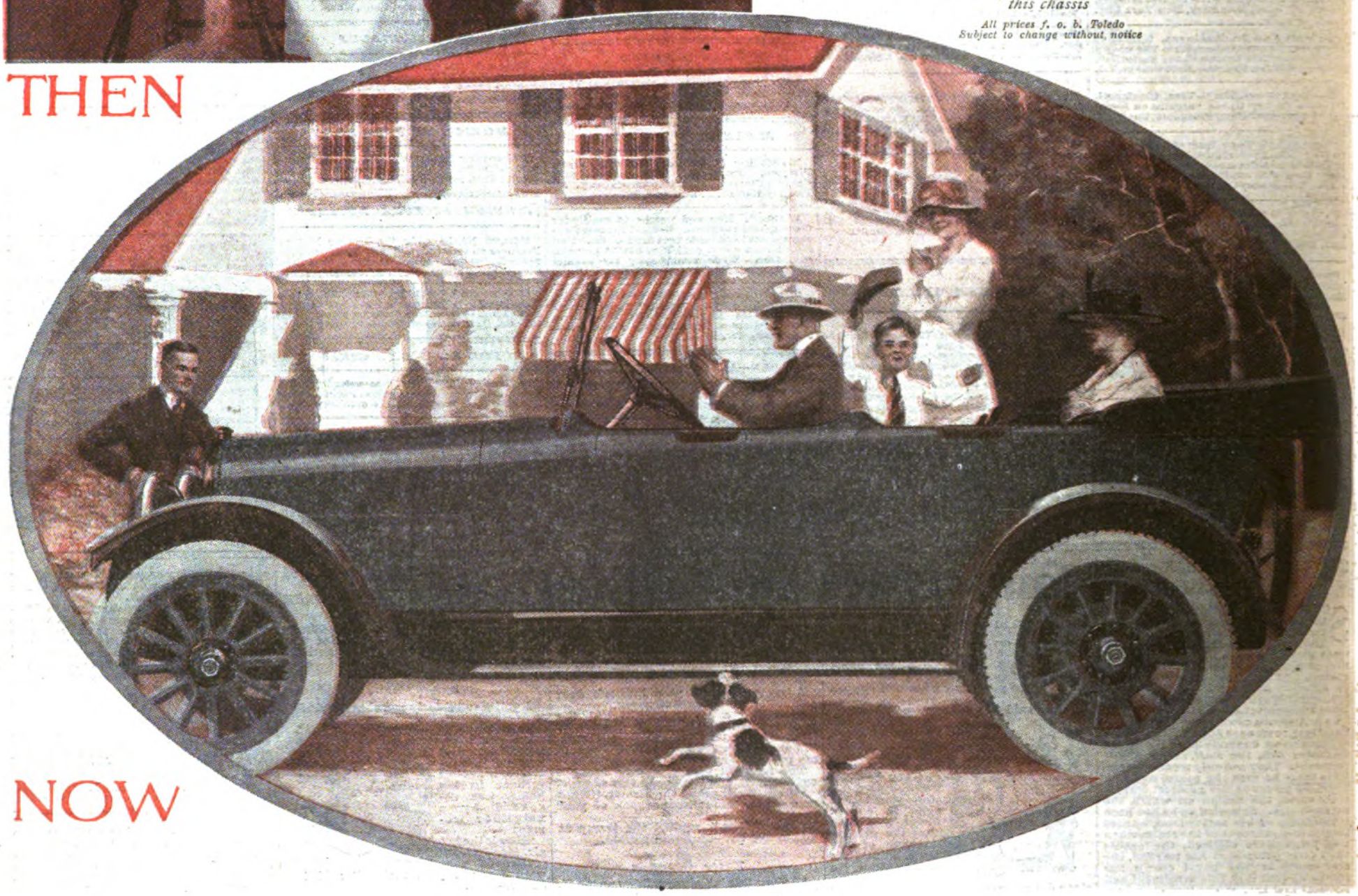
"Oh, war!" she suddenly cried.

"Why, war?" he queried.

"Well, I just turned on my ankle, and you know what war is."—Louisville Courier-Journal.



THEN



NOW

Willys SIX

L Head Type of High Power

Seven Passenger
$1295

Four Passenger
Club Six $1295

Sedan Body also furnished on this chassis

All prices f. o. b. Toledo
Subject to change without notice

Then—a hot, sultry day was something to be endured, since it could not be cured.

Now—there is a cure

The motor car has turned the "cross" days into days of comfort for the whole family.

And here is a car—the new *light weight* Willys Six — which will gladden the hearts of the six-cylinder enthusiasts—and of the discriminating who have not yet found just the car they have wanted.

This announces a scientific development in Sixes.

Heretofore the great problem most manufacturers had to contend with was the all important factor of *proper and perfect balance.*

Either the car was too heavy and consequently underpowered, or else too light, and as a result overpowered.

In both cases this meant poor performance, costly upkeep and a short life.

So it is with considerable gratification that we announce what we believe to be one of the most scientifically balanced, popular priced Sixes on the market.

In a word, this means better performance, lower upkeep and longer life.

The motor is 45 horsepower. It is a wonder for work; quick as a flash on the getaway; speedy; surprisingly economical, and develops excess power for all purposes.

Scientific designing has done *more.*

For now, by scientific designing, in the light of our great experience in building sixes, we have produced a *lighter* car without sacrificing sturdiness.

Reduced weight means additional gasoline economy, greater tire mileage and an easier car to handle.

The body design also is new. Long, sweeping, graceful lines distinguish it as one of the year's advanced models. It's a perfect beauty.

Your wife will fall in love with it on sight. Don't let her see it until you have made up your mind to buy. For after one look she'll give you no peace until you do buy.

The Willys Six is *the* Six for you.

It has greater power; lighter weight; is unusually roomy, very economical and extremely handsome.

You'll be surprised at its wonderful performance, but its price will be even a greater surprise.

$1295—complete!

See the Willys-Overland dealer now for early delivery.

Catalogue on request. Please address Dept. 1116.

Willys-Overland Inc., Toledo, Ohio

Willys-Knight and Overland Motor Cars

SEPTEMBER

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

VOL. XXIX 1917 No. 11



Published at Augusta Maine

The Home Outfitting Number

(See Descriptions in Fashion Article on page 16.)

Copyright 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 10.

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

Alien Residents of the United States Should Be Required to Bear their Share of the War Burdens

WHY should the foreigners who have emigrated from their native lands to find better homes in America be exempt from the draft and privileged to stay at home and take the jobs vacated by our citizens that have been drafted to fight in defense of American institutions and American homes? That is the question which the fathers, mothers, sisters, wives and sweethearts of our conscripted soldier boys and the soldier boys themselves are asking, and they are resentful of the glaring injustice of this discrimination in favor of the large foreign element of our population.

Nearly ten million young men have been registered as subject to draft for military service under the so-called selective draft or conscription act adopted by Congress as the means of raising the great national army required for the present war. As this law requires every man between 21 and 31 years of age in the entire country, except those already enlisted in the army, navy or militia, to register, this registration includes a large number of unnaturalized foreign-born residents of the United States estimated at about one million. The country has been divided into small registration districts and each man registered therein has been assigned a number and all the numbers have been drawn by lot in the War Department at Washington. It is proposed to raise an army of at least a million men within a year, not all at once but as fast as they can be equipped and drilled. In response to each call for recruits every district must furnish its quota apportioned according to population, and the men will be called for service in the same order in which their respective numbers were drawn.

But not all who are called will have to go, for there are several causes for exemption, the most obvious of which is disqualifying physical deficiency. Besides certain Federal and State officials those employed in munition factories and in other trades and occupations essential to the successful prosecution of war will be exempt. It is also intended, as a matter of sound public policy, not to take those who have a wife, child or other near relative dependent on them for support, unless compelled to do so because of lack of material. Thus far all is fair and the exemptions are right and proper.

But there is a general and, as it seems to us, justifiable complaint and dissatisfaction because of the exemption of all unnaturalized foreign-born residents. Although included, to the number of about one million, in the registration and draft, when their numbers are called they will be excused from service and in every such case a citizen lower down the list will have to go in place of the alien slacker. That is as it must be under the terms of the present conscription act which works a great hardship, especially in those sections wherein the foreign-born constitute a large portion of the community. In many manufacturing districts the population consists largely of aliens and in some the foreign-born actually predominate.

The greater part of these exempted alien residents came from and still are citizens or subjects of countries that are at war with Germany, and if they had not emigrated they would have been drafted into the armies of their native countries which are our allies in this war. These are shirking a double obligation, for they owe military service to the land of their birth, to which they still claim allegiance, and are bound in honor and in duty, if not in law, to rally to the defense of the land in which they have sought asylum.

To remedy this injustice and force these recreants to serve the cause for which the country of their birth and the country of their home are fighting in the interest of humanity, Senator Chamberlain has introduced a bill requiring that they immediately apply for their first naturalization papers or be deported to their native land. If they apply for first citizenship papers here they will lose their alien exemption from our draft and will stand on the same footing as our citizens in regard to military service for Uncle Sam, and if they are deported for refusal the government of their native country, on their arrival, will surely send them to the front to fight the common enemy.

Fourteen millions of our population are foreign born and they are a menace to the country if they will not accept the obligations attendant on citizenship. Many of them have been naturalized, but far too many have not been and prefer to remain aliens with us but not of us. We want no immigrants who do not intend to become citizens as soon as possible. The Chamberlain bill would give them their choice of filing their intentions of citizenship or getting out of the country. It is a reasonable, fair and proper measure for the welfare of the country at all times, but in the present crisis the necessity for it is imperative and it should be adopted at once.

Congressman Fitzgerald, of Massachusetts in a recent interview said: "If married men with children are taken (under the draft) and thousands of aliens who are single are exempted there will be riots and troubles everywhere. Congress alone can decide whether these aliens shall escape service. Meanwhile the Chamberlain resolution is held up in the Senate and unless public opinion is crystallized with sufficient force to push Congress into early action, the first draft will have been completed with aliens exempted."

Government Will Control Food and Other Necessaries

ONE of the most vitally important war measures was the bill to establish government control of food and other necessaries of life and munitions of war, but not until August 8th, four months after the declaration of war, did Congress cease wrangling over details and consent to sanction it as the law of the land. The people had become righteously impatient and indignant at the unwarranted delay of our lawmakers, for meanwhile the interests that control the food, coal and oil products had improved the opportunity to pile up hundreds of millions of excess profits through extortionate prices.

By this food control legislation the President is now invested with almost unlimited power over the production, conservation, sale and distribution of foods, feeds, fuel, fuel oils, natural gas, fertilizer and its constituent ingredients, even to the seizure and government operation of mines, factories, milling and storage plants, in fact all manner of equipment requisite to the production of necessaries and munitions. The President is authorized to appoint a Food Administrator through whose agency much of this dictatorial power over foods and other necessaries will be executed, and it is no secret that Herbert C. Hoover is Mr. Wilson's choice for this new office of unprecedented power and responsibility.

The Food Control Law, in the interest of food conservation, prohibits the manufacture and importation of distilled liquors for beverage purposes during the war and authorizes the President to suspend or limit the manufacture of malt liquors and wines, and to take over any and all distilled liquors in bond when necessary for military or other public defense purposes. Power is given to regulate the price of coal and coke, and as inducement to the farmers to raise as much wheat as possible the government guarantees a minimum price of not less than two dollars per bushel for next year's wheat crop.

We think that Congress should have guaranteed minimum prices for all the other cereals and for beans and other important non-perishable farm products as well as for wheat. They are equally indispensable and their production should be encouraged by government guaranty of prices that will insure the producers a fair margin of profit regardless of over-production. Otherwise the farmers can not be blamed if they refuse to hazard unprofitably low prices resulting from large production and accordingly plant sparingly The outcome might be such short crops and high prices as would be distressing or even calamitous. This partiality in favor of wheat is contrary to the policy which we have urged, and it seems unfair as well as short-sighted.

Our government is urging the American people to curtail their consumption of wheat flour to the lowest possible limit by substituting corn, oats and other cereals in order to conserve a larger surplus of wheat to feed the armies of our allies and the people of France and England who, as it is claimed, demand white bread and will eat no other kind, though it would be better for them if they would vary their diet with a liberal admixture of other cereals and dried peas and beans, and surely it will not hurt us to do so. Peas and beans are more nourishing than any grain and, because of their large nitrogen content, take the place of meat as a muscle builder As the wheat producing area is limited it seems equally essential to encourage larger production of these substitutes.

U. S. Senate Votes in Favor of Prohibition Amendment

THE temperance people are much encouraged by the apparent sentiment of the present Congress in favor of nation-wide prohibition as manifested on two recent occasions. On the first of August the Senate, by a vote of 65 to 20, adopted the resolution submitting to the States for ratification the proposed constitutional amendment prohibiting the manufacture, sale and transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes within, and the importation thereof into and the exportation from the United States and all places subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. The resolution received more votes than its friends expected, eight more than the two-thirds majority required to give it a passage.

The resolution has gone to the House where it is confidently expected to pass by a still larger majority. After which its fate will depend on the action of the State legislatures. If approved within six years by a majority vote of the legislatures of three-fourths of the States it will become a part of the Constitution of the United States and as such the supreme law throughout all Uncle Sam's vast dominions. It then becomes the duty of Congress to provide the proper means for its enforcement.

Meanwhile, as previously stated, we now have nation-wide prohibition of the manufacture and importation of distilled liquors by the terms of the Food Control Law which also gives the President power to limit or suspend the manufacture of malt liquors and wines during the war. The indications are that President Wilson is inclined not to exercise this discretionary power, but he might change his mind on receiving letters and petitions from those who are in favor of closing the breweries and wineries during the war. As it seems morally certain that the prohibitory amendment will pass the House and go to the State legislatures, it is high time for the friends of temperance to get after the members of the legislatures of their respective States and see that they vote right on this momentous question. The liquor interests undoubtedly will have an influential lobby at work in their behalf and unless the people wake up and exert their influence on the members to promote this great cause it is likely to be lost. Now is the favorable opportunity and the prospect of attaining nation-wide prohibition never before was so good. Don't neglect it. Get in your work at once and keep on working until the victory is won.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. *We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.* If you do not get your magazine by the 25th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we *must* have your *former* address, as well as your *new* address to make the change. Be sure to send *both*. We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second-class mail matter. Copyright, 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

Overland

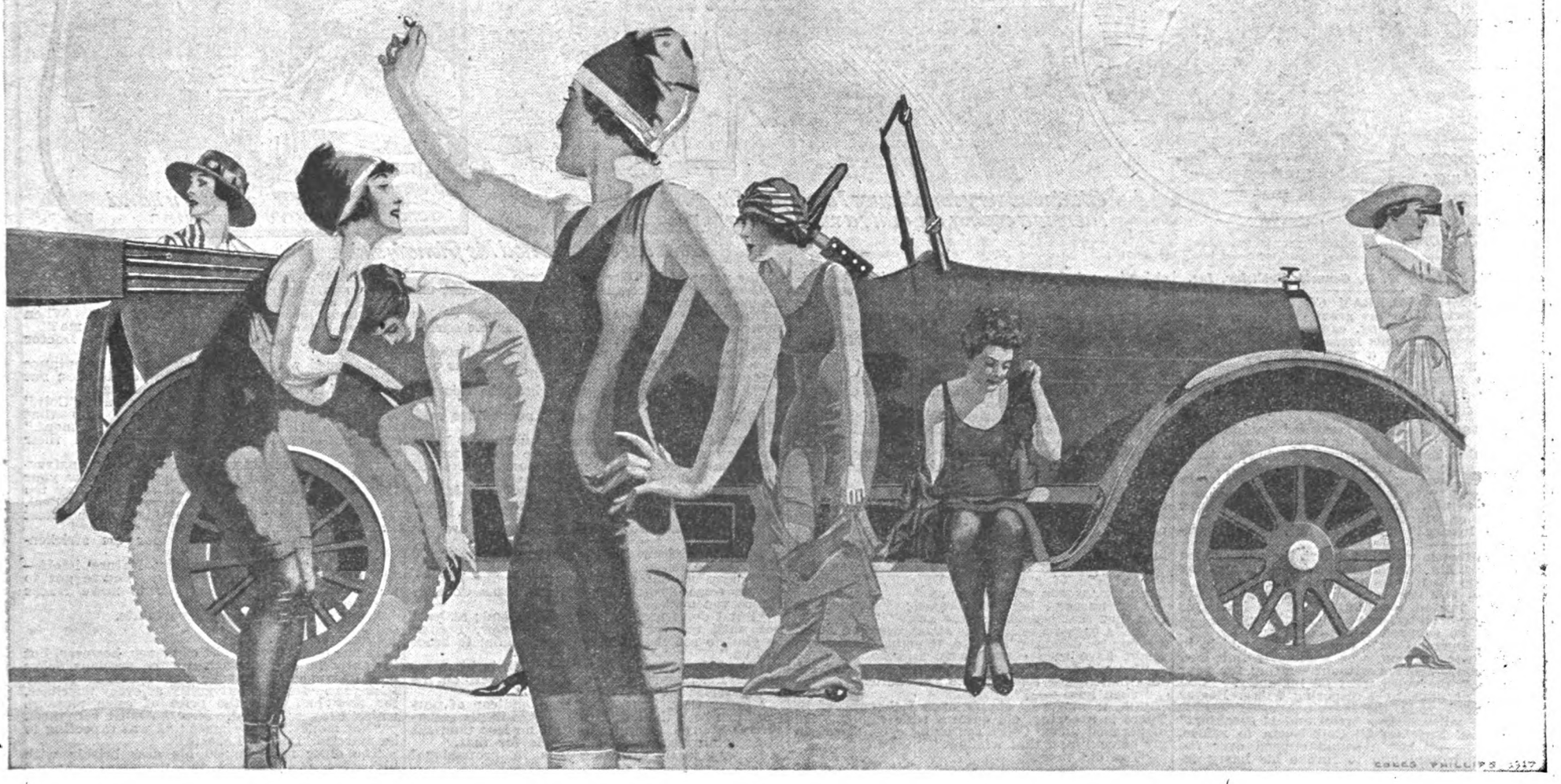
TRADE MARK REG.

Model Eighty-Five Four

$895

f. o. b. Toledo

Subject to change without notice



Do your bit—but keep fit—
The car of the hour

The times demand alertness—energy—efficiency.

The call for extra effort has been heard and answered by men, women and even children.

Do "your bit"—but keep fit.

If you work harder—play harder too.

Have an automobile.

It will enable the whole family to do more each day with less fatigue.

With it you can speed up your work—gain time for play—and reach your playground quickly—without fatigue.

Have efficient equipment for efficient living—get an Overland Model Eighty-Five Four.

This is the famous 35 horsepower Overland.

Among cars of such comfortable size it has been the leading favorite for years.

And it is the car of the hour.

The new body this season makes it far more beautiful than ever before and with its new cantilever rear springs is far easier riding.

And we have made it a bigger, roomier car.

No one now has money to waste.

With tremendous resources, unequaled facilities and larger output than any other producer of an economical four-cylinder car of such comfortable size—

We effect greater economies and therefore give more for the money in this car than can be had in any other similar car.

No one now has energy to waste.

This Overland is small enough to be economical to operate, yet it is big enough not to cramp you, and so easy riding that it will not tire you.

It represents the maximum of economy possible without sacrifice of comfort—true economy—true efficiency.

In this 35 horsepower Overland there is not one hint of experiment—not one hint of extravagance—not one hint of false economy.

It is the car of the hour.

Run over the specifications of this car—compare it with others and you will find more car in size, in comfort, in power, in convenience, in beauty, than $895 will buy in any other car.

Go to the Overland dealer and get your Model Eighty-Five Four today—the car of the hour—efficient equipment for efficient living.

Five passenger capacity — 112-*inch wheelbase* — 35 *horsepower motor* — *Cantilever rear spring* — *Auto-Lite starting and lighting*

Catalogue on request address Dept. 1164

Willys-Overland Inc., Toledo, Ohio

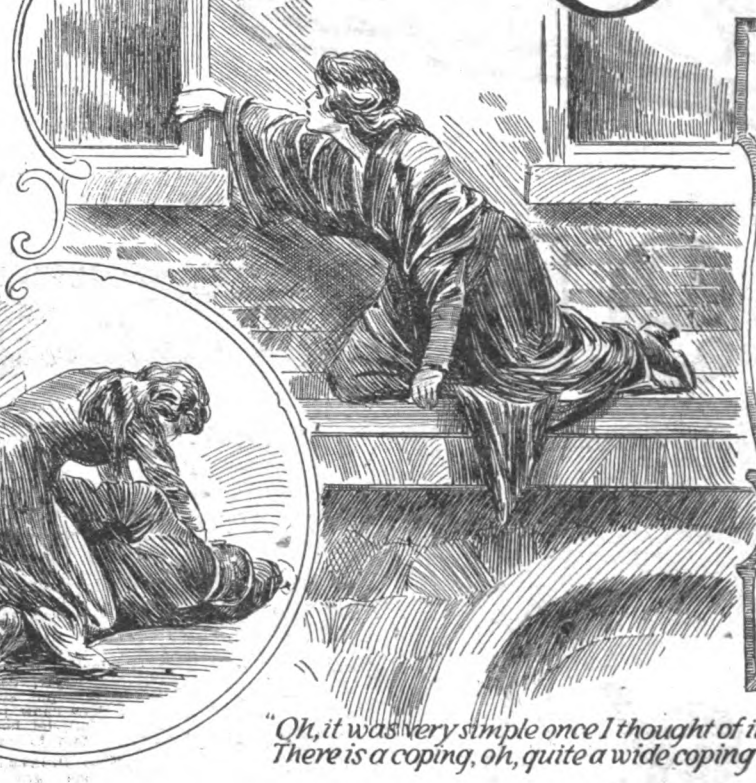
Willys-Knight and Overland Motor Cars and Light Commercial Cars

Once to Every Man

by Maud Mary Brown



On her knees beside it was a woman who did not glance up at his approach.



"Oh, it was very simple once I thought of it. There is a coping, oh, quite a wide coping"



Diana withdrew her hand but she returned his friendly smile.



He placed a disciplinary hand across his heavy purple lips.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

DOCTOR MURRAY COIT sat huddled forward in his great chair, elbows on knees, the long, capable fingers of his sagging hands loosely interlocked.

Removing a pipe from between his strong teeth, Coit's eyes wandered about the room from the cheerful fire on the hearth to the glint of tile and porcelain and nickel of his private bath, partially disclosed through a half-open door.

"Six months ago," he remarked to his pipe, "if a man had told me that today I could command all this without first having robbed a trust fund, I'd have called him an infernal liar."

However, judging from the frown between Coit's steady eyes and the discontented lines about his mouth, his altered circumstances gave him scant satisfaction.

"Curse luxury!" he ripped out. "Curse women! Curse——!"

His anathema was cut short by the sudden shrilling of his telephone and without pausing to speculate as to who might be calling him, a stranger in this neck of the northern New York woods, he yanked the receiver off its hook, his eyes already brightening at the battle cry.

"Well?" he snapped professionally.

"Is this Doctor Coit?" came a voice which, in spite of some emotion, was singularly flute-like.

"They connected me without waiting for your permission," the voice went on instantly. "Can you come at once to Whispering Pines, Doctor Coit? I need you; there isn't another doctor within five miles. Mrs. Strickland is speaking."

"But Mrs. Strickland," Coit began to refuse. "I am not——" but a sound slipped over the wire which caused him to revoke his hasty decision.

"I'll come instantly," he promised, and in another moment he was struggling into his great coat, for the late October night had turned cold.

"I guess there's the devil to pay at Strickland's place," the night clerk of the Pierrepont offered as Coit paused at the desk. "The madam made me connect you without waiting for formalities. I hope you don't——"

"I want to requisition a car," the doctor broke in.

"Well, I've a flivver outside," replied the clerk half-sulkily, and before he had quite finished his sentence, Doctor Coit was disappearing through the door.

"Plumb mad!" reflected the clerk; "or else, like I said, there's the devil to pay at Whispering Pines. If he smashes my toy, he'll have to make it good." And he went back to his illustrated paper.

Doctor Coit knew where Whispering Pines was. Only that afternoon he had passed the mossy stone columns that guarded the entrance to the spacious grounds.

During the forty-eight hours of what he termed his incarceration, the doctor had mingled very little with the guests still lingering at the Pierrepont, but he had overheard a little foyer gossip, a few unguarded hints about Strickland.

He was rich and debased and invalided—so much he had gathered—and Coit felt the provocative prick of adventure as he tooled over the smooth road with the clammy, mist-laden wind from the lake strong in his face.

The house loomed up grim and forbidding as he approached it. A solitary light glowed below, but otherwise the front of the house was in darkness.

He sprang out of the car and, bounding up the steps, he entered without pausing to ring and, guided by intermittent, inarticulate sounds, he dashed up the stairs.

The sudden rush of light as he entered a room blinded his eyes for a moment, but he discerned on the floor a huddled, formless mass, and on her knees beside it was a woman who did not glance up at his approach.

"I heard the car; I am so glad you came." It was the same musical voice that he had heard over the wire, but now it was rather breathless.

"Let me do that," Doctor Coit fell to his knees beside Mrs. Strickland who was ineffectually trying to loose the collar about the swelling neck of the man on the floor.

She made way for the doctor. "I am so glad you came," she repeated, drawing in her breath sharply.

"Why, of course I came," Coit returned cheerfully.

"I could not unfasten his collar." She picked up a tiny pair of scissors from the floor. "I was afraid to use these," she added wearily.

Coit was busy easing the clothing from the gross and writhing body of Strickland; presently the woman, on the floor beside him still, dried with her delicate handkerchief the red-flecked foam from the swollen, slavering lips.

Once or of the long braids of her heavy hair fell over her shoulder, interfering with the work of Coit's hands and he gently replaced it. Once, during a violent convulsion, Strickland's clutching hands tore at the peignoir which she had slipped on over her night robe, and Coit, loosening their hold, had a glimpse of a dazzling shoulder and bosom.

But these things made no impression on his objective mind. He was too busy with the agitated, tortured body of the man whose staring, reddened eyes were set in a too-fat face, whose breath came laboriously and with fearful sounds.

"There must be nitrite of amyl. Look, please. And then I think you would better go. This is no place for you."

After groping in the medicine closet of the adjoining bath, Mrs. Strickland brought Coit a vial.

"I am going to stay," she said with decision. "I may be of use later."

In a few minutes Strickland's convulsions became less violent and the two managed to get his bulky form on his bed.

"How does it happen," Coit began then, "that you are here alone with a man accustomed to attacks like that?"

"Why, it hasn't happened before for a long time," she explained simply. "You see, I gave the servants permission to go to a dance at the pavilion across the lake and after they had left my husband's attendant became disaffected and left."

Coit's muscles tensed and his voice was like the whistle of a blade as he said, "I should like a few words with that man."

"My husband became enraged; I suppose it was that that brought on the attack."

Coit's eyes traveled to a stand whereon stood an empty decanter and he thought that there might have been contributory reasons.

"I could not get to him at once," she went on. "He had locked himself into this suite."

"Then how——?"

"Oh, it was very simple once I thought of it. There is a coping, oh, quite a wide coping," she disparaged under Coit's searching eyes, "between my balcony and that window."

"You did that!"

"Why, it was nothing, Doctor Coit. As a child I could cling to a wall like a fly."

She attempted a smile but weariness filched it and forced her lips to quiver instead. She shivered slightly and, flushing, she drew her peignoir closer about her shoulders.

"You positively must go to your room and rest now," Coit decreed. "See, your husband is quite quiet. I shall stay the rest of the night."

"You are very kind but I think I can manage alone now."

"Run along, please, Mrs. Strickland. And remember that you are not to be left like this again, ever. If you will tell me where to find it, I will get you a glass of sherry before you go. It will brace you no end."

She shook her head. "Thank you, though, for thinking of it. If you should need me, will you ring this bell? I repeat that you are very, very kind. I know that you did not wish to come here—that you did it to help a woman in need and—I thank you."

Impulsively she stretched out her hand and Coit, standing by the open door, held it for an instant in his hearty grasp.

For more than two hours Coit did not leave Strickland's room. He had succeeded in getting him into pajamas and beneath the covers where he lay, breathing heavily. To Coit's trained eye it was not difficult to see that debauchery had brought him to this.

Several times he went to the open window and drew aside the bellying curtain while he peered at the narrow ledge along which Mrs. Strickland had taken her dangerous way.

He remembered lifting the braid of her dark hair, recalled the heaviness of it, and he felt a tingle along his arm like a mild electric shock. He remembered the grasp of her firm hand—remembered her on her knees, drying her husband's repulsive mouth. That recollection was abhorrent.

He went back to the bed and stood looking down at the unconscious man. "You low-lived hedonist!" he cried sharply.

"Tomorrow," he added, turning away, "I mean to make it my business to see if there isn't some one who should be standing by, and if there isn't, so help me Jehovah, I will!"

He went out into the hall which bisected the great house above stairs and almost stumbled over Diana Strickland before he saw her.

She was curled up in a deep chair, asleep, her brown hair wound about her head, coronet fashion, her vivid lips drooped slightly at the corners, like a child's when it has been wantonly hurt.

One white arm hung inert, and where the lace of her robe fell away, Coit saw the disfiguring, purpling marks of brutish fingers.

He remembered Strickland having clutched her in one of his spasmodic furies. The surge of anger at the sight of the marks surprised him.

While they had been busy together the doctor had mentally charted Diana as in her early thirties, pretty, plucky. He revised that chart now. She could not be, he felt certain, more than twenty-five; she was beautiful beyond any woman he had ever seen and her pluck had taken on the aspect of heroism.

He thought of another woman who had scurried from him like a scared rabbit to its warren at the mere hint of physical danger, and his lips curled. It was almost the last thought he vouchsafed that woman.

Coit thought that the woman in the deep chair looked too virginal to be the wife of the beast on the other side of the door and without knowing that her name was Diana, he called her by the name of her Greek prototype.

"Artemis!" he breathed softly. "A goddess, untouched by love."

Either his voice or the steadfastness of his gaze warned Diana of his presence for she stirred and opened her dark-fringed gray eyes.

Their glances met and locked and between them was generated that sweetly mysterious current of sex.

"Didn't I tell you to go to bed? Is this the way you obey orders?"

"I could not, Doctor Coit; it seemed too selfish."

"That is absolute nonsense, you know. What are doctors for?" He held up one of her tremulous hands. "See? You are unstrung, and small wonder. Bed is the place for you."

He smiled down at her, her hand still in his.

"You need not be afraid of my going to pieces on your hands."

"That doesn't worry me at all; you are not that kind."

Diana withdrew her hand but she returned his friendly smile.

"I have set out a bit of lunch in the library. Please come down and drink a glass of wine before you go."

"But I don't propose to go, my friend; at least not until the servants come. However, I shall be glad to see that you have something to brace you up."

It was dawn before Coit was again in his room at the Pierrepont, and throwing himself on his bed, he slept far into the morning.

Murray Coit, in spite of the handicap of poverty, had been the idol of his college in his undergraduate days. His personality no less than his athletic prowess was accountable for that.

It was later when he was in professional school, that he met pretty, bird-like Frances Fuller, and notwithstanding the fretful opposition of a mother harassed from meeting the outrageous bills of an extravagant daughter, they became engaged.

The engagement transformed Coit, already a tireless worker, into a veritable dynamo of energy, and to gain a year he doubled his work. He had visions of opening an office in New York directly after receiving his degree, depending for a clientele upon the friends of his undergraduate days, but reflection showed him that, however loyal they might be, they would not relish risking their lives or those of their families to his inexperienced hands.

And so, although Frances pouted and widened the circle about her to admit a rich and rather decadent youth to play against him, Coit, when autumn came, availed himself of an opportunity to enter one of the big hospitals as interne.

That was not a pleasant year for Murray Coit, His work, to be sure, was absorbingly fascinating, but Frances' attitude was disquieting and her mother was becoming openly impatient to be rid of her.

Even at the end of the year Coit saw no prospect of immediately being able to support a wife like Frances, and the fact caused him many a sleepless night. Besides, he was tired—unutterably tired. He attributed that to the furnace-like heat of the summer through which the city had just passed.

It was near the middle of October when Coit suddenly was called upon to assist the city's most distinguished laparotomist. In the ordinary course of events this never would have occurred, but the house surgeon had been called out of town and Coit was shoved into his place by the fussy little busybody, Chance.

It was a long and serious operation and Coit, cool and level-headed, cannily interpreted Doctor Roberts' mental processes, anticipated his wishes almost before he was conscious of them himself.

The gray-haired surgeon seemed not to notice the younger man, but when they were getting out of their enveloping white garments after it was over, he turned abruptly to Coit.

"Come to my office tomorrow at three," he said.

That was all, but when he was alone, Coit lost no time in getting Frances on the wire.

"I may have good news for you tomorrow, girl," he said.

"Well," came crisply from Frances, "if you ask me, it is about time. What is it?"

"Nothing," Coit shortly returned.

"Well, don't come up tonight. Sidney King is taking me out. If there is any good news tomorrow and you are over sulking, for goodness' sake, let me know."

Having shifted her ill-temper to Coit's shoulders, she rang off and made ready to spend the evening with young King.

Coit was at Doctor Roberts' office promptly at three on the following day.

"Doctor Coit?" a pleasant-faced nurse asked with a ready smile; "Doctor Roberts is expecting you. This way, please."

Doctor Roberts wasted no time. "Coit," he began, "for five years I have been looking for a young man to take in with me and eventually to succeed me. I watched you yesterday. I liked the architecture of your jaw; I liked your strong, slender, sensitive fingers. Later, I liked the way they coordinated with your brain."

He was giving the younger man no opportunity to speak and it gave him a sense of awkward immaturity. Also, his throat was swelling curiously, and that ghastly shroud of weariness was settling upon him.

"I have looked up your record today. When can you make arrangements to come to me?"

"When my present contract expires, Doctor Roberts."

It seemed a stupid and inadequate acceptance of a proposition so fraught with possibilities; but it seemed to be all that he could manage.

The older man gave him a keen glance. "Coit," he boomed, "you are not fit. Go into that room and strip. I will join you in a moment."

A half-hour later they were back in their chairs.

"Now, no worrying, Coit; just follow instructions and there will be no danger. I know your type, man; you work too hard and you play too hard. You haven't given nature a square deal. Your lungs are weakened, nothing more. Rest will restore you; the lack of it * * * *"

He felt an odd sympathy for the stricken-faced man before him.

"The profession—I may say Nature itself—has no place for the weakling. You've got to get strong, Coit. I want you to make tracks upstate to a place I know."

"But," Coit began to expostulate.

"Money?"

"Not that."

It has been the thought of money, however, but instantly he had remembered the precious books and instruments that he had managed to buy that year. He had felt guilty at every purchase, for they had been the price of some pleasure which Frances craved. Now he must sell them.

"Not money," he resumed; "I was expecting to be married, Doctor Roberts."

The older man tapped his desk briskly with his *pince nez*. "Lovely and perpetual woman," he grumbled. "Well, if she's the right sort, Coit, she will wait; if she isn't, you would do well to thank God to be rid of her at this stage in your career. A doctor's wife, with her pettiness, can tear down all the skill that the Lord and hard labor have given him. I will have a contract ready for your signature tomorrow. You see, I mean to make sure of you before you go. Stop in the other office and ask Miss Ward for folders concerning the Pierrepont. Get out of the city as soon as possible. You are to play for a year. Come back tomorrow at this hour. Good afternoon."

Once in the street, Coit walked aimlessly for many blocks. Later, he went up to Frances.

"For a vender of good news, you don't look over cheerful," was her comment.

When Coit told her she shrank from him, affrightened. "Oh, Murray! You know how I hate the thought of disease. Mother says I am totally unfit for a doctor's wife. Perhaps she is right."

"I understand, Frances; I came up to release you."

"I'm sorry," she whimpered, "but I expect I'd better accept the release."

Like a sleep-walker, Coit went back to the hospital. Not even a letter which he found from a solicitor, requesting him to call the next day, was a sufficient stimulant to his interest.

However, he went to see the lawyer on the following day. He learned through him that his Uncle Timothy, the odd, churlish member of his family, had died in Montana after having had no intercourse with his family for years, and had left him his money.

"We haven't the full particulars at this time," the solicitor told Coit ponderously, "but we feel justified in allowing you to draw on us for twenty-five thousand dollars."

It was too much for Coit, and he went into the street murmuring: "Poor, mythical Uncle Tim!"

His first coherent thought was that it would now be unnecessary to sell his instruments. Later he thought of Frances. With a twisted smile he wondered if money would not be a sufficient disinfectant for the germs she feared. He decided not to communicate with her.

In his room at the Pierrepont, he had been going over, one by one, all of the incidents of the past dizzy month when Diana Strickland's call to arms roused him from his revery.

* * * * * * * * * *

Refreshed from his sleep and a shower bath, Coit dressed, and having lunched, he made his way once more to Whispering Pines.

Strickland's servant had succeeded in making him presentable and his huge bulk was settled in a chair by the fire in his room. In spite of eyes dwarfed by encircling cushions of flesh, pendulous jowls, and a mouth indexing dissipation, Strickland nevertheless managed to look the thoroughbred.

There was an elusive expression, a gleam of the eye, a suggestion of charm, that led Coit back by a long route to the man Strickland must have been before indulgence had sent him headlong to destruction.

"How do you do, Doctor Coit," greeted Strickland, advancing a fat hand. "Mrs. Strickland tells me that you miraculously came to her assistance last night."

"There was no miracle about it, Strickland, and I was very glad to be of service."

Strickland nodded. "We'll let it pass at that, if you like. I am not often unattended but my

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)



This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

TWO letters this month bring us face to face with a national problem and once more, "lest we forget," our attention is called to the need of supplies for our soldier and sailor boys. Even if we cannot knit, the majority of us are blessed with ordinary human intelligence so we can easily learn and we will never regret the time given to the knitting of sweaters, socks, etc., when we realize that perhaps that very sweater or pair of socks will protect our boy, or brother, from the cold. And the very fact that we are at home working, watching and praying for him will make him a better soldier and take away from the loneliness of the days and nights away from home. Utilize every moment, have your knitting, or other form of work, at hand ready to pick up during odd moments and the result will be favorably surprising. The loss of half an hour's sleep in the morning isn't so very much of a sacrifice to make, is it, when they are doing so much for us?

Consult with your nearest Red Cross office for definite information as to their needs and follow their instructions.

Instead of an idle social afternoon when you have callers, set them to work on comfort bags for the soldiers, or making pillows of cretonne, to be used in hospitals. They will enjoy their call quite as much and depart in a happier frame of mind than when they arrived, for it is only by helping others do we make ourselves happy. Let's all do our share.—Ed.

WEST VIRGINIA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I like COMFORT but I cannot agree with Country Jake about country life. I live in a mining town in W. Va., and my John is a dear, good, patient locomotive engineer. He was raised on a farm until he was seventeen, as he was left an orphan at the age of six years.

Here is some of your farmer kindness. He was made to work from four o'clock in the morning till eight at night and to this day he has the scars on his feet where he froze them, working without enough clothes to keep warm, in order to bring in the dollar for the farmer. He never saw anything but hard work till he was seventeen years of age. Then some of his city cousins came to see him and he wanted a horse to take them to see other friends, but no, the horse had worked too hard the day before and he couldn't have it. He then decided to leave the farm and come to the city and work at public works. He even had to borrow money enough for working clothes. Think of it, and he was seventeen years old. The country people then saw their mistake and wanted him to come back and stay till he was twenty-one. Then they would give him a horse and saddle. What a bargain!

Here is some more farmer kindness. Last winter a farmer girl of about fifteen years of age, came to my house. She is not very bright. Her farmer brother gave her a pair of his wornout shoes and she had to walk fourteen miles in these. I took her in and gave her a pair of shoes and stockings. Just because she is not bright enough to work and bring in the dollar they have no time for her.

I lived on a farm for three years when small but have visited there many times since and I find the farmers have their faults as well as city folks. I will mention a few out of many.

Did you, Mrs. Country Jake, ever stop to think that one half our boys and girls that go to the bad are overworked farmer children? They leave and come to the city where, without parents to guide them, they go wrong. Do you know too, that a number of our drunkards start at the old hard cider barrel and wine jug at the farm? The farmers' subject is mostly the dollar. They never think of their children's pleasure but only how the child can make a dollar.

Did you ever stop to think that the farmers help to make the city people poor. When our parents and grandparents lived on farms with nothing more than a plow and hoe to work with, they could sell eggs at twenty cents a dozen, butter twenty cents a pound and potatoes at fifty cents a bushel. Look what the farmers charge now when they can do as much in one day as their grandparents could do in a week. The working man has to get along with his days' wages the same as ever.

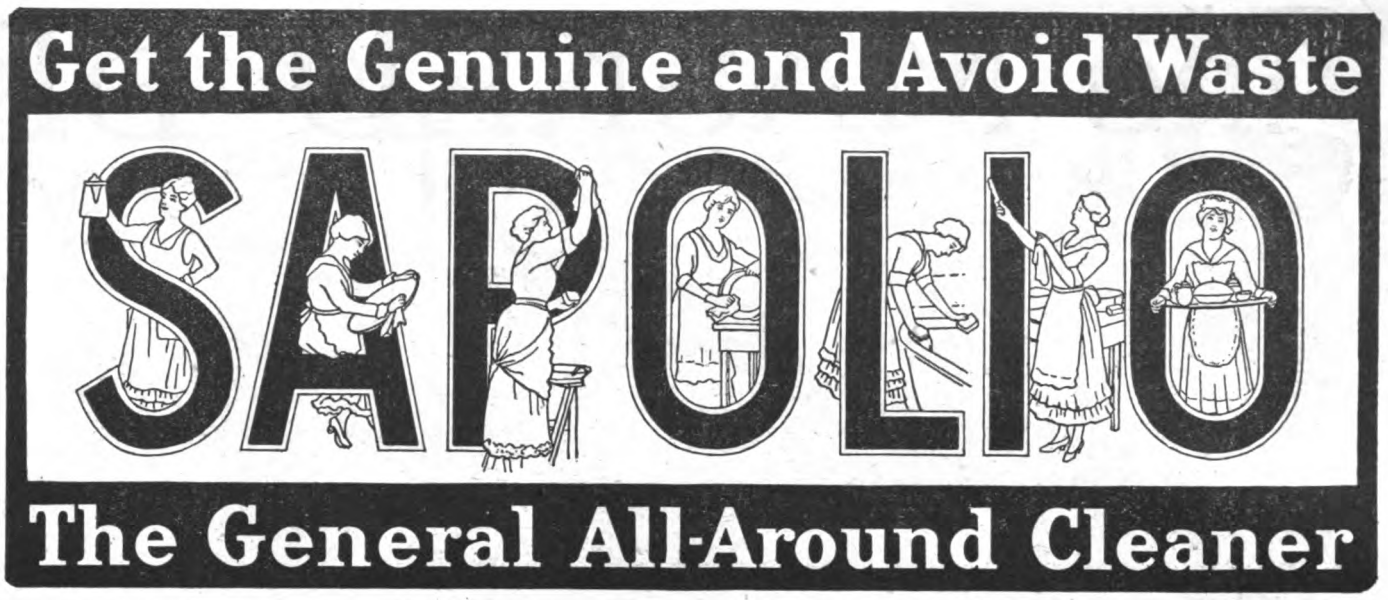
I do not know about Georgie's city friends but wait, Mrs. Country Jake, till I tell you about mine. I was married when eighteen and a year later was in a Philadelphia hospital for six weeks, a perfect stranger, but if you had visited me there you would have thought I had lived there for years, to see the flowers, books and dainties I received from strangers. You think that city folks never did a kind act like helping a neighbor when they were burned out. You surely do not get off your farm very often. I could write for days and tell you of kind deeds city folks have done. I know a lady of my own home town who was very sick and could not get well without an operation and people she had never seen before, took up a collection and sent her to the hospital.

No, I never heard of a family being quarantined in the country because they live so far apart that it is not necessary. I was visiting farmer friends in Pennsylvania last June and had to shorten my visit on account of so much diphtheria. And in the fall I visited farmer friends in Maryland and far and near there were two and three in a family down at a time with typhoid, but they were not hurt with help for the farmers were afraid.

If George's city friends do not come and wait on her when she is ill there must be something wrong somewhere, for mine help me in every way they can. Of course they do not have the opportunity to give fresh meat for they, like myself, never have a large supply and all because the farmers charge such a price.

It is true that the farmers raise the wheat and all of our food, but I fear Mrs. Country Jake would find that if it were not for the city folks she would not have gas, fuel, lights, hot water system and bath tubs. Neither would she have automobiles and finery. I have some farmer friends I love as well as my city

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.)



Comfort Sisters' Recipes

TO our older readers the magic words "parin' bee" will bring a vision of a moonlit autumn evening, a roomy kitchen and a host of laughing young people, busily engaged in paring and quartering apples and then threading them on a string, to be dried for winter use. And the doughnuts, pumpkin pie and coffee, furnished as a reward for work well done, were never equalled in later years by even the most palate tickling of French chefs. Perhaps the merry games indulged in by young and old, helped make the occasion one to be remembered and even our present efficient, but unsentimental, method of drying apples, and other fruits, cannot wholly take away from us the memory of other days.

With a shortage of glass jars facing us, it would seem that the only way to conserve the products of our gardens is by drying the surplus fruits and vegetables, by artificial heat, air blasts, as by an electric fan, or sun drying.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., is putting out a very helpful booklet on home drying of fruits, which may be had for the asking and it is the duty of every loyal American to do his share in meeting and overcoming the food problem.

PINEAPPLE PICKLE.—Peel fruit and remove eyes, and tear fruit in small pieces, using a silver fork for this purpose. To six pounds of fruit, boil three pounds of sugar with one pint of vinegar, and two tablespoons of powdered cinnamon, one half teaspoon of cloves and a small piece of green ginger root in muslin bag. When this syrup is scalding hot pour it over the fruit which should be in a large earthenware dish and let it stand in syrup all day, then drain and boil down. Pack in glass jars, pour syrup over it while hot and seal.

MIXED PICKLES.—Chop together two quarts of green tomatoes, two quarts of ripe tomatoes, two large green peppers, two small ripe cucumbers, two bunches of celery, four medium-sized onions and one half a cabbage. Cover with half a cup of salt and let stand over night. In morning drain and add three pints of vinegar, two pounds brown sugar and two tablespoons of mustard. Cook nearly an hour and seal.

MIXED MUSTARD PICKLES.—One quart small cucumbers, one quart medium cucumbers, split lengthwise, one quart large cucumbers, sliced or cut in small pieces, one quart small onions, one quart small green tomatoes one quart cauliflower, broken in small pieces. Soak the above in salt water over night then drain and add one quart of string beans (that have been boiled in salt water twenty minutes), three cups of sugar and cover all with good vinegar. When it reaches the boiling point, add the following and boil for five minutes—one half cup flour, two ounces dry mustard and one heaping teaspoon tumeric powder, mixed with enough vinegar to make a paste. Seal as you would fruit.

MRS. G. J. SARGENT, Carkston, Wash.

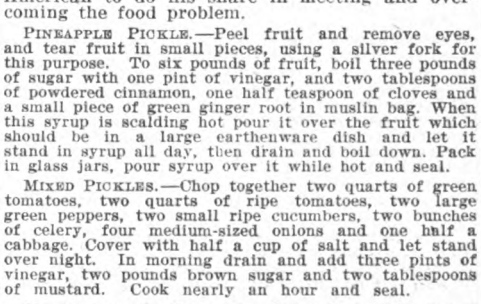
CHILI SAUCE.—Scald and peel six ripe tomatoes and cook with two onions and one green pepper. To this add one half cup sugar, two thirds cup sharp vinegar, one teaspoon each allspice, nutmeg, cinnamon and cloves, and cook fifteen minutes.

TOMATO SAUCE.—Two quarts of ripe tomatoes, three quarters pound of onions, one quart of vinegar, one cup of sugar, and one teaspoon of cinnamon. Cook and strain the tomatoes. Chop the onions fine. Bring vinegar and sugar to boiling point and add onions and cinnamon and cook till onions are tender. Add tomatoes and cook fifteen minutes longer. Seal in jars.

TOMATO CATSUP.—Peel eighteen large, ripe tomatoes, add one large green pepper, one large onion, one cup brown sugar, two cups vinegar, one tablespoon salt. Cook two hours, then strain and seal.

MISS HILMA HANSON, Marshalltown, Iowa.

SPICED BEEF.—Six pounds of an inexpensive cut of beef, put into an earthern baking dish that will cover very tightly. Put in sufficient boiling water to come half way over the meat. Put into a moderately hot oven for half an hour and then reduce heat to a slow oven, and bake three or four hours. The meat must not "boil" in the oven. In a stewpan put one cup of sliced carrots, half a cup of sliced onion, two level tea-



SPICED BEEF.

spoons of salt, two tablespoons of tomato catchup, two whole cloves and half a saltspoon of pepper. Cover with boiling water and cook all together half an hour, and then add to beef one hour before it is taken from the oven. When done, remove beef from liquor, press into a bowl and serve hot or cold. Thicken the liquor with flour stirred up with a little cold water and simmer ten minutes. Serve as a gravy. If not used as a gravy, this liquor makes a delicious soup. Garnish with rings of vegetable or egg.

HODGE-PODGE.—Four quarts chopped green tomatoes, one quart chopped onions one small cup chopped green peppers, one small cup white mustard seeds. Cover the tomatoes with salt, using one small cupful, let stand over night, drain in morning and add other ingredients. Cover with cold vinegar, mix well, put in jars and seal. Do not cook. Let stand three or four weeks to ripen.

CANNED BEETS.—Cook beets till tender. Remove skins and put beets in glass jars and cover with water they were cooked in; fill jar to top. Seal hot and place in cool, dark place.

APPLE RELISH.—Put two pounds of seeded raisins, chopped fine, in preserving kettle and add seven pounds of chopped apples, peeled, juice of two oranges and chopped peel of one, three and one quarter pounds of sugar, one pint of vinegar and one teaspoon each of cloves and cinnamon. Boil steadily half an hour.

DILL PICKLES.—Use medium-sized cucumbers; let them stand in water over night. Next day wash them and pack them in wooden or stone vessels, one layer of pickles and a handful of dill on top, and so on till jar or barrel is filled. Make a brine of salt in water that will float an egg and pour over the cucumbers then top it with more dill and grapevine leaves. Weight them down with a stone or iron. They will be ready to eat in twelve or fourteen days.

FRITZIE KLICK, San Antonio, Texas.

DILL PICKLES.—To one bushel of pickles add four pounds salt, one and one half pints vinegar, three quarters of a pint of spices, consisting of equal parts whole allspice and whole mustard seed and whole cloves. Pack tightly in keg or jar and cover with fresh water, after putting in two and one half pounds dill weed, which has been soaked in vinegar three or four days before using. Use same vinegar in pickles, with heavy weight to keep pickles under liquid.

MRS. ANNA SHULTZ, Wasepi, Mich.

(She says her husband made pickles for the H. J. Heinz Co. for eight years.)

SWEETBREADS.—Not very far back sweetbreads were considered worthless and thrown away, but little by little they have grown in favor until the demand is greater than the supply, and nowadays they are a luxury. Veal sweetbreads are considered the best. They are two glands lying in the breast and along the back of the throat. The heart sweetbread is round and compact; the throat sweetbread long and narrow, and numerous membranes divide it into sections. It is in two parts held together by tubes and membrane. Sweetbreads spoil very quickly and should be covered with ice water until ready to cook. In whatever form they are used they should first be parboiled. Drain off the water, cover with salted boiling water, add one tablespoon of lemon juice or vinegar, and if more seasoning is desired, add three whole cloves and a small piece of onion. Cook twenty minutes, remove and plunge in ice water to harden. Remove large membranes.

BROILED.—Rub with pepper, salt and butter and broil ten to fifteen minutes, taking care not to burn. Serve with tomato sauce.

FRIED.—Roll in fine bread crumbs, beaten egg and crumbs again. Fry in deep fat, or in a little pork fat until brown. Another delicious way is to fry a few



SWEETBREAD CROQUETTES.

slices of bacon, and the sweetbreads in the bacon fat, serving the bacon on top of sweetbreads. Garnish with peas.

SCALLOPED.—Make a rich white sauce, adding the yolks of two eggs. Break the sweetbreads and mix with sauce in a pudding dish and cover with buttered crumbs. Bake in hot oven until brown.

CROQUETTES.—Cut the sweetbreads fine—do not chop. Add one cup of warm boiled rice. Season according to taste. Mix in sufficient hot cream or white sauce to handle. Roll in crumbs, egg and crumbs again, and fry in deep fat. Chicken, calves brains and veal combine well with sweetbreads in croquettes.

WATERMELON PICKLE.—Cut four pounds of watermelon rind in small pieces, place in preserving kettle and cover with boiling water and let simmer gently till tender. This takes from two to three hours. When done have ready a syrup made of two pounds of sugar, one pint of vinegar three quarters tablespoon of cinnamon and allspice and one tablespoon of cloves. Put cinnamon and allspice in muslin bag. Mix watermelon and syrup.

PEAR CONSERVE.—Cut three pounds of pears in small pieces, cover with two and one half pounds sugar and let stand over night. In the morning add one half pound raisins, rind of one orange and juice of two oranges and one lemon. Boil slowly till thick and just before taking from fire add one cup of finely chopped walnut meats.

GREEN SWEET TOMATO PICKLES.—Slice eight pounds green tomatoes, add four pounds sugar which has first been melted to a syrup; cook slowly three hours watching closely to prevent scorching. After three hours add one quart strong vinegar, one tablespoon each of cinnamon, allspice, cloves, all ground fine; boil all together fifteen minutes; let cool a while, pour into glass or stone jars and set away in dark, cool place.

RAW CHOW CHOW.—In the evening slice, mix together and salt down (to taste) in stone or granite vessel, four gallons green tomatoes, two gallons cabbage, one half gallon onions, one quart green peppers. Next morning drain off salt water; grind all through meat-chopper with clean vessel catching all juices; now to ground mass add and mix thoroughly one pint (brown) sugar, one half teacup ground mustard, one quarter teacup black pepper, two tablespoons horseradish (can be left out), one gallon of strong apple or cider vinegar; pack in glass or stone jars; when it krouts or ferments it will sink in vessel, watch closely and cover with vinegar and some sugar (to taste). This will keep indefinitely. To every quart of the juices saved add one and one half teacup vinegar, pour in bottles for future use, as a chow chow ketchup for the table, and for the following recipes:

GREEN PEPPER RELISH.—Grind green peppers through meat chopper, add liberally sprinkled mustard and salt, put in glass jars or big-mouthed bottles, pour the juice from chow chow over to fill retainers, or spiced vinegar made as follows:

SPICED VINEGAR.—Into a one half gallon fruit jar put one teaspoon each: Allspice, cloves, ginger, nutmeg (or tablespoon mace), tablespoon cinnamon; cover with vinegar, let stand a week before ready for use in sweet or sour pickles.

GERMAN MUSTARD.—Four tablespoons sugar, two tablespoons mustard, one tablespoon salt, four tablespoons melted butter one tablespoon, corn-starch; mix mustard, sugar, corn-starch, salt well together then add butter; put all in granite vessel to cook; shake bottle chow chow juice, add slowly while stirring two teacups full, let boil till done; if too thick add more juice to thin to consistency desired.

MAKING PICKLES FOR FAMILY USE.—Gather small watermelons (green), canteloupes, cucumbers, tender green beans, green peppers, cauliflower and small-sized onions, wash and slice to suit convenience; into granite vessel to hold quantity prepared, put water to cover with handful or more of salt and set on fire; scald the mixture until color changes. Into glass or stone jars put a bag of thin cloth with one half teaspoon each of ginger, allspice, cloves, cinnamon, celery seed and black pepper in bottom of retainer with teaspoon ground mustard; put the above scalded mixture of vegetables into jars while hot and cover with sufficient vinegar to pickle; will be ready to eat in thirty-six hours. If too sour add sugar and water to weaken acid.

LILLIE D. ELDREDGE, Chiricahua, Arizona.

CANNED BEANS.—String and cut beans in desired length. Sterilize jars and fill as full as possible, then overflow with cold water and cover with sterilized tops and place jars on trivet in large kettle or boiler filled with cold water. Let boil three hours. Fasten covers securely and let cool. Peas should be cooked nearly half an hour longer than beans.

HOME PREPARED MUSTARD.—Three tablespoons mustard, one tablespoon sugar, one half teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of corn-starch or flour. Mix well and add one egg. Beat egg into dry ingredients until smooth. Then add one cup of vinegar and cook all until the consistency of cream and add butter the size of a walnut. MRS. CHESTER I. SIMMERS, Hildebrand, Oregon.

COCOANUT BREAD PUDDING.—Cut a small loaf of bread in one third inch slices. Spread with butter and cut in halves crosswise. Pack in a buttered dish, sprinkling each layer with shredded cocoanut, using two thirds cup in all. Beat three eggs slightly, one half cup sugar, one quarter teaspoon salt and one quart of milk. Strain over bread and cocoanut. Cover and let stand one hour. Bake in a slow oven nearly an hour, keeping covered just twenty minutes of cooking. Serve hot with cream sauce.

CREAM SAUCE.—Work one third cup butter until creamy and add one cup of powdered sugar gradually while stirring and beating constantly, then add two tablespoons of milk, drop by drop, until of very creamy consistency. Flavor with one teaspoon of vanilla.

APPLES WITH ORANGE SAUCE.—Core six tart apples, put in pudding dish with two cups of water, cover tightly and bake in slow oven until very soft. Remove



APPLES WITH ORANGE SAUCE.

apples, add one of sugar and cook to a thick syrup; add the juice of two oranges and the grated rind of one, and pour over apples. Put whipped cream on top when served.

RYE BREAD. (Requested.)—Four cups flour, two cups rye meal, one tablespoon sugar, one half teaspoon salt and one yeast cake. Mix as stiff as possible; no shortening; let rise over night; knead just enough to make smooth loaves in morning. This makes two good-sized loaves.

MRS. A. P.

POOR MAN'S DROP CAKES.—Two cups sugar, one heaping tablespoon lard, two and one half cups milk or water, pinch of salt, flavoring, two heaping teaspoons baking powder and flour enough to make a rather stiff batter. Cream sugar and lard, add milk and flavoring. Sift in flour, baking powder and salt. Bake in muffin tins. Nut meats, cocoanut, grated apples or raisins may be added. This makes a cake that will surprise you.

MRS. H. I. B., Los Angeles, Cal.

COCOANUT DROPS.—One cup grated cocoanut, whites of two eggs, beaten stiff, one half cup of sugar, two tablespoons of flour. Mix. Drop by spoonfuls on slightly buttered tin sheets and bake light brown.

MRS. E. H. PRATHER, Grandin, N. Dak.

GIVEN TO YOU WITHOUT EXPENSE



This Sewing Table makes your needlework a pleasure and helps make your home more beautiful.

The Rocker shown here usually sells for $8 to $10 retail. We give it with a $10 purchase of Larkin Products because when buying from us you save the amount it represents by dealing direct with our great Factories.



New Catalog FREE

Send for yours Today. Just off the press.

Shows the 600 Larkin Products and the hundreds of useful Premiums given with them. Tells how to cut the cost of everyday necessities practically in half by buying your Products without Premiums. Make your own comparisons. Write today.

Mail Coupon Today to nearest address

Larkin Co. Buffalo Peoria Chicago

Please send me your new Catalog No. 76.

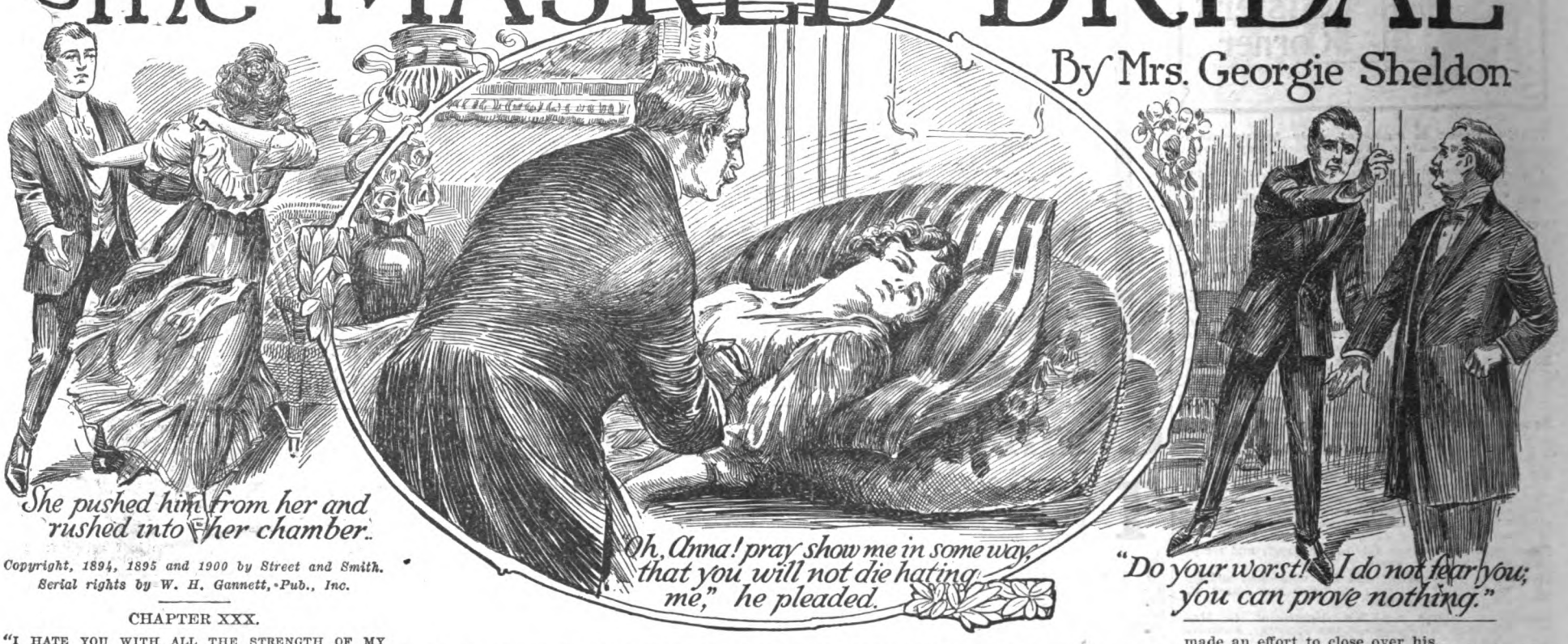
Name .....

Address .....

C. P. 352 .....

The MASKED BRIDAL

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon



She pushed him from her and rushed into her chamber.

"Oh, Anna! pray show me in some way that you will not die hating me," he pleaded.

"Do your worst! I do not fear you; you can prove nothing."

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XXX.

"I HATE YOU WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF MY ITALIAN BLOOD."

ISABEL STEWART felt that she could not bear the painful interview any longer, and was about to touch the electric button to summon her servant to show her visitor out.

"Go, Gerald," said Mrs. Stewart, in a low, but not unkindly imperative tone; "it is better that this interview should terminate. The past is past—nothing can change it; but the future will be what we make it. Go, and if I ever hear from you again, let me know that your present contrition has culminated in a better life."

She turned abruptly from him and disappeared within her chamber, quietly shutting the door after her, while Gerald Goddard arose to "go" as he had been bidden.

As, with tottering gait and a pale, despairing face, he crossed the room and parted the draperies between the two pretty parlors, he found himself suddenly confronted by a woman so wan and haggard that, for an instant, he failed to recognize her.

"Idiot!" hissed Anna Correlli, through her pallid, tightly-drawn lips; "traitor! coward! viper!"

She was forced to pause simply because she was exhausted from the venom which she had expended in the utterance of those four expletives.

Then she sank, weak and faint, upon a chair, but with her eyes glittering like points of flame, fastened in a look of malignant hatred upon the astonished man.

"Anna! how came you here?—how long have you been here?" he finally found voice to say.

"Long enough to learn of the contemptible perfidy and meanness of the man whom, for twenty years, I have trusted," she panted.

By a powerful effort, he mastered himself, for he was anxious to escape from the house before the presence of his wife should be discovered.

"Come, Anna," he said; "let us go home, where we can talk over this matter by ourselves, without the fear of being overheard."

He attempted to assist her to rise.

"Do not dare to touch me!" she cried, hoarsely. "Go—call a carriage; I am not able to walk. Go; I will follow you."

Without a word, he turned to obey her, and passed quickly out of the suite without encountering any one, she following, but with a gait so unsteady that any one watching her would have been tempted to believe her under the influence of some intoxicant.

Mr. Goddard found a carriage standing near the entrance to the hotel, and they were soon on their way home.

Upon entering their house, they found Emil Correlli in a state bordering on frenzy, occasioned by the escape of Edith, and this circumstance served for a few moments to distract their thoughts from their own troubles.

Mr. Goddard was intensely relieved by the intelligence, and plainly betrayed it in his manner.

When angrily called to account for it by his brother-in-law, he at once replied, with an air of reckless defiance:

"Yes, I am glad of it—I would even have helped the girl to get away; indeed, I was planning to do so, for such a dastardly fraud as you perpetrated upon her should never be allowed to prosper."

He was rewarded for this speech, so loyal to Edith, only by an angry oath, to which, however, he paid no attention.

Strangley enough, Anna Correlli, after the first emotion of surprise and dismay had passed, paid no heed to the exciting conversation; she had sunk into a chair by the window, where she sat pale and silent, and absolutely motionless, save for the wild restlessness of her fiery black eyes.

Mr. Goddard, finding the atmosphere so disagreeable, finally left the room, and, mounting the stairs, shut himself in his own chamber, while the enraged lover dashed out of the house to the nearest telegraph office to send the message that caused the policeman to intercept Edith upon her arrival in New York.

A few moments later, Mrs. Goddard—as we will, from courtesy, still call her—crept wearily up to her room, where, tottering to a couch, she threw herself prone upon her face, moaning and shivering with the agony she could no longer control.

The blow, which for twenty years she had been dreading, had fallen at last; but it was far more crushing and bitter than she had ever dreamed it could be.

An hour passed, during which she lay where she had fallen and almost benumbed by her misery.

Then there came a knock upon her door, which was immediately opened, and Mr. Goddard entered the room.

He was still very pale, but grave and self-contained.

The woman started to a sitting posture, exclaiming, in an unnatural voice:

"What do you want here?"

"I have come, Anna, to talk over with you the events of the morning—to ask you to try to control yourself, and look at our peculiar situation with calmness and practical common sense," he calmly replied.

"Well?" was all the response vouchsafed, as he paused an instant.

"I have not come to offer any excuses for myself, or for what you overheard this morning," he thoughtfully resumed; "indeed, I have none to offer—my whole life, I own has, as Isabel rightly said, been a failure thus far, and no one save myself is to blame for the fact. Do not sneer, Anna," he interposed, as her lips curled back from her dazzling teeth, which he saw were tightly locked with the effort she was making at self-control. "I have been thoroughly humiliated for the first time in my life—I have been made to see myself as I am, and I have reached a point where I am willing to make an effort to atone, as far as may be, for some of the wrongs of which I have been guilty. Will you help me, Anna?"

Again he paused, but this time his companion did not deign to avail herself of the opportunity to reply, if, indeed, she was able to do so.

"I have come to propose that we avail ourselves of the only remedy that seems practicable to relieve our peculiar situation," he continued. "I will apply to have the tie which binds me to Isabel annulled, with all possible secrecy—it can be done in the West without any notoriety; then I will make you my legal wife, as you have so often asked me to do, and we will go abroad again, where we will try to live out the remainder of our lives to some better purpose than we have done heretofore. I ask you again, will you try to help me? It is not going to be an easy thing at first; but if each will try, for the sake of the other, I believe we can yet attain comparative content, if not positive happiness."

"Happiness!" she repeated. "Ha! ha! What mockery in the sound of that word from your lips, after what has occurred today!"

"I know that you have cause to be both grieved and angry, Anna," said Gerald Goddard, humbly; "but let us both put the past behind us—let us wipe out all old scores, and from this day begin a new life."

"'Begin a new life' upon a heap of ashes, without one spark among them to ignite the smallest flame!" was the mocking rejoinder. Then, with a burst of agony, she continued: "Oh, God! if you had taken a dagger and stabbed me to death in that room today, you could not have slain me more effectually than by the words you have uttered. Begin a new life with you, after your confessions, your pleadings and protestations to Isabel Stewart. Heaven! Never! I hate you! hate you; hate you! with all the strength of my Italian blood, and warn you—beware! And now, begone!"

"Very well, Anna," he said, as he arose, "I will obey you. I do not pretend to claim that I have not given you cause to feel aggrieved in many respects; but, as I have already said, that is past. I simply ask you to do what I also will do—put all the old life behind us, and begin over again. I realize that we cannot discuss the question to any purpose now—we are both too wrought up to think or talk calmly, so I will leave you to rest, and we will speak of this at another time. Can I do anything for you before I go?—or perhaps you would like your maid sent to you?"

"No," she said, briefly, and not once having removed her wild eyes from his face while he was speaking.

He bowed, and passed out of the room, softly shutting the door after him, then walked slowly down the hall to his own apartment.

The moment he was gone Anna Goddard sprang like a cat to her feet.

Going to her writing-desk, she dashed off a few lines, which she hastily folded and slipped into an envelope, which she sealed and addressed.

She then touched the electric button above her desk to summon her maid, after which she sat motionless with the missive clasped in her hands until the girl appeared.

"Dress yourself for the street, Mary, and take this note to Mr. Clayton's office. Be quick about it, for it is a matter of importance," she commanded.

Mary took the note and hastened away upon her errand, while Mrs. Goddard, throwing herself back in her chair, sat there waiting with an air of expectation that betrayed she was looking for the appearance of some one.

Half an hour later a gentleman was admitted to the house, and was shown directly up to my lady's boudoir.

CHAPTER XXXI.

RECORDS SOME STARTLING DEVELOPMENTS.

The gentleman caller referred to in the last chapter was closeted with Mrs. Goddard for fully two hours, when he quietly left the house.

A few moments later, however, he returned, accompanied by two other men—clerks from a neighboring drug-store—whom he admitted with a latch-key, and then conducted them up to Mrs. Goddard's boudoir.

The strangers did not remain long; whatever their errand, it was soon finished, and they departed as silently as they had come.

Mr. Clayton remained some time longer, conversing with the mistress of the house, but their business being finally concluded, he also went away, bearing a package of papers with him.

Emil Correlli returned just in season for dinner, which, however, he was obliged to partake of alone, as Mr. and Mrs. Goddard did not make their appearance at the table.

The young man paid slight heed to ceremony, but after eating a hasty meal, sought his sister and informed her that he was going to start for New York on the late evening train.

The woman gave him one wild, startled glance, and seemed strangely agitated for a moment over his announcement.

He could not fail to notice her emotion, and that she was excessively pale.

"You look like a ghost, Anna," he remarked, as he searched her face with some anxiety. "What is the matter with you? I fear you are going to be ill."

"I am ill," she said, in a hoarse, unnatural tone.

"Then let me call your physician," said her brother, eagerly. "I am going out immediately, and will leave a message for him."

"No, no," she nervously replied; then with a hollow laugh that smote heavily upon her companion's heart, she added: "My case is beyond the reach of Dr. Hunt or any other physician."

"Anna, have you been quarreling with Gerald again?"

"Yes," was the brief response.

"Well, of course I can understand that such matters are beyond the skill of any physician," said the young man, "neither have I any business to interfere between you," he added; "but my advice would be to make it up as soon as possible, and then try to live peaceably in the future. I do not like to leave you looking so white and miserable, but I must go. Take good care of yourself, and I shall hope to find you better and happier when I return."

He bent down to give her a farewell caress, and was amazed by the passion she manifested in returning it.

She threw her arms around his neck and held him in a convulsive embrace while she quivered from head to foot with repressed emotion.

She did not utter one word of farewell, but a wild sob burst from her; then, as if she could bear no more, she pushed him from her and rushed into her chamber, shutting and locking the door behind her.

Emil Correlli left the boudoir, a puzzled expression on his handsome face.

"Anna will come to grief some day with that cursed temper of hers," he muttered, as he went to his room to pack his portmanteau, but he was too intent upon his own affairs to dwell long upon even the trouble of his sister, and a couple of hours later was on his way to New York to begin his search for his runaway bride.

The next morning Mrs. Goddard was "too ill to rise," she told her maid, when she came at the usual hour to her door. She would not admit her, but sent word to her husband that she could not join him at breakfast.

He went up later to see if she would allow him to call a physician for her; but she would not see him, simply telling him she "would do well enough without advice—all she needed was rest, and she did not wish to be disturbed by any one until she rang."

Feeling deeply disappointed and depressed by her unusual obstinacy, the wretched man went down-stairs and shut himself into the library, where he remained all day, while there was such an atmosphere of loneliness and desolation about the house that even the servants appeared to feel it, and went about with solemn faces and almost stealthy steps.

Could any one have looked behind those closed doors he could not have failed to have experienced a feeling of pity for the man; for if ever a human being went down into the valley of humiliation, Gerald Goddard sounded its uttermost depths, while he battled alone with all the powers of evil that beset his soul.

When night came he was utterly exhausted, and sought his couch, looking at least ten years older than he had appeared forty-eight hours previous.

He slept heavily and dreamlessly, and did not awake till late, when an imperative knock upon the door and a voice, calling in distress, caused him to spring suddenly from his bed, and impressed him with a sense of impending evil.

"What is it, Mary?" he inquired, upon recognizing the voice of his wife's maid.

"Oh, sir! come—come to madam; she is very ill!" cried the girl, in a frightened tone.

"I will be there immediately. Send James for the doctor, and then go back to her," commanded her master, as he hurriedly began to dress.

Five minutes later he was in his wife's room, to find her lying upon the lounge, just as he had seen her thirty-six hours previous.

It was evident that she had not been in bed at all for two nights, for she still had on the same dress that she had worn at the Copley Square Hotel.

But the shadow of death was on her white face; her eyes were glazed, and though only partially closed, it was evident that she saw nothing.

Gerald Goddard was shocked beyond measure to find her thus, but he arose to the occasion.

With his own hands and the assistance of the maid, he removed her clothing, then wrapped her in blankets and put her in bed, when he called for hot water bottles to place around her, hoping thus by artificial heat to quicken the sluggish circulation and her failing pulses.

But apparently there was no change in her, and when the physician came and made his examination, he told them plainly that "no effort could avail; it was a case of sudden heart failure, and the end was but a question of moments."

Mr. Goddard was horrified and stricken with remorse at this hopeless verdict, for it seemed to him that he was in a measure accountable for the untimely shock which was fast depriving of life this woman who had loved him so passionately, though unwisely.

He put his lips to her ear and called her by name.

"Anna! Anna! You must try to arouse yourself," he cried, in a voice of agony.

At first the appeal seemed to produce no effect, but after several attempts he thought he detected a gleam of intelligence in the almost sightless eyes, while the cold fingers resting on his hand made an effort to close over his.

"Doctor, she knows me!" he exclaimed. "Pray give her some stimulant to arouse her dormant faculties, if only for a moment."

"I fear it will be of no use," the physican replied, "but I will try."

He hurriedly prepared and administered a powerful restorative; then they waited with breathless interest for several moments for some sign of improvement.

It came at last; she began to breathe a trifle more regularly; the set features became a little less rigid, and the pulse a shade stronger; until finally the white lids were lifted and the dying woman turned her eyes with a pitiful expression of appeal upon the man whom, even in death, she still adored.

"Leave us alone!" commanded Gerald Goddard, and physician and servants stole noiselessly from the room.

"Anna, you know me—you understand what I am saying?" the wretched man then questioned.

A slight pressure from the cold fingers was the only reply.

"You know that you are dying?" he pursued.

Again that faint sign of assent.

"Then, dear, let us be at peace before you go," he pleaded, gently. "My soul bows in humiliation and remorse before you; for years I have wronged you. I wronged you in those first days in Rome. I have no excuse to offer. I simply tell you that my spirit is crushed within me as I look back and realize all that I am accountable for. I would have been glad to atone, so far as was in my power, could you have lived to share my future. Give me some sign of forgiveness to tell me that you retract those last bitter words of hate—to let me feel that in this final moment we part in peace."

At those last words those almost palsied fingers closed over his; the look of agony in those dusky orbs was superseded by one of adoration and tenderness; a faint expression of something like peace crept into the tense lines about the drawn mouth, and the repentant watcher knew that she would not go out into the great unknown bearing in her heart a relentless hatred against him.

That effort was the last flicker of the expiring flame, for the white lids drooped over the dark eyes; the cold fingers relaxed their hold, and Gerald Goddard knew the end had almost come.

He touched the bell, and the physician instantly reentered the room.

"It is almost over," he remarked, as he went to the bedside, and his practised fingers sought her pulse.

Even as he spoke her breast heaved once—then again, and all was still.

Who shall describe the misery that surged over Gerald Goddard's soul as he looked upon the still form of the grandly beautiful woman.

He felt almost like a murderer; for, in spite of Dr. Hunt's verdict that she had died of "sudden heart failure," he feared that the proud woman had been so crushed by what she had overheard in Isabel Stewart's apartments that she had voluntarily ended her life.

It was only a dim suspicion—a vague impression, for there was not the slightest evidence of anything of the kind, and he would never dare to give voice to it to any human being; nevertheless, it pressed heavily upon his soul with a sense of guilt that was almost intolerable.

A message was immediately sent flying over the wires to New York to inform Emil Correlli of the sad news, and eight hours later he was back in Boston crushed for the time by the loss of the sister for whom he entertained perhaps the purest love of which his selfish heart was capable of experiencing.

We will not dwell upon the harrowing events of the next few days.

Suffice it to say that society, or that portion of it that had known the brilliant Mrs. Goddard, was greatly shocked by the sudden death of one of its "brightest ornaments," and gracefully mourned her by covering her costly casket with choicest flowers; then closed up its ranks and went its way, trying to forget the pale charger which they knew would come again and again upon his grim errand.

The day following Anna Correlli's interment in Forest Hill Cemetery, Mr. Goddard and his brother-in-law were waited upon by the well-known lawyer, Arthur Clayton, who informed them that he had an important communication to make to them.

"Two days previous to her death I received this note from Mrs. Goddard," he remarked, at the same time handing a daintily perfumed missive to the elder gentleman. "In it you will observe that she asks me to come to her immediately. I obeyed her, and found her looking very ill, and seemingly greatly distressed in body and mind. She told me she was impressed that she had not long to live—that she had an affection of the heart that warned her to put her affairs in order. She desired me to draw up a will at once, according to her instructions, and have it signed and witnessed before I left the house. I did so, calling in at her request two witnesses from a neighboring drug-store, after which she gave the will into my keeping, to be retained until her death. This is the document, gentlemen," he remarked, in conclusion, "and here, also, is another communication, which she wrote herself and directed me to hand to you, sir."

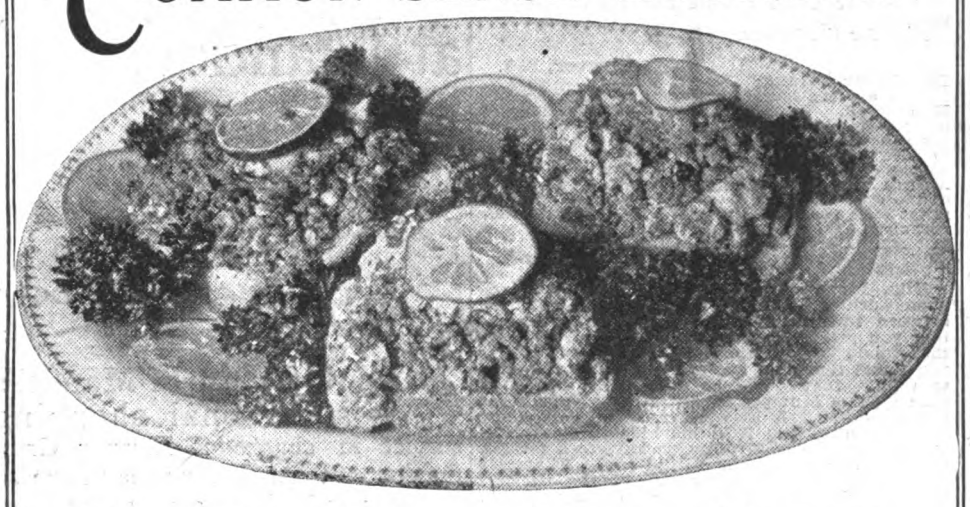
He arose and passed both the will and the letter to Mr. Goddard, who had seemed greatly agitated while he was speaking.

He simply took the letter, remarking:

"Since you are already acquainted with the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9.)

COMMON-SENSE ECONOMY



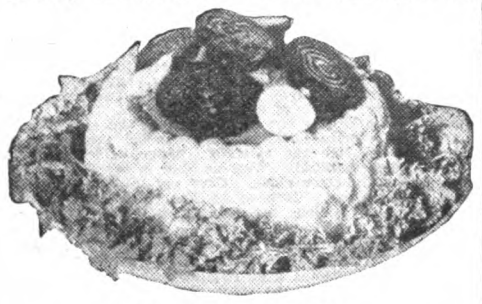
TO MEET HIGH FOOD PRICES

By Ella Gordon

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

NEVER has there been a time when good management in the home was more essential to the welfare of the family and nation. Although potatoes and green vegetables—thanks largely to the success of the back-yard and lawn gardens—are selling way below the frightful prices of last season, staple foods such as flour and sugar are as high or higher than a year ago while meats, milk, butter, cheese and eggs have reached a figure that brings consternation to the housewife of moderate means. While there is no getting away from this advance in price of food stuffs, the housewife who is willing to put her time into developing household expertness, beginning in the kitchen, can do much toward minimizing the cost of three wholesome, nourishing meals a day.

Months ago when the price of food began advancing so rapidly, we did not understand the



LEFT-OVER POT POURRI.

cause, and became alarmed lest we were facing an actual food shortage, as was heralded in some of our daily newspapers. But true to the natural trait of womankind to rise supreme in emergency, we have become students of the "Food Problem" and in the bitter school of high prices, learned a lesson that puts us back to the days of our ancestors when the feeding of the family was the individual responsibility of its women members. In the absence of glass jars, vegetables and fruits were either preserved or dried; cooked food from the shelves of the grocer was unknown; waste through too great a variety of food at one meal was seldom seen. Nowadays health and pocketbook are both taxed through over-eating to a degree that we did not comprehend until the present stringency brought us to our senses.

We have long pondered over that word "conservation," so commonly used these days. At first we confused it with "hoading," but now in the new light of accepted responsibilities, it simply means to us that it is our patriotic duty to see that every atom of food is taken care of



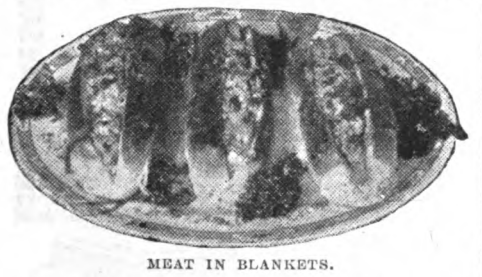
LEFT-OVER FISH, POTATO AND BAKED BEANS.

and used to advantage, in order that the world's scant food supply may be stretched to the utmost to prevent famine.

Always Remember

that careless methods of buying, hastily planned and hurriedly cooked meals, and a waste of the left-overs, are the first causes of many discouragements and bodily ailments, and that the secret of preventing these troubles is to banish the notion that domestic work is drudgery, and to wake up to the fact that the housewife by no means occupies a position of secondary importance.

It was under the grim necessity of meeting a persistent food shortage mid the ravages of the old wars that the inventive genius of the French women developed the art of cooking to the degree of perfection for which they are famous; in



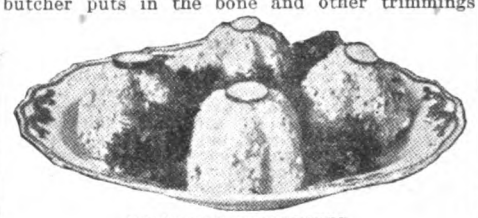
MEAT IN BLANKETS.

seeking to avoid privation through thrift they have learned how to economize without sacrifice. Bits of left-overs were skillfuly worked over into nourishing and appetizing combinations for another meal. A marrow bone, so often thrown into the garbage pail by the American woman, was boiled with vegetables or rice and served as a substitute for meat. They used green vegetables and salad in greater variety and more extensively than we, and the kitchen garden, for all who could command a little land, was deemed an indispensable adjunct and an object of special care. The war will not be without its permanent good effects on our people, not the least of which will be the making of better cooks and better economists of American housewives.

Dishes Made Entirely of Left-overs

Soup

Do not put into the soup kettle anything that is tainted or unfit to serve; that is not its mission. A good soup requires bone, so be sure your butcher puts in the bone and other trimmings



VEGETABLE CROQUETTES.

that you pay for in buying meat. Here a great saving is made, particularly on the precious fat which is so expensive in any form at present.

Gravies, left-over vegetables and cereals, scraps of meat, fat and bones can all be made into soups. Soup, when cooked, should stand over night to cool so the fat may be removed and used for frying purposes, and for shortening in molasses cookies.

Remnant of baked beans makes a good soup. Add water and simmer until soft, then put through the potato ricer. A left-over of tomato, either fresh or canned, gives a delicious flavor when cooked with the beans. Season with pepper and salt and add a piece of butter just before serving. Serve with dice of bread toasted brown in the oven.

Salad

Any kind of left-over vegetables makes a good salad to be served with buttered bread for supper. A spoonful of peas, a few slices of beef cut into dice, tender leaves and stalk of celery cut fine, a little carrot and asparagus, in fact most



SAVORY WAY TO PREPARE LEFT-OVER FISH.

vegetables combine well in this form. Mix generously with French dressing or Mayonnaise.

Bread and Cereals

A delicious cereal is made by combining left-overs of different cereals, often wasted. Another use is to slice cold and fry brown, serving with syrup, or butter and powdered sugar.

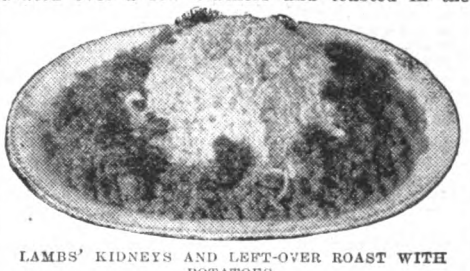
Potatoes

Utilize left-over boiled potatoes, either sweet or white, by adding one third the amount of pieces of dried bread cut small, and fried together.

A delicious Southern dish is made by quartering medium-sized sweet potatoes or yams, lightly sprinkling with brown sugar, a dash of cinnamon, a very little salt, and hot water in bottom of dish to make steam. Put into earthern baking dish, and bake covered half an hour, then remove cover and brown.

Cheese

Broken pieces of cheese never need be wasted. Grated over a few crackers and toasted in the



LAMBS' KIDNEYS AND LEFT-OVER ROAST WITH POTATOES.

oven makes a good dessert after a heavy dinner. Cheese combined with a little butter and milk and brought to a scald, then thickened with the yolk of an egg is most appetizing on slices of graham toast.

Various Recipes

CREAMED MEAT ON TOAST.—A supper dish of meat on toast is always appetizing and affords an excellent way in which to serve left-overs. Meat that has been roasted must simmer one hour before serving on toast. Take most any kind except pork, chop fine and brown in butter very lightly, then cover with boiling water and simmer one hour. Add enough browned flour (brown in oven) to thicken, season with pepper and salt and serve on slices of toast. Just before eating, squeeze a little lemon juice over the meat, and serve the lemon in slices as a garnish. *(See illustrated heading).*

VEGETABLE CROQUETTES.—Use vegetables left from boiled dinner, chopped fine with boiled rice,—three cups of vegetable to one of rice. Season with butter, pepper, salt and a little lemon and onion juice, and moisten with enough cream to shape. Roll in flour very lightly and fry in smoking hot fat. Garnish each croquette with a small round of red beet.

SAVORY WAY TO PREPARE LEFT-OVER FISH.—The best way to reheat fish is in the oven, covered, where it will steam and not become hard and tasteless. Pick in small pieces, add left-over rice, potato or pieces of stale bread; season, add drawn butter sauce and when hot serve on slices of toasted brown bread. A little scrambled egg on top is a delicious addition.

MEAT IN BLANKETS.—Cut open dried or stale rolls lengthwise, remove the inside and save for bread crumbs in which to roll croquettes. Make a hash of meat and vegetable chopped together and bake in a hot oven. Fill cavities in rolls and return to oven until rolls are a golden brown. A sauce made from a few slices of left-over tomato, thickened and highly flavored with butter, pepper and salt, may be spread over the meat in each roll just before serving.

LAMB KIDNEYS AND LELF-OVER ROAST WITH POTATO.—When buying a roast of lamb, see that the butcher puts in the kidneys for which you pay, as meat is usually weighed before trimmed. Stew the kidneys so they will keep until lamb is used, then chop the remnants of roast with the kidneys and simmer one hour. Add gravy from roast, season with salt and pepper and add a little flour thickening. Heat mashed potato in the oven, put rice into middle of platter and surround with the lamb.

LEFT-OVER FISH, POTATO AND BAKED BEANS.—Pick up the fish, add cold potato mashed, one beaten egg and hot milk to mold into balls. Brown in a very hot oven, arrange on platter and pour over the remnants of hot baked beans. A good breakfast dish for the men-folk.

LEFT-OVER POT POURRI.—A good supper may be prepared from the small left-overs of a chicken and vegetable dinner. Remove every bit of chicken from the carcase and chop fine. Break up the bones, cover with cold water and simmer till they are lighter in color, then strain. Brown the chicken in butter, add liquor and simmer half an hour. Thicken with browned flour and season. Shape cold mashed potato like a nest, deep enough to hold meat, and left-over vegetables. Brown the nest, and heat the vegetables in the oven in a separate dish at the same time, putting all together just before serving.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

friends but on the average there are just as many bad in the country as in the cities. The only difference I see is that they are more scattered and have more chance to hide their badness.

I know of a country revival meeting that was broken up on account of the farmer boys' bad tricks and I never heard of anything like that in the city. Nor did I ever hear of stealing corn and chickens till I visited the country and it was suggested by country girls.

I do not say all farmers are bad but I do say they have their faults as well as the city folks. Another thing I know is this: that the farmers were offered a good price for their potatoes but they held them back for a larger price.

I am five feet, three inches tall and weigh one hundred and five pounds. I have light hair, blue eyes and light complexion. I have been married seven years but am sorry to say I have no family; my one little girl is dead. I belong to the M. E. Church and Aid Society and love the work.

Love to Mrs. Wilkinson and sisters,

City Sport.

SPRINGFIELD, 5 West Main St., OHIO.

MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Since my last letter to you I have been deluged with letters from the sisters, some containing stamps for answers and some without, and I am sorry to say I could not answer on account of an accident so, COMFORT friends, do not be offended if you have not received an answer for I will tell you how it happened. I have a woman come each week and clean for me and she thought the letters on my desk were of no value and as I was not at home she destroyed all of them and that left me without the addresses. The stamps were burned also. I am very sorry but if you will write again I will answer.

All who wrote asked me to tell them "all about Japan." I only wish I could do so but it is impossible. That would take a book so I'll tell you a little at a time as I cannot take up much space in COMFORT as others want a chance. As Uncle Charlie says, "Now for the letters," I'll say, "Now for Japan."

The people are a quiet, home loving, economical, hard working race. Work always comes first. After that is done for the day, then sports are indulged in, chiefly wrestling and fencing. Some girls in Japan are all muscle and can wrestle better than some men; they are also excellent at fencing, racing, swimming, and, in fact, they can do almost anything in the sports line as well as the men but they are quiet and modest always. If they win they are, of course, proud, but a great noise about it is considered quite vulgar and may banish them from future games.

The women at home are very industrious. They are never idle and when the home is in order they teach the babies, sew, or garden. Shows are seldom honored with housewives, only once in a great while and then the husband accompanies them. A woman of good character will not go to such amusements without her husband but shows and dances are not as interesting to the Japanese woman as a daintily embroidered kimono or slippers so you see the housewife always works but she takes her pleasure in sewing and so the husband praises his wife and is proud of her. Each woman tries to embroider her gown the nicest and, of course, the husband takes pride in his wife's ability.

These kimonos are long and loose and held in place by a wide belt of silk or as you would call it, "a girdle," but it is drawn tightly around the waist. The kimonos are made entirely by hand, no machine stitching whatever, and at times quilted by hand in the tiniest of stitches, and roses, birds, butterflies and cherry blossoms are embroidered down to the hem on each side in front and around the collar and sleeves while the rest is of plain material, black or blue, but the inside of the kimono is a delight to the eye. It is of the best of silk and shows only when the wearer walks. The best of the clothes are worn on the inside. The present styles in the United States are shocking to the average woman in Japan.

In the winter the women make pin money by roasting and selling sweet potatoes. The men like to stop and eat a hot sweet potato or by putting it in their pocket it keeps warm for a long time and the man warms his hands on it.

The foods are chiefly rice and fish. The old-fashioned people will not eat meat and will not allow it to be cooked in their house; however, the younger people sometimes cook meat outside the house and eat it. Many learn to eat and like meat from those who have been in this country and returned or those who want to come to this country learn to eat meat before they come here so as not to seem so "green."

The land in Japan is very fertile, raising the finest crops. There are also valuable mines of copper, gold, silver and coal but the copper and coal are the best paying.

Fish are so numerous that a net will be full in five minutes near shore; a line will keep one busy taking the fish off. No one ever thinks of buying fish, only the richer class who will not fish and they buy all they want for a sum too small to mention.

Sometime I will tell you about the school and military training of the soldiers.

I am a poor writer, but you must try to understand it the best you can. I have not United States education.

We are enjoying fine weather now and all that spoils the beauty of summer is the war cloud on the horizon, blotting out the sun of warmth, peace and content. We can only all do our bit to help in case of war by saving all possible from hunger at home and to assist those in grief. I pray that God will give us peace and victory.

I thank you all for the greetings you have given me, a stranger and an alien. I am indeed glad that I am welcome in your charming corner.

Your COMFORT friend, MRS. TONY KOGA.

Mrs. Tony Koga. You forgot to mention your little babies this time as we were all so interested in them too; however, we'll forgive you if you'll write another interesting letter and tell us more about Japan and other countries you have seen.—Ed.

VIOLA, ARK.

DEAR SISTERS AND ALL:

Mattie Mae Clark, will you sit over just a little wee bit and give a seventeen-year-old farmer girl room to rest a little. I'll take off my bonnet and tell you of a trip I made. I visited the famous Mammoth Spring and it certainly was a wonderful sight. I'll describe it to you as Shinn's Ark. History does.

"Mammoth Spring wells up from a deep abyss from an opening forty yards in circumference and forms a lake at its very source, about one sixteenth of a mile from north to south and about one fifth of a mile from east to west. The spring sends out about 8,000 barrels of water per minute, and forms the main source of Spring river. In the early settlement of the country it was a resort for wild beasts and fowls. A mill placed there by Mr. Mills, although small and rude, attracted the custom of farmers from

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)

FREE

This New Fall Fashion Book



Send A Postal For it Today

A glimpse at this Style Book is equal to spending an afternoon on Fifth Ave.—the world's most fashionable thoroughfare. It will show you how you may dress as smartly or as fashionably as the up-to-date Fifth Ave. woman, and do it for little money.



F75. This charming frock is made of lustrous Chiffon Taffeta of excellent quality. The blouse with panel effect is gathered over a well cut lawn lining. A pleasing bit of embroidery in rich harmonizing colors enhances the beauty of this dress. Collar and cuffs of sheer embroidered organdie and a vestee of Silk Georgette Crepe add a dainty finishing touch. The skirt is cut on the newest lines, full gathered and finished with a sash of self material. Colors: Navy Blue, Copenhagen, Black or Green. Sizes: 32 to 44 inch bust; Misses': 14 to 18 yrs. Postpaid.

Silk Taffeta $8.98

F76. Wool embroidery in a soft shade of French gray trims this new one-piece dress of double-ply Serge—one of the most practical styles ever designed for general Fall and Winter wear. The waist is given a smart tailored effect by the well shaped panel. The sleeves are full cut and show the new long cuff. The becoming gathered skirt is joined to the waist by a wide belt of self material. A neat touch is added by the Poplin collar and cuffs. Colors: Black or Navy Blue. Sizes: 32 to 44 in. bust; Misses': 14 to 18 years. Postpaid.

Serge $2.25



We Guarantee to Please You or Refund Your Money

Silk Poplin $6.98

F77. This smart "barrel" dress of rich Silk Poplin exemplifies the most popular and correct style for Fall. No other material is so well adapted to the soft plaits and fashionable draping which form a very charming feature of the dress. New style touches are seen in the deep collar of contrasting color, and the long frilled cuffs which finish the fashionable sleeves. Covered buttons and fancy stitching are effectively used for trimming. The waist has neat lawn lining, and inner belt. Invisible side closing. Colors: Black, Copenhagen, Navy Blue and Green. Sizes: 32 to 44 inch bust; Misses': 14 to 18 years. Postpaid.

Send a Trial Order for One of These Big Bargains

We Pay Mail and Express Charges

KNICKERBOCKER MAIL ORDER CO.

Dept. F-1, 142 Fifth Avenue, New York City



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

I DO not think I can devote the space allotted to me this month to more valuable purpose than in clearing up some of the extraordinary, weird and preposterous ideas that so many people hold about this war.

The first insidious calumny to combat, a contemptible lie that has been spread broadcast by the foreign language press, and reechoed by the peace-at-any-price, anti-American, pro-Kaiser radical press, is the monstrous accusation that this is England's war, and we have no right to fight England's battles.

If this is England's and not our war, whisper it with shame, for when you say that, you imply that we are curs and cowards, and that England and her allies alone have had the courage to face the fiendish foe that has run amuck and spilled its bloodthirsty hordes over the boundaries of its neighbors. These murderous marauders, bent on world domination, for forty years forging the weapons that were to beat into dust all those that dared to stand in the way of their ruthless ends, have carried fire and sword, desolation and destruction in all directions, sparing neither man, woman nor child, nor any living thing that came in their path. For nearly three years we not only have had to watch the frightful onslaught of a people that had lapsed into savagery, a people that have made even the deeds of Genghis Khan and Atilla, seem in comparison, like a pink tea or a Sunday School session; but we too have felt the heel of Prussian despotism. Our citizens, men, women and children have been murdered by the hundred. We have been vilified and insulted. The whole country has been made the stamping ground for an open and outrageous assault, not only upon nations with which we were at peace, but upon ourselves. Millions of dollars' worth of property has been dynamited and burned; labor movements, political parties, and even Congress itself has been made to do the work of the Pirates of Potsdam. We begged and pleaded with Germany not to embroil us in this world debacle. False promises were made and submarine ruthlessness was temporarily halted, so that hundreds more of the destructive U boats could be rushed to completion. Next we found that our enemies were offering whole sections of our commonwealth as an inducement for other nations to attack and dismember us. Finally we were insolently ordered to keep off the seas entirely. That was the last straw. High officials and officers of the German military and diplomatic service spent millions upon millions of dollars in their efforts to stir up trouble. They hoped by their propaganda to so befog the issues and fool the national mind, to come as near as possible to starting internal revolution and by winning sympathy for their cause, make us active supporters of their mad campaign of conquest, horror and frightfulness. They almost accomplished their dastardly work, but their methods were so typically Prussian, so raw and outrageous that they, the Kaiser's agents, were finally ejected from the country and we the long-suffering victims of their machinations were derided and sneeringly referred to as "Idiotic Yankees." The Bernstoffs, Von Papens, Dumbas and Dernbergs have gone, but the effects of their evil work still remain, as is evidenced by the fact that millions of gullible, credulous, sallow-anything people have been led to believe that this is England's war, when as we all know, or at least all know who are not blinded by ignorance, prejudice or hate, that this is a holy war, God's war, against a gang of ruthless, medieval, sword-rattling, gun-toting military pirates and fanatics, who have got a strangle-hold on the throats of the great democracies of the world, and are trying to choke liberty and freedom to death and banish government of, for and by the people from the face of the earth.

It is gall and wormwood to our enemies, to those who would Germanize our country and the world at large and transform the land of Washington and Lincoln into a Prussian annex, to know that not only their plots failed miserably, but that we too are going to stand shoulder to shoulder with Britain and France in the gory trenches which have so long held back the mad onslaught of the Teuton hordes. That we are on the side of Britain is Germany's fault and Germany's fault alone. If Britain were to run amuck in Europe as Germany has done, we should be on the side of Germany. We are not in this war because we love Britain and hate Germany, we are in this war so that the world may be made a safe place for decent, law-abiding, self-respecting people to live in. We are in this war to liberate Belgium and France, and no less to liberate Germany from the ruthless gang of military maniacs who have converted a people naturally kind and docile, into obedient cogs of a military machine which threatens to overrun the world. We are in this war because we have been infamously mistreated, and our honor, our flag and our rights trampled into dust. If there are Americans among us who do not know of the infamies to which we have been forced to submit and who still think this is not our war, let these craven poltroons hang their heads in shame and forever keep silent or openly confess they prefer German lies to American truth.

Let them remember what President Wilson said in his Flag Day speech: "Woe be to that man, or group of men, who seek to stand in our way in this day of high resolution when every principle we hold dear is to be vindicated and made secure for the salvation of the nation."

I am constantly asked who started this war. The foreign language press has almost succeeded in fooling the masses of the people into believing that Germany was attacked and forced into the war. Let our President answer this contemptible falsehood. In his Flag Day speech President Wilson said: "The war was begun by the military masters of Germany, who proved to be also the military masters of Austria-Hungary. Their plan was to throw a broad belt of military power and political control across the very center of Europe and beyond the Mediterranean into the heart of Asia." Here you have the truth from the highest source.

Next I am asked why we send so much money especially gold to England? We have not sent any gold to England. On the contrary England has been sending us gold by the shipload. Please remember until the Allies commenced to buy war supplies here and send shiploads of their money here, we were suffering from a period of acute business depression and soup kitchens and bundle days were a regular thing, and too we owed Europe enormous sums of money. Here is a little newspaper heading, a sample of many similar ones, cut from the New York Times of June 19, of this year: "England Continues to Send Gold Here. $22,000,000 Arrives. Goes to Reserve Bank." I trust that will help to relieve the anxiety of England haters and those many good, but deluded souls who hate to think that the nation which for three years has been shedding its best blood for us (giving us the opportunity to wipe out our foreign debts and to roll up the biggest stock of gold we have ever possessed in our history and also to experience the greatest wave of business prosperity the country has ever known) is getting a ten-cent piece of our money. We are not giving, but merely loaning John Bull and France and our Allies generally, money, in other words we are giving them credit for the goods they buy of us. Not a dollar of this money is going out of the country. Every cent is being spent here and these loans will be repaid with interest. England has been our best customer. The amount of goods she purchases from us yearly is enormous. Her money too has built many of our railroads and still keeps many of our enterprises going. Would we not be a bunch of dastards and churls and misers, if we refused to give our best customers in the hour of their agony, credit for a year or two?

Now as regards food. Why should we stop supplying these nations with food when they are spilling rivers of blood to hold back the common enemy of mankind. We have always supplied Britain and France with large quantities of food, for remember we raise a great deal more wheat, etc., than is required for our own needs. If we had not fed and helped our Allies, they would have been overwhelmed long ago. Then the bowels would have been torn out of this country, and you would not only have had to have fed your conquerors, but they would have taken every dollar they could have got their hands on, and put you in Prussian uniforms and made you fight their battles.

The cry which came from the foreign language and pro-Germanized socialist press: "Feed America and Starve the War," was another exhibition of the malevolent workings of German propaganda. It fooled the ignorant and the boncheads, and also fooled a lot of the dupes of the foreign socialist movement, and it fooled nobody else.

Many people ask: "Why is Germany able to successfully combat and hold off so many nations?" Germany and Austria straddle over the heart of Europe. These two countries are honeycombed with splendid railroads, many of them built purely for military or strategic purposes. From her central position Germany can roll her troops in a few hours from the eastern to the western front, and thanks to these bands of steel she has been able to concentrate vast masses of troops at any point where enemies threaten to break through. It is not superior science or superior fighting ability that has enabled Germany to hold out. When the British and the French come to grips with the Germans on anything like equal terms, Fritz nine times out of ten gets the worst of it. It is Germany's central position, her strategic railroads and the submarine that has enabled her to hold out as long as she has done. Without the aid of the submarine she would have been put out of business long ago.

How long will the war last? This war may last for years, and it is absolutely necessary that you should know the real truth about this struggle and those engaged in it. We cannot win this war unless people know the truth, for our enemies have filled our people so full of abominable falsehoods, and have painted our allies so black, that they have had more sympathy for our foes than for our friends.

Why should we help France some ask? Good God what a question, and what wicked ingratitude. Without the assistance of France, who came to us with men and money, George Washington's efforts would have been in vain, and our freedom never would have been won. We are paying France a tithe of what she did for us in the brave days of old and we are paying back Britain, the motherland of Washington and Lincoln, for what they did for us in Manila Bay, during the Spanish American War, when only Britain stood between us and a European coalition headed by Germany that fairly itched to conquer and Germanize us. We have had the Fatherland stuffed down our throats until we are nauseated. Don't forget this country once had a motherland that gave us our best blood, Pilgrims, Puritans and Cavaliers. Colonel Roosevelt in his Fourth of July speech said: "Any man who now announces that though he favors the United States against Germany, yet favors Germany against England, is a traitor against America. The offences committed against Americans of 1776 by King George and the England of his day were as nothing compared to the crimes committed against us all and against all civilization and humanity by the brutalized Germany of the Hohenzollerns during the last three years." Because our great grandfathers quarreled with Great Britain is no reason why we should perpetuate today the hate of nearly 150 years ago. The foreign language press wants to perpetuate that hate in the interests of our enemies. The foreign press, however, is doomed. When it goes racial hate will go with it and we shall have one united, freedom-loving people with no fifty-fifty allegiance. Let the blood we are shedding knit all races together in one bond of common brotherhood. That is my dream on this my 54th birthday. God grant I may live to see it realized. I hope you will be able to help me to see it realized by being, no matter what your race or birth, for America first, last, and all the time.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and these who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

MATTITUCK, L. I.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am a young lady fifteen years of age and am in High School. Uncle will you explain the difference between invention and discovery. Our teacher gave us her ideas about them one day in school and I want to know what you think. I have heard people say no one can invent anything, it is just a discovery. Are you as afraid of disease germs as you were a year or two ago? I don't see how you can live with a goat in the same house. I always thought that goats were real dirty. Do you really live with the Goat or is it just fun. I hope to see this letter in print.

Your niece, RITA DURYEE.

Rita, I can't see how anyone can get mixed upon such a simple matter as differentiating between invention and discovery. If a fellow told you you were the only girl he ever loved, that would be invention. If a day or two later you found that man was married and had seventeen kids, that would be discovery. Once on a time I put a bent pin in my father's chair. That was invention. A little later, when Papa drew the tormenting pin from his hide that was discovery. Once a man sold a package to a farmer, and told him it contained solid gold. That was invention. When the farmer got the package home, he found it contained an ordinary brick. That was discovery. There is a store near us which advertises the best and purest ice-cream in the city. The other day the Goat went in and bought a plate of this guaranteed ice-cream. The cream was invention. When Billy dug his spoon into the cream the first thing that met his eye was a deceased cockroach. That was discovery. When the mayor of Chicago was elected to office, he proclaimed himself an American. That was invention. When war broke out we found that he was a Kaiser rooter. That was discovery. When Senator La Follette and Gum Shoe Bill Stone of Missouri went to Congress they swore they were Americans. That was invention. Later on when we found they were working for their German constituents in the interests of Kaiserism and Prussianism and the President was forced to refer to them as willful men, and when these willful men found that every man with a drop of real American blood in his veins regarded them with contempt, that was discovery. As regards Billy the Goat, Rita, that individual is more or less invention, but if you look in Uncle Charlie's Picture Book, you will see a very beautiful goat and that will be a discovery. Your teacher may not lack knowledge, my dear, but evidently she lacks imagination.

LEADORE, IDAHO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I have been taking my final examination this week, and I hope I will pass. I will send you some poetry we had to make up for "language." So here it is. A Lake in the Woods, that is the title.

This little lake three miles across,
A very little flight for a albertross.
Two dozen camps at the side
And out on the wave a raft does ride
It is some eight hundred feet deep.
On two sides the banks are steep.
The lake has a greenish hue,
The sky a very deep blue.

As ever your nephew, GEORGE E. JEWETT.

Sorry George, I couldn't print all your pottery, as you have tackled an inspiring subject and have handled it in a highly creditable way. In fancy we can see that silvery lake shimmering in the woods. But who is this albertross that makes a specialty of flying across lakes? If you had said a very little flight for an airplane or Zeppelin we could have understood it, but apparently this man bird Albert Ross scorns ordinary methods of air locomotion and flies without wings or machinery. The government ought to capture Albert and send him over to France. Maybe he could fly to Berlin and drop a ton of dynamite on the Kaiser's cocoanut. It is about time someone gave the Kaiser a dose of his own medicine. His specialty is butchering women and children. Maybe we could hire Albert Ross, if he is not too busy flying over Lake Leadore, to do a much needed job of this kind. What's that Billy? George means an albatross, a seabird that inhabits the Pacific and Southern Oceans? Isn't that too bad? Once more Wilhelm escapes, but we are going to get him yet. That must be some raft to be eight hundred feet deep, with banks on both sides. There is no submarine that could sink a raft of those gigantic dimensions. That raft ought to be used for ferrying soldiers to France instead of floating idly around in the mountain recesses of Idaho. What's that Billy? George means the lake and not the raft is eight hundred feet deep. My, ain't that too bad. Another attempt to do our bit in the war gone a glimmering. The Goat says George, if you don't look in that lake so much it won't have such a greenish hue. Maybe however, one of the campers has dropped a dollar bill in and that has changed its complexion. Then too it may be trying to imitate Killarney, whose lakes have the correct and patriotic Irish hue. Uncle Charlie, if you go any further you are liable to get into trouble. Billy, I know it, so we'll just thank George for his delightful pottery and evaporate.

HOLLAND, KY.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Have been a subscriber to COMFORT for several years and have enjoyed your talks and letters so much. Wish the world was full of Uncle Charlies. I am writing this for information and advice. I have been thinking seriously of joining the Red Cross since this terrible war started. I don't think I would like to be a nurse though. I have been sewing for a living for several years, get all the work I can do, still I want to do my part in this great struggle. I am willing to do all I can. What I want to know is this: Is there not a place somewhere that I could get work to do, sewing for the soldiers and would you advise this? I want to help if there is work for me to do. I could do nursing if I am needed. Where must I write to get information concerning the Red Cross?

Wishing you a long life of continued usefulness, I am sincerely your friend,

MISS ETHEL HUGHES.

I have written a personal letter to Ethel, and by now I have no doubt she is either sewing or knitting for soldiers, or doing some other work for the "Great Cause." If you can't be a Red Cross nurse, you can all join the Red Cross, and that entitles you to wear the Red Cross button. It costs a dollar a year. No money is better expended than that which goes to the Red Cross. In peace it is used for those who are the victims of flood, famine, pestilence, earthquake and storm. In war it is used to aid and succor the wounded and sick. Over a hundred million dollars was raised the other day during Red Cross week and we shall need another hundred million in six months' time. In this state, a military census has been taken and probably by now a similar census has been taken the country o'er. This is a war of nations and peoples for ideas and principles. Every atom of energy must be conserved and directed into channels that vitally aid the nation and the whole world in its struggle against that section of the human family which has run amuck, crazed with the idea of conquest and insane with military madness. This war cannot be won by letting George do it. You are George, and you cannot push your burden on anyone else. No matter how old you are or how young you are, there is something you can do and something you must do. The great thing is to realize the danger and have the will to do. The Red Cross headquarters is in Washington, D. C., but the organization has branches and chapters in every city in the land. If you write Red Cross Society, Local Chapter, and send it to the nearest town of any size you will get a reply. There is not one pair of hands, no matter how knotted with toil or weakened by sickness that cannot do some little thing for the war to end war.

HORSE CAVE, R. R. 2, KY.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am sixteen years old, five feet four inches tall, weigh one hundred and two pounds, have blonde hair and blue eyes. I live in the country two miles from Horse Cave, on top of a knob.

I go to a contry school, and am in the eighth grade, and my favorite books are arithmetic, geography and spelling. I like the COMFORT paper better than any other paper printed. Well as this is my first letter I guess I had better close. Give my love to Maria and Billy the Goat. Hoping to hear from some of the cousins, Your neice, MATTIE LEE NICHOLS.

So Mattie, you live on a knob do you? Don't you find it rather uncomfortable? Life is a pretty tough proposition and rather hard to live at the best, but I can't see why you should add to the hardships of existence by living on a knob, and especially on top of a knob. Of course there are knobs and knobs, and I don't think I'd care to sit on one, let alone live on one. From the fact that you live on a knob Mattie, it seems to me we have the right to assume that you belong to the knob-ility. Talk about living on things I know a boy who lives on his father, and a girl who lives on her mother and a Kaiser who lives on a bluff. For my part I live on a rubber ring. You'd better try it Mattie, I think you'd find it more comfortable than living on a knob. So you go to a contry school, do you Mattie? I hope that is an improvement on some of the country schools they have in Kentucky. It does not matter whether schools are "contry" schools or country school, not half of them succeed in teaching their pupils to spell that one little word, niece, correctly.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17).

I'll shop for you at Mandel's
—write me as you would a friend
Eleanor Gray

A NEW feature of Mandel's is a personal shopping service in charge of Eleanor Gray. Our out-of-town patrons may have an expert purchasing agent select from the timely, ever-changing stocks of women's coats, suits, dresses, underwear, footwear—everything.

Drop a line to Eleanor Gray, describe intimately your wants and she will choose from apparel designed for critical metropolitan trade. Its style is unmistakable. Or, describe any garment you have seen anywhere and she will send it if obtainable.

Style book sent free

Today, send for the new fall style book of more than a hundred pages, many showing the garments in actual color. Please address your request to Department C.

Mandel Brothers, Chicago





Brass Tacks and Denim

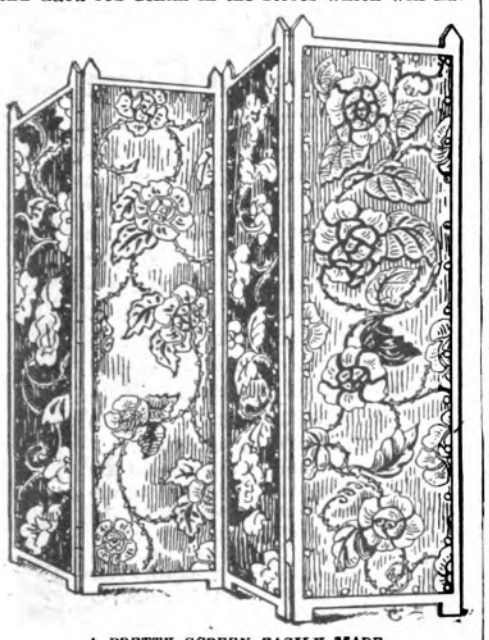
How to Do Your Own Upholstering

By Geraldine Ames

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

HAVE you an old piece of furniture that you would like to reupholster, or an ugly corner in your living-room that you would beautify? Perhaps your window seats need recovering, or they do not harmonize with the general furnishings. Some old flat top desk you may have would be all right for your library if the top were not so scratched up and banged up.

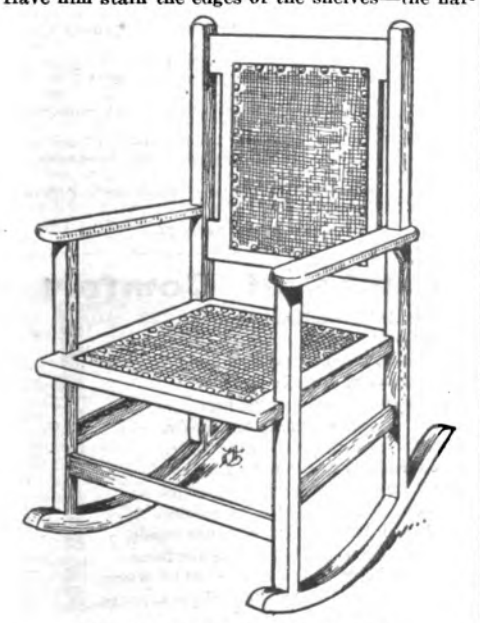
All these things can be made artistic and satisfactory by using brass thumbtacks and denim, a little patience and a few leisure hours. If your home is fitted with mission furniture it is easy to secure any of the soft tones of green, brown and dark red denim in the stores which will harmonize with it. If your furniture is of any other wood, study carefully the color scheme of the room you wish to redecorate and secure samples of the different denims obtainable. After studying the effect of each on the furniture, select the most inconspicuous and suitable to the lighting of the room.



A PRETTY SCREEN EASILY MADE.

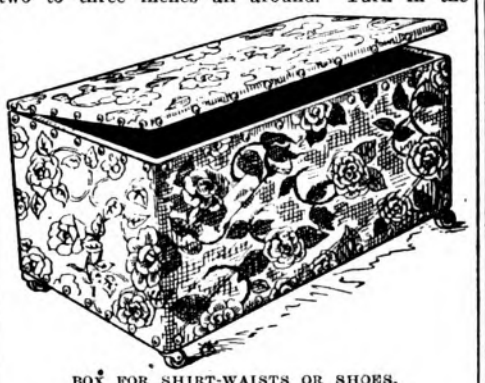
Brass thumbtacks may be bought or you can get thumbtacks with nickel or bronze heads. These go beautifully with almost any shade of denim. However, if you have a number of brass objects in your room, I should suggest using a very inconspicuous thumbtack. If your room is dark, the brass-headed thumbtack with a pleasant green of brown denim gives a very cheerful and cozy effect.

To make a bookcase, use an old bookrack or have a carpenter build you a set of shelves, paying no attention to the cheapness of the wood. Have him stain the edges of the shelves—the narrow strip of wood that shows after the rest is covered. Cover the top and bottom of the shelves with your denim, or even burlap may be employed for this purpose. Draw the material taut and fasten it down at even intervals with the tacks. Stretch a piece of denim across the top and down the sides of the frame, treating it as you do the shelves. Of course the frame must be lined with the denim, for it would not do to show the rough wood frame.



THE OLD CHAIR AS GOOD AS NEW.

To fix up an old chair, the back and seat of which may be in poor condition, cut out a piece of denim the size desired to fit the chair—if the wood will allow, leave a margin of from two to three inches all around. Turn in the denim so that it will not ravel and pit it down with your tacks. If you wish to have a more upholstered effect, pad your denim with either felt or cotton batting.

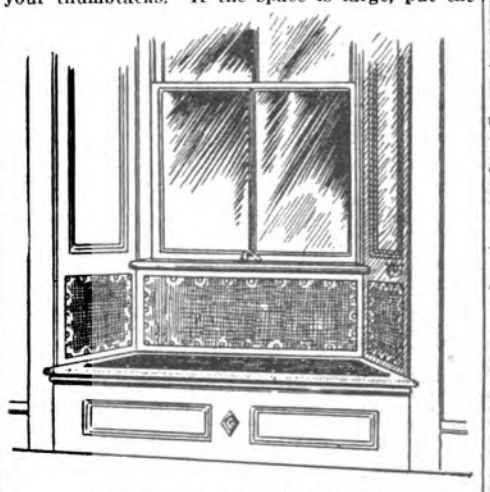


BOX FOR SHIRT-WAISTS OR SHOES.

Window seats may be recovered in the same way. And in a room where little feet disregard velvet or cotton, denim will make most satisfactory coverings. Pinned on by means of thumbtacks they may be changed occasionally at little expense and always be kept fresh and neat.

To make an old scratched top desk presentable, cut out your denim to fit the top of the desk, leaving a margin all around of about three inches. The denim studded with the thumbtacks will not only take away that banged up look but make the desk really artistic. Then, if you are handy with your needle, you might make a few denim ornaments to match—a picture frame, a blotter holder, etc.

Even an old ugly corner of your room may be made cozy and decorative. Perhaps the paper is torn off and the woodwork damaged in one corner and it is not convenient at the time to repaper and varnish. Denim will assist you. Cover a portion of the wall with it, studding it with your thumbtacks. If the space is large, put the tacks further apart as too many tacks are not very effective. Cover a board with your denim and by means of little iron brackets make a shelf of it. On this you might place a vase with flowers, thereby decorating the corner, or books or pictures may be placed on this shelf. A picture or two hung artistically on this portion of the wall and your "ugly duckling" will surprise you most agreeably.



A PRETTY SCREEN EASILY MADE.

If you need a shirt-waist box or a receptacle for your shoes, etc., or for any other purpose, here too, thumbtacks and denim will help you. Study the size of your room. See whether you wish to make your box a window seat or to be rolled under your bed. If for the latter, be sure and put casters on your box. If you want a window seat, and in most cases that would probably be most acceptable, secure an egg box from your grocer. Take out the middle partition, if you wish to utilize it for shirt-waists. Line the box with heavy cardboard—fastening it to the sides either with glue or small tacks. Stretch your denim on all sides of the box, fastening it with thumbtacks. The top may be treated in like manner. After the box is carefully covered, buy two hinges and fasten them to the box proper and to cover, so that the cover may be lifted easily.

A pretty screen is often a much desired article. Buy or make a framework and stain it to harmonize with your other furnishings. Stretch over it a soft shade of denim or burlap and fasten it to the framework with your thumbtacks. This makes a most satisfactory screen for all purposes.

There are hundreds of other ways to employ this time-, money- and labor-saving material and the handy housewife will find it a wise expenditure to experiment with a few yards of denim or burlap, a box of thumbtacks and an old bit of furniture. For nearly all purposes cretonne or some other fabric will answer the purpose as well as denim.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

contents of the will, sir, will you kindly read it aloud in our presence?"

Mr. Clayton flushed slightly as he bowed acquiescence.

The document proved to be very short and to the point, and bequeathed everything that the woman had possessed—"excepting what the law would allow as Gerald Goddard's right"—to her beloved brother, Emil Correlli, who was requested to pay the servants certain amounts which she named.

That was all, and Mr. Goddard knew that in the heat of her anger against him she had made this rash disposition of her property—as she had the right to do, since it had all been settled upon her—to be revenged upon him by leaving him entirely dependent upon his own resources.

At first he experienced a severe shock at her act, for the thought of poverty was anything but agreeable to him.

He had lived a life of idleness and pleasure for so many years that it would not be an easy matter for him to give up the many luxuries to which he had been accustomed without a thought or care concerning their cost.

But after the first feeling of dismay had passed, a sense of relief took possession of him; for, with his suspicions regarding the cause of Anna's death, he knew that he could never have known one moment of comfort in living upon her fortune, even had she left it unreservedly to him rather than to her brother.

Emil Correlli was made sole executor of the estate; and, as there was nothing further for Mr. Clayton to do after reading the will, he quietly took his departure, leaving the two men to discuss it at their leisure.

CHAPTER XXXII.

"YOU WILL VACATE THESE PREMISES AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

"Well, Gerald, I must confess this is rather tough on you!" Monsieur Correlli remarked, in a voice of undisguised astonishment, as soon as the lawyer disappeared. "I call it downright shabby of Anna to have left you so in the lurch."

"It does not matter," returned the elder man.

"What in the world do you suppose possessed her to make such a will?" the young man inquired. "And how strange that she should have imagined all of a sudden that she was going to die, and so put her affairs in order!"

"I think I can explain why she did so. On the day of our return from Wyoming, Anna and I had a more serious quarrel than usual; I never saw her so angry as she was at that time; she even went so far as to tell me that she hated me; and so, I presume, in the heat of her anger, she resolved to cut me off with the proverbial shilling to be revenged upon me."

"Well, she has done so with a vengeance."

"I went to her afterward and tried to make it up," Goddard resumed, "but she would have nothing to say to me. She was looking very ill, also; and when the next morning she sent me word that she was not able to join me at breakfast, I went again to her door and begged her to allow me to send for Dr. Hunt, but she would not even admit me."

"What was this quarrel about?"

"Oh, almost all our quarrels have been about a certain document which has long been a bone of contention between us, and this one was an outgrowth from the same subject."

"Was that document a certificate of marriage?" craftily inquired Emil Correlli.

"Yes."

"Gerald, were you ever really married to Anna?" demanded the young man.

"Isn't that a very singular question, Emil?" he inquired, with cool dignity. "What led you to ask it?"

"Something that Anna herself once said to me suggested the thought," Emil replied. "I know, of course, the circumstances of your early attachment—that for her you left another woman whom you had taken to Rome. I once asked Anna the same question, but she would not an-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

Gold Medal Styles



1001 Fashion Masterpieces of 17 Famous Designers All Shown in My $100,000 Free Book—Long Credit

MANY MONTHS TO PAY

(c) 1917 M. L. A.

Send for my Style Book because of the advantage that most appeals to you. I attract some women simply through the saving in price. Others are charmed by the beauty of my styles. Unfailing quality of workmanship and material wins the particular folks. Those who have failed in being satisfied elsewhere turn to me because of guaranteed satisfaction.

Rich and poor alike enjoy the convenience of my open charge account. Prompt service binds new customers to me permanently.

Do Not Wait

This is probably the most widely known Style Book in America. Each season it brings out scores of the most popular fashions. Most women have learned that the styles it shows are invariably correct.

Last season, I had to disappoint 100,000 late inquirers. I offer you a free copy now. If you wait you are almost sure to miss it.

It is a bigger Book than usual. It shows a great many things in lifelike colors. It will acquaint you in advance of the season with the latest modes for Fall and Winter.

It pictures 1001 articles of women's and children's wear.

Suits—Coats—Dresses—Waists
Skirts—Hats—Shoes—Lingerie—Furs
Underwear, Children's Wear, etc.
Also 300 Kinds of Piece Goods

To get it, simply mail the coupon below.

Gold Medal Styles

Thousands of women have known me for years as a style expert. My experience has taught me that nine out of ten new styles are failures. Few designers produce more than one or two really good models in a season.

So I get my styles by offering prizes to hundreds of famous experts. This brings me their best ideas first. To my own staff, I offer gold medals. I use my own time to search out models in this country and abroad and to reproduce them at reasonable prices.

Then all models are submitted to a board of seventeen fashion authorities. The cream of all selections goes into my Style Book.

It is seldom that the judgment of so many experts goes wrong. That's why my styles are so popular; why my creations are usually the season's hits.

Divide the Cost

If you permit me, I will show you how credit will save you money. So with your Style Book will come a Credit Card opening your account here.

When you wish anything, simply tell me to send it on approval, prepaid. Judge your selections in your own way. If they fall short of your expectations, return them at my expense.

If you keep it, I will divide your bill into several payments coming a month apart. Such a plan means perfect satisfaction and better things. Thus you save on first cost and you save by cutting out waste.

By dividing the cost, folks buy better and articles last longer. One pay-day doesn't have to bear the burden of a season's wardrobe.



Send Only "SALTS" Wool Velour $1.00

Express Prepaid—$2.25 a Month

This delightful, handsome and luxurious coat, stunningly fashioned, is just a sample of my 1001 new styles. It is a prize design and one of which I am extremely proud. Nothing can approach it for less than twice my price.

SALT'S WOOL VELOUR

It is an extremely splendid quality fine winter weight genuine Salt's wool velour. It is so heavy that it does not require lining. It will wear indefinitely and always look beautiful.

Large Raglan Sleeve and long flaring back. Smartly tailored loose belt in front; may be removed if desired. Pockets are well tailored and smartly stitched. Cuffs have a deep gauntlet effect and the stitching and large button trimming is unusually pleasing.

Large Cape Collar extends to a depth of ten inches in back; is trimmed with four rows of tailored stitching and big buttons. May be buttoned up around the face and provides ample protection in stormiest weather. Length 48 in.

$1.00 With Order and $2.25 Monthly

Colors: Navy blue, black, dark green, Burgundy or brown. Sizes to fit misses—14, 16 and 18 years; ladies' sizes, 32 to 44 bust measure. Large sizes cost one-fifth more. **No. A4M883.** Price, **$11.98** prepaid . . . . . .

Free Furniture Book on Request

Your account with me is also good with a mammoth Housefurnishing concern. If you ask, I will also send you their Bargain Book, picturing home things on a year's credit.

$10.00 Left Over

On all your expenses in wearing apparel for a season, I will save you at least $10.00. I will do this while giving you nicer styles and better quality. You will have at least as many things.

So under my plan at the end of a season, you will have $10.00 left over. Or you can have something extra for yourself for that amount. Either way, it is a pleasing surprise.

I accomplish this saving simply because I buy for half a million women at one time. My life has been spent in learning how to secure lowest prices. I never get my things from middlemen. I deal exclusively with mills and makers.

My garments are made in my own shops. There the strictest economy is practiced. Then I have no salesmen or collectors; no store expense; no end-of-the-season left-overs.

For all these reasons, I urge you to ask for my Book now. I can't promise it if you delay.

MARTHA LANE ADAMS

3404 Mosprat Street, Chicago

Fall Style Book

MARTHA LANE ADAMS (1409)
3404 Mosprat Street, Chicago

Mail me your Fall and Winter Style Book.

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Shall I also send Furniture Catalog? Answer Yes or No. _____

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

swer me directly—she evaded it in a way to confirm my suspicions rather than to allay them. And now this will—it seems very strange that she should have made it if——"

"Pray, Emil, do not distress yourself over anything so absurd," coldly interposed Gerald Goddard, but with almost hueless lips. "However, if you continue to entertain doubts upon the subject, you have but to go to the Church of the—the next time you visit Rome, ask to see the records for the year 18—, and you will find the marriage of your sister duly recorded there."

"I beg your pardon," apologized the doubter, now fully reassured by the above shrewdly fashioned answer, "but Anna was always so infernally jealous of you, and made herself so wretched over the fear of losing your affection, that I could think of no other reason for her foolishness. Now, about this will," he added, hastily changing the subject and referring to the document. "I don't feel quite right to have all Anna's fortune, in addition to my own, and no doubt the poor girl would have repented of her rash act if she could have lived long enough to get over her anger and realize what she was doing. I don't need the money, and, Gerald, I am willing to make over something to you, especially as I happen to know that you have sunk the most of your money in unfortunate speculations," the young man concluded, Mr. Goddard's sad, white face appealing to his generosity.

"Thank you, Emil," he quietly replied; "but I cannot accept your very kind offer. Since it was Anna's wish that you should have her property, I prefer that the will should stand exactly as she made it. I cannot take a dollar of the money—not even what 'the law would allow' in view of our relations to each other."

"Pray do not take it to heart like that, old boy," Correlli said, kindly, after a moment, "and let me persuade you to accept at least a few thousands."

"Thank you, but I cannot. Please do not press the matter, for my decision is unalterable."

"But how the deuce are you going to get along?"

"I shall manage very well," was the grave rejoinder. "I have a few hundreds which will suffice for my present needs, and, if my hands have not lost their cunning, I can abundantly provide for my future by means of my profession. By the way, what are your own plans?—if I may inquire," he concluded, to change the subject.

"I am going to return immediately to New York—I am bound to find that girl," he said.

"Then you were not successful in your search?" Mr. Goddard remarked.

"No, and yes. I found out that she arrived safely in New York, where she was met by a young lawyer—Royal Bryant by name—who immediately spirited her away to some place after dodging the policeman I had set on her track. I surmise that he has put her in the care of some of his own friends. I went to him and demanded that he tell me where she was, but I might just as well have tried to extract information from a stone as from that astute disciple of the law—blast him! He finally intimated that my room would be better than my company, and that I might hear from him later on."

"Ah! he has doubtless taken her case in hand—she has chosen him as her attorney," said Mr. Goddard.

"It looks like it," snapped the young man; "but he will not find it an easy matter to free her from me; the marriage was too public and too shrewdly managed to be successfully contested."

"It was the most shameful and dastardly piece of villainy that I ever heard of," exclaimed Gerald Goddard, indignantly, "and——"

"And you evidently intend to take the girl's part against me," sneered his companion, his anger blazing forth hotly. "If I remember rightly, you rather admired her yourself."

"I certainly did; she was one of the purest and sweetest girls I ever met," was the dignified reply. "Emil, you have not a ghost of a chance of supporting your claim if the matter comes to trial, and I beg that you will quietly relinquish it without litigation," he concluded, appealingly.

"Not if I know myself," was the defiant retort.

"But that farce was no marriage."

"All the requirements of the law were fulfilled, and I fancy that any one who attempts to prove to the contrary will find himself in deeper water than will be comfortable, in spite of your assertion that I 'have not a ghost of a chance.'"

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss October will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.



MISS SEPTEMBER.

THE sign Libra (The Balance) exercises a benign influence over those born between the 22nd of September and the 23rd of October, for they are endowed by nature with spiritual intuitions and helpful foresight. First impressions are usually their best, as their sensitive natures grasp by intuitive insight truths which others discover only through experience. While success generally follows their efforts, it would be greater, if a lesser degree of positiveness could be maintained. We owe to Colton some very helpful advice to persons born under this sign: "Accustom yourself to submit on all and every occasion, and on the most minute, no less than on the most important circumstances of life, to a small present evil, to obtain a greater distant good. This will give decision, tone and energy to the mind, which, thus disciplined, will often reap victory from defeat and honor from repulse."

Several strong types appear among those born within this period, but the faculty of intuition is the predominating characteristic of all. In one type the speculative propensity is very strong, coupled with a natural longing for excitement. They are quick to perceive which enables them to make money in quick buying and selling. Were it not for a strict regard for the dictates of conscience they might become gamblers, but even with this safeguard they must shun immoral associates.

Another type, controlled almost wholly by a keen sense of intuition which seldom fails them, will, like the first, make successful tradespeople. If they marry philosophical, thoughtful persons, there is sure to be incompatibility, for Libra never gives a reason. They may be right; quite likely will be, but why they cannot tell.

Another type will be interested in all new things, being dilligent students of all scientific knowledge, and possess a natural gift for mechanics superior to those born under any other of the twelve signs. They excel in mathematics and belong to the world of mechanical inventors and originators. They are very social, frank and open in their affections. They keep to their ideals, and dislike combat of any kind. They like quiet, when, uninterrupted they may work according to their determined purposes.

Children born under this influence should be held in strict control and intelligent guidance by their parents, for they require careful training and broad and thorough education. "The aim of education should be to teach us rather how to think than what to think—rather to improve our minds, so as to enable us to think for ourselves, than to load the memory with the thoughts of other men."

September Birth-Stone is the Sapphire

It is of great importance that those born in September should wear their birth-stone as a constant reminder, for it symbolizes constancy, and without this virtue they will not make the best of the grand nature that fate gave them. To succeed, there must be constancy of purpose, yet, it is often consistent with constancy to change seemingly well laid plans that took years of labor and study to develop. Failure is frequently the light to success, yet it takes the most heroic constancy to pick up the broken threads and start again with experience as the greater asset.

Millet, the painter of the famous "Angelus," in the depths of sorrow and with a supreme effort, worked at his canvas all the spare hours he could take from his menial labors as a railway porter, that his beloved wife, in a dying condition, might have strength-giving food and medicine. Millet's first failures in art plunged him into the direst state of poverty, and while he lived and worked in the grip of trial and sorrow, it intensified all the fineness of a beautiful nature, which gave eloquence to his brush, and adversity did what prosperity never could have accomplished.

It is not by any one chapter in the individual life that failure or success is proven. It is the summing up, the amount gleaned from the possibilities given us with life, that tells with what constancy we have labored.

Constancy of Purpose Applied in the Schools

Miss September, with books swinging in a strap, brings visions of school days soon to come. During vacation time, the youngsters have grown physically stronger while storing their minds with knowledge of the woods and valleys, the flowers and bees, the birds and creeping ants.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the modern system of school gardening, which has proven that the education goes on more actively out of the schoolroom, than in it. School gardening gives the child a full opportunity to work out his own plans, while applying what he has learned at school. In this way both girls and boys are happily employed. They feel they are producers, and the spirit of rivalry adds enthusiasm and interest. They learn carefulness, a regard for property rights, and carry their knowledge into the home.

Thrift, taught and encouraged by the school bank system, is another important educational feature of modern learning. This banking system was founded by Professor Laurent, a Belgian teacher of Ghent, in 1873, and first inaugurated in America at Long Island city by another Belgian, John H. Thirty. The idea was at once very popular with the school children, and has so continued, and besides the advantage of the savings, children are spending less for unwholesome candy, soda and gum. That this must be so is apparent in the wonderful story told in actual figures, for the children's deposits in the school banks have gone over the $1,300,000 mark and there are over 217,000 child depositors.

In taking money to school it is accompanied by a deposit card, and after record of amount is made, the card is returned to child to be taken home.

The deposits are received on specified days and usually the money is kept by the school teachers until the sum of three dollars is on hand, when it is deposited in the child's name in a savings bank paying not less than three per cent. From Maine to California the children are depositing their pennies, and the custom merits great encouragement. The time will come when we shall begin to hear of great successes which were made possible because of the constant saving of pennies during school days. It trains the young mind to look ahead and to become purposeful.

Make this little school maid by covering a doll with crepe paper, and for variety, the hat, tie and band around skirt of a different color.



The Simplest Way to End a Corn

DECIDE now to master your corn forever. Let today's corn be the last. Blue-jay will free you from the most painful corn. Apply one of these soothing plasters tonight. Pain ends. In 48 hours the corn disappears. Only Blue-jay gives this insurance. Paring is temporary. Harsh liquids are dangerous.

Millions of corns are ended the Blue-jay way. Most corns require but one application. An occasional stubborn one, two or three. Try the gentle, simple Blue-jay way tonight. You will never be the victim of corns again.

BAUER & BLACK
Chicago and New York
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc.

Blue-jay

Stops Pain—Ends Corns

Sold by all Druggists
Also Blue-jay Bunion Plasters

"Possibly, but I doubt it. All the same, I warn you, here and now, Correlli, that I shall use what influence I have toward freeing that beautiful girl from your power."

"Do you mean it—you will publicly appear against me if the matter goes into court?"

"I do."

"Do your worst! I do not fear you; you can prove nothing."

"No, I have no absolute proof, but I can at least give the court the benefit of my suspicions and opinion."

"What! and compromise your dead wife before a scandal-loving public?"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24.)

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
Once to Every Man (continued) *Maude Mary Brown*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner	5
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	5
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	6
Common-Sense Economy to Meet High Food Prices *Ella Gordon*	7
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	8
Brass Tacks and Denim How to Do Your Own Upholstering *Geraldine Ames*	9
The Kingdom of Our Birthright	10
Crumbs of Comfort	10
When the Light Went Out *Hapsburg Liebe*	11
Nerine's Second Choice (concluded) *Adelaide Stirling*	12
The Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	13
In and Around the Home Conducted by *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	14
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	16
Description of Patterns Illustrated on Title Page	16
A New Vision *Arthur Wallace Peach*	17
The Doings of the Dapperlings *Lena B. Ellingwood*	18
Why Canned Goods are Always Safe *R. M. Baker*	19
The Modern Farmer	20
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	21
Veterinary Information	22
Manners and Looks	23
Family Doctor	24
Information Bureau	25
Home Lawyer	26
Talks with Girls	26
Six Wheel Chairs in August	26
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	27
Comfort's Comicalities	27

OCTOBER COMFORT

the Harvest Number, will tell how our wonderful harvest is to feed the famished nations and win the war. Don't miss the interesting beginning of our new serial story the first four chapters of which will appear in October.

If the number over your name on the wrapper on this paper is 348 or any less number, your subscription should be renewed at once. Besides a useful article on "Various Ways of Serving Potatoes," the following will be some of the

Special Features for October

"The Girl He Loved"—By Adelaide Stirling

This tragic love tale interwoven with the thread of a strong detective story and involving a stunning casualty of war is a thriller from the start and fascinating to the end. It will run as a serial beginning with a large installment in October COMFORT.

"Bulbs for Winter Blooming"

An illustrated article that tells how to make the home cheery in winter with the bright, sweet-scented flowers of spring.

"A Hallowe'en Party"

Tells how to entertain your friends on Hallowe'en night with pleasant and startling stunts and mysterious tests.

"Melissa's Home Coming"

A pretty romance of a city girl and country lover delightfully written in Joseph F. Novak's fine style.

"Cubby Bear's Friends"

In response to the requests of the children and many older readers Mrs. Ellingwood tells another Cubby Bear story in October.

Send 30 cents today to renew your subscription two full years. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album. Even if your subscription is paid some months ahead, renew now at special low renewal rate and we will extend your subscription two full years beyond date of expiration. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date ..... *Name* .....

Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....

R. F. D. No. ..... *Box No.* ..... *State* .....

September, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

Goodness heightens beauty.
Contentment wears a crown.
Ambition is a glorious cheat.
Fear and cruelty are ever twins.
Books are the mentors of the heart.
Anger manages everything done badly.
Worry is always fine rust on the blade.
There is small choice in rotting apples.
Sleep is a poor guest where care lodges.
He that sows craft shall harvest trouble.
Friendship is the best cement of like minds.
A man in authority is but as a candle flame.
A poor teacher may be a hinderer of his lesson.
Fear is an acid; love and truth are sweet juices.
God is ever the lender of all of our created joys.
Prayers are steep steps a soul has taken to climb.
A youth of labor has the winning of an age of ease.
Hasty counsels are generally followed by repentance.
Poverty may want many things, but avarice needs all.
The body of a man is one of the great miracles of God.
Character is found in the most perfectly educated will.
The truest courage is always mixed with circumspection.
Try to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the right moment.
A river flows smoothly when it follows a straight course.
Cultivation is as necessary to the mind as food to the body.
Despair is the offspring of fear, of laziness, and of impatience.
The darkest day is sure of finding an end with another day's dawn.
The most manifest sign of wisdom is to be seen in calm cheerfulness.
A light supper, a good night's sleep, and a fine morning makes a hero.
There is always more day to dawn; the sun is but a morning star.
Fortune is rarely brought home in boats that were not carefully steered.
There is a nobleness of mind that can heal all wounds better than salve.
He that opposes us strengthens our nerves and finely sharpens our will.
Some men, like some pictures, are fitter for a corner than for a full light.
In adversities and difficulties arm yourself with patience, firmness and fortitude.
A place can be found for a peaceable man in the smallest and most crowded room.
The best portions of a good man's life are unremembered acts of truth, kindness and love.
No man ever offended his own conscience, but first or last it was revenged upon him for it.
If we had no defects in ourselves it is certain we should not take pleasure in those of others.
Humanity never seems so beautiful as when asking forgiveness, or else when forgiving another.
Commend a fool for his wit, or a knave for his honesty, and they will receive you into their bosom.
A man who gives his children habits of industry provides for them better than by giving them great wealth and idleness.

When the Light went out

by Hapsburg Liebe



Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

GROPING in the sticky darkness of his room in a tenement district lodging-house, Morris Gayle found a chair and dragged it slowly to the one window. Wearily he sat down, and wearily he began to stare at the metallic gleam of the wet pavements below. To go back over his life, day by day, was a thing he did every evening now; Gayle was not yet thirty-three, but already he was finding more in the past than he found in the present or future. And that is no good sign.

His reflections were not altogether pleasant. Gayle had much to regret. And as he thought on and on, he gathered his ragged coat close about him, as though he were cold.

There was a rap at the door, the rap of one who would not be denied admittance. Gayle rose half frightenedly, touched a lighted match to a stub of a candle that set in the neck of a dusty bottle, and bade the caller enter. The latch turned with a slow deliberateness, and the door creaked inward; then a tall man with graying temples and a thin, strong face stepped into the feeble glare of the tallow dip.

"Tom Wardlaw—from home!" exclaimed Gayle. Oddly, he remembered the name better than he remembered the man himself. He ran on feverishly: "Let's see, Tom, you—you used to be an engineer on the railroad that passed through home, through little old Wellsboro. Didn't you?"

The visitor's eyes lost their look of stern reproof as they noted the gloom and the hopelessness that was depicted in Gayle's whole appearance.

"Yes," slowly, "it is Tom Wardlaw, from Wellsboro."

He advanced, trying to smile, and held out his hand. Gayle took it and clasped it weakly.

"I see," said Wardlaw, breaking a heavy silence, "that you still shave. As long as a man shaves, there's hope for him, Gayle," and this came like a bullet—"Gayle, you've got to go back to Alice."

"Back to Alice!" Gayle jerked his hand nervously from the other's grip. "No, Tom Wardlaw; not that; I'm dead to Alice."

"You are not dead to Alice," Wardlaw contradicted flatly. "When you had ten thousand dollars sent her as life insurance money, you fooled a great many people; but Alice has never believed that you were dead. She believes the truth; and the truth, Gayle, is this:

"You brought your invention to this city, this boundless city. You sold that invention for a fortune, and money made you a fool. You went the gait. The patient little woman you left in the vine-covered cottage back on little Wellsboro's Rocky Hill became insignificant when compared to the butterflies your money brought sailing around your head. So you decided to 'die.' You did a good job, but you didn't fool Alice!

"And now it's been seven years, Gayle. And Alice has waited, alone in the little house that she helped you build, those seven years for you. And listen, man: Just as she used to burn a light in the window to show you the way up the hill when you came home at night from your work, just so she still burns it—through every hour of every black night! That lamp has set there in that one window for seven years. So you've got to go back to her, Gayle. And you've got to be a man in the future. Do you understand that? You've got to be a man in the future."

Force of habit drove Morris Gayle to the window. His unseeing eyes began to stare again toward the wet pavements below.

"Seven years," he muttered; and it sounded as though he were speaking to himself—"seven years. And they've been as long to me as they've been to Alice. * * * * You were right, Wardlaw; I went wild because of the city's glamour and the things my money brought to me. But, Wardlaw, it was short; my money was all gone at the end of a year. Then I repented. I repented most bitterly. I would have gone back to Alice then, had I not been ashamed to go. I merit your condemnation of me, Wardlaw, I know; but—I have suffered too."

He had faced about; he was looking the other squarely in the eye.

"How did you find me, Wardlaw?" he finally asked.

"I have been spending my vacations each year since your supposed death in looking for you," answered the engineer. "Like Alice, I refused to believe you were dead. I learned from the proprietor of this lodging-house that you had a room here. And you're about broke, Gayle, or you'd stay at a better place than this."

Gayle turned out his empty pockets, which was sufficient. He sank to a chair and bent his head to the back of it. Wardlaw continued to stand.

"A man," said Gayle, "who is as full of regret as I am, can't hold a job when he gets it."

There was a long period of utter silence, save for the clatter of hoofs and the rush of wheeled things in the streets below. Morris Gayle was once more back in the little vine-covered cottage, with Alice's dark-brown head bending to his knee, her lips singing low and sweetly an old, old lovesong. Again was his hand fondling her hair, caressing it. Again did they walk in the evening, laughing and naming stars and wishing, laughing and naming stars and wishing:

"God!" he sobbed aloud.

Wardlaw's face softened with pity. He understood fully. He took a step forward, put a hand on the suffering man's shoulder, and dragged the heavy head gently around.

"She'll be glad to forgive you, Morris," he said. "Come; let's go back. You must, Morris. You must go back before the light goes out. For the light will go out, some day—and when the light goes out, then what?"

Tom Wardlaw, splendid man, his soul bleached white with the fire of a sorrow of his own, which was a sorrow that he never spoke of, turned away to hide his jerking lips from the other's gaze.

"How I wish I could!" Gayle rose, turned to the window, and then faced his caller again, "But I'm ashamed to go back now. I'm broken in spirit, penniless, in tatters. It would be too cheap a thing, too unfair. Wardlaw, I can't go!"

"But the light," reminded the engineer, in a voice that seemed to have come from far away. He took Gayle's ragged coat by its rumpled lapels. "Morris, it will go out, some day. It's terrible, when a light like that goes out. I know about this, Morris. I had a light that went out. And the darkness that came to that window——"

In a strained, uneven voice he went on: "I don't think you've heard of it, Gayle, so it won't bore you to hear of it now. I had a sweetheart once, who lived in the old home village, in Wellsboro. She lived with her parents, in a little vine-covered cottage like that you built for yourself and Alice. Each time I passed through the village, I would blow what railroad men call 'The Whippoorwill' with my engine's whistle; and when she heard it, she would put a lighted lamp in a front window as an answer to my signal. Then there came a time when I blew my whistle and had no answer. * * * *

"Shortly after that, Gayle, the light of my life went out. Not that she was false; she had never promised herself to me. * * * * * When I pass that window now, Gayle, I try to keep from looking toward it. But I see it, whether I look or not. Morris, for Heaven's sake, go back while your light is still burning for you!"

"But it's too late!" Gayle cried smotheredly. "I tell you, Wardlaw, it's too late!"

"It's never too late," declared Wardlaw. He corrected himself—"Not while there's a light to show you the way up the hill. Come; go to her and make reparation. You're not an old man yet. Come!"

Gayle paced the length of the room and back. Then he halted before Tom Wardlaw and determinedly:

"I'll go. And I'll try to make reparation."

* * * * * * * * * * * *

He started immediately. Wardlaw bought a fare to Wellsboro and gave it to him, then saw him off with the heartiest of handshakes.

Gayle found the village much the same, when he stepped from the midnight train to the deserted station platform. The same stores, the same tall-spired church, the same blacksmith shop, greeted him like sleeping friends in the moonlight.

He set out down the main street, and a walk of ten minutes brought him to the foot of Rocky Hill. There he stopped and lifted his eyes. In the vine-covered cottage on the crest there was a light, but it was somehow dim. Gayle took a few more steps, and stopped; a realization of his own unworthiness had put up a well-nigh insurmountable barrier between him and the vine-covered cottage.

"I can't do it!" he throated to himself. "I can't, I can't!"

"But you can!" said the soul of him. "You can, you can!"

He drew himself together and almost ran up the slope. Before he was halfway of the hill, he saw that the lamp in the window had begun to sputter! At the sight of that, Gayle ran on, faster, faster. Two more minutes, and he had reached the vinehung veranda, where the sweet fragrance of honeysuckles made the very air intoxicating. He rapped on the front door and stepped backward, with his heart beating wildly. There was no response.

A great and smothering fear fell over him. He stepped to the end of the veranda, and saw that the light had gone out!

Yes, the light had gone out.

With a choking cry, Morris Gayle ran to the front door, threw himself against it and broke the latch. The hallway was dark and still, and full of the odor of faded roses.

"Alice!" cried Gayle. "Alice!"

And a voice answered: "Here, Morris," weakly.

He staggered, sobbing, afraid, into the little living-room.

He saw that there was a low-burned fire in the old-fashioned fireplace. And before it, crumpled on the floor, her shoulders shaking, her wealth of dark-brown hair flowing over her bare arms, was Alice, Alice—who had just given up at last!

With a great, glad cry Gayle sprang to her, stooped and caught her up in his arms and kissed her.

"I have always believed that you would come back, until tonight," she told him. "And I saved the ten thousand dollars you sent me. With that we can begin all over again."

A little later, Gayle told her about Wardlaw. When he had finished the little story, Alice said to him this:

"Tom was right. His sweetheart had never promised herself to him. You see, I was that sweetheart, Morris."

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

a distance of thirty miles. So great was the throng that many had to wait several days for their turn. But now in its place stands a five-story roller mill that runs night and day, which has a capacity of 400 barrels of flour every twenty-four hours.

Good by, GRACE JULIAN.

Grace Julian. Descriptive letters are always interesting and I wish we received more of them to mix in with personal subjects, for sake of variety though I must confess that these intimate subjects of ours appeal to me very much.—Ed.

TENNESSEE.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I want to talk on stepmothers a while, as I am one. I married a divorced man with two children and they live in this city. My husband supports the two little girls and gives their mother alimony. He dearly loved the little girls, five and three years old, and was in the habit of seeing them often at his mother's home. After we were married I used to go with him on these visits and before long they came to our home and we learned to love each other. When my baby boy came they were as eager over him as his father and I were and grew very fond of him as the years went on. He is now seven years old and his little sister is five. He is in school and now, sisters, comes the problem. His half sisters are ten and twelve years old and both attend the same school and his little playmates throw it up to him that his father has two wives and the two half-sisters. I cannot stop the little girls from coming to our house for they are as dear to me as my own children. My husband says the children at school will soon stop teasing my little boy but I fear not and what will my little girl do when she starts to go to school for she won't be able to stand the teasing as brother does. My husband says he will move to another town if I wish but we don't want to do that. I know that my children are as pure and good as any children but why should they be hooted at and teased because their father has a divorced wife.

Let me hear some comments on my problem through COMFORT's pages.

Love to all readers, Perplexed.

MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I want to ask your advice about taking lessons from a correspondence school. I want very much to get an education and as I cannot go to public schools (because I have to work and do not have time) I thought of taking lessons from a correspondence school but many people have advised me against it, tell me I would be wasting my time and money and that the certificates they give are not worth anything. Some of you may advise me to go to private or night schools but I live in a small town where there are no schools of that sort. Of course I could study at home with benefit to myself but it isn't like taking lessons from a school.

I hope you will give me your advice for it will mean much to me and I shall be very grateful.

Wishing COMFORT staff and readers all success,

ANNIE.

Annie. It is my opinion that the people who think their time and money wasted in taking a correspondence school course are people who didn't make the most of what the school offered them and consequently were more at fault than the school. Select your school with care though and then make up your mind to stick to it and study diligently, and, remember all of us are wishing you success, and perhaps someone can give you their personal experience along that line. —Ed.

ARKANSAS.

MY DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

It seems I have, along with many others, formed the habit of bringing my troubles and other affairs to the columns of dear old COMFORT. I wonder how many of the sisters living in the country are familiar with the same school conditions as prevail in our state, this section at least, and are satisfied with them? We have a term of three months' school beginning in July, then skip three or four months and have another three months' term, making but six months during the year, of school. This state has a compulsory school law, which in our particular district is not enforced, any flimsy excuse sufficing to allow children to absent themselves from school for a month at a time or more. Parents keep children from school to pick cotton, fruit or get up fuel, etc. Our teachers are mostly recruited from the ranks of beginners, who practise on our children and as soon as the needed experience is gained depart for town or city to teach, where the terms are eight or nine months and remuneration greater. Our directors are so economical in trying to save five or ten dollars per month on teachers' salary for possible future repairs (which they usually forget to have made) that of course a really experienced teacher cannot afford to take a district school, if he has to live on his salary alone. Are these conditions common in rural districts or do I look at it in a wrong light, having always been accustomed to city schools heretofore.

I, too, believe in Woman Suffrage and believe their vote would change many disagreeable things in this state. But, Arkansas is coming into her own rapidly. She has so many wonderful natural resources, agriculture, fruit growing, gas, oil and coal, pearl fisheries, manufactories of almost every sort, health resorts, etc. And to the pioneers of the state, we late comers owe a great debt of gratitude, in that they have labored so hard to make the way easier for us.

I enjoy COMFORT. May it live long and continue in its good work of helpfulness is the sincere wish of "Arkansas Grouch."

TEXAS.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I am here because I want to tell you that I like your paper very much and think the letters are wonderful. "Mother's Old Maid" is asking someone if she can tell her anything about me. I suspect not as I don't know much about myself. I have been in school since I was six years old, till three years ago when I began to study dancing. Terrible, isn't it, but I love it and I have been on the stage. I wish I were like F. G. C., and loved home, country, Sunday School and such, but I am not wicked even if I do not care for such things. I love dancing, music, bright lights, flowers and everything gay. Yes, I have lived in the country and Daddy and Mamma live there now and I like to stay at home a little while at a time. So many people think that if a girl ever goes away from home she is disgraced forever. I have traveled, been in all kind of places and have had thrilling experiences but I can still claim my honor. I have one thing against country people and that is, they will condemn a girl much more quickly than city people. A girl has many more privileges in the city. Some mother will say there are many more temptations. Well, if your girl isn't strong enough to resist them, keep her at home and then watch out.

The most important subject we are discussing is children. I love them, but do you think it right for a woman to have five or six children to care for? She never has any pleasures as she has to work so hard to care for the newest baby. I am a believer in children, but in small families and five or six years' difference in their ages. I want a home some day. Don't think because I am a dancer I do not love home life. So many people think we are not human, that we are without life and just clay that can stand on its toes and smile at the crowd (audience). I hear Mrs. A. B. C. saying, "You can't be nice to wear such short dresses and do such high kicks." We give the people what they want, not what we want for if we did that I am sure I wouldn't do the high kicks as I can assure you they are not so easy as they look. (Get behind the door and try it.)

Shall I come and tell you all about my life, work and everything else? I am leaving tomorrow to join my company to go in training. We will start out in September but will give private dances until then. I love everything and everybody and my greatest problem in life is to keep my weight down to one

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

Oil Polishes Come and Go ----but

LIQUID VENEER

Goes On FOREVER

Buffalo Specialty Company

Buffalo, N.Y., U.S.A.—Bridgeburg, Ont., Can.



"I Will Trust You Gladly" Spear, of Pittsburgh

Spear Charges Less-Always

30 Days' Home Trial and Use

Your chance to get a high-class Kitchen Cabinet at a price much below the average. Solid Golden Oak throughout; aluminum work-top—26 x 41 inches. Rustproof 45-pound metal sifter flour bin, large cupboard space, 8-pound sugar bin, and roll curtain covering compartment for spices, extracts, etc. Roomy cupboard for utensils—pan and lid rack on door, easily sliding drawers, large bread and cake drawer, kneading board 17½ x 21 inches. Doors fitted with fancy glass, double strength inserts.



Order No. F2827

This cabinet will save you hundreds of steps every day. It will rapidly pay for itself in the saving of time, motions, nerves, and health. We will send it on 30 days' trial and use, on the easy credit terms of $1.00 cash and $2.00 per month. First payment and freight charges refunded if not satisfied.

Send Only $1.00 Total Price $18.45

Send for Big New Free 1918 Bargain Book

In it you will find hundreds of bargains—every article pictured and fully described. Without leaving the comfort of your home you can shop among the biggest and best furniture manufacturers of America.

And, I will save you money on everything you order—my prices are from 30 to 50 per cent lower than home store prices; that is one reason why I am The Home Furnisher to the People of America.

30 Days' Home Trial Money Back Offer

You take no risk when you deal with me. Everything I sell is sent on 30 days' trial and use in your own home.

In the event of the slightest dissatisfaction with price, quality or anything else, you may return the goods. You will not be out a penny, for I will immediately refund your first payment and all freight charges. There are no strings to this offer. I have been making it for years.

Send the Coupon Now

There are things you have long wanted to brighten and refine your home. You can get them immediately, for I will trust you gladly, wherever you live. The terms are so easy, and the payments so small, you will never miss the money. Send for the catalog now.

Nathaniel Spear, President

SPEAR & CO.

Dept. E Pittsburgh, Pa.

Hundreds of Bargains in Everything for the Home

Furniture
Sewing Machines
Washing Machines
Lace Curtains
Linoleum
Go-Carts
Silverware
Portieres
Carpets
Rugs
Guns
Clocks
Stoves
Dishes
Ranges
Springs
Bedding
Mattresses



SPEAR & CO., Dept. E, Pittsburgh, Pa.

I would like to know all about the Spear Open Account, Easy Payment Plan for home furnishing. Please send me, free, your complete Bargain Catalog with Prices, Terms, and Information, without the slightest obligation on my part.

Name.....

Town.....

State.....

Nerine's Second Choice

By Adelaide Stirling

Copyright 1897 and 1899, by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XXV. (CONTINUED.)

"SATTERLEE did you say? What has he got to do with your brother?"

"Jim knocked a boy down in Satterlee's stables years ago for ill-using a horse, and the boy died. Satterlee was going to prosecute him, but he ran for it, and never was caught. I don't know how Simpson got to know it, but he did, and he's held it over Jim and me ever since."

"Is it Jones you mean by Jim?" a sudden light breaking in upon her. "But I always thought he was devoted to Mr. Mayne."

"He's frightened of him, more like. Too frightened ever to try to leave him. Besides, it's an easy place, and he would have to get a character to go to another. Oh, he'd never dare leave Mayne."

"But the Lord Satterlee you speak of is dead," Nerine said, musingly. "And his son, who is engaged to my sister, is Lord Satterlee now. I think he would be willing to do a good deal to get rid of Mr. Mayne; perhaps he would give your brother money to get out of the country; at least I know he would give him time." She rubbed her forehead worriedly. "What is the good of talking like this?" she cried. "We can't prosecute Mayne, and have you witness against him. It would all come out about my mother."

"No," said Mrs. Simpson; "not if you don't want any publicity, we can't. But you and I could go and see Simpson, and tell him we were going to have it all out, and that if he restored all the money he'd put away these years past, we'd keep it quiet. No fear, my dear, of his ever letting on that he was not married to Mrs. Lispenard. That is, if you think Jim could be got out of the way first."

"We've really only the diary to go on," the girl rejoined. "I wonder if it's enough."

"Marriage certificates don't lie. Oh, you'll find we have plenty to settle Simpson."

"It would be worse for him if he had to pay back all, or all he has, than only these last eighteen months' money, wouldn't it? And it could be managed more quietly, too. Not that I want to spare him publicity, only that I don't want our name to be in every paper coupled with his."

"It'll be the best way, and the quietest, too, you mind me," Mrs. Simpson said, jubilantly; but suddenly her face fell. "I'll be rid of Simpson and the fear of his doing for me some day, if we drive him out of England," she remarked with doleful emphasis; "but how am I going to live? I'll never get a penny more from him."

"I'll look after you, and in a better way than this. I owe you more than that for your giving me that key."

"I wouldn't want much—I wouldn't, indeed. And perhaps you might let me live in some little cottage near you, and you'd come and see me sometimes. That is," humbly, "if you'd let me leave here."

"I would let you indeed, my poor soul."

"I'd live on almost anything if you'd do that. I wouldn't be much of an expense to you—I wouldn't, truly," she added, with the dog-like gratitude which always touched the girl.

"Tell me," Nerine suddenly asked, "didn't you really know me till I showed you my skirt?"

Mrs. Simpson shuddered.

"No more than the dead," she solemnly replied. "But when I did remember you, I was frightened to death that you had come to track me down about that silver business, and afterward, when I learned that you were Simpson's niece, I believed that he had sent you."

"I knew you for certain as soon as I saw my skirt. Tell me, what put it into your head to chloroform me?"

"For fear you'd rouse the house. I used to see Simpson take chloroform for his asthma, years ago, and when I saw it on his washstand, and you standing over the bag, it just come into my head that it would keep you quiet while I got away. If I'd known all I do now, I'd have died rather than done it—you know I would!"

The girl assented, looking straight at her.

"Tell me," she said softly, "you don't do things like that often, do you? At least, you won't when you don't need to."

Mrs. Simpson turned very red, but she spoke up honestly.

"I never stole from any one but Simpson," she said, truthfully. "And whenever he kept me short, I'd go and take whatever I could get. Not at your place; he'd a cottage near London for years he used to go to."

So that was where their stepfather betook himself on those mysterious absences of his; doubtless he enjoyed many things in that cottage near London which would have been looked upon coldly by his friends in the Plymouth Brethren.

"Then you never were at our house before?"

"Never before; and the next time I'll go with you, and we will get rid of Simpson forever."

Nerine hesitated.

"I must see Lord Satterlee first, and find out about Jones; or, I don't know—perhaps we could get Jones away somewhere safe ourselves, and let sleeping dogs lie at Satterlee. I must take a day or two to think."

"I wish we could go tomorrow. But we must look after Jim first. That's a pretty skirt of yours," irrelevantly, pointing to the black-and-purple brocade, "but I wish you'd take it away from here; it reminds me of that day when I might have killed you."

Nerine nodded absently. She was thinking of Jones. There might be other people to settle with, as well as Satterlee. How had Maurice managed Jones that morning when they went to the football match, if he had not held his secret over his head? She must see Maurice; she would send for him tomorrow. But she would have liked to settle with Mr. Mayne with no aid but Mrs. Simpson. Half wild with worry and wonder as to what should be done first, she got up and began to pace the room restlessly.

Snap had risen, too, from his seat beside the fire, and stood staring, a mass of rising bristles.

"What's the matter, Snap? You're not going to fly at me, are you?"

The dog growled furiously.

"Hush! He hears some one, and so do I! Oh, what shall we do if it's Simpson?"

Mrs. Simpson flew to the bedroom door and locked it, utterly forgetful of her foot.

"Lock the other door, quick!" she cried. "He might murder us in this lonely place and no one be any the wiser."

But Nerine stood in the middle of the room, turned to stone. If it were Simpson, and Simpson were Mr. Mayne, she could face him now as she could never perhaps face him again.

Snap tore to the door, growling viciously; some one was coming in the front way, and the girl turned white at the footstep—white, not with fear, but with fury.

She seized her mother's book, jammed in the loose papers, and locked it; then she moved out of sight of any one who should come in the door.

"Oh, why didn't you lock the door?" Mrs. Simpson hurled the words at her as she hobbled across to do it herself. But she was too late.

Snap, in the passage, gave a vicious yelp of pain, and Mr. Mayne, cool, elegant and self-possessed, walked into the room.

CHAPTER XXVI.

"MY PART IN THE PLAY IS DONE!"

"You were going to close your door, were you not?" Mayne said politely to Mrs. Simpson, who confronted him, redder than her satin tea-gown. "And with me outside! Permit me to do it—and remain in! Also, call your dog, or I will knock his brains out."

"Don't you dare to touch him!" threateningly.

"Dare, my dear Mary, is not a word to use to me." Mr. Mayne, not without a glance at Snap, turned to close the door; and confronted his stepdaughter.

Deadly white, her eyes black and narrow with rage, two heavy lines on her forehead, not one of the "black Lispenards" had ever looked more dangerous.

Mr. Mayne gave an unpremeditated start.

"You here!" he said sharply. "Well, I suppose I might have known you would find out who stole your silver. You were always excellent at taking care of your property," with uncomplimentary emphasis.

"I always was, and I always mean to be," she replied, haughtily. "But I suppose, with all your cleverness, you did not imagine that I should come here and find you out."

That was first blood for Nerine, and her nostrils dilated.

"Find me out?" Mr. Mayne was a little staggered. "It is no crime, my dear Nerine, for a man to be found out in helping his poorer—friends," with a glance at Mrs. Simpson to bid her mind what she said.

Nerine advanced a step, and put her back against the door.

"Do not call me dear, and do not add any more lies to your many by talking about your poor friends," she said, icily. "As for the silver, it was the luckiest thing in the world; if Mrs. Simpson had not tried to take it, I would never have found out all about you. How did you dare"—her eyes flashed green as the light caught them—"make out that we were all two years younger than our age? Do you see this book?" pointing to it as she held it clasped to her breast. "I found that in your room while you were away—and I found the key here! Our baptismal certificates and the certificate of our mother's marriage to you are in it. You should have destroyed them before you came to our house—a thief!"

"It seems to me that that word might also be applied to other people." His mincing manner was more pronounced than before, for he never imagined for an instant that he should not get the better of the girl, as he had so many a time. "According to your own words, you saw fit to steal a book which was mine; and, of course, having stolen it, you could insert quite easily any alterations in the dates of those certificates which you might consider necessary. I fear," airily, "that in a court of law your book would be worth very little."

"And I know," she quietly responded, "that it would be worth a good deal—backed up by other things."

Something in her tone staggered Mayne a little.

"What other things?" he asked, defiantly.

"What other things?" Mrs. Simpson, with her hand on Snap's collar, for Mayne carried a loaded stick, burst in furiously—"what other things? Why, me! Wasn't I married to you two years before ever you saw that girl's mother, who never was your wife at all? And haven't you deceived me all these years with stories about your nieces? You'll give up all that money you've stole from those poor children, or she"—pointing at Nerine—"will prosecute you for all you've done, and I will be a witness against you!"

Mayne turned on her with a snarl.

"You'll keep a quiet tongue in your head, or it'll be the worse for you," he exclaimed. "I suppose she's going to pay you well for your lying stories about your marriage; but how are you going to settle that little story about Jim Lister?"

"Do you suppose that Lord Satterlee, who hates you, is going to play into your hands by prosecuting Lister?" Nerine cried, derisively.

It makes no difference whether he does or not. I'll give information to the police about him, and then where will he be?"

"Out of the country before you can do it," answered Nerine, composedly. "I will see to that, Mr. Simpson! Look here!" she continued, with her black brows bent uncompromisingly on him, "your part in the play is done. Unless you sign what I am going to write now, confessing that my mother was never your wife, and your other fraud about our ages, and promising to give back all you have stolen from us, and leave the country, I will have it all out in court. You would never be able to show your face in England again if everything came out."

Mayne gave a snickering laugh.

"You talk very big, my girl," he said. "I might sign anything (which I'm not going to do), and afterward, what's to prevent my going home and going off with everything you've got—eh?"

"Even then"—haughtily—"it would be cheap to us, for we would be rid of you. And do you think"—playing her last card boldly—"that Maurice and Agatha are not acting in other quarters as I am here? I think that we are too strong for you at last—thief, impostor that you are!"

"You're a nice pair, with your lies and your book!" he cried. "What is your precious book any how?"

"My mother's diary, with those certificates I spoke of inside it."

Mayne laughed.

"I told you before what I thought of them! And is that all the evidence you've got? A book you might have written yourself!" As he spoke, he cursed himself inwardly that he had not suspected its existence and destroyed it long ago.

"It's enough for you," Nerine retorted. "Ah!" She jumped back quickly, having fortunately been looking straight at his eyes.

Mayne's spring on her had just missed the book, but he had her by the wrist; he was wonderfully strong, considering how small and frail he looked!

"Let me go!" she exclaimed. It was no time for nicety; in another moment he would have her by both wrists; she struck him full in the face with the book. He fell back for a second; the next he had her, as she had feared, by both arms, and was twisting them. It was agony, but her fingers as yet were fast on the book.

"Quick! help me!" she screamed to Mrs. Simpson.

There was a sharp clicking sound behind Mayne.

"I tell you I'll kill you if you lay a finger on the girl!"

In an instant Mrs. Simpson was at Mayne's side, with her pistol in her hand.

Mayne knew her too well not to believe her. He dropped Nerine's arms and jumped back, so that she nearly fell over him as the door swung open behind her.

Tall, long-armed, clean-built, not an angel from heaven could have been a more joyful sight to Nerine than Fairfax standing in the doorway.

"You!" she screamed, while Mrs. Simpson, pistol in hand, stood over Mayne. "Do you see that man? He is my stepfather, and this woman is his wife. He was married to her two years before he married my mother," she asserted, pantingly.

Fairfax saw Mayne give a quick look at the open door, then at the window.

"None of that, my man!" he said quickly, and had the door locked, the key in his pocket and his stalwart self between Mayne and the window like a flash. "Now, Miss Lispenard, what is this all about, and what was this gentleman doing to you when I came in?"

"Twisting her arms, the brute, to get the book!" sobbed Mrs. Simpson.

"And you stopped him. It is well you did, for if he had twisted them a minute longer I would have broken his neck. You don't need your pistol now, though," he added calmly, pointing to a distant table, where Mrs. Simpson deposited it without a word.

"Now, Miss Lispenard——"

Nerine briefly told him of all that had just occurred.

As she stopped, Mayne began to bluster; he would have them all taken up for intimidation; the story was all a lie.

"You have to prove that," Fairfax cut him short, "and in the meantime I fancy you had better make the best terms you can with Miss Lispenard. You don't seem to have much of a case against her, so perhaps it would be cheaper for you to settle it out of court. As for your giving information against your wife's brother, or going back to the Lispenards' home and stealing more from them"—sharply—"I will guard against that."

He took a pencil and paper from his pocket and looked at Nerine.

"What I understand from you," he said, significantly, "is that if Mr. Simpson signs a full confession of his fraudulent marriage with your mother, and his lie about your ages, and also promises to leave the country at once and never return, you or his wife will not prosecute him for bigamy or fraud. Considering, of course, that he makes over to you all the stocks and money in the bank in his name, to which he had never any right."

Nerine nodded.

"If he does not sign that and keep to the agreement," she said steadily, "he will be prosecuted on every count there is against him, and we will make him give an account of every penny he has taken from us. If he cannot return the whole amount—why, I suppose it will mean going to prison!"

She spoke to Fairfax, but she kept her eyes on Mayne's face, and saw it change.

"Write it all out, Mr. Fairfax," she went on evenly, "and I think Mr. Simpson will sign it."

"I, Clarence Simpson, sometimes known as Clarence Mayne, do hereby confess——" Fairfax wrote steadily on till the whole tale was down in black and white.

"Now sign it!" he said quietly.

Mayne looked from one to the other like a vicious animal cowed, at bay.

His deeds had not sounded well when read aloud; they would sound less well in open court. He made a quick summary of his worldly goods banked in London under his own name, and a mental calculation as to his best course as he glanced from one face to the other.

"There seems," he said, with his old manner of airy patronage, "to be a good deal of unnecessary ceremony and—ah—coercion about this paper; but if you insist"—Mr. Mayne took up the pencil handed to him—"of course, my dear Nerine, I must oblige you."

He wrote his name with a steady hand. Then he smoothed his necktie and took up his hat.

"You have been very fortunate, and luck has played into your hands," he said dryly to his stepdaughter. "I suppose you hardly realize that. If circumstances had not aided you, I should not be leaving Lispenard House as I am. By the way, I may as well tell you that I have no intention of ever returning there. Jones will pack up my things and forward them to me."

Mrs. Simpson gave a shriek.

"You'll never go now, and inform against Jim!"

She almost flung herself at Mayne's feet, and he drew back distastefully.

"My good woman, I never meant to," he returned, politely. "It was only a little threat to keep you in calm solitude and away from me. Now that Miss Lispenard has discovered you, my part in the play, as she so pithily says, is done."

He stood smoothing his hat almost absently.

Nerine stepped forward.

"Mr. Mayne," she said, impulsively, "will you give me your word of honor about that? If we are not to believe you, I would like to know it now."

Mayne looked at her.

"For a change," he said, quietly, "I am telling you the absolute truth. I shall go to London, and then abroad. I am making my last exit."

Then, with a bow of the utmost politeness, he turned to the door, and was gone. He had never bestowed a parting word or glance on Mrs. Simpson.

Nerine drew a long breath.

She began to put on her hat and jacket.

"He is going to do something dreadful! I saw it in his face. Quick! Come with me to Combe station. I am going to catch the express that doesn't stop here; I must get home before he does!"

"But you can't go and wait for a man like that all alone in an empty house!" Fairfax said sharply. "Besides, what can he do? He said he was not going there."

"All the more reason for him to go. I know he means mischief. He is going to steal something—or burn the house down!"

She ran over to Mrs. Simpson and kissed her.

"You've done so much for me! You shall never be sorry if I can help it," she said gratefully. "I will write to you as soon as I can."

Then she touched Fairfax sharply on the arm.

"Come with me to the station," she said; "I will just catch that train, and Mr. Mayne has not thought of it. When I am gone, you must telegraph to Maurice to meet me at Lispenard at once. And you must keep on sending messages till you get an answer. Then, if you will, you must send a message to nurse at the farm that I had to go home."

She nodded once more at Mrs. Simpson, and went out into the welcome night, Fairfax at her heels.

CHAPTER XXVII.

MAYNE'S LAST APPEARANCE.

Lispenard House stood dark, and, to all appearances, untenanted, that night when Nerine reached it. She had just caught the train, and must have passed the slow one which carried the unconscious Mr. Mayne somewhere on the road. He could not reach Lispenard House for two hours more, yet the girl grudged every minute that passed. Oh, if Maurice would only get there before him!

She rang the bell loudly; rang it again; and knocked till the dark garden seemed to echo. She had not counted on being unable to get in, and it seemed a much more terrible undertaking alone in the dark than it had with Fairfax beside her in the sunshine—this holding the house fortified against her stepfather.

Where could Jane be? Out, of course—impatiently—and gallivanting.

Afraid to knock again, she tried the door softly, and, to her great delight, it was not locked. She swung it open, and was inside in pitchy darkness. Thank goodness, her stupid knocking had not roused Jones in the stable!

She locked and bolted the heavy door, and began to make her way in the dark through the familiar passages, to the morning-room. How ghostly it was, and how her steps echoed on the stone floor! For the first time in her life she was frightened. She dared not look before her lest she might see some dreadful face peering at her through the dark. With shut eyes she felt her trembling way to the morning-room door; once there, she would have a light in no time.

It was with a relief that was almost sickening that she struck a match and lighted the lamp in the familiar room. Cold and dismal as it looked, it was a heavenly refuge after those dark, whispering passages. There was material for a fire built in the grate, and she set a match to it. The flickering warmth lighted up the silent room, and brought back her courage—which was as well—for, courage or none, those passages must be faced, and Jane's whereabout discovered. Lamp in hand, Nerine made her way to the kitchen, but it was cold and dark; there was no sign of Jane. She made sure that the back door was fast, and the windows; though of course there would be no keeping Mr. Mayne out when once he arrived, since she knew he always carried the key which let him in to his own part of the house.

The kitchen reminded her that she was hungry, for it was ten o'clock. She found cold meat and bread and butter, and carried it back to her fire-lit citadel, and then climbed to Jane's bedroom. But the room was empty, Jane's belongings were gone.

Standing in the little bedroom, the girl's heart sank. Fairfax had been right—there was not a soul in the house; Clarence had either missed Jane or let her go off on a holiday. Soon he would be here, and she must meet him alone.

"Maurice must get here first," she said to herself bravely, and turned with trembling knees and went down-stairs again.

If she had known just what purpose was in Mr. Mayne's mind, she would have been afraid, no matter how diabolical it might be. She had read "revenge" in those pale eyes, seen it on the unscrupulous, thin mouth. And he had said it once, when Mrs. Simpson had said she was afraid of him.

Her heart was not beating steadily when she reached the down-stairs hall where once she had routed Mr. Mayne, and her own weakness angered her.

"You idiot!" she said to herself roughly, "it is because you are tired and hungry, you are afraid of being murdered by a little wretch like that!" But oh! how strong his grip had been that afternoon!

Nerine turned resolutely from the long passages, where her lamp seemed only to show the darkness, into the morning-room, warm and comfortable now. She sat down at the table and ate some meat and bread, with faint appetite in spite of her long fast.

"Maurice would say 'have a drink,'" she reflected; and with a tread that was very weary she went over to the cupboard to get the brandy. She must have some tea, even though she did not relish descending to the kitchen again for water.

Oh, hurrah! Here was better than tea—a decanter of sherry. She remembered thankfully it one night when Kit had felt faint, and by some luck it had not been put away. She drank a mouthful out of a teacup; the taste revened her, but the wine did her good. The nervously fatigue which had lain on her vanished; she rose from her knees beside her cupboard refreshed. After all, there was nothing like eating and drinking.

She looked at the clock, but it was not going, of course; and she went, lamp in hand, into the dining-room and stood surprised as she saw the time. Eleven o'clock, and no sign of Mayne. Mayne would be here at twelve, for she knew by his face that he lied when he said he did not.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

Lift Corns out with Fingers

A few drops of Freezone loosen corns or calluses so they peel off



Apply a few drops of Freezone upon a tender, aching corn or a callus. The soreness stops and shortly the entire corn or callus loosens and can be lifted off without a twinge of pain.

Freezone removes hard corns, soft corns, also corns between the toes and hardened calluses. Freezone does not irritate the surrounding skin. You feel no pain when applying it or afterward.

Women! Keep a tiny bottle of Freezone on your dresser and never let a corn ache twice.

Small bottles can be had at any drug store in the United States or Canada.

The Edward Wesley Co., Cincinnati, O.

$3.00 Brings This $3 SUIT

Tailored to Your Measure

on an offer so easy, so liberal, so wonderful, you can hardly believe it. The very latest 1918 style, a perfect fit, magnificent new design, *delivered prepaid. Send no money now, not one cent,* just write us a letter or postal and say, *"Send me your new amazing $3 suit offer"* and get the latest big set of cloth samples to pick from, a great book of all the brand new 1918 fashions shown in gorgeous colors *all FREE,* a tailoring offer so splendid, so marvelous, it's hard to believe; greater and better than any tailoring offer you ever saw. *How to get all your own clothes free,* how to make all your spending money in your extra spare time, how to become more important, influential and prosperous. Don't wait, don't put it off, write us your name and address now, today, this very minute. Address



BANNER TAILORING CO., DEPT. 648, CHICAGO

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Corns and How to Treat Them

SOMETIMES I wonder about our grandmothers' and our great-grandmothers' feet. Think of the work they did! They spun and wove and dipped candles, and plaited straw bonnets, and baked and brewed and did a million other things. They must have been on their feet the bigger part of every day. And then I look at the picture of Great-great-grandmother and see the tiny slippered toes peeping from beneath the hem of her gown—and wonder, and wonder and wonder if Great-great-grandmother did not wear slippers just a wee bit too small for her, and if, after all, she may not have had as much trouble with puffy, aching feet, and corns and ingrowing toenails and all the other uncomfortable things as we do.

If so, she kept very still about it, whereas we frankly exchange experiences with our neighbors and buy bunion protectors and corn plasters



A CUT LEMON IS EXCELLENT TO RUB ON TIRED FEET.

and powders for tired feet, at any drug-store counter!

And speaking of corns, is there anything more nerve-racking? Let me tell you how one physician advises us to get rid of them.

First, go to the drug-store and buy a bottle of corn remover. There are several good ones on the market that are widely advertised. These are reliable, so don't accept a substitute. Instead, ask your druggist to send and get you some when he places his next order for drugs, or write yourself direct to the manufacturer who advertises the corn remedy.

The necessary brush or glass rod for applying it and full directions for use will come in each package.

When you are all ready for bed, soak your feet thoroughly, dry, and then, with the camel's-hair brush or glass rod carefully paint the corn with the liquid. Do not get the liquid on the rest of the toe, for its object is to loosen the corn, and you do not want to skin your entire toe! The next night repeat the process, and do so again on the third night. Usually the third application will take the corn off. If it is a corn of very long standing, and an obstinate one, you may repeat for a fourth and fifth night.

On the next night, soak the foot for ten or fifteen minutes in hot water, then with the blunt edge of a knife-blade (thoroughly scrubbed with soap and hot water, rinsed in hot water and dried on a perfectly clean towel), gently lift the edge of the patch, all the way around, working it up carefully, and the corn, which will have been loosened will peel off, without the slightest pain and leave no soreness.

Rub the toe with a little vaseline or zinc oxide ointment, and go peacefully to bed, and thereafter be careful that you do not wear shoes too tight or too short, or ones which rub the toes. If your shoes are wrong so that they rub or press the toes the corn will come again in time, as that is what causes corns.

There is another thing you should be especially careful about if you wish not only cornless but acheless feet, and that is never to wear a shoe with a run-over heel. The moment the heel is worn unevenly, even though only very slightly, take your shoes to the cobbler and have the heels straightened. You will save yourself many aches and pains by so doing, besides keeping corns and bunions at bay and improving your appearance. If you run your shoes over very badly, you would better have heel plates put in the heel on the side you wear out. The metal resists wear and your heels will stay straight much longer.

Keep a lemon on your dresser with one end cut, and before dressing your feet rub them with the freshly cut surface of the lemon, letting the juice dry on. Each time, before using, cut off a thin slice of the lemon so you will always have a fresh place to use. This is an excellent treatment for tired feet.

Some druggists will try to sell you a preparation of their own make, telling you that it is "just as good" as the advertised one you ask for. Perhaps it may be, but then it may not, and it may make your toe sore. If you insist on having the standard advertised trade-mark article you get a safe and sure remedy.

Answers to Questions

Ethel E.—No, indeed, my dear, there is no medicine you can take to prevent your getting any taller! If you are only five feet now, and are thirteen years old, you will probably grow four or five more inches. Indeed, you should hope to, for five feet four or five is not at all too tall, and when you are eighteen or twenty I shall be receiving mournful letters from you if you remain only five feet tall. Your weight is very good, at present. You should wear your dresses about an inch above your shoe-tops. The most fashionable way for a girl of thirteen to wear her hair, is braided and hanging down her back—in one braid, left loose at the ends. It should be parted in the middle in front, and rolled away from the face above the ears. To do this, part the hair from one side of the head to the other, as well as from front to back. Take one half of the front hair and roll it gently back on itself, putting the ends with the back hair; do the same with the other half, then braid all together. If your hair is not very long, part it down the middle from the forehead to nape of neck. Braid in two braids; then tie the end of one braid to the beginning of the other, and the end of that braid to the beginning of the first, using large bows of ribbon. This will make short braided loops across the back of your head. As to the pimples, girls of your age are apt to have pimples, which clear up as they get a little older, but you can help to get rid of them by seeing that the bowels are in perfect order once or twice daily, by drinking lots of water, by not eating between meals, and by not eating too many sweet or greasy things—candy, pie, cake, doughnuts, fried foods. Don't cut them all out, but be careful to eat very moderately.

Mrs. N. Y.—I am sorry it is against the rules of this department to answer letters by mail. I do not think the treatment you suggest as preceding peroxide and ammonia, to remove superfluous hair, will keep the hair from coming back. If you have only a fuzzy growth, it is more than probable it is not nearly so noticeable as you think. You would far better stick to the peroxide and ammonia if you want to remove the hair permanently. Keep the skin clear and healthy in appearance and the hair will scarcely be noticed while it is being got rid of.

Blondy.—I do not know what causes your large knuckles. You do not tell me your age, what you do, or anything about yourself. If you are a young girl, you may be very thin, so that your knuckles look prominent; if you are older, your knuckles may be receiving certain deposits from the blood which are enlarging them. In either case, drink plenty of water to keep the body cleansed and purified and the blood free from impurities. Be careful what you eat, and see that your stomach does not get acid. If it does, your diet needs regulating, and you should cut out acid fruits and tomatoes, and not eat a great deal of meat, and be sure to avoid fried foods, and take care to chew every mouthful until it is liquid before swallowing. Your bowels must be kept in perfect order. Too much sugar will cause acid, also. Eat simple things. Cut out tea and coffee. In the mean time, massage your knuckles with a pulling motion (pulling toward your finger tips gently) several times a day. In fact, when you are sitting idle, you can easily begin to work at one knuckle or another gently, and see that they are kept well massaged. This helps to prevent the accretion of deposits.

Madge.—"The next COMFORT" always means about four or five months after the receipt of a letter, because when this letter of yours was received, July 2, the July issue was mailed, the August issue was printed, the September issue was being set up. Big magazines with their circulation in millions, have to work a long time ahead. I am doing just as you ask and answering "in the next COMFORT," but I am afraid it won't be the issue you will expect to see the answer in. As to the moles, they are rather dangerous things to meddle with, a cancer sometimes being produced. If there is a large fleshy mole, tying a silk thread about the base and letting it stay will cause the mole to turn black, dry up and finally drop off; but if the mole is merely a discoloration a little above the surface of the skin, and not a protruding fleshy mole, you cannot use this method. You can touch the mole with salicylic acid moistened with alcohol or glycerine, leaving it on for half an hour, then washing off. This should be done for three days in succession. Only touch the mole and not the skin surrounding it. If the mole gets irritated, leave it alone, or put on some healing cream or vaseline. Peroxide can be applied to moles and sometimes bleaches them.

M. B. B.—See answer to "Madge." For your freckles, try using a lotion made from four tablespoonfuls of lemon juice and four of glycerine. Every night, after washing and rinsing the face and drying, dampen the face with this lotion and let it dry on. The freckles will not disappear unless the outer layer of the skin peels, as they are under the skin.

Miss Luella.—See answer to "Ethel" for suggestions as to diet, where pimples are in evidence. The sunburning of your nose would not produce pimples—they come only from impurities in the blood which are not being carried off through their proper channels, either because those channels are sluggish and do not do their work, or, through faulty diet, are overloaded with impurities and cannot take care of all of them, the blood then seeking to rid itself of them in this other and more conspicuous manner. In taking your daily body bath give the skin a good frictioning. A bath mitten of Turkish toweling, that will slip over the hand and enable you to give yourself a good rub, is an excellent thing to use, but any more or less rough towel will serve the purpose. Flush the bowels by drinking large quantities of water—never less than eight glasses a day. Eight glasses is just the normal amount required by the body, in order that the blood may be pure. Exercise, indoors and out. Keep plenty of fresh air in your house, and always sleep with the windows open. All of this will purify your blood, for of course the air that enters your lungs has that task to perform and if you see that pure air is breathed, the work will be well done. In the mean time, here is a good lotion to use on your nose:

A Lotion for Pimples

Rose-water, two ounces; tincture of camphor, one half dram; glycerine, one half dram; precipitate of sulphur, one half dram.

Old Subscriber.—Always be careful in handling anything which began with a bruise. You speak of the place on your face as a scar, but if it is *sore* at all after five years, it is more than a scar of course. I mention this merely to call your attention to it. If it



WATCH YOUR SHOES TO SEE THAT THE HEELS ARE NOT RUN OVER.

is just a scar, about all you can do is to massage it gently, and regularly.

Blue Eyes.—The peroxide and ammonia are applied, to remove superfluous hair, one one day, the other the next, the hairy spots being dampened, in each case, with the liquid which is allowed to dry on. It takes quite a long time to dispose of the hair by this method. Once the root is killed, the hair will not come back.

L. H.—The best way to reduce the bust is by exercise and by inducing perspiration. A good exercise is as follows:

To Reduce the Bust

Standing erect, with your chest held well out, stretch the arms out sideways on a level with the shoulders, keeping the elbows stiff. Now throw the arms forward forcibly, letting the hands meet, still on a level with the shoulders. Again throw them back as far as they will go, remembering to keep the shoulder level—make this movement as if you were trying to make them meet in the middle of the back; throw them forward; throw them back, and so continue, being careful that the elbows are kept entirely stiff. Breathe in deeply as you throw the arms back, exhale slowly as you bring them forward. To induce perspiration, buy a strip of rubber sheeting wide enough to extend above and below bust and long enough to wrap around the body. Draw this firmly and snugly with strips of adhesive plaster. This will make the body perspire, and with every drop of perspiration you are reducing. In the mean time, cut out fat-building foods.



$1.98

This Beautiful Embroidered Silk Crepe de Chine Waist

This popular new style waist is made of fine quality genuine crepe de chine, elaborately and artistically embroidered in handsome heavy floral and dotted design. Cut full and roomy. New style collar extends well over back and shoulders. Long sleeves; turn back cuffs. Closes with pearl buttons. Order by No. 22 F for white or 23 F for flesh color. Sizes 32 to 44. Be sure to state color and size when ordering. Price, postage prepaid, only $1.98

Compare this waist with any for which you are asked $3 to $3.50. This wonderful bargain is but one of thousands which you can select from our new Fall and Winter catalog, which is now ready to mail.

Do not let this opportunity pass. Write to-day. Now! Send only $1.98 and get this beautiful silk crepe de chine waist, postage paid, under our positive guarantee that if you are not pleased, your money will be refunded.

Everything to Wear for Men, Women and Children

Unusual bargains in ladies' suits, coats, waists, skirts, shoes, millinery, furs and furnishings. Overcoats, suits, shoes and furnishings for men and boys, now offered to you at prices absolutely guaranteed lower than you can buy same qualities for from any other source.

Our New Fashion Book Free

America's Most Beautiful Styles

A postal card brings free our new Fashion Guide. It pictures and describes "AMERICA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL STYLES," many illustrated in true-to-life colors. Our book will bring to your home thousands of wonderful bargains in all that is best and newest in Everything-to-Wear, offered at guaranteed money-saving prices. **Write for Style Book today. Sent Free.**



CHICAGO MAIL ORDER CO. CHICAGO Dept. 22 F

F. F.—If you use barium to remove superfluous hair, the hair will come back, and usually heavier and darker. Better stick to the other treatment. Remember that the peroxide bleaches the hair, so that it gets less and less noticeable.

Charlotte.—See answer to "Blue Eyes." If your skin is too oily, be more careful as to diet, and drink quantities of water. Also, when you take your daily tub, and indeed whenever you wash your face in the daytime, friction it with the palms of the hands, and always end by dashing cold water on it. Look after your bowels, and eat plenty of fruits and green vegetables. Drink lemon juice in water half an hour before breakfast (no sugar), and eat oranges whenever you can.

Mabyl.—You do not give the size of your bust. It may be, if you are only sixteen, that it seems large now, but as you get a little older will be just right. However, practise the exercise given to "L. H." but not the rubber sheeting idea. Use this exercise also:

For the Too Large Bust

Standing erect, close each hand to form a fist, and bring the arms out sideways on a level with the shoulders. Do not bend elbows, but, holding arms stiff, move each in a circle at arm's length, on a line with the shoulder, to start with, but widening, so that you are describing with each closed fist a large circle at arm's length sideways from the body. Do this very rapidly, over and over again. Breathe in as you start, and keep the mouth closed while making the circle. Rest and breathe when necessary.

Violet.—If your fingers get hard at the corners of the nails, soak your hands thoroughly in warm soapy water for about five minutes; then carefully clean nails with an orange-wood stick (never a steel nail-cleaner, because it hardens the nails), cleaning well down at the sides of the nail; then use your scissors (manicure scissors, for the other scissors are too thick-bladed to do any good) to clip any hard bits of cuticle at the sides of the nails. Next, rub the finger-nail and edge of cuticle all around nail, with vaseline. Rub it well in. Do this vaseline-rub every night to keep your cuticle soft, and I think you will find that soon the hard and rough spots will go away. Do not cut the skin at the sides of the nails except when absolutely necessary, as constant cutting will make it hard, and that may be what is the matter now. To get rid of hair on your arms, you can use the peroxide and ammonia treatment—which is the best—or you can use a depilatory, as follows, but, if you do, remember that the hair will come back darker and stronger than ever:

Depilatory for Superfluous Hair

To one ounce of sulphuret of barium add four ounces of water—or, in simpler terms, use four times as much water as you do barium. Add enough corn-starch to this to make a paste and spread it on the hairy spot. When it is dry, scrape off with the back of a silver knife or paper-cutter, or something similar, and the hairs will come with the paste. Do not leave on until it burns—as it will—but take off as soon as dry and there is a very slight tingling sensation. If the skin is irritated, use some cold cream or zinc ointment.

V. G.—See answer to "Mabyl."

Discouraged.—I'm mighty sorry about those too, too solid pounds of flesh. You do weigh about twenty-four pounds too much. And the only way to really get rid of this flesh and to stay rid of it is to cut out fat-producing foods. Exercise will help, and you can practise any and all of the exercises given in COMFORT. Any one of them will be of help to you, but your main effort must be in the line of diet. I expect you are very fond of sweet things, and potatoes, and all the other foods which make nice fat pounds! How is it? Here, then, is what you should do for a time. For breakfast, eat fruit without sugar, preferably oranges or some fruit like that. A glass of orange juice would be a good thing. You can eat poached eggs. Eat scarcely any bread and no *white* bread. Eat it for a while toasted without butter. Don't eat cereals and don't eat cream or milk on anything, or sugar. Can you do that? I know it sounds heroic, but those are the foods which make fat, and you have too much already. These foods do not make fat, and you can eat any you want, but be careful to cut down, also, the *amount* you eat. Chicken, turkey, *lean* beef, fish, lean mutton or lamb (although our government is asking us not to eat these latter, so I hope you won't). You can eat spinach, onions, lettuce, string beans, turnips, celery, radishes, tomatoes,—in fact most of the vegetables except potatoes. Avoid rice and macaroni. Do not eat sweet desserts. You can eat a baked apple without sugar or cream, some sliced oranges without sugar, any fresh fruit without sugar, but otherwise cut out the desserts for the time being, and cut out the bread and cereals. Do not drink coffee or tea with your meals. Drink lemonade occasionally—not at meals, but between them. With these precautions, you should lose many pounds quite rapidly. Don't you think it worth while?

Theress.—There is no royal road to dimples. Cultivate a pleasant smile, and, if you are thin, try to put on a little more flesh—dimples will be much more apt to come. The only artificial way of acquiring an imitation dimple, is to use the *blunt* end of a small lead pencil or an orange-wood stick and press steadily but not too roughly into the cheek at the point where a dimple is desired, for about fifteen minutes. When the pencil is removed, there will be a depression. Have melted gum arabic ready and apply quickly to the depression. This acts like a mucilage and holds the skin in the position of the dimple. You can then powder over the spot when the gum arabic is dried. The best way to get dimples, however, is to cultivate a laugh-loving disposition, one that always sees the bright side of things, always thinks kindly of people, is always thinking pleasant thoughts. Then the face gradually takes on the expression which precedes a smile, and dimples are apt to form. This has to be an *inside* reform, as well as an *outside*, or the face will look stiff and unnatural instead of pleasant and natural.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

hundred and twenty pounds. Am five feet, three inches tall. Have brown hair and eyes and am rather dark. I can wear black hair beautifully and do while at work, as I do not care to ruin my own hair by curling it. I am very old maidish about makeup and never use it anywhere but on the stage. That is another thing we do to please the people and not ourselves, for it isn't very pleasant to go to your room about twelve o'clock and then take half an hour to get the makeup off and then your complexion is ruined if you are not very careful. That is why so many of us girls use it on the street as our skin is ruined by using it so much while at work. I was visiting in a home not long ago and my friend was dressing for a dance. After she had used her lip stick and other toilet preparations she turned to her mother and asked how she looked. Her mother replied, "You look like a show girl," then, remembering me, became very embarrassed. She explained she didn't mean me, but those on the stage, the regular ones. Please remember we are all some mother's girl.

Love to every one,
PAT.

Pat. Terpsichore evidently frowned on me for I never was able to execute a graceful pirouette myself, whirling daintily on one toe with the other pointing at a quarter of twelve, but I've always envied anyone who could, so I don't blame you for loving dancing, music, bright lights and flowers only girlie, don't lose sight of the fact that there are other things in life that some day will mean more to you—a husband, home and babies. Come again and tell us more of life behind the scenes.—Ed.

VERSAILLES, IND.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Over one year has passed since the Uncle Charlie Home Fund work was begun. Do you think the amount to date is what it should be? Great-hearted Sister Sanderly thinks it should be fifty thousand before his next birthday—she says she wants to help him because he will help others. Surely we all agree with her, but let me add a selfish motive: Let's help him so he can continue to help *us!* Care and worry are deadly, especially to one already an invalid, as Uncle Charlie is; they *shorten life.* (Have you ever wondered how it would be, *without Uncle Charlie?*) We cannot give him health or free him from his continuous physical torture, but we *can* save him from the killing care and worry attendant on the visits of the rent collector. And he can keep on helping us—and others—for many years to come, we hope. We can make sure of this if each one does his bit toward getting that home for him. Don't put it off, and don't forget it—now's the time! All of us know how we can help the plan, so let's give "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together," and make our Home Fund offering for his birthday, Sept. 25, break the record. Let's try for the mark set by Sister Sanderly!

Yours for success in all good undertakings.
EMMA STOCKINGER.

CORNERSVILLE, MD.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

"Alas for the rarity
Of Christian charity
Under the sun!"

I never liked this quotation because I do not believe that Christian charity is rare. By charity I mean kindness and sympathy. There is so much to claim our time and interest, we have so many concerns and pressing duties, that unless the case of a needy or distressed fellow creature comes right under our notice, we pay little heed. And who can blame us? No one individual could hope to relieve all the distress in life, but it should be his concern always to lend a hand when it is possible.

When Uncle Charlie's Home Fund was started, I expected each of the million subscribers would contribute a little. Even a dime from each of so many, would amount to a wondrous sum. I can hear you say, "He earns a good living." Very true, but this living is earned by the superhuman effort of an indomitable will and when the break comes (which is likely to happen at any time) the living cannot be made.

COMFORT readers, fellow humans, you who are well and able to do a day's work, I know there is not one

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 19.)

Quickstep Shoe



HAS THE HIGH COST OF SHOES AFFECTED YOU YET?

Join the "Quickstoppers" and save money.

Buy direct from the manufacturer and save the profits that the wholesaler and retailer make on your shoes. You will like our shoes when you see them, and you will appreciate the money saved in buying from us. *We guarantee* to satisfy you, or refund your money.

Send for Catalogue C, showing shoes, pumps and oxfords at prices that will surprise you.

Quickstep Shoe Co., Box 2664, Boston

HAWAIIAN RING FREE



Stone is mottled in all manner of colors imaginable. Bits of real silver in the stone make a combination of colors beautiful in the extreme. Measures one inch long, ¾ inch wide. We send gold filled ring, warranted 3 years—your size, postpaid, for 15c, to help pay advertising.

Auction Co., Dept. 232 Attleboro, Mass.



RIDER AGENTS WANTED

in each town to ride and exhibit sample 1918 "Ranger" Bicycle. *Write for special offer.*

We Ship on Approval *without a cent deposit,* allow **30 DAYS FREE TRIAL,** actual riding test, and *prepay freight* on every bicycle.

LOWEST PRICES on bicycles, tires and sundries. *Do not buy* until you receive our catalogs and learn our *unheard of prices* and *marvelous special offer.* **Tires,** coaster-brake rear wheels, lamps, parts, sundries, *half usual prices.*

MEAD CYCLE CO., Dept. L-3, CHICAGO, ILL.

CLEARS THE SKIN — **Cuticura SOAP AND OINTMENT** QUICKLY REMOVE PIMPLES AND DANDRUFF — SAVES THE HAIR

SAMPLES FREE. ADDRESS: CUTICURA, DEPT. W, BOSTON. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or stitches each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through both loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Infant's Crocheted Set.

MATERIALS required. Four skeins cream-white threefold Saxony, one large ball baby-blue pearl cotton, two skeins pink rope silk and one steel and one bone crochet hook of suitable size.

The garments will fit a baby from six months to one year old.

Directions for Jacket

The yoke is first made with wool. Begin with chain 57 stitches, turn.

1st row.—Skip first st., 56 s. c., in 56 sts., ch. 1, turn.

2nd row.—Working through both loops of each st., make 10 s. c. in first 10 sts., 2 s. c. in next st., 1 s. c. in each of the next 4 sts., 2 s. c. in next st., 24 s. c., 2 s. c. in next st., 4 s. c., 2 s. c. in next st., 10 s. c. in last 10 sts., ch. 1, turn.

3rd row.—In this and each succeeding row in yoke, always work through only the back loop of each st., thus giving the ribbed effect.

Make 1 s. c. in each st., ch. 1, turn.

4th row.—10 s. c., 3 s. c., in next st., 4 s. c., 3 s. c. in next st., 24 s. c., 3 s. c. in next st., 4 s. c., 3 s. c. in next st., 10 s. c., ch. 1, turn.

5th row.—1 s. c. in each st., ch. 1, turn.

6th row.—Same as 4th row. Repeat these two rows until there are 9 ribs in yoke.

Body of Jacket

Make 1 d. c. in first st. of left side of yoke. Make 9 groups or shells by working 4 d. c. in a st. along the front edge, 1 d. c. in last st. Break thread, 1 d. c. in first st. of back of yoke.

14 groups of 4 d. c. each 1 d. c. in last st. Break thread. Working other front to match left side, ch. 3, turn.

2nd row.—4 d. c. or 1 shell between the 2nd and 3rd double of first group. Repeat making a shell on each group or 9 shells in all, 1 d. c. on end d. c. Break thread, work across back and other front in the same way, turn with ch. 3.

3rd row.—1 shell on each shell ch. 2, between the shells on fronts and the back to form armsize, 10 rows more of shells, turning with a ch. 3 at end of each row and working back and forth, next make 3 s. c. under each ch. 3 on the fronts. Break thread.

With blue mercerized cotton which should be about the size of ordinary white cord, using steel needle, begin at neck and move one or more single sts. in the end of each row of yoke and 1 s. c. in each st. down fronts and around bottom with 3 s. c. in each corner st., ch. 1, turn. Next round, 1 st. in each st., working through both loops, ch. 1, turn.

In third round work down front, 3 s. c. in corner st., work across bottom only, then ch. 1 and turn. 1 s. c. in each st. across bottom, turn work back across bottom, 3 s. c. in corner st. and 1 s. c. in each st. up front, ch. 1, turn 1 s. c. in each st., 3 s. c. in corners, finish at opposite end of the neck and break thread. This makes a band having 4 rows on each front and 6 rows across the bottom.

To make the shell border below this band, join in wool and make 1 s. c. in first st., ch. 2, shell 4 d. c. in 2nd st., 1 d. c. in 4th st., shell in 6th st., repeat across the bottom.

Try to make shells in this row as nearly opposite those on the upper side of the band as possible, with an extra shell at each end under the rows of blue on each front.

Make 3 more rows of shells on shells.

For the next and last row begin at the neck and work shells of 5 d. c. on each front and across the bottom. Around the neck make ch. 2, 1 d. c., ch. 2, 1 d. c., skipping every other st., turn, make shell of 5 d. c. under ch. 2, 1 s. c. under next ch. 2 and repeat.

Join in blue and slip st. down front edge on shells, on bottom slip st. up between the first and second groups of shells, turn and slip st. down and across the bottom edge of the next group of shells. Repeat and finish the opposite front to match the first.

For the sleeves join in wool and make 1 d. c. under ch. 2 at bottom of armsize, 1 shell under ch. in end of each row and 6 shells along edge of shoulder of the yoke, making 12 shells in all for sleeve. Join by slip st. to first d. c., ch. 3.

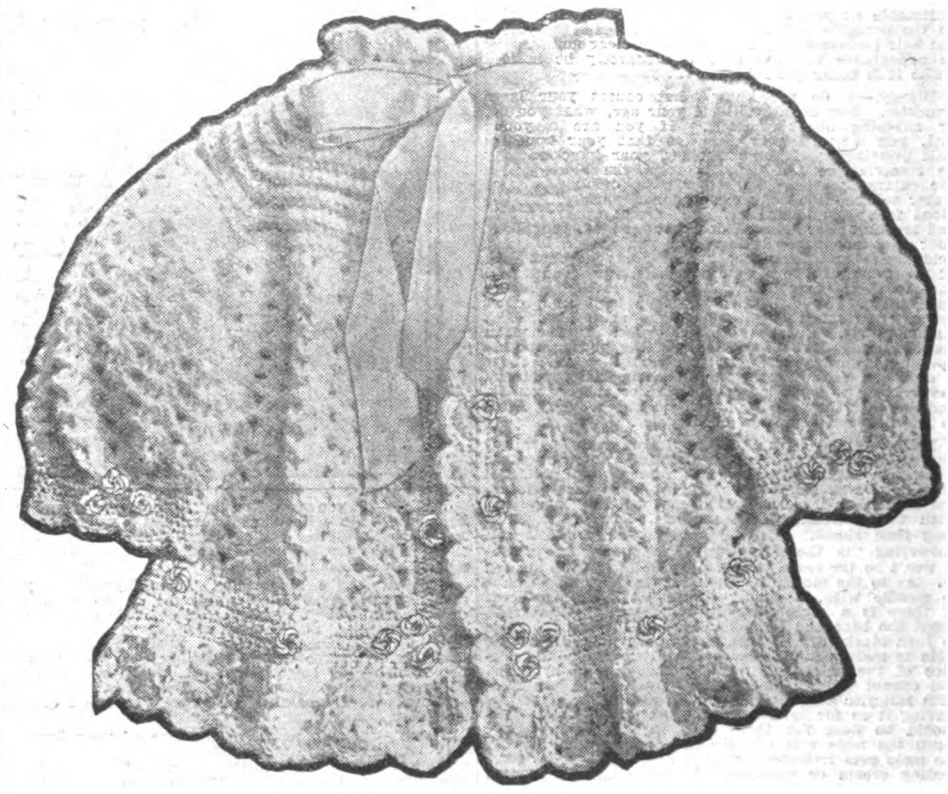
Complete sleeve by making one shell on each shell for 13 rounds. Finish with cuff of 5 rows of blue s. c. to match band, then one row of shells edged with blue. Then decorate cuffs and bands on front with scattered pink silk roses as shown in illustration.

Crocheted Bootees

The square which forms the front of the foot of these boots is made first. Ch. 11, turn, 10 s. c., ch. 1, 10 s. c., working through both loops of each stitch. Repeat, making 12 rows in all.

Chain 22 sts. Join to opposite end from which ch. starts, 1 s. c. in the end of each row, 10 s. c. across end, 1 s. c. in each st. of ch. Continue thus working 3 more rows of 1 s. c. in each s. c.

4th row.—The same, but skip 1 st. in center of the toe.



INFANT'S CROCHETED JACKET.

5th row.—The same, but skip 2 sts., one on either side of the center of the toe, also 1 st. in the center of the heel.

Make 5 more rows, skipping sts. in toe and heel as necessary to draw the work in a little to form the foot of the boot.

Leave a thread long enough to use in sewing up the last 2 rows.

Now join wool in the center of the back, ch. 5, 1 d. c. in 2nd. st., ch. 2, skip 2, 1 d. c. in next. Repeat for running ribbon in about the ankle.

2nd round for top of bootee.—Shell of 4 d. c. on first double, 1 s. c. on second double, repeat, join, ch. 3.

3rd round.—Shell on shell, join, ch. 3, 5 more rounds of shells, then 4 of shells with a ch. 1 between each.

Finish the last 4 rows with blue silk to match the bottom of jacket and add a rose to each toe.

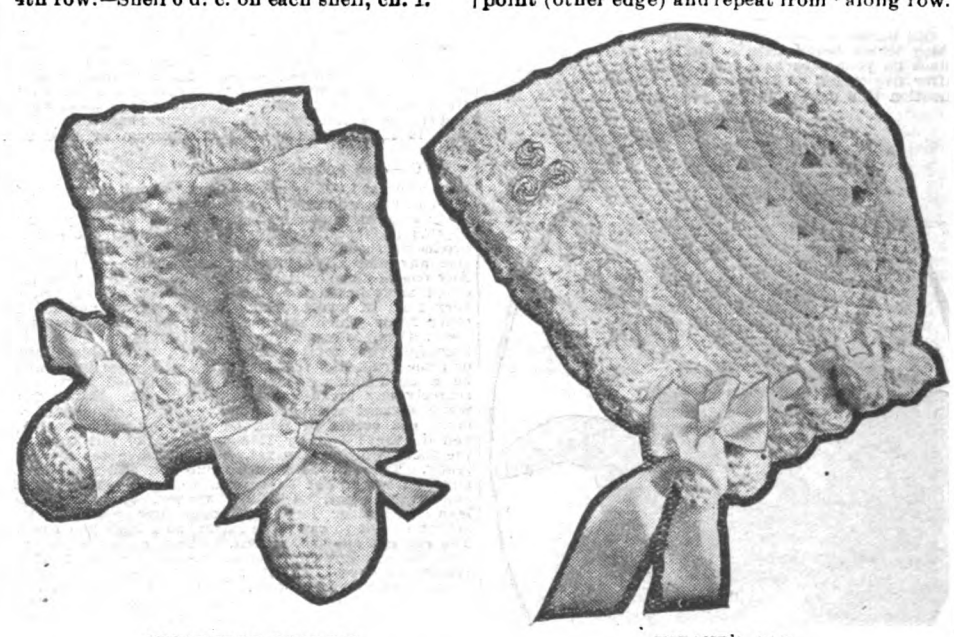
Infant's Cap

The work is begun in the center of the crown by ch. 4, join, ch. 1, 8 s. c. in ring.

2nd row.—2 s. c. in each st., ch. 2.

3rd row.—Shell of 4 d. c. in every other st., making 8 shells in all, join, ch. 3.

4th row.—Shell 6 d. c. on each shell, ch. 1.



CROCHETED BOOTEES.

INFANT'S CAP.

5th row.—1 s. c. in each st., join 3 more rows of singles in each row making 2 s. c. in three different places, ch. 3 after last row.

9th row.—Shell of 5 d. c. in 3rd st., repeat making shells in every 3rd st., join, ch. 1.

10th row.—1 s. c. in each st., join. Turn and work through both loops in the next row making 1 s. c. in each st. Work back over the stitches last made instead of round and round. Make 3 more rows in this way, join each row with slip st. Break thread.

Next join in 8th st. from center back and make 1 s. c. in each st. to within 8 sts. of the center on the other side. Turn, slip st. over 4 sts. last made, ch. 1, 1 s. c. to within 4 sts. of end of last row, turn. Make 18 more rows of singles for front.

Finish neck with one row of singles, ch. 6, turn, 1 d. c. in 3rd st., ch. 2. 1 d. c. Repeat across for running ribbon. Ch. 3, shell on first d. c., 1 s. c. on second d. c. Repeat across neck, turn, ch. 3, shell on shell s. c. on s. c.

For the front turn back make 4 rows, of shells of 5 d. c., with 1 d. c. between each.

Edge with silk to match the bottom of jacket, work groups of 3 roses on left side front and inside add a ruche of lace.

Directions for Roses

These little raised or Rambler roses as they are sometimes called are very pretty, especially on infants' or toddlers' crocheted garments.

They are very easily worked and should be added to each garment only after it is completed, then the silk is not frayed by handling.

Rope embroidery silk in two shades of pink will be needed. Use the deeper shade for the centers, and making the stitches about one quarter inch in length. First take three stitches closely together in one direction and then cross these at a right angle with three stitches.

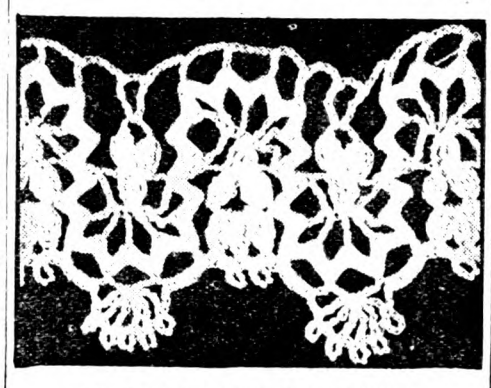
Next with the same shade work around this center with a long outline stitch, making about two rounds, then with the lighter pink add to the rose until it measures from one fourth to three eighths inch in diameter. The work should be done loosely and closely enough so that the rose will stand out like a little button. The last couple of stitches can be drawn in somewhat under the rose and then fasten off on the wrong side.

Variety can be gained by reversing the shades in some of the roses and also by varying their size.

An Unusual and Dainty Edge in Rickrack and Crochet

Insert hook in point * ch. 5, 1 tr. c. in each of next 5 points, ch. 5, s. c. 1 in next point, ch. 3, turn, braid, slip 1 in next point on opposite edge repeat from *.

2nd row.—* ch. 2, cluster over center tr. c. in 1st row, ch. 5, cluster over cluster, ch. 5, cluster over same cluster, ch. 5, slip 1 at bottom of last cluster, ch. 2, slip 1 in point, cross to next point (other edge) and repeat from * along row.



AN UNUSUAL AND DAINTY EDGE.

3rd row.—Skip 1 point, catch in next, * ch. 2, 3 clusters over ch. 5 (between clusters in previous row) separated by ch. 3, ch. 2, s. c. 1 in opposite point, ch. 7, s. c. 1 in next point, repeat twice; repeat from * to end of row.

4th row.—S. c. 2 over ch. 2, s. c. 1 over next ch. 2, ch. 6, form picot with the ch. 6, 1 s. c. over same ch. 2, repeat over next, 2 s. c. over next, 7 s. c. over ch. 7 loop, ch. 2, 6 tr. c. with 1 picot over each tr. c. in center st. of next ch. 7 loop, ch. 2, 7 s. c. over next ch. 7. Repeat from * to end of row.

Top

D. c. 1 in point at upper corner, ch. 5, repeat 3 times, ch. 5, 1 tr. over ch. 5 between clusters, ch. 3, 1 tr. c. in same place, ch. 5, repeat to length of lace. This design will be effective if attached to a scalloped edge (by buttonholing closely) will wear well and launder nicely.

Slip-on Sweater One to Two-Year Size

Materials required: 3 skeins 3-fold pink Saxony, 1 pair No. 2 knitting needles.

Cast on 50 stitches. Knit 45 ridges. Cast on 30 stitches for sleeve. Knit across, cast on 30 stitches for sleeves. Knit 14 ridges. Knit 1 row as follows. Knit 48 sts. Bind off 14 sts. Knit 48 sts. Run 48 sts. on pin. Knit 48 sts., turn. Knit 48 sts. Cast on 12 sts. for front on opposite end to wrist. Knit back and forth on these 60 sts. for 16 ridges, from wrist end bind off 30 sts for sleeve. Knit 5 ridges on remaining 30 sts.

Complete other sleeve to match.

Then knit across the 60 sts. for 40 ridges. Join front and back and sleeves to wrists.

Cuffs. Knit 3, purl 3 to depths two and one-half inches.

Collar. Cast on 20 stitches. Knit 30 ridges. Sew on from one edge of front, across back and to opposite front.

Wide Edging in Rickrack and Crochet

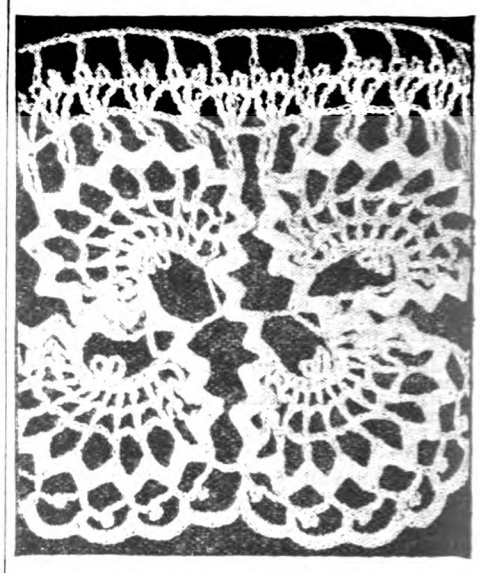
Insert hook in 4th point of braid, ch. 8, d. c. 1 in next point (ch. 4, d. c. 1), 7 times, ch. 4, s. c. 1 in next point, turn.

2nd row.—Ch. 7, d. c. 1 on d. c. with ch. 2 between, ch. 2, s. c. 1 in next point, turn.

3rd row.—Ch. 6, d. c. 1 on d. c. 10 times, s. c. 1 in next point, turn.

4th row.—Ch. 1, * s. c. 1 between d. c. 5 times, * ch. 6, picot, ch. 6, picot, repeat between * s. c. 1 in next point.

5th row.—Ch. 5, s. c. 1 in point above, ch. 3, cross and s. c. 1 in opposite point, turn braid,



WIDE EDGING IN RICKRACK BRAID AND CROCHET.

work on opposite edge, skip 3 points and repeat from beginning to length desired.

Lower Edge

Catch in point * ch. 7, picot, ch. 3, s. c. 1 in next point; repeat from * across with ch. 3 between scallops.

2nd row.—This is composed of ch. 9 loops over picot loops, turn and s. c. 9 over each ch. 9.

Top

2 tr. c., in each point with 3 or 4 ch. between.

2nd row of top.—* (1 tr. c., p.,) twice, 1 tr., repeat from * over each group of 2 tr. c. in previous row.

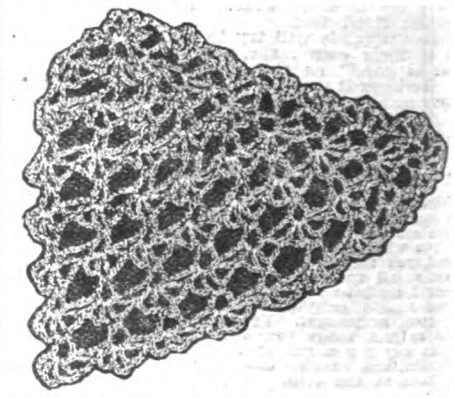
3rd row of top.—1 tr. c. in p., ch. 4, skip 1 p., tr. c. 1 in next p., repeat from * to end of row; fasten off. This edging will be very pretty on pillow slips, towel or runner ends or will be pretty to trim petticoats, tops of camisoles or combinations.

Mile-a-Minute Yoke

REQUESTED BY EDITH DUKE

Use No. 40 Cordonnet.

1st row.—Ch. 20 catch in 9th st., ch. 5, 1 tr. c.



ONE POINT OF MILE-A-MINUTE LACE FOR YOKE.

in next st., ch. 3, 1 tr. c. in same st., ch. 5 (1 tr. c., ch. 3, 1 d. c.) in 6th st., turn.

2nd row.—Ch. 4, 1 tr. c. in 1st loop, ch. 3, 1 tr. c., ch. 3, 1 tr. c., 3 d. c., 1 tr. c. in same loop. Repeat to end of row. In last loop add one extra ch. 3, tr. c., turn.

3rd row.—Ch. 6 (1 tr. c. in 2nd loop ch. 3, 1 tr. c.) ch. 5 (1 tr. c. ch. 3, 1 tr. c.), in 4th loop. Repeat to end of row, continue to increase every other row until there are 9 loops or shells in last row. Repeat pattern until you have the desired number of points for a yoke, finish with a shell of loops.



Let Us Loan You What You Want

Credit Without Asking—7000 Bargains in Home Furnishings

THIS offer upsets all present ideas of buying and selling. Just tell us what you need for your home. Let us loan it to you for a month. In no case can that month's loan cost you anything. Use the things we send, freely. Treat them just as if they were yours. Get a full, solid month's perfect pleasure from them.

Wait About a Year

In still another way we turn old methods and ideas all around. If you decide to keep the things we loan you, you merely start paying us, a little at a time. Instead of saving up and waiting, we allow you to have them immediately and we wait for the money.

We urge you not to pay in advance; we permit you to pay as you use and enjoy your home comforts.

We ask you not to crowd into one pay day the cost of something that you will use for years. No matter how trifling a purchase you make, we let the account run about a year.

Coupon Brings All

Without cost, you may secure a copy of our latest Dollar Bargain Book. With it comes a credit certificate, opening your account. Then all these unusual privileges are yours to enjoy. No red tape—no bother of any kind.

The coupon printed at the bottom of this page awaits your mailing.

Last season we had to disappoint nearly 100,000 late inquirers. We never have enough Books to completely satisfy the demand.

Act quickly so that you may be sure of your copy this season.

Women's Style Book

This is a book of 1000 Fall Styles, prepared by Martha Lane Adams. Be sure to ask for this book, too.

Worth $1.00 a Copy

Our Bargain Book this season will show nearly half again as many household things as ever before. Roughly, nearly 7000 bargains will be displayed. New lines have been added.

In many ways our new Book has been much improved. Type is larger. Pictures in most cases bigger, so that selection is much easier.

A great many things are shown in actual colors. Rugs and draperies, carpets and linoleums are shown so naturally that it's practically like looking at the things themselves. You'll be making a mistake if you miss this Book. It's ready now and it's free. The coupon brings it.

A $1.00 Book Free

Picturing 7000 Home Things

Furniture	Baby Cabs—Cameras
Carpets—Rugs	Silverware—Clocks
Refrigerators	Chinaware—Lamps
Draperies—Linens	Sewing Machines
Curtains—Bedding	Kitchen Cabinets
Oilcloth, etc.	Stoves—Ranges

Send Coupon for It

THE CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK
OF CHICAGO
CAPITAL, SURPLUS AND PROFITS $10,000,000

In our opinion, SPIEGEL, MAY, STERN COMPANY will fulfill any promises made to their customers, and we feel confident they will carry out all policies outlined in their advertising.

Wm. A. Harriell
PRESIDENT

Three-Piece Library Set

Brown Spanish Royal Imitation Leather



Our latest Bargain Book shows hundreds of wonderful values like this splendid set. Any selection you make will be sent on free loan. If you are delighted, you have about one year to pay. You divide the bill into small monthly payments. There is no red tape, delay or embarrassment. Your account is opened when you receive our Book. **Get it first.**

Solid Oak is used throughout, in a rich nut brown fumed finish. The upholstering is brown royal Spanish leather over a full set of oil tempered springs and padded with fine wood fiber having cotton felt top.

Measurements. Library table is art and crafts design, 34 in. long and 24 in. wide. Has deep box rim and heavy legs. Attractive side panels and full length undershelf.

Rocker is 27 in. high from floor; back 24 1-2 in. to top of seat. Seat is 18 in. by 21 in. Arms are broad and restful. Front posts are of heavy stock.

Chair and rocker shipped set up. Table knocked down. From factory in Western New York. Weight about 125 pounds.

No. 22M4B110. Price, table, chair and rocker.. **$11.95**



Solid Oak Front and Top

Desk Chifforobe

Three in One Style

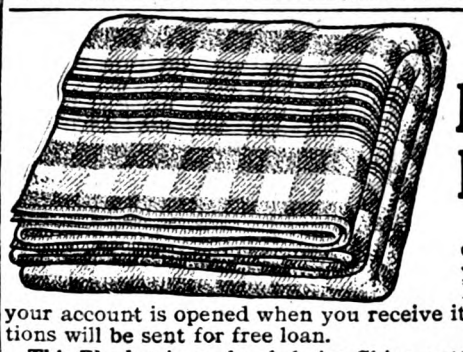
One of the handiest pieces of furniture for the home. Beautiful looking, well made and answering any number of needs. It is a fully equipped writing desk, besides answering the purpose of an ordinary chiffonier and wardrobe.

Loaned free if you have our Big Book.

Solid Oak is used in the entire front and top. Finished in a rich golden color with a high gloss. Sides and back are of selected hard wood. All carefully mortised and tenoned.

Measurements very large and roomy, 53 in. high, 18 in. deep and 21 in. wide—inside measurements. Has coat and trousers hanger. Good-sized hat compartment with wood panel door. Measures 14 in. by 18 in. by 16 in. Liberal sized writing desk section with pigeonholes and drawer. Shipped from factory in Central Indiana. Weight about 180 pounds.

No. 46M4B181. Price..... **$14.45**



Wool Finished Blanket

Here is a splendid example of the values you will find in our Book. Remember, your account is opened when you receive it and then your selections will be sent for free loan.

This Blanket is made of choice China cotton, expertly woven. Overlapped stitched edges. Beautiful plaid pattern in blue, pink, gray or tan colorings. Will launder perfectly. Shipping weight about 4 1-2 pounds.

No. M4F9850. Size 70x80. Price, per pair..... **$4.69**

One-Profit Prices

It's reasonable to believe that we will save you money. Consider our enormous business with our millions of customers. Buying a thousand things of a kind enables us to buy much cheaper than the dealer who simply takes a half-dozen or so at a time.

But we buy bigger even than that. We take entire factory outputs. We buy huge surplus lots. We contract for manufacturers' dull-time periods. When machinery and hands are idle, we have our designs made up. In cases like this, we buy practically at cost.

We have no salesmen. We employ no collectors. We use no display rooms. We have no end-of-the-season left-overs.

So the price you pay us, in most cases, is the maker's price plus just our own profit. Usually it means a saving of one-fourth or even more.

Bonded Guarantee

These are not mere promises. They are agreements that we legally guarantee. On the back cover of our Bargain Book you will find such a guarantee, bonded by a national security company. Send for this Book now.

See Corn Exchange National Bank letter printed above.

CUT OUT THIS COUPON

SPIEGEL, MAY, STERN CO. (1427)
835 W 35th Street, Chicago

Mail me your **Fall Bargain Book.** Also the books I mark below.

-----Stove Book. -----Watches and Jewelry.
-----1000 Fall Styles for Women.

Name.....

Address.....

Check which catalogs you want.

Spiegel, May, Stern Co. 835 West 35th Street CHICAGO

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Early Fall Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



MIDDY styles are always nice for growing girls. They are easy to make, easy to launder and comfortable to wear. In Pattern 2143, we have a very attractive style, displaying the latest feature — pockets — one finds pockets now everywhere—though some may be empty,—but it is indeed a practical feature. In the pocket, the little school girl has a place for her handkerchief, for her eraser, and perhaps for a pencil and a piece of candy.

Other seasonable styles run on one-piece lines, some in Moyenage effects, and others with box plaits.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

1696—Boys' Blouse Suit with Shield. This design is especially adapted for wash fabrics, but may also be used for serge, cheviot, velvet and corduroy. The shield may be omitted.

Cut in four sizes; three, four, five and six years. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for a four-year size.

1754—Ladies' Envelope Chemise. One could develop this model in crepe, batiste, lawn, nainsook, or silk. It is a comfortable model, and may be gathered in camisole effect at Empire waistline, or worn loose in chemise style.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires three and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

1987—Ladies' House Gown or Negligee. Albatross, cashmere, challie, rep, poplin, crepe, crepe de chine, taffeta, lawn, and batiste, dotted Swiss and percale are all nice for this model.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires seven yards of 44-inch material for a 38-inch size.

2135—Waist. 2131—Skirt. Smart and attractive. For this waist pattern, one could use crepe, shantung, voile, batiste, linen or lawn. The skirt could be of the same material, or of serge, jersey cloth, novelty or checked suiting.

Skirt 2131, is cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires five yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

Waist 2135 is cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, and 44 inches bust measure, and requires two and seven eighths yards of 44-inch material for a 38-inch size. *Two* separate patterns 10c *for each* pattern.

2136—A Neat and Becoming House Dress. In seersucker, gingham, linen, percale, drill or lawn, this design will be very attractive. It is also nice for tub silk, challie, crepe and serge.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requirs seven yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2137—A Smart Little Dress for mother's girl. This model is lovely for the new summer cottons and linens. It is also good for crepe, gabardine and silk. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires three and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for an eight-year size.

2138—A Simple Night Gown. Here is a model easy to develop, cut on the simplest lines. It is nice for lawn, dimity, batiste, linen, silk, crepe or cambric.

Cut in five sizes; 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires four and one eighth yards of 36-inch material.

2141—A Comfortable Apron Model. Percale, drill, gingham, sateen, alpaca, cambric, or lawn could be used for this style. The yoke facings may be omitted.

Cut in four sizes; small, 32-34; medium, 36-38; large, 40-42; and extra large, 44-46 inches bust measure. Size medium will require five and one eighth yards of 36-inch material.

2143—An Ever Popular Middy Style. For linen, gingham, lawn, chambray, galatea, drill, khaki, gabardine and serge, there is no style so appropriate as this. The sleeve may be in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires four and one quarter yards of 27-inch material for an eight-year size.

2144—A Simple House Dress. This model is splendid for gingham, chambray, linen, lawn or percale and also nice for gabardine, cashmere and challie.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 36 requires six and one quarter yards of 36-inch material.

2149—A Very Attractive Dress for the Growing Girl. This model is a popular, one-piece style with pouch pockets and a smart sailor collar. The pattern is good for gingham, drill, linen, poplin, galatea, voile, chambray, percale, batiste, serge and gabardine.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years, and requires for an eight-year size, three and three quarters yards of 36-inch material.

2151—Girls' Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. This model is nice for dimity, lawn, batiste, gingham, chambray, gabardine, challie, poplin, rep and serge.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires three and one quarter yards of 24-inch material for a four-year size.

2154—A Pretty Summer Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. Organdy, dimity, shantung and foulard are nice for this model. The skirt has plaited panels and gathered fullness over the hips. Jaunty pockets afford a practical and suitable trimming.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six yards of 44-inch material for a 38-inch size.

2155—A New and Novel Shirt-waist. This style is fine for the new foulards, for taffeta, serge, gingham, chambray, linen, batiste, crepe and crepe de chine. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2156—Juniors' Dress with sleeve in either of two styles. This model has simple but attractive lines and is good for organdy, lawn, gingham, voile, batiste, shantung, foulard and crepe. The sleeve may be in wrist or elbow length.

Cut in three sizes; 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires four and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 16-year size.

2157—A Smart and Practical Skirt. This is a good model for jersey cloth, serge, gabardine, novelty suitings and the new woolens. It is also nice for linen, gingham, chambray, corduroy, satin and silk. The girdle belt is separate.

Cut in seven sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. It requires three yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

2161—A Charming and Seasonable Combination. This comprises a simple play dress (which may be worn with bloomers), a little shade hat and a flower basket. Lawn, dimity, percale, linen, drill, gingham, chambray, or cretonne would be suitable materials.

Cut in five sizes; two, four, six, eight and 10 years. Size four will require two and three eighths yards for the dress, three eighths yard for the hat and three eighths yard for basket, of 36-inch material, for a four-year size.

2162—Ladies' Two-piece Morning or House Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. Percale, seersucker, lawn, linen, crepe, silk, washable satin, flannelette, challie and cashmere may be used for this model.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires for a 38-inch size, five and three eighths yards of 36-inch material.

2164—A Practical, Popular Garment. Women, all over the world, are now wearing overalls and "trouser aprons" for outdoor and indoor work. Pattern 2164, here illustrated, furnishes a suitable suggestion for this class of garment.

Cut in four sizes; small, 32-34, medium, 36-38, large, 40-42, and extra large, 44-46 inches bust measure. Size medium requires four yards of 36-inch material.

2166—Boys' "Overall" or Play Suit. This is a splendid style for khaki, gingham, chambray, linen, lawn, corduroy, galatea, poplin and drill. The blouse may be of lawn, cambric, or linen.



USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents (three for 25 cents) unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash, (or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me Patterns No. _____

Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____ No. _____ Size (or Age) _____

Name _____ Street and No. _____

R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____ Post Office _____ State _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

Cut in four sizes; two, three, four and five years. It requires one and one quarter yard for the blouse, and two and one eighth yards for the overalls, of 27-inch material, for a three-year size.

2174—A Simple Dress for School or Play. For the guimpe, one could use crepe, batiste, lawn or dimity. The dress could be of the same material, or of gingham, chambray, poplin, rep, linen or pique.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and one half yards of 27-inch material for the dress and one and one half yard for the guimpe, for a four-year size.

2182—Waist. 2181—Skirt. A Smart Dress, Suitable for many occasions. Figured shantung, in tan and green, is here combined with Georgette crepe in a contrasting shade.

Waist Pattern 2182 cut in six sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure.

Skirt 2181 cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. For the entire dress for a medium size it will require six yards of 36-inch material. *Two* separate patterns 10c *for each* pattern.

Description of Patterns Illustrated on Title Page Given Below

WHAT is more interesting to the mother of children at the end of vacation and beginning of school-days, than to plan for school dresses. Surely little tots and growing girls are equally interested and ready to help select patterns.

Having the needs of the family in mind, we decided to devote COMFORT's entire front page to fashions, in addition to the regular article on this page, and we trust you will be pleased with the arrangement we have had our artist make, showing the costumes in their proper setting, indoors and out, at school and at home.

The variety of styles is large—every taste may be gratified. One little girl will be charming in a dress like 1903, which has an Empire waist, while the little girl who is round and plump had better wear something like Pattern 1797 or 1800. If your little daughter likes pockets, in which to stow away things (as the boys did when we went to school), make a dress of gingham or percale like 1053.

But we must not forget "our boy"—and his usual new blouse suit, for which you may select Pattern 1034.

For the girl in her teens, or if she goes to high school, try Pattern 1097. It is simple, but attractive. If you want a pretty "special" dress, look at Pattern 2142. It is fine for crepe, organdie, silk or satin.

1600—Child's Envelope Night Dress in high, round or square neck edge, and with sleeve in either of two lengths. This style will prove a comfort to both mother and child, for with the envelope lap or extension the gown will be kept in place and not "crowd up" as is often the case with the loose models. For warmth it could be made of domet or canton flannel, flannelette or duckling fleece. It is also suitable for muslin, nainsook or cambric.

Cut in five sizes; six months, one, two, four and six years. Size two will require two and one half yards of 36-inch material.

1653—Girls' Dress, with or without pockets, and with sleeve in either of two lengths. Gingham, percale, galatea, rep, poplin, linen or linene are nice for this model. The dress is closed above the belt, but the closing may be finished to the hem.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a four-year size.

1697—Ladies' Dress with sleeve in either of two lengths. This model is fine for combinations of materials, for serge and satin, broadcloth and suede or silk, for chambray and gingham. This style is easy to develop, and very attractive. If linen is chosen the panel and vest may be embroidered.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one eighth yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1797—A Simple Dress for Mother's Girl. All wash fabrics are nice for this, for the dress is easy to launder, and easy to make. The sleeve may be finished with a band cuff in wrist length, or with a smart cuff turned back on the sleeve at elbow length. The dress may be developed in serge, cashmere, poplin or rep. It is nice for check or plaid suiting.

Cut in four sizes; four, six, eight and 10 years. It requires two and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a six-year size.

1860—Girls' Dress, with yoke and sleeve in either of two lengths. This style is nice for wool, cloth or wash fabrics. The dress is made with plaits over back and front.

Cut in four sizes; two, four six and eight years. It requires two and three quarters yards of 44-inch material for a six-year size.

1875—A Popular Coat Suit for the growing girl. Cheviot, tweed, serge, broadcloth, velvet, corduroy, shepherd check and novelty weaves are all appropriate for this style. The coat is cut with simple front closing and has a broad sailor collar. The skirt has ample fullness.

Cut in four sizes; eight, 10, 12 and 14 years, and requires four and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

1903—Child's Dress, with or without pockets and belt, and with sleeve in either of two styles. poplin, rep, serge, gabardine, gingham, percale, galatea, chambray, crepe, velvet or taffeta could be used for this style. It is also nice for challie and cashmere. The fullness of the dress may be gathered or smocked between the belt sections.

Cut in four sizes; two, four, six and eight years. It requires two and five eighths yards of 36-inch material for a four-year size.

1934—A Natty Suit for Mother's Boy. Blouse styles are always nice and practical for little boys. The model here shown is nice for serge, cheviot and velvet, as well as for wash goods such as galatea, linen, seersucker, and gingham.

Cut in four sizes; three, four, five and six years. It requires three and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a five-year size.

2013—Ladies' Apron Dress. This model may serve as a house dress. It is comfortable and easy to develop, easy to wear and easy to launder. Percale, gingham, seersucker, crepe, lawn and alpaca are good for its development.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires five yards of 36-inch material for a 34-inch size.

2142—A Simple Summer Gown. Foulard, combined with organdy, lawn or dimity would be nice for this style. The skirt may be made without the ruffle heading. The sleeve is new and novel. This style is also nice for shantung, crepe, novelty silk, challie, batiste, voile, bordered and embroidered materials.

Cut in three sizes; 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires for an 18-year size six and three eighths yards of 36-inch material.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.

THE YOUNGEST PREACHER.—The youngest preacher in the country lives in Baltimore, Md. His name is Rufus Holder and he is twelve years old. During a series of revival meetings recently he asked permission of his father, who is an ordained minister, to address the congregation. His efforts met with such success that he now frequently delivers a short sermon from a chosen text.

A $5,000 Cow.—At an auction sale of registered Holstein-Friesian cattle held recently in Rome, N. Y., Cremelle Topsy Ormsby Tobe, reputed to be the world's champion milk producer under four years, was sold for $5,000. Twenty-five other thoroughbred Holsteins were sold at an average price of $400 each.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

ARMEL, COLO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I am a girl sixteen years old, five feet and six inches tall and weigh one hundred and seven pounds. I had to quit school quite a while ago on account of my eyes. I was in the eighth grade when I quit. I take music lessons on the piano and have to go twenty miles to take them. I have a fine teacher.

I have joined a girls' Camp Fire Team and am writing to ask you to suggest some names. I had thought of "Mohee" as a name and having "Mothers' Help" as the symbol. I want you to suggest some more names so that I can take my choice. One girl took the words needed and cheerful (two things which she wished to be) and made the word Neachee. I like that and as you are such a good hand at anything like that I thought I would ask you. I will send you a picture of our Camp Fire Girls when we have them taken. Please answer soon.

FLORENCE COTTERELL.

So Florence, you have to go twenty miles to take your piano lesson. You are the most considerate young lady I know. There is a young lady who lives in the flat beneath me taking a lesson right now, and every plunk, plunk she makes, vibrates everything in our chicken coop. I can't get that young lady to go twenty inches away, let alone twenty miles. The people in Colorado evidently must be less patient and resigned than I am, or you must be more considerate and obliging. Which is it? Anyway I congratulate you on your determination, for it is mighty few people who would go twenty miles to take a lesson at anything. When I took music lessons I had to go thirty miles, and then lots of mean people said that wasn't half far enough. If you have neighbors you don't like and want to get rid of them, cut out the piano and start practising on a cornet. That will fix them. I know a lady who has to go completely out of the state every time she wants to play the Star Spangled Banner. She lives in Milwaukee. That is not the only section of the country where it is not safe to play our national anthem. Ask Senators La Follette and Gronna. You boys and girls who have pianos and organs in your houses try and learn to master these instruments. Don't let that hurdy gurdy they call a piano player with all its torturing rag time racket deter you from being a real musician. We do not want a mechanical world, we want an artistic world, and art is not mechanical. The piano player is all right in its way—fine, but it does not satisfy those who want to produce music from the depths of their own individual souls. Sorry but I can't torture my brain finding a name for your camp in the way you want it done. Any Indian name will do. Why not call it Camp Joffre after the gallant general who saved Paris and in so doing saved New York and the United States. As regards those eyes. I'm dropping you a card telling you what to do for them. I would tell you what to do right here, but if I did I would be deluged with a thousand inquiries as to whether the stuff was to be taken standing on your head, or sitting on your ear, taken on the roof or in the cellar, by the drop or the bucket. People always misunderstand or forget directions, or else lose the particular paper in which the directions appeared. The desire to be helpful is usually thwarted by lack of thought on the part of those we want to help, and who need help.

STUART, VA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
As you are in favor of woman suffrage, I want to ask you if you would mind giving a few points on that subject. I want to make a speech on that subject so I thought I would ask you if you had time to help me and if not it is all right. So thanking you in advance I remain Yours truly, ROY WEST.

Roy, you needn't bother to do so much campaigning for woman suffrage just now. Just as soon as this war is ended and probably before, all women the country o'er will have the privilege of selecting those they deem most suitable to make their laws. A few months ago, not even the wildest dreamer would have believed it possible that in dark benighted, imperial Russia, in a few circles of the clock, the women would have a vote, but they have got it. It only took one swift kick from the democratic boot of the Russian people and off went Nicky Romanoff, and in came votes for women, and in fact votes for everybody. Even the dog, the cat and the canary would be allowed to vote in Russia today if they could scratch a ballot slip. The war has also brought woman suffrage in Great Britain. At present only women of thirty and over are to be allowed to vote. This will seem unfair to the hundreds of thousands of women below that age who have given their lives and every atom of their strength and devotion to Britain's holy cause against the common enemy, but there is a reason. At present there are a million more women than men in Great Britain, and the powers that be do not want the woman vote to so greatly preponderate that it will decide the policies of the Empire—not at least during wartime. The war will bring the vote to the women of America, just as it will bring a lot of other sadly needed measures of reform. War, bloody and awful as it is, alas, too often affords the only way by which men can be induced to rise to higher things. The Russian revolutionists thought they would be getting off at bargain rates if by the expenditure of a few million lives, they could get rid of the Czar. The war however, gave them an opportunity to dispose of their little tin pot kink, at the expenditure of less life than we sacrifice here at a Fourth of July celebration. Equal suffrage is coming to the women of the South, Roy, and coming rapidly. It will be an awful jolt to those chivalrous gentlemen who want to deprive their women of the precious privilege of occasionally using their brains for the national good, but it is coming all the same.

FYFFE, ALA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I am a little girl, fourteen years of age, five feet tall, weigh one hundred and sixteen pounds, dark complexion, blue eyes. I have a brother sixteen years old and a baby sister one year and a half old, her name is Elliepair, she never has walked any yet without holding to something. We live about half mile from school. I am studing for the seventh grade. I live in the tempest zone. I haven't seen any letters from this place. It sure is a fine country. I live on a farm. I can cook, wash dishes, do all kinds of housework. Come Uncle Charlie and we will go fishing. Do you like to fish? I sure do when I have good luck. We live about half a mile from a creek. Come down and we will eat apples. They sure are fine.

We have nine mules and a cow. If I see this in print I will write again. I like music and flowers. I think pinks the prettiest flowers I ever saw. I love little birds. I think the wren the prettiest of all birds.

Best wishes to all. U. L. V. ABSHER.

Young ladies should write their names in full and not their initials when writing for publication. So you are "studing" for the seventh grade are you? Studing is a carpenter's work, and has nothing to do with your present schoolwork. Make it studying next time. We are all doing a lot of studying these days, studying how to make a one dollar bill do the work of ten. War makes people do more thinking in a minute than they do in peace times in fifty years. Sorry to have to admit it, but only under the stimulus of war and bloodshed, strife and plunder, will the majority of brains function at all. If people would do as much thinking in peace time as they do in war time, there would not be any war. Write that in your hats some of you never thinks. So you live in the "tempert" zone do you? I was going to correct you and say temperate zone, but I suddenly remembered there are no temperate zones any longer. The hot coals of war have set the world on fire. Everybody is pro-Ally or pro-German. We are all in the war zone. There was only one man who wanted to be "neutral" but his wife would not let him. That was the late King of Greece. If all these kings, princes and royal bone heads the world over had married American girls instead of German princesses, they might have got some sense into their royal noodles and today we might be living in the "tempert," I mean temperate zone, in peace and happiness, instead of the war zone of frightfulness. Germany has supplied wives for all the royal houses of Europe, and if there were any sections of the old world that needed a kink they got one made in Germany. The present British royal house which has been doing business for two hundred years at the same old stand, has never had one single drop of British blood in its veins. The first representative of the House of Hanover, George the First, couldn't speak a word of English, and his ministers could not speak a word of German, and King George the Third, pig headed and hot headed, he who once ruled over us and who got the same kind of boot from the British colonists that Nicky of Russia got, was, in the language of the street, just a "crazy old Dutchman." The monarchy business is the greatest business in the world, and it would have lasted for a good many years yet, but the kinks just had to go and start quarreling with one another—hence the present war. When thieves fall out honest men come by their own, and kinks are the biggest thieves the world has ever had. We are fighting now to put a kink in the kink business. The job had to be done and the world will be a different world, a place worth living in when we get through with the task. That is the only way we can have the tempert or temperate zone restored to us. Miss Absher informs us that she has nine mules and one cow. How lonesome that poor cow must be among all those mules, and not a lady of her own species to associate with.

FOUNTAIN HEAD R R 2 TENN

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
This is my first letter I am 12 yrs old weigh 90 pounds I will be in the seventh grade when school begins it will begin in August I have to pet a dog and a cat my dogs name is Rounder my cats name is Jim I can crochet and embroidery my papa he takes the COMFORT I like to read it we live on a farm in the country I go to Sunday School every Sunday at the Christen church I live half of a mile from my school house I havent got any sister have one brother in Heaven

My eyes are weak and I wear glasses I hope to see this letter in print so don't let Billy the Goat get it

Yours truly MISS WILLYE HALL

Willye, your letter is remarkable in that it does not contain a single period, comma or anything else remotely suggesting punctuation. Like many others I assume you have decided that punctuation is punk. Willye says: "I have to pet a dog and a cat." You have my sympathy Willye, for if you don't like dogs and cats it must be tough to have to pet them. I am inclined to believe that you have two pets, a dog and a cat. Two is a word expressing number, to is a preposition denoting motion. On these two simple words, having the same sound but with totally different meanings, millions of children fall down, and will continue to fall down and make themselves ridiculous in their correspondence all through life, because bone-headed teachers won't by a few exampls and illustrations, remove this grammatical pitfall, from the path of the young. Willye, tell your teacher I have fined her a month's salary and she ought to be made to pay it. Willye further informs us that she can crochet and embroidery her papa. Willye, please send us a picture of papa after you have him nicely crocheted and embroidered. I have no doubt a little artistic embellishing would improve a good many papas, though nature has put enough hay and Alfalfa round the faces of most of them to make further adornment unnecessary. Anyhow we won't criticize papas who subscribe to COMFORT for by that act they demonstrate they know a good thing when they see it, and and have more horse sense than most of the papa fraternity. Willye goes to the "Christen" church. I suppose that's another new religious sect. Well, we have a million or two already and a million or two more won't hurt. Variety is the spice of life and I suppose that aphorism is as applicable to religion as to anything else.

MUNCIE, R. R. 11, Care H. Goodman, IND.

DEAR SIR.—I am a young orphan girl of twenty-two. I am writing a love story, would like to have you print it every month. That is, me write it for your paper. The title is "Her Second Love."

Please answer and tell me how much you'll pay. I will also assign for your paper when you answer

Yours truly, BERTHA WELBORN.

P. S. Please do not print this.

Bertha, when we ask young people if they can cook they throw up their hands and say: "I know nothing about it, that's mother's job." If you ask them if they can dust a chair or even clean a window on the inside (we won't mention the outside) they throw a fit and have to be taken to the hospital. In fact if you ask a girl to do anything today, with the exception of painting her face and going to a cabaret or the movies, or joy riding with a gentleman friend, she will size you up and ask you if you think she is crazy. But ask her if she can write a three-volume novel or a sixty-four reel movidrama (they don't write songs or pomes any more—that's too easy) she will say: "Gee I can do that in my sleep!" One of these days, just for fun, COMFORT should devote a whole edition to stories contributed by aspiring would-be authors. Then after its six million readers were all buried it could start to work and get a whole new bunch of subscribers. I read the other day of a man in a big publishing house who examined about a thousand book manuscripts a week and of these he found not more than one that was worth laying aside for the publisher to glance over. It is always the people who can't spell simple words who want to write novels at a thousand dollars a page. A would-be authoress sent me a manuscript the other day that contained several hundred badly scrawled pages, and she actually told me she would give me fifty cents if I would go all over the manuscript, correct it and find a market for it. In describing a proposal of marriage the "authoress" said: "The herroine trembelt in every fibber of her bean," and there were piles more just as excruciating as that. Bertha I've no doubt yours is a very wonderful story, but the title is bad, very bad. No one is interested in a girl who has only had a second love. If you had made it her hundred and forty-second love, you might have got people mildly excited. The modern girl wants a beau every day or two, and she simply has to have them. Before trying to write for publication, Bertha, you must know that "writeing" does not spell "writing," that "ever month" is not the right way to write "every month," and that "assign" is a poor way to spell "sign." It would hardly be a good business proposition Bertha, for COMFORT to give you a big check for a story in exchange for a twenty-five cent one-year subscription. Mr. Gannett is a very good-natured soul, but he would soon go broke on a proposition like that, and if he goes broke I go broke, so I'm going to watch day and night to see that you would-be authoresses don't put the poor man on the financial rocks.

ALBERTVILLE, rot 1, ALA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I will write you a gain. Why is it that you have forgot me i sent you money for my paper you sent me the card of member and the botton of your society and Why is it you don't write me i wint to know i hant herd from you, I wood be glad to be remember I wood be glad to her from you. Write soon from

LOOILER TOWNSELL. No. 42,326, Augsta, Mine.

Luilla, I greatly enjoyed your letter after I had unraveled and deciphered it, and believe me it took some unraveling. I suppose I am correct in assuming that looiler is your highly original way of spelling Luilla, and that mine, which we usually regard as meaning a hole in the ground in which are found metals more or less precious is your highly original way of spelling Maine and that rot 1 doubtless means Route 1. A great many experts, Luilla, or looiler as you prefer it, go astray on the use of capital letters, but I think my dear, you are the first one I ever met, who was addicted to the extraordinary habit of placing capitals in the middle of words. But I did: 't publish your letter Luilla, to criticize its construction. This is a free country, free at least for those who have the price, and if people want to adopt highly original methods of making themselves understood, or more often misunderstood, that of course is their business. My object in publishing your letter, Luilla, is to let you and others who write in a similar strain, know that it is impossible for me to carry on a personal correspondence with those who join our League. To every new League member including yourself is sent a long printed letter, which covers nearly every point I could possibly make if I were writing to you personally. If I were a wealthy man, and there were a million hours a day and a million days a week I would just love to correspond with the whole of COMFORT'S family. But life is so short and there is so much of importance that must be done, and there is so little time to do it in, and such pitifully little physical strength to do it with, that you must not feel disappointed if you fail to hear from me. I have more than a family to look after, I have a nation. And Maria and myself are almost complete physical wrecks from trying to crowd a month's work into every sixteen or eighteen hours. My bed is smothered with books, papers, magazines, pamphlets and boxes loaded and brimming o'er with letters. Sooner or later everything that concerns the wel-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 25.)

A New Vision

By Arthur Wallace Peach

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

AI BENTON'S bushy eyebrows crept upward toward his thick gray hair. He glanced from the letter in his hand across the breakfast table at his wife, and his voice bristled with wrath.

"Here's just what I expected, Jane. Here's a letter from Cousin Bert, an' he says he's been to call on May, an's he's learned that she's in love with one of them artist chaps. I knew something like that would happen—some ornery pale-livered, long-haired paint-dauber! I tol' you when she wanted to go to the city that that was what would happen." His jaws came together in white lines. "One thing is dead certain—she don't marry him!"

Ai Benton's word once spoken was final and subject to no change though the heavens fall. Mrs. Benton, mild of manner and gentle of heart, knew better than to seek to temper the steel of his decision.

With much muttered comment and much heavy scratching of a stub pen, Mr. Benton wrote a letter to the girl in the city whose love had fallen in forbidden places.

In answer to his epistle came a letter which spoiled another meal for Mr. Benton, for the dark-haired girl who was his daughter was made of the same fiery stuff as himself. The letter informed him that she loved Waitt Leighton, and would continue to do so.

Uncle Sam, a mild and impartial messenger on so many errands of love and hate, next carried word to the girl in the city that she was to come home or forfeit the love of her parents.

That message brought her.

Her eyes a little weary, her face sober, she tried to move the will of her father. His answer had been final, and he refused to argue with her.

"My people have been for generations honest and God-fearing; they paid their bills and earned their living by the sweat of their brows, and I won't have in my family a man who splashes paint on little chunks of canvas. That's settled. If he was a honest painter, earning his daily wage, painting houses, or doing something that was a man's business, I'd be satisfied. Housepainters get good money; Dan White stuck me five hundred dollars for painting this house—five hundred dollars! It pays to be a real painter but them toy fellows——!"

He expected his daughter would have more to say, but she did not. She took up her duties around the home without comment, without showing any ill will; but the music had gone out of her life, the rainbow had vanished over the hills.

One day, fat Dan White drove into the yard. "Say, Mr. Benton, I'm going to send a feller over to paint that sign you wanted. I've been so busy I hain't had the time. He's as good as I am."

In the afternoon Mr. Arkley appeared, and busied himself the rest of the afternoon painting a sign that read: "Maplewood Farms." It was a splendid sign. Mr. Benton went out to see it, then he called his daughter.

"Here's what I call paintin', May, the real article. I didn't tell that fellow so while he was here to hear me; but just look at it! People goin' by won't miss that sign; it's the finest sign I ever see, I tell you; an' if I can beat Dan White down a few dollars, I'll be a mighty lucky man. Now if that chap you're gone on could do this kind of man's work, I wouldn't kick against him. That's a man's job! An I'll bet I'll have to pay ten dollars for that sign, too."

In fact, Mr. Benton was so pleased with the sign—and the fact that White agreed to discount the bill for it ten per cent—that he had two more painted and placed on other roads of the farm.

Much to her father's pleasure May became interested in the signs and went to see the painter work.

"Mother," Mr. Benton said thoughtfully, "I'm thinkin' there's somethin' on. I hope the girl does get interested in that young chap—seems to be quite a nice fellow. He's a real painter."

One afternoon, Mr. Benton came in the house, and stopped in the hallway as if stunned.

On a chair lay a painting of his boyhood home. He rubbed his eyes, closed them, but the picture remained. He bent over it and studied it; slowly he sank into a chair before it. He forgot the men in the field waiting for him; he forgot the passing of the precious hours of the working day; he forgot everything of the present; he was back in the haunts of his boyhood, among scenes that remain precious to a man's soul until his eyes close forever to the light of day.

After a while he leaned back and sighed. Slowly back from the past over the tangled trails of the tangled years his mind came to a sudden awakening.

He sprang to his feet; all thought of picture and its associations vanished. Through the window he saw in the shelter of the shed-door, the young sign-painter kissing his daughter!

He burst upon a startled couple. "What do you mean?" was his beginning—only a beginning.

When his speech ebbed, May, her cheeks flushed with rose, said quietly, "Father, let me introduce Mr. Leighton—to whom I am engaged. The picture in the front hall he brought to you. He has been offered five hundred dollars for it—he didn't want me to tell you, but I knew how interested you would be—but he wants you to accept it as the gift of a friend."

Mr. Benton studied the "sign-painter" for a moment, and he spoke as quietly as May. "Mother Benton says I haven't the knack of seein' through things; but I think I can see through the game you young folks have put up on me. Let me say, young man, before I'd let you take that picture away I'd buy it myself. I thought for a minute I was back on the old place when I stepped in the door. Being as it is, I'm mighty glad to take your gift not as that of a friend but a son-in-law to be. Shake!"



Mrs. Vernon Castle Edition of PHILIPSBORN'S Style Book for America's Patriotic Women

"Dress better than ever, for less money!"

This is the ringing message from Mrs. Vernon Castle to America's Patriotic Women, in the "Castle Edition" of Philipsborn's Style Book for Fall and Winter.

We have placed our tremendous purchasing power behind the Castle idea of Better Styles and Greater Economy. The results are wonderful styles of exquisite beauty, priced extremely low. **Send a postal quickly for the beautiful Free Style Book and see the sensational savings on everything you need.**

OUR GREAT OFFER!
Silk Poplin Dress $3.49 PRE-PAID

IX 6600—This Faille Silk Poplin dress is the greatest value Philipsborn's or any other house in the world ever offered.

If you do not agree, return it—your money will be refunded instantly. It's a latest 1917 Fall model, new straight front effect, beautiful demi-flare skirt. Fashionable shades of Black, Navy Blue or Plum, all with white silk collar and cuffs. Ladies and Misses sizes: Bust 32-44. Waistband 23-28. Skirt length 36-41 inches. Price prepaid, **$3.49.**



BIG Savings

Waists, $ .49 Up
Skirts, $1.98 "
Hats, $ .49 "
Shoes, $ .49 "

Everything for Misses', Junior, Girls' and Children's wear at bed-rock prices.

Quick Shipment

Our 3-Hour Service insures quick delivery.

MONEY BACK

if you are not delighted with the style and value.

We Pay Express and Postage

PHILIPSBORN
The Outer Garment House
Dept. 211, CHICAGO

The Doings of The Dapperlings

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1917, by Lena B. Ellingwood.
(All rights reserved.)

CHAPTER XII.

THE DAPPERLINGS' CONCERT.

"IN my opinion," remarked Quillikin one day, when the Dapperlings were all together in their assembly hall, and had been talking over various Dapperlin affairs, "in my opinion, it is time we were giving another concert. What I propose is to invite all our friends from far and near, and have a grand concert which shall last all day. I have already written the words of a song," he went on, trying to speak modestly, "and it goes with a tune we all know."

The Dapperlings joyfully fell in with Quillikin's plan. Oh, how Nattie wished she might borrow Pittysing's little piano, and astonish everybody with her playing! However, that was not to be thought of.

All the old musical instruments were brought out and examined, but few were any good. All their little banjoes and violins were found to lack strings, and a party of lively young Dapperlings were sent up to the pasture to get a supply of horsehairs to make new strings. It was likely to be dangerous work, but, luckily, they found some of the horses lying down, and snipped off a quantity of long hairs from their manes, without fear of being kicked.

With these, the banjoes and violins were put into good condition, and several old harps restrung. Pieces of the stems of late-blooming dandelions were made into beautiful flutes by skillful Skippywink. Blades of grass held between the thumbs and blown upon produced shrill, stirring bugle calls for the band music. Countless whistles were made from aldre twigs, which ran from low to high notes. Niddy-Nod and Pertwee found a discarded skin which a snake had shed, and with that and some thick pieces of white birch-bark made some beautiful drums of various sizes. Pieces of hollow pumpkin vines, fitted with small mouthpieces, made deep bass horns.

With all the instruments ready for use, there followed hours of practising every day. Dapperlings sang, whistled, and mimicked the notes of all the forest birds. Quillikin's new song was learned, and old ones rehearsed.

Large posters were made and sent to every Dapperling village. Quillikin wrote them, looking very wise, while a crowd of Dapperlings stood around, trying to help, though he wished they would leave him alone.

"Announcement!" wrote Quillikin. "Band—Concert — Dapperlings — Everybody —" here he paused to think.

"Well, why don't you go on?" asked Zipzang, after they had waited a while. "Everybody what?"

"Perhaps you can't understand," said Quillikin, but I will try to explain. I wanted just twenty-six words in it—one for every letter in the alphabet. Begin the first with A, the next with B, and so on. A—Announcement! B—Band! C—Concert! Something new, see? No such poster ever written before. But I don't quite know what to put next. E, f, g, I might say, 'Everybody Feels Gay,' but I don't like it."

"How would 'Everybody Finds Gold,' do?" asked Niddy-Nod, sleepily.

"Because they don't!" snapped Quillikin, who wanted to think in peace. "I'll put, 'Everybody Fancifully Gowned.' Of course the men don't wear gowns, but it's the best I think of."

So he went on, "Everybody Fancifully Gowned. Have Ices, Jellies, Kake."

"I may not know much," ventured Lulie Wye. "but at least I'd never spell cake, 'k-a-k-e.'"

"You would, too, if you were writing this," said Quillikin, "because that's what we're going to have, and K comes next. I shall never get this done if you don't stop interrupting. Now, then! 'Lovely Music. Niddy-Nod's Odd Performances.'"

"I don't like that!" objected Niddy-Nod. "Put 'Operatic Playing,' instead."

"All right." Then he wrote very fast for a few minutes, and proudly read the announcement aloud, beginning at the first.

If you read it carefully through, you will see that the first letters of all the words came just as he wanted them, from A to Z.

"ANNOUNCEMENT!

Band Concert—Dapperlings.
Everybody Fancifully Gowned.
Have Ices, Jellies, Kake.
Lovely Music!
Niddy-Nod's Operatic Playing.
Quillikin's Readings.
Shandle-Spinx Truly Understands Violins!
We X-pect You.
Zipzang."

"Of course," Quillikin explained, "except really begins with e, but it can't be helped. And there was no reason why Zipzang's name should be signed, but I had to get a z in somehow."

It was a beautiful September day that the concert came off. Much too fine, they decided, to have the concert in the assembly hall. The "Ices Jellies, Kake," served at one o'clock, would be there—they wouldn't run the risk of having another feast spoiled by Cattie-Puss and Gyp—but the concert would be in the open air.

Early in the morning the visiting Dapperlings began to come.

Skippywink and Zipzang were tuning their banjoes, when Nattie ran up to them in great excitement.

"That little piano I told you about!" she cried, "It's down by the Mill Brook this minute! The children were playing down there this morning, and left it there when they went home. We can borrow it for a little while. I'll play on it in the concert, and then it can be carried back before the children miss it. Oh, move it for me, please, please!"

They were glad to go. A fine thing, indeed, it would be, to have a piano for their concert! So, with the help of four other Dapperlings, they carried Pittysing's piano to the foot of the hill, where the concert was to take place.

By ten o'clock the place was swarming with Dapperlings, and the grand concert began.

Niddy-Nod was on guard to warn them if anyone came near.

"When your turn comes to take part in the concert, Skippywink will take your place," they promised.

Niddy-Nod grumbled, but of course someone had to watch. Niddy-Nod was fond of napping—that's how he got his name—but one would think a fine concert close by would keep him wide awake, certainly. Still, Niddy-Nod had been out late the night before, learning the call of a night bird, which he wanted to use in the concert. So you mustn't blame him too much when you hear what happened.



"MY—GRACIOUS—GOODNESS! OH, MY GOODNESS—GRACIOUS!" GASPED PITTYSING.

I have said that the day of the concert came in September, and in September, as you all know, the long summer vacation ends, and school begins.

Pittysing was going to school, but Simmie-Sammie would have to wait another year, for he was only five years old.

Pittysing felt very important, I can tell you, when, wearing the cleanest of dresses and freshest of hair ribbons, she kissed her mother and Simmie-Sammie good by and started off every morning.

If it hadn't been for Gyp, I don't know what Simmie-Sammie would have done, he was so lonely.

The morning of the Dapperlings' concert, the children had taken the little piano and Teddy Bear down by the Mill Brook, and the bear, with a little help from Simmie-Sammie, had danced and climbed trees, while Pittysing played the piano.

When she had been called to get ready for school, she ran at once, for fear she might be late and get a tardy mark, asking Simmie-Sammie to carry the playthings home.

I'm afraid Simmie-Sammie was a little lazy; he didn't like to help very well. So he only took Teddy Bear home, leaving the piano. And, as you know, Nattie found it.

At noon, Simmie-Sammie said: "Maybe you better bring home your piano, Pittsy."

"Well, there, now!" flashed Pittysing. "If you couldn't even do that much for me! Oh, well, I s'pose I'll have to go after it!" And off she started.

Simmie-Sammie followed. When they got to the Mill Brook, the piano wasn't there.

"Now you've been and gone and hid it somewhere, Samuel Simmie-Sammie Smith!"

Simmie-Sammie looked a little frightened.

"I never!" he answered. If he had been the means of losing Pittysing's cherished piano, the dearest of all her belongings, he would probably have to give her the other half of his hen, and carry the milk and wipe the breakfast dishes for years.

"Honest Injun, I didn't hide it," he told her so earnestly she had to believe him. "An' I'll help you find it."

"If I hunt long, I'll have to go without my dinner," sighed Pittysing, "for I can't be late to school! I'm sure *I* don't know where to look—like as not somebody's run off with it. You go down along *this* side o' the brook, Simmie-Sammie, and I'll go up the *other* side. But I don't s'pose t'll be any use, for it couldn't walk off its own self!"

So they separated, and began the search, Simmie-Sammie looking under bushes and peering up into tree-tops.

Pittysing crossed the brook, and started slowly in the direction of the hill where she and Simmie-Sammie had raced the day her doll was lost.

A sound of music came to her ears, and she stopped to listen.

I wish I could describe it. Better still, I wish you might have heard it. A wild, gay little strain from a medley of tiny instruments—violin, fife, banjo, flute, harp, cymbal, drum—and through it all the tinkle of the toy piano. But this was only a prelude.

From dozens of little Dapperling throats came the Forest Chorus, brisk pipings, long-drawn, tender calls, notes of gladness, joyous thrills, such a burst of melody it seems that all the birds of all the forests were uniting in one grand chorus.

"Fairies!" breathed Pittysing. "Sakes alive! why didn't I think of it before—that place in the side hill where I found my doll! I'll get my piano if I have to fall through the thistles again!"

Cautiously she tiptoed along, and soon came in sight of the hill.

Oh, where was Niddy-Nod, who should have given warning of her coming?

Asleep at his post! Sound asleep as Little Boy Blue when the sheep wandered in the meadow and the cows spoiled the corn!

There was the Dapperlings' hill, every Dapperling house showing, doors and windows standing open.

There were the crowds of visiting Dapperlings all around, listening to the concert.

There were the musicians, *our* Dapperlings, all together at the foot of the hill, all their thoughts on that wonderful Forest Chorus. Gay little garments in rainbow colors, September sunshine, music and happiness!

And there stood Pittysing, in open-mouthed wonder, hardly believing her own eyes!

A strange and startling sight to come upon, on a pasture hillside, in broad daylight! Like a bewildering dream, or a story by Iagoo, the great story-teller in Hiawatha.

There came a lull in the music.

"My—gracious—goodness! Oh, my goodness—gracious!" gasped Pittysing.

Every Dapperling looked up—every one but Niddy-Nod, who still slept.

Oh, then there was a grand rush for the houses. They didn't stop to take their musical instruments with them, but dropped everything and ran.

In less time than you would have thought it possible—almost before Pittysing had stopped speaking—the houses were turned around, inside the hill.

But there were two Dapperlings who hadn't gone with the others. Niddy-Nod, of course. Yes, and Nattie, the Smallest Dapperling of all.

Nattie had been thinking quickly. Pittysing had seen her—had seen them all. And why should she run? Hadn't she been longing, all summer, for courage to speak to the little girl? Well, at last the time had come.

So she sprang up from the piano, and rushed over the short grass—straight into Pittysing's embrace! For Pittysing had dropped down on the ground, and was holding out eager arms for her.

They clung to each other, their eyes shining. It would be hard to tell which was happier, the little girl or the tiny Dapperling.

"Oh, I *did* see you—I did—that time when I was sick!" cried Pittysing!

"Yes, yes!" answered Nattie's little silvery voice.

"And you brought me that *dear* little basket of flowers, and mamma said I'd been dreaming."

"Yes!"

"And 'twas you took my little doll and made her that lovely dress."

"I took her to Lulie Wye, and *she* made the dress."

"And you played on my little piano that day we had the show!"

"Yes. And—I'm sorry now—but I hid your nice things for Simmie-Sammie's birthday party dinner."

"But you put 'em back. And I b'lieve 'twas your little slipper Gyp was chewing."

"A pink one?"

"Yes."

"I lost it when we had our moonlight party."

"And you made my garden——"

"The others helped."

"Oh, I'm so glad I've found you! Why didn't you ever come and play with me?"

"I wanted to, but the others all said I mustn't."

"Well, anyway, you're here now, and it seems to me, oh, it seems to me I never, *never* was so happy in *all* of my born days!"

"Why, look here!" cried Nattie, as an overwhelming thought came to her. "You saw me that night when I took the flowers to you. You really *saw* me! Why—why! Nothing awful happened after that! I don't believe anything awful ever *would* happen, if you saw me ever so many times! The other Dapperlings were *afraid*—that's all! Then *why* can't I come to play with you? I will! I will!"

Niddy-Nod had wakened, and, scared and trembling, had been creeping toward them. He seized Nattie's hand, urging, "Come, come!" in a queer, strained voice. He was horribly frightened, but he wasn't going off and leave Nattie.

Up the hill, from the clump of thistles, terrified eyes looked down, and little hands beckoned. One Dapperling house turned slowly outward, the door was opened, and Nattie and Niddy-Nod slipped inside.

But, as she went, Nattie looked back and smiled.

Then, from beyond the brook, came Simmie-Sammie's voice.

"Pittsy!" he called. "Your school bell's wung—I heard it! You'll be late to school, an' you ain't had any dinner!"

THE END.

This ends the first series of Dapperling stories. We have a second series that is still more interesting, but we shall not start it just yet.

Next month we shall treat our little folks to a delightful "Cubby Bear" story, by Mrs. Ellingwood. See that your subscription is paid so not to miss the fine "Cubby Bear" story and picture coming in October COMFORT.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

mean to come. If Maurice was coming tonight, he must be at the station now.

As she stood thinking, a noise, a very slight noise, reached her. Was it footsteps coming up the flagged walk to the house?

The girl's heart stood still. Then it bounded, for this must be Maurice!

She flew along the passage to the front door, all ready to open it, but there was no sound outside when she reached it. Could she have made a mistake about the trains, and Mayne be due an hour earlier than she had thought? It sounded like his footsteps, going past the house to his own entrance.

"Well, he shan't get into my part without my knowing," she thought, angrily.

As she turned to go to the red-baize door in the corridor she heard those faint steps again; it was, it must be he—Mr. Mayne!

Somehow all her fright was gone as she reached the door that led into Mayne's rooms. She sat quite calmly on a chair by it, having set down her lamp, and waited to confront him. But she heard nothing; no one was stirring in his rooms.

As she sat watching the plain, unbroken surface of the red door, a sudden strange quiet seemed to come over her. She could not take her eyes off it; she had forgotten all about Maurice; her whole soul was possessed with Clarence Mayne. She must keep him out; at all costs, she must keep him out!

She said the words over and over slowly, almost without her own will. And as she did so, the door began to move, swinging inwardly without a sound.

The girl rose to her feet.

"I must keep him out," she said slowly, dreamily.

It swung, as she stared at it, wide on its hinges; and from the dark room behind it came an air so chilly, so death-like, that it chilled her to the bone.

In the dark oblong of the open door Clarence Mayne was standing, looking at her. His eyes glittered in the lamplight, full of malice; she met them bravely with her own.

Why did he not speak? And how had he come by that little cut on his forehead, which had made a streak of blood down his cheek?

She leaned forward, looking him full in those hateful pale eyes of his; something bound her tongue—she could not speak.

He made a step forward; another and he would cross the threshold.

"Keep him out!" The words echoed loud in her ears as though some one else had said them. All her soul rose in repulsion. Mayne should never cross that threshold.

She flung out her hand imperiously to stop him.

It touched nothing, and again that blast of icy cold air made her shiver.

She staggered, and leaned, faint and sick, against the wall.

Clarence Mayne, as she looked at him, had faded into a shadow; had gone, without moving, without a sound! And, slowly as it had opened, the red door swung shut again.

Was it Clarence Mayne who had stood there, or what was it that she had seen, all alone in the great, empty house?

Cold drops of fear came out on her forehead. She dared not try if the red door was fast; dared not turn her back on it, and make her way to her own part of the house, with she knew not what Thing of life or death behind her. If she had to see it again, it must be facing it, with her back against the solid wall.

She stood waiting, each minute expecting she knew not what.

The house was dead and silent; she would have given worlds to hear a dog bark—even a rat stir in the wall.

Where was Maurice? It must be the middle of the night!

There was a ring at the door, then another; but the girl did not hear it, where she stood spellbound.

Suddenly quick steps came down the passage—human, living steps which were the most heavenly sounds she had ever heard. It was Maurice!

Nerine sprang to meet the boy, and clung to him. She began to sob as his strong young arms closed round her.

"I thought you would never come!" she cried.

"What kept you, and how did you get in?"

"Broke a pane in the morning-room window and undid the catch. I rang first. Didn't you hear me?"

She shook her head.

"I was here."

"You gave me an awful fright," the boy said, with a curious huskiness in his voice. "When I got your telegram I thought, of course, you were in the train with Mr. Mayne; I was waiting at the station when they heard about it."

"Heard about what?"

"It's all smashed up—gone down an embankment about five miles from our own station.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

Dorine Or Vanity Box

Beautiful—Dainty—Useful. Every Woman—Every Girl Should Have One

YOU carry it suspended from the little finger which is slipped through the ring at the end of the four-inch chain. Press a tiny hidden spring and the hinged cover flies open displaying a fine little mirror and powder puff. Handsomely silver finished and enameled in colors, these new Dorines have become immensely popular with well-dressed women. They are small, light and dainty measuring only an inch and a half in diameter and five-eighths of an inch in width. City stores are selling hundreds of them. We will make you a gift of one of these Dorines or Vanity Boxes if you will perform the slight favor requested of you in the following



Prem. No. 7723

Club Offer: For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you a Dorine free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7723. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Why Canned Goods Are Always Safe

By R. M. Baker

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

FIRST of all, canned goods are always safe because no germ life can exist, nor fermentation begin while the can is sealed; empty the contents into glass or crockery when the cans are opened and you have food that is pure, wholesome and absolutely *safe*.

The manufacturer of canned goods *is* a careful shopper,—far more careful than the average housewife. He cannot succeed if his goods are bad. He knows it. The result is that he buys the best, sees that it is put up in purity,—and you get the benefit.

He buys his meat by the ton and his vegetables by the carload, in order to turn out the finished product at perhaps the rate of a hundred thousand pounds a day. Every single piece of meat is inspected, and if imperfect, is not only thrown out, but the whole lot from which the piece came, often a ton or so, is also rejected. By doing this three or four times, and putting the packer to the trouble of carrying that immense quantity of meat back, the buyer seldom finds a poor piece of meat in his consignments.

The vegetables undergo minute inspection. All are prepared by neat, wholesome young women who are divided into squads, each of which is under the supervision of an older woman who sees that nothing unworthy of the table of a king is incorporated into the food.

The average canning plant today is of the whitest cement and the utensils of brightest and shiniest of copper. Every labor-saving device, the worth of which has been proven, is there. Tables scoured to a pure whiteness contain rows and rows of shining pans, heaped with celery, chopped vegetables and the white kernels of corn. The hands and finger nails of all the employees receive constant attention. Everyone of them carries an immaculate towel, fastened to the belt, with which the slightest discoloration of their hands is instantly removed. The great vats containing soup, tomatoes, spaghetti and vegetables are absolutely clean. The machinery is clean,—so well cared for, and so efficient looking, that it becomes almost artistic.

There are many machines which cut carrots, turnips, etc., into dice, and then the bright vegetables are swung aloft by machinery in a wire basket, traveling the way cash baskets do in a department-store, until they reach the great, boiling cauldrons and are automatically dumped in. These are copper, lined with tin.

Soup is clarified with beef rather than egg, because the albumen of blood is more strength-giving. Large white cloth strainers cover all open liquids, even if they are to stand only a few moments. Real French chefs prepare the soup according to absolute and accurate recipes.

There are literally thousands of different foods canned commercially nowadays. Many of them save the housekeeper hours of time and infinite trouble. Spinach, for instance, one buys in such great bulk, and finds so dirty, that its cooking is really something of a problem for the thousands of women who do "light housekeeping" in city flats and kitchenette apartments. The preparation of a peck of leaves, including washing them thoroughly and boiling a long time on a small gas burner, is troublesome and expensive. Many other vegetables which require a number of hours for cooking, such as beets and turnips, can be had in a perfect cooked state in tins, requiring merely a moment for heating. When one cooks by gas, it certainly is economical to buy such vegetables already prepared. There are canned sour kraut, delicious little Lima beans; and who would spend hours soaking and baking beans, when such delicious baked beans can be bought so cheaply?

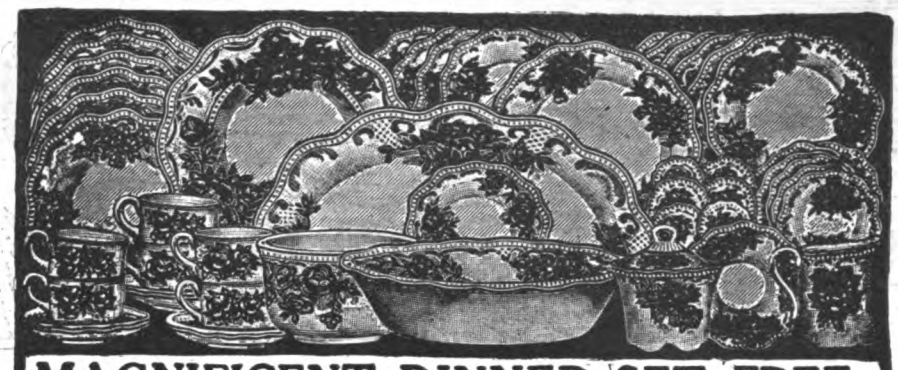
Again, the food manufacturer can buy the fresh vegetables at the height of their season, when they are ripest and cheapest. He, therefore, can put up a better quality, and do it more cheaply for us, than we can buy the emaciated hothouse product, or cold-storage foods.

Everyone knows that the sooner a vegetable is cooked after the picking, the finer the flavor. The dweller of the city is apt to eat, all his life, rather wilted and inferior vegetables, because transportation is complicated, and farm products are handled a great many times by the various wholesalers and commission men, before reaching the city table. Also, these vegetables are apt to be germ-laden, having been fingered by so many persons and exposed to the dirt of streets, and to deliberate handling by various marketers. The housekeeper is fortunate if she can get fresh food, free from dirt and disease germs by careful washing. On the other hand, the products of any first-class factory are bought in great quantities direct from the farm, and scarcely touched by human hands, before their wonderful hot steam baths and perfect sterilization.

The use of canned soup is very extensive, nowadays, because the housekeeper finds it so simple and convenient to open a can of chicken bouillon or tomato, or mock turtle, when she has company drop in upon her suddenly. It is not every woman who knows how to prepare well the fancy soups, such as mulligatawny. Then, too, she does not always have at hand the various ingredients,—the spices, the pearl barley and different attractive accessories.

It is extremely convenient and neat and cleanly to open the bright tin can and pour the steaming contents directly into the pretty china soup plates. Often she is certain that the bouillon is of a better quality, and is "safer" than any she could make from a chicken bought from her neighborhood dealer, whom she suspects of carrying only cold storage products.

No one can doubt that purchasing in large quantities makes materials far cheaper than they are in the individual home; nor that expensive and scientific apparatus, and expert, high-salaried chefs make for efficiency. How can we possibly expect the ignorant maid-of-all work in our little house or flat, to have a knowledge of chemistry, of sterilization, and of food values? Canned foods are always pure and wholesome.



MAGNIFICENT DINNER SET FREE.

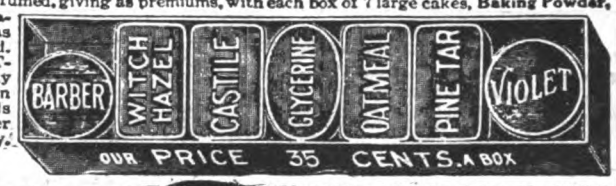
The Most Gigantic Offer Of The Century.

You Need No Money. We Trust You. We Pay Freight.

To gain a wider distribution for our strictly pure, high-grade groceries and family supplies, we now offer ABSOLUTELY FREE, a magnificently embossed, artistically floral decorated, full size

52-PC. DINNER SET for sale of 10 BOXES OF SOAP

of extra quality and finely perfumed, giving as premiums, with each box of 7 large cakes, Baking Powder, Perfume, Talcum Powder, Teaspoons, Shears and Needles (as per Plan 2351) here illustrated. QUALITY as well as QUANTITY are in this offer, as we buy in such large lots that we can afford to give more good goods for less money than any other concern in the entire country.





ALL OF OUR PLANS SELL AT SIGHT. One pleased customer brings another and with our other Baking Powder, Tea, Coffee, Spice, Extract, Perfume and Soap Offers, you will get duplicate orders and earn some of our many useful premiums such as Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Linen Sets, Silverware, Clocks, Lamps, Furniture, Graniteware, Rugs, Dry Goods, Wearing Apparel, in fact, anything you need. We also pay large cash commissions.

WE PAY THE FREIGHT

on Soap, Dinner Set and Premiums, allowing you plenty of time to examine, deliver and collect before paying us one cent. Write at once for FREE SAMPLE OUTFIT and other things. If, after receiving them, you decide not to get up an order, you may keep everything we send you FREE of charge for the trouble in answering this advertisement. No license needed. We protect you. Our methods are honest. Satisfaction guaranteed. Reference: First National Bank, Provident Bank, Postmaster.



SPECIAL FREE PRESENT.

We give a 6-Pc. High-Grade Granite Kitchen Set, or 12-Pc. Silverine Knife and Fork Set, or Elegant Decorated Parlor Lamp, FREE of all cost or work of any kind. Simply send us your name and address and ask for this FREE PRESENT.

We also give Beautiful Presents for appointing one or more Agents to work for us. You advance no money. You have nothing to risk. Remember, the SPECIAL PREMIUM AND SAMPLE OUTFIT are both absolutely free. A 2-cent stamp or post card is your only expense. WRITE TODAY.

THE PURE FOOD CO., 732 W. PEARL ST., CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

among you who would withhold your small help to keep a home for one stricken down.

It is often difficult for us to put ourselves in the other fellow's place. Had I not cared for Uncle Charlie while he was in the hospital in New York City, I might not appreciate his condition, but it requires little imagination to fancy one sick and unable to work to keep safe and secure that which all of us love and reverence—a home.

These are strenuous times, the times that try men's souls. Let them make us more mindful of the other's need that we may lift where we stand, and apart from the real pleasure we get in helping another, comes the very safe assurance that

"The gift is to the giver and comes back, most to him,
It cannot fail."

LYDIA E. LASKOWSKI.

Sisters. Uncle Charlie is exceedingly grateful for the money sent him and receives a ten-cent contribution, from someone unable to send more, with as much appreciation as the one dollar, or more, donation from a richer subscriber, but, judging from the enthusiastic letters received, it would seem that during a year's time it should amount to more than $2000.00 and, to date, I don't think it is much more than that, if any.

There is not space to print all the letters in favor of the project but in one at hand the writer suggests that the men give up cigars, or tobacco in any form, for one week and the women do without candy, gum, ice-cream and movies for the same length of time and donate the money saved to the Home Fund; however, this is merely a suggestion, and from an outsider for Uncle Charlie does not ask for more than can willingly and conveniently be given, but he is, oh, so grateful for any help!—Ed.

WADESBORO, N. C.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

My subscription has expired but I'm renewing it with this letter, for I can't do without COMFORT. I enjoy every page and especially the Poultry Department. I prefer to earn my own pin money and then I feel free to use it as I please.

I keep pure bred Single Comb Rhode Island Red chickens and find a great demand for stock and eggs. I had calls in January and February for day-old chicks but didn't have them to spare that early. I would advise all pure bred poultry dealers to have mating list printed, as it does away with so much writing in the rush of answering inquiries after advertising stock or eggs. I find that it is a time saver.

I exhibited a few pullets and cockerels this last season at Wadesboro and won first and second prizes for both. I also won first prize at the North Carolina State Show.

I am a member of the N. C. Poultry Club and keep a record of my work each year and I know just how I come out. I always make a sum above expenses. I advise all farm women to keep pure bred poultry for they pay, while mongrels didn't pay me.

I am joining the canning club this year and will have a big garden to can from, of tomatoes, okra, corn, beans, etc. I will use vegetables for my chicks and for home use, and I mean to have lots of canned goods for winter use and for sale.

I like to seek opportunities on the farm and keep busy and when I want to buy anything or need money for some special purpose, I don't have to depend on others for it. There are many advantages on the farm if we will only realize them and get busy.

With kindest regards to all,

MISS SADIE COVINGTON.

SPRINGVILLE, TENN.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Would you mind letting a little Tomato Club Girl say a few words?

I do not wish to arouse the indignation of any of the city sisters but I cannot agree with them when they say city life is better than country life for children.

I am sixteen years old and have lived on a farm all my life. I have been a member of the Girls' Tomato Club for two years and think it the best organization for girls of which I know. Do any of the sisters belong? I have never heard it mentioned.

I think every girl should know how to keep house, cook, can fruit and vegetables, do farm work and raise chickens. Perhaps some rich girls will sneer at this and say they don't have to do such work for a living but suppose you don't now, you don't know how long before you will have to. If we learn now it will be much easier. We should always be prepared for an emergency.

If any of the sisters belong to the Tomato Club I would like to correspond with them.

Cleanliness is next to Godliness and being clean is the most important part of being a Club Girl. Be clean, economical and honest; those three things combined give a girl the right start in life.

I am five feet, eight inches tall, weigh one hundred and fifteen pounds and have dark brown hair and eyes. Lovingly, INEZ PROVON.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been reading the sisters' letters and I want them to give me a little advice. I am only sixteen years old but I have made a sad mistake in my life and now I want you all to tell me how I can make something of myself so as to make my mother and sister feel proud of me some day. I want to be a perfect lady hereafter and I will heed all the advice given me. Hopefully yours, M. B.

M. B.—I am writing a personal letter to you and if the sisters don't respond to your noble appeal I shall be very much disappointed in them. —Ed.

SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

After reading Mrs. Albert Tinkle's letter in the April issue I have mustered up courage enough to send in a piece of poetry that applies to her letter and I hope that the husbands will read it carefully.

Tell Her So

"Amid the cares of married life,
In spite of toil and business strife,
If you value your sweet wife
Tell her so!

"Prove to her you don't forget
The bond to which the seal is set;
She's of life's sweets and the sweetest yet,
Tell her so!

"When days are dark and deeply blue,
She has her troubles, same as you,
Show her that your love is true—
Tell her so!

"There was a time you thought it bliss
To get the favor of one kiss;
A dozen now won't come amiss—
Tell her so!

"Your love for her is no mistake—
You feel it dreaming or awake—
Don't conceal it, for her sake,
Tell her so!

"Don't act, if she has passed her prime,
As though to please her were a crime,
If e'er you loved her, now's the time—
Tell her so!

"She'll return for each caress,
A hundredfold of tenderness.
Hearts like hers were made to bless,
Tell her so!

"You are hers and hers alone,
Well you know she's all your own;
Don't wait to "carve it on a stone,"
Tell her so!

"Never let her heart grow cold—
Richer beauties will unfold;
She is worth her weight in gold!
Tell her so!"

—(Author unknown.)

MRS. EDWARD SIMON.

PARADIS, LA.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Often in these days of the high cost of living have I turned the pages of dear old COMFORT for some recipe to use in making left-overs into attractive dishes, as well as other recipes, and I am never disappointed. I could hardly do without the dear old paper.

The war has taught us a valuable lesson in conserving our food supply and to grow everything we can for the table. It is a lesson that will benefit all and make living more as it was in the past instead of depending on the tin can and the grocer's shelf. It is our duty, dear sisters, to do our bit in every way possible to help our glorious country in its hour of need. No sacrifice is too great. Let every one who can, buy a Liberty Loan Bond, help the Red Cross, or do something in the service of the country that we may bring to a successful termination the war which is raging in Europe. May our country emerge triumphant. We, down South here, who are blessed with a more temperate climate, will do all we can in raising bumper crops of early and late truck as well as everything else we can and I know the same is true of the rest of the country. We were fortunate in having had an early spring and prospects of a late autumn and this enables us to raise and ship vast quantities of all kinds of vegetables to our less fortunate brothers in the North. This place has never looked more like God's country than at the present time. Everything grows wonderfully, corn, cane, cotton, all kinds of grain, and vegetables.

The sisters wishing to write are requested to send stamp with their letter.

MRS. FRED PITRE.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around The Home

Use vaseline to keep the sink free from rust or to remove rust spots.

Use a soft brush when dusting gilt frames, as a cloth dims the polish.

Rub the backs of old paintings with oil of cedar and insects will not trouble them.

Clean brass bedsteads with flannel dipped in kerosene and then polish with chamois.

Traces of mud may be removed from black dresses by rubbing the stains with raw potato.

Mildew can be removed by rubbing green tomatoes and salt on the spot and exposing to the sun's rays.

Rub a curtain pole with kerosene until it is perfectly smooth, using a woolen cloth. The rings will slide easily then.

In washing any delicate material with gasoline, add a little salt and there will not be a stain left at the edges of the washed article.

To remove paint from silk goods, saturate the goods with equal parts of ammonia and turpentine, wash in soapsuds and let dry between blotting paper and under a heavy weight.

If a bowl or pan has any kind of food stuck to it, turn it upside down in a pan of hot water and leave for a few minutes and it will be easier to wash.

MYRTLE JACOBS, Bryan, Texas.

Don't close the registers before shaking the furnace fire. Instead leave them open and cover with a wet cloth, which absorbs the dust and ashes that rise. If they are closed the dust settles underneath but spreads over the rooms when opened.

SOAP THAT WILL FLOAT.—Two tomato cans of grease one can of patent lye dissolved in one quart cold water. Heat the grease and water containing lye separately and when both are lukewarm, pour the lye into the grease, stirring all the time. Add immediately one cup of ammonia and two tablespoons of borax dissolved in one half cup water. Stir until as thick as honey. Put paper in bottom of dripping pan and pour the mixture in. In about five hours mark it off into squares. In a day or two break apart and put in a warm place to dry. If allowed to dry a month it will last much longer but it can be used in a week's time. This soap can be used for the hands as well as for clothes.

MINNIE O. MACKINTOSH, San Diego, Cal.

Remedies

Mutton tallow and turpentine is fine for a sprain.

Soda, salt and water make an excellent gargle for sore throat.

Hops put in bag and wrung out in hot water will often relieve neuralgia pains.

Apply castor oil to warts and in time it removes them. MRS. OCIE D. EWELL, Post City, Tex.

HIVES.—Cut an onion in halves, put a piece of sulphur the size of a match head in the hollow of the onion and put the halves together and wrap in heavy brown paper. Put in oven and bake till paper is well burned. Remove onion and press the juice from it. For a dose, give a little in a spoon every two or three hours. This will cure the hives in a few days.

A COMFORT Reader, Charleston, Mo.

RUPTURE CURE. (Requested).—Boil fifteen eggs hard, remove yolks and cut them up and put into spider. Put over a slow fire and stir constantly, gradually increasing the heat. It will soon dissolve into a creamy looking substance which, as the fire grows hotter, turns brown and looks like coffee grounds. Stir rapidly all the time. It will smoke and smell terribly and you will feel sure it is burned up but keep at it patiently and after a while it will dissolve into a black oil. Strain and bottle this. Apply this oil every night, making sure the rupture is back in place. Every morning use a healing salve, made as follows:

Melt together a little new, unsalted butter with one quarter as much beeswax and after melting add a few drops of oil of spike. This is very healing and prevents the rupture getting sore on the outside. This treatment is to be continued three weeks or more. I have used it with good success on ruptured colts.

MRS. C. R. POWERS, Underwood, N. Dak.

Requests

MRS. Elmer Harlow, Woodward, Iowa, wants poem "Writing on Sand."

Malena Chisolm, Harrell, Ala., wants poem, "Annie dear, I'm Called Away."

MRS. C. C. Shuler, Chinook, Mont., would like to correspond with any of the sisters that do water color painting.

Will some of the sisters please send me some old COMFORTS of the days of Aunt Minerva. Will return favor.

BEATRICE SMITH, Cleveland, R. R. 2, Box 84, Va.

A sister from Maine, but now living in Washington, would like to hear from Maine people; also those from other states.

MRS. E. D. SOUTHER, Raymond, 2138 Park Ave., Wash.

To MRS. COOK who wanted to know the name of liquid used on crepe flowers, I use parawax and either gold or silver powder for the bright specks.

W. A. S., S. Dak.

Poem containing words:

"It is easy to sit in the sunshine,
And talk to the man in the shade,
It is easy to float in a well-trimmed boat,
And point out the places to wade."

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Mrs. S. R. Goodrich, Carlton, Oregon. Thos. H. Evans, 6th Aero Squadron Aviation Sect., Kamehameha, Honolulu, H. I. Miss Muriel McComick, Monroe, Box 616, Wash. Lester Davidson, Foosland, R. R. 38, Ill. Care J. H. Young.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three one-year 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two one-year 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent one-year subscriptions yearly for every seven words.



NEW SANITARY FEATHER BEDS $8.95 NOW ONLY

Full weight 40 pounds. A pair 6-lb Pillows to match, $1.30. Selected, New, Live, Clean, Sanitary Feathers. Best Featherproof Ticking. Sold on money-back guarantee. DO NOT BUY from anyone at any price, until you get the BOOK OF TRUTH, our big new catalog mailed FREE.

Write a postal card TODAY. Agents wanted.

American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk 10, Nashville, Tenn.

Freckles and Tan Removed FREE

Harwood's Freckle Cream Guaranteed—Money back if not satisfied. If you have never tried this cream we will send free a full size 50 cent jar and our Freckle book. Send 20c to pay wrapping and postage. Only one jar to a family.



Harwood Laboratories
Dept. 32, Aurora, Illinois

SCHOOL BOX FREE



with Fountain Pen, Pencils, Knife, Penholder, Eraser, for selling 15 sets colored Post-Cards at 10 cents a set. Write BLUINE MFG. CO., 213 MILL ST., CONCORD JCT., MASS.

LE PAGE'S CHINA CEMENT
STANDS HOT AND COLD WATER 10¢

Wedding Invitations, Announcements 100 Printed $3. Engraved $6. Two sets Envelopes. Samples Free. 100 Visiting Cards and Case .75. The Adelphia Engraving Co., 1328 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Are You An American?

Use Patriotic Stationery. Show your colors, 25 beautiful printed envelopes and 25 letter-heads. National flag printed in colors. Send 29c coin or stamps today. ROSE, 336, Trust Bldg., Binghamton, N. Y.

4 SHORT, INTERESTING POEMS Introducing some new ideas in literature, 4¼x7 in convenient to mail or carry. Handsomely printed. By mail postpaid 10c. J. C. MURRAY, Sheffield Sta., KANS. CITY, MO.



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

The Costly Feed Situation

WITH corn away over two dollars a bushel, cornmeal over eighty dollars a ton, and other feeds in proportion, the stock feeding problem is going to be a perplexing one this fall and next winter. More than ever before will owners have to make home-grown feed go as far as possible, and there will be a great temptation to underfeed. Let it be understood, however, that underfeeding is the poorest kind of "economy." Unless the young, growing animals are fully fed, they will become stunted, and if that occurs, they never can be made profitable.

The feed for the growing calves need not be very expensive. In Great Britain store cattle are wintered largely upon oat straw and purple top turnips (rutabagas) and white (Dutch) turnips. If not too expensive, a little American cottonseed or linseed cake also is given.

Feed the Bright Oat Straw

We should make far better use of our oat straw. Too often this useful feed is got rid of by burning, or is allowed to weather and spoil. Put the choicest of it into the barn at threshing time and make it a part ration of cattle, young and old, the colts and adult horses. If a cutter is owned, we should run the straw through that for the young stock and dairy cows, and if blackstrap molasses can be bought at a fair price, that should be diluted with water and sprinkled upon the cut straw to make it more palatable.

Feeding Molasses

Molasses is a highly nutritious feed and will quickly plump a thin horse. It is now much used in combination with ground Alfalfa, as that feed is very rich in protein, while molasses is rich in carbohydrates needed to balance the protein. Use molasses to help out the ration of the dairy cows. By so doing more unpalatable yet nutritious feed can be used, now that ordinary cow feed is held at prohibitive prices. Second crop clover which usually is somewhat woody, and even threshed clover which is a lot woodier, may be made much more palatable by running through the cutter and then wetting with molasses water. If this cannot be done, it should be sprinkled with salty water, and if meal, or even some bran, can be sprinkled upon it at feeding time, it will be eaten with more relish and also will prove more nutritious.

Concentrated Feed Necessary

Cattle need a less concentrated ration than horses and many of our readers no doubt make the common mistake of feeding too much meal to their dairy cows, while as many more make the worse mistake of wintering their cows solely upon hay, straw and corn fodder. The rule of good feeders, who also are able economists, is to allow one pound of concentrated feed to every three or three and one half pounds of milk produced by each cow. The milk pays for this feed and the flow is kept up thereby. If the extra feed is withheld, the cow for a time draws upon her stored up nutrients, and so keeps up a fair flow of milk, but soon the surplus is exhausted, the milk flow shrinks, and the cow meanwhile has become unprofitably thin. While allowing the cow all the bulky feed she cares to eat, the concentrate is necessary to balance the ration. Study the prices of feed in the local market, and buy the feed that will supply protein most cheaply. Unless an abundance of hay, Alfalfa, clover, or oats is available, a concentrate must be given, if the cows are to do well. If homegrown grain, such as oats, barley, or rye can be fed, this, along with the home supply of roughage will suffice fairly well, but if not too dear, a little wheat bran and oil cake or meal should be added.

Utilizing the Corn Fodder

"For any sake" don't leave the valuable corn fodder out in the fields to freeze fast to the ground and lose over 75 per cent of its nutrient value by "weathering." At least bring it into the cattle yard as soon as the shocks have been husked in the field. Millions of pounds of valuable nutrient for animals are lost by allowing corn fodder to weather each winter. The best possible thing to do with a lot of the fodder, as soon as husking is completed, would be to run it through the silage cutter and into the silo. If this can be done, the cut fodder should be made wringing wet, as it is packed away, and then will go through a fairly satisfactory fermenting process before it is used. With it, if so desired, can be cut late grown green stuff of almost any kind in districts where early frosts do not kill all vegetation at the time when corn husking is going on.

When no silo is owned, it is a good plan to run the corn fodder through a cutter for cow feeding, as was done with the clover hay, and to add some meal and then feed it wetted with molasses water. For the feeding of horses we prefer uncut fodder. The horses eat only the best parts of the leaves and stalks and cannot well take care of the thicker parts of the stems, even when run through a cutter. Corn fodder alone does not fully supply the needs of the idle horses. Add oat straw and hay, and if at all possible, also allow some ear corn. One of the most perfect rations for a horse is formed of ear corn and Alfalfa hay, so far as maintaining weight and economy is concerned, but when the experiments in such feeding were made both of these feeds were comparatively cheap. Avoid feeding moldly or frosted corn fodder or hay. They may prove deadly or highly detrimental.

Other Items of Economy in Feeding

Get out of the habit of feeding hay to the work horses three times a day. Hay is unnecessary at noon where grain is fed, and the horses will do better without it. Then be careful to restrict the amount of hay to the needs of each horse. Many farmers allow their horses all the hay they care to consume, and they eat more than they need, or is good for them. A working horse needs little over one pound of hay for each 100 pounds of bodyweight as a day's ration, and should have most of this hay at night. Increase the allowance of roughage a trifle when the horse is idle. See that all feed is cleaned up at each meal and so adjust the manger and feed box that feed will not get onto the floor to be trampled upon and lost.

The "good" of much grain is lost by imperfect chewing and the horse consequently eats more than it needs or utilizes. Have the teeth of each horse put in proper condition by a veterinarian before winter feeding starts, and then mix cut hay or straw with the grain and feed from very large boxes to prevent bolting of feed.

Economy in Bedding Material

Don't waste good feed by using it as bedding. Coarse rye and wheat straw that are not relished by horses may be used, but not bright oat straw, shredded corn fodder or hay. Forest leaves and dry peat may in many districts be substituted for more expensive bedding material, and those who live near planing mills and saw mills should utilize shavings and sawdust until prices again fall to a reasonable plane. Any disadvantage such bedding materials may have will probably be more than offset by the use of straw, hay, and fodder as feed for their fertilizing elements will be saved in the manure.

Saving the Waste

The prices of all food products are high. So long as the war lasts there is little likelihood of cheaper prices on things to eat and every chance in the world of their going still higher. Prices are controlled by the law of supply and demand. A short supply means high prices—a large demand means high prices. Both a shortage in supplies and a large demand with a normal supply tend to drive prices up. We have both these operating at the present time. Owing to the war we have a greatly reduced supply of food. Too many farmers are fighting instead of tilling the land; hence there has been a falling off in production ever since the war began. The world supply of food is short. This has produced a large demand for American food. Much of this that has been shipped abroad has been sent to the bottom of the ocean by submarines; hence has never been used as food. These unsuccessful efforts to get food to Europe have further increased the foreign demand, and prices continue to rise.

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT NOW?—The answer is "Save the waste." No more food can be raised this year, hence every bit that has been produced should be saved. Very little food that is brought into the home is now wasted. Housewives have been forced by high prices to use up the "left-overs." Practically no food is thrown out. Where, then, is the waste? This comes largely in vegetables and fruits. More garden truck has been raised than can be used in the green state. Every year tons of fruit spoil on the ground for want of a market. This waste must be saved this year.

Saving by Canning

Surplus vegetables should be canned. It is not so easy to can vegetables so that they will keep as it is to can fruits, but it can be done. The cold pack method gives best satisfaction. By this method the vegetables are washed and packed in the can cold. Salt water is then poured over them to completely fill the can and the goods are thoroughly cooked in the can for several hours. The cooking is done by one of several ways. The cans may be simply baked in the oven for two or three hours, or they may be steamed in the wash boiler for the same time—or better still cooked in a high pressure cooker, a steam device that insures the keeping quality of the goods. These methods are fully discussed in a government bulletin referred to in another place in this paper.

Saving by Drying

Most all fruits and many vegetables may be dried. They may be dried in the sun in hot dry weather or over a stove or in oven on cool moist days. Fruits for drying should be ripe and clean. Plums, peaches and cherries should be stoned before drying. The screens upon which they are placed should be so arranged as to provide free circulation of air and be protected from flies and dust.

All berries may be dried in the same way, but for drying berries it is better to use artificial heat than to attempt to dry in the sun, on account of the large amount of juice which they contain.

Most vegetables can be dried. All beans that are usually cooked green, like string and Lima beans, may be left on the vines until fully mature and then shelled and dried. String beans may be dried green by cutting them up in small pieces in order to expose a large amount of surface for quick drying. Sweet corn may be dried either raw or cooked and is much more delicious than canned corn. Vegetables like carrots and even potatoes may be sliced and dried, though of course if one has a good place to store them root crops had best be kept fresh.

Saving by Salting

Peas, beans, corn and cucumbers may be preserved for winter use by salting in open jars with a weight on top of the contents to keep them submerged in the brine. Our readers should send for the two government bulletins described in this department in August COMFORT. One gives valuable information on how to save waste by canning and the other tells how to preserve fruits and vegetables by drying. Write to U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletin No. 839 entitled "Home Canning by One Period Cold Pack Method," and for Bulletin No. 841 entitled "Drying Fruits and Vegetables in the Home," if you have not already sent for them as we advised in August COMFORT.

Seed Grain and Shock Threshing

This year more than any other our slogan should be "Save the seed grain." If we are to do this, the practise of threshing from the field should be abandoned throughout the region of abundant summer rainfall.

Grain to keep well must go through a sweat to rid itself of excess moisture which it contains when it first ripens. If this does not occur before threshing it will afterwards. Such grain will sweat and heat in the bin. This heating in the bin destroys its vitality and promotes the growth of molds. Moldy grain will not grow and is unfit for either human or stock food.

Thresh from the Stack

The cure for this trouble is simply this: Let the grain stand in the stack long enough to go through the sweat before threshing. Shock threshing was introduced into this country from the dry regions of the West. Where it never rains during harvest time grain will cure in the field, but in humid regions grain must stand in the stack at least three weeks before threshing if we are to get it in best shape for both seed and feed. Hence *stack before threshing.*

Seed Shortage

Nearly every section of the United States has experienced some difficulty this year in obtaining seeds for planting. This has had its influence upon the size of this year's crop. The reason for seed shortage is mainly the war in Europe. Many farm seeds are imported from across the water and with the blockade and the submarine campaign seed importation practically ceased. Again, European nations have been so busy fighting that they have neglected to raise seeds for other than their own use, so there has been little if any to export to the United States.

WHAT SEEDS ARE SHORT?—Nearly all classes of garden seeds are short. Particularly is this true of the small seeds, like turnips, rutabagas and other root crops. Sugar beet seed production is confined largely to Europe; so too is that of such legumes as sanfoin, saradella and vetch. We depend largely upon Europe for our supply of seeds for everything except the standard farm grains and the usual garden seeds that may be produced easily and in abundance in America. The very small seeds, those of root crops and unusual plants, are not produced in America except in limited quantities.

LET US RAISE OUR OWN SEEDS.—The answer to the question "What are you going to do about it?" is "Raise our own seeds." It is pretty late to begin now but it is better to be late in starting than to have none of these seeds two years hence. Fortunate it is that this class of seeds retain their vitality for several years, else we would have had none to plant this year since most of the seed found on the market this year was "old stock" carried over from the year before. Next year we may have very few seeds of this class to plant and two years hence none at all unless we begin this year to raise our own seeds.

How to Raise Seeds of Root Crops

It takes two years to produce seeds from root crops. The roots grown from the seed this year must be carefully stored so as to come through the winter firm, crisp and vigorous. These may be planted next spring as soon as the ground is in fit condition to work in a moderately rich and well prepared soil. They will soon start to grow and should be as carefully cultivated as other crops during their growing period. As the tops mature the roots shrivel in size since the growing plant does not draw its food in very large degree from the soil but from the heavy root in which the food matter was stored the year before for the very purpose of producing seed.

HARVESTING SEED.—Near the ripening period seeds should be very carefully watched or the seeds will be lost if left to become too ripe. As soon as the first pods begin to split open and discharge their seed upon the ground, the plants should be cut, dried and the seed removed by threshing with a flail, by the old-fashioned method. For this purpose, a canvas,—a binder cover will do—should be spread upon the barn floor and the seeds threshed thereon. They may be cleaned by winnowing or by running through a first-class fanning mill if the supply be large. After cleaning they should be thoroughly dried before storing.

Fall Culture of Asparagus

Asparagus, one of the most delicious of early spring vegetables, is easy to grow if given the proper care after the cutting season is over. This occurs early in July in most sections where this plant thrives.

A new bed should not be cut until the plants are three years old. They may be started in the fall from seedlings or from old plants. These should be set three feet apart each way. The soil should be rich and sandy and the ground heavily manured. A Southern exposure is to be preferred. The beds should be cultivated between the rows and hoed the first year or two. Later the weeds may be kept down by use of a heavy straw mulch.

In early fall as soon as the plants have matured the old canes should be cut and removed from the field and the ground heavily manured.

Full instructions on "how to grow asparagus" are given by many of the seed houses as well as in agricultural bulletins. It will be well, for those who are thinking of setting a bed this fall or of sowing seeds in the spring, to send to the Department of Agriculture and to seed houses for the information obtainable from bulletins and seed catalogues.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

SELF-SUCKING COW.—To keep a cow from sucking herself put on an old horse collar and she can't get her head around. MRS. W. F. H.

A.—This is a good plan and much simplier than adjusting a "necklace" of sharpened pickets or laths which has been recommended.

MOLES.—What do you think as to moles being injurious to the farm? Do the moles damage crops badly? Do you think it necessary to trap or poison moles? It is the common practise here. P. H. T., Mich.

A.—Moles are a benefit to the farmer, as they eat worms, grubs and other noxious pests and turn up rich, surface soil. They are a nuisance, however, when they commence operations on one's lawn, or in the well sodded blue grass pasture and so people prefer to trap them on general principles. Apart from the unsightly burrows they make and the possible disturbance they are to crop plant roots, when driving their burrows, moles may be considered harmless as they feed on insects and not on plant life. It is questionable, however, whether their good qualities are not more than offset by the mischief they do in burrowing. Our personal opinion is that it pays to trap moles, where their burrows are so numerous as to be a serious inconvenience.

CHESTNUTS AND ERGOTS.—What do you call the horny growths on the fore legs of horses, above the knees on the inside of the leg, and at the back of each fetlock joint and also on the hocks of the hind legs? What are they for? Can they be cut off when long? N. J., Nebr.

A.—"Chestnuts" are the horny growths or callosities, of the legs above the knees and on the hocks. They are vestigial hoofs, or footpads, of the prehistoric horse, which had five toes. The modern horse stands on the developed nail of the middle digit or finger. The chestnut is supposed to correspond to the thumb nail, the ergot with the finger nail. The ergot takes its name from "ergot of rye" which is a purple-black spur protruding from the seed hull of rye, barley, blue grass or June grass, wild rye and other cereals. Chestnuts and ergots have no special function and are large and coarse in coarse bred horses, or those having coarse hair and skin. They may safely be reduced in length. This is not necessary, as regards the ergots, as they are hidden by hair; but the chestnuts are often unduly prominent and unsightly. They may be cut off flush with the skin, by means of a sharp knife. In race horses, with long pasterns, the ergots have been found bleeding after a race, showing that the parts come in contact with the ground in some horses of that kind. Possibly they tend to somewhat protect the tendons and fetlock joints when this occurs.

YOUR NEXT SUIT FREE



Send postal today for full information how to get your new suit, made to measure, without a penny's cost. $30 to $40 would not buy a better one. Simply wear it, tell your friends where you got it—take their orders—and make

$10 to $15 a Day

in your spare time. It is dead easy—you never saw a nobbier suit or a more stunning pattern, cut in very latest style. Your choice of 60 fabrics and 22 styles. Drop us a postal card for heavy pattern book, inside information about styles, self-measuring blanks, etc. DON'T WAIT. We prepay Delivery Charges. Mail Postal NOW!

American Woolen Mills Co.
Dept. 907, Chicago

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!



$29 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Lightrunning, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.

30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.

ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (12)
2182 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO
100,000 now in use

FREE! To Wheat Growers—

A tremendously valuable and interesting book telling
HOW TO GROW MORE WHEAT
at cut costs and sell it at pinnacle prices! Worth $100.00 of any man's money! Describes also, famous CHATHAM Seed Grader and Cleaner. Shows how it cleans, grades, separates rankest mixtures and sacks seed all in one operation. Gas engine power, too! Easiest to operate—easiest to buy! Unbeatable 30 day offer! Book tells all. Write for it—quick!
MANSON CAMPBELL & SONS COMPANY, 936 Detroit, Mich.
936 Kansas City, Mo. 936 Minneapolis, Minn.

WITTE
"Kero-Oil" Engines

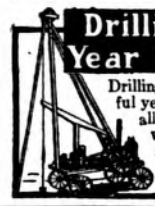


Immediate Shipment—All Styles—2 to 22 H.P.—No Waiting—Big Factory—Big Output—Prices most favorable. Write for my terms and prices—Cash, Payments or No Money Down.—ED. H. WITTE, Pres.
WITTE ENGINE WORKS
3641 Oakland Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
3641 Empire Bldg., Pittsburg, Pa.
I Save You $15 to $200

FREE STEEL SHOE BOOK SAVES $20



Tells all about my Celebrated Steel Shoes. One of the greatest inventions in footwear the world has ever known. Over a million people now wearing them. Wear as long as three to six pairs of leather shoes. Easiest, most comfortable shoes you ever had on your feet. No cold, wet feet, therefore Colds, Rheumatism, Grip, Lumbago, Lame Back, and other ailments prevented. No corns, bunions or tender, tired feet. Write today for my free book.
Investigate this wonderful proposition.
Address: RUTHSTEIN, Steel Shoe Man, Dept. 35, RACINE, WIS.



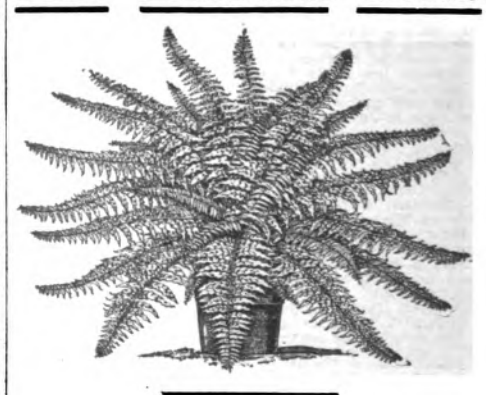
Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business

Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars. Star Drilling Machine Co.
675 Washington St., Akron, Ohio



FREE FOR TESTING!
Genuine "Delicious" Tree. Just try a one-year apple tree and see what a rapid growth it will make. If you act at once, we will send you free, at proper time, one of the famous Genuine "Delicious" Apple Trees. Send 10 cents for mailing expense, or not—suit yourself. Catalog free. ARKANSAS NURSERY CO., Dept. C, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Four Beautiful Ferns



PREMIUM NO. 6112

Given For Two Subscriptions

OF all indoor foliage plants, none give more **lasting pleasure and satisfaction** than these popular house ferns. They need but little care and live indefinitely, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the largest, handsomest varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or **"Lace" fern**, the **Roosevelt**, the **Boston** or **"Fountain" fern** and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you **by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of them a **strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A WEED FARM.—A farm devoted entirely to the cultivation of weeds is maintained in connection with the University of Minnesota. Here students devote their time to studying the different kinds of weeds, their habits and growth, in order to determine the most effective ways of eradicating them in other places. Over 175 varieties were grown this season on this farm. The students were taught to distinguish each of these at a glance.



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Planning for Winter

SEPTEMBER is a very important month in the poultry world, as it is the pivot on which winter success balances. Neglect of any sort at this crucial time will invariably affect the supply of winter eggs, on which the real profit of the year depends. Poultry houses must be put into thorough repair and sanitary condition before the first of October, so that the birds may be placed in their winter quarters and not again disturbed.

It is my own custom to go over all the buildings in the chicken-yard, mend any cracks or holes which may be found, and paint the roofs with liquid tar. The floors are scraped out to a depth of two or three inches, perches and nest boxes taken out, and the whole interior given a coat of hot whitewash. To make the whitewash, three quarts of fresh lime are placed in a pail and just covered with hot water. When the mixture commences to boil, it is stirred until the lumps are dissolved and, as it thickens, boiling skim-milk is added, until it is of the consistency of cream. Lastly, a cupful of crude carbolic acid, a pound of whiting, and a half pound of powdered glue are mixed in. This makes a wash which sticks almost as well as paint, and which, when applied hot, most effectually banishes vermin.

Cleaning a poultry-house is a task which must not be done in a slipshod way. Before whitewashing the walls, floor and ceiling with a brush, if you have a garden spray, fill it full of the liquid mixture, and apply it to all the corners, kinks and crevices, for they are the places which harbor vermin, and cannot be reached with the ordinary brush.

When the whitewashing is all done and has had time to dry, the floors are covered with fresh lime, which burns out all impurities, and after a few hours, dry soil or sand is filled in to the depth of two or three inches. Windows are cleaned, inside and out, so that the sun may have free access; perches and nest boxes are thoroughly scrubbed with kerosene, whitewashed and replaced. When all this is accomplished, the biddies' home is sweet and wholesome.

I try to finish all this work before the fifteenth of the month, so that there will be no delay in getting the hens into their winter quarters. Any change of houses after pullets have once commenced to lay invariably stops them, and should cold weather start in before they have regained their equilibrium, much time may be wasted.

Vermin are disagreeable enemies against which the poultry keeper must maintain a perpetual war. A good liquid exterminator is made by dissolving crude naphtha flakes in kerosene oil, using just as much of the flakes as will dissolve in any given quantity of oil. Paint the roofs, nest boxes, and any supports or frames about the house with the mixture. It does not take very long to do the work. Half an hour every Saturday will increase the birds' comfort and your profit.

Powder to use on the birds can be made for a few cents. Mix thoroughly equal parts of finely sifted coal ashes and tobacco dust, and moisten with the liquid exterminator. Allow it to dry, and put away in cans ready for use. Tobacco dust can be bought at most florists', and at all seed stores, for twelve cents a pound. An empty baking powder tin, with some holes pierced at one end, makes a good dredger.

The birds should be dusted with the powder before being placed in a clean house. Hold the hen by the feet, head downwards, and shake the powder well into the feathers. Use plenty of it, and with your hand rub it down into the fluffy part of the feathers near the skin, and especially near the tail on the body, and under the wings. If you have not been using any such precautions, or when you buy new birds, you ought to go over them every other night for a week. This will make it an easy matter to keep them free from the various vermin pests which seem to have been specially created for the undoing of poultry keepers.

My winter houses are one hundred feet long, twelve feet wide, and are divided into eight compartments, into each of which I put twenty-five layers. This gives them plenty of room for exercise, even when heavy snows necessitate keeping them shut up for days and weeks at a time.

If you have pullets and year-old hens, to secure the best results they should be kept in separate coops, as they require a different amount of feed. If you do not have a sufficient number of houses, it would be an easy matter to run a wire partition through the middle of one house, and so make two compartments.

I spend much of my time at this season of the year watching the hens, both old and young. I don't believe in keeping unprofitable birds through the winter, and birds which look mopy are consigned to the fattening pen. Even slow, dull-looking pullets are rejected, as I want only bright, energetic birds in the laying houses.

Lazy hens, although they do not produce eggs, fatten easily and bring a good price as roasters. Close weeding out of unprofitable birds is really more than half the secret of success, and should be rigidly practised.

Roosters are not allowed with the hens whose eggs are sold in the market, as infertile eggs are nicer for the table, and will keep fresh longer than fertile eggs. All the male birds are kept in one house and yard, so that they will become friendly and will not fight when distributed.

Hens intended to produce eggs for hatching are allowed free range until November; then they are divided into flocks of twenty-five, and four males are assigned to each flock, two being kept in a coop, two put with the flock, the pairs changing places every week. This prevents favoritism, which is the usual cause of infertile eggs. I make up my flocks in November, because I start the incubators in December, and like to have the birds running together for three weeks before using the eggs for incubation.

Exercise is of primary importance in the life of the laying hen, and every means should be taken to promote activity. The most natural way to do this is to provide a heavier covering of litter on the floor and to scatter small grain broadcast over this once a day, for the birds will scratch in it for hours at a time.

Straw or hay will answer the purpose, but both cost money and take time to cut; so, in October and November, before snow falls, we go into the plantation at the back of the barn and rake up the fallen leaves, placing them in bags and storing them in a shed near the poultry-house. Twice a week, all through a bad winter, a bag is emptied into each compartment. The birds delight to scratch and work among them, which keeps them busy, and also breaks up and converts the leaves into valuable fertilizer for spring use in the garden.

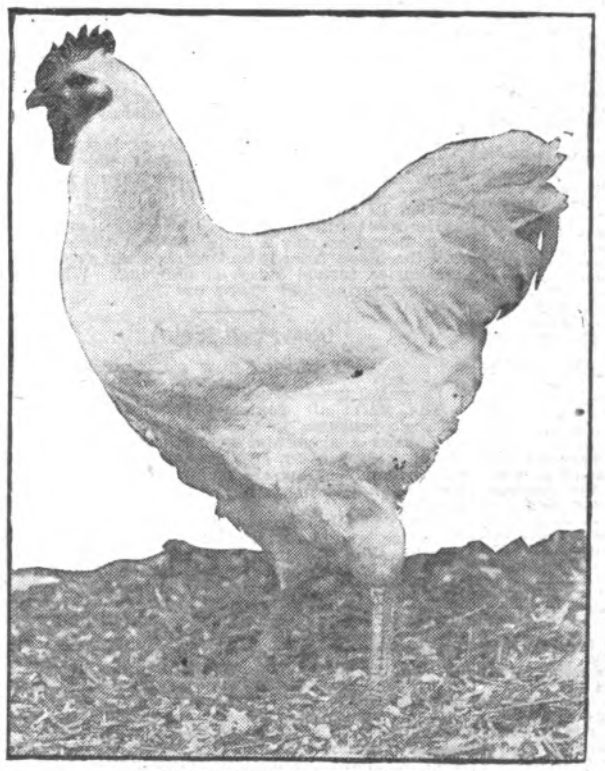
Buy Some Good Birds Now to Improve Your Stock

I want our readers to make a special effort and try to buy cockerels now to head their breeding pens next season, for this is the season of the year when the big breeders of thoroughbred stock commence to select their birds for the show season, and put them into separate coops to develop, take the young pullets off free range, and place them in permanent winter quarters and cull out the year-old birds, and divide them into flocks for next year's breeding pens. All this means that house room becomes so precious that they are willing—nay, anxious, to dispose of extra cockerels, and will sell good birds now for about half what they would ask for them in the spring. Such a golden opportunity should not be neglected, and I advise you to sell off all your old hens or your own young cockerels and use the money for the purchase of one or two really good birds, for if you have only mediumly fair stock, and mate a few of the hens to a good bird next spring, you are sure to get some youngsters who will more than pay you for your trouble. Look through the advertising columns for the addresses of well-known breeders of whatever variety you are breeding, and write them for prices of cockerels; or, better still, quote what price you can afford to pay; remembering always that you can't expect to get something for nothing, and that even a cull bird from a breeder who has for years kept nothing but full-blooded stock, is of more value to breed from than a splendid looking bird which may have all sorts of mixed and poor varieties among his ancestors. For, as I have before explained to you, the individual bird or animal is not half so important as his parents and grandparents, as far as his influence is concerned on future stock.

When writing to breeders about cockerels, you should give a clear description of the hens you want to mate him to, because the breeder will then be able to select a bird with such characteristics as will counterbalance the weak points in your birds.

To illustrate: If the hens happen to have legs rather too long for the breed they belong to, the male bird chosen to mate with them should have legs a trifle too short, and, of course, the same throughout the points. There are very few perfect birds, so matings must be arranged to counterbalance the faulty points. And it is impossible to get perfection from one mating, so it is positively necessary to breed the pullets back to the sire, even to the third and fourth generation.

Now, many people run away with the idea that it is only conformation and plumage that one does such mating for, but it is quite as necessary when one is trying to build up a strain of heavy laying birds. Roosters must be the offspring of prolific layers, no less than the hens to which they are to be mated, and it is only by re-mating to the progeny of the original sire that the breed can be firmly established. Of course, the same is to be said if your ambition is to raise specially good table birds with deep breasts and heavily meated thighs. So you see, even for the general purpose bird, it is well to devote some thought to the subject, and be careful not only to select hens that are known to be good layers, but males who are known to be the sons of heavy layers; and once having established a good pen,



WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCK COCK.

it is well to be very careful how you introduce a strange male bird.

I am emphasizing this subject now, because so many of my correspondents seem to be convinced that all that is necessary to get good layers is to select their best hens. I use "hens" in writing, but of course the same principles apply to ducks and geese, and, to a smaller extent, turkeys. It is quite time to consider breeding flocks of ducks and geese now, for if strange birds have to be bought, it takes time for them to become accustomed to their new surroundings, and as they are early layers, there should be no delay about the purchase.

Both ducks and geese are such easy keepers when they have a wide range that it is advisable for every small farm to keep a flock of either one or the other. Imperial Pekin ducks start laying in January, when hens' eggs are bringing very big prices, so the ducks' eggs are a great convenience and economy, as they can be used at home, and usually sell to neighbors for cooking purpose, even if they don't like to eat them. Ducks' eggs make better cakes and custard than hens' eggs, and people who are living near towns or cities can always dispose of any surplus quantity to confectioners and candy makers.

I give you this hint, as it is not advisable to hatch ducks before April in most localities, and by that time hens' eggs have gone down in price to such an extent that one does not mind using them in the kitchen. If you have raised any number of ducks or geese during the last season, now is the time to fatten and market them. Confine them in rather small yards; boil and mash any waste, green vegetables, small potatoes, or any other root crop that you may have on hand. When cool, mix about a quart of wheat middlings or corn-meal through a panful, and you will have a good fattening mash for twenty birds, and give them all the skimmed-milk you can spare in a dish they can only get their bills into, and they will be ready for market within three weeks.

Old ducks and geese which are to be kept for breeding in the spring, must have a dry place to sleep in, and good food. Chopped corn-stalks or fodder, well steamed, and a little bran, make a good, inexpensive mash. If skim-milk is plentiful, give them some every day, to take the place of insects which they can no longer find for themselves. If there is no milk to spare, get some commercial meat scraps, and mix about a tablespoonful for each bird in the mash three times a week. Also, be careful that they have plenty of grit and water. Ducks and geese often suffer for water on a general farm after outdoor pools and troughs are frozen.

The care the birds receive now, will influence their laying, and the strength of the ducklings and goslings next spring. Don't lose any time in getting your young pullets into winter quarters. The sooner they are settled, and winter rations started, the sooner they will commence to lay. Don't forget that, to produce eggs, they must have plenty of water to drink, and, as they have no teeth, need grit to grind the food after it passes into the gizzard—animal food, vegetables, and lime in some form. Brooks and outside drinking troughs are sure to be frozen; small stone and sand ditto. So when the farmer throws down the corn, which is greedily eaten, the hen profits little, for she cannot digest it properly, and in consequence is unprofitable. Insects (the natural animal food supply) are not to be had, nor is there any vegetable matter available. So the fowls return to natural conditions, which means no eggs until springtime, when they are again able to find the different ingredients from which eggs are formed.

Turkeys

I want to give you a few hints about the care of the old turkeys at this season of the year, in the hope that it may help in raising young ones in the spring, for during the past few years the number of letters telling about the loss of young turkeys in all parts of the country has been positively appalling, and it all springs from an intestinal disease commonly called "blackhead," which is spread through the droppings of affected birds. For this reason I want you to do a little doctoring right now to get the old birds in good condition if possible.

First of all, plow the yards or grounds where the turkeys have been in the habit of congregating and thoroughly disinfect the roosts or fences which they frequent; then once every week put forty grains of Epsom salts in half a pint of water, and place it where the birds are likely to drink from it in the early morning. And before you give them their regular feed in the morning mix one grain of sulphate of iron and one grain of silicate of soda and make it into a pill with a little curd cheese or bread which has been moistened with milk. The above amount is for one pill, and each bird should get one of them. At night again try to force them to drink the water with Epsom salts in it. Or if you only have two or three birds which are pretty tame and easily handled, give them a teaspoonful of Castor oil night and morning instead of the salts. Sweep up and burn all the droppings from under the roosts as early as possible in the morning. Repeat this treatment once a week for four weeks. After that time add seven grains of catechu to every two quarts of drinking water every day for another month. After the first of the year give the turkeys some of the laying hens' mash every morning, and all through the winter give them a good feed of corn at night.

Correspondence

Subscribers are entitled to advice of our Poultry Editor, free, through the columns of this department. Address Poultry Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. BE SURE to give your full name and address, otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

F. P.—Australian salt bush is especially valuable for alkali soils which will not grow other grain crops. It seems to absorb a great deal of the salt substance, and if it has been grown on the same soil for two seasons, it is safe to plant corn or other grain. The plants are of a spreading habit, and yield about twenty tons of green forage, which will make about five tons of hay. A pound of seed costing one dollar twenty-five will seed an acre. On alkali soil the seed should be sowed on top of the ground, and well turned in, but not covered. The best time to plant is early in October. It needs light rain when first sowed, but later can endure any amount of drought. It can also be seeded in boxes, and transplanted in rows from four to six feet apart, plant two feet apart. You had better send for the Californian Experiment Station bulletins on salt bush, as they have been making a study of it for the last eighteen years. Address California Experiment Station, Berkeley, California.

E. S.—You certainly have had poor returns for your efforts, but as the results have been the same for two years I fear that the breeding stock has a good deal to do with it. Read this month's article at the beginning of the department, and answer to M. H. Clean the premises thoroughly, burn all rubbish and droppings. Don't feed the chickens until they are thirty-six hours old; then give them sour milk for the following twenty-four hours.

C. E. D.—Read answer to F. P.

J. O. M.—Read answer to F. P.

M. H.—Though you don't say the chicks had any discharge, I feel sure that they had white diarrhea, as the symptoms you do describe all belong to that disease, and sometimes the discharge is not very profuse or noticeable at first, as it has been found by investigation that the white diarrhea of young chicks is caused by at least four different kinds of infection, and each of these needs to be studied separately. All of these microbes also infect adult fowls and are generally communicated directly or indirectly from these to the chicks. The most common cause of the disease is a bacillus called *Bacterium pullorum*. This often infects hens and also the eggs which they lay. Such eggs produce chicks which have the germs of the disease within them when they are hatched, and these chicks show symptoms within the first few days of their lives. The contagion may also be communicated from chick to chick by means of the microbes scattered with the droppings, which contaminate the food and drink, and cause the appearance of the symptoms when the birds are from one to two weeks old. The chicks are most susceptible to infection during the first twenty-four hours of their lives, are more resistant during the second and third days, and are practically insusceptible after the fourth day. Those that sicken later must have taken the microbes into their bodies before they reached that age. Incubators and brooders, as well as coops, become infected and preserve the contagion indefinitely. Adult fowls are resistant to this microbe and do not show any symptoms even when they are laying infected eggs, as explained in this month's article. The cholera bacillus may also be carried by laying hens and infect the egg before it is laid. The young chicks hatched from such eggs soon show symptoms of disease and communicate the contagion to others at all ages. The coccidia which cause a chronic disease in adult fowls may also infect the eggs and cause disease with similar symptoms in the chicks. The aspergillus fungus is the fourth cause of white diarrhea. It occasionally is included in the egg when it is laid, but it may also penetrate the shell when eggs are packed in moldy chaff, straw, or grain, or allowed to get damp. All of these microbes may be carried on the outside of the shell, and may infect nest boxes, incubators, brooders and yards where diseased chickens have been. The symptoms of white diarrhea are seen in young chicks which are from a day or two to three or four weeks old. In the most acute form they may die suddenly after having shown but slight symptoms for a short time. Generally, however, there is first observed a disposition to huddle together and to remain under the hover or under the hen more than young chicks should. Very soon they appear listless, indifferent to what is going on around them, stupid, and sleepy. They stand in one position or sit still with the eyes closed, and the few efforts which they make to pick up food appear mechanical and unsuccessful. Their plumage loses its luster, the wings droop or project slightly from the body, and the characteristic diarrhea soon appears. The droppings which are voided may be white and creamy, mucilaginous and glairy, or they may be mixed with a brownish material. Often the sticky excrement adheres to the downy feathers about the vent, dries, and continues to accumulate until it completely covers and plugs this opening. This condition, known as "pasting up behind," will, unless soon relieved, bring about the early death of the chick. Many of the diseased chicks chirp or peep almost constantly, and when attempting to void the excrement they may give utterance to a shrill cry, as if the effort brought on paroxysms of pain. As death approaches the breathing becomes more labored, and the abdomen heaves with each breath. Often the disease is of a more chronic type and has a longer course. The young birds with diarrhea gradually waste away, become weaker and more emaciated until their legs are scarcely able to support their bodies. They try to brace themselves by standing with the legs apart, or they rest against a wall or other object for support. Many of them have the peculiar form of body called "short backed," which results from the distention of the abdomen and its projection backward, which makes the back appear too short for the body. Toward the last the strength is completely exhausted, and the chick sits constantly or lies on the side with outstretched wings until it dies. The most prominent and characteristic symptoms in nearly all cases are the white diarrheal discharges and the rapid wasting away of the affected birds. The losses vary from 50 to 80 per cent of the chicks hatched. Sometimes it is impossible to raise any of them. The medical treatment of affected chicks is impracticable, as it is too expensive and has very little effect on the course of the disease. The birds may be given sour milk or buttermilk to drink, or, lacking this, fifteen grains of powdered catechu may be added to the gallon of drinking water. The preventive measures should begin with the eggs used for hatching. If these are purchased they should only be accepted from flocks known to be healthy, and the eggs of which give rise to healthy chicks. If this assurance cannot be obtained, it is better to produce the eggs needed for hatching on the home farm and from hens that are known to be free from infection. Having obtained the eggs, they should be kept until ready for incubation in a dry, moderately cool place, so spread out that the air can circulate over them and carry away the moisture which they exhale. They should not be placed in hay, straw, chaff or other substance liable, to become musty or mouldy. Before putting them into the incubator or under the hen they should be wiped with a cloth wet in grain alcohol 70 or 80 per cent strength to remove any germs that might be on the surface of the shell. The hens used for hatching should be free from all infection, and the incubator should be thoroughly cleaned. If there have been any sick chicks in it, it should be disinfected by washing with compound solution of cresol (five per cent solution). The same precautions should be adopted in regard to the brooder. If the hatching is done by a hen, the brood should be put upon fresh ground and any chicks which sicken should be immediately removed and isolated or killed. By removing frequently to fresh ground or by frequent disinfection the disease may sometimes be limited to a few individuals. (2) The chicken had what is known as air puff—usually caused by an injury. Possibly the hen had trampled on it. You did quite right to open the skin and let the air out, as it is the only way to help such cases.

L. O.—Read answer to M. H.

H. S.—Please read answer to M. H.

$1.00 PANTS MADE TO MEASURE

Not $1.00, not even 50c, not one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. No extra charge for fancy, swell styles, no extra charge for extra big, extreme peg-tops, pearl buttons, tunnel or fancy belt loops, no extra charge for anything, all FREE. Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. Agents of other tailoring houses please write, we have a new deal that will open your eyes. We ask every man to answer this, every boy in long pants, every man, everywhere. No matter where you live or what you do, write us a letter or postal and say "*Send Me Your New Free Offer*" the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges. Write today, this minute. Address



KNICKERBOCKER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 682 Chicago, Ill.

Laymore
MAKES THE LAZY HEN LAY

"The Tale of a Lazy Hen" is the title of a new book, which tells how to make your hens lay every day in the year. Everybody, no matter if you raise one chicken or a thousand, should send for this FREE BOOK. *Write for it at once.* It's absolutely FREE.



Kelly · The Poultry Man
25-T NO. 2ND ST. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

POULTRY AND PIGEONS FOR PROFIT



Foy's big book tells all about it. Contains many colored plates—an encyclopedia of poultry information, poultry houses, feeding for eggs, etc. *Written by a man who knows.* Sent for 5 cents. Low prices, fowls and eggs.
FRANK FOY, BOX 5, CLINTON, IOWA.

ARE YOU AFFLICTED WITH GRAY HAIR?

Do you want to restore the original color without dyeing it? Booklet free. Madame Hebe, ROBBINS BLD. Chicago, Ills.

1. BOSTON PENCIL POINTER



Is there one in your home
Sold Everywhere or by mail
BOSTON SPECIALTY CORP.
261 Broadway, New York

Refined and Stylish — Will Fit Any Wrist



For A Club Of Three

WHERE is the girl who does not want one of these handsome and stylish bracelets? Set with a perfectly colored imitation gem denoting the month of your birth—with two tiny flashing white solitaires nestling in the dainty filigree design of gold—all of your friends will exclaim **"My, what a beautiful bracelet!"** the minute they see it. Filled with enough real gold to give it lasting wearing qualities, yet it feels light as a feather when worn. And you are assured of a perfect fit because it is **self-adjusting.** It will fit **any** size wrist. Here is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month represented by each: **No. 7413,** January, Garnet: **No. 7423,** February, Amethyst: **No. 7433,** March, Bloodstone; **No. 7443,** April, Diamond; **No. 7453,** May, Emerald; **No. 7463,** June, Agate; **No. 7473,** July, Ruby; **No. 7483,** August, Sardonyx; **No. 7493.** September, Sapphire; **No. 7503,** October, Opal; **No. 7513,** November, Topaz; **No. 7523,** December, Turquoise.

You can earn one of these handsome gold-filled birthstone bracelets free by doing us a small favor as explained in the following offer. When you send for it **be sure to mention number of birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one of these bracelets free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to give us the number of stone wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

AGENTS!



Take orders for World's Greatest Raincoat Values. 65 fabrics. Dozens of styles. Made to measure. Delivered direct to customer. Dandy coat $3.98

Samples Given

Cooper Making Glover $61.50 in 4 days. Many $50 to $75 a week. We deliver and collect. You get your profit in advance. Samples free. Write for our offer. Comer Mfg. Co. Dept. J. 12, Dayton, O

$300.00 a Month

Driver Agents Wanted

Drive and demonstrate the Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. My agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back. 1918 models ready. Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. H. Bush, Pres. Dept. 904 Chicago, Illinois



Five-Pass., 34.7 H. P. 32x3½ tires

115-in Wheelbase

Delco Ignition—Elect. Stg. & Ltg.

BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple,

FREE DIAMOND RING OFFER



Just to advertise our famous Hawaiian im. diamonds—the greatest discovery the world has ever known. We will send absolutely free this 14k gold f. ring, set with a 1-2 k Hawaiian im. diamond—in beautiful ring box postage paid. If this is satisfactory pay postmaster $1.25 to cover postage, boxing, advertising, handling, etc. If not satisfactory return at our expense and money refunded. Only 10,000 rings given away. Send no money. Answer quick. Send size of finger.

KRAUTH & REED, DEPT. 24. MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO

SHAC



For Headache

More Than 25 Years on the Market

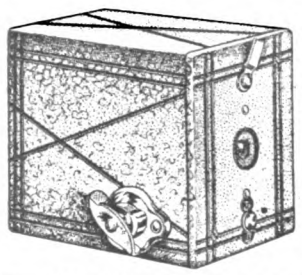
Used Wherever Heads Ache

12 Wafers—12 Doses

At all druggists for 25 cents

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers." RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7286

For a Club of Six!

We will also include free of charge **one Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known "Premo" camera, made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.,** therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in **broad daylight,** so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book,** all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free by Parcel Post, prepaid,** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. **Premium No. 7286.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

BIRTHSTONE PENDANT AND CHAIN



Prem. No. 7283

Your Own Birth-Stone Set In This Beautiful Rolled-Gold Pendant!

We Give You Both Pendant and Chain For A Club Of Three

ONE of the most stylish of all neck ornaments. Women and girls who like to be up-to-date are now wearing the Birthstone Pendant and Chain in preference to the birthstone ring while those who can afford it wear both. We know that all who receive the handsome Pendant and Chain illustrated herewith will be greatly delighted with it. It is one of the prettiest designs we found among a large assortment submitted for our approval by the largest jewelry manufacturer in the United States. It has a 15-inch **rolled-gold plate** cable chain, the **rolled-gold plate** pendant is also made of **plate** and set with **your own birthstone** and attached to the pendant underneath the stone is a beautiful imt. **Baroque pearl.** Following is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month which each represents. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

January	**The Garnet,** Symbol of Power
February	**The Amethyst,** Symbol of Pure Love
March	**The Aquamarine,** Symbol of Courage
April	**The Diamond,** Symbol of Purity
May	**The Emerald,** Symbol of Immortality
June	**The Pearl,** Symbol of Long Life
July	**The Ruby,** Symbol of Charity
August	**The Peridot,** Symbol of Happiness
September	**The Sapphire,** Symbol of Constancy
October	**The Opal,** Symbol of Hope
November	**The Topaz,** Symbol of Friendship
December	**The Turquoise,** Symbol of Prosperity

All of the above named stones are solitaires and are the most perfect and beautiful imitation 'real gems that we have ever seen. Following is our free offer. **When ordering be sure to mention birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For only three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you a Birthstone Pendant and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Be sure to mention stone wanted. Premium No. 7283.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

VETERINARY INFORMATION



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

TUMOR.—Can you tell me what is the matter with my dog? The first of March a knot or lump commenced to grow on top of his fore leg, between his shoulder blade and ribs. It is as large as a man's head and he is getting lame in his leg and can hardly get up when he lies down. He has a good appetite. MRS. I. B. P.

A.—A tumor evidently has formed and very likely it is cancerous and if so it is incurable. Possibly a skilled veterinarian might conclude to dissect it out, but it will return accompanied by other tumors if it is cancerous. Clip off the hair and paint with tincture of iodine once daily.

CONGESTED UDDER.—I have a three-year-old Jersey cow. Just before she freshened her udder swelled unusually tight and got very red. After the calf came it gave us a good deal of trouble to get the swelling out. The flow of milk was good from all the teats and did not get lumpy. This was her second calf. We did not have trouble with first calf. What I want to know is what will prevent her being that way again and was this the best treatment? D. E. B.

A.—Dry the cow off for six weeks or more before calving and during that time withhold all rich feed, but allow bran or roots to keep the bowels active. Make her take active exercise every day. At calving time give her a physic of epsom salts (one pound) if her udder is congested and follow with half an ounce each of powdered saltpeter and poke root twice daily for three or four days.

ENTERITIS.—Please tell me what was the matter with my mare. She was twenty-one years of age, in good condition and running on pasture, and had not been worked for a long time. She had had five colts. About four years ago she had twin colts. She was sick two days. At first it seemed like a light case of colic and she would roll about half an hour. The last day it become worse. She had a chill, followed by fits, until she died. MRS. S. C.

A.—At first the mare probably suffered from stoppage (impaction) of the bowels and that not being relieved enteritis (inflammation of the bowels) ensued and caused death. She should have had full doses of raw linseed oil at the outset of the attack as well as medicine to stimulate muscular acton of the bowels.

HARDENED UDDER.—I have a heifer, seventeen months old. The left side of udder is hard and caked. I do not know what caused it. MRS. M. L. L.

A.—As the enlargement is not inflamed or sore we much fear that it is tuberculosis of the mammary gland and you should have the heifer tested with tuberculin to make sure. Meanwhile rub in a little iodine ointment every other day.

LICKING DISEASE.—I have a Jersey cow, twenty-one months old which I am milking now. She appears to have some sort of a skin disease. She can't stand more than five minutes without licking herself somewhere and generally in a different place. She has a few pimples on her ears. What ought I to feed her? MRS. H. J. T.

A.—Free the heifer from ticks and lice by spraying or scrubbing with a solution of coal tar dip made according to directions given by the manufacturer. Such licking when not caused by parasites, may be a symptom of depraved appetite due to indigestion. Allow free access to rock salf and feed whole or crushed oats and wheat bran in addition to grass.

SCOURS.—What was the matter with my colt? It was born September 30th and died December 24th. I fed the mother all the corn and corn fodder she would eat and changed from corn to oats and fed her all the oats she would eat which was about three pecks per feed, feeding once a day. In one week after I fed oats the colt was taken sick and was sick one week. Its bowels became loose and I gave the colt four ounces of starch that checked the looseness. The colt would not nurse but would drink plenty of water. The milk was very rich. J. A. McC.

A.—You should have fed the mare oats night and morning with a feed of ear corn at noon from the first. The sudden change of feed and overfeeding caused indigestion and scours which killed the foal. You should have given the foal a dose of Castor oil in milk instead of starch which locked the bowels and caused inflammation.

COUGH.—I have a milch cow that has a cough, also a discharge of a whitish color, from the nose. She seems to be in good health. The cough is worse in the winter. She has been coughing most of her life. A. J. S.

A.—The cow in all probability has tuberculosis and on that account her milk is dangerous and she may spread the disease to other cattle. Have her tested with tuberculin to make sure. Meanwhile do not use milk. Any veterinarian can apply the test.

ACUTE INDIGESTION.—Please give me the following information through the columns of your valued paper. What are the symptoms of acute indigestion, in a horse? (2) The probable length of time a horse that was afflicted with above disease would be apt to live with the ordinary treatment on the farm. (3) Would a horse that dies with indigestion or impaction of the bowels bloat in twelve hours after death? (4) Is there any cure for the above disease? (5) How would a horse act if enough strychnine was injected in the blood with a hypodermic syringe to cause its death? A. W. C.

A.—Colicky pains, bloating and gushing back and forth of fluid and gas from the stomach to the throat. (2) Death from suffocation or rupture of the stomach may occur in six to twenty-four hours. (3) It would bloat immediately. (4) By pressing the stomach tube and giving other modern treatment life often may be saved in such cases. (5) The horse would quickly die after having a few spasms or death might be instantaneous.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.—I am a reader of COMFORT and would like to know if it would be a profitable investment to take a veterinary correspondence course? J. K. Van B.

A.—A correspondence course does not give the student any professional standing as a veterinarian, nor can the science be properly learned in that way. To become a trained veterinarian the student should take the full course at a recognized veterinary college.

LAMENESS.—I have a five-year-old mare whose feet do not seem to grow. One hoof is hard and so is the frog of her foot. I keep her shod about three months and then take the shoes off for two or three weeks when I have her reshod. When I take the shoes off she gets lame and foot sore. S. J. B.

A.—A horse should be reshod once a month. It would be best to let the mare run barefoot on low pasture for two or three months. If you cannot do that soak the feet in soft water for an hour or more twice daily and at night apply any simple greasy hoof dressing. Blistering the hoof-head once a month would help.

BLOODY MILK.—I have a young cow that freshened in July. It was her second calf. She gives a good mess of milk but her teats seem as though they were filled with wind. The right side of them seems soft and puffy. What ails her and what can I do? (2) Another young cow that had her second calf this spring seems to have lost the use of her tail at the base, although she can switch it a little at the end. (3) Last spring I had a two-year-old heifer that freshened. She milked good, that is gave a good mess. The teats on the right side clog up and I milk large clots of blood from them. I do not use the milk. Is it fit to use? V. W. H.

A.—The tissues are congested with serum from the blood and this should disappear gradually if you give the parts a gentle massage three times a day, using a little Castor oil or vaseline upon the hands. (2) An injury has caused a fracture or paralysis and the case should be left to nature as there is no practical treatment. (3) Growths in the teats bleed from irritation at milking time. An expert might be able to remove them by operation, but drying off of the milk secretion often proves the better treatment, the cow not to be bred again.

COUGH.—I have a pig which always coughs. He is four months old. I feed it corn, oats, wheat middlings, milk and water. Is it the proper food? J. N.

A.—Stop feeding oats. Add ground barley or rye and a little flaxseed meal to the slop and fine shelled corn from a self feeder. Lung worms probably cause the cough and there is no specific remedy. Turpentine may help as intestinal worms also may be present. Mix one teaspoonful of it in milk or slop for each eighty pounds of body weight of pig and repeat on three successive mornings for two weeks.

WARTS.—I have a cow that has warts on the teats. They grow hard and turn dry. It is painful for the cow when milked. C. A. M.

A.—Rub best Castor oil, or fresh goose grease upon the wart coverd parts each night and morning after milking and they should soon disappear. Any wart that has a long, slim neck may be snipped off with scissors. Remove but a few at a time in this way. Apply a lunar caustic pencil lightly to the base of any wart that starts to grow again.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.)

Clarence Mayne was on board, as you said, and they said he was killed. I have been telegraphing for an hour to find out, and I thought you must be with him, till a porter told me you came home in the express. I tell you, I rushed up here to see if you had really come!"

"Killed!" Nerine started back from him. "He can't be killed! He's in there!" pointing to the door. "He opened the door just now and looked at me; he had blood on his face and a cut on his forehead."

"What!" Maurice shook the door savagely, but it was fast.

"You're dreaming; you couldn't have seen him!" He was paler than the girl. "I saw a reporter who had been down to the smash-up on a trolley, and he had seen Mayne lying dead on the bank. They're bringing him up on a wrecking carriage now."

"I saw him!" she repeated, doggedly. "He may be dead, but I saw him! Oh, Maurice!" She began to cry more desperately than ever.

"Come away," the boy said. Young and incredulous as he was, he felt a horror creeping over him. "Come to the fire."

Seated close to him, in the warm morning-room, Nerine told her story of what had happened in the afternoon and how she had been in the train when Fairfax sent the telegram.

"I told him to sign it with my name, for I knew you wouldn't know his," she said. "I felt I must get here before Mr. Mayne, for fear you did not. I knew from his face he meant mischief. And when I saw him I never thought of one thing but that I must keep him out!"

Maurice sat silent.

"Don't tell a soul but me!" he said at last.

The girl nodded.

"I don't mean to. But you know I am telling you the truth. I did see him. And there was a little cut right over his eyebrow."

"Don't you want to go to bed?" Maurice asked, after a long silence.

"No. I don't want to be alone. Maurice"—hesitating—"will they bring him up?"

The boy nodded.

"About daylight, the station master said. Jones is at the station waiting."

He lighted his pipe and sat smoking silently.

Nerine got up and moved restlessly about the room.

Maurice looked at his watch at last. It was three o'clock, and as he looked there was a knocking at the door. Clarence Mayne had come to Lispenard House for the last time, but he was carried in on a stretcher, feet foremost.

He was quite dead, but the only mark to be seen upon him was a little cut over the eyebrow, and the blood from it had marked his cheek.

Maurice turned away, shuddering. What was it that Nerine had "kept out?"

CHAPTER XXVIII.

"CAN'T YOU SEE HOW I LOVE YOU?"

It was June—early June in London.

The warm air floated in at the windows of Nerine's bedroom in the Beltons' London house. All three Lispenards were there for Agatha's wedding; for after Mayne's violent end and his tragic home-coming, Lispenard House seemed to Nerine and Maurice to be a sorry place for a wedding.

There had been great discussion between Lady Satterlee and Lady Belton as to whose house Agatha should be married from; but the advice of Lady Belton, being a relation, had prevailed. No one but the Satterlees and the Beltons were told of the true history of Clarence Mayne's marriage; he was dead and gone, and there was no need to rake up so evil a story.

Maurice's lawyers, on being put in possession of all the papers, had made no ado about the case whatever; there was no reasonable doubt that he was of age, and he came into his property accordingly. And the first thing he did on becoming legal master of Lispenard House was to wall up that red door. The rooms behind it had been a modern addition, built under Clarence Mayne's rule, for Mrs. Mayne, and they were torn down and their place made into a flower garden. Not one trace, if Maurice could help it, should remain of Mayne's presence in Lispenard House.

Neither the brother nor sister had ever spoken of Nerine's vision that lonely night, but both breathed more freely when Mayne's rooms were gone; they could go back then without any haunting memories when Agatha was married and gone. For Satterlee's regiment had left the barrack, and was stationed at York, where he and Agatha would live for the present.

Tomorrow would be Agatha's wedding day.

Nerine stood before the long wardrobe glass, gazing at her own image. It was half-past five, and she had been dressing since four, with apparently very little result. She had on the black crepon she had made herself and worn only at Combe Farm; she settled its plain muslin cuffs and collar as she looked in the glass. Nobody could think that she resembled Agatha today. She had put on that plain gown for a reason; there must be no more confusing of her with Agatha; and Agatha had gone down-stairs long ago, shining resplendent in a wonderful frock which was neither green nor blue.

Well, there was no sense in putting it off; they were all down-stairs, and she must go down, too. Oh, if only she had not to meet Lord Satterlee!

She opened the drawing-room door and stood a moment. She had a reprieve; there was no one there but Agatha and Lady Satterlee, besides Lady Belton. She crossed the room to Lady Satterlee and would have shaken hands, but the elder woman kissed her quickly on both cheeks.

"So you have been doing great things since I saw you," she drawled, affectionately. "Sit down and let me look at you."

She eyed the girl closely as she took a little chair beside her. How handsome she was! Though she was a little thin, it did not hurt her lovely, clear-cut face.

"You are a very 'black Lispenard' today, my dear, are you not?" she said sweetly, looking at the prim little gown which sat so well on the round, exquisite curves of the girl's figure, and reading the girl's face like a book with her veiled brown eyes.

"You ought to wear the historic silk frock," she said lightly, looking at the contrast Agatha made standing flushed and handsome by the teatable. She had grown very fond of Agatha, but she had not crept into her heart like Nerine. And in a minute or two Nerine and Bobby must meet.

"Hark! do I not hear some one coming up-stairs?" she cried. "It must be that slow Bobby and his best man at last."

As the drawing-room door opened, Agatha blushed, but her future mother-in-law did not see that good sign. She saw only a hard, white face, and two young hands clasped sharply round a black-clad knee. The girl never looked up, and did not see who had entered the room behind Satterlee, and stood a silent onlooker beside Lady Belton.

Satterlee had shaken hands with Agatha; now he was holding out a strong palm to Nerine.

The girl had risen, had lifted her gray eyes to his face, and stood for one instant regarding him, as she put her hand in his.

Then she sank down on her little chair again, a quick carnation coming and going in her face. It was all she could do to keep from wild shrieks of laughter. What a fool she had been! What a mountain she had made out of a molehill!

For it was with a feeling of pure indifference that she saw Satterlee once more; saw him without that glamour which had always surrounded his image in her mind; and he was merely a nice, clean, boyish-looking man, like half a hundred others, and eminently suited for the post of brother-in-law. She cared for him not one whit! Her heart leaped with a joy that nearly choked her.

She had got over it! She could, as the old women say, dance at his wedding. Oh, the rapture of it! But how could that boyish face, that little gold mustache, ever have seemed to her the ideal of good looks in a man?

For the first time since her midnight vision of Mayne, her nerve had come back to her; for the first time for months she was the old Nerine Lispenard to whom life was a merry jest. A fog seemed to have been lifted from the room, and she could look around and see the people in it clearly. Lady Satterlee, lovely in a linen gown smothered with satin ribbons and lace insertions, looking younger than ever; Agatha and Satterlee, lost in conversation over the tea-table; Lady Belton, soft and purring in a smart new frock, talking to—Mr. Fairfax!

She had thought it was Maurice who came in with Satterlee.

"What! you here? I did not see you," he said, as he caught her eye and came over to shake hands with her.

"Didn't you know I was coming up to town to be best man?"

She was as lovely—no, a thousand times more lovely than he had thought her. Lady Satterlee caught the glance he gave her, and laughed in her sleeve.

"How should she know? We did not know ourselves till yesterday, Hughie." She turned to Nerine. "Vincent has bribed Agatha with a diamond bracelet to let him off the wedding. He wanted to go to Norway; and so we dragged Hughie into the service. I have a sort of idea"—laughing—"that he also was bribed—to come with a good grace," maliciously.

"Bribed to come! Why, he jumped at the offer! Satterlee exclaimed, innocently, as he

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)

$1.95 Made to Your Order

Special Offer to prove our fine quality: These fine Pants for Dress or Business, choice of many handsome styles, guaranteed for 18 months solid wear and satisfaction or MONEY BACK, absolute $5.00 value—while they last, one pair to a customer. Express prepaid for only - - - **$1.95**



PANTS

No Extra Charges

No charge for Big Extreme Peg Tops or Cuff Bottoms, nothing extra for Fancy Belt Loops or Pocket Flaps, no charge for Open Welt Seams or Large Sizes—all novelty features FREE.

This **GOLD FINISHED PIN FREE** TO YOU

Classy, lapel pin with your first order, only a few hundred on hand, get yours quick.

Send No Money

Cash Profits to you for taking measures of relatives and neighbors. Young George Gekovich made $66.16 in one day. Write for free samples today.

Chicago Tailors Association

Dept. B 10, 815 South Franklin Street, Chicago

MOVIE MACHINE FREE



HAVE YOUR OWN "MOVIE" Genuine American moving Picture Machine complete with Film given Free for selling only 26 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. You can earn money giving shows at your own home. Write today. Columbia Nov. Co., Dept. G83, East Boston, Mass.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S

Poems and Story Book, cloth bound, 50 cents each. Song Book 30 cents. Address UNCLE CHARLIE, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Six Rogers' Silver Teaspoons

Premium No. 7356



Warranted For 10 Years

New Plymouth Design

FOR A CLUB OF SIX

NO woman ever has too many teaspoons—especially the "**Rogers'**" kind—so here is an offer that will surely interest thousands of our women readers. For a few subscriptions to COMFORT secured among your friends we will send you this handsome set free. They are the famous **1881 Rogers' A1** brand which is guaranteed to be a **full standard** silver plate upon a genuine 18% **nickel base.** Please notice the beautiful design—the new "Plymouth"—which is a splendid reproduction of the universally popular **hand-hammered** ware. You will have to see the spoons themselves in order to fully appreciate this latest fashionable pattern as our illustration does not do it justice.

We will give you this set of six Rogers' silver teaspoons on the terms of the following club offer. Remember—they are the **genuine 1881 Rogers' A1 brand**—the Rogers' **trademark** is stamped on each and every one. This protects you fully, furthermore each spoon is absolutely **warranted for ten years.**

CLUB OFFER: For six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this set of six Rogers' silver teaspoons free by **parcel post prepaid. Premium No. 7356.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



ODORLESS

INDOOR TOILET
Sanitary and Odorless on ten days
FREE TRIAL
No Money Down—No Deposit
No more outside back yard inconveniences. No chambers to empty. No sewer or cesspool. Chemical process dissolves human waste in water. No trouble. Kills disease germs. Prevents flies, filth and bad odors of outhouse. A real necessity for old, young or invalids. Preserves health.
Costs 1 Cent a Week to Operate per Person.
Place in any room, hall or closet. No trouble to install. Guaranteed sanitary and odorless. Endorsed by thousands of users, doctors, sanitary experts, health boards, etc. AGENTS WANTED.
Kawnear Cabinet Co.,
500 KawnearBldg, KansasCity, Mo.

BIG DOLL and DOLL HOUSE FREE



This **big, beautiful doll** stands nearly **2 feet tall.** She has **3 dresses** and **3 hats** in gay colors, and can be **dressed and undressed. A big house** of heavy cardboard with **swinging** doors and blinds, also in **bright colors,** comes with her. **Girls,** send for only **12** of our fine **sealed package handkerchiefs:** sell them at **10c** each; return our money and we will send you your big doll and doll house by parcel post. All charges paid by us.
THE FAY-MORTON CO., East Boston, Mass.
Dept. 125
FREE TO ANY LITTLE GIRL.
WRITE TO-DAY



If You Are A Woman Who Loves
Crochet And Tatting Here Is A Set Of Books You Will Be Delighted To Own!

ANY ONE of these books alone is a veritable **treasure house** of the newest, most beautiful designs. The seven books combined form a **complete library** in which you will find any pattern in crocheting and tatting you could possibly ask for. You will fairly revel in the many handsome designs shown. There are edgings, beadings, insertions and laces for every conceivable use. The illustrations are **actual photographs** of the finished work and show every thread so plainly that they are almost as good to work from as the directions themselves. The directions are adapted for either beginner or expert. They tell **stitch by stitch** how each pattern is worked, also the quantity and size of material required and the correct sizes of hooks to be used. Following is a description of each book. They are **8 by 10 1-2 inches** in size with the exception of Volume I which is **9 1-4 by 12 inches. Please order by numbers.**

Volume 1 Crocheted yokes for combinations, envelopes, nightgowns, corset covers, etc.—**fifteen** all different, exquisite designs.

Volume 2 Handsome crocheted edgings and insertions suitable for handkerchiefs, underwear, dresses and a multitude of other uses,—**thirty-three** different designs.

Volume 3 **Eighteen** lovely designs in Cluny insertions and laces for centerpieces, library scarfs, boudoir caps, corset cover yokes, piano scarfs, curtains, chemises, envelopes or combination suits.

Volume 4 **Twenty-five** handsome designs in artistic crochet for yokes, boudoir caps, candle shades, baby bonnets, bedspreads, doilies, library scarfs, pillows, centerpieces, portiere, medallions, curtains, etc., etc.

Volume 5 **Twenty-five** designs in novelty crochet, including mile-a-minute and clover leaf crocheted yokes, primrose and sunflower yokes; doilies, centerpieces, boudoir caps, unique edges and insertions for serving trays; novelty aprons and collars.

Volume 6 **Thirty-two designs** in tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet,—a varied and beautiful assortment of tatted handkerchief edges, edgings and insertions, tatted yokes, boudoir caps, towel edges, medallions; yokes, breakfast caps, centerpieces, edgings and lace in Maltese crochet and yokes in Irish crochet.

Volume 7 **Thirty** handsome novelty crocheted designs including rose, sunflower periwinkle, and Venetian yokes; boudoir caps, monkey face library scarf, and lace pillow; large and small baskets, hat pin holder, jewel box, vanity tray, coin purse, utility bag, star fish doily, pineapple centerpiece; edgings and insertions in pillow lace; daisy edging; spider, bell, rick-rack, novelty and coronation braid laces.

WE advise you to order all seven of these splendid books before the assortment is broken. If however you do not care for the whole library at this time we have arranged the following **special offers** which give you the opportunity to secure any **two** or any **four** of the books. **When ordering please be very careful to state the number of each book desired.**

Offer 8011A: For one 1-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8011B: For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8012: For two 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you **any four books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8013: For three 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you the **complete library** just as described above—**seven different volumes in all,** handsomely bound, printed on high-grade paper and containing nearly **200 beautiful photographic illustrations** of all that is new and pretty in crochet and tatting designs with **complete directions** for working. **When ordering please be sure to mention number of each book wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Heartaches, Lacassa, Tenn.—Why write from Tennessee to Maine for the answer to so simple a question as "what length a married woman should wear her dresses?" A married woman's dresses should be no longer or shorter than those of any unfortunate single lady of the same age. But they are wearing nowadays, both married and unmarried, shorter and therefore more sensible skirts. (2) A great deal of tact is necessary in the management of a jealous husband. We cannot tell you how to prevent him "talking to girls." The best course is to act rightly as you have been doing, and try to avoid argument and recrimination. Heartaches are bad, but quarrels will not make the pain any easier.

Inez, Shamrock, Texas.—There is no set form of answer that a girl should make when her friends congratulate her on her marriage. Any pleasant, simple phrase is sufficient: "Thank you; I am very happy," would be one way of doing it.

Happy Woods, La.—If you love a boy and your parents do not even like him, we would say that you should take their advice in the matter. We are very sure their judgment is better than yours. (2) It would be perfectly correct for a boy—this nice one, for instance—to ask if he might call again, and neither would there be any serious breach of etiquette if you told him you would be glad to see him again when he came.

J. K. Van B., Speedwell, Tenn.—As a rule a self-respecting woman, such as most men want for a wife, is not to be had through the medium of a matrimonial agency or by advertising. These methods are generally discountenanced and discredited by the public and such advertisements are not accepted by most, if not all, reputable publications. People who resort to this method of finding a life partner are jeered at by the community in which they live.

Unhappy Girl, Holland, Mo.—All marriages are not happy ones as you must know. Your mistake was in marrying at fifteen, and against your father's will. You do not say but what your husband is kind and good to you. If you have already lived with him for seven years, we can only say try and continue as you have been doing. Interest yourself in affairs outside of your home that will make your days full and your life more interesting. You will have time to do this as you say you have no children. Do not "repent at leisure" but leave yourself no leisure for repenting.

Engaged, Egeland, N. Dak.—The purchase of the wedding ring is always made by the groom.

Belle D., Golden Eagle, Ill.—You ask too many questions in your letter. The dresses of a thirteen-year-old girl should be exactly the length her mother tells her to have them. (2) We do not think it necessary, or that your school teacher would expect, that you should answer a card he sent you when he was away. If the card asked a question, or was sent regarding some school or business matter, you should, of course, reply. We are not answering your third question. Read the paragraph at the head of this column.

Three Girls, Mt. Hope, W. Va.—Etiquette would demand that three young girls going to a party at night with three young men should be accompanied by an older woman as chaperon, though in some localities the custom is often neglected. (2) One should use care in dressing so that no part of one's apparel becomes embarrassingly undone in company. Should such an unfortunate event happen, withdraw as quietly and quickly as possible, and repair damage.

I. C., Snelling, Cal.—As manners are used to make the relations between persons assume ease and pleasantness, we are very sure that it would be "bad manners for a lady to quarrel with a gentleman about politics."

M. E. R., Speck, Ky.—It is hard to get away from set phrases, but they are best avoided. If you are thanked for anything you have done, you might say: "It was nothing; I am glad to have helped." Remember the most simple manner is the best manners.

Brown Eyes, Rural Hall, N. C.—Some silver article of personal use, or some simple and inexpensive bit of jewelry would make a suitable birthday gift for the girl you are engaged to marry. Tell your jeweler how much you wish to expend, and take his advice. Do not be extravagant. You will need your money after you are married.

Uncertain, Crescent, S. C.—Because you motored twenty miles with your cousin and aunt to see your brother's college friend get his diploma, is certainly no reason for anyone to "whisper" that you were running after the boy. Do not be too sensitive to gossip or you will always be having, a cause for unhappiness.

Question Box, Lawndale, N. C.—We do not think it is necessary or best for a young girl who has been away for a few weeks to send post-cards to the young men she met while away. Should they write to you, you could use your own judgment about answering. (2) Whether you treat a young man in a "friendly way" or not depends upon whether you regard him as a friend.

Blonde Girl, Salem, Ark.—We are not in favor of the marriage of cousins.

Brown Eyes, Rougemont, S. C.—Blushing is a matter of skin and of temperament. We know of no way you can prevent your cheeks from turning red when this young man looks at you, unless it is by thinking of something else at the time than the fact that he is near you. It is not a serious matter, and no one will like you the less for your trick of blushing. (2) A young man should not ask a girl what she would prefer as a birthday gift, and nothing more expensive or elaborate than books, candy, or flowers are permitted to be given except in the case of a girl that the man is to marry. We judge from your letter that you are not engaged to the man who wishes to make you a gift.

O. G. B., Clay, W. Va.—It is the lady's part to take the gentleman's arm when offered if she so wishes. A sufficient phrase would be: "Will you take my arm?" (2) The gentleman should walk on the side of the two ladies which is nearest to the street. It is best not to walk between them.

June, Knoxville, Tenn.—If a gentleman introduces himself by saying: "I am Mr. Blank," it would be entirely proper for the lady to reply, "This is Miss Dash."

Debaters, Washburn, Wis.—If a gentleman asks you if he may call again, it would be perfectly good etiquette for you to suggest a convenient time. You could hardly set a day for him to come without knowing that he wished and intended to call again.

Brown Eyes, Warren, Pa.—If a young man with whom you had been corresponding commenced to write you "silly letters" which you refused to answer, we think you are to be congratulated on obtaining this second fellow whose letters are respectful and sensible. There are plenty of "silly" young men, and you did well to drop this one.

Honeysuckle Bill, Farmington, Wash.—As we have stated many times in this column, it is time enough to let a young man kiss you when you are engaged to be married. Too many young men simply like to go around with girls that they can kiss whenever they like but they generally pick out the other sort when they become really serious in their intentions. Test this young man by refusing to let him kiss and put his arms around you, and see what happens.

Once to Every Man

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

nurse left me in a rage last night. I have a devilish temper," he confessed humorously.

"If my advice is not offensive, I think you would better take immediate steps to replace him. Mrs. Strickland ought not to go through another ordeal like that."

"What," demanded Strickland, "brings you here at this season?"

"I have been overworking, if it interests you."

"Ah! I suspected as much. I have thought for a long time, doctor, that it would be wise to have a resident physician; indeed, my city doctor strongly urges it. Why shouldn't you move over here? We are going to remain up here the winter. The environment of pleasure in which I have no part irks me. Your duties would be negligible and we can make you very comfortable. Further, you could make sure that my wife is protected from scenes like that of last night."

There was a thinly-veiled sneer in Strickland's voice.

"And besides, Coit, I have the money to buy you."

Coit rose and some of the fighting light of his gridiron days gleamed in his eyes.

"You are laboring under a false impression, Strickland," he returned evenly; "and if you measured up to any standard of manhood that ever was charted, I'd knock you flat for saying that."

Strickland's face contorted with amusement. "Good!" he applauded. "Blamed if I don't like you, Coit! Could you move over today?"

"Not for you or your money."

"Oh, I quite understand that. It is for Diana. Men always fall for Diana. I did myself. Curious how those cool, virginal women appeal to a man. Well—I—got—her!" His soft fist came down on the padded arm of his chair.

"And no other man ever did. Or can. I'll attend to Diana, Coit. Thinking about her won't get you anywhere. Remember that."

Coit's face was sternly resolute as he stepped quietly over to Strickland's chair and, without a word, he placed a disciplinary hand across his heavy, purple lips.

TO BE CONCLUDED IN OCTOBER COMFORT.

Evidently Dr. Coit despises Strickland but adores his wife who has every reason to detest her beastly husband, and it is for love of her that he goes to live in Strickland's home as his physician. The startling incidents and fateful result that develop from this trying and dangerous situation, still further complicated by the arrival of Strickland's daughter, a coquettish, attractive and none too scrupulous specimen of worldliness, are told in fascinating style in the concluding part of this story to appear in October COMFORT. See that your subscription is renewed immediately so not to miss it.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22.)

brought his mother more tea. He gazed at the twins as Agatha came over with her bracelet on her wrist, to show Nerine. "By Jove! you two are not so much alike as you were," he said slowly, and Nerine gave a happy, heart-whole laugh.

"You're right!" she said impertinently. "No one could mistake us again."

Lord Satterlee had the grace to look down. But his mother, on wh nothing was wasted, smiled with enjoyment.

"She has got over it, and is making fun of him. The minx!" she thought gleefully. "After all, she would have been too clever a wife for Bobby, though she would have been an adorable daughter for me."

She caught a keen, sweet glance from Hugh Fairfax, and smiled back at him. So that was what had gone on at Combe, as well as the discomfiture of Mr. Mayne! Well, if it could not be Bobby, Hughie would be next best. She would pump the sweetly unconscious Nerine by and by, and hear the whole story.

"Don't you want to hear about Mrs. Simpson?" Fairfax was as'ing Nerine in a low voice. "I assure you she has become a model of abstinence."

"Not really?" she asked, joyfully.

"Yes, really. Of course she is bound to have little relapses, but she is keeping nobly straight now with the aid of that maid you sent her."

"I am looking for a cottage near Lispenard for her," the girl said, thoughtfully. "Do you know, horrid associations as I have had with her, I am quite fond of Mrs. Simpson?"

"I believe you like everything no one else likes. I wonder," he stopped himself sharply, mindful of Lady Satterlee, who had ears like a hare, "I wonder if you only pretend to, as you know you did about the white rat!"

"Oh, that rat!" she shuddered. "But you weren't strictly honest yourself about that."

"I revere its memory now, though," laughing. "Shall I ever forget what a brute I felt, with you and Joan gazing reproachfully at me when I ran over it?"

"I miss Joan; Lady Belton did not bring the children. But I am going down there by and by."

"When?" promptly. "In the autumn? Because I am going to Belton for some shooting myself."

Nerine laughed.

"You are sure to come when I am there, for I shall have to stay for months. I have nowhere else to go. You see, Maurice and Kitty Belton are going to be married in August, and I think they will get on very well without me at Lispenard House for a time. All my family"—cheerfully—"seem to have fallen in love except me."

Mr. Fairfax regarded her attentively. Something reminded him of that ball where things had gone wrong.

"Were you never in love?" he demanded, but she did not even change color.

"Once," she said, lifting her eyes to his, honestly, "but it was with a shadow. And I mean to be very careful not to see such shadows again."

"Perhaps you would not care for the substance after the shadow," he said, half earnestly. "Would you?"

"Wait till I meet it!" provokingly. "Here are Kit and Maurice. And Maurice wants to thank you for those telegrams you sent him."

In half a minute she had drifted away from him, and presently he was carried off by the Satterlees—to see the second Miss Lispenard no more till the wedding. It seemed ages to him, waiting with the bridegroom in the vestry for the bride to come. She really was shockingly late, having sat up with her twin sister nearly all the night before, and sleeping till ten o'clock in consequence.

It was with a sort of rapture that Nerine wished Agatha joy on her wedding day. How could she ever be glad enough that it was not for her a day of dust and ashes, and a hair-cloth skirt worn in secret under a smart gown! Her gladness shone in her face as she came slowly up the aisle with Kitty Belton, behind Agatha's long satin train.

The best man never looked at the bride; he had eyes only for the first bridesmaid as she swept into her place next the bride. She looked so sweet, so happy. Her cheeks were flushed to a softer rose than that of her lovely gown. Kitty Belton looked like a tiny child beside her; even Agatha's good looks paled. Her black hair rippled back softly under her big hat, her steady gray eyes shone as she stood in her place, with a sweet dignity all her own. It seemed like a dream to Fairfax that she could be the same girl who had sat crying on the stile, or fought so gallantly that day in the cottage.

Would the ceremony never be done, and let him give her his arm to leave the church?

Mr. Fairfax fidgeted visibly under the keen eyes of the bridegroom's mamma as Sir William Belton gave away the bride, and the long service went on. And he gave an audible sigh of relief when the signing of names in the vestry was over, and Lord and Lady Satterlee led the way out of the church.

1917 Fall Suit Free A WONDERFUL amazing OFFER



If you are a live wide-awake man we want you to get one of our elegant Fall suits, made to YOUR measure, **absolutely FREE.** All we ask you to do is to wear it, show it to your friends and take a few orders for our **high grade, Made-to-Measure Clothes.**
$25 EXTRA A WEEK AND YOUR OWN CLOTHES FREE
Does it look good to you *for a little spare time?* Write at once or simply send us your name on a postal and we will send details of this "STARTLING OFFER." We will also send you **FREE** a large assortment of cloth samples and dozens of fashion plates to choose from.
NOTHING LIKE IT EVER OFFERED by any other Tailoring House. We don't ask you to spend your cash profits for your clothes. **Ours is a new and better plan.** Write at once, be the first in your town to get this **FREE** suit.
SPENCER MEAD COMPANY
Dept. 1699 CHICAGO

Since he could not be alone with Nerine, at least it was a comfort to be near her. Mr. Fairfax, who had trotted all over the world in search of an interest in life, had found contentment at last in the simple fact that a skirt of rose-colored gauze rippled against his feet while he sat with his back to the horses in a stuffy brougham!

To his surprise, when the bride appeared in her traveling dress, the chief bridesmaid also came down in a street frock.

"Are you going to kindly accompany them?"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24.)

THIS FORD FREE



Send Us No Money
JUST YOUR NAME
You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars. **I have given away dozens of them.** You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away, and say: **"I want to get one of your Ford cars."** A post-card will do.
RHOADS AUTO CLUB
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

10c a Day Now Buys This Superb Farny Violin



An exquisite instrument. Made by the great Violin Maker Henri Farny. Pay at rate of 10c a day. 6 days' free trial.
Rare Old Violin Circular Free **WURLITZER** *We supply the U. S. Govt.*
300 years of instrument making
Thousands of superb instruments to choose from. You get the benefit of our mammoth facilities by buying in large quantities. Write today for circular.
Write Today For Special Circular. No obligations. Your name and address is enough.
THE RUDOLPH WURLITZER COMPANY Dept. 3046
E. 4th St., Cincinnati, O. S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

FREE  **BOYS AIR RIFLE**
This fine Rifle free for selling only 15 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. Write for Jewelry today.
COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO., Dept. 74 East Boston, Mass.

RITA or, the OUTCAST SISTER
By LIBBIE SPRAGUE PHILLIPS
SPECIAL SALE PRICE with a six (6) months' subscription to THE ILLUSTRATED COMPANION ONLY 20 CENTS.
This Book contains one of this noted author's best novels.



Pressed close against the window pane was a wan, white face.

The pathos of this story **sweeps all** before it. It **touches the heart** of humanity everywhere. Even the man with a heart of stone learns from this story that deep down under the cold, hard strata of stone, he has in his heart a deep well of human sympathy for the erring one; that he has also a heart capable of love and admiration for the good and noble character of Luella, the gentle, loving, self-sacrificing sister. **Righteous indignation** is aroused toward Silas Lockwood, her relentless and unnatural father. The heart's emotions **like a great ocean billow,** rolls on from the beginning to end of the book; when you lay it down and say blessed is God who rules over all for the good of all. Thousands will want to read this book and pass it on to their friends. **Libbie Sprague Phillips writes exclusively for THE ILLUSTRATED COMPANION;** has done so for 10 years. One minister has furnished it with sermons for 13 years; other writers have contributed regularly for years. **THE ILLUSTRATED COMPANION** is 36 years old. The years of continued service of its writers show that our magazine is one of fixed and standard worth. We know you will enjoy reading it. **THIS OFFER** of magazine 6 months and book, for **20 cents** is made to get new trial subscribers. Address
F. B. WARNER CO., Dept. C T, 96 Chambers St., New York

A Handsome Scarf
For Bureau or Side-board



Given For A Club Of Three

A FEW years ago a scarf of this quality would have been considered a luxury by many women. But when machinery took the place of hand work, prices necessarily dropped and it now is possible to secure the most desirable lace pieces at very reasonable prices. The one offered here is **51 inches long, 17 inches wide** and is without doubt one of the prettiest designs ever produced. Sprays of very fine hand embroidered style eyelet needlework entwine handsome **medallions** on all sides and corners while in the center of the piece is seen an attractive motif surrounded by sprays of a beautiful embroidered design. Being closely woven this scarf will give splendid service and launder exceedingly well. We will give you this very attractive sideboard or bureau scarf on the terms of the following

Premium No. 7713

CLUB OFFER: For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this scarf free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 7713.**
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

This Stylish SUIT FREE

We want you to get one of these suits absolutely FREE, so you can show it to your friends. No doubt about it, you will

Be The Best Dressed Man In Your Town

It will be a big advertisement for us. Never before have we been able to make such a wonderful offer—**Best Clothes—Nobbiest Fabrics—Classiest Styles—Lowest Prices.**



$2,500.00 a Year and Two Suits For Yourself

Here's the greatest opportunity you ever heard of. **A big salary** for little work during your spare time. If you want to make $2,500.00 a year and get **YOUR OWN CLOTHES FREE**—write at once for our wonderful offer.

The Progress Tailoring Co. Dept. 828 Chicago

START A MOVING PICTURE SHOW



MAKE MONEY FAST

COMPLETE OUTFIT, MACHINE, FILM AND EVERYTHING FURNISHED. EASY PAYMENT PLAN. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED. WRITE FOR FREE CATALOG

NATIONAL MOVING PICTURE CO., Dept. 2 B, 537 So. Dearborn St., Chicago.

SUGAR 4c With Order **BEST GRADE FLOUR $8.50 BBL.,** Flake White Soap, large bars 2c each. New catalog full of these great money-saving prices sent free. Write for your copy today. **MONEYWORTH WHOLESALE GROCERS Cor. 14th and Ashland, Dept. 36, CHICAGO, ILL.**

$5 TO $10 A DAY easily earned taking orders for our high grade Soaps and Toilet Preparations. Our goods well known—nationally advertised. Ladies and men make 100% profit. No experience necessary. Write for sample case offer. Crofts & Reed Co., Dept. C104 Chicago, Ill.



FREE WATCH & RING This handsome stem wind & stem set Watch, fully Guaranteed, also Ring & Chain for selling only 24 Jewelry articles at 10c each. Write for them. **EAGLE WATCH CO., Dept. 300, East Boston, Mass.**

LIGHT 4 to 8 lbs. Fibre Limbs



Easy Payments AFTER TRIAL. FREE Fibre Sample. DESCRIBE STUMP TO **WORMAN CO.** 507 ANDRUS BLDG., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.



BIRTH STONE RINGS FREE 14K Gold filled, guaranteed to give satisfaction, with stone for any month, to introduce our catalogue. Send 12c to cover cost of advertising and mailing. Send size **EagleJewelry Co.,** Dept. 60, **East Boston, Mass.**



DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU? Agents wanted to sell glasses. Send for catalog. **COULTER OPTICAL CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.**



CARDS Send 2c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Beau Catcher and list of 2000 Songs given Free. **OHIO CARD CO., B14 Cadiz, Ohio.**

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet B X 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW. **Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.**

OLD FALSE TEETH. We pay up to $5 a set. Also buy bridgework and platinum. **Eastern Dental Depot,** Dept. Y, Lynn, Mass.

MONEY Made quickly by smart men. T. ARTOL CO., 115 Nassau St., N.Y.

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties, Catalog Free. **D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.**

LOOK YOUR BEST. Make sure of smooth white arms, face and neck in spite of sallowness, blotches, freckles, blackheads etc. If you want to be charming and attractive—Don't pay 50c but send 10c at once for sealed Package, which will transform your appearance instantly. Warranted. **TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927A, Boston, Mass.**



Silk Remnants



Premium No. 5561

All Sizes, Shapes and Colors—A Large Package Sent You For One Subscription

REMNANTS of real silk, in all shapes, sizes and colors. They are **carefully trimmed and just what you need for making up beautiful quilts, tidies, pillow tops and all kinds of "crazy patchwork."** We will send you a **package** containing more than **one hundred** of these beautiful **silk pieces and 5 skeins embroidery cotton in different bright colors.** If you order **at once** we will also send you, **in addition** to everything else an **Instruction Book with eight full-page illustrations** showing how to ornament seams of crazy patchwork and other work where fancy stitches are used. It tells you how to put pieces of patchwork together **to get the best effect,** how to **cover up seams** with fancy stitches, how to **join the edges,** etc. This book illustrates over **one hundred and fifty** of these besides containing full and explicit directions for working the **Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille Embroidery, ribbon work, plush or tufted stitch,** also directions for **Kensington painting.** Remember you get one nice lot of these Silk Remnants (over 100 pieces), 5 skeins Embroidery Cotton and an Instruction Book, as above described, all sent to you **free by Parcel Post prepaid** if you will accept either one of the following offers.

Offer No. 5561A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, we will send you one package of these Silk Remnants, free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 5561B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you one package of these Remnants free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 5561.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

H. S., McAdams, Texas.—Use deep breathing for five minutes, twice a day. Best time is in the morning before dressing, and on retiring. Stand on the ball of the foot and inhale deeply about twelve times or possibly fourteen times per minute. Inhale slowly and deeply, and exhale the same way. In this way you will get rid of the residual air in the lungs, and slowly but surely revitalize your whole system by introducing more oxygen. (2) To exercise the liver, stand the same way, inhale deeply, holding the breath, and with the hands on the hips twist the body from side to side rotating the same forty-five degrees either way in the process. Repeat this for five minutes at the beginning. Walking is a very good exercise, provided you have some place to go, and some object in view. Croquet, or the medicine ball is more desirable, for then you have an opponent and you have mental recreation as well as physical exercise. (3) It is hard to enumerate vegetables for a weak digestion. Sometimes the stomach will digest uncooked vegetables better than cooked vegetables. This is true of cabbage especially. Celery, potatoes baked and mealy, so that the starch is transformed, spinach well cooked, and carefully cleaned to remove any foreign matter and even cucumbers will sometimes be grateful, if carefully prepared. The personal equation comes in in all cases of stomach trouble, and one must try out various vegetables and hold on to those, which prove in the individual case most digestible.

E. J. S., Fairfield, Nebr.—Eczema is of diatetic origin, as your doctors have told you. It is almost impossible to indicate a diet for an individual case, but in the main it should be one free from nitrogenous foods—such as meats, eggs, etc. Try skim-milk, cottage cheese, rice and green vegetables. Drink plenty of water always. Use a dish mop when you wash dishes, any soap is irritating to the skin, especially those used to cleanse dishes or for washing purposes. A local application of a preparation known as Lassar's paste is beneficial at times, but should be adapted to the individual case by a physician. It must not as a rule be used in full strength. Ask your physician about it and follow his directions.

J. B. L., LaGrange, Ga.—The normal weight for a person six feet tall, ranges from one hundred and forty-five pounds to two hundred pounds. Average about one hundred and seventy pounds or seventy-five pounds. Family history and individual peculiarity must be taken into account in judging the normal weight for a given case. (2) Violent exercise for one operated on for appendicitis with adhesions should almost never be undertaken. Adhesions broken up during operation are very likely to recur in part. If you mean eructation of gas, etc., this can occur and usually does occur in chronic appendicitis as well as intestinal symptoms of most every kind and description.

A Reader, Fairmount, Ga.—Knots or bumps on the forehead usually come from a disordered digestion. Doses of Rochelle salts every morning in hot water with a meatless diet, will cure the trouble in a short time.

A. F., Stewart, Minn.—For chronic catarrh, after all operations have proven only palliative, and there is a direct tendency to lung involvement, a change of climate is imperative and in many cases curative. Your doctors are right in advising an immediate change to a drier climate.

"Thankful," N. Dak.—Your throat trouble is probably due to your excessive nervousness. You should have the one offending tonsil removed, as this will give more flexibility to your voice and possibly aid you in overcoming your natural nervousness. Don't give up trying your voice in public, but try by short efforts to overcome your morbid self-consciousness. May be a change to other surroundings and the meeting of people in other locations will help you. At any rate don't yield to your natural diffidence, but keep trying to forget yourself and you will succeed.

"Ruth," West Baden, Ind.—Fever blisters are frequently due to malaria. Quinine, and a local application of white precipitate ointment under a doctor's directions, should cure you. Of course, a careful diet, free from sweets and pastry is imperative.

F. H., Mexico, N. Y.—Shingles, so-called, is a disease caused by an inflammation of the spinal nerve roots. It is usually due to malaria or may be of rheumatic origin, also some drugs are said to be an exciting cause, such as arsenic, etc. It is as a rule a self-limited disease. Locally you might use boric acid ointment, or zinc oxide ointment, or paint the vesicles with flexible collodion. Internally salicylic acid in three grain doses, taken after meals, should be curative, but it is very bad for the stomach and we hesitate to advise its use.

E. C., Miami, Ind.—You may have malaria. The yawning is frequently due to malaria, and your residence would add to the probability of such a condition. The smothering you mention is due no doubt to your present condition, and is of nervous origin. You should consult your physician, and have a thorough examination.

Frisco.—There is no absolute remedy for sea-sickness. Many remedies have been exploited, and as many discarded. Probably you will be the only sufferer from the disease, as children usually go along without any discomfort. At the beginning of the trip, it is wise to remain in your berth in the recumbent position until well out to sea. This in many cases is effectual. The use of large doses of bromide of potassium or soda also has its advocates. The doses should range from ten to twenty grains three times a day. Should be taken in water. Probably one of the best preparatory treatments is careful dieting before the trip and a good dose of physic.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

"Emil, if Anna could speak at this moment, I believe she would tell the truth herself, and save that innocent and lovely child from a fate which to her must seem worse than death," Mr. Goddard solemnly asserted.

"Thank you—you are, to say the least, not very flattering to me in your comparisons," retorted Correlli, as he sprang from his chair and moved toward the door.

He stopped as he laid his hand upon the silver knob and turned a white, vindictive face upon the other.

"Well, then," he said, "since you have determined to take this stand against me, it will not be agreeable for us to meet as heretofore, and I feel compelled to ask you to vacate these premises at your earliest convenience."

"Very well! I shall, of course, immediately comply with your request. A few hours will suffice me to make the move you suggest," frigidly responded Gerald Goddard; but he had grown ghastly white with wounded pride and anger at being thus ignominiously turned out of the house where for so many years he had reigned supreme.

Emil Correlli bowed as he concluded, and left the room without a word in reply.

As the door closed after him Mr. Goddard sank back in his chair with a heavy sigh, as he realized fully, for the first time, how entirely alone in the world he was, and what a desolate future lay before him, shorn, as he was, of home and friends and all the wealth which for so long had paved a shining way for him through the world.



$360 FORD AUTO

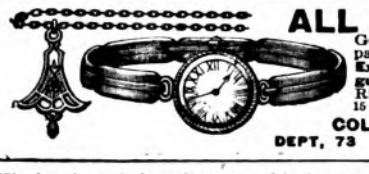
FIRST GRAND PRIZE

In the picture are hidden a number of faces. How many can you find? Some are looking right at you, others show only the side of the face—you'll find them upside down and every way. Mark each face you find with a pencil, clip out picture, send to us with name and address NOW. We will give away a $360.00, 1917 Model, Ford Touring Car, as First Grand Prize, and Thousands of Dollars in Cash Rewards, Prizes and Special Premiums. Each worker gets a prize. Solve the puzzle. If you can find as many as FIVE FACES we will send you immediately

1000 Free Votes toward the $360.00 Ford Automobile and other Grand Prizes.

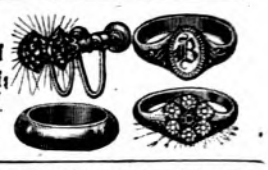
We will also give away several 1917 model Coaster Brake $40.00 Bicycles. These will be given free and extra, regardless of who gets the Ford Auto. Someone will get automobile. **WHY NOT YOU?**

FARM LIFE, Dept. 159, SPENCER, IND.



ALL THESE FREE

Gold plated **Lavalliere** and **Neckchain,** pair of Pierceless **Ear Bobs;** Gold plated **Expansion Bracelet** with 1m. **Watch, guaranteed quality** and 3 Gold plated Rings. **All given FREE** for selling only 15 Jewelry Novelties at 10c. each. Write today.



COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO. DEPT. 73 EAST BOSTON, MASS.

His head sank heavily upon his breast, and he sat thus for several minutes absorbed in painful reflections.

He was finally aroused by the shutting of the street door, when, looking up, he saw the new master of the house pass the window, and he knew that henceforth he would be his bitter enemy.

"Homeless, penniless, and alone?" he murmured, crushing back into his breast a sob that arose to his throat.

Then suddenly his glance fell upon the table beside him and rested upon the letter that Mr. Clayton had given to him, and which, in the exciting occurrences of the last hour, he had entirely forgotten.

He took it up and sighed heavily again as the faint odor of Anna's favorite perfume was wafted to his nostrils.

"How changed is everything since she wrote this!—what a complete revolution in one's life a few hours can make!" he mused.

He broke the seal with some curiosity, but with something of awe as well, for it seemed to him almost like a message from the other world, and drew forth two sheets of closely written paper.

The missive was not addressed to any one; the writer had simply begun what she had to say and told her story through to the end, and then signed her name in full in a clear, bold hand.

The man had not read half the first page before his manner betrayed that its contents were of the most vital importance.

On and on he read, his face expressing various emotions until by the time he reached the end there was an eagerness in his manner, a gleam of animation in his eyes which told that the communication had been of a nature to entirely change the current of his thoughts and distract them from everything of an unpleasant character regarding himself.

He refolded and returned the letter to its envelope with trembling hands.

"Oh, Anna! Anna!" he murmured, "why could you not have been always governed by your better impulses, instead of yielding so weakly to the evil in your nature? This makes my way plain at least—now I am ready to bid farewell to this home and all that is behind me, and try to fathom what the future holds for me."

He carefully put the letter away into an inner pocket, then sat down to his desk and began to look over his private papers.

When that task was completed he ordered the butler to have some boxes and packing cases, that were stored in the cellar, brought up to the library, when he carefully packed away such books, pictures and other things as he wished to take away with him.

It was not an easy task, and he could almost as readily have committed them to the flames as to have despoiled that beautiful home of what for so long, had made it so dear and attractive to him.

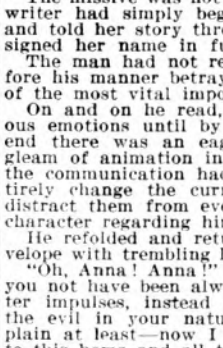
When his work was completed he went out, slipped over into Boylston street, where he knew there were plenty of rooms to be rented, and where he soon engaged a *suite* that would answer his purpose for the present.

This done, he secured a man and team to move his possessions and before the shades of night had fallen he had stored everything he owned away in his new quarters and bidden farewell forever to the aristocratic dwelling on Commonwealth avenue, where he had lived so luxuriously and entertained so elaborately the *creme de la creme* of Boston society.

Three days later he had disappeared from the city—"gone abroad," the papers said, "for a change of scene and to recuperate from the effects of the shock caused by his wife's sudden death."

TO BE CONTINUED.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Nerine's Second Choice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.)

the best man inquired blankly as he met her in the hall.

Nerine laughed.

"I'm going to stay with Lady Satterlee for a few days," she returned, and Mr. Fairfax forgave dear Dora many things on the spot. This was why she had worried him to dine with her and take part in a play!

He repaired early to Lady Satterlee's tiny house in a fine street, and found Fate and his hostess even kinder than he had anticipated; for there was no one in the drawing-room but Nerine Lispenard, dressed in a white gown, and looking out of the window.

As she greeted him he saw she had been crying, and a sick suspicion that she was grieving for Satterlee took away his breath. He could not speak to her.

"How bored you look," she said, reproachfully. "Lady Satterlee told me she did not think you wanted to come."

"You are not looking any too cheerful yourself," he retorted, speaking roughly from a sore heart. "Are you happy?" gazing jealously at her as she stood in front of a big bank of hothouse flowers, red roses which touched her white dress and whiter arms.

"No," with frank admission. "I was having a little cry all to myself, I think, when you came. It is such a horrid wrench, parting with Agatha; we have been together all our lives. And Maurice can't think of any one but Kitty Belton!" with an impatient laugh. "I am a selfish wretch, I know, but I don't like my family getting married!"

She was so sweet as she stood before him that Fairfax lost his head. Thank God, she was not crying for Bobby.

"I wish you did like it, and would do it yourself," he said with soft audacity. "Tell me, will you, Nerine?" very low and appealingly.

She looked at him in wide-eyed astonishment; then her eyes fell before his, which were surely the sweetest, truest eyes ever set in a man's head.

"You don't mean it!" she said, shamefacedly. "You only pity me because I—feel lonely."

Oh! if only she had not said that about missing Agatha!

He caught her half-reluctant hands, and a tide of new life seemed to come from his close and tender grasp.

"Do I?" almost fiercely. "Then I began to pity you the night of Satterlee's dance! I thought then that you were the sweetest, proudest thing that ever walked the earth. Can't you see," tightening his hold on her hands, "how I love you?"

"I don't know," she stammered. "I never thought of it."

"Think now," leaning a little nearer, "or am I too old and battered for you ever to care for me?"

Miss Lispenard raised her eyes to his in silence, but there was in them such an eloquent disclaimer that a quick tide of joy raced through him.

"Sweetheart!" he said softly; and Lady Satterlee, who had raised the portieres of the back drawing-room, to enter the front one, noiselessly and discreetly retired.

"I call it indecent haste, Tommy!" she remarked to one of her Yorkshire terriers which she was carrying under her arm. "But, thank goodness, I foresaw it and have another man coming to dinner, or my evening would be a trifle—dull!"

* * * * * * * * * * *

Mr. Jones fled on the day of Mayne's funeral from Lispenard House, and even his sister knows nothing of his whereabouts. There is a cottage outside the gate of Fairfax Park, inhabited by a stout and flourishing lady dressed always in the most brilliant of garments, whom it would be hard for her early acquaintances to recognize as Mrs. Simpson. For, after all, Nerine never took a house for her near Lispenard. And perhaps the happiest day in Mrs. Simpson's existence was that of a certain grand wedding at which she was an honored guest in a bright red satin gown, and saw "her Miss Lispenard" made into Mrs. Fairfax. To her credit, it has never passed her lips that Mayne was ever married to her, and her lapses from strict sobriety are far and few now.

And to Mr. Fairfax's credit it may also be mentioned that he has never to this day mentioned to his wife that he knows quite well the whole history of her humiliation on the far-away night of Lord Satterlee's ball.

Lispenard House is a different place now than it was in Nerine's day. But sometimes, when she stays there, she thinks with a strange and wondering awe of the hour spent at midnight in front of the red door.

THE END.



Send Us Only 3 Cents

For These Three Beautiful Dressing Dolls With Nine Dresses And Nine Hats

CHILDREN are delighted with these beautiful new dressing dolls with their bright, happy faces and so many different changes of dresses and hats. For only **three cents** in money or stamps to pay for postage and labor, we will send you prepaid **all three** dolls with **nine** dresses or suits and **nine** hats, and also tell you how you can get **absolutely free a whole set of doll furniture** and a large beautiful **doll house** complete with yard, flowers, chimney and windows and doors that actually open and shut. Each of these dolls is over **six** inches tall, printed on thick heavy cardboard in many handsome lifelike colors and has three different dresses or suits and three different hats, so that you can **dress and undress** them as often as you please and get them ready for any and all occasions such as receptions, at homes, teas, evening parties, calling, shopping, outings, etc. **Remember, three cents pay for all**—and we will at the same time write and tell you how you can also get a splendid **doll house** and a complete **housekeeping** set of furniture for your three dollies absolutely free. This offer good in United States only.

Address COMFORT, Dept. D, Augusta, Maine.

Mr. Edison's Wonderful Phonograph



Only $1.00 = $1 After Free Trial

Yes, you may keep this new Edison—Thomas A. Edison's great phonograph with the diamond stylus—and your choice of records, too, for only $1. Pay the balance at rate of only a few cents a day. Try the New Edison in your own home before you decide to buy. Send no money down. Entertain your friends with your favorite records.

Write Today For Our New Edison Book. Send your name and address for our new book and pictures of the New Edison phonographs. No obligations.
F. K. BABSON, *Edison Phonograph Distributors*
9046 Edison Block, Chicago, Illinois.

Freckles

Tan or Liver Spots positively removed by using **Stillman's Freckle Cream.** Prepared for one purpose only—*clearing the skin.* If you have freckles, write us today for our **Free Booklet** "*Wouldst Thou Be Fair?*" Stillman's Cream is sold by most druggists, 50c a jar, or direct from us, same price, prepaid. Write now. We can help you.
Stillman Cream Co., Dept. 10, Aurora, Ill.

FREE MILITARY AIRSHIP AND PARACHUTE



Boys! here's the great military model airship. Large 5-ft. gas bag with inflater; also parachute and dropping device. Can drop "bombs." Will fly for miles a height of 1000 ft. and can be used over and over again. Great chance for boys to study aerial warfare. Just order 12 packages of Bingo perfumed ironing wax, sell at 10c a pkg. No trouble to sell. Return money and this wonderful airship is yours. Send today! We trust you. Boys, if you want real sport send for this airship.
BINGO CO., DEPT. 20, BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

SILK HOSE FREE



Try our hosiery before selling it. We want you to become familiar with our hosiery line. A hosiery proposition that beats them all. Write quick for particulars if you mean business, and state size of hose worn.
Thomas Mfg. Co.
8530 Elk St. Dayton, O.

FREE TRIAL



Let us send this fine Razor for 30 days free trial. When satisfied after using, send $1.85 or return razor. Order Today. **JONES MFG. CO.** 136 W. Lake St. Dept. 948, **CHICAGO**

THIS AIR RIFLE FREE



for selling 15 sets of colored Post Cards at 10c a set. Rifle first class in every way. When sold return our $1.50 and we will send rifle.
Bluine Mfg. Co. 212 MILL ST., **Concord Jct., Mass.**

Birthstone Rings

Genuine Gold Filled — Guaranteed For 5 Years



APRIL



AUGUST



JANUARY

Given For A Club Of Two!

THE most popular lady's rings worn today are these beautiful birthstone rings. Not only is it considered lucky to wear one of them but they are now and always will be exceedingly stylish. We are able to illustrate only three of the rings but there are **twelve** in all—a different stone for each month of the year and of course you should wear the stone that is symbolical of the month you were born. The following is a list of the twelve rings, names of the stones, the month to which one applies and its symbol.

No. 7632. January, The Garnet, Symbol of Power.
No. 7642. February, The Ameythyst, Symbol of Pure Love.
No. 7652. March, The Bloodstone, Symbol of Courage.
No. 7662. April, The Diamond, Symbol of Purity.
No. 7672. May, The Emerald, Symbol of Immortality.
No. 7682. June, The Agate, Symbol of Health and Long Life.
No. 7692. July, The Ruby, Symbol of Charity.
No. 7702. August, The Sardonyx, Symbol of Happiness.
No. 7712. September, The Sapphire, Symbol of Constancy.
No. 7722. October, The Opal, Symbol of Hope.
No. 7732. November, The Topaz, Symbol of Friendship.
No. 7742. December, The Turquoise, Symbol of Prosperity,

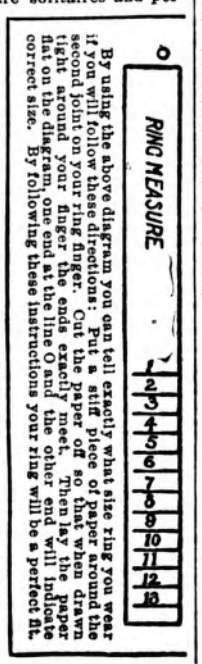
Each ring is guaranteed genuine 12-Karat gold filled which looks exactly like solid gold and will wear for years. **In fact we absolutely guarantee each ring for at least five years.** The rings themselves are perfectly plain, the stones are solitaires and perfect imitations of the real gems. The setting of each ring is the ever popular "Tiffany" style. As a Christmas, Birthday or all-the-year-round gift for wife, mother, sweetheart or sister nothing could be more appropriate and acceptable than one of these beautiful guaranteed rings set with the birthstone of the person to whom it is given. And not only the women and girls but men and boys as well are now wearing them.

Please do not class these rings with the cheap "electro-plated" rings that turn brassy after they have been worn a month or two. Remember that every one of them is guaranteed to be 12-Karat gold-filled and positively warranted for five years. If you want a handsome birthstone ring for yourself or some dear friend or relative you will make no mistake in taking advantage of this offer at once. **When ordering be sure to specify the size and number of ring wanted.** You can easily tell just what size ring you wear by following the directions at the right.

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each, we will send you one of these beautiful gold-filled birthstone rings by parcel post prepaid. **Please be sure to give size and number of ring wanted. Address**

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine

RING MEASURE



By using the above diagram you can tell exactly what size ring you wear if you will follow these directions: Put a stiff piece of paper around the second joint on your ring finger. Cut the paper off so that when drawn tight around your finger the ends exactly meet. Then lay the paper flat on the diagram, one end at the line O and the other end will indicate correct size. By following these instructions your ring will be a perfect fit.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Bucko Bill, Floris, Iowa.—If you wish to start a Boy Scout organization in your town, write to the National Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America, 200 Fifth Avenue, New York City, for full information how to go about it.

D. F., California.—The United States Government does not buy arrowheads and Indian relics. A good place to dispose of such articles is to merchants in large cities who will often purchase them for a window display. Show them what you have.

Lonely Lady, Mount Selman, Texas.—It is hard to make any money at home with the pen unless one has marked literary ability and can turn out salable products of their imagination. The ordinary hack work is generally done by old timers at the game, and those who are near the big centers of knowledge and reference. Are you strong enough to do something with your fingers? Make children's caps, for instance. Trim hats. Work luncheon sets. Try and find some particular wants in your neighborhood and fill them.

Mrs. M. P., Oakwood, Texas.—Show the piece of jewelry you have found to some responsible jeweler and let him value it for you. Because it sparkles does not prove that it is really valuable. It will be necessary for you to place an advertisement in the papers regarding your find before you can legally retain possession. Do this for your own protection if you are told that the stones are of value.

M. W. Glaive, Phelps, Wis.—The reason why there is a demand for good cartoonists is the same as the reason for the shortage of good novelists, good poets, good artists, etc. Cartooning is no simple work, and requiries a rare combination of originality, brains, and ability to draw well. But every cartoonist had to make a start at the bottom. Your chances are the same as those of any beginner. Good luck to you.

E. B. D., Bruceville, Ind.—The language of postage stamps is all foolishness, and we cannot give space in COMFORT for its publication. Besides it is contrary to the rules of the Post-office department. Say what you have to say inside of the letter.

Miss E., Lowell, Mass.—We cannot tell you where you can obtain a "good mineral rod." There is no such thing, Do not waste your money by purchasing an article of this kind, as minerals are not located in any such manner. It is a fake. We have answered the "mineral" and "divining" rod question many times in this column. Readers take notice.

COMFORT Lover, Fir, Ark.—Circulars with photos and descriptions of escaped convicts and other criminals are frequently furnished to the postmasters of the sections in which it is thought the men wanted might be found.

Mrs. B. S., Ovenfork, Ky.—You should be able to obtain the compound "Rough on Rats" at any good drug-store. It is a widely advertised product, and is successfully used for the purposes for which it is made.

L. S., Daggett, Mich.—Under the present Federal Draft law a citizen of military age who for any reason is not exempt from service can be sent to France or to any other place the government chooses to send him.

Mrs. R. H. H., Riverside, Cal.—Write to "The Editor," Ridgewood, N. J., for a sample copy of that periodical. This magazine, which is of immense value to the writing fraternity, conducts a bureau of criticism. The charges are not high, and vary for different classes of work. You will find them stated in the pages of "The Editor."

Mrs. V. S., Clayton, N. Mex.—We believe that if corn is put into jars, the covers loosely screwed on, and the jars then placed in a boiler or other vessel with sufficient water to come up to the rims of the covers, that it may be canned so that it will keep. Let the jars remain in the steadily boiling water for half an hour, and then seal tightly. The corn should completely fill the jars. We believe your friend made an error in boiling the jars each day for three days. This is not necessary. Try the above method, using new jars, and putting nothing else in the jars but the corn itself. No salt even should be used. There are several different canning compounds on the market which may be purchased at any up-to-date drug-store. It is best, however, not to use them as they are never necessary if the canning is done properly. These chemical preservatives are not approved of and might get you into trouble under the Pure Food Law. Why not dry some corn this summer by the Shaker method, if you are familiar with it.

R. P., Saukville, Wis.—We cannot tell you if the physical defects you mention would be sufficient to exempt a person from the Federal Draft law. The decision would be up to the examining physician. Watch the advertising columns of COMFORT for the answer to your second question.

M. L. J., Hokes Bluff, Ala.—It is difficult to make any helpful suggestions from the lack of detail in your letter. Write again, stating your age, if you are completely bedridden, and what has been your previous occupation. We will gladly help you if we can.

R. F. H., Womelsdorp, Pa.—Yes, lumber from black walnut trees three feet in diameter would have a large market value. Ask some furniture dealer to give you the addresses of some Pennsylvania manufacturers of furniture, and write to them asking them to quote prices, and tell them how many feet you think you have for sale. Black walnut lumber is also in demand for gun stocks.

J. B. Brown, Osceola, Iowa.—A thorough washing with soap and water, being careful not to get fabric too wet, is a simple way of cleaning leather upholstery. After drying, apply a small quantity of linseed oil mixed with turpentine and rub thoroughly, being careful to remove all surplus oil and have leather clean and soft before using.

Anxious, Plymouth, N. C.—We cannot print the patent laws in the space of this column. If you have an article you wish to patent you should get in touch with a patent attorney. Read COMFORT'S advertising columns.

E. F., Raven, Nebr.—We do not think, after reading the facts of your letter, that your father could obtain any pension from this government. You might, if you so wish, place the details of the case before a pension attorney.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

fare of COMFORT and its readers, and everything of a business nature receives attention. The urgent things of course come first, while things of less importance must take their turn. I do not think there is a busier brain or pair of hands in all the world than mine. Often the doctor tells Maria to take every scrap of paper that is within my reach away from me, and force me to rest. Often I lie for hours practically in a state of coma, utterly unable to even raise my tongue to the roof of my mouth or make an articulate sound. Every atom of nerve force in my body becomes exhausted, then my heart gives out, and you can imagine the rest. So, Luilla my dear, be lenient with me. If I cannot correspond with you there are plenty of League members who will. Read my monthly message, and if you want to profit by it just think it is addressed to you individually and written solely and wholly for your instruction and edification and that will go a long way to appeasing your appetite for personal letters. Meanwhile read, study and try to improve your writing and spelling and your mind. There is plenty of room for improvement, and it is your own fault if you don't improve.

5 MONTHS TO PAY 5

Tailor-Made-to-Order



Save $15.00 to $25.00

Have your clothes made to order from finest, stylish fabrics, by our expert tailors and take 5 months to pay. Every garment guaranteed a perfect fit and best workmanship—actually made to order from your measurements. Your choice of handsome fabrics—in plain colors, checks, stripes, plaids—all weaves. Look into this offer—get the facts (all explained in our Style Book). See if this is not the fairest, most liberal proposition you have ever had on tailor-made-to-order clothes. If you order and the suit is not satisfactory in every way return it at our expense. Otherwise pay on our easy terms.

As Little As $1.00 Down

You can order now by sending as little as a dollar down. Send for our big Style Book showing the latest, snappiest, fashions—also samples of our fabrics. Learn how we tailor our garments to suit your figure and personality—how we interline and hand sew and give you garments that keep their shape. The Style Book tells all about this—also gives full directions for self measurement. Sent free.

Send For FREE Book

$1,000 Reward

This given in gold to anyone who can prove that we do not actually make to order every garment from the customer's measure.



Free Style Book

We will send you the big Style Book with pictures in actual colors of garments made by us. Choose direct from our big selection of 70 cloth samples of best fabrics. Prices and terms too. Send the coupon, and get this Style Book and Samples.

Stanley-Rogers Co.
Dept. 937
1015 Jackson Blvd.
Chicago

SEND THIS COUPON NOW

Stanley-Rogers Company,
1015 Jackson Blvd., Dept. 937, Chicago

Please send me FREE your new Fall Style Book showing latest Metropolitan Styles, also 70 Cloth Samples and full particulars of your $1.00 down with 5-Months-to-Pay-Offer.

Name.....

Address.....

Town..... State.....

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Robert Brewer, Treetop, N. C. Lower limbs completely paralyzed. Depends on charity for support. Well recommended. Give him a boost. Mrs. Sarah Ruth Deal, Stuart, Va. Crippled, old and poor. No means of support. Very worthy case. Send her some cheer. Miss Saling A. Chambliss, Dorsey, Miss. Helpless invalid. Will be sixty years of age, Sept. 17. Send her a dime shower and make her birthday happy. Mrs. E. J. Essex, Box 41, Nelsonville, Ky. Paralyzed. Only son helpless from rheumatism. No means of support. Very sad case. Send this poor old soul some of the sympathy that buys bread. Miss Emeline Grigg, Petersburg, R. R. 1, Tenn. Seventy-six years of age. Crippled. No means of support. Would appreciate any assistance you care to send her. Mrs. Martha Holland, East Fruitland, N. C. Old, blind, poor and sick. Well recommended. Send her a dime shower. Lois Turner, Desloge, Mo. Invalid. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Queenie Spencer, Spencer, Va. Invalid. Would like quilt pieces.

Here's your chance to do good. Remember all you are put here on earth for is to do good, and the only worthy way to do good for yourself is to start and do good to others. You'd hate to have anyone call you a hog, but you spend all your time looking out for yourself, and that's exactly what a hog does. Try and be human. Help these poor souls, and you'll be more than human, you'll be divine. Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for September

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

Read Uncle Charlie's Poems Around The Fireside!

The long winter nights are upon us and the best fireside companion is a copy of Uncle Charlie's Poems. You will laugh, scream and yell if you peruse its uproariously funny pages. This 160-page, lilac silk cloth bound volume contains the best recitations in the world, also a deeply interesting sketch of Uncle Charlie's life, and splendid pictures of him dictating his monthly talks to Maria. The finest gift in the world. Get your copy now, it will drive away the blues. This superb book free for a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book Is Just Grand!

So our readers say with almost monotonous regularity. It contains twenty-eight of the dandiest songs ever written, coon songs, sacred songs, sentimental and story ballads. Full music for voice and piano. Five dollars' worth of music for only two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. A gorgeous song folio with superb cover on which appear some splendid pictures of Uncle Charlie at various stages of his career. Both volumes free for a club of six. Work for them today.

FREE A 52-PIECE FULL SIZE HANDSOME DINNER SET



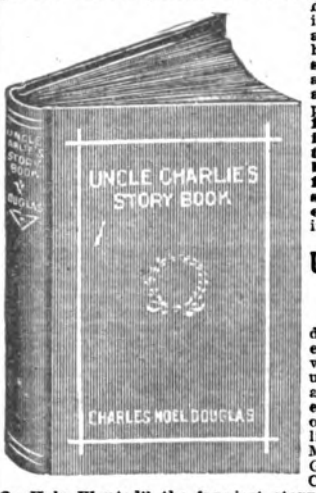
WE TRUST YOU NO MONEY NEEDED WE PAY FREIGHT

Sell 10 boxes of 7 cakes fine Toilet Soap, and with every box, give as premiums to each purchaser all of the following articles; a Pound of Baking Powder, Bottle Perfume, Box Talcum Powder, 6 Teaspoons, Pair Shears and Package of Needles and the **Dinner Set is Yours.** Many other equally attractive offers and hundreds of useful Premiums or Cash Commission given for your time. **Special Extra Present** of a 6-Pc. High-Grade Granite Kitchen Set FREE of all cost or work of any kind, if you write at once. You advance no money. You have nothing to risk. Write today for our **Big FREE Agents Outfit.** Act quickly—don't delay. **THE PURE FOOD CO. Established 1897. 731 W. Pearl St. CINCINNATI, O.**

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, half-tone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c.** each—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

H. W. B., Virginia.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that every householder residing in the state shall, in addition to the property or estate which he is entitled to hold exempt from levy or garnishment, be entitled to hold exempt from levy, seizure, garnishment or sale under any execution, order, or process issued on any demand for any debt or liability on contract his real and personal estate or either, to be selected by him, including money and debts due him, to the value of not exceeding two thousand dollars; provided that such exemption shall not extend to any execution, order or other process issued on any demand in the following cases: first, for the purchase price of real estate, or any part thereof; second, for services rendered by a laboring person, or a mechanic; third, for liabilities for money received by any public officer, officer of a court, fiduciary, or by any attorney at law for money collected by him; fourth, for a lawful claim for any taxes, levies or assessments; fifth, for rent; sixth, for the legal or taxable fees of any public officer, or officer of a court; seventh, for any debt or liability on contract, as to which the debtor or party to the contract has waived the exemption to which he is entitled to. We think payment of an unpaid balance on a mortgage can be enforced against any property the debtor may own, not exempt from levy under execution.

Mrs. C. M., Pennsylvania.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the life tenant of real estate cannot convey any greater title to the property than he himself possesses, and that to convey good and absolute title of the fee it would require the deed of both the life tenant and the remainderman.

C. D. L., Tennessee.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married woman, leaving no will, her estate, after payment of debts and expenses and subject to the rights of her husband if one survives her, would go in equal shares to her children, the descendants of a deceased child taking the parent's share; we think her share of the estate of a parent who predeceased her, would be administered and would descend upon her death, as a part of her estate.

Mrs. W. R. S.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a widow and two children, his estate, after payment of debts and expenses, would go in equal shares to the widow and children, unless the estate vested prior to November 1st, 1880.

Mrs. M. K., South Dakota.—Under the laws of Iowa, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving a surviving widow and children, his widow would receive one third of his estate, after payment of debts and expenses, the balance going in equal shares to his children; this, of course, would not apply to such property as he had owned and disposed of before marriage, but only to such property as he left at the time of his death.

Mrs. B. I., Florida.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that all property, real and personal, of a wife, owned by her before marriage, or lawfully acquired afterwards by gift, device, bequest, or purchase, shall be her separate property and the same shall not be liable for the deaths of her husband, without her consent; we think the property of the wife shall remain in the care and management of the husband, but he shall not charge for his care and management, nor shall a wife be entitled to sue her husband for the proceeds or profits of her said property, that the husband and wife shall join in all sales and conveyances of the property of the wife. We think that upon her death, if no child or descendant and no will, the whole estate after payment of debts and expenses, would go to the surviving husband, if child or descendant, the husband takes a child's share; we think the husband's share, if no child or descendant, can be made his by will.

Mrs. W. O. M., Lothair, Mont.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that a married woman has no present interest in the property of her husband, except that he is liable for her support and that she has inchoate right of dower in his real estate. We think he has a legal right to disinherit her by will except that he cannot cut off her right to dower of the one third interest for life in any property owned by him from which she has not released her dower. This dower right is usually released by her joining in the deed of conveyance of the real estate of the husband. We think that she can defeat her right of support from her husband in case she deserts him without cause. We think that in case your wife has left you and in case she brings a separation action against you, demanding an allowance for her support, it will be necessary for you to defend such action as in case of your default, she would quite probably get a court order or judgment decreeing that you should pay her a sum of money for her support.

Miss M. C., Texas.—We do not think that the use of the name of her stepfather, by the young woman you mention, at the time of her marriage would in any way affect the validity of her marriage, or in any way affect the legitimacy of her children.

Mrs. S. R., Haywood, Okla.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will and leaving a surviving widow and more than one child, one third of the estate would go to the surviving widow and the remainder in equal shares to the children, the descendants of any deceased children taking the parent's share. We think that if any of this property is tribal property and if the descent was cast prior to November 16th, 1907, it may be possible that the devolution might be otherwise than above expressed. This, however, would depend upon facts not stated in your communication, and we think if this man had any tribal interest in property affected by the treaties with the Five Civilized Tribes, you should take this matter up with some lawyer in your locality with whom you can go in greater detail.

Mrs. R. C., Umatilla, Fla.—We do not think that the law of either the state of Florida or Kentucky makes it necessary that the husband be mentioned by name in the wife's will. He, however, under some crcumstances, would have some interest in the property even though his name was not mentioned. You state that the property in Kentucky was owned jointly by the husband and wife. If this is a fact, we fail to understand how this property could have been sold without the husband joining in the deed. Possibly an examination of this deed may show that he did so in which event, of course, he would have no further interest in the property. It may be possible that the property you state as owned by the wife in Florida, may have been so held that she could dispose of same without her husband's consent. The general rule, however, is that in the state of Florida the husband's signature is necessary to the conveyance of the real estate of the wife. We think it might be advisable that you have the real estate records examined of this property to ascertain just what was done in the matter.

Mrs. E. B., Michigan.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a married man, leaving no will, and leaving issue, his estate would go one third to his widow and the remaining two thirds to his issue, and if no widow the whole to his issue; children may be disinherited by will.



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

HEIGHO, my dears, how have your gardens grown? September right here and we have all been so busy we haven't seen the summer slipping by. I hope all those small and large gardens will give bountiful crops to help feed yourselves and our Allies this winter, and I hope all of you who have been knitting or sewing for the hospitals have got some blessed peace of soul from it. Think of the comfort and aid your work is going to give, this cold winter, to the soldier boys and sailor lads. I can't think or say much of vacations while there is so much to be done, but I hope you have all had a chance to get a restful and joyous change of air and scene. Now I must attack this pile of letters from my perplexed friends, and help them whatever I can.

Twin Sisters, Morgantown, W. Va.—Do not let tale bearers upset your faith in your soldier friend. The boys in the camps and the trenches need all the support their wives and sweethearts can give them. Be faithful to your soldier until you *know* he is not faithful to you. That tattling friend (?) hasn't much respect for you if he tried to kiss you the first time you met.

M. J., Ashville, N. C.—If you don't know which of the two you love, you should wait. But if you love a man I can't see why you shouldn't marry him even if he is subject to conscription. Is that any reason to reject him?

Dixie Girl, Beaumont, Ala.—I am afraid you never loved him. There is no reason why you should not have a good time while your finance is doing his duty in the navy, but I fear he will have to come to realize that you are either too young or too unstable to be constant to him. I am sorry for the boys who go to war engaged to girls who have mistaken their love of a good time for love of a man.

X. Y. Z., Wilson, Kansas.—It will be perfectly right for you to become a Red Cross nurse if you are old enough and fitted for nursing. Good nurses will be wanted in thousands. Write to the Red Cross managers for your state and they will give you the necessary information as to how to go about it.

Louisiana, 125, Pollack, La.—You surely do need advice but unfortunately no one is qualified to say just what you should do. It is not wise nor right to marry a man unless you love him, but love often does come if you respect him. It would be a great gamble for you to leave your present condition of life, unpleasant as it is, for the uncertainty of a loveless marriage. As for your other questions if I could tell you of a sure wart remover, a certain face bleach and a reliable fat reducer I would soon be wealthy. Most druggists have toilet articles that will sometimes do the things for your skin that you desire.

Madison, Wisconsin.—You say your father is "strick" with you. Well, if more fathers had a little more care over the habits and associates of their daughters there would be less trouble in the world. Ask him if the young man may take you out occasionally and if he refuses obey his wishes for a few years.

Sallie of Coal Hill, Ark. asks the same question as several others this month: "Should she go with a boy much younger than she is?" It depends how much younger. A year or two's difference doesn't matter but more than that is likely to be unfortunate.

Little Girl Rougemont, N. C.—One of your difficulties seems like that of many other inquirers. "How often should you write?" It depends upon whether you are engaged. If not I should not write oftener than the young man does, unless there is some reason that makes it difficult for him to write as often as he would like. Why do you bother with the other boy if you love this one?

Hello Girl, Nowata, Okla.—Many have dreamed of being "Movie" stars but few will ever attain their object. It requires real ability, and hard work as well as great beauty or a very strong personality. It seems to haunt the minds of many who could never hope for success, and I would discourage any thought of it.

Brunette, Norfolk Va.—I *don't* advise you to go against the wishes of your parents. You are evidently young enough to be able to wait a while and see if you and the young man really love each other. If so a small social difference will not matter.

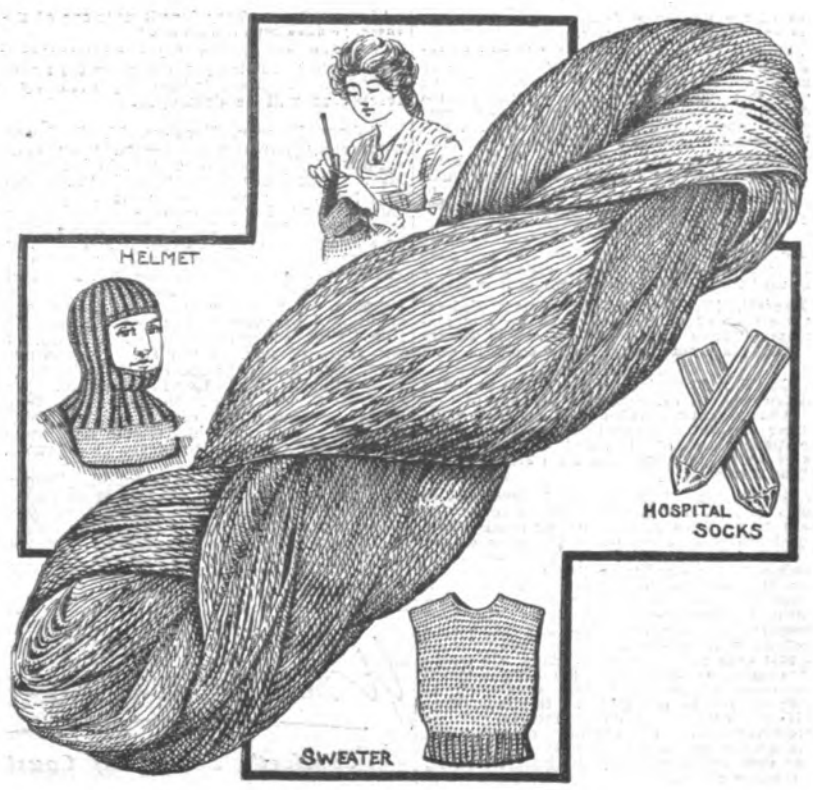
Michigan Girl, Charlotte, Mich.—By all means tell your parents. You have no right at your age, to be secretly meeting young men, much less to get engaged to one of them. Your mother should advise you.

Blue Eyes, Penscacola, Fla.—If you have not already found an answer to your question here it is: Of course you should not consider a proposal from a man you know nothing about. He may say nice things and be generous on four days' acquaintance, but you must know him better before considering him seriously.

Blue Eyes and Brown Eyes, Mexia, Texas.—I would much prefer to scold your parents. The idea of their permitting you at your age to be afflicted with proposals and with suggestions of love from married men. It is too awful to think about.

There, I haven't scolded you as much as usual, perhaps not so much as I should have done. I am feeling charitable to small offenders nowadays. And so many this month have a real feeling of uncertainty as to what they should do that I have overlooked their petty foolishnesses and their bad spelling and their horrible grammar. I will try to be more school teacher like next month and scold you all you deserve. By, by, my dears, until October, and believe me to be, Yours sincerely,

COUSIN MARION.



An Offer
To Women Workers Of The Red Cross

OUR boys—**your** boys—will soon be at the front "somewhere in France." They will need all the comforts that busy hands at home can provide for them. Among other things there are sweaters and socks, helmets, mufflers and mitts to be knitted. Thousands of mothers, wives and daughters already are industriously plying the needles to good advantage.

You, of course, are doing your bit. Perhaps you would like to do more—and would—if you had the means to do with. Yarn for instance is pretty expensive just now. You may feel unable to buy enough for all the things you want to make.

This being the case why not let COMFORT help you out. We have the yarn—bought at the lowest wholesale price—guaranteed pure, **all wool** yarn in all the most desirable colors—light and dark grey, khaki, black, blue and white. It comes in large quarter-pound skeins. We will send you free of all cost any desired quantity in any of the above mentioned colors in return for a few subscriptions to COMFORT.

It will be the easiest thing in the world to get the subscriptions, especially when you tell your friends what you are working for. And look at the bargain they are getting in COMFORT for only 25 cents a year—when practically every other magazine in the country has raised its price. They will be glad to subscribe if you will but ask them. We have made our offer just as liberal as we possibly could—so it won't take you long to secure the few subscriptions required. You should start at once however because we shall soon be obliged to raise COMFORT'S subscription price, also the cost of yarn is going still higher so the chances are that next month we shall have to ask for larger clubs. **Please be sure to give color wanted when ordering.**

OUR OFFER. For four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one large skein (one-quarter pound) of guaranteed pure wool yarn free by parcel post prepaid (Premium No. 7504.) Or for eleven one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you three skeins (Premium No. 72011,) or for fourteen one-year subscriptions we will send you four skeins (Premium No. 72514.) **When ordering please be sure to mention color or colors wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Six Wheel Chairs in August
427 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

Six wheel chairs is a very good achievement for the hot and sultry month of August. It doubles our July record and gives promise of an early start and satisfactory results for our fall work.

The six August chairs go to the following shut-ins. The figures after their names indicate the number of



DOROTHY KATE HARRIS.

subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Fannie May Hix, R. 2, Danielsville, Ga., 204; Dollie Virginia Lanier, Fitzpatrick, Ga., 150; Mrs. Maggie Winder, Mahl, Texas, 133; Sanford Shillings, R. 1. Box 161, Rockwood, Tenn., 129; Andrew Buel Hibbard, Ursula, Ark., 119; Walter Joseph Slaybaugh, Anna, Ohio, 117.

Little Fannie Hix, age 11, has never walked, as spinal trouble, which developed in infancy, has paralyzed her lower limbs. Her wheel chair will be a source of great pleasure to this girl shut-in.

Dollie Lanier, age 10, is entirely helpless, being unable to walk, talk or use her arms as the result of spinal trouble which has afflicted her from birth.

Mrs. Winder, age 45, is paralyzed from her waist down by kidney trouble and has not been able to walk the past year. She has a family of small children.

Sanford Shillings, age 11, has no use of his feet as the result of infantile paralysis which attacked him when six months old. He is the oldest of six children.

Andrew Hibbard, age 5, is blind and has been a cripple from birth.

Walter Slaybaugh, age 4, can neither walk, talk nor even sit alone, caused by injuries at birth.

This is a heart-breaking list of pitiful sufferers whose afflictions must move you to compassion. But there are many others, whose cases are equally distressing, working and waiting for a much-needed COMFORT wheel chair. Will you not kindly help them to secure the hoped-for blessing?

The accompanying picture of bright-faced little Dorothy Kate Harris and the letter of thanks from her father, printed below, illustrate the happiness which our Wheel-Chair Club contributors are bestowing on the unfortunate shut-ins. Do your part to help them, and be blessed for doing so.

Sincerely yours,

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 one-year subscriptions to COMFORT, at 25 cents each, sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Any shut-in who has friends to help him get subscriptions can obtain a wheel chair free. Write me for information.

Very Thankful for Little Daughter's Wheel Chair

CUMMING, GA.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

Please find enclosed a photo of our Dorothy Kate enjoying the wheel chair sent by you, for which we are very thankful. We surely do appreciate your kindness and shall be glad to do anything we can to help on the good you are doing through COMFORT. With best wishes and hoping you may be able to bring joy to many other shut-ins, I remain truly yours,

H. J. HARRIS.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

Mrs. Mollie Hogan, Texas, for Mrs. Maggie Winder, 132; Mr. W. H. J. Hix, Ga., for Fannie May Hix, 114; Anna Bowman, Tenn., for Sanford Shillings, 110; Mrs. L. Brannum, Tenn., for Mrs. Laura Carroll, 100; D. L. Smith, Ky., for Daniel L. Smith, 100; Mrs. Mary E. Parke, Ohio, for Walter J. Slaybaugh, 80; Mrs. Maude Yohe, Okla., for Mrs. Mary Bryan, 71; Mrs. Walter Glover, N. C., for Mrs. Emily Daugherty, 60; G. W. Hix, Ga., for Fannie May Hix, 53; Lessie Campbell, Texas, for Lorena Campbell, 46; Mrs. John Stewart, W. Va., for Bertha Luella Stewart, 40; Mrs. Myrtle McCarty, Mo., for Willie Clinton, 24; Mrs. Jesse Galey, Okla., for Willie Clinton, 22; M. C. Sutton, Tenn., for Anna Jack, 22; Mrs. B. E. Slaybaugh, Ohio, for Walter J. Slaybaugh, 21; Mrs. J. C. Scanlon, Cal., for Dolly V. Lanier, 20; Mrs. J. P. Kennedy, La., for Clifford Kennedy, 19; Mrs. Mary Karnes, Okla., for Mrs. E. V. Stalnaker, 18; Mrs. Belle Overstreet, Ga., for Mrs. W. T. McBride, 18; Fay Crippen, Wis., for Willie Clinton, 17; Mrs. J. B. Frye, Ohio, for Walter Slaybaugh, 16; Mrs. Ella Peterson, W. Va., for Bertha Luella Stewart, 16; Mattie Hibbard, Ark., for Buel Hibbard, 14; Mrs. S. E. Hix, Ga., for Fannie May Hix, 11; Hattie Woodburn, Ohio, for Dolly Lanier and Willie Clinton, 10; A Subscriber, Pa., for general fund, 10; Mrs. Cora M. Stewart, Ohio, for Bertha Luella Stewart, 9; A. J. Campbell, Texas, for Lorena Campbell, 9; Miss Mary Lanier, Ga., for Dolly Virginia Lanier, 8; Addie Lunsford, Ala., for Mrs. Mary Green, 8; Mrs. Reiff, Ohio, for Dolly Lanier and Willie Clinton, 8; Mrs. Mary Hix, Ga., for Fannie May Hix, 7; Mrs. Maud Hix, Ga., for Fannie May Hix, 7; Annie Sue Henley, Ga., for Fannie May Hix, 6; W. C. Black, Ga., for Fannie May Hix, 6; Mrs. R. A. Cannoy, Tenn., for Howard Carr Cannoy, 6; Mrs. L. A. Williams, N. C., for Paul Forbes, 5; Mrs. C. A. Lynch, Idaho, for Adella Albiston, 5; M. A. Williams, Ark., for Callie Williams, 5; K. A. Asplund, Nebr., for Dolly V. Lanier, 5; Mrs. J. W. Sifford, Mo., for Willie Sifford, 5.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

District and local agents with Ford cars wanted to demonstrate to Ford owners wonderful Simplex Ford Starter and Simplex Windshield Ventilating Bracket. Both are big selling accessories for good live men. Write today for proposition and exclusive agency. Simplex Mfg Company, Dept. 441, Anderson, Indiana.

Agents—Steady Income Large manufacturer of Handkerchiefs and Dress Goods, etc., wishes representative in each locality. Factory to consumer. Big profits, honest goods. Whole or spare time. Credit given. Address Freeport Mfg Co.,60 Main St.,Brooklyn, N. Y.

Agents $60 a week to travel by Automobile and introduce our 300 candle power coal-oil lantern. Write for particulars of our free auto offer.Thomas Co., 819 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

Agents—with experience sell to consumers made-to-measure Suits and Overcoats $13.50 and $17.50. Build independent business with Big money. Outfits furnished. Midland Tailors Dept. 13, 19 South Fifth Ave., Chicago.

Hosiery and Underwear Manufacturer offers permanent position supplying regular customers at mill prices in home town. $50.00 to $100.00 monthly. All or spare time. Credit. G. Parker Mills, 2733 No. 12th St., Phila., Pa.

Agents—We want 150 hard workers to take orders for Buckeye Raincoats. You can easily make $75.00 a week. Wonderful raincoat for $3.95. We deliver and collect. Complete outfit free to you. The biggest fall season just starting. Join our big money-makers at once. Hurry! Buckeye Manufacturing Co., M1 Union Square, New York City.

Agents show our made to order guaranteed $15.00 suits real $25.00 values. No experience necessary. Wonderful selling plan. You furnish prospects we make sale. Chicago Woolen Mills, Dept. 19, Chicago.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves."Horoco,"131 Locust, St.Louis,Mo.

$1.95 For Men's Made-To-Order Pants—worth $5.00. Sample free. Money-making offer for agents. Write today. Chicago Tailors' Ass'n, Dept. 675, So. Franklin St., Chicago.

Agents I've a new soap game that's a dandy. New stuff. 100% profits. Sample and full layout free. Write quick. Lacassian Co., Dept. 50, St. Louis, Mo.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses,waists, skirts,direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 503 Broadway, New York City.

You can Sell our raincoats. Anyone will buy. We give you one. Outfit Free. Temple Raincoat Co., Box 1, Templeton,Mass.

Every Home On Farm, In Small Town or Suburb needs and will buy the wonderful Aladdin kerosene (coal-oil) Mantle Lamp. Five times as bright as electric. Tested and recommended by Government and 34 leading Universities. Awarded Gold Medal. One Farmer cleared over $500 in six weeks. Hundreds with rigs or autos earning $100 to $300 per month. No Capital Required: We Furnish Goods On Time. Write quick for distributor's proposition and lamp for free trial. Mantle Lamp Co., 508 Aladdin Bldg. Chicago, Ill.

One Thousand Dollars Reward—If this is not the greatest money-making house-to-house proposition. N. R. G. Laundry Tablets wash clothes in 10 minutes, without rubbing. Contains no Lime, Lye, Parrafin, Wax or other injurious chemical and cannot possibly injure the clothes or hands. Positively the wonder of the age—sells for 15c enough for five family washings. We supply Free Samples and guarantee sale of every package you buy. Just Leave Free Sample with the housewife and, when you call again, she is eagerly awaiting to become your steady customer. Secure territorial rights at once. A 1c postal brings sample and full particulars. Farquhar-Moon Mfg. Co., Desk F 210—140 W. Vanburen St., Chicago.

Agents—Make Big Money. The best line of food flavors, perfumes, soaps and toilet preparations, etc., ever offered over 500 light weight, popular priced, quick selling necessities—in big demand—well advertised—easy sellers—big repeaters. Over 100% profit. Complete outfit furnished free to workers. Just a postal today. American Products Co., 4915 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

AGENTS WANTED

Earn Money Easy. You can easily earn $5 to $10 a day taking orders for our high grade Soaps, Perfumes, Face Creams and Toilet preparations. Show the goods—they sell themselves. 100% profit. Old established firm, well-advertised line. Est. 1888. Write today for wonderful, self-selling plan and Free sample case offer. Crofts & Reed Co., Dept. C 92, Chicago, Ills.

Big Textile Mills want ambitious men and women everywhere to show latest dress fabrics, neckwear, hosiery, underwear, and sweaters. 400 styles. Easy sales. Values beat stores. Many making over $30 weekly. All or spare time. Complete sample outfit starts you. Steadfast Mills, 34 Remsen St., Cohoes, N. Y.

Agents! Quick Sales! Big Profits! Outfit Free!Cash or credit. Sales in every home for our beautiful Dress Goods,Hosiery, Underwear, etc. Write today. National Importing & Mfg. Co., Dept. EB, 425 Broadway, New York.

Agents. We need men and women right now to take orders for Worlds Greatest Raincoat values. Dandy coat $3.98. Sixty-five fabrics. Dozens of styles. Made to measure and delivered direct from our big factory to your customer. No delivering. Profit in advance. Easy to sell. Cooper making $300 monthly. Glover $61.50 first four days. Neally 22 orders in 2 days. Four average orders a day gives you $2,500 a year profit. Full outfit and sample coat given. Write for wonderful offer. Comer Mfg., Dept. J-11, Dayton, Ohio.

Pants $1.00, Suits $3.75, Made To measure. For even a better offer than this write and ask for free samples and styles. Knickerbocker TailoringCo.,Dept.698,Chicago

Agents. Want a proposition paying you five to ten dollars daily? Experience unnecessary. Write for plan and local agency. Yanoco Ivory Co., Ave. G, Leominster, Mass.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women,$30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free.William Ragsdale,East Orange,N.J.

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

Agents—Pair Silk Hose Free. State size & color. Beautiful line direct from mill. Good profits. Agents wanted. Write today. Triplewear Mills, Dept.G,720 Chestnut St., Phila.,Pa.

Agents: Big Hit: Our 5-Piece Aluminum Set is all the rage. Cheaper than Enamel Ware. Sells like wildfire. Guaranteed 20 Years. Retail value $5.00. You sell housewives for only $1.98. Biggest seller of the age. 9 sure sales out of every 10 shown. Others cleaning up $10.00 to $20.00 a day. Answer this quick to secure your territory. Div. E. X. 5. American Aluminum Mfg. Co. Lemont, Ill.

$150.00 Salary For 60 Days Work Paid Woman Or Man in each town to distribute Free circulars and take orders for White Ribbon Concentrated Flavoring. J. S. Ziegler Co., 7D., E. Harrison St., Chicago.

"Washwhite" makes repeat orders and big profits. Catchy sales plan. Free Samples. Nacma, 21-A, 20 W. Lake, Chicago.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 98c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

1917's Greatest Sensation! 11-piece toilet goods combination selling like blazes at $1.00 with $1.00 Carving Set Free. Everybody buys. Engle's profit first week $51.00. Great crew proposition. Pierce Co., 505 Pierce Bldg., Chicago.

Reliable People Wanted to place Eggine in stores and appoint agents. Takes the place of eggs in baking and cooking at less than 9c doz. Package and particulars 10c postpaid. Morrissey Co., 4424 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

"Whito," the scientific dirt remover, ends wash-day drudgery. Sells in whole neighborhood after trial by one user. Free samples to start sales. Big profits on repeat orders. Exclusive territory. Whito, 519 W. McCarty, Indianapolis, Ind.

MALE HELP WANTED

Civil Service Examinations open the way to good Government positions. I can coach you by mail at small cost. Full particulars free to any American citizen of eighteen or over. Write today for Booklet CE1450, Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Firemen, Brakemen,Baggagemen, 8 hours, $140. Colored Porters wanted everywhere.Experience unnecessary. 828 Ry. Bureau, East St. Louis, Ills.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for pattern and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Women,—Be Expert Dress Designers. Earn $125 month. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. F. 850, Rochester, N. Y.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free.Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis,Mo.

HELP WANTED

Hundreds Govt. War Jobs Open. $100 month.Write immediately for free list. Franklin Institute, Dept. F. 9, Rochester, N. Y.

Wanted—To start you in reliable home employment. Particulars for stamp. DeLana Walton, Prairie City, Ill.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Invent Something. Your ideas may bring wealth. Free book tells what to invent and how to obtain a patent through our credit system. Talbert & Parker, 4206 Talbert Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel,232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Four books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free.R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg.,Wash. D. C.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Mill Remnants, Coatings, Suitings, list free. Velvet pillow squares, 50c., pkg. 25c. A. Knapp, Westmoreland, New York.

ARIZONA LANDS

Uncle Sam is watering a farm for you in Salt River Valley,Arizona, where you will live longer and better, and make more money with less work. Read our Roosevelt Dam folder free on request. C. L. Seagraves, Industrial Com'r AT&SF Ry.,1946 Ry.Exchange, Chicago.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn while you learn. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of members we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 a month. Address nearest office. Dept. 105-M—National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Tobacco Factory wants salesman; good pay, steady work, promotion; experience unnecessary, we give complete instructions. Piedmont Tobacco Co., Box F-19,Danville,Va.

Side Line Men. Do you want a real one that one order a day will pay you $9.00. No samples to carry. Something new. Write today. Canfield Mfg. Co., 208 Sigel St., Chicago, Ill.

Salesmen Wanted—Reliable Men That can furnish team and wagon to travel in the country and sell old established line of medicines, flavorings, spices, soaps, toilets, condition powders, etc. Permanent work. Pay Big. Write today for free copy of "Opportunity." It tells how. Seminole Medicine Co., Boone, Ia., Box 228.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Underwoods, Royals, Olivers, Remingtons, $15. to $45., guar. 5 years. Free Trial. Typewriter Co., C. 193 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

We Pay To $80.00 for certain large cents; $5.00 for certain eagle cents, etc. High premiums paid for rare coins to 1912. Many in circulation. Watch your change. Send 4c now. Get our Large Illustrated Coin and Stamp Circular. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

MISCELLANEOUS FARMS FOR SALE

Money-Making Farms, 15 states, $10 an acre up; stock, tools and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue, Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3027, New York.

FEMALE AGENTS WANTED

Women Make Money introducing Priscilla Fabrics, Dresses, Underwear, in spare time among personal friends.Beautiful samples furnished. Fitzcharles Co.,Dept. 183, Trenton,N.J.

Earn $5.00 a day distributing Guaranteed Hosiery to customers. Mill prices. All or spare time. Protected territory. Credit. C. Weber Mills, Nicetown Station, Philadelphia, Pa.

ANIMALS

Raise Guinea Pigs. More profitable than poultry. Thousands needed. Experience unnecessary. Send for our free illustrated book explains all. Laboratory Supply Co., Dept. T, 2841 Ridge Ave., Phila, Pa.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$100 to $200 Profit Weekly. Complete Moving Picture Outfit, Machine, films, etc. furnished on easy payment plan. No experience needed. Free book explains everything. Monarch Film Service, Dept. 2-A 228 Union Ave., Memphis, Tenn.

PIGS FOR SALE

O. I. C. Hogs, all ages. Large, prolific. Best blood lines, Pr. pigs mated $20. W. D. Ruebush, Macomb, Ill.

SCHOOLS

Home Study leading to degrees from old residential college. E. W., 6935 Stewart Ave., Chicago.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free.Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

PHOTO FINISHING

Send Ten Cents and this add as payment for developing and finishing your first roll of films. Hopson, Burlington Jct., Mo.

Films developed free. High class work, perfect prints at 3 to 7c. We do the best work in the Photo City. Remit with your order and get returns same day. Bryans Drug House, Rochester, N. Y.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

This Little Farm in Virginia is an ideal poultry and fruit proposition; located in fine community at railroad station and general store in beautiful Shenandoah Valley; 2 miles from good town; modern five room bungalow, nicely furnished; price $1,250, easy terms. Send for magazine and list of farms from $500 up. F. H. LaBaume, Agrl. Agt. N&W Railway, 269 N. & W. Building, Roanoke, Va.

Landseekers! I am selling good land in Michigan's Fruit & Clover Belt. Small or large tracts for gen'l farming, stock, dairying, poultry, truck, fruit. $15 to $35 per a. Easy payments. Some choice ten acre tracts, $250. $5 down, $4 mo. Good towns, schools. Booklet free. Geo. W. Swigart, owner, C1246 First Natl. Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Will Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct free—and sell on Commission. Big rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31. Auburn, N. Y.

SHORT STORIES

Wanted Stories, articles,poems etc.We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1358 Washington, D. C.

ROOTS AND HERBS

$20 A Week gathering Roots, Herbs, Ferns, etc. Instructions, War Prices and addresses of buyers. Book prepaid 20c. Ginseng Co., West Milan, N. H.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid.Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

Walking the Rope to Fortune

By Owen Hugh O'Neil

MOST of us desire wealth, but probably very few of us would care to follow the route to fame and fortune pursued by Jean Francois Gravelet, professionally known as Blondin.

In 1830, at the age of six, he made his debut in France, his native country, as a professional tight-rope walker and gymnast. His theatrical appearances brought him considerable fame, but he owed his fortune to the feat of crossing Niagara Falls on a tight-rope, eleven hundred feet long and one hundred and sixty feet above the surface of the water. This he accomplished first in 1859, but performed the feat several times thereafter. Once he crossed the Falls blindfolded, and once, pushing a wheelbarrow ahead of him; again, bundled up in a sack, and another time on stilts, which was the most hazardous of all. His greatest sensation, however, was caused by the remarkable achievement of walking the 1100-foot tight-rope with a man on his back. This was particularly dangerous, since the slightest movement on the part of his "passenger" would have plunged them both into the raging waters of Niagara.

Blondin made the perilous journey safely, however, and a few years later thrilled European audiences by walking a tight-rope on stilts, and turning somersaults in the middle, at a height of one hundred and seventy feet from the ground.

In spite of the perils to which he constantly exposed himself, Blondin reached the age of seventy-three years. His last performance was presented in Ireland, in 1896, when he was seventy-two years old.

Growing Camphor in the Gulf Coast

Growing camphor may within a few years become one of the leading industries of this country. Surprising as this may seem, it comes to us, as though in answer to the great cry of the South for more diversified farming, especially the Gulf-coast region, where growing cotton, altogether for a livelihood is not always profitable.

Experiments which have been conducted in the Gulf-coast region of Texas have proven beyond question that the trees from which this article of commerce is distilled can be grown here and be made a very profitable industry.

Several years ago some camphor seeds were planted, they soon came up and in one year's time they reached the height of 18 inches, which is said to be a more rapid growth than they have in the camphor-producing regions of the old world.

It is believed that a regular annual profit of $300 to $400 an acre may be obtained from a camphor farm, by cutting the camphor with a mowing-blade when the plants reach a height of about 12 inches from the ground, instead of waiting until the trees are of full-grown size and then cutting.

It has been demonstrated that by cutting the plants in the manner suggested, a larger percentage of camphor can be obtained. As the stubble left by the cutting of the plants soon sends up new sprouts and in twelve months it is again ready to cut, giving an annual output.

The camphor is obtained by putting the plants through the distilling process.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

Too Much Watchful Waiting

Mother (to battered son)—"Willie, how often have I told you to stop before fighting and count up to a hundred?"



Battered Son—"That's what I did, but Charlie Jones's mother only told him to count ten."—N. Y. Times.

The Hiding Place

"My dear, I don't think the guests liked your caviar sandwiches."

"Why, they are all gone from the table."

"Yes, I found most of 'em inside the grand piano."—Kansas City Journal.

Hard to Please

Mrs. Nuwed—"The baby's name is Hazel—how do you like it?"

Mrs. Bonhed—"It's pretty enough, but it seems too bad you had to name her after a nut."—Stanford Chapparal.

Bobby's Prayer

"When I said my prayers last night didn't you hear me ask God to make me a good boy?"

"Yes, Bobby, I did."

"Well! He ain't done it."—Sydney Bulletin.

Why She Made No Outcry

"You say," said the lawyer, "you heard this man break into your house in the dead of night and yet you made no effort to call for help?"

"That is so."

"Were you too frightened to call out?"

"No. I was not disturbed a particle. He bumped into the rocker of a chair and swore, so I thought it was my husband."—Detroit Free Press.

Unexpected Result

Every pacifist is really working for armament, for the pacifist policy is sure to get us into a corner where we will have to fight.—Life.

In Running Order

The dealer in automobiles was pretty angry.

"Look here," he said. "The bill for that motorcar I sold you has been running for over a year now."



"Let it run," said the delinquent customer. "I want to have something connected with this machine that will run for over half an hour without stopping."—New York Times.

Treatment Helped Some

"Let me kiss those tears away," he begged tenderly.

She fell into his arms and he was busy for the next few minutes.

And yet the tears flowed on.

"Can nothing stop them?" he asked breathlessly.

"No," she murmured, "it is hay fever, you know. But go on with the treatment."

A Leap-Year Hint

"What a beautiful dog, Miss Ethel!" exclaimed her bashful admirer. "Is he affectionate?"



"Is he affectionate?" she asked, archly.

"Indeed he is. Here, Bruno! Come good doggie, and show Charlie Smith how to kiss me."—Answers.

His Hopeless Case

Clerk—"You promised me a raise if I was satisfactory."

Employer—"But you are not, sir! No man is who reminds me of a promise!"—Boston Globe.

The Man Higher Up

"The old-fashioned boy used to respect every word his father said."

"Yes," replied the rather cynical youth; "but you must remember that the old-fashioned boy had one of those old-fashioned fathers."—Washington Star.

Strategy

Mrs. Exe—"You always have such wonderful success in getting people to come to your parties."

Mrs. Wye—"Oh, I always tell the men that it's not to be a dress-up affair, and the women that it is."—Boston Transcript.

Why England Is Called J. Bull, and Why the Lion

Every country has a nickname and is represented in pictures by an animal. The British lion is the animal that stands for England and John Bull is the owner and master.

John Bull is the nation. The name John Bull comes from a work written by John Arbuthnot, a witty doctor and writer, a great friend of Swift and Pope. He was born in Scotland in 1667 and died in 1735. The sketch that he wrote dealt with political affairs of Europe at the time and the countries were made to appear as if they were men and women.

$1 Brings Your Choice

Open a Charge Account with Hartman

Any article shown here, sent direct to your home, for only $1.00 now. Use it for 30 days, then if, for any reason, you want to return it, we will pay the freight both ways and refund your money. If you decide to keep it, just make small monthly payments. See terms below. (Order more than one article if you wish on this easy payment plan.)

That is the offer from the House of Hartman which gives you an opportunity to share in the benefits of our great buying power and of our charge account system which means getting the utmost in value and the easiest terms. Your first order will show that you cannot suffer loss or dissatisfaction when dealing here.

Send to us for anything you want. Order direct from this advertisement or get our 454 page book and make your selections from it, and your charge account will be opened. Use coupon below.



$1 Brings This 5-Piece Bed Outfit

Complete outfit—Full size bed, spring, mattress, two pillows. Bed has heavy 1 1-16 inch continuous posts. Seven ⅜ inch upright grouped fillers. Head end is 54 in. and foot end 34 inches from floor. Choice of White or Gold Bronze Vernis Martin finish. Spring has fabric top fitted on heavy angle iron frame and is supported at ends by resilient steel helical coil springs. Mattress good grade sanitary cotton top well filled with wood fibre. Covered with neat striped ticking. Weighs, burlaped, about 50 lbs. Pillows filled with specially blended selected hen feathers and measure full 18 x 25 in. Covered with durable striped ticking. Shipped from our Chicago Warehouse.

30 Days' Free Trial

Order by No. 153MA10. Price for Complete Outfit $14.79. $1.00 now. Balance in monthly payments of $1.50 each.



Quarter-Sawed Oak Arms and Front Posts

$1 Brings This Big Roomy Rocker

Use this splendid rocker for 30 days, see what an addition it is to your living room or parlor, and learn by actual use what a comfortable chair it is. Do this before you make up your mind to keep or return it. If you do not find it the most remarkable rocker value you have ever been offered, or if, for any reason whatever you do not want to keep it, send it back and we will refund your dollar and pay freight both ways. If you find it all you expect, make your payments as outlined below. This is such an extra value and such a handsome piece of furniture that you will never part with it. The description below gives you a fair idea of what the chair really is. But you must actually see it to appreciate what an extraordinary bargain it is.

The frame is made entirely of kiln dried hard wood. The arms and front posts are genuine quarter sawed oak, other exposed parts being seasoned solid oak and all in handsome golden oak finish. The seat has four springs supported on tempered steel bands, and there are six 5-inch pillow springs in the back also supported on steel bands. The filling is wood fibre and cotton felt. Handsomely upholstered in imitation brown Spanish leather. Height of seat from floor 17 inches. Height of back from seat 25½ inches. Seat is 19x19 inches. Width of chair over all 30¾ in. Shipping weight about 40 lbs. Shipped direct from our Chicago warehouse or factory in Western New York State.

Order by No. 79MA7. Price $5.48. Send $1.00 now. Balance in monthly payments of 75c each.



$1 Brings This Splendid Hartman 42-Piece "Longware" Aluminum Set

Think of having 42 splendid, genuine aluminum utensils in your kitchen. Be sure to send for this great "Longware" set on our 30 days' free trial offer and see what a wonderful bargain it is. Guaranteed of proper gauge to give years of service. Will not rust, scald, chip or crack. Light to handle and saves fuel because the heat penetrates aluminum so quickly. Every housewife ought to have this "Longware" set. A genuine Hartman value. Nearly a year to pay if you decide to keep it.

This set comprises the following articles: 9 piece combination double roaster with two outer shells, inside pudding pan, 5 custard cups with perforated pan holder. Two outer shells make an excellent roaster for chicken, steaks and other meats; using perforated inset and small pudding pan, it is a combination cooker and steamer. The three pans are also used separately over the fire as cake pan, bake dish, pudding pan or for any purpose where open pans are used; 7-cup coffee percolator with inset (2 pieces); 6-qt. preserving kettle; 2 breadpans; 2 pie plates; 1-qt. and 2 qt. lipped sauce pans; 1 ladle; 2 jelly cake pans, with loose bottoms, (4 pieces); 1 caster set, salt and pepper shakers, toothpick holder and frame (4 pieces); measuring cup; 1 combination funnel (6 pieces); 3 measuring spoons; 1 strainer; 1 sugar shaker; 1 grater; 1 cake turner; 1 lemon juice extractor. Shipped direct from Chicago warehouse.

Order by No. 415MA12. Price complete set of 42 pieces. Packed in special carton only $9.76. Send $1.00 now. Balance in monthly payments of $1.00 each.



$1 Brings This Beautiful 4-Piece Mission Library Suite

Another special Hartman value that will add beauty and utility to your home furnishings. Send for this splendid 4-piece suite, on our 30 days' free trial offer. Only a dollar now brings it subject to your approval. Made of seasoned solid oak, rich, fumed finish; correct Mission design. Chair and rocker very roomy and have genuine quarter-sawed oak arm rests and top panels; also have neat carving. Seats are upholstered over elastic steel slats, well filled with wood fibre and covered with soft cotton jute. Upholstering in imitation Spanish brown leather. Table is 24x34 in. and is ornamented with carving and attractively designed panels. Tabourette has octagon top about 11½ inches across and stands 17 inches from floor. One of the most superb bargains ever offered in Mission furniture. Carefully crated and shipped direct from our factory in Western New York State.

Order by No. 110MA4. Price for the complete set $9.89. Send only $1.00 now. Balance in monthly payments of $1.00 each.



$1 Brings This New Kitchen Cabinet

Save work in the kitchen. Have everything right at hand in this new model Hartman guaranteed Kitchen Cabinet. Sent on 30 days' free trial. A sensational bargain at our price. Solid oak. Has 40 lb. capacity flour bin with metal sifter. Spice drawers. 7 lb. capacity sugar bin. Rolling pin rack. Roomy china cupboard, 42x25 in. whitewood table top. Removable kneading board. Handy utensil cupboard with wire rack. Bread and cake box. Drawer bottoms of three ply lumber, will not warp or split. Base mounted on invisible slides. Moves easily and does not scratch floor. Height 65 inches. Closed golden oak finish. Shipped direct from factory in central Indiana. Shipping weight 175 lbs.

Order by No. 277MA3. Price $17.65. Send $1.00 now. Balance in monthly payments of $2.00 each.

$1 Brings This Famous Powerlight Lamp

This splendid Powerlight Lamp sent on 30 days' free trial. Send it back if not a wonderful bargain and we will pay transportation charges both ways. Otherwise keep it and pay on our easy terms. The picture gives an idea of its beauty but you should actually see it to appreciate what a superb lamp it is.

Can be tipped over or turned upside down—no danger whatever. Burns either kerosene or gasoline—about 80 hours on one gallon. Height 22½ in.; diameter of base 8½ inches. Nickel finish with 12 in. amber dome shade ornamented with heavy metal scrolls. Shipped from our Chicago Warehouse.



Order by No. 300MA4. Price $9.95. $1.00 now. Balance in monthly payments of $1 each.



Open a Charge Account Now

Put yourself in a position to buy anything you want and have nearly a year to pay. Hartman service goes much farther than giving value and satisfaction in merchandise. It extends to the making of terms on which you can pay without feeling the cost. Think what a convenience this is. We invite you to join the thousands of satisfied people who are profiting by the trust we put in them, and buying in this easy, modern way—getting the very best merchandise on charge accounts. Do as they have done. Open a charge account with Hartman.

SEND Coupon or Post Card for 454 Page Bargain Catalog

This book brings the furniture markets of the world to your very door. Every page shows values made possible by the great purchasing power of our organization, and by the expert knowledge of our buyers and merchandise men—values in which you as a Hartman customer will participate on our 30 days' free trial offer and on our liberal credit terms.

The offerings on this page give you an idea of the thousands of opportunities for thrifty buying presented in this book. Order one or more of these now—direct from this advertisement—sending only a dollar down on each item. Or get the book and select other designs in these articles or other merchandise if you wish. Mark the coupon to indicate what you want—or simply write name in coupon or on post card and mail it if Book only is wanted.

Hartman Furniture & Carpet Co.

3964 Wentworth Avenue, Dept. 826 Chicago, Illinois

Send me the merchandise marked X it being understood that I am to have the use of it for 30 days and if, for any reason, I do not want to keep it I can return it at the end of that time and you will pay freight both ways and refund my payment. If I keep it I am to have the benefit of the terms indicated on this sheet.

☐ Bed Outfit No. 153MA10. Price for Complete Outfit $14.79. $1.00 down. $1.50 per month.

☐ Powerlight Lamp No. 300MA4. Price $9.95. $1.00 down. $1.00 per month.

☐ 42 Piece Aluminum Set. No. 415MA12. Price $9.76. $1.00 down. $1.00 per month.

☐ 4-Piece Library Set No. 110MA4. Price $9.89. $1.00 down. $1.00 per month.

☐ Rocker No. 79MA7. Price $5.48. $1.00 down. 75c per month.

☐ Kitchen Cabinet No. 277MA3. Price $17.65. $1.00 down. $2.00 per month.

Name..... Address.....

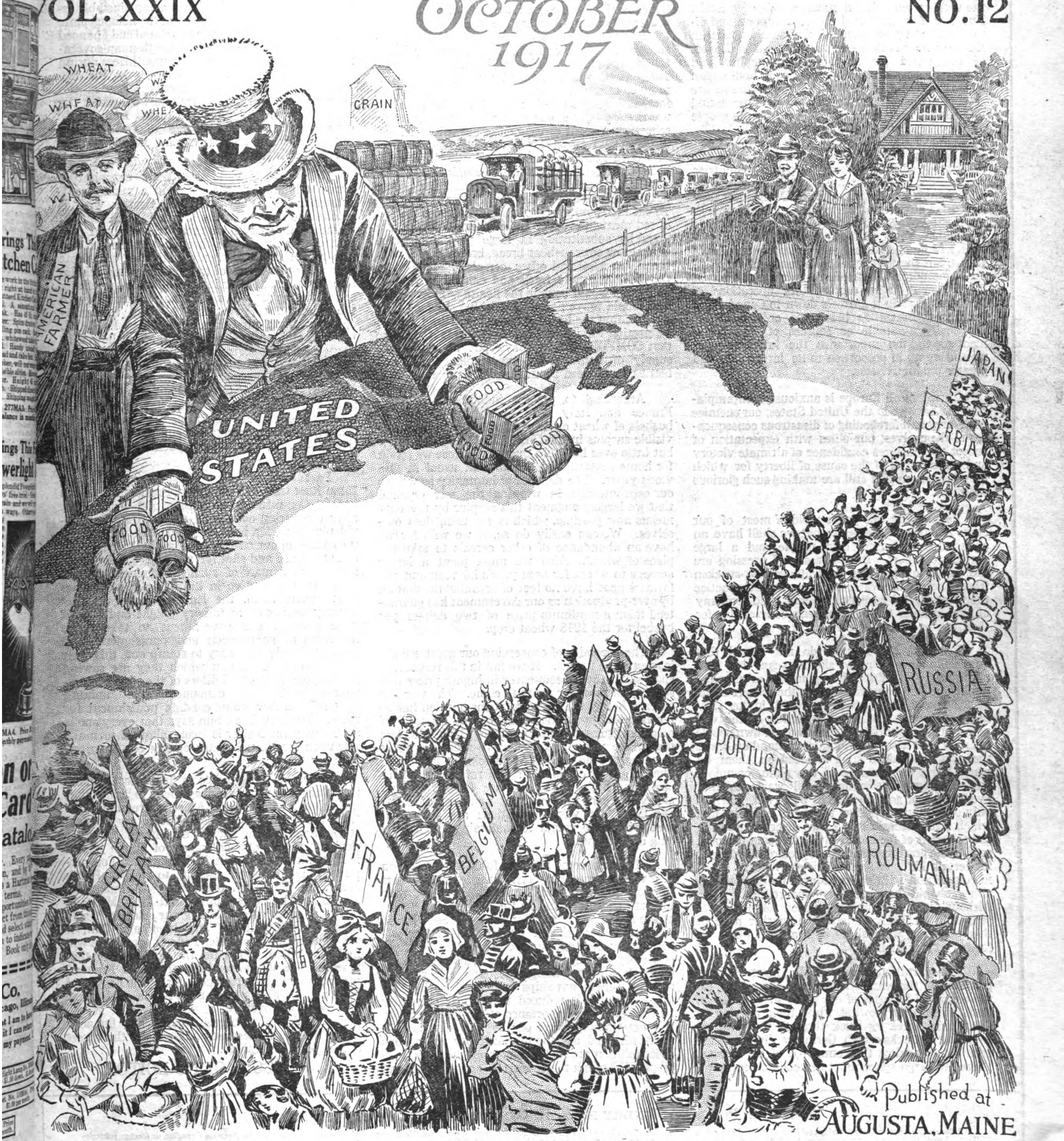
If you do not wish to order direct from the ad and only wish the 454 Page Free Catalog, simply write your name and address above or send post card request.

HARVEST NUMBER

COMFORT

The Key to Happiness and Success in over a Million and a Quarter Homes

VOL. XXIX — OCTOBER 1917 — NO. 12



Published at AUGUSTA, MAINE

AMERICA'S HARVEST MUST FEED THE HUNGRY, WAR-STRICKEN NATIONS FIGHTING FOR LIBERTY.

Copyright 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.

Table of Contents on page 16.

COMFORT EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS THAT BREATHE AND WORDS THAT BURN

America's Harvest Must Be Carefully Conserved and Wisely Administered to Save the World from Famine

THE allegorical significance of COMFORT'S front cover design, this month, is no exaggeration of the stern reality that faces the world. Europe is over-populated to the extent that even under normal conditions in time of peace its crops fall short of feeding its people by a large margin which has to be supplied from the surplus agricultural products of other lands. But war has increased the consumption and diminished the production of the staple foods in Europe which is thus compelled to call on the rest of the world for extraordinary supplies, and especially of wheat and meat, fats and sugar. And the peculiar difficulties of the situation are such that the obligation and burden of rendering this service rest almost exclusively on the people and government of the United States.

Besides the United States and Canada the other great wheat and meat exporting countries are Argentina and Australia, and heretofore they have marketed their products in Europe; but they are so far distant and it requires so much time to make the voyage that, with the present shortage of shipping, ships can not be spared for this purpose. India and Russia also produce a surplus of wheat, but the former is too distant while the latter's commercial intercourse with the rest of Europe is cut off by the military operations of her enemies. So it narrows down to Canada and the United States as being the only countries practically available as sources of wheat and meat supply, the importance the latter country measuring up in proportion to its larger size and greater productiveness.

Therefore all Europe is anxiously contemplating the harvest in the United States; our enemies with envy and foreboding of disastrous consequences to themselves; our allies with expectation of succor that inspires confidence of ultimate victory and the triumph of the cause of liberty for which they have been and still are making such glorious sacrifices.

Fortunately this year's yield of most of our crops is unusually large so that we shall have an abundance to feed our own people and a large surplus to export. But so great and pressing are the needs of our famine-threatened, war-stricken friends across the water -that we must practice the most careful conservation and rigid economy of food in order to make the surplus available for their use as large as possible.

By urging economy we do not intend that anyone in this country should scant his food allowance. To reduce the quantity or nutrient quality of food consumed below the requirements of health and bodily strength would invite sickness and induce a wasteful reduction of the war power of our country. First of all our own people must be well nourished in order to stand up under the strain and added labor imposed on them by war. What we advocate is the plain, common-sense economy of eliminating all waste so that every scrap of good food shall be saved, and not only saved but saved for the best possible use, which latter necessitates a wise discrimination in the selection of foods and involves some personal sacrifice in gratification of mere preferential desires for certain kinds of food. This sacrifice, so small in comparison with those endured by our faithful allies, should be cheerfully undertaken by us. Although its nature and the reason for it is described in Mr. Hoover's letter, on another page in this magazine, we wish to add a few words in further explanation.

Transportation is one of the most difficult problems of the war both here and abroad. With the continual increase of our army in France the need of ships is growing while their number is diminishing week by week through the piratical submarine attacks which Germany directs indiscriminately against the commerce of all nations. Therefore cargo space must be economized by restricting our exports to the bare necessaries and even those in the most compact and useful form. The railroads of Europe can hardly serve the needs of the armies in the field, and the carrying capacity of our own railroads is inadequate to the rapidly increasing demands of the country in the present emergency. Because sugar and wheat flour are the most concentrated forms of food, and beef, pork and mutton are the meats best adapted to army use, we are asked to cut down our consumption of these and to substitute on our home tables the more bulky and perishable foods. These are as wholesome and some of them even more so than those which we are requested to forego. Also we should make a special effort to use the products of our own vicinity in order to relieve the freight congestion of our railroads.

With good judgment in selecting and combining, and reasonable skill in cooking and serving there need be little self-denial and some positive advantage in the use of these substitutes. To eat fish, poultry, eggs, milk and cheese instead of red meats, to reduce the consumption of white bread by substituting in large part bran rolls, Graham or entire-wheat bread, brown bread, corn bread, oat meal and other cereals, and to vary the diet with more fresh and canned vegetables and fruits would benefit the health of most people and should prove no real hardship. In fact it is the diet that the health experts prescribe. In this connection I am prompted to express the hope that COMFORT readers have put up an ample supply of home-canned vegetables, fruits and berries, as advised by us last June.

According to present indications England, France and Italy need to import 500,000,000 bushels of wheat or its equivalent in flour. The visible surplus in the United State and Canada is but little over half that quantity in case we retain for home consumption the amount usual in previous years. The dictates of humanity as well as our own interests in winning the war demand that we largely augment this surplus by the only means now possible, which is by using less ourselves. We can easily do so, if we will, for we have an abundance of other cereals to take the place of wheat. Also we must plant a larger acreage to wheat for next year's harvest; and the farmers need have no fear of breaking the market by over-production as our government has guaranteed them a minimum price of two dollars per bushel for the 1918 wheat crop.

The necessity of conserving our meat supply is even more urgent. If we fail in this respect we shall suffer the consequences in higher prices and scarcity of meat for years to come. The war has taken a heavy toll of meat. Consumption has so far exceeded production that the world's total of meat-producing animals numbers 115,000,000 less than three years ago. Effective measures must be taken to increase our live stock. It is a great temptation for cattle and sheep raisers to sell at prevailing high prices, but we believe it poor policy for them to reduce the numbers of herds and flocks, for world conditions are such that meat prices are bound to maintain a high level long after the war.

This war seems likely to fulfill the prediction of a well-informed authority, made some years previous to its outbreak, that famine rather than military success would be the determining factor of the next great war. Germany has been forced to abandon her original expectation of decisive military success and now confesses that her hope of victory depends on starving England, France and Italy into submission through the ruthless sinking of merchant ships by her submarines before she herself is reduced to the last extremity by hunger. The importance of the food question as a determining factor of the war can not be over-estimated, and the responsibility and means of its solution are in the hands of the American people. Through the concerted action of all and the individual efforts of each we can and must render this service, as in duty bound to our country and our allies.

Drastic Treatment Needed to Suppress the Menace of Rampant Treason

PRESIDENT WILSON has complained bitterly and with good reason of the heinous plots and atrocious crimes instigated and financed in the United States by the German government through its officers and sympathizers during the last three years. Emboldened by the impunity or leniency too commonly accorded the perpetrators, the legion of traitors with which the country is infested have progressed from secret conspiracies and covert attacks to open promotion of treason to an extent that handicaps our government's war efforts.

Whose fault is it that these conspirators were not handled at the outset in a manner calculated to inspire our country's enemies with a wholesome respect for the law and with fear of violating it? Why have these traitors been permitted recently to stalk through the length and breadth of the land openly instigating anti-draft riots and other forms of treason including wholesale arson and murder in their plans and efforts to cripple the resources of the nation and paralyze the functions of government? Shall the anarchists, nihilists, pro-German socialists, I. W. W., pacifists and foreign-language press be allowed to carry on their monstrous propaganda to the end that we fall to the condition of Russia? Russia with her 180,000,000 people and immense resources lies prostrate and helpless before her foreign enemies with her vitals lacerated by internal strife, a pitiable example of the calamitous consequences of German intrigue aided by Russian socialists, anarchists, pacifists and other traitors.

Last summer former Secretary of State Elihu Root was sent as head of President Wilson's Special Commission to Russia. On his return, after comparing conditions there with those developing here, Mr. Root declared that there were men walking our streets "who ought to be taken out at sunrise and shot for treason." This statement from a man of such pre-eminent ability, noted as conservative in his ideas and cautious in expressing them, the leading lawyer in this country, carries extraordinary weight and should have aroused our government to take those measures of suppression and punishment long since obviously necessary to stamp out this nest of vipers ere the sedition which they are sowing gets beyond control. Editors of the loyal newspapers have been denouncing the "unhung traitors" and demanding condign punishment for them. The New York Sun says that every one is asking why the Kaiser is being allowed to make war upon the United States openly on American soil.

To our soldiers who go to fight the Germans in France it is poor encouragement to know that the Kaiser's emissaries in America are allowed to "stab the country in the back" (Secretary Redfield so characterizes the pacifist activities). Another deplorable effect of such failure of public justice is its tendency to result in lynchings. For persistently and defiantly inciting to treason Frank Little, the I. W. W. organizer, was hung last August, not by process of law but by a Montana vigilance committee. Calling our soldiers "Uncle Sam's scabs in uniform," and threatening that, "if the mines are taken under Federal control we will make it so damned hot for the government that it will not be able to send any troops to France," are samples of his utterances for which he should have met a traitor's fate at the hands of the law. The recent discovery of a nation-wide I. W. W. plot alleged to have been instigated and financed in the interest of Germany has caused the arrest of some of its members.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.

COMFORT, PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY W. H. GANNETT, PUB., INC., AT AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Subscription price in United States and United States Possessions 25c a year; Canadian subscriptions 50c a year, foreign countries 75c a year. No premiums or prizes will be given on Canadian or foreign subscriptions. Please send your renewal just as soon as your subscription expires. *We can not continue sending COMFORT to you unless you do.* If you do not get your magazine by the 25th of the month write us and we will send you another copy free. Please notify us immediately in case you move, so that we can change your address and see that you do not miss a single copy. Remember that we *must* have your *former* address, as well as your *new* address to make the change. Be sure to send *both*. We do not supply back numbers.

Entered at the post office at Augusta, Maine as second-class mail matter. Copyright, 1917 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

IN & AROUND The HOME

Conducted By
Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

Terms Used in Crochet

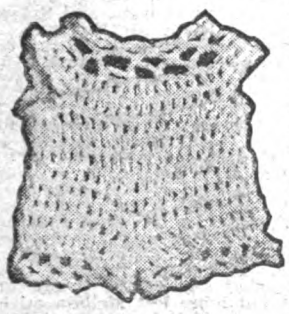
Ch. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or *stitches* each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through *both* loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread *over* hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then *through* three loops; d. tr., double treble crochet, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip *stitch*, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated, insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Doll's Crocheted Outfit

ANY little girl will be delighted with a pretty doll dressed in clothes which can be slipped off at will.

The outfit illustrated can easily be made by nimble fingers in short time. Silkateen or any soft finished mercerized cotton can be used, worked up with a steel hook of suitable size.

The under garments should be made of white, and the dress and tam-o'-shanter of pink or blue and white.



UNION SUIT.

The doll shown is about six inches in height and the directions as given will result in clothes to fit a doll of this size, but the same idea can be carried out and clothes made larger very easily if one desires. The under clothes consist of a union suit and short skirt.

For the union suit use white and begin with a ch. 52 sts. turn, 1 d. c. in the 4th st. from hook, then 1 d. c. in each st. of ch., ch. 3, turn.

2nd row.—8 d. c., making 1 between each d. c. in last row, ch. 9, sk. 3 d. c., 1 d. c. in between each of the next 15 d. c., ch. 9, sk. 8, 8 d. c., ch. 3, turn.

3rd row.—1 d. c. between each d. c. making 7 doubles on the chs. 9, forming the armholes, ch. 3, turn.

Next 2 rows the same, turning at the end of each row and working 1 d. c. between each d. c.

Now work three rows round and round widening a little by making 2 d. c. in the same st. in the center of the back in each round. Divide the work evenly front and back and work two rows around on each half to form the legs, each of which is then finished with two rows of ch.



DOLLY DRESSED UP.

3, with 1 s. c. in every second double stitch. Break thread and finish off.

Join in bottom of opening in the back, single crochet along the edge to the top, ch. 5, 1 d. c. between 3rd and 4th doubles, ch. 5, repeat to opposite end of rows, turn. Ch. 5, 1 s. c. under ch. 5, turn at end and work one more row, then s. c. down to center of back opening. Finish around armholes with chs. 3.

Under Skirt

Begin this with ch. 55 sts., then 5 rows doubles, turning at the end of each row to form opening in the back, then 1 row doubles and 3



UNDER SKIRT.

rows of ch. 5 worked round and round. Each of these little garments can be completed with either crocheted chains for drawing strings or baby ribbon.

Dolly's Dress

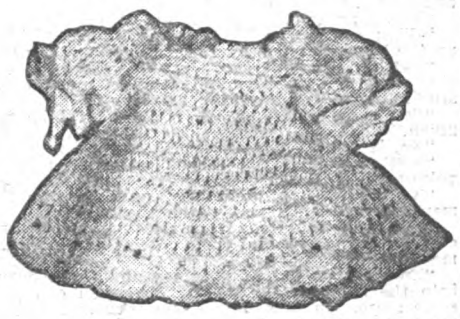
Of colored silkateen ch. 64, turn.

1st row.—1 d. c. in 4th st. from hook, 12 d. c. in next 12 sts., ch. 9, sk. 9 chains, 18 d. c., ch. 9, sk. 9, 12 d. c. ch. 3, turn.

Next 2 rows—1 d. c. between each d. c., turning at each end.

In 4th row under the arm on each side begin to increase by working one group of 3 d. c. together in the same space.

Next row.—Work 2 d. c. together twice under each arm. Now 4 rows round and round, increasing as before if the skirt does not seem to



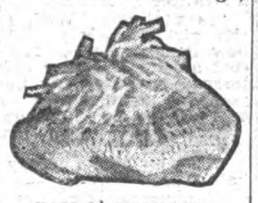
DOLLY'S DRESS.

be full enough. Finish with a scallop of 6 treble crochet between every 4 d. c., caught with a single between scallops; edge with ch. 3, 1 s. c. in each treble.

Finish the neck with 1 row d. c. working on ch. which forms upper part of sleeve, turn, 1 row of s. c. with picot every 3rd st. Make sleeve of 4 rows of d. c. edged with a row of chs. of 3. Finish opening in back as on skirt and run in baby ribbon around neck and sleeves.

Tam-o'-Shanter

Ch. 4 of color, join in ring, s. c. round and round, working through both loops of each st. and making 2 sts. in one as needed to enlarge, until one has circle the size of a half dollar, then ch. 3 and 1 d. c. in each st. Next round enlarge by working 2 d. c. every little way, add 2 more rows in same way, 1 row sk. every 4th st., next row sk. enough so as to bring into doll's head size, then 3 rows singles for band.



TAM-O'-SHANTER.

Finish the top with full pompom of white wool and Dolly will have one of the cutest little caps imaginable.

Crocheted Lingerie Clasps

These useful trifles will be appreciated by most any one, young or old, for who does not find it annoying to have their shoulder straps out of place.

In a half hour's time one can crochet a pair of these useful little articles which will be sure of a welcome as they fill a real need. Use rather fine crochet cotton and a suitable steel hook. Ch. 50 sts., 1 s. c. in last st., ch. 5, 1 s. c. in next 4th st., ch. 5, repeat at the end ch. 5, turn, 1 s. c. under last ch. in first row, ch. 5, 1 s. c. under next ch., repeat. Two more rows of chains turn and work back over last chs., making 3 s. c., ch. 3, 3 s. c. under each ch. 5, s. c. around the ends and work down opposite side in the same way. This forms the strap, one end is finished with a little rose made in this way. Ch. 4 join in ring, ch. 5, 1 s. c. in ring, ch. 2, 1 s. c., repeat making 5 sps. in all.

3rd row.—6 d. c. under each ch. 2, join.

4th row.—Ch. 5, 1 s. c. between each group of doubles in last round.

5th row.—8 d. c. under each ch.

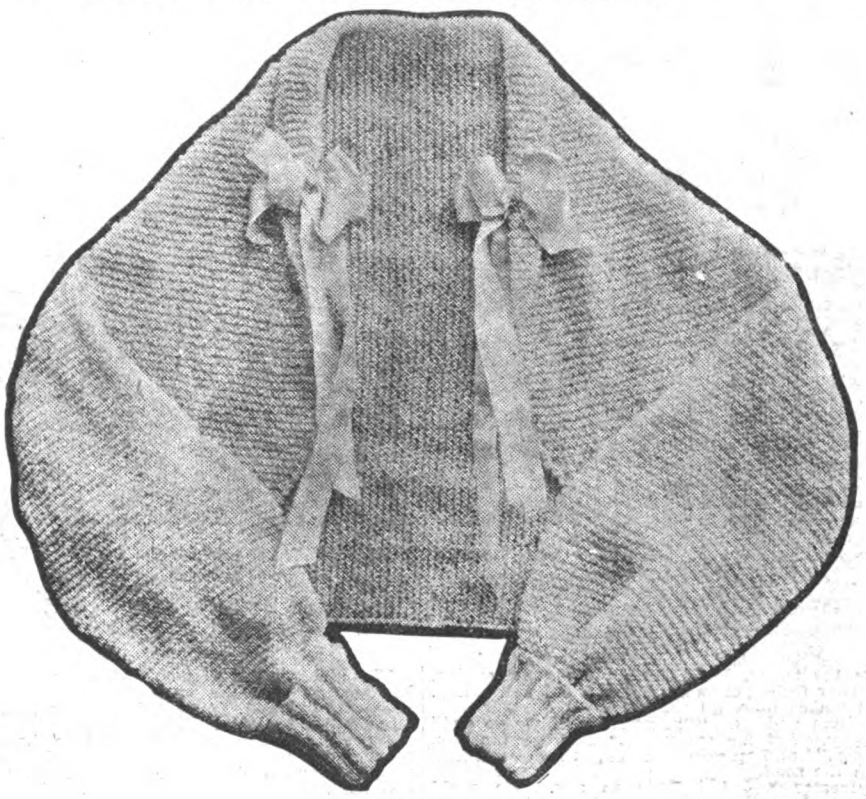
6th row.—Ch. 6, 1 d. c. between each group of doubles.

Last round.—1 d. c., 9 trebles, 1 d. c. under each ch. 6.

Sew the roses in place and finish each strap with a tiny snap catch. A pair of these slipped over a bit of bright ribbon and placed in a little box with a Christmas card makes a most attractive little remembrance.

Knitted Wool Kimono

The useful wrap will prove very acceptable to most any woman and especially so to a semi-invalid, as one can easily slip into it and it gives warmth across the shoulders and arms, just where it is needed.



KNITTED WOOL KIMONO.

For materials one will require eight skeins zephyr floss, 1 pair bone knitting needles No. 6. 2 pair steel needles No. 8, 10 yards wash ribbon for rosettes. On bone needles cast 60 sts. (on 12 inches) K. in ridges increasing 1 st. on each end of needle every 4th row until there are 112 sts. on needle. K. on these sts. until work measures about 30 inches, then decrease 1 st. each end of every 4th row until there are 60 sts. on needle.

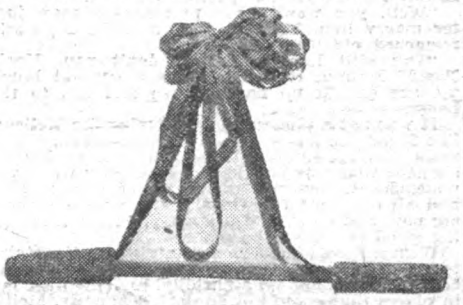
Cuffs

Change to steel needles k. in rounds of k. 1, p. 1, for 5 1-2 inches, bind off.

Pick up 60 sts. for other cuff and make in the same way. Sew up 9 inches on each end about the cuffs for sleeves. Turn over three inches for collar and finish with ribbon.

For Knitting Needles

A case for holding idle knitting needles may be easily made and will be an appropriate gift



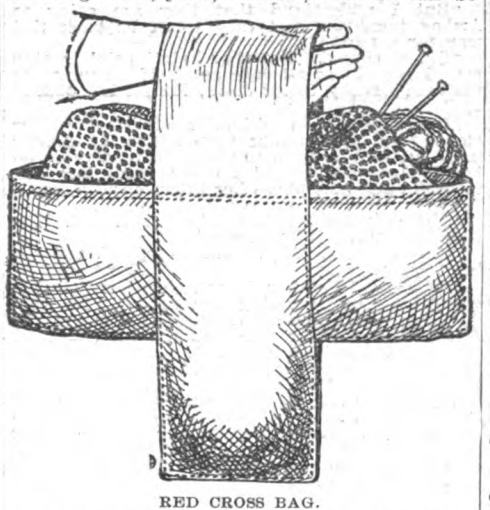
A CASE FOR HOLDING NEEDLES.

for most any one now that we all are knitting. This consists of two ends crocheted of silk or mercerized cotton as shown, with a couple of yards of narrow ribbon attached to the inside of either end and tied in a full rosette as shown.

To make the ends use a steel crochet hook of suitable size to make the work close and firm. Begin with ch. 4, join, fill with s. c., work round and round, enlarging by making 2 sts. in one as necessary until work measures three-fourths of an inch across when folded together. Then continue round and round without enlarging until end is three inches in length. Make another end to match and sew ribbon to the inside of each.

Red Cross Bag

This very appropriate bag, made in the shape of a cross, is used extensively now to hold the knitting work, yarn, needles, etc. It can be

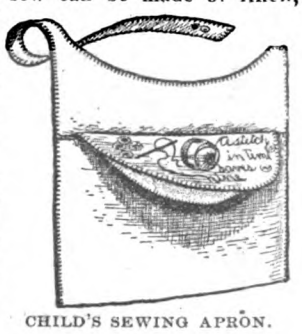


RED CROSS BAG.

made by sewing together two yards of six-inch wide red ribbon, or any red material of the same width, running a flat corset steel, millinery wire or any other metal band through the heading at the upper part of the cross section to hold it in position. Notice how nicely it hangs on the arm and how well the ball of yarn fits down in the lower pocket, also that the needles can lay in the cross sections, together with the work in hand.

Child's Sewing Apron

A cute little apron which will encourage a child to learn to sew can be made of linen, Indian head or similar material.



CHILD'S SEWING APRON.

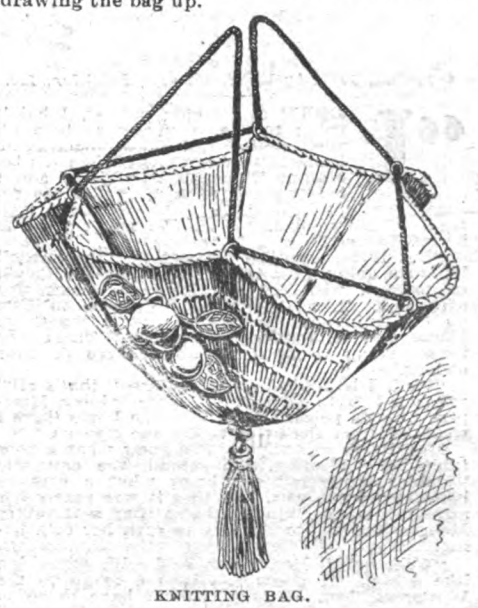
Cut sides and bottom straight, round the upper edge and add a strap to button on the left shoulder.

Cut another piece the same size in width and long enough to form a bag from the waistline down and a rounded flap on which can be outlined some simple appropriate design and the words "A stitch in time saves nine."

Buttonhole all edges as shown or finish with feather stitching. The size of the garment depends upon the age of the child but our illustration shows clearly the method of making.

Knitting Bag

An ample and unique knitting bag may be fashioned of the outside covering of a tea chest. Cut a 30-inch circle of this and line with brightly flowered cretonne or plain sateen. Bind the edges together with ribbon or finish with a silk cord. Add a half-dozen large white ivory rings, placed an equal distance apart, to the edge, through which run a cord or ribbon for drawing the bag up.

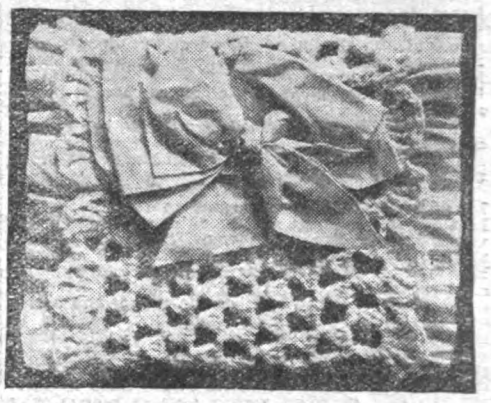


KNITTING BAG.

Finish the front with appliqued designs of fruit and green felt, velveteen or crocheted wool leaves. To make the fruit cut circles of bright silk, draw up edges, stuff with cotton and make large black French knot in center. A silk tassel finishes the bottom of the bag.

Child's Crocheted Muff

To make this dainty and comfortable muff use a medium-sized bone hook and Germantown wool in white or any preferred color. Make a chain twice the width you desire the muff to be; join the ends of the chain, ch. 3, then work a petal thus: Having thread over hook, take stitch same as treble, draw thread



CHILD'S CROCHETED MUFF.

through 2 loops, repeat 1 treble, again drawing thread through 2 loops, repeat once more then work off loops two at a time. * ch. 3, sk. 3 in foundation ch., petal in next 3 sts. Repeat from * to end of round.

Make all succeeding rounds same as the first working petals over the ch. 3 in preceding row. The large shells on ends is made thus: 1 s. c. over ch., * ch. 3, 5 d. tr. in next space separated by ch. 2, ch. 3, 1 s. c. over next ch. 3 or space, repeat * around. Line the muff with quilted padding with flannel or outing inside and a pretty silk interlining to show through the mesh in the muff. Trim muff with a pretty ribbon bow in pale blue, pink or other desired color and sew a narrow ribbon frill just under the shells on ends of muff. Any little girl will be pleased to carry such a pretty muff and it will certainly keep tiny hands cozy and warm.

Point Lace

Cast on 28 stitches and knit across plain.

1st row.—K. 1, n., o. twice, n., k. 17, o. n., o. n., o. k. 2.

2nd row.—K. 8, p. 16, k. 2, p. 1, k. 2.

3rd row.—K. 1, n., o. twice, n., k. 18, o. n., o. n., o. k. 2.

4th row.—K. 9, p. 16, k. 2, p. 1, k. 2.

5th row.—K. 1, n., o. twice, n., p. 16, k. 3, o. n., o. n., o. k. 2.

6th row.—K. 9, o. n. 9 times, p. 1, k. 2.

7th row.—K. 1, n., o. twice, n., p. 17, k. 3 o. n., o. n., o. k. 2.

8th row.—K. 10, p. 17, k. 2, p. 1, k. 2.

9th row.—K. 1, n., o. twice, n., k. 21, o. n. o. n., o. k. 2.

Bind off 5 sts. to finish the scallop and proceed as before. GEORGIANA T. DRENMAN.

Melissa's Home Coming

by Joseph F. Novak



Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"I DON'T care what you say, I hain't going to the Winterses to help fill silo, that's all! They hadn't no business to work today when it's beginning 'Home Coming Week,' and I hain't going to miss any of the doings!" exclaimed Irvin Ream passionately. "All the boys are going to town and I hain't going to be left behind!"

"But Irvin," soothed his mother, "there won't be much doing until tonight and they say they'll be finished with the silo by four o'clock this afternoon. There'll only be folks coming to town on the train and the band'll play in the Court House Square, that'll be about all. The shows hain't going to open up afore three or four o'clock."

"Well, I hain't going to Winterses, that's all," reiterated Irvin stoutly. "I hate Widder Mumpers worse'n poison. The last time I was there I was sick from the orful vittles she give us."

Mrs. Ream was silent. She knew what a poor table Mrs. Winters, the second, the erstwhile "Widder Mumpers" set, knew what a careless housekeeper she was, and that it was partly her advent into the Winters' home that sent pretty Melissa Winters to the city to earn her own living.

"Well, paw," Mrs. Ream said with something like a sigh, "I guess you'll have to go to the Winterses then. I guess I don't have to go to town the very first day of the celebration——"

"You will too," interrupted Sylvester, her first-born, "you will too. We got to send a man to the Winterses, and if Irvin won't go, I will. Paw's promised to take you to town every day of the celebration and go you will. I'll help at the Winterses."

"I know you hate to go there, Sylvester, but if you won't mind very much——" Mrs. Ream hesitated, then said: "You could go just as well as not, Irvin."

"Well, I won't, maw, that's all there is to it. I ain't going to be made sick for the doings tonight."

Sylvester disliked going to the Winters farm even worse than Irvin did. But not because it was Home-Coming Week nor yet because of Mrs. Winters' atrocious cooking. The Winters farm always brought thoughts of Melissa, of her sweet girlishness, and the love that nestled in his heart for her. He had believed himself somewhat favored above others, but on the night she told him that her father was to marry Widow Mumpers and of her dislike of her, the tears in her eyes had swept him off his feet and he had caught her close to his rugged, honest bosom and kissed her.

Frightened and terrified at what to her seemed a liberty bordering somewhat on the improper, she had slapped his face and told him never, never to speak to her again.

She would not see him after that, and shortly after her stepmother came to live in the old home, Melissa packed her things and went to work in the city. She went, however, without malice toward the woman who had usurped her mother's place, for she wrote frequently and returned once or twice for a visit. Recently rumor was that she had become engaged to a city chap, and it was understood that she was to marry him that winter.

These then, were the reasons why Sylvester Ream disliked going to the Winters farm. But the thought that his mother would have to forego the day in town was a greater reason why he should put self aside, and so when breakfast was finished, he started off.

He made a splendid figure as he trudged the road, his body well set up, and his handsome face glowing with sunburn and health. Even his rough clothes seemed to add to the bigness of his fine physique, and a cleaner young fellow than Sylvester Ream would have been hard to find.

Sylvester had to pass through town on his way to the Winters farm. As the morning train was already in, and the town was filled with people, he avoided the main street.

He soon reached the farther outskirts of the town and as he turned into the road that led to the Winters farm, he noted the chic figure of a girl before him.

She was extremely citified in her swagger coat of palm beach, with its big green silk collar, her nifty white shoes and her big white felt hat with a single band of delicate green around the low crown. In one hand she carried a reed suitcase. She walked along with a jaunty step, but presently she put the suitcase on the ground and stopped to rest a bit.

Sylvester kept up his long, swinging pace, and in another moment reached her. Then he stopped and stared, for the fine city girl was no other person than Melissa Winters!

"Well, is it really you, Melissy?" he asked. He felt decidedly awkward. "You look so citified, I didn't know you from a distance."

She smiled sunnily.

"Yes, it's really me, Sylv," she replied, and it made his heart beat to hear her use his name thus foreshortened. "But why aren't you in town today? You surely aren't going to work?"

"Oh, yes. We're filling silo at your father's place, and they want to finish up because they're going over Amboy way, and it would be a shame not to fill when they have all the machinery here this week."

"Will there be many men at the house?" Melissa asked.

"About nine or so. Let me see: McIntosh and Agnew will pick up from the field, Ed Brash tends the cutter, Donald Blake and Will Nesbit drive the teams, Fred Dunton tends the engine, and your father, old man Smith and I will stamp. That makes nine, all told."

Melissa nodded. "Oh, yes. Shall we go on?"

"Sure. Let me carry your suitcase for you, Melissy," and picking it up, they continued down the road.

Sylvester had but little to say. He could only steal sidelong glances at the trim little figure, and he was almost glad that the hat was so big, for several times when Melissa looked straight at him, his heart gave such a jump, he was afraid she might notice it. And with her big hat shielding her face, he could admire her all he pleased, unseen.

At length they reached the Winters farm, where the men were awaiting someone from the Ream farm. At the appearance of Sylvester, they rose to take up their work of filling the silo, but when they noted the chic little lady and knew her to be Melissa, they crowded about her and welcomed her home.

Melissa shook the hard, calloused hands with genuine warmth, and pretended not to see the admiring glances bestowed upon her.

"Goin' to stay to hum now, Melissy, or air ye goin' back after the celebration?" Ed Brash asked.

"I intend to return," Melissa replied. "I have a nice position in town as a stenographer, you know."

"It's better to bang one o' them machines than bein' a farmer's wife an' havin' to work like thunder th' hull o' th' days, eh Melissy?" said Jim Agnew.

"Yes, Jim, if one becomes a farmer's wife merely for the sake of getting married."

"Well, you won't have to marry a man just ter marry him. You kin pick a little, I guess," remarked old Tom Smith.

"You still like to flatter, don't you, Uncle Tom?" Melissa chided, and as a general laugh up, she caught up her suitcase and ran to the house.

It was not a pleasant home-coming for Melissa. She found the house deserted. The kitchen, which room she first entered, had a generally untidy air about it that was mortifying, especially when she remembered how spic-and-span her own mother had always kept it. On the stove were several big pots and pans, and a steamy, rather nauseating smell pervaded the place.

With a little shudder, she hurried up the stairs to her own room. It was in careless order, the bed was made but very untidily, and the dust lay in places that could not be dusted handily. Melissa set down her suitcase and then went to her stepmother's room, where she found that lady fixing her oily-looking hair, her mouth full of hairpins.

"My heavens, Melissy! I didn't know you was comin' home Home-Comin' Week. Ain't ye swell, though. Turn 'round and let me look at you. I'd never know you in them swell things. How ye bin since I heard from ye last an' how's Mr. Vreeland?"

"Oh, I've been getting along quite nicely," Melissa returned, but she made no comment with relation to Mr. Vreeland, the man to whom rumor said she was engaged. "Is there anything special going on in town today?"

"No, nothin' until this afternoon, but I hain't goin' to miss nothin'. I'm getting' ready to go to town. Will ye come with me?"

"You're surely not going to town with the silo-fillers here, are you?" asked Melissa, amazed.

"Why not?" Mrs. Winters demanded. "Heavens and earth, Melissy! I been cooped up all summer and I'm goin' to have a good time this week. There's no sense in them men fillin' silo today ——"

"But I understand that they are going to Amboy tomorrow and they won't be back this way for a month."

"Oh, o' course. But that hain't goin' to stop me. I got dinner all done and half a hour afore the men's ready to sit down, Hiram kin dish it up."

Melissa sat down without another word. Her stepmother, however, kept up a flow of chatter until she completed her toilet, and then tying on her bonnet, she picked up her small bag and umbrella and announced her intention of going.

"Will ye come, Melissy?" she asked.

"I don't think I will, ma," she returned. "I'm tired and think I'll rest a while."

"Suit yourself," Mrs. Winters replied, and she bounced off.

Melissa watched her depart, then her thoughts went to the hard-working men outside. No wonder none of the farmers cared to help out at the Winters farm. For this was the interest Mrs. Winters, II, took in the place. It was just like her to cook up a lot of stuff and hand it to the men warmed over.

Well, since she was to be at home for a few days at least, she had best make up her room to her comfort. So taking off her coat and hat and smart dress, she took from her suitcase a neat house-gown and put it on. Then she substituted serviceable black slippers for her white shoes, after which transformation, she straightened up and aired her room until it began to look something like what it had when she had always been at home.

Then she went to the kitchen.

The woodbox was empty, everything upset and things were in a deplorable condition generally. Mrs. Winters was not a tidy housekeeper at best and the kitchen now showed her at her worst.

Melissa went to the stove and lifted the lids of the various pots and pans and gave a sigh of disgust. The potatoes had boiled down to a shapeless mass, the meat was simmering in a pot of fat, and the beans looked like a gravy.

The girl stood a moment with a pot-cover in her hands, eying the mess. Then she slammed it down. "Slop! You'd think those men were pigs! I'll make their dinner!"

With the thought, she whisked into the dining-room and brushed up. Mrs. Winters had set the table, slamming down the dishes in her usual careless manner. Melissa gazed at the table a moment, then with a sudden determination, gathered up the dishes, took off the red cloth and put on a white one. Then she reset the table and was considerably cheered at the sight it now presented.

Then she drew down the shades darkening the room, and went back to the kitchen, and picking up a basket, she went out to the wood-pile.

Sylvester was standing near the engine, Fred Dunton having relieved him of the stamping for a while, as that was the most tiresome part of the work. As Melissa came out, he smiled at her, for he felt less afraid of her now than when she was arrayed in her city finery.

"Let me carry in that wood, Melissa," he said, coming up. "Do you need much?"

"Yes, a great deal," she replied.

"What are you doing?" he continued, picking up the basket, and following her into the kitchen.

"Getting dinner," she replied. "Look at the stuff that woman prepared for you men! Such stuff! Not fit for anything but hogs!"

"But there's nine of us, Melissy. It'll be too much."

"No, it won't," she answered.

"Well, I'll help you if you want me to," he volunteered.

"All right, but don't say anything to the men. But mustn't you watch the engine?"

"Not every minute. I can sit on the steps and go over every now and then. What do you want me to do first?"

"Empty that pot of potatoes and those beans into the slop for the hogs. Then you can peel some more. Is there any sweet corn and do you think the men would care for it?"

"I think they would and your father has some mighty nice this year."

"Then go and get some," Melissa ordered, and Sylvester did, after which he helped her peel the potatoes. They sat in the cool shade of the porch as they worked.

"Say, Melissy, I thought you forgot how to do those things. To get up a feed for a bunch o' eaters like we are here, hain't such an easy matter."

Melissa smiled. "I haven't forgotten, and I'd like to do it always."

Then their conversation drifted to old times, but not one word did they mention of the time when both had thought the other the *one* person in the world.

"How do you like living in the city, Melissa?" asked Sylvester at length. "But I guess you like it all right, and say do you know when I saw you on the road this morning, I didn't no more guess you was our Melissy. I thought you was a stranger altogether."

"Is that so? Well, anyone can look like a city girl if she's got a little taste and knows how to buy things. My clothes look as if they cost a lot. But they didn't simply because I've learned how to wear inexpensive things. When you're a stenographer you've got to look nifty or you soon lose your place."

"How's Mr. Vreeland who you're engaged to?"

"Oh, he's all right!"

"I s'pose he's a pretty swell sort of a fellow, hain't he?"

"I suppose people around here would think so, because he's nice looking and wears fashionable clothes. But he's just a clerk making about eighteen dollars a week, though like most of those office men, he tries to play big. He seems to like me pretty well. It got the other girls in the office furious to know that we became engaged," and Melissa's brow clouded a little. "Look," she said, suddenly, changing the subject, "I guess the men want you. You'd better go."

Sylvester did.

He did not have a chance to get to the house again, until Melissa called that dinner was ready. The men came, not very enthusiastically, for they had seen Mrs. Winters depart for town and knew what sort of dinner to expect.

How surprised they were when they were invited to sit down to a meal consisting of potatoes both mashed and creamed, to a roast that, rehabilitated under Melissa's hands and garnished with an onion sauce, proved most tempting, to sweet-corn boiled in milk, to a combination salad, to pickles of various sorts, to iced tea and stacks of freshly made cake. The men ate with a will, and when finished cheered their hostess.

"You'll make a fine farmer's wife, little gal," was the comment on all sides, and this was highest praise.

Sylvester had helped Melissa serve the dinner, so now when the others were finished, Melissa cleared off a portion of table and set plates for two.

As Sylvester ate, he thought of Vreeland and what a lucky chap he was. But then it was men of his type that appealed to girls like Melissa. They didn't care for big, awkward fellows like himself.

Still, as Melissa was an old friend, he presumed upon that friendship, though rather timidly.

"Melissa," he began, "do you s'pose Mr. Vreeland'd care if I took you to the doings in town while you're here? I'd love to do it, if you're sure he wouldn't mind."

"I'll be very glad to go with you, Sylv," she answered, "and I'm sure Mr. Vreeland wouldn't care."

"Then as soon as we're through with the silo, you be ready and we'll go. I'll have to change my clothes but you can come over to the house and visit with maw while I do it. Will you?"

"Yes. How soon shall you be through?"

"About four or five o'clock."

"Then I'll have supper ready for us, and we'll go."

Sylvester was delighted, and with glowing eyes he left the house.

At five o'clock the work was done, and Sylvester came to the house with Mr. Winters. A tempting supper was laid out, and Melissa did the honors, dressed in her smart city togs.

The supper over, she did up the dishes, Sylvester helping, and soon they were on their way to the Ream farm. Leaving Melissa with his mother, Sylvester hurried up-stairs and changed his clothes for his Sunday best, then descending he joined Melissa and they started for town.

The revels were at their height. The shows were open, the "bally-hooers" were shouting. The "free shows" flourished. Those camp-followers of street-fairs, the balloon men, the popcorn men, the "cheap John" and all the rest were there, crying their wares.

Sylvester felt under a little restraint, and afraid to suggest doing any of the things the young people were indulging lest Melissa might think it childish. She, with her years in the city, what would she care for all this?

But Melissa did. And it cheered his heart when she asked him to buy her some confetti and serpentines which she tossed at friends and townspeople. And every suggestion that he made, she heartily acquiesced in until Sylvester threw restraint to the winds, bought peanuts and popcorn and cracker-jack and lemonade, and patronized the shows and movies. And never once did Melissa exhibit any sophisticated airs, but enjoyed it all with an artlessness that delighted yet pained Sylvester.

He could not forget that she was engaged, and with her at his side, he realized how much he loved her and that she was as dear and unspoiled now as before she went away.

It was growing late, and the crowds on the street began to thin out. Soon the shows began to close up and buggies, wagons and automobiles, loaded with tired but happy country folk were leaving town.

Many offered Sylvester and Melissa a lift.

"I don't want to ride," Melissa said. "I want to walk home under this glorious harvest moon. I was a little disappointed this morning when I came home, and almost wished I hadn't. But I've so enjoyed the whole day, every bit of it.

"Dear old town! I suppose to some it may seem a pokey old place, but you don't know how often I've longed for it and the old farm."

"Do you really like living on the farm better than working in the city?" Sylvester asked. They had reached the end of Main street and were turning off into the road that led home, flooded with moonlight.

"Yes, I do. I hate the city and I hate the thought of going back. I've pretended all the time I liked it. But I don't. I've got enough of it. I used to long to go and when pa married Mrs. Mumpers I thought that a good excuse to get away. And though I'm going back to the city, I hate the thought. It's everybody for himself there, and the airs people put on. They try to make you think heaven alone knows what they are, and at the same time they're living on crackers and milk to keep themselves alive so they can buy the clothes they sport, and half the time they are bought on the installment plan! Here nobody puts on; and it feels so good to be natural again. Here, where everybody knows I'm just Melissa Winters."

She threw out her arms wide and inhaled the sweet night air.

Sylvester stood silent, feeling awkward, but unable utterly to speak a word. He was amazed that Melissa should speak so, especially when she was engaged to Vreeland.

At last he spoke, a little uncertainly:

"Well, I s'pose you'll get used to living in the city after you get married and have a home of your own."

The girl turned to him.

"Sylvester, I'm a country girl, and I want to be one always. I used to think it would be a fine thing to live in the city and then come back here all dressed up in city clothes, and with a handsome husband, pretend we were real rich. It didn't make any difference whether we were or not, just so long people *thought* we were. I didn't care particularly for Mr. Vreeland though he is a nice enough young fellow as city boys go. But he was good-looking and knew how to wear smart clothes so I accepted him, for I thought we could lord it over people here. But as I thought about it, I saw there was no sense to my silly dreams—marry and live in the city to come to the country and pretend something we were not! I simply couldn't live such an artificial life. It may be all right for those who like it, but the very thought of it haunted me. I couldn't bear to think of living in four small rooms for the rest of my life. I want the sunlight and God's free air and lots of room. I want the birds, and the trees and the flowers and God's great outside. I've broken my engagement with Mr. Vreeland, and I told him why. I guess he didn't care much either. You know," and she turned almost shamefacedly to Sylvester, "I've almost determined that if I can get work as a *hired girl* with people around here, I'll never go back to the city. I was more lonely in the city than I ever was in the country. It's all right if you've been born there because then you make your friends there and all that. But when you go there without knowing anybody, well, there's

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)



This Department is conducted solely for the use of COMFORT sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to COMFORT subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, encouragement, sympathy or assistance through the interchange of ideas.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting money contributions or donations of any sort. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

ONE of the sisters suggests that we have a column on "How I Helped My Husband," and, personally, I think it would be very interesting and helpful to all. We cannot offer a prize for the best letter, as many magazines do, but judging from the general trend of the letters received each month, the sisters are not writing for material motives but just as woman to woman and mother to mother in a spirit of helpfulness. When we put our corner on a dollar-and-cents basis it seems it must lose much of its spontaneous good fellowship, and we don't want that to happen, do we? And don't be too modest and unassuming in your opinion of yourself. There are times when a reasonable amount of self-appreciation is a good thing.—Ed.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I want advice about my new little bungalow I am about to have built. Maybe you or some of the sisters can help me. There are to be five rooms, dining-room, parlor, two bedrooms and extension kitchen. It must be one story only, with no stairs or hall. My plot is thirty-nine by eighty feet. I also want a small garage at the rear. For a time I expect to go back to the old-fashioned way of living; that is, giving up gas, using a washtub to bathe in and use a pump for water in the kitchen. I want to build the house as reasonably as possible. What material shall I use? How are the ready-made houses? Do any of the sisters have them? My husband wants to build the house himself but he built one for a friend and it took such a long time, as he has only a day or two each week for the work.

Mrs. Wilkinson, I wish we might have a column like some of the other papers have, called "How I helped my husband," and some of the papers have discussions on household economics, telling how to make the most of different salaries. It is a lesson for young folks. I learned a lesson from a wealthy woman who is very old now but who once had nothing. I told her I could not save although my husband got from thirty to sixty-five dollars a week. I had a bad habit of buying furniture on the installment plan. This woman took me in hand and made me pay a deposit on a plot of real estate. When the month came around I always seemed to have the money to pay. Because I *had* to. This year finishes my payments of five hundred and fifty dollars. The place is at Northport, L. I., and is now all built up. My place is now double in value. I have started in on another place and still keep on paying the same installments. My new place is in the city. This place was almost unknown and now the subway is going through the neighborhood and the station will be one block away. Also an Improvement Company has decided to run a ferryboat from Brooklyn to Rockaway, just about ten minutes' walk from my place. This will shorten the trip to beautiful Rockaway. I am paying six dollars a month for the place I am to build on. I am telling you all this because I learned how to save and I am glad. I've been told I'm very lucky in real estate, as I know people who would not even look at the places I took and they were surprised when they heard how they had increased in value, and they knew more about the business than I ever did. There's an old saying, "Where angels fear, fools dare to tread." I suppose that's what I did.

When the roof of my little coop is on I'll move right in. It won't have to be finished inside before I get there. I want to stop paying rent. I am telling you all this to show how I help my husband. I also make all my own clothes and I think every woman should know how to do this.

Sisters and Mrs. Wilkinson, have you a hobby? I have several. One is this: I love old silver and the blacker the better. I have quite a collection, from friends who wanted to throw it out because they "hated the sight of it," or because it "belonged to Noah's Ark," and still I love it all the more. My husband calls my silverware "the orphans." If any of the sisters have some "orphans" or heirlooms they want to dispose of, I'll adopt them. I might be able to exchange some articles of value for them.

I hope I will hear some advice about the house and also about the garden. I want to know the best all year plants and would like to have the sisters send me flower seeds. Also tell me what trees grow the fastest, as I must have trees planted around my house. Sincerely, MRS. M. MENDEL.

COLORADO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I am an interested reader of the sisters' letters and after reading a letter signed "A Happy Wife and Mother" I cannot refrain giving some of my ideas in regard to the subject discussed—birth control. This lady writes she thinks a knowledge of birth control will send more souls to hell than whiskey will.

I do not know how she understands the subject but it seems to me to understand it rightly we should look beyond our own household and take in all classes of people and all the conditions surrounding them. I am sure the advocates of birth control do not believe or teach that murdering their unborn infants is the way to control the number in their families. On the contrary, they teach that if they would learn to control these things it would do away with this crime, now so widely practised, though secretly, but we cannot deny truth even if it is hidden. God may send the poor little souls but does not God give to man reason that he may be somewhat above the animals? Surely God expects his human creatures to exercise reason and self control in the exercise of their power. As it is now, babies are an accident mostly, instead of a desire, held sacred in the parents' breast. No one would come to this life crippled in mind or body because of not being wanted if this crime of accident birth could be abolished.

Think of the countless mothers who are in the depths of the most miserable poverty being forced to bring forth little wailing babies to die of neglect and lack of nourishment, or grow to be put in the mills and factories where they are murdered by inches for the profit of a few.

There are many sides to this question that I cannot even touch upon as my letter is too long now so will close, with best wishes to all. I am also a

Happy wife and mother, M. C. H.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6.)

Get the Genuine 

and Avoid Waste

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

SAPOLIO

Used every week-day—Brings rest on Sunday

The General All-Around Cleaner

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

NO man would think of running his business without some system of account keeping. Keeping house is a business proposition, or should be, but rarely do we meet a housewife who runs her household on a plan that will balance income and expenditure and show systematically how the money has been spent, saved or wasted. She should have a blank book, each page having thirty-one lines and each line numbered with the day of the month. Each page should be ruled so to show space for food, rent, clothing, incidentals, etc., and into these spaces put the amount expended daily. Unless one has a particularly good memory it is well to enter these items in a small account book at the time the purchase is made. The above arrangement will have to be varied to suit individual needs but by all means work out some kind of a system.

CANNED VEGETABLE SOUP.—Scald, peel and mash one peck of ripe tomatoes. Run two heads of cabbage, one dozen medium-sized carrots, one bunch parsley and one half peck onions through food chopper. Mince three stalks of celery. Boil one dozen ears of corn and scrape from cobs. Mix all together and add salt and water if too dry. Boil until carrots are done, which will be about one hour. Seal in jars while hot. The good, rich soup next winter will more than repay you for your trouble.

MISS H. BURMESTER, Philadelphia, Pa.

SWEET TOMATO PICKLE.—One peck green tomatoes, and one half peck onions, slice and cover with one cup salt. Let soak over night. In morning, drain, put in kettle and cover with vinegar, then add four pounds brown sugar, one quarter pound mixed spice, in bag, and cook all until soft. Put in jars while hot.

MRS. WALTER E. JACKSON, 27 Harvard St., Dorchester Center, Mass.

RIPE TOMATO SWEET PICKLE.—Four pounds tomatoes, two pounds sugar, one pint vinegar, and a handful of cloves. Place the tomatoes, sugar and cloves in a stone jar or crock; heat vinegar to boiling point and pour over them. Next morning heat all the liquid and pour over them again. The next morning place all in the preserving kettle and cook till the tomatoes appear to be almost transparent; dip them out and cook the liquid ten or fifteen minutes longer. This requires only half as much sugar as preserves.

MRS. S. C. TALCOTT, Mountain Grove, Mo.

VEAL EN CASSEROLE.—Chop cold cooked veal fine, put layer in casserole, alternating with layer of cracker crumbs, salt, pepper and butter, till dish is full. Beat up two eggs, add pint of milk; pour it over veal and crackers. Cover and place in oven till heated through, then remove cover and brown before serving. Garnish with parsley.

CREAMED CRAB MEAT.—Melt two tablespoons of butter and in it fry one tablespoon of finely chopped onion and two tablespoons of chopped green pepper, for five minutes. Add one tablespoon of flour and one cup of thin cream. Cook until thickened, then add one cup of crab meat, either fresh or canned, and seasonings. Serve on toast.

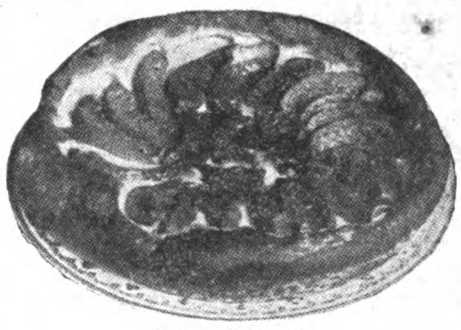
FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

TO MAKE TOUGH BEEFSTEAK TENDER.—A tough beefsteak can be made tender and juicy if it is allowed to stand over night in a mixture of equal parts of vinegar and salad oil. For a three pound steak put a half cup of the mixture in a crockery dish large enough to spread the meat out flat. Do this early in the evening, turning the meat so both sides will be treated. Whatever of the mixture is left in the morning can be bottled and used for the same purpose again. Do not put salt or pepper on the meat while it is in the oil and vinegar.

CHEESE STRAWS.—Three tablespoons flour, three tablespoons grated cheese, one tablespoon each butter and milk, one half teaspoon salt and one quarter teaspoon of pepper, and yolk of one egg. Mix together dry, add the milk, cut in strips and bake. These are very pretty tied with yellow ribbon for receptions or five o'clock teas.

MINNIE O. MACKINTOSH, San Diego, Cal.

PEACH SHORTCAKE.—Four tablespoons each of lard and butter chilled, then chopped into two and one half cups of flour. Add half a teaspoon of salt and four even teaspoons of baking powder, and mix in one and one quarter cup of milk. Do not knead, but flour



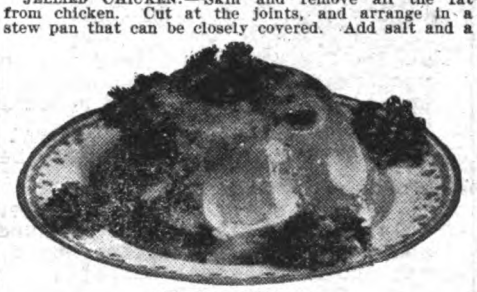
PEACH SHORTCAKE.

hands and divide dough and put into two buttered round tins. Bake in a hot oven twelve minutes. Split cakes by breaking open with a fork—do not cut—and butter generously. Peal and cut peaches in eighths and cover with sugar, letting stand one hour. Put peaches between and on top of cake and pour the juice over top. Canned peaches can be used, but are not nearly as nice as fresh fruit. This makes two cakes.

BAKED MACARONI WITH CHEESE.—Three quarters cup macaroni, broken in pieces, two cups boiling water, one tablespoon salt, two tablespoons flour, two tablespoons butter, one half cup grated cheese, one and one half cups scalded milk, one half cup buttered bread crumbs. Cook the macaroni in the boiling water for twenty minutes; drain and blanch with cold water. Make a white sauce of the butter, flour and milk. Add seasoning to the sauce. Arrange a layer of cooked macaroni in the bottom of a buttered baking dish; sprinkle with the grated cheese, repeat till all the macaroni and cheese are used; pour over the white sauce, cover the top with buttered crumbs and bake for twenty minutes in a hot oven, or long enough to give the top a nice brown.

ESCALLOPED POTATOES.—Peel raw potatoes and cut them into thin slices. Place a layer of the potatoes in a well-buttered baking dish, cover with a layer of thinly sliced onions, then a layer of thinly sliced bacon. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and repeat till dish is filled, having a layer of potatoes on top. Dot with butter and pour over all enough sweet milk to come within one third of top. Bake in moderate oven till potatoes are done.

JELLIED CHICKEN.—Skin and remove all the fat from chicken. Cut at the joints, and arrange in a stew pan that can be closely covered. Add salt and a



JELLIED CHICKEN.

little pepper. Pour over boiling water until about two thirds way to top and cook very slowly until the bones can be removed. Carefully skim out the chicken. To one quart of boiling liquor, add two tablespoons of gelatine that has soaked in one half cup of cold water fifteen minutes. Season to taste with salt, pepper, a little onion and lemon juice, and celery salt. Pour a little into a mould, set on ice until it will hold up a layer of the chicken; cover chicken with more jelly, and so on until all is used. Serve cold.

FRIED BEETS.—Wash, peel and slice as you would potatoes. Put fat in spider and pepper and salt and fry brown.

STUFFED CABBAGE.—Carefully separate one head of cabbage without breaking the leaves and soak in cold water till crisp. Grind fine two pounds of pork, add a cup and a half of cracker crumbs, two eggs, salt and pepper, and a little minced onion, if liked. Mold into a ball and cover with the leaves to resemble the whole cabbage. Wrap in thin muslin and boil two hours. Remove the cloth and lay in center of platter and garnish with mashed potato and small onions.

FANNIE V. TIDD, New York, N. Y.

SAUSAGES COOKED IN BATTER.—Four tablespoons of flour, one pint of milk, one egg. Beat well together, pour boiling water over one pound of sausage and pull off the skins. Place in baking dish, pour the batter over them and bake till brown on top.

HAMBURG WITH RICE.—Wash one cup of rice and put it into a kettle, add one onion cut fine, one teaspoon salt and one pound Hamburg steak, six cups of boiling water. Let it cook slowly, uncovered, and stir so it will not burn. It will take about one and one half hours of slow cooking. Then when water has almost cooked away cover and set it on back of range where it will keep hot and finish cooking by its own steam.

COLD WATER BUNS.—Two cups of sponge, one cup of cold water, one cup of sugar, one cup of lard, a little salt and enough flour to make stiff dough, like bread. Work down six times during day and make into small biscuits at night. Let rise all night and bake fifteen minutes next morning. Iowa.

GRAHAM GEMS.—Beat one half cup sugar with two thirds tablespoons shortening; add one beaten egg, one cup sour milk, with one teaspoon soda dissolved in it; stir in one cup graham and one cup white flour and one half teaspoon salt. Bake in hot oven.

MISS AGNES TRAVISS, Platte, S. Dak.

TO USE BREAD OR BISCUIT THAT HAVE BECOME DRY.—Beat three eggs, add enough sugar to sweeten and flour to make thin batter. Beat well. Slice cold bread and dip in batter and fry in hot lard till brown. This will be found a great saving if one has a lot of cold or slightly stale bread.

O. S., Snowball, Ark.

MARSHMALLOW TEA CAKES.—One cup sugar, two thirds cup lard, beaten yolks of three eggs; to this add two thirds teaspoon soda dissolved in one half cup buttermilk, then one teaspoon baking powder, pinch of salt and enough flour to roll out.

COCOANUT LAYER CAKE.—Six eggs, two and one half cups sugar, one cup butter, one cup sweet milk, two teaspoons baking powder, two teaspoons lemon flavoring and enough flour to make a soft batter. Bake in layers and fill with cocoanut filling.

FILLING.—One cup brown sugar, one cup white sugar and one cup water; boil this till it spins a thread, add twenty pieces of marshmallow, beaten whites of three eggs and one half teaspoon vanilla. This recipe makes about thirty doubled tea cakes.

Subscriber, Ringgold, Ga.

DELICIOUS BISCUIT.—One quart flour, one half teaspoon soda, two teaspoons baking powder, one teaspoon salt and lard size of apple, medium size. Make biscuits with hands as rolling dough packs it.

COCOANUT FILLING.—Whites of three eggs, sugar enough to make it easy to spread; grind cocoanut in food chopper, pour cocoanut milk in to make it moist; spread icing on and sprinkle cocoanut between layers and on sides. Keep in a tight box with some kind of fruit and it will remain moist.

MRS. MELVIN LONG, Roxboro, N. C.

APPLE SAUCE CAKE.—One and one half cups unsweetened apple sauce, cold, two cups sugar, one teaspoon soda (dissolved in apple sauce), butter size of walnut, one teaspoon cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves, and one quarter cup cocoa, and two cups flour. This cake is cheap but good.

MRS. C. B. BURLINGAME, Cayuta, N. Y.

RAISIN CAKE.—Two cups brown sugar, three quarters cup of butter and lard mixed, three eggs, though two may be used, one cup sour milk, very sour, two teaspoons soda in milk, one teaspoon each cinnamon, cloves, allspice and ginger, one cup chopped raisins and flour to make batter. Put raisins in before flour is added. Bake in three layers.

CARRIE GOSSMAN, Jenera, Ohio.

Conservation and the prevention of waste is the order of the day. Stale bread accumulates in every home, and every crumb should be utilized. The following recipe makes a real wartime, though delicious dessert, and it occurred to me that many of our readers would be glad to know it.

LEMON PIE WITH BREAD CRUMBS.—One and one half cups soft bread crumbs, three tablespoons butter, one cup boiling water, one cup sugar, one and one half teaspoons corn-starch, two egg yolks, three tablespoons Sunkist lemon juice, grated rind one Sunkist lemon. Break bread crumbs in small pieces; add butter, pour boiling water over, and let them stand until soft. Mix sugar and corn-starch, add egg yolks, well-beaten, and lemon juice and rind. Combine mixtures; bake in one crust and cover with meringue.

MISS MARGARET HALL, Pasadena, Cal.

PUMPKIN PIE.—Stew pumpkin, cut into small pieces, in a little water, and when soft mash with potato masher very fine; let the water dry away, watching closely to prevent burning or scorching. For each pie take two well-beaten eggs, two thirds cup sugar, two large tablespoons, heaping full, of pumpkin, half pint of rich milk (a little cream will improve it) a little butter and salt. Stir well together and season with a pinch of cinnamon, nutmeg or ginger; bake with undercrust in a hot oven. Too much spice makes the pies too dark. We like the yellow pies better.

MRS. P. S. HENDRY, Loxley, Ala.

SQUASH PIE.—After cutting the squash into small pieces, boil until tender, drain well, and put through a strainer. To every cup of the squash add one cup of sugar, four eggs well beaten, two and one half cups of milk, one teaspoon of vanilla, and salt to taste. One cupful of squash will make a fair-sized pie. Mix the ingredients thoroughly. Pour into the pie shell, and bake slowly until the filling has set.—Ed.

SWEET POTATO PIE.—To five well-beaten eggs add one pound of sugar, already rubbed into a pound of butter; mix with two cups cold sweet potato, which has been rubbed through a sieve; add a teaspoon of lemon juice, beat well and season to taste with nutmeg and cinnamon; add milk enough to make a rather thick batter and bake in pie tins. Meringue may be added if preferred.

MRS. A. R. SMITH, Afton, Okla.

PEAR CREAM.—This is an excellent dessert that is suitable for an emergency, as it is quickly prepared. To make it drain the juice from a quart of canned or preserved pears and mash them very fine. Whip one cup of rich cream very stiff with one half cup of sugar and one teaspoon of vanilla. Stir in the pears and whip all together. Set in a very cool place and serve in sherbet glasses.

MISS ESTELLA FRAVER, Hammondsport, N. Y.

PEACH BAVARIAN CREAM.—Two tablespoons of gelatine soaked in half a cup of cold water ten minutes and dissolved in half a cup of boiling water. Stir together two cups of mashed peaches and one half cup of sugar and add to gelatine. Set into pan of ice water and stir until the mixture begins to thicken then lightly beat in one pint of whipped cream. Line edge of mould with half peaches, pour over the Bavarian and set to harden. When ready to



PEACH BAVARIAN CREAM.

serve, turn out on serving dish and pour over sweetened whipped cream flavored with a little grated orange or lemon rind.

POTATO PIE.—Peel and grate one large white potato, add the juice and rind of one lemon, the beaten white of one egg, one cup white sugar, and one cup cold water. Pour this into an under crust and bake. When done, have ready the beaten whites of three eggs, half cup powdered sugar, flavored with lemon and pour on the pie and return to oven to harden.

MRS. E. V. DAVIS, Duluth, Minn.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11).

Make this Handkerchief yourself

It's so easy to make many beautiful articles with **Nufashond Rick Rack Braid**—articles appropriate for Christmas presents for your friends. The **Nufashond Rick Rack Book** tells how to make such serviceable things as handkerchiefs, night dresses, corset covers, guest towels, doilies, centerpieces, table covers, lunch sets, bibs, collars, pillows, pincushions, aprons, insertions, edgings, etc., and yet this book is priced at only **10c** to acquaint you with the popular **Nufashond Rick Rack Braid.**

Ask your department store or needlework shop for the Nufashond Rick Rack Book. If you can't get it, send us 30 cents and we will furnish the book, with one full piece of Nufashond Mercerized Rick Rack Braid, and one ball of Nufashond Mercerized Crochet Cotton.

NUFASHOND, Dept. E, Reading, Pa.

Nufashond Rick Rack Braid



10 Cents a Day Pays for This Symphonola

Plays all records, Victor, Columbia, Edison, Pathe, Little Wonder, Emerson. Take a year to pay, after 30 days' trial. Compare its tone for clearness, volume, with more costly instruments. Return at our expense if it fails to make good. Ask today for the **Beautifully Illustrated Symphonola Book FREE**

Shows this and other Symphonola styles, sold on easy payments.

Larkin Co. Desk SCT-1017, BUFFALO, N. Y.

Food Administrator Hoover Appeals to the Women

of America to Help Win the War and Save the World from Famine by Strict Economy of Food

This is what the Food Administration is asking of you. Is it too much?

The wise and careful use of

Wheat

Meat

Butter fat

Milk

The use of other fats for butter in cooking:

The use of other cereals for part of the wheat in bread:

The use of other meats, such as game and fish, or the use of eggs and cheese, to reduce the demand for beef, pork and mutton, should be advocated.

The larger use of fruits and vegetables should be featured.

The proper nourishment of every member of your family is your first duty. The substitution of the foods that are plenty for the foods that are scarce or especially needed for export does not imply any cutting down in the ration of nourishing foods.

Waste must be eliminated.

Perishable foods locally grown, must be consumed more freely.

The "Gospel of the clean plate" must be preached.

MR. HOOVER'S appeal to the women of America is in line with the efforts which COMFORT, from the time our country entered the war, has been making to impress its readers with the necessity of larger production, better economy and more extensive conservation of food as vitally essential to our successful prosecution of the war.

Along with our preaching we have done some teaching. While urging conservation by canning we have explained how to do it, and by our series of special articles on cooking we have tried to show how to practise thrift without parsimony in the kitchen through the better handling of raw material and left-overs and the elimination of waste.

COMFORT subscribers, as we know them, belong to that 70 per cent which, as Mr. Hoover says, conduct their households with thrift. Aside from the sense of patriotic duty, the prevailing high prices are sufficient incentive for the thrifty to practise strict economy. Unlike the idle, self-indulgent, spendthrift class, they need no preaching but are keen to be shown how to obtain the best economic results with the least degree of sacrifice—economy in its highest sense.

In the art of cooking is the secret of food economy, and therefore the U. S. Department of Agriculture is issuing a series of war cooking recipes which can be had free. Write to Washington and ask to have them sent to your address. Below we print a few selections from them. The illustrations are our own.

Uncle Sam's Daily Thrift Thought

Monday

A pleasing variation from pastry meat pies may be had by preparing eggplant and meat pie, says the United States Department of Agriculture.

EGGPLANT AND MEAT PIE.—Cook together in a baking pan alternate layers of eggplant and



BAKED EGGPLANT.

chopped cooked meat salted to taste. If raw meat only is available it may be fried until brown before baking. Tomato juice or pulp, or a few sliced tomatoes may be added if desired.

Tuesday

Don't throw away stale bread and left-over skim-milk, Madam Housewife. From them you can make that simple and well-known but nourishing dish, milk toast, the United States Department of Agriculture points out. This makes a good dish for breakfast, luncheon, or supper, especially for children.

MILK TOAST.—Heat the milk. Add a small quantity of butter and season to taste with salt. Pour while hot over well-toasted stale bread and serve.

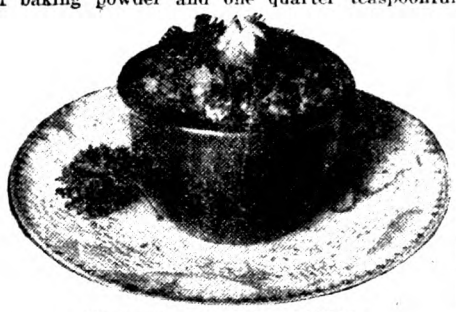
Wednesday

Spread the Meat Flavor

Spread the meat flavor over other foods and so economize on the quantity of meat consumed, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Here is one way to spread the flavor.

MEAT STEW WITH DUMPLINGS.—Make a stew from a cheap cut of meat cut into small pieces, potatoes, and such other vegetables as are desired. Thicken with a little flour diluted with cold water. Serve with dumplings made as follows:

Mix and sift one cup of flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one quarter teaspoonful



MEAT STEW WITH DUMPLINGS.

of salt. Work in with the fingers one teaspoonful of butter; add gradually one third of a cup of milk or a little more if needed. Roll out one half inch thick and cut with a biscuit cutter or in square pieces. The dumplings may be steamed, baked like biscuits, or cooked with the stew. In the latter case remove enough liquid to permit the dough to be placed on the meat and vegetables.

My Countrywomen:

I ask your help.

The President has laid upon me and has asked me to assume great responsibility in the conservation of the food supplies of our country. It would be an unbearable burden but for two reasons:

One is I am sure every loyal American will at this time undertake unhesitatingly and whole-heartedly whatever service is requested of him.

The other reason is—the American woman. I believe you have only to understand the food needs of this nation, of the Allies, and in fact of the entire world, in order to enlist your immediate and intelligent support.

I realize full well that 70 per cent of our households are conducted with thrift and without waste, but even in these we need to secure the use of equally good food in substitution for those commodities which are so concentrated a character that they can be shipped over the seas in these times of short shipping.

Among the 30 per cent, it is true enough that we have deserved the reputation of the most wasteful housekeeping in the world, and the time has come to turn our faces squarely in the opposite direction and make our country a model throughout, of economical management.

Indeed, if our American ideal of a square deal is right, we can do no less.

For three years now the people of the Allied countries have borne the burden of this struggle for life and liberty, and are bearing it with pain and privation. There are millions of women in Belgium and Northern France today who for three years have heard no word of their husbands, their sons or their brothers, who go about their daily tasks provided with the most meager allowance of food for their children, with a smile on their lips.

It is for women such as these, for soldiers gallant beyond description, for little children of Europe, that you now face the immediate duty of taking up arms as it were in your households. You are a great army drafted by conscience into what is now the most urgent activity of the war—that of increasing and conserving the food supply.

Conditions which have brought about a world shortage of food have placed upon the shoulders of you, the women of America, to a great degree, the responsibility of winning this war, for the wolf is at the door of all the world except our own country, and we have a superabundance.

We are not alone appealing to the women; we are actively organizing so far as possible without legislation, the men in trades, hotels, restaurants, and in food distribution, hoping not only to eliminate waste but to moderate the burden of speculation and extortionate profits.

It stands to reason that your first duty is to the members of your family. They must have all the food they require to keep them in good health and capable of performing efficiently their daily tasks. Information for your guidance as to the food needs of the average family will be put in the hands of every earnest woman in America.

In confidence I turn to you so to conduct your affairs, and so to influence the activities of your community, that we may largely pay for the war as we go along out of our savings in food and in human production.

With deep gratitude for the earnest support already given me, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Herbert Hoover

FRENCH TOAST.—Here is a way suggested by the United States Department of Agriculture to utilize stale bread and left-over milk:

Beat up together one egg, one cup of skim or whole milk and salt to taste. Place a small quantity of butter, bacon fat or other suitable fat in a broad-bottom frying pan. Dip slices of stale bread into the egg and milk mixture until they are thoroughly moist and fry on both sides until a golden brown. Serve hot with or without syrup.

Thursday

MEAT AND BREAD-CRUMB CAKES.—Here is one way to utilize left-over meat by spreading its flavor. To four parts of chopped or ground meat, add one part soaked bread-crumbs, a small quantity of chopped onion, and salt and pepper to



MEAT AND BREAD-CRUMB CAKES.

taste. Mix and form into small round cakes. Brown the cakes in butter or other fat, turning them.

Raw ground meat may be used. If so the pan should be covered so that greater heat will be applied.

Friday

Making Greens Nutritious

Here is a way to add nutriment to greens, and at the same time to vary the form in which this important food is served. The suggestion is made by the United States Department of Agriculture.

CHEESE AND GREENS ROLL.—Cook two quarts of spinach, Swiss chard or other greens. Drain and dress with one tablespoonful of butter. Chop and add one cupful of grated cheese and bread crumbs enough to make a mixture sufficiently stiff to form into a roll. Place in oblong pan and cook in moderate oven for twenty minutes. When cold the mixture may be sliced in one half inch pieces and served on lettuce leaves with salad dressing. If desired leave the mixture more moist and bake in casserole or baking dish and serve hot.

Saturday

MOCK DUCK.—Here is a suggestion for making a delicious dish from an inexpensive steak.

On a round steak cut thin, place a stuffing of bread crumbs well seasoned with chopped onions, butter or other fat, salt, pepper and flavorings such as sage, celery seed, etc., if desired. Roll the steak around the stuffing and tie in several places with a string. If the steak is tough steam or stew the roll until tender before



MEAT, RICE AND TOMATO CROQUETTES.

roasting in the oven. If desired, the roll may be cooked in a casserole, in which case a cupful or more of water should be added.

MEAT TURNOVERS.—Here is one way to utilize left-over meat by spreading its flavor.

Chop the meat. If the quantity on hand is small, mix with it left-over potato or rice. Season with salt, pepper, onion, etc. Place filling on circular pieces of biscuit dough about the size of a saucer. Fold over the dough and crimp edges together. Bake for about one half hour in a hot oven.

A brown sauce made from two tablespoonfuls of flour browned in two tablespoonfuls of butter to which a cupful of water or stock and a half teaspoonful of salt is added, may be served over the turnovers.

Use Every Drop of Milk

Don't throw away left-over skim-milk. It is a nutritious food and every drop of it should be used. One way to utilize it to make milk-vegetable soups.

MILK-VEGETABLE SOUPS.—To each two cupfuls of milk use one tablespoonful of flour, one tablespoonful of butter, two thirds of a cupful of a thoroughly cooked vegetable, finely chopped, mashed or put through a sieve, and salt to taste. Thicken the milk with the flour as for milk gravy and add the other ingredients.

Practically any vegetable except tomatoes may be used with the other ingredients as stated. If tomatoes are used a little soda should be added to them to prevent the milk from curdling.

PEANUT SOUP.—A delicious and nourishing soup may be made from skim-milk and peanut butter as follows, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture:

Heat one pint of milk until lukewarm. Add two rounded tablespoonfuls of peanut butter mixed to a smooth paste with a little of the milk. Salt to taste. Thicken with one teaspoonful of butter or savory fat mixed with one tablespoonful of flour. Bring almost to the boiling point and serve.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

KANSAS CITY, 3230 Flora Ave., Mo.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I read COMFORT several years when I was at home and, since leaving there, have subscribed for it myself.

I have lived in the city three years, am a stenographer and enjoy my work very much. I have never seen a letter from Kansas City. Most of them are from the country, telling of the joys of farm life. I wonder if the city sisters are too busy in this great rush, to sit down and visit a bit with these fine COMFORT sisters and dear Mrs. Wilkinson?

Kansas City is an industrious and growing city. A fine place in which to live if one has God as their protector but a poor place for a young person without this fortification against temptations that daily arise. I am a member of one of the Baptist churches here, teach a Sunday School class of twelve-year-old girls and am a worker in the Baptist Young People's Union. I enjoy the work very much. We young folks hold meetings at a Mission among the poorer people, support a missionary in China and are engaged in a good work. It certainly makes one see the deeper side of life.

I have been interested in the discussion as to whether country or city children are more innocent. In all schools, in both city and country, there are children ready to unfold the sacred secrets of nature in the most rude and coarse manner, just as it has been unfolded to them. Rather, just as they have found it out as it is rarely unfolded to them. I think, after all, that one's parents have more to do with the development of one's character than their school associations. While they do receive wrong impressions upon first entering school, as they grow older, the home influence will have more weight with them than those early impressions. For this reason a mother should realize what a sacred thing it is to bring a soul into this world and undertake the forming of that one's character. Although I have never met a man that I could love and may never be a wife and mother, I do think that motherhood is the greatest height that God has allowed a woman to attain.

I do not think a mother is entirely responsible for what her child grows up to be but, after she has made the home a shelter from the sins and temptations of the world, by living close to God, and has done all in her power, by intelligent study to give to the world a Christian young man or woman, with a depth of character to meet and conquer the bad things that come to ruin our lives, she need have little fear as to the final outcome. I have a dear mother and father living on the farm and I am always glad to get off for a few days and go back to them and the old home. They visit me here, too, which makes it pleasant for all of us.

I taught school, in the country, and I had but very few children in my care who were evil minded. I do not think that the things a child sees on the farm, which were intended by nature, are so harmful to him as the sins of the small towns and cities. Most country children have enough to employ their minds and time, and are not in daily contact with all classes as are many town children. Mothers may be careful but the little ones who have only the street for their playground, hear coarse jests and remarks of which mother never knows.

Now you will see that, although I live in the city and like it very much, I really think the country child has many advantages over the city child. They generally develop a deeper character, one that will withstand greater temptations, on account of having been associated with nature instead of things artificial. They, most always, are healthy and robust and can come to the city and adopt city ways much quicker than the city folks can learn of the country. A green country boy is amusing in the city but not nearly so amusing as a green city chap in the country.

I will close by describing myself. I am twenty-two years old, have brown eyes and dark brown hair, five feet six inches tall and in the best of health. If any of the sisters ever come to Kansas City would be glad to show them around or help them in any way I can. I would like to hear from some of the sisters on ranches and from different parts of the West.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and COMFORT sisters, I am, Your COMFORT sister, ETTA BAKER.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I thank you all for your kind letters which were forwarded to me. I tried to answer all, but it was impossible as I had so little time. You ask who I am. I am "Lonesome in the Heart of the City," whose letter appeared in COMFORT a few months ago. I thank each and every one for the aid they offered which I cannot now accept as for the last four months I have been in a hospital where I am training. There is nothing like helping those really in need, for those in ill health are the really poor, I think. As for myself, I am getting stronger every day and am quite a different person from the lonesome, homesick and motherless girl who wrote the other letter to COMFORT. I am always cheerful now. Duty, sweet duty, has taught me to overcome everything, even the loss of mother for when I see how some of the old ladies here suffer with the same disease she had, I thank God she is spared that much. I can realize now what she suffered.

All of my patients like me and some of them even think that the older nurses cannot handle and take care of them as well as I can.

It has cost me a lot though for my people think that a nurse has a very poor moral sense, but I saw my work and I did not hesitate to take it up, for a person can really enjoy doing work which suits them.

God bless you all, NURSE BUSSMAN.

Nurse Bussman. Your letter brings to mind a remark I once heard—to the effect that there were no really lazy people in the world but just people who didn't like their work because they were not fitted for it and it did not appeal to them, and if they could once find work they liked they would be the most industrious people in the world. Sort of a square-peg-in-a-round-hole idea and it's rather a comforting one to me. Here's wishing you success.—Ed.

LAVACA, ARK.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

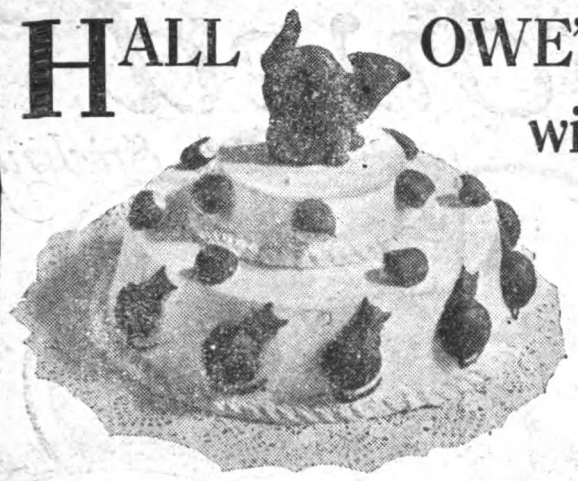
I have been waiting for some one to write about their favorite books and authors, since Mrs. Wilkinson invited us to discuss the subject, but no one has taken any interest in the subject. There are so many people who cannot be coaxed to read a book or newspaper; some few because they can't and more because they won't. People think they are too poor to buy books but will spend twice as much money on clothes and food as they ought to. Don't waste your spare time gazing off into space but grab a worth-while book, magazine or paper and get some brain food. You may even have a college education, but that is just a foundation and you still need to read and think in order to keep informed on current events and discoveries in science.

I plan to have my subscriptions to my papers and then the renewal price doesn't seem as great as when they all come at once.

I will tell you some of the books I have read and enjoyed. "Daniel Deronda," by George Eliot, "Lady of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.)

HALLOWE'EN PARTY with MYSTIC RITES and WEIRD CHARMS



By Ella Gordon

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

MISS OCTOBER, dressed as a witch, ushers in Hallowe'en, on the last night of her stay, October 31st, when the vigil of the feast of All Saints is celebrated in merrymaking and divination of the future. The popular superstitions attached to Hallowe'en give license for narrating any weird stories of supernatural lore; for singing folk songs that reflect old superstitions; for indulging in quaint customs and mystic tricks, and people have been known to "ride the goat" at these entertainments.

If you would have your Hallowe'en party a success, spare no pains in making your setting weird and spooky; a barn or attic offers ideal advantages to this end.

Decorate with bunches of cornstalks, behind which are lighted lanterns with globes covered with red or yellow tissue paper. Use branches of any green trees available, and festoon with garlands of green, having pendants of carrots. Use numerous Jack-o-lanterns with horns made from ears of corn, and smiling with a display of large uneven teeth. Put a lighted candle in each, and these and the lighted lanterns will furnish the only light. Another effective decoration is made by putting a lamp in the center of a table, and about it arrange vegetables and fruits so the light will shine through, but the lamp remains unseen.

The invitation carries a request of secrecy, and that a mask and hood must cover the entire head, and the form be draped in white, black, yellow or red. The guests assemble in a nearly dark room, and when all is ready, three groans, the first deep, the second weaker and the last just a sound are given, and the way is lead to the decorated room. The guests will pass in grand march, endeavoring to identify each other, and the one making the largest number of correct guesses receives a black cat, either alive or stuffed, or made of cake or chocolate, as a prize. Masks are now removed and the fun begins.

Hallowe'en Rites and Mysteries

Make a mound of flour on a large platter, using just water enough to hold it together. Somewhere in the mound conceal a ring. Each guest takes a turn at cutting a slice from the mound, and the one who finds the ring will be the first to marry, but must pay for that good fortune by taking the ring from the flour with his or her teeth.

Hide a penny, a thimble and a ring in the room. The one who finds the penny will be wealthy; the thimble promises single blessedness, and the ring a hasty marriage.

Have a tub nearly filled with water on a table, and in it several small apples floating. The ones who can catch an apple with the teeth receives a prize.

Have a woman who can disguise her voice, enter the room masked and dressed in gaudy short skirt, a red waist with huge sash and wearing numerous strings of buttons around the neck. She must tell the fortunes of those present by reading the palm, and with some preparation this feature may be very amusing. Give the palmist a list of the guests' names a few days in advance, that she may inform herself of their past and present circumstances and therefrom predict their futures.

Have the guests seat themselves in a circle on the floor, cross-legged. If before a fireplace so much the better. Have some one start a weird story, stopping short at the most exciting point, and the one next to him go on with the story, each one trying to outdo the other.

Popping corn, roasting apples and toasting marshmallows on long sticks, make appropriate refreshments.

Let the hostess be dressed as a witch, representing Miss October as pictured in "The Kingdom of Our Birthright." The skirt, cape and pointed hat are red, and the hair is powdered white. The broom is ma of crisp brown wrapping paper cut in strips to make it rustle, and suspended on a wire is a cat cut from pasteboard and painted black.

The Cat and Chestnuts Cake

There is an old fable about the cat that tried to pull the chestnuts from the fire, and as both cats and nuts are intimately associated with Hallowe'en, the fable was appropriately taken as a theme for the Hallowe'en cake illustrated in the above heading. Of course it is a "fortune" cake, containing wee trinkets such as coins, thimbles, rings, and other prophetic emblems. It is made in two tiers, two cakes of different sizes having been put together, one above the other, and the icing (pale yellow) applied over all. Around the sides of the lower cake are small cats made by applying chocolate peppermints to form the bodies, and small chocolate wafers for the heads, the ears and tails being drawn with chocolate icing. On the apex of the cake is placed a hump-backed black cat with wide open mouth and staring eyes, such as can be bought in any candy store at this season, or might be made at home, and the remaining space is decorated with candy chestnuts. These may be bought at almost any confectioner's, or can be made at home of chocolate fondant tipped with white fondant.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

the Lake," by Walter Scott, "Pathfinder," by J. F. Cooper, "Prisoners of Hope," by Mary Johnston, "Around the World in Eighty Days," by Jules Verne, "Kidnapped," by R. L. Stevenson and "Old Curiosity Shop" by Charles Dickens. I have read many more but will not name them here.

I am five feet, three inc es tall, with gray eyes and brown hair and am nineteen years old. Would like to get letters from any who care to write to me.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and sisters,

IMA CARTER.

GEORGETOWN, 1104 Rock St., TEXAS.

DEAR EDITOR:

My advice to the lady who wrote about adopting a child would be to do so by all means and get one as young as possible for I think you will love it more the younger it is when adopted. I am sure no parents could love their own any more than we love our Gladys, whose picture appeared in the January, 1913 COMFORT. She was a year and a half old at the time the picture was taken but was only three weeks old when we took her. She will be seven years old the 11th of next March. I am sending her picture hoping it will be printed. She is a very bright child, smart in her studies and everyone seems to like her. We are very proud of her. I think every couple who have no children of their own should take one, or more, of these little unfortunates to care for, for there are many that need homes and many homes that need



GLADYS LACKEY, SEVEN YEARS OLD.

children. They are such a blessing. If Gladys goes away to spend the day the place seems so lonely without her and the first thing husband says when he comes home is, "Where's baby?" Some may say it is too much responsibility to raise a child. It certainly is, but someone has to do it and perhaps some one not as well able to care for it as you are. I say that any couple that can care for themselves can care for one little orphan child and their love will repay you tenfold.

COMFORT sister and reader, MRS. PEARL LACKEY.

Mrs. Lackey. It is very good of you to share your little girl with us. I've often wondered about her, ever since you sent us the other picture. Our best wishes to her, and her parents.—Ed.

PATERSON, N. J.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I am a city girl, twenty-four years old, and want to ask the sisters if they can help me find a home in the country. At present I am working in a silk mill and as my health isn't so very good I would like to leave the factory and get out in the country, so if anyone knows of a place on a farm (perhaps with some lonesome old couple) where I could have a good home and could work for my living, I would be very grateful if you would let me know. I am a home loving girl, of good character and come from a respectable family. Send letters to Mrs. Wilkinson. MISS E. V. O.

COLORADO.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I wish to sympathize with Mrs. G. W. B. E. A little over a year ago I married a man I did not love and while he is a good, trustworthy man and provides me with all I need and is good to me, I am not happy in the fullest sense of the word. I am twenty years of age and my husband is ten years older. I would like to ask the COMFORT sisters' advice as to whether it would not be wise for me to go away for a while, till I can know if I care enough for my husband to live the remainder of my life with him. Somehow I feel as though somewhere in this world the man I will love is going to meet me. What should I do if that should ever happen? I married because I needed a home and my health was broken down considerably from overwork. I had no parents, so I simply closed my eyes and made the plunge. I knew I was doing wrong when the minister performed the ceremony and tears came to my eyes and he looked so accusingly at me. I have nothing to say against my husband for he took me and gave me a good home. He has one fault, however, that worries me and that is his lack of education. He was not able to go to school very much and as a consequence his grammar is very poor, as is his spelling. Doubtless I am wrong when I let this worry me. I feel as though I have thrown my life away. What would you do?

Mother of Three, by all means have your children's adenoids and tonsils removed. It is a simple operation and I have cared for many cases in the hospital where I trained as a nurse. The adenoids and tonsils are a decided detriment to your children's health. Not only that but a child's intellectual faculties are not so good as when they are removed. It will be worth the money spent to have it done.

Just a word about hospitals. I believe it is just as economical in case of sickness to go to a hospital and it is much safer. In case of dangerous complications, aid can be given immediately and there are so many modern conveniences at hand that render first aid more efficient. In the home everything would need to be improvised. If possible, have a private nurse for there will be many little things to be done that will require a good deal of the general nurse's time. A general duty nurse has all she can attend to and is often in such a rush that a patient hesitates to ask her to do the many little things that patients always want. Be courteous to the nurses for they are human as well as anybody.

Sincerely, MRS. V. M.

V. M. Of course it is best to keep our nasty dispositions under cover, but I feel it my duty (did you ever notice how people get around something unpleasant by calling it their "duty") to say that if anyone has thrown their life away, you, certainly, are not the one. Many women would appreciate such a man as you have; however, so long as you haven't met that belated true love of yours, why don't you try loving your husband until you do. What do the sisters think about it? Really V. M., I'm not so disagreeable as I sound and can understand how you feel about it, only won't you try and look at the matter in a different light for you will be much happier. Maybe you are just tired and nervous now. Don't try to look ahead the remainder of your life. You know you can live only one day at a time, so make the most of each day.—Ed.

SPANISH FORK, L. BOX 1151, UTAH.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

Will you admit a reader from the Sego Lily state

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)



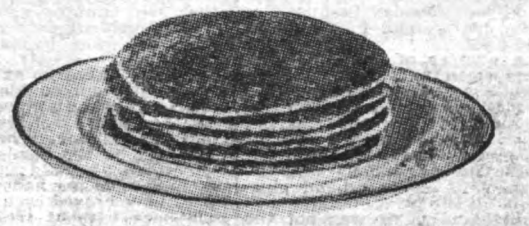
A great aid to food economy

Royal Baking Powder saves eggs in baking

In nearly all recipes eggs may be reduced in number and often left out altogether by adding Royal Baking Powder, about a teaspoon, in place of each egg omitted. The following recipes are practical examples.

These recipes also conserve flour as urged by the Government.

Corn Meal Griddle Cakes



1½ cups corn meal — 1 teaspoon salt
⅔ cup flour — 1 tablespoon shortening
¾ cup milk — NO EGGS — 1 tablespoon molasses
1½ cups boiling water — 4 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder

Scald corn meal in bowl with boiling water; add milk, melted shortening and molasses; add flour, salt and baking powder which have been sifted together; mix well. Bake on hot greased griddle until brown.

(The old method called for 2 eggs)

Corn Bread



1¼ cups corn meal — 1 tablespoon sugar (if desired)
¾ cup flour — NO EGGS — 1 teaspoon salt
4 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder — 1½ cups milk
2 tablespoons shortening

Sift the dry ingredients into bowl; add milk and melted shortening; beat well and pour into well greased pan or muffin tins. Bake in hot oven about 25 minutes.

(The old method called for 2 eggs)

Equally satisfactory results in saving eggs may be obtained by using **Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder, also made from Cream of Tartar,** and now manufactured by this Company.

"55 Ways to Save Eggs," a new booklet mailed free. Address **Royal Baking Powder Co.,** 130 William Street, New York.

Cream of Tartar, the chief ingredient of Royal Baking Powder, is of pure fruit origin, derived from grapes, and has no substitute for making a baking powder of the highest quality.

Royal Never Leaves a Bitter Taste

No Alum **No Phosphate**

The Girl He Loved

by Adelaide Stirling



"Tell me my Nel," he said softly; "do you love me ever so little?"

The Umbrella, indeed!



With a curious lingering touch, Lady Annesley pushed her to the glass.

My ring!" she cried wildly.

Copyright, 1900, by Street and Smith.
Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER I.

SWEETHEARTS.

"THOMAS, my son!"

The voice came darkly from the scullery window, and Sir Thomas Annesley gave a guilty start where he knelt in the kitchen garden.

"Oh! it's you!" he cried with relief. "I thought it might be her ladyship, and I didn't want her."

He hastily covered in a small grave he was making in the parsley-bed, and his sister poked her bronze head from the open window with some curiosity.

"What are you doing?" she inquired.

"Oh, nothing! Just putting away something. There is nothing like a hole in the ground. What on earth are you doing in the scullery?" eying the unwonted smartness of as much of Miss Ravenel Annesley's toilet as was visible. "What have you got on your Sunday frock for? Have you been blacking the family boots in it?"

"If it's anything to eat you've buried, the cats will dig it up again!" loftily ignoring his question, except for a guilty glance at her lilac muslin gown.

"No cat"—calmly—"will dig this up, for I'm going to do it myself first! Come out, why don't you?"

"I'm coming." Miss Annesley vaulted nimbly from the window with much display of her only pair of black silk stockings. "You don't see her ladyship anywhere, do you, Tommy? Because I've an—an errand in the quarry, and I don't want her to sniff it out."

"She can't sniff a quarter of a mile"—comfortably. "She's gone down to sit by the lake without any hat; said she had neuralgia. But I know she's gone to bleach her golden hair."

"She does bleach her hair," Ravenel remarked thoughtfully. "It was the most awful color yesterday—a sort of green! I heard her giving it to the Umbrella for making a mistake."

Sir Thomas Annesley lit a contraband cigarette.

"And yet," he said blandly, "it was not the Umbrella who changed the bottle! Her ladyship kicked Mr. Jacobs, and any one who kicks my dog has misfortunes. I'll walk over to the quarry with you!" affably.

"No, Tommy dear!" with guilty haste. "I—I don't require you."

Sir Thomas coughed.

"Don't blame me then if her ladyship sends the old Umbrella all over the country for you when you're missed. I'll have to kill that maid some day! Do you know, she listens at the door when we're alone?"

"Much good she'll get!" contemptuously, marching on under the blossoming apple-trees with the sun flecking the lovely bronze of her hair with red gold. "Look here, Tommy, you come as far as the hedge, and just give a cooee if you see the Umbrella or her ladyship."

"Can't. I'm going over to the barracks to see Gordon."

"I wouldn't! It would be"—she was not looking at him—"a waste of time."

"Oh!" Sir Thomas winked vulgarly, as he observed a lovely carnation grow and deepen in his sister's cheeks. "I see. Well, go on, my dear! I don't blame you; only," in hasty addition as they reached the hedge, "keep your eye peeled. The Umbrella is active, and also far-sighted. I don't recommend the quarry myself; it is too like being a mouse in a bowl. Give me a wood for such undertakings! And mind you're back by dinner, for if her ladyship sees you sneaking in with your Sunday blouse on she'll put two and two together. Meantime, I've gone over to the barracks to see Gordon. You mind that when you come home!"

"You're a duck, Thomas, some day I'll reward you," returned the vision in mauve muslin, disappearing with some pains through the white-thorn hedge.

But Sir Thomas only grunted. He approved of his sister's adorer because Lady Annesley did not, but he privately considered that meeting a handsome, penniless hussar was wasting time.

"However, Mr. Jacobs," he observed, as that disreputable bull-terrier joined him, "anything for business, and we're growing old. And it is my belief that my lady wants to marry Ravenel to that old Lord Levallion, and I'll see her blowed first."

He sat down on the bank at the foot of the hedge and pulled his hat over his eyes. They were worldly wise eyes for a boy of sixteen; but to have Lady Annesley for a stepmother was a liberal education. Old Sir Thomas had married her in haste, and, fortunately for himself, had died too soon to have time to repent at leisure. He was poor: his new wife had been supposed to be rich; but her fortune turned out to be about as real as her complexion—there was just enough of it to swear by. Annesley Chase was mortgaged too deeply for the widow's small income even to pay the interest; when young Sir Thomas came of age it would be foreclosed and sold over his head, unless money came from the skies. And yet Lady Annesley, even while she sat and saw the interest piling up against her, had no idea of letting Annesley Chase go. A snug old age in the dower-house appearing to her more inviting than spending her declining years in a semidetached villa, she was even now taking steps to secure it by the simple scheme of a rich marriage for Ravenel, and later and harder, for Sir Thomas. In the meantime, she provided the stepchildren, who were her only stock in trade, with bread and butter. Thin bread and thinner butter, perhaps; but still she fed them. And they hated her cordially—Ravenel from having seen her father's last days made wretched; Tommy from a far-sighted distrust that grew on him every day.

But Ravenel just now had no thoughts for her stepmother, nor of how she was improving the long hours of the May afternoon. Over the short grass of the field above the quarry pits she was walking with the air of one having an infinity of time and no particular destination. Her heart might be galloping before her, but it was not good for captains of hussar regiments to know it. She sailed on demurely under the shade of an ivory-white parasol—it was one of Lady Annesley's, and her stepdaughter hoped devoutly there would not be a hue and cry for it while it was out—as if she had not a care in the world. Yet a sharp color came to her clear cheeks as she neared the quarry pit.

Suppose he had not come!

The thought made her feel chilly in the warm May sunshine. For one breathless moment she was afraid to lift her eyes from the short grass lest she might look in vain for Adrian Gordon. And so nearly walked over him where he lay stretched on the warm, green sod at the edge of the quarry.

Miss Annesley dropped her pirated parasol.

"Oh!" she cried, as he sprang to his feet. "I nearly walked over you."

"Tread lightly then, for my heart is under your feet," quoted the man, with a little laugh of pure pleasure. He took both her hands and looked down into her gray-blue eyes.

"I began to think, Miss Annesley," he remarked gravely, "that you were not coming. Another ten minutes and I should have walked up to your hall door and paid a polite visit," his strong, fine hands holding hers with utter content.

The girl looked up at him where he stood bareheaded, the sun on his close-cropped, fair hair. How tanned and strong and good to look at he was! And how sweet his gray eyes and his mouth under his fair mustache.

He caught her hands a little closer.

"You see," he said: "you were just saved having to receive me under her ladyship's nose. I would have braved even her tea rather than have gone back without seeing you." He stooped to pick up her parasol, and she drew her hands from his left one that held them both.

"It wouldn't have been any good your coming in state," she returned calmly. "You would only have had 'not at home' said to you. Her ladyship is engaged today in renovating her charms."

"I should have met you at the door if I'd started when I first thought of it! Would you have sent me away?" seating himself beside her in the shade of a flower-filled thorn-tree on the sharp slope down to the quarry. "I believe you would!" rather dashed.

"I should not, for an excellent reason. I didn't come by the front door, but out of the scullery window," gaily. "Her ladyship supposes I'm darning table-cloths. I've left Tommy down by the hedge to warn me if my flight is discovered."

The laughter left Captain Gordon's handsome eyes. He laid his brown hand on Ravenel's white one.

"Tell me, my Nel," he said softly: "do you love me, ever so little?"

"No!" very low. "Ever so little!" Did she not love him with all her soul and body, as she loved no one else in God's world?

"How much do you love me? That much?" measuring off a tiny space with her two hands, for he had them both now, and Lady Annesley's lace parasol had rolled where it would down the quarry.

"Not at all?"

"Not at all," but she barely whispered it.

"Do you mean that, Nel?" he was whispering, too. "Because I love you—oh, you know how I love you!" he let her hands go. "Tell me, quick, do you mean it?"

Miss Annesley made no answer, only raised her eyes to his for the briefest instant. But it was long enough for Adrian Gordon.

"Sweetheart," he said, and kissed her. "Nel, look at me: won't you kiss me?"

"I—I don't know." But she did look at him, and, somehow, without either of their wills, their lips met. And at that long, gentle touch of the man's lips on hers Ravenel Annesley gave her heart and her soul to his keeping, forever.

"My sweet," he said, letting her go, "do you know, I've no right to ask you to marry me? I've no money."

"Neither have I," gaily. "Would you like to be off your bargain?"

"Don't say it!" quickly. "It hurts too much. But money I must and will have to marry you. I mean the girl of my heart to have all she wants in this world—gowns and horses and happiness. It would kill me to see you as I've seen the wives of lots of poor men. Can you wait for me, sweet, for two years, while I go out to India?"

"India! What for?" the color left her face.

"Well! I've a second cousin, who has some influence. He's not a man I like much, but he surprised me the other day by telling me that a friend of his out in India would offer me an appointment on his staff—he's a general—if it were certain I'd accept. I—I said I would. It's more than three times the pay I'm getting now and a chance in a thousand to get on in the service. I'd have to leave my regiment, but I'd do that—for you."

"Adrian—not now!" she whispered. "We're so happy." Her heart fairly turned over at the thought of Annesley Chase without Adrian Gordon quartered ten miles off, of the long, empty summer days.

"We'll be as happy again," he answered wistfully, "and the sooner I go the sooner I'll be back. But I wouldn't go at all if I saw any other way. I'm afraid to leave you with your stepmother."

"She can't marry me out offhand to a slug or a snail, and those are the only visitors we ever have. My charms"—dryly—"have doubtless not yet been noised abroad."

"I believe you wish they had been!" quite as dryly. "You're a bundle of vanity, Miss Annesley, and I believe you've got a temper—and you're proud——" he paused eloquently.

"Go on," returned his charmer calmly. "Don't mind me! And when you're done I'll tell you what I am—quite good enough for you!"

Her eyes met his with sweet insolence, fearless for all their softness, and the man's face changed.

"You're too good, that's one thing," he said slowly. "And for another, you're too proud. I know you! If anything went wrong between us, and it was my fault, you'd never give me a chance to explain."

Ravenel looked at him, as he sat beside her, with the May sun full on his face, that was meant to be fair, but was turned a clear-pale-bronze by wind and weather; full on his tawny, gold mustache, and the clear-cut lines of his cheek and chin. Strong and cold and proud that face was, till you looked at the man's eyes or saw him smile. But now he was not smiling and a quick pang caught at the girl's heart. Adrian Gordon to talk of pride!

She flung out both her hands to him, as she had never done before.

"Listen!" she cried passionately. "It's you who are proud; not I! Offend me, and I will give you all the chances on earth to explain; but you—oh, I don't believe you would ever forgive anything."

Her eyes, that had been so gay, so full of sweet mockery, were brimming with tears, and Gordon caught her to him jealously.

"There will never anything come between us," he said as he kissed her, "not between the girl I love and me!"

CHAPTER II.

THE PERSON IN BLACK.

Behind a rock, not two yards from Captain Gordon's flat young back, something stirred—stirring so faintly that even a thrush in its nest in the hawthorn bush did not hear it. Perhaps the sour-faced person in black who knelt on the grass, ostensibly digging dandelions for a complexion salad, had been there for a long time; or, perhaps, it had not been hard to evade the sentry on the hedge and bring up in good ear-shot of the two people who were blind and deaf to everything but themselves.

"Heaps of things can come between us," Ravenel was retorting dolefully. "Lady Annesley can. And Tommy says the Umbrella—that beast of a maid of hers—tells her everything we do."

The person in black bridled angrily behind her rock. She had come from curiosity; she would stay now for spite. The Umbrella, indeed!

Gordon laughed.

"Why do you call her that?"

"Oh, because she's a framework of bones with limp black silk over them—just like an umbrella shut up! But she's a vicious wretch, too, and I hate her."

The unseen listener's eyes narrowed in her flat face.

"Well, never mind her; she can't worry us!" hastily. "This is the only thing that matters just now. My cousin wired for General Carmichael that I'd accept his offer, and—got an answer. Nel, I must go in a week!"

"Well?" She did not look at him.

"Well, I'm going!" his handsome face drawn and hard. "But I won't leave you like this. I want you to marry me before I go."

"But you couldn't take me with you?" a wild hope made her voice shake.

"No! But I could send for you, or come when I could get leave and carry you off. Look here, my heart," with gentle strength, "if I must go I want to leave my wife behind me. Then I shall know nothing can ever come between us."

"Oh," her cheek reddened, "I can't marry you! How could I?" though the very thought of being Adrian's wife made life heaven.

"There's Tommy."

Gordon smiled.

"Is that all? Only Tommy! When I come back for you we'll take Tommy, too; will that do? Or, do you think you'll find me an insufferable husband? Tell me. Why don't you look at me, sweetheart?"

"Because I don't want to," returned Miss Annesley, with scarlet cheeks and a truthful tongue.

"Say you'll marry me!" he demanded. "Say yes—unless you don't love me."

Very deliberately she looked at him, saw the love and truth in his eyes, the strength and beauty of his face, that was pale with earnestness.

"Yes," she whispered, so that he could hardly hear; but he knew without hearing—and the silent woman behind the rock knew, too, and strained her ears.

"Then will you do this?" said Gordon. "The curate at Effingham went to school with me. He'll marry us if I get a special license. All you'll have to do is to walk over to Effingham—which is really your parish church, though you don't go there—with me, and be married. No one will know, unless you like to tell Tommy. And I'll bring you straight home from the church door. But you'll belong to me, and I can defy her ladyship or any one else to make trouble between us. Will you do that?"

She nodded, her face like a crimson flower.

"Yes, Adrian," he prompted: but she spoke with a sudden flash of her spirit.

"Your wife or no one else's in the world!" she cried, "unless—you change your mind and throw me over."

Gordon caught her up like a child.

"Oh, you silly, silly!" he cried. "I'll not give you a chance to be any one else's wife; don't flatter yourself. But I've no right to so sweet a thing as you. What you ought to do is refuse me and marry my cousin."

"I don't even know his name."

"That's a trifle. He has money enough to buy this country and not know it."

"He hasn't money enough to buy me!" with a quick flash of her eyes. "Oh!" with sudden remembrance of the world about her, "I must go! Look how long the shadows are."

"Wait—just one second! I've something for you," he was feeling in his pocket. "I meant it to be diamonds, but they say these things—though of course it's nonsense—less then light if things go wrong with—any one you care for!"

He drew out a velvet case, and there shone into Ravenel Annesley's eyes the green fire of a half-hoop of emeralds, curiously set in a kind of mosaic of small diamonds and opals. The thing was wonderful in a queer, barbaric way as it blazed in the sun. The girl who looked at it stood speechless.

"Don't you like it?" his face falling, for he had searched London for a ring unlike any others.

"I—I love it! But——" she stopped with dismay.

Opals—every one knew what luck opals brought. And emeralds all the world over meant "forsaken."

"Opals aren't lucky," she said hastily, and left the green stones out of the question; "but this is too beautiful to bring bad luck. And I suppose it's all nonsense really! Adrian, do you know, I never had a ring in my life?" shaking from her the senseless dread she felt of this one.

"You're going to have two now. This today and another next week," he was slipping the fiery-green wonder on her third finger. "'Till death do us part,'" he quoted softly. "That belongs to the next ring but I can say it with this one."

"Death or Lady Annesley!" sharply her eyes full of quick tears. "She hates me, Adrian, and she dosen't like you."

"It can't hurt either of us, Nel!" with the little backward jerk of his head the girl loved.

"Why do you never call me Ravenel?" she said irrelevantly, for there was no sense in wasting good time talking about her ladyship.

"Not like you!" promptly. "Means some one quite different. Mind you, never let any one call you Nel till I come back again," with a sudden curious jealousy.

"No one will want to," dolefully. "Oh! Adrian; do you really mean to go next week?"

"I must," his face grew dark, hard-bitten; for it was like dying to leave her. "And the worst of it is I'll be so busy. I'll have to go to London to get my kit, and say a decent word to my cousin, and sit through a farewell dinner at mess—that'll be about as lively as a funeral!—the night before I leave, when I shall be mad to be with you. But we'll have one day together if everything goes undone. And you'll go with me to Effingham, Miss Annesley, and come back Nel Gordon!"

But she sat pale and quiet.

"It seems so mad, so impossible!" she said at last, as if it were wrung from her. "And I believe my stepmother would kill me if she found out."

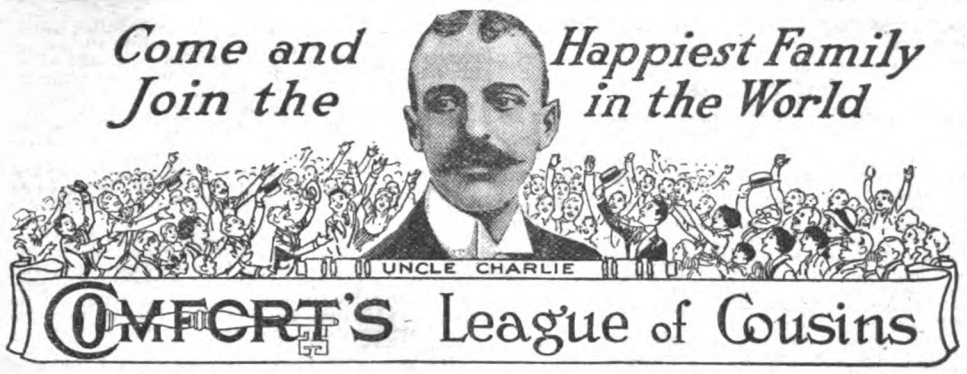
"That's about the only thing she couldn't do," shortly. "Do you think I won't take care of her claws for you? Look here, besides, the day we go to Effingham there'll be the duchess' garden-party. I'll manage to get there. If I can't, I'll send you a note to say what day I am coming to take you to Effingham. After that, sweet, we can laugh at her ladyship."

"You'll be gone! We won't be able to laugh at anything!" forlornly.

"You'll be my wife," something flashed into his eyes that boded no good to any one that dared lift a finger against Adrian Gordon's dearest. "I'll be able to write to you and you to me. Some day I'll come and carry you off, no matter what Lady Annesley may be pleased to say. The only thing is," a sudden pity in the masterful protecting hand on hers, "it's a pretty poor match for you, my Nel. And a doleful wedding in an empty church to a man who can't even keep you is a selfish bit of work—it makes me feel a beast! You ought, you know, to marry a lord—with a choral service, and two bishops, and a church full of fine people to make it all proper," his voice was jesting, but his eyes were sad enough, and he held her hand as if he never could let it go.

"Don't talk like that!" she cried sharply. "It makes me feel as if some one were walking over my grave. What have I got to do with lords and bishops at my wedding? I'd be miserable. I'd——" she could not go on. What made her see, as if in a vision, a strange church, filled

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)



LEAGUE RULES: To be a comfort to one's parents. To protect the weak and aged. To be kind to dumb animals. To love our country and protect its flag.

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE CHARLIE

COMFORT for one year and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.
NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.
ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See Instructions at the close of this Department.

MANY of our readers write me complaining bitterly of the disloyalty of socialists and the socialist press. Seventeen socialist publications have been denied the use of the mails, and others are in line to get the axe. You need not get very excited about what you see in the pro-German, anti-American, so-called "socialist" press right now, for that press is not interested in socialism. All it is interested in at present is promoting anarchy, hate, disorder, and rebellion, blatantly rooting for our common enemy Prussia, deriding and discrediting every action of our government and its policies, and slurring and reviling our allies and trying by every means in its power to continue to fool and mislead the gullible dupes, who eagerly gulp down this insidious poison, so that the pennies by which these peace-for-profit fanatics and traitors live, may continue to flow in. The socialist party, which is a party no longer, has degenerated into a narrow, bigoted, traitorous, alien sect, largely composed of German nationalists, Jewish anarchists, economic paranoiacs, Marxian mannikins and soulless materialists, is hopelessly in the hands of an element that is bitterly anti-American, anti-Christian, anti-everything except anti-Kaiser. What Kaiser Billy and Germany do is all right, or at least they can always find plenty of excuses for Germany's murderous acts and piratical behavior. The socialists of all the warring nations have rallied to the support of their governments. The German socialist is a German before he is a socialist, so is the Frenchman, so is the Briton, so is the Russian. In this country however, if a man wants to be an American as well as a socialist, there is nothing left for him to do but get out of his party or be thrown out, and so those socialists who love their native land in spite of its faults, the really big, worth-while men of the party, have gotten out of it and left it to a rapidly dwindling, noisy, arrogant, foreign element, whose bitter hatred of this country and its institutions, has made it ignoble and contemptible and one may also add, treasonable. But you need not take my word for this, let W. J. Ghent, a man honored and respected by all progressive thinkers and socialists the world over, tell you what he thinks about it. Writing recently to the New York Times, he says: "The socialist majority has proved disloyal to the cause of democracy and civilization. It has echoed virtually every demand of the German foreign office. Its members have taken part in activities financed by the German government. It has in effect sanctioned the employment in this country, by the German Government, of an army of spies and agents provocateurs and has ridiculed the efforts of the government to apprehend them. * * It has denounced the sale of munitions to the Allies and the efforts of our own government to prepare itself against German aggression, and thus gives its sanction to German preparedness, while obstructing preparedness at home. It has no word to say against the German declaration of war, but it has officially declared that the entry of the U. S. A. into the conflict was a crime against humanity. It is now in many devious ways obstructing the operation of the draft. Its disloyalty to the nation of which it is a part, is matched by its disloyalty to internationalism and world-wide humanity. It has uttered no word of protest against the invasion of neutral Belgium. Against the exactions of capital it has much to say, but against the frightful exactions of the German army in Belgium, it has kept studiously silent. Regarding the seizure and transportation to Germany of the machinery, rolling stock and raw material by which the Belgian workers make their living, it has said nothing. The pathetic and desperate plea of the Belgian working class to the working class of America * * * * * * was wholly ignored by the majority of the American party * * * * the unparalleled atrocities in Belgium, Serbia, Roumania and Austria, have wrung from it not even a whisper of protest. It has more or less openly justified such violations of international law as seemed to aid the German cause. The slaughter of women and children has moved it to no concern whatever * * *. It has ignored the murder of civilian workmen. Whatever this element professes to stand for and whatever it may really think it is trying to promote, the record shows it has given its support to spoliation and massacre, the perpetration of infinite cruelty and to the denial of reparation."

A. M. Simon, who has resigned from the party, writing in the New Republic recently says: "There is a blatent antagonism to religion (in the socialist party) that is also un-American. At a time when the American people are turning against the liquor traffic, the party allows itself to be dragged at the heels of the brewery and saloon forces. Socialists in legislative halls have joined hands with the worst enemies of labor in order to protect the liquor interests. The pacifist movement has also been manipulated in the pro-German direction and most socialists pose as pacifists."

Now listen to what Upton Sinclair, who is both a patriot and a socialist and famous the world over, has to say: "This war must be fought until there has been a thorough and complete democratization of the governments of Germany and Austria. Any agitation for peace that does not include this demand is pro-German agitation. If Germany be allowed to win this war, then we in America shall have to drop every other activity and devote the next twenty or thirty years to preparing for a last ditch defense of the democratic principle. I have lived in Germany and know its language and literature and the spirit and ideals of its rulers. Having given many years to a study of American capitalism, I am not apt to be blind to the defects of my own country, but in spite of these defects, I assert that the difference between the ruling classes of Germany and America is the difference between the seventeenth and the twentieth centuries. I find those with whom I have talked utterly unable to cenceive what the Prussian ruling class is. They cite its modernness, its use of science, failing to realize that this is precisely the thing that makes it dangerous—a beast with the brains of an engineer. They cite the good care it takes of its workers, failing to realize that every farmer who fattens animals for the slaughter house, does the same thing, and from the same motive.

"The Appeal to Reason, the paper to which I have been a continual contributor for sixteen years, refused to allow me to put my ideas be its readers."

The socialist press howls about the capitalist press suppressing the truth on important matters, concerning the working class. Here we catch the socialist press doing the same dirty work. By the way here is what the Appeal to Reason has to say about itself: "The Appeal firmly believes that our entire scheme of propaganda generally adopted by socialists during the last twenty years has been built on preconceived notions not applicable to conditions in the United States. We confess that we ourselves have aided and abetted * * * the infliction of these undemocratic and ineffective methods and ideas. * * * * *But we shall do so no more."

Chester M. Wright, former editor of the New York Call (Socialist) in resigning from the party has this to say: "It (the Socialist Party) has lost all color as a working class organization."

John Spargo the intellectual giant of the party, who lives at Old Bennington, Vermont, and who recently resigned from its executive committee says: "The present Socialist party is entirely out of touch with American life, and incompetent to interpret it."

Never were truer words spoken. Spargo and other progressives are organizing a new radically progressive American political party on the wreck of a discredited movement. Spargo, Russell, Upton Sinclair, Phelps Stokes and others, who though radicals, have won the respect of the American public, will engineer this party, which will probably sweep into its ranks the Farmers' Non Partizan League, Single Taxers, Progressives, Organized Labor, Woman's Party, etc. Those who have been misled and become entangled in the present traitorous, anarchistic America-hating, pro-enemy organization of alien soreheads had better get out while the getting is good.

The so-called "Socialist" party pretends to be wild with delight over the overthrow of the Czar by socialist Russia, but its members refuse absolutely to strike a blow to aid their Russian comrades in their fight to retain their hard won liberty, which will be utterly lost if Germany triumphs. That ought to be sufficient to convince even the most hopeless Henry Dubb of the real nature of this seditious bunch of rabid hypocrites, trouble fomenters, treason spreaders and peace-for-profit fakers, who are rapidly making the word socialism a stench in the nostrils of all decent, fair-minded, red-blooded American people.

The I. W. W. anarchists and fake socialists are too blinded by hate, treachery and treason to realize, or too tricky and foxy to admit that they will benefit more than anyone on earth from the sacrifice that our gallant soldier boys are making for them, and these dastardly ingrates have the brazen audacity to call our soldiers "Scabs" and "Ruffians and rowdies in uniform." That ought to make the blood in every decent American body boil with indignation. Frank Little, the I. W. W. agitator who was lynched in Butte, addressed the Governor of Arizona thus: "I don't give a damn what your country is fighting for." Later he said: "A city ordnance is simply a piece of paper that can be torn up. The same can be said of the Constitution of the United States. If the mines are taken under Federal control, we will make it so hot for the government that it will not be able to send any troops to France." People who talk treason in war time must not wonder if they meet a traitor's fate—death. I'm glad to note Union Labor realizes the menace of the I. W. W. movement and is now fighting it tooth and nail.

Charles Edward Russell, a man who is both a socialist and an American, who was sent with a message to the Russian people by our President in spite of the howls of the envious socialist Kaiser cuddlers, found that nearly all his attempts to give the Russian people a correct idea of conditions in this country were blocked by Russian socialists and anarchists, naturalized American citizens (Jews everyone of them I'll bet) who hurried to Russia to blacken this country in the eyes of the Russian people before Russell could get there. These scheming miscreants came to this country to fatten and batten on Uncle Sam's best, they make themselves utterly obnoxious in every walk in life, they spit on our flag, curse our country and its institutions, root for our common enemy, Germany, and plot against us wherever they go.

The fake socialist malcontents are whining because a parade of theirs was broken up by soldiers on Boston Common. The paraders (almost entirely foreigners) came from countries that we are going to shed our blood to make free and happy. These miserable ingrates knew we were at war on their behalf and yet they dared to carry banners bearing such sentiments as these: "Who Stole Panama, And Crushed Hayti?" "The United States Has Ordered Two Hundred Thousand Coffins." "Liberty Bonds Are A First Mortgage On Labor." What these miscreants need is a good dose of Prussian tyranny or the lash of the Cossack whip. That medicine might put them in a mood to use and not abuse the liberty and freedom which is given them, all too bountifully in this great land of ours. Let me warn you to keep your eye on the People's Peace Council, as well as on the I. W. W. pests and other pro-enemy organizations. The purpose of these pestiferous traitorous pro-enemy gangs, is to make the conduct of this war impossible and so bring about a German peace which would be only a truce, and which would give the Prussian tiger a chance to profit by the million mistakes he has made in this campaign, and to complete his bloody schemes for world domination a few years later. These organizations are determined to stab Uncle Sam in the back, while he is shedding the best blood of his noblest sons, so that all nations may have a chance to develop along lines of freedom and democracy and attain higher standards of living than have hitherto been known. Fight these enemy ingrates whenever you have a chance and ship the whole viperous bunch of reptiles back home to their ghettos and rathskellers in Europe directly the war is over, and write to your Congressman and insist that the foreign language press be suppressed immediately. We can never have a united America or any decent American citizenship while these traitorous sheets are permitted to do their dirty, treacherous work.

Now remember this you reformers and dreamers. No political party no matter how idealistic and beautiful its theories and noble its aims can ever hope to win the confidence and support of the American people unless it is genuinely American in its scope, purpose and sympathy, and ready at all times to fight and shed its blood that democracy may be safe the world over and our people, country and flag given that protection which manly men and self-respecting nations are ever ready to give to the things they love, honor, prize and cherish. We want reform and we want reformers, but we want reformers who are real Americans, patriotic citizens who are anxious to build and create not dastardly rascals whose only purpose is to tear down and destroy—to loot and revolute.

Don't forget that Uncle Charlie's four wonderful books may still be had. Start in at once to obtain them,—they cost you no money, only a very little time and effort,—and keep at it until you have the entire set. The book of Poems is beautifully bound in ribbed silk stiff covers; the Story Book is bound in two styles, the one in ribbed silk stiff covers like the Poems, the other in paper covers; the Song Book is bound only in heavy paper covers and the Picture Book in handsome stiff covers. Poems or the Story Book in ribbed silk stiff covers, either one for a club of four subscriptions; the Song Book or the Story Book in handsome paper covers or the Picture Book in pretty stiff covers for a club of only two subscriptions. These four books are a library of endless joy and merriment, the best medicine to drive away the blues and the best gifts in the world.

My picture book, too, has started a deluge of inquiries: Is Billy the Goat my daughter, is Maria her Ma? Is there an Aunt Charlie? Is the big boy in the picture book my only baby? I have had a little leaflet specially printed answering all these questions fully, and those who are interested will find the same in every copy of the four Uncle Charlie Books sent out this season.

Now for the letters.

STRASSEL, OREGON.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am twelve years old. My brother takes the COMFORT. We have three horses and about thirty chickens. I am fond of fishing and hunting. What kind of bate is best for common trout?

Yours sincerely, ESPEY DAVIS.

Espey, I regret to say I am not an expert on piscatorial subjects. I am a fisher of men and humans generally and not of trout. I generally address Billy the Goat as "you poor fish," but he is more goat than fish. Before telling you what kind of "bate" to use that is best for common trout, you will have to tell me what "bate" is, and what particular attraction "bate" has for fish anyhow. The Goat says he thinks you mean bait. If it is bait you mean I would suggest that you get on a hook and jump in the river and make a noise like a worm; or you might make a hole in the middle of the water and sit by the side of the hole, then when the fish fall into the hole, you might jump in and pull them out by the legs. If their legs are too slippery I suggest you grab their arms, and if they don't have any arms you might grab them by the whiskers or the left big toe. You might also sit on the bottom of the river bed and when the fish go to bed and get well asleep, you could grab them by the ears and eyebrows and pull them out. You might also try drinking all the water until the river is dry. All the common trout that went into your mouth you could keep for yourself, and all the aristocratic millionaire trout you might gather up from the river bottom and send to me. I much prefer fish as an article of diet to meat. So do most people I guess when they have only got one tooth. If these suggestions fail to help you Espey, maybe some of our readers will come to your assistance.

HALE, COLO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I am fourteen years of age and passed the eighth grade last year and want to go to high school next year. We live in the country on a large ranch of about 1,600 acres. We are about thirty-five miles from a rail road and five miles from a post-office. I have three brothers and three sisters, my oldest brother graduates from law school this year and one of my other brothers teaches school. Two of my sisters

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.)

$2.25 a Month Buys a Genuine KIMBALL ORGAN At Factory Prices.



FREE Music Instruction by our New Diagram System if you write at once.

We will send them to reliable people anywhere, on our extremely easy payment plan.

Operating the largest piano and organ factory in the world—the Kimball system positively saves you $25 to $50 on strictly first-class organs.

Send for Money-Saving Plan and Free Catalog

Under no circumstances can you afford to buy or consider any other organ until you have our money-saving proposition. Our half-century's manufacturing experience, our financially strong guarantee mean much to you.

W. W. KIMBALL CO., 3057 Kimball Hall, Chicago.

Please send me FREE your 1917 Organ Catalog, factory distributing prices and the Nation's Home Songs with words and music FREE.

Name_____
City_____ State_____
St. or R. F. D._____

MORE Than A Mere Polish LIQUID VENEER Cleans, Brightens, Renews, Preserves.



MOTHERS in EXPECTATION
Send To-Day for Our New Season Book, Showing a Complete Line of Fashionable Apparel for MATERNITY
DRESSES SUITS BLOUSES SKIRTS CORSETS at MANUFACTURER'S PRICES
For Free Book Write Dept. MA Lane Bryant 25 West 38th St. New York.



Spear Charges Less-Always

"I Will Trust You Gladly" Spear, of Pittsburgh

30 Days' Home Trial and Use



Your chance to get a high-class Kitchen Cabinet at a price much below the average. Solid Golden Oak throughout; aluminum work-top—26 x 41 inches. Rustproof 45-pound metal sifter flour bin, large cupboard space, 8-pound sugar bin, and roll curtain covering compartment for spices, extracts, etc. Roomy cupboard for utensils—pan and lid rack on door, easily sliding drawers, large bread and cake drawer, kneading board 17½ x 21 inches. Doors fitted with fancy glass, double strength inserts.

This cabinet will save you hundreds of steps every day. It will rapidly pay for itself in the saving of time, motions, nerves, and health. We will send it on 30 days' trial and use, on the easy credit terms of $1.00 cash and $2.00 per month. First payment and freight charges refunded if not satisfied.

Send Only $1.00 Total Price $18.45

Order No. F2827

Send for Big New Free 1918 Bargain Book

In it you will find hundreds of bargains—every article pictured and fully described. Without leaving the comfort of your home you can shop among the biggest and best furniture manufacturers of America.

And, I will save you money on everything you order—my prices are from 30 to 50 per cent lower than home store prices; that is one reason why I am The Home Furnisher to the People of America.

30 Days' Home Trial Money Back Offer

You take no risk when you deal with me. Everything I sell is sent on 30 days' trial and use in your own home.

In the event of the slightest dissatisfaction with price, quality or anything else, you may return the goods. You will not be out a penny, for I will immediately refund your first payment and all freight charges. There are no strings to this offer. I have been making it for years.

Send the Coupon Now

There are things you have long wanted to brighten and refine your home. You can get them immediately, for I will trust you gladly wherever you live. The terms are so easy, and the payments so small, you will never miss the money. Send for the catalog now.

Nathaniel Spear, President

SPEAR & CO.
Dept. E Pittsburgh, Pa.

Hundreds of Bargains in Everything for the Home

Furniture
Sewing Machines
Washing Machines
Lace Curtains
Linoleum
Go-Carts
Silverware
Portieres
Carpets
Rugs
Guns
Clocks
Stoves
Dishes
Ranges
Springs
Bedding
Mattresses



SPEAR & CO., Dept. E, Pittsburgh, Pa.

I would like to know all about the Spear Open Account, Easy Payment Plan for home furnishing. Please send me, free, your complete Bargain Catalog with Prices, Terms, and Information, without the slightest obligation on my part.

Name_____
Town_____
State_____

The Masked Bridal

By Mrs. Georgia Sheldon

Copyright, 1894, 1895 and 1900 by Street and Smith. Serial rights by W. H. Gannett, Pub., Inc.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

MR. BRYANT MEETS WITH UNEXPECTED DIFFICULTIES.

LET us now return to Edith, to ascertain how she is faring under the care of her new friends in New York.

On the morning following her arrival Mr. Bryant called at the house of his cousin, Mrs. Morrell, as he had promised, to escort our fair heroine to his office, to meet Mr. Louis Raymond, who had been so anxiously searching for her.

The gentleman had not arrived when they reached the place that was so familiar to Edith, and "Roy," as she was slyly beginning to call him, conducted her directly to his own special sanctum, and seated her in the most comfortable chair, to await the coming of the stranger.

A few moments later Mr. Raymond was ushered in, and Roy, after greeting him cordially, presented him to Edith.

It was evident from the earnestness with which he studied her face that the man had more than an ordinary interest in her; while, as he clasped her hand, he appeared to be almost overcome with emotion.

"Pardon me," he said, as he struggled for self-control, "but this meeting with you awakens memories that have proved too much for my composure. You do not resemble your mother, Miss Edith," he concluded.

"No?" the fair girl returned, flushing, and feeling half guilty for allowing him to believe that she was Mr. and Mrs. Allandale's own child.

But she had determined to let him tell his story, or at least reveal the nature of his business with her, and then be governed by circumstances regarding her own disclosures.

"If you will kindly excuse me, I will look over my mail while you are conversing with Miss Allandale," Roy remarked, thinking, with true delicacy, that the man might have some communication to make which he would not care to have a third party overhear.

Then, with a bow and a smile, he passed from the room, leaving the two alone.

"I cannot tell you how gratified I am to find you, Miss Edith," Mr. Raymond remarked, as the door closed. "I have met only disappointment of late, and, indeed, throughout most of my life, and I feared that our advertisements might not meet your eye. I was deeply pained upon returning to America, after many years spent abroad, to learn of the misfortunes of your family, while the knowledge of your mother's privations during the last two years of her life—as related to me by Mr. Bryant—has caused me more grief than I can express."

"Yes, mamma's last days were very, very sad."

"Tell me about them, please—tell me all about your father's death, and how it happened that you became so reduced financially," said Mr. Raymond.

Then the fair girl, beginning with the loss of her young brothers, related all that had occurred during the two years following, up to the time of her mother's death, while she spoke most touchingly of the patience and fortitude with which the gentle invalid had borne their struggles with poverty and hardship.

When she had concluded her story her companion remained silent for a few moments, as if to fortify himself for the revelations which he had to make; then he remarked:

"Your mother and I, Miss Edith, were 'neighbors and playmates' during our childhood—'schoolmates and friends' for long years afterward, she would have told you; but—ever since I can remember, she was the dearest object the world held for me. This affection grew with my growth until, when I was twenty-one years of age, I asked her to marry me. Her answer was like obscuring the sun at midday, for she told me that she loved another; she had met Albert Allandale, and he had won, apparently without an effort, what I had courted for many years. I could not blame her, for I was but too conscious that he was my superior, both physically and mentally, while the position he offered her was far above anything I could hope to give her at least for a long time. But it was a terrible blow to me, and I immediately left the country, feeling that I could never remain here to witness the happiness that had been denied me. During my exile I heard from them occasionally, through others, and of the ideal life they were leading; but I never once thought of returning to this country until about six months ago, when, my health suddenly failing, I felt that I would at least like to die upon my native soil. You can, perhaps, imagine the shock I experienced, upon arriving in New York, when I learned of Mr. Allandale's misfortunes and death, and also that his wife and only surviving child had been left destitute and were hiding themselves and their poverty in some remote corner, unknown to their former friends. I searched the city for you, and then, discouraged with my lack of success, I put my case into the hands of Mr. Bryant, from whom I learned of the death of your mother and your brave struggles with want and hardships; whereupon I commissioned him to spare no effort or expense to find you; hence the advertisement which, his note to me last evening told me, met your eye in a Boston paper, and brought you hither."

"What a strange, romantic story!" Edith murmured, as Mr. Raymond paused at this point; "and, although it is so very sad, it makes you seem almost like an old friend to know that you once knew and loved mamma."

"Thank you, dear child," returned the man, eagerly. "I hardly expected you to greet me thus, but it nevertheless sounds very pleasant to my unaccustomed ears. And now, having told you my story in brief, my wish is to settle upon you, for your dear mother's sake, as well as for your own, a sum that will place you above the necessity of ever laboring for your support in the future. During the last ten years I have greatly prospered in business—indeed, I have accumulated quite a handsome fortune—while, strange to say, I have not a relative in the world to inherit it. The disease which has attacked me warns me that I have not long to live; therefore I wish to arrange everything before my mind and strength fail me. One half of my property I desire to leave to a certain charitable institution in this city; the remainder is to be yours, my child, and may the blessing of an old and world-weary man go with it."

As he concluded, Edith raised her tearful eyes to find him regarding her with a look of tender earnestness that was very pathetic.

"You are very, very kind, Mr. Raymond," she responded, in tremulous tones, "and I should have been inexpressibly happy if mamma could have been benefited by your generosity; but—I feel that I have no right to receive this bequest from you."

"And why not, pray?" asked her companion.

"Because—truth compels me to tell you that I am the child of Mr. and Mrs. Allandale only by adoption."

"Can that be possible?" cried Mr. Raymond.

"Yes, sir; it hurts me to speak of it—to even think of it; but it is true," she replied.

Then she proceeded to relate the circumstances of her adoption, so far as she could do so without casting any reflections upon the unhappy young mother who had been so wronged in Rome.

"Of course, I loved papa and mamma just the same as if they had really been my own parents," she remarked, in conclusion, "for I had not a suspicion of the truth until after mamma died. I was always treated exactly as if I had been as near to them as the children who died."

"And have you no knowledge of your own parents?" Mr. Raymond inquired.

"Not the slightest. The only clews I possess are some letters in my mother's handwriting and the name Belle that she signed to them. Strange as it may seem, there is not a surname nor any reference made to the locality where she lived in her youth, to aid me in my search for her relatives."

"That seems very singular."

"It is not only that, but it is also very trying," Edith returned. "Of course, my mother is dead; my father"—this with a proud uplifting of her pretty head—"I have no desire even to look upon his face. I could never own the relationship, even should we meet; but I would like to know something about my mother's family, for, as far as I know, I have—like yourself—not a relative in the world."

"Then pray, Miss Edith, for the sake of that other Edith whom I loved, regard me, while I live, as your stanch, true friend," said Mr. Raymond earnestly. "The fact that you were the child of Edith Allandale only by adoption will make no difference in my plans for you. To all intents and purposes you were her daughter—she loved you as such—you were faithful and tender toward her until the end; therefore I shall settle the half of my property upon you for your immediate use. I beg that you will feel no delicacy in accepting this provision for your future," he interposed, appealingly, as he remarked her heightened color. "Mr. Bryant had full instructions to carry out my wishes, and the money would have been yours unconditionally, had I never been so happy as to meet you. The only favor I ask of you in return is the privilege of seeing you occasionally, to talk with you of your mother."

"You are very kind," she said, when she could command her voice sufficiently to speak. "I have no words adequate to thank you, and it will be only a delight to me to tell you anything you may wish to know about her who was so dear to us both. I could never tire of talking of mamma. More than this, I trust you will allow me to be of some comfort to you," she added, earnestly. "When you are lonely or ill I shall be glad to minister to you in any way that I may be able."

"It is very thoughtful of you, Miss Edith, to suggest anything of the kind," Louis Raymond responded, his wan face lighting with pleasure at her words, "and no doubt I shall be glad to avail myself now and then of your kindness; but we will talk of that at another time."

He arose as he concluded, and, opening the door leading into the outer office, requested Mr. Bryant to join them, when the conversation became general.

Later that same day, at Mr. Raymond's desire, the papers were drawn up that made Edith the mistress of a snug little fortune in her own right, the income from which would insure her every comfort during the remainder of her life.

The man was unwilling that the matter should be delayed, lest something should interfere to balk his plans.

When Roy took Edith back to Mrs. Morrell's he expressed his admiration and sympathy in the highest terms for the generous-hearted invalid.

"When we make a home for ourselves, darling, let us invite him to share it, and we will try to make his last days his happiest days. What do you say to the plan, sweet?" he queried, as he bent to look into the beautiful face beside him.

Edith flushed painfully at his question and hesitated to reply.

"What is it, love?" he urged, forgetting for the moment the resolve he had made earlier in the day.

"Of course, Roy, I would be glad to do anything in the world for one who was so devoted to mamma, and who, for her sake, has been so considerate for my future; but——"

"Well, what is this dreadful 'but'?" was the smiling query.

"I am afraid that you are too sanguine regarding our prospects," returned the fair girl, gravely. "I am somehow impressed that we shall meet with difficulties that you do not anticipate in the way of your happiness."

"Do not be faint-hearted, dear," said her lover, tenderly, although a shade of anxiety swept over his face as he spoke. "I am going immediately to look up that woman with whom Giulia Fiorini told you she boarded, and ascertain what evidence she can give me to sustain my theory regarding Correlli's relations with the girl."

He left Edith at Mrs. Morrell's door, and then hastened away upon his errand.

He easily found the street and number which Edith had given him, and, to his joy, the name of the woman he sought was on the door.

A portly matron, richly dressed, but with a very shrewd face, answered his ring, and greeted him with suave politeness.

"Yes, she remembered Giulia Fiorini," she remarked, in answer to his inquiry. "She was a pretty Italian girl who had run away from her own country, wasn't she? Would the gentleman kindly walk in? and she would willingly respond to any further questions he might wish to ask." Roy followed her into a handsomely furnished parlor, that was separated from another by elegant portieres, which, however, were closely drawn, thus concealing the room beyond.

"Yes," madam continued, "the girl had a child—a boy—a fine little fellow, whom she called Ino, and she did remember that a gentleman visited them occasionally—the girl's brother, cousin, or some other relation, she believed"—with a look of perplexity that would lead one to infer that such visits had been so rare she found it difficult to place the gentleman at all.

"No, she did not even know his name, and she had never heard him admit that the girl was his wife—certainly not!—nor the child call him father or papa. There had always been something mysterious about Giulia, but she had appeared to have plenty of money, and had paid her well, and thus she had not concerned herself about her private affairs."

Roy's heart grew cold and heavy within him as he listened to these suave and evasive replies to his every question.

It was evident to him that she had already received instructions what to say in the event of such a visit, and was paid liberally to carry them out.

He spent nearly an hour with her trying to make her contradict or commit herself in some way, but she never once made a mistake; her answers were very pat and to the point, and he knew no more when he arose to leave than he had known when he entered the house.

He was very heavy-hearted—indeed, a feeling of despair began to settle down upon him; for, unless he could prove that Emil Correlli had taken Giulia Fiorini to that house, and lived with her there as her husband, he felt that he had very little to hope for regarding his future with Edith.

Madam ushered him out as courteously as she had invited him in, regretting exceedingly that she could not give him all the information he desired, and hoped that the matter was not so important as to cause him any especial annoyance.

She even inquired if he knew where Giulia was at that time, remarking that she "had been invariably sweet-tempered and lady-like, and she should always feel an interest in her, in spite of a certain air of mystery that seemed to envelop her."

But the moment the door closed after her visitor madam's keen, black eyes began to glitter and a shrewd smile played about her cunning mouth.

A little gurgling laugh of triumph broke from her red lips as she returned to the parlor, when the portieres between it and the room were swept aside, and Emil Correlli himself walked into her presence.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

AN UNEXPECTED MEETING RESULTS IN A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

"Well done, madam! you managed to pull the wool over his eyes in very good shape," the man remarked.

"Certainly, Mr. Correlli," the woman returned, in a tone of serene satisfaction. "Only give me my price, and I am ready to make anybody believe that black is white, every time; and now I'll take that five hundred, if you please," she concluded, as she extended her fat hand for the plump fee for which she had been so zealously working.

"You shall have it—you shall have it; I will write you a check for it immediately," said Monsieur Correlli. "But—you are sure there is no one in the house who knows anything about the facts of the case?"

"Yes, I am sure; I haven't a single servant now that was with me when the girl was here."

"Have you any idea where they went after leaving you?" asked the man, with evident uneasiness.

"Lor', no; you needn't have the slightest fear of their turning up," responded his companion, with a light laugh. "That lawyer might as well try to hunt for a needle in a haymow as to seek them as witnesses against you; while as for the lodgers who were here at that time, not one of them knew anything about your affairs."

Presently, he slipped into her hand a check for five hundred dollars.

"Now, in case this matter should come to court I shall rely upon you to swear that the girl's story is false and the lawyer's charge simply a romance of his imagination," he remarked.

"You may depend on me, sir—I will not fail you," madam responded, as, with a complacent look, she neatly folded the check and deposited it in her purse.

Emil Correlli had arrived in New York very early the same morning, and, not caring to have his presence there known, he had sought a room in the house of the woman with whom Giulia had boarded for nearly two years.

Having partaken of a light breakfast, he went out again to seek the policeman to whom he had telegraphed to detain Edith.

He readily found him, when he learned all that we already know of the man's efforts to obey Correlli's orders.

"That was the girl, in spite of the lawyer's interference. You should have never let her go," he exclaimed, when the officer had described Edith and told his story.

"But I couldn't, sir—I had no authority—no warrant—and I should have got myself into trouble," the man objected, adding: "The lawyer was a shrewd one and had a high and mighty way with him that made a fellow go into his boots and fight shy of him."

Monsieur Correlli knew that the man was right, and saw that he must make the best of the situation; so, taking possession of Roy's card, and making his way directly to Broadway, he prowled about the vicinity of his office to see what he could discover.

He had not waited very long when his heart bounded as he caught sight of Edith coming down the street and escorted by a handsome, manly fellow; whose beaming face and adoring eyes plainly betrayed his secret to the jealous watcher, who gnashed his teeth in fury at the sight.

The happy, unconscious couple soon disappeared within an office building, whereupon Correlli went back to his lodgings to lay his plans for future operations.

Some hours later, while he was conversing with his landlady in her pretty parlor, he was startled to see Edith's champion of the morning mounting the steps of the house.

Like a flash he seemed to comprehend the object of his visit there; but he was puzzled to understand how it was possible for either Edith or him to know that he or Giulia had ever lived there.

A few rapid words were sufficient to reveal the situation to his landlady, to whom he promised a liberal reward if she would implicitly follow his directions.

The result we know; and, although his bribe had been a heavy one, he did not begrudge the money, since he believed he had thus securely fortified himself against all attacks from the enemy.

Later in the day he attempted to dog the young lawyer's steps, hoping thus to ferret out Edith's hiding place; but nothing satisfactory resulted, for Roy, after his hard and somewhat disappointing day, simply repaired to his club, where, after partaking of his dinner and smoking a cigar to soothe his nerves, he retired to rest.

But the next morning, feeling secure of his position, Emil Correlli boldly presented himself in his rival's office and demanded of him Edith's address.

Roy was prepared for him, for his fruitless visit to Giulia's former landlady had aroused his suspicions that Monsieur Correlli was in the city.

Therefore he had resolved neither to evade nor parley with him, but boldly defy the man, by acknowledging himself the wronged girl's champion and legal adviser.

"I cannot give you Miss Allandale's address," he quietly responded to his visitor's demand.

"Do you mean to imply that you do not know it?"

"Not at all, sir; the lady is under my protection, as my client; therefore, in her interest I refuse to reveal her place of residence," Roy coolly responded.

"But she is my wife, and I have a right to know where she is," said the would-be husband.

"Your wife?" repeated the young lawyer.

"Certainly—I claim her as such; my right to do so cannot be questioned."

"There may be a difference of opinion regarding that matter," Roy calmly rejoined.

"But we were publicly married on the twenty-fifth."

"Ah! but there are circumstances under which even such a ceremony can have no legal significance."

"But I have my certificate, and can produce plenty of witnesses to prove my statements."

"The court will decide whether your evidence is sufficient to substantiate your claim," Mr. Bryant remarked.

"The court?—will she take the matter into court?—will she dare create such a scandal?" exclaimed the man.

"I do not feel at liberty, even had I the inclination, to reveal any points in my client's case," coldly replied the young lawyer. "This much I will say, however," he added, sternly, "I shall leave nothing undone to free her from a tie that is both hateful and fraudulent."

"I warn you that you will have a battle to fight that will cost you something," snarled the baffled villain.

"That also remains to be seen, sir; but whether you or I win this battle, let me tell you, once for all, that Miss Allandale will never submit to any authority which you may imagine you have acquired over her by tricking her into this so-called marriage; she will never live one hour with you; she will never respond to your name."

Royal Bryant arose as he concluded this defiant speech, thus intimating to his visitor that he wished to put an end to the interview, for the earth that he was putting upon himself was becoming almost unbearable.

"Well," Correlli remarked as he also arose, while he revealed his white teeth in a vicious smile, "it may be in her power to carry out that resolution, but one thing is sure, she can never free herself from the fetters which she finds so galling—she can never marry any other man while I live."

"As I have twice before observed, sir, all these things remain to be seen and proved. Now, can I do anything further for you today?"

The man could not do otherwise than take the hint; besides, there was that in Roy's eye which warned him that it would not be safe for him to try him too far. So, abruptly turning upon his heel, he left the room, while the young lawyer, with tightly compressed lips and careworn brow, walked the floor in troubled thought.

After leaving his office Emil Correlli repaired to the hotel where his letters were usually sent, and found awaiting him there a telegram announcing the sudden death of his sister and requesting his immediate return to Boston.

Shocked beyond measure, and grieved to the soul by this unexpected bereavement, he dropped everything and left New York on the next eastward express.

We know all that occurred in that home where death had come unexpectedly; how, after the burial of Mrs. Goddard, Emil Correlli had suddenly found his already large fortune greatly augmented by the strange will of his sister, while the man whom she had always professed to adore was left destitute, and to shift for himself as best he could.

The day after he had turned Gerald Goddard out of his home, so to speak, the young man dismissed all his servants, closed the house, and put it into the hands of a real estate agent to be disposed of at the best advantage.

He made an effort to find Giulia and her child, with the intention of settling a comfortable income upon them, provided he could make the girl promise to return to Italy and never trouble him again.

But she had disappeared, and he could learn absolutely nothing regarding her movements; and impressed with a feeling that she would yet revenge herself upon him in some unexpected way, he finally returned to New York, determined to ferret out Edith's hiding place.

Meantime the fair girl had been very happy with her new friends, who were also growing very fond of her.

But she would not allow herself to build too much upon the hope of attaining her freedom which Roy had tried to arouse in her heart shortly after her arrival in New York.

He had, however, filed a plea to have Edith's so-called marriage set aside, and was anxiously waiting for some time to be appointed for a hearing of the case.

Edith and her new acquaintance, Mr. Raymond, were fast becoming firm friends, in spite of the suspense that was hanging over the former regarding her future.

One day Mrs. Morrell and Edith went to attend a charity exhibition that was under the supervision of a friend of the former, at her own house.

Upon their arrival they were ushered into the drawing-room, which was beautifully decorated and hung with many exquisite paintings, while some rare gems were resting conspicuously upon easels.

In one corner, and artistically draped with a beautiful scarf, Edith was startled, almost at the moment of her entrance, to see a painting that was very familiar.

It was that representing a portion of an old Roman wall, with the lovers resting in its shadow, which had attracted the attention of Mrs. Stewart on the last night of the "winter frolic" at Wyoming.

With an expression of astonishment she went forward to examine it more closely, and to assure herself that it was the original, and not a copy.

Yes, those two tiny letters, G. G., in one corner, told their own story and proved her surmise to be correct.

"How strange that it should be here!" she breathed.

She had hardly uttered the words when some one arose from behind the easel, and—she stood face to face with Gerald Goddard himself.

The girl stood white and almost paralyzed before him, and the man appeared scarcely less astonished on beholding her.

"Miss Allen!" he faltered. "I never dreamed of meeting you here!"

"Oh, pray do not tell Monsieur Correlli that you have seen me," she gasped.

"Do not be troubled—he shall learn nothing from me," said the man, reassuringly. "Correlli and I are not very good friends just now, simply because I told him that I should do all in my power to help you prove that he had no just claim upon you."

"Thank you," said Edith.

"I suppose you have heard of my—of Mrs. Goddard's death?" he remarked, after a moment of silence.

"Mrs. Goddard—dead?" exclaimed Edith.

"Yes, she died very suddenly, the second morning after you left Boston."

Edith was about to respond with some expression of regret and sympathy, when she saw him start violently, and a look of agony, that bordered on despair, leap into his eyes.

Involuntarily she turned to see what had caused it, and was both surprised and delighted to behold Mrs. Stewart—whom she supposed to be in Boston—just entering the room, and looking especially lovely in a rich black velvet costume, with a hat to match, but brightened by two or three exquisite pink roses.

At that instant a lady, to whom she had recently been introduced, laid her hand upon Edith's arm, remarking in quick, incisive tones:

"Miss Allandale, your friend, Mrs. Morrell, is beckoning you to come to her."

Again Gerald Goddard started, and so violently that he nearly knocked his picture from the easel.

He shot one quick, horrified glance at the girl.

"Miss Allandale!" he repeated, in a dazed tone, as all that the name implied forced itself upon his mind.

Another in the room had also caught the name, and turned to see who had been thus addressed.

As her glance fell upon Edith her beautiful face grew radiant.

"Oh, if it should be——" she breathed.

The next moment she had crossed the room to the girl's side.

"What did Mrs. Baldwin call you, dear?" she breathlessly inquired, regardless of etiquette, for she had not yet greeted her hostess. "Was it Miss Allandale?"

"Yes, that is my name," said Edith, flushing, but frankly meeting her look of eager inquiry.

"But you told me——" Mrs. Stewart whispered.

"Yes," interposed the young girl, "while I was in Boston I was known simply as Edith Allen—why, I will explain to you at some other time; but my real name is Edith Allandale."

The woman seemed turned to stone for a moment by this unexpected revelation, so statue-like did she become, as she also realized all that this confession embodied.

Then, as if impelled by some magnetic influence, her eyes were drawn toward the no less statue-like man standing by that never-to-be-forgotten picture on the easel.

Their gaze met, and each read in that one brief look the conviction that made one heart bound with joy, the other to sink with despair—each knew that the beautiful girl, standing so wonderingly beside that stately woman, was the child that had been born to them in the pretty Italian villa hard by the old Roman wall which Gerald Goddard had so faithfully reproduced upon canvas.

CHAPTER XXXV.

"THAT MAN MY FATHER!"

Isabel Stewart was the first to recover herself, when, gently linking her arm within Edith's, she whispered, softly:

"Come with me, dear; I would like to see you alone for a few minutes."

She led her unresistingly from the room, across the hall, to a small reception-room, when, closing the door to keep out intruders, she turned and laid both her trembling hands upon the girl's shoulders.

"Tell me," she said, looking wistfully into her wondering eyes, "are you the daughter of Albert and Edith Allandale?"

"Yes."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.)

The Girl He Loved

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

with sweet people, whispering indifferently while the organ pealed, and the bride, all in white—with a heart of stone—came up the aisle on feet that would hardly carry her, since it was not Adrian Gordon who waited at the altar? There was a look on her face as she stared in front of her, wide-eyed, that made Gordon catch her to him. A prescient look, as of one who sees for a shuddering moment the curtain lifted from the future.

"What's the matter? You're not afraid?" he whispered. "I'll take care of you, my sweet; you know that! May God treat me as I treat you, my wife."

Lip to lip, soul to soul, they kissed each other. She was shaking when he let her go; afterward it was small comfort to him to remember it, nor the real terror in her voice when she spoke.

"Oh! I've stayed too late. And the ring, I daren't wear it. You mustn't come with me. She mustn't know you were here." She dragged up her neck-ribbon and put the ring on it, slipping it round her neck, inside her collar, pushing it out of sight with miserable care. And the watcher behind the rock—who was stiff and much fatigued—saw her do it.

"Rings!" she reflected, coming cautiously out as the pair vanished, and rubbing one foot that had gone to sleep, "and weddings at Effingham—we'll see!" pins and needles adding vigor to her thoughts. "Old Umbrella, indeed!" and her ladyship's confidential maid moved stiffly off in a devious direction that took her to Annesley Chase quite unobserved.

CHAPTER III.

A GIFT OF JUDAS.

"Oh!" said Ravenel Annesley to the empty schoolroom, the ill-spread breakfast-table. She stared at the small envelope that lay on her plate with a breathless, helpless joy. Since this four days past she had hoped for it in vain.

"I never thought he'd write by post!" she thought pouncing on it and inspecting every inch of it, from the London postmark to the last letter of the address. "But her ladyship couldn't have suspected it was from Adrian, or I never would have seen it! It was just that London postmark that saved me!"

She turned it over sharply with the horrid thought that perhaps she had only got it after Lady Annesley knew what was in it, for the post-bag always went to her bedroom, and her ladyship's prejudices were few. But the clean, red seal on the back of it reassured her no one had tampered with that clear-cut A. Tommy, sauntering in, whistled as he looked from his sister's face to the envelope she was tearing open.

"My Nel," she read breathlessly.

"I find I can go to the duchess' tomorrow. I was afraid I couldn't manage it. My ship sails on the 15th, so the 14th is our only day. I have arranged everything, got the license, seen the curate at Effingham, and I'll come to the back gate for you at three on the 14th, which is our only chance for Effingham, as my ship sails a day sooner than I thought. Will it be very hard for you to get away? But you'll do it, won't you? Bring Tommy if you like. It does not seem true that the next time I see you will be on our wedding-day, does it, sweetheart? I feel as though I were hurrying you brutally, but it is our only chance. Excuse pencil and haste, but I'm writing in another's man's rooms, and his ink won't work.

"Always yours—my very dearest, ADRIAN."

But Miss Annesley bestowed no attention on the pencil-scrawl or the dates written in figures, which Lady Annesley would have considered tempting Providence.

"Today is the twelfth," she thought joyfully. "I'll see him tomorrow at the duchess'. Oh, if I only had something fit to wear!"

"Look here," said Sir Thomas suddenly. "When you have done moaning over that precious letter I wish to discourse. Are you going to marry Gordon?"

"Shut up, Tommy!" she was scarlet. "Some one might hear."

"Who could?" scornfully. "The Umbrella's at her breakfast. Are you? Because, I should if I were you! It may be your only chance," significantly.

"Yes, I am!" she said defiantly, and afterward was glad she had told no more.

"But what do you mean?" for his face was sober.

"Only that somehow I think her ladyship's in mischief. She's been eying you like a cat lately. I feel afraid she may be on to you and Gordon."

"I don't care if she is." Somehow she could not tell all her wild plan to Tommy. "I'm engaged to him. Why should I care?"

"You don't now, but you will when her eye's on you," shrewdly.

"I'll soon find out. She wants me after breakfast," bestowing Adrian's note in a safe pocket. "I suppose it's about the duchess' party tomorrow. Do you know I'm to go?"

The boy nodded.

"Good old duchess!" he said disrespectfully. "Ever see her on a bicycle? She's gorgeous. You'll never be a fine woman like that unless you make her ladyship give us more to eat," dolefully.

"What do you bet—she's having sweetbreads up-stairs?"

"Don't bet," concisely. "Met them going up. I'll go up myself now, Tommy, and hear the worst."

She marched out of the untidy old schoolroom, where she and Tommy had their meals, and through the bare passages to the only luxurious room in the house. It was like going into another world, a world of scent and rose-colored hangings and mirrors, silver-topped bottles and cushions. On a sofa sat its owner and in the tempered light she was beautiful still. Yet she looked enviously at Ravenel standing in the doorway. With half her looks Sylvia Annesley would have married a duke.

"You wanted me?" Somehow Ravenel was nervous.

"Yes," pointing to a chair; about tomorrow. Have you anything to wear?"

"My Sunday frock," coloring as she remembered when she had last worn it.

Lady Annesley let a gleam of amusement come into her eyes, since her back was to the light.

"That lavender thing! It can't be fit."

"It's all right," hastily. "It doesn't matter what I wear."

"Except that I fancy the duchess would like to see you decent." So carelessly that no one would have dreamed that all her schemes might be made or marred by her stepdaughter's toilet at a country garden-party.

"It's my lavender or nothing!" returned that young person not too amiably.

Lady Annesley's answer made her jump.

"Not at all! I am going to give you a gown. I sent for you to try it on."

"You!" It sounded more candid than polite. "Why? What for?" For her life she could not get out any thanks. Lady Annesley, who let her go cold in winter to suddenly present her with a new dress. "I—I'd rather not," she ended stiffly.

"Oh, you might see it first," rather dryly. "Adams, Miss Ravenel's gown!"

Ravenel watched the Umbrella go to a wardrobe.

"If she made it," she thought, "I'll never put it on!"

Sylvia Annesley read the obstinate face like print.

"You see," she said lightly, "the whole county will be there tomorrow, and all the soldiers! You simply can't go in a tumbled old muslin."

All the soldiers! And Adrian had never seen her in a frock that was even new. Lady Annesley saw her waver.

"That is the little gown," she said quickly. 'Slip it on and decide afterward," thinking that mention of the soldiers had done the business, and blessing the discretion of her maid without which she might have given her stepdaughter ten gowns and not known how to make her wear them.

For Ravenel had risen and was staring at the ivory-white, silk-lined muslin the Umbrella held.

There was not a spot of color about it, and as she gazed the girl knew that Adrian had never even dreamed of her as she would look in that filmy white frock.

"I can't take it," she faltered, but she let the Umbrella put it on her.

"The hat, Adams!" cried Lady Annesley quickly. "In the next room. Give me the scissors first. The collar is too high in the back."

She snipped hastily once or twice, but Ravenel hardly felt the cold scissors as she stared down at her long skirt.

"There, look at yourself." With a curious lingering touch, Lady Annesley pushed her to the glass. But the girl gave a little cry of astonishment.

Was this her very own self who stood so thin and tall, her bronze hair gleaming, her cheeks rose-red, her eyes—she turned from the mirror with sudden passion. No matter who gave her the gown she would wear it! would go all in white for Adrian Gordon's eyes.

"Do you know it is very good of you?" She faced the woman in the yellow silk morning gown honestly. "I don't deserve it."

"It is not new. I had the things," slowly. "Just turn and let me see how the train hangs." She stooped gracefully, pulled the bodice down under the skirt, settled the train. She also had not been prepared for the dream of peach and carnation the girl looked in the white gown; had doubted if her one card were strong enough to play against the world-worn shrewdness of a man grown old in society. But she was confident enough now.

"I can snap my fingers at Captain Gordon, I fancy," and she tightened her small hand. "He can't blame anyone but himself," but she kept the scorn off her face till Ravenel had put on her every-day clothes and departed.

"Tommy," the girl cried, bursting into the schoolroom and recounting the extraordinary tale, "fancy her giving me a dress! Do you think it means she's beginning to like me?" wistfully.

"I don't think—I know," said Sir Thomas bluntly. "It means Lord Levallion. You bet your boots he's going to that party."

"What do you mean?" blankly. "I never heard of the man."

"Her ladyship dropped that out of the window," producing a torn envelope. "It blew slap in my face. Darkblue coronet, 'Levallion' on the back and 'Lady An——' torn through in front. And, sent by hand!"

"I don't see what that's got to do with the garden-party!"

"Don't you?" getting up. "You're a girl and can't see past your nose. I tell you Levallion's staying with the duchess. Aren't you hungry? I'm going out to get that ginger beer I buried. I hooked some buns, too. We hadn't too much breakfast."

"We'll get less after tomorrow," following him briskly into the garden. "For I'm not going to speak to any nasty old Lord Levallion—not for ten gowns. I'm going to——" She stopped short, white with terror.

"My ring!" she cried wildly. "I took off my dress before her. She must have seen it."

Both hands at her throat, she fumbled for her treasures; and leaned back against a convenient tree with her knees giving under her.

Ring and ribbon were gone!

CHAPTER IV.

"A HORRID OLD MAN!"

Lord Levallion was bored.

He hated garden-parties, and he had patiently endured the Duchess of Avonmore's country omnium-gatherum from four o'clock until six. He could not go home, because he was staying in the house, and, retreat being impossible, he had revenged himself for his martyrdom on his old friend, Lady Annesley, by departing hastily on her eager offer to introduce him to her step-daughter.

"I don't see her just now," Sylvia Annesley had said, with the smile he had once known so well, "but if you will come with me we shall easily find her!"

"No, thank you, Sylvia; I don't care for little girls."

Lord Levallion had the rudest drawl in the world when it pleased him, and he enjoyed Lady Annesley's rage at it now. It was all very well to write her a note by way of amusing himself on a wet day, but it was another story to have her introduce him to a bread-and-butter miss.

"The woman wears well, though," he reflected, as he adroitly drifted away from her. "Who would imagine it was fifteen years since I loved and rode away! I think a cigarette might assist me to endure to the end, if I can get away from this madding crowd. I'll get back to town tomorrow, that's one thing certain. The country is less in my line than ever."

He pursued his leisurely way through the magnificent old gardens, round the end of the lake, and finally found a seat on a retired bench in the heart of a grove of trees. There was not a soul to be seen, and if it had not been for the mellow sound of a distant band Lord Levallion would not even have been reminded that he was at a party. He had smoked one cigarette, and was lighting another with a contented sigh, when he heard a quick step and a rustle of silk which caused him to look up sharply. Pray the gods Sylvia had not tracked him!

But it was not Sylvia. It was a strange girl, all in white from her hat to her shoes, and she did not even see him as she walked toward him along the quiet path where the light came dim and green through overarching boughs. She was magnificently handsome—and she was blind with tears that streamed down her face. Her white gown trailed unheeded on the gravel as she fumbled in her pocket for a handkerchief.

"Something must be very wrong," Levallion reflected swiftly, "to make her ruin her skirt round the hem!"

But even in her tears she was gloriously beautiful, and he was not going to let her pass him.

Lord Levallion got up, dropped his cigarette, and took off his hat.

"I beg your pardon," he said gravely. "I will go." But he did not move.

Ravenel Annesley started furiously.

"I didn't see you," she said, with a sob in her throat. 'I thought there was no one here. And—I wanted to be alone."

She wiped the tears from her eyes savagely, with a morsel of a handkerchief; but they came again, and Levallion saw her chest lift with an uncontrollable sob.

"Do you want to stop crying?" he said quietly.

Ravenel stamped her foot.

"Of course I do, but I can't!" she cried childishly.

"Then don't be alone," he returned. "If you stay by yourself you will cry till you are not fit to be seen. Sit down here by me instead, and talk. Oh, I know you're wishing me miles away; but just try it! When you get to my age you will find it is always better to stop crying."

His voice was cool and hard. It came on her nerves like iced water. She did not answer him, but she sat down on a corner of the bench limply, as if her feet could carry her no longer.

"Do you mind my cigarette? No," as she shook

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

to join your happy band? It is needless to say I am an ardent admirer of the Sisters' Corner. It is impossible to tell how much may be learned by reading the letters from the many sisters from all over this great country of ours. Although we cannot all agree in everything we can each express our views on certain topics and after weighing in the balance other people's ideas with our own, we are in better condition to form our own conclusions. This is one advantage of correspondence, both personal and through a magazine, and this is one reason why I like COMFORT above all other household magazines.

Of the topics being discussed, I stand for universal woman suffrage and since I deem that an undebatable question I will merely say that since women are created equal to men they should enjoy the same privilege as men when it comes to supporting a government which concerns women as much as it concerns men. As to the arguments of "women being superior, or inferior, to men," "not being able to be homemakers and have the privilege of voting," that, "the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world," are too disgusting for words. Woman Suffrage does not mean the flocking to office by women. The men all have the right to vote but do they all hold office? Why cannot a woman vote for what she thinks is right and yet be a homemaker? Some women are more suited for lawmakers than homemakers. Why withhold from them what is their right because of the selfishness of certain individuals who never look beyond their horizon of life?

Another topic I agree with is divorce. I think, in the first place, the couple should be well suited so divorce would never be necessary, but if a great mistake is made it is wrong to keep them together when their presence becomes distasteful to each other.

I do not admire the habit of getting extracts from the Bible (which is centuries old) to prove the great questions rising before us today. In fact, I think the Bible represents a civilization of centuries past and not the word of God; at least, it isn't the word of my God. In my mind, God would not give to His people such vulgar things as are in parts of the Bible, as His word. Nor do I believe in the Devil. I think the prinkings of our consciences for the evil deeds we do on earth, is punishment enough. God, in my mind, must be a great power composed of love, righteousness and all that is pure and good. His word is transmitted by Nature and is the happenings of the universe. He has nothing to do with war; that is the work of man. He has nothing to do with plagues, disease or the like; that is the work of germs (I agree with Uncle Charlie about germs) assisted by the filth, carelessness or ignorance of man.

Many of you may not agree with me, but then, all have a right to express their opinions on different subjects.

Here is a poem which expresses my sentiments pretty well:

Not Much of a Creed

"He didn't have much of a Creed,
And his doctrine was not very deep;
His faith wasn't one he could read
In volumes expensive or cheap.
He helped all who asked when he could,
He comforted all when they grieved,
He believed in the right and the good,
And he lived up to what he believed.

"He didn't have much of a Creed,
His doctrine was simple and plain;
But he seemed to have all that we need
To balance life's pleasure and pain.
He wasn't a fellow to shirk
With burdens that could be relieved,
He believed 'twas his duty to work,
And he lived up to what he believed.

"He put out his hand here and there,
To succor the weak and distressed;
And when he had burdens to bear,
He bore them by doing his best.
He refused to take profit or gain,
That was won by another deceived;
He believed in a life without stain,
And he lived up to what he believed.

"I reckon, when toiling is o'er,
And all our struggles are through;
When no one needs help any more,
And there are no good deeds to do,
When the last of life's dangers is braved,
And the judgment of all is begun,
Not by what we believed, we'll be 'saved,'
But by what, through believing, we've done."

I should like to hear from the sisters and cousins and would highly appreciate receiving pressed flowers from the various states as I am trying to get a collection of flowers.

With best wishes, MISS DOLLY I. HULL.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

Comfort Sisters' Recipes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

DAMSON PIE.—Scald the plums and set aside to cool. Take out the stones. Sweeten and put in pie tins lined with paste. Dredge with flour and cover with rich top crust and bake.

MISS JENNIE C. KEENE, West Alton, Mo.

ORANGE PUDDING. (Requested.)—Peel and slice three oranges and cover with sugar; let stand half an hour and pour over them a custard made of one pint sweet milk, three tablespoons corn-starch, yolks of two eggs, six tablespoons sugar, boiled together four minutes. Put the beaten whites on top and set in oven to brown. Serve cold. MRS. ELDRIDGE, Hot Creek, Wyo.

COCOANUT RICE PUDDING.—Cook carefully one half cup rice, with a pinch of salt added. When well done add the following and let stand on the stove about ten minutes longer: One well-beaten egg, one half cup sweet milk, one half cup sugar, any desired flavoring, a sprinkle of nutmeg and half a cup of shredded cocoanut. Pour over cooked rice. Serve with cream and sugar. MISS LELAH DEMOSS, Grangerville, Idaho.

COMBINATION SALAD.—Have prepared one cup of crisp shredded cabbage, one large tomato cut in small pieces, half a cup each of cubes of apple and celery. Take one large ripe tomato, cut in eight sections but leave so it will hold together in center of salad dish. Around it arrange the apple, tomato and celery and



COMBINATION SALAD.

on top the shredded cabbage. Sweet pepper, onion, radish and cucumber may also be used in this way. Pour over French dressing just before serving.

FRENCH DRESSING.—In a cup put half a teaspoon of salt, a pinch of pepper and three tablespoons of olive oil. Beat until salt is dissolved, then very gradually add two teaspoons of vinegar and beat till it somewhat thickens. Use at once.

SULPHURED APPLES.—Prepare firm apples as for canning, put them in a loose-mesh basket and hang it in the top of a box or barrel in which sulphur should then be burned in the proportion of one half cup sulphur to half bushel of apples. Shake up apples occasionally so all will get a smoke. Pack in stone jars and they will keep solid and fresh as when first prepared. Before using, wash in cold water, then stew and all flavor of sulphur will disappear, while flavor and color of the apples remain.

To prevent insects from getting into dried fruit, give the fruit a fifteen-minute sulphur smoke before putting away.

Left over green tomatoes may be sliced and pickled exactly as for "krout." If sliced green mangoes are added, a fine flavor results. May be eaten raw or boiled with a bit of pork.

CREAM CARAMELS. (Requested.)—Four cups granulated sugar, one half cup corn syrup, one cup cold water. Boil, stirring occasionally, until it forms soft in cold water, then add cup of rich sweet cream and a pinch of salt. Boil again until it hardens in water, add flavor, remove at once and pour in a buttered pan, three quarters inch thick. When cool, mark off in squares.

SUGAR 4 cents

Best Family Patent FLOUR $8.50 Per Bbl.

(WITH ORDER)

Read every word of this advertisement. It shows you how to **Save Money** on groceries. Our Grocery Bargain Catalogue is included **free** with your first order. Economy is the national watchword. We desire to serve you better, save you money, and assist in this great campaign by eliminating the sending of catalogues promiscuously. We eliminate waste and **save you money,** by sending our catalogue **only** to those who can prove to us that they are interested in saving money on their grocery purchases.

Money Back if not more than pleased.

Here Is Our Plan

Send us $2.99 for the following Trial Order and we will then know that you mean business, and we will include with your order our Bargain Grocery Catalogue and Monthly Bargain Bulletins in which you will find big grocery bargains and can save many dollars.

$2.99

Grocery Assortment, E-31

Approximate Retail Price	Approximate Weight, 19 lbs.	Our Wholesale Price to You
$0.50	5 lbs. Pure Cane Granulated Sugar	$0.20
.12	1 Large Size Package Quaker Oats	.06
.08	1 Package Uneeda Biscuits	.02
.06	1 Bar Ivory Toilet Soap	.03
.15	1 Can Campbell's Tomato Soup	.08
.07	1 Bar Kirk's Flake White Laundry Soap	.02
.07	1 Bar American Family Soap	.02
.25	1 Can Sardines, LaParis Brand, French Style, smoked and spiced, fried in best oil. Very Appetizing	.14
.90	2 lbs. Moneyworth Brand Coffee	.70
.80	1 lb. Tea, highest grade, uncolored, Japan	.57
.50	1 lb. Guaranteed Baking Powder	.39
.39	1 Bottle Family Concentrated Bluing, 4 ounce bottle, equal to one gallon ordinary bluing	.23
.60	1 lb. Pure High-Grade Breakfast Cocoa	.33
.50	½ lb. Pure Ground Cinnamon	.20
	Our Special Catalog Free!	
$5.01	Our Wholesale Price To You.	$2.99

(Approximate Saving to You of $2.02

GUARANTEE

When you receive these groceries call in your friends to examine them, and if you do not all agree the groceries are entirely satisfactory in every way, and just what you expected to get, and at much lower prices than you can get elsewhere, if you do not find you have saved money, simply return the entire shipment to us and we will immediately refund your money.

For reference as to our responsibility, we refer you to The Independent State Bank, Chicago, or any financial reporting agency.

DON'T FORGET: We do not send our Bargain Catalogue until we receive your trial order, nor do we sell a part of the order, nor any one article mentioned in the list separately. The Ford plan of selling automobiles is our plan of selling groceries. We serve all well by serving all alike.

Why continue to pay big prices and unnecessary profits to dealers when you can buy better goods from us at nearly half the prices you pay elsewhere.

Rush your trial order by return mail. It will put you on our permanent list of careful grocery buyers. It will bring you our catalogue and our bargain bulletins. Strike the first blow today in the battle against increasing grocery costs.

Repeat orders from all customers—speaks volumes for the reliable bargains we offer. "We Do Not Substitute." All orders filled exactly as represented.

Moneyworth Wholesale Grocers

Dept. E-31, Ashland and 14th Street, Chicago, Ill.

Tear Off Coupon Here and Mail With Your Remittance

MONEYWORTH WHOLESALE GROCERS,

Dept. E-31, Ashland and 14th St., Chicago, Ill.

Gentlemen:—For the enclosed $2.99 you may send me your special Trial Bargain Assortment Catalogue of grocery bargains and future Bargain Bulletins as issued. This order is given with the understanding that if I am not perfectly satisfied, the entire order may promptly be returned to you and you will at once refund my money plus all transportation charges and postage. State whether you want order by express or freight.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ *County* _____

State _____ *R.F.D.* _____

Express _____ *What Railroad?* _____

ONCE to EVERY MAN

By Maud Mary Brown

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

PART TWO.

STRICKLAND shook in inarticulate fury as Coit, without having spoken after his chastisement of the older man, moved unhurriedly to the door. Before he reached it, some seismic change took place in the man in the chair.

"I say, Coit, I want you, curse you! Will you come?"

"I am on my way to the Pierrepont now to pack," was the unexpected reply as Coit left the room. Alone, Strickland felt of his insulted lips, chuckling in unholy mirth.

Winter, even in northern New York, held off late that year and during the pleasant days of the prolonged autumn, Diana and Coit inevitably drifted into a warm friendship.

Diana Strickland was the first mature woman—she had told him that she was thirty—with whom Coit had ever been thrown for his mother had died in his infancy. Diana's forbearance under great provocation, the dignity which even her dissolute husband had not been able to unseat, appealed to him strongly.

It was not long before he began to feel for her an emotion beside which his love for Frances Fuller had been a feeble flame. Her beauty, her loyalty, her acceptance without a whimper of the blows of life, aroused in him an almost savage devotion.

Strickland seemed not to mind the dangerous relationship. Indeed, he watched its growth, an amused gleam in his half-shut eyes, devouring, meanwhile, salacious literature, in an effort to galvanize into life his jaded senses. It was with difficulty that Coit tolerated the picture of decadence, but for Diana's sake, he stayed on.

During the hours which they spent together, Diana told him about her life. She had been married ten years—had married Strickland knowing what he was—as the price of freedom for her embezzling father.

There had been a daughter of Strickland's by a previous marriage. Angela had lived with them until her father's recurrent attacks had made too dark a shadow for a young girl's life. She was with an aunt now, in Japan.

"A woman has no business to violate a contract which she made with her eyes wide open," Diana said to Coit one day when they had been exchanging confidences.

"But your eyes weren't open, Diana; how could a girl foresee such a ruin of manhood? I love you, dear. You knew that after that first night. I want to get you away from this where I can protect you. Diana, do you love me a little?"

His dark eyes devoured her face.

"Could there possibly be two answers to that question?" she replied, smiling. "You are the first man who has suggested protection without a too-heavy price. Of course I love you, Murray; it would be idle to deny it."

"Diana!" He reached for her, his desirous arms outstretched. "Then nothing else matters. Come!"

But Diana drew back.

It was during such a scene that Strickland's man approached Diana one day with a request from her husband for her immediate presence in his room.

A little pale, Diana went, and Coit in the grip of a primitive rage that the woman he loved should be subject to the whims of a beast, loitered in the hall outside Strickland's suite.

An hour later Diana, ghastly and unnerved emerged, and Coit met her, a question smoldering in his eyes.

Diana shook her head and, Coit's arms being open, for the first time, she crept into their shelter.

"You can't love me, Murray," she shivered. "I feel so old and soiled and——"

"Love you, my darling?" interposed Coit; "I love you so much that I would wade through a sea of slime to reach you."

But his arms relaxed suddenly at a sound from Strickland's room.

With a leap Coit, followed immediately by Diana, reached his door. The man, in rising from the couch where he had been lying, had pitched forward in an attack, and in falling had cruelly twisted his head beneath his arm.

It was obvious that he was strangling. The sounds that he uttered became more guttural while the two stood looking at each other, the dark pupils of Diana's eyes dilated till they looked black, the feet of the two of them riveted to the floor.

It was Coit who recovered himself first and sprang to the aid of the helpless man; it was Diana who arranged pillows on which to ease her husband. Together they worked over him, loosing his clothing, administering stimulants, furnishing every comfort.

When the attack had passed, Strickland, pale and shaking, regarded the two with an odd smile. Some occult messenger seemed to have conveyed to him their thoughts as they had faced each other in the presence of his danger.

"Good sports!" he taunted, grinning.

Diana wheeled and left the room and when he was able, Coit followed. He met her in the hall in her riding kit.

"I am going for a canter," she said. "Nothing but this fresh wind will set me right."

"Wait for me on the ledge," he begged, and she nodded and went on while he hurried away to dress.

When Coit joined Diana he thought he had never seen her so desirable. Exercise had brought an unusual and delicate color to her small, pointed face; a loosened curl of her dark hair had crept from beneath her tricorne hat and lay softly against her temple; she looked adorably young and boyish in her well-cut coat and breeches as, with gauntleted hand, she flicked her crop against her boots.

He would have taken her in his arms but she repulsed him and he drew back, hurt.

"You don't love," he charged; "you *are* Artemis, as I said the first night I saw you—a modern Artemis, untouched by love."

"Not untouched by love," she corrected, "but unsoiled by love."

"How can you say that after what Strickland has put you through?"

"Love had nothing to do with that. He has not besmirched my soul, Murray. No one can do that unless I am willing." She looked off across the rippling lake.

"I am trying to make you see, dear," she went on, "that I am paying a legally-incurred debt."

"But it was paid long since, dear. Can't you see that it isn't possible for us to go on like this? Didn't what happened this afternoon teach you that? Leave him, darling! Leave him to his money and his beastiality. It is time you had release. You have held a poor hand in the game of life, Diana."

Her head went up superbly. "But I wish always to be able to reflect that I played it well," she said.

"This is final? There isn't any way by which I can have you—now?"

She shook her head, her eyes remote.

He was silent for an instant. "But afterwards ——" he began.

She gave him her eyes and he was satisfied.

In silence they rode back to the house. Strickland's querulous voice came to them from his room and Coit went to him at once.

"Lord!" he began. "Where have you two been?" His ferret eyes were fastened on Coit's face. "It isn't any use, Coit," he added with a sneer.

Coit approached him, his jaw set. "Shouldn't you, perhaps, like to make your meaning a bit clearer, Strickland?"

"Lord, no!" and he grinned wickedly as he reflectively stroked his lips.

To Coit the winter passed swiftly if not always pleasantly, and as the weeks wore away the old, terrifying weariness became a vague memory. It was hard to see Diana playing her hand so gamely, but there were mitigating hours when they tramped or rode or read together in the embrasured windows of the fire-lit library.

Sometimes Strickland joined them there. He had formed a curious liking for the only man who had ever taught him the wisdom of bridling an offensive tongue.

Toward spring it began to be clear that Strickland's faltering heart could not be stimulated much longer, and in March Coit advised their immediate return to New York.

In May Strickland died and Coit assisted Diana through her final ordeal with him.

Strickland, it was found, had, in a last diabolical caprice, left his wife only a small annuity and Whispering Pines. The rest of his vast estate went to Angela.

"Do you care, Murray?" questioned Diana.

"Care, girl? Why, I'm glad! I don't want his money in our lives. I suppose you will go to Whispering Pines for the summer, dear?"

"As soon as Angela arrives. She lands in San Francisco on Saturday. When shall you be able to get up?"

"On my return from Montana. It looks as though you and I were going to be rich, honey."

"That doesn't interest me nearly so much as the fact that you are coming up to the country. Next summer——"

"Next summer is my affair," Coit interrupted, smiling, and he bent to kiss her lips.

It was a late-June day when Diana met Coit at the little country station. She was driving her own stout roadster.

"How goes life, sweetheart?" he asked when they were off.

"Peacefully, dear. And with you?"

"Right merrily. Uncle Tim's estate is going to relieve us of any worriment over money. And I'm as fit as a fiddle; Doctor Roberts says so; he is in a hurry now to teach me to carve; also he wants to meet you; he fished for an invitation up here. But most of all, I find life good because I am here with you."

He looked into her face, thankful that the hard years had left no scars. She glanced at him, flushing slightly under his gaze.

"Angela is here; did you know it?"

"Drat Angela!"

"Wait until you have seen her. She is very handsome, Murray."

But Coit was not interested in Angela.

They were on the piazza overhanging the terrace that led down to the lake when Coit had his first sight of Angela Strickland. She padded out to them as unconcernedly as the diminutive puppy that trotted at her pretty heels.

"Angela!"

Coit came to his feet and turned to meet the amused flicker in the girl's reddish brown eyes. She was clad in a one-piece bathing suit of finest jersey which perfectly defined her figure. She had dispensed with stockings, and her flesh against the black of her garment looked like Parian marble. The whorl of her copper-colored hair was partialy concealed by a vivid green cap which few could have worn so effectively.

She was, Coit remembered, nineteen, but the mature perfection of her body made her look older, even, than Diana. Practically nude, she regarded Coit undismayed with what might have been the innocence of youth or the design of a seductive woman. Coit wondered from which source her manner issued and the doubt intrigued him.

She held out a slim, warm hand.

"Diana is much too shocked to present you. You are Doctor Coit, of course. I am Angela Strickland. I always go for a dip in the afternoon. Will you join me? Diana declines repeatedly. I suspect that she apprehends rheumatism." She laughed with the insolence of youth.

"No?" she went on as Coit begged to be excused. "Too bad." And she sauntered down the steps and across the terrace, frolicking unconcernedly with her puppy.

"Grief doesn't visibily bow down her heart," Coit commented, his eyes on the retreating figure.

Diana's eyes followed Angela also. "I never saw that outrageous garment before," she said. "I am afraid that Angela has had her head rather too long."

"It would be rather a pity, don't you think, to curb so fine an animal?"

He was thinking that Angela was like her father, but he forced the thought aside. It was sacrilege to compare that young divinity with her grossly-fleshed father.

Conversation languished between him and Diana. She seemed thoughtful, and Coit, quite frankly, watched the girl who was sliding gracefully through the water.

"I say, Diana, I believe that jolly little brigand is right. Let's go for a swim."

"Not I, thank you. You go, Murray; you will find everything you need in the dressing-room of the boathouse."

Protesting reluctance, Coit went.

"I thought you would come," Angela greeted him as he swam out to the raft where she sat trailing her pink toes in the water.

"Well, now that I am here, what are you going to do to amuse me, Circe?"

"Whatever you like."

He climbed up beside her and she removed a jewelled case from her cap and, taking a cigarette, she lit it and passed the box to Coit.

"Diana disapproves of me." She blew smoke reflectively toward the house. "She thinks I'm 'not exactly naughty and not exactly nice.'"

"Well, are you?"

"Which?"

Their blended laughter reached Diana in her room. Later she saw them come up to the house, with the manner of old and intimate friends.

As she dressed for dinner, Diana tried to shake off a haunting sense of fatality—a feeling that the Stricklands, father and daughter, had declared a vendetta against her.

Angela, with characteristic willfulness, had refused to wear black, and she came down that night in a gorgeous green frock, above which her shoulders and throat rose like a lily from its perfect calyx.

She made the one spot of color in the shadowy room, and during dinner Coit looked at her again and again, as one's eyes return involuntarily to a spot of color in a somber landscape.

He kept near Angela that evening, but he wanted Diana there, also; she, however, went early to her room.

Coit followed her into the hall. "Tired, sweet? I hate to lose you so early. Tomorrow we must have a long day together—just you and I."

He kissed her as Angela's colorful voice in the *Bedouin Love Song* reached his ears, and as Diana ascended the stairs, he hurried back to the drawing-room.

"You and Di love each other," Angela swung about and confronted Coit.

"And why not?"

She shrugged her perfect shoulders. "Why not?" she echoed. "It is a glorious night," she went on; "let us go down to the lake and watch the moon-path on the water."

They returned very late. "I suspect that I am going to enjoy myself here very much," Angela remarked as they parted in the hall.

Coit's long hours with Diana did not materialize the next day, nor in the days which followed. Angela always had plans and she had a genius for seeing that they were executed. There was no strife between the women, no warfare, for Diana was too proud to fight.

"She doesn't care," Coit told himself with a bitterness which was unconsciously feigned.

But Diana did care. She spent long hours pondering the chemistry of youth. She began, for the first time, to feel old; the three years which lay between her age and Coit's seemed like a decade. The contour of her face sharpened slightly. There were faint circles, tokens of her sleepless nights, beneath her eyes. More and more she shrank from placing herself near Angela. The contrast, she felt, was cruel.

She had ordered some lovely frocks, but she wore none of them. She wished not to confuse Coit's mind nor his judgment. Marriage, she knew, was an endurance test for which a pretty face and an artfully decked body were insufficient equipment.

If his love was worth while, Coit would come back, and if it were not, God knew that she did not crave it. She had had her fill of the substitute for love. So she assured herself. But philosophy sits uneasily on the shoulders of love.

There were days when she indulged in bitterness. She had played fair—had, in the face of temptation, stood by her moral code. To what purpose?

Through August Coit was constantly at Angela's side. He was suffering no pangs over his moral accounts, for he quite simply refused to meet them, putting them off as one does an insistent creditor, with promises and excuses and sophistries.

One day he and Angela started off for an all-day picnic which Diana had declined to share. In the afternoon, seated in a sheltered nook overlooking the lake, Angela cast aside her book. "Diana is a fool!" she said abruptly.

"What do you mean?" sharply demanded Coit.

"To have philandered along the primrose path with you."

"If you mean——" but Coit's indignant words were drowned in a peal of thunder and almost simultaneously great drops of rain began to fall.

"Come!" Angela was on her feet, her hands outstretched. "The fire lookout's cabin is near."

Hand in hand they scurried to the unoccupied cabin and took shelter in its one, storm-darkened room.

"Murray! I am frightened!" Angela cried as Coit dropped her hand. "Love me, dear!" And she held out desirous arms.

Involuntarily Coit drew her close and for a dizzy instant their bodies clung. He bent her bright-tinted head backward, thrilled at the nearness of her white, pulsing throat, her melting, beckoning lips. Enraptured, he bent to obey their call when Angela opened her feverish eyes.

He caught her glance, paused, and his arms relaxed so suddenly that the girl half fell against the wall. Coit had seen in Angela's eyes the same expression that had beastialized her father's—that had outlived every other light in Strickland's own.

"I am going back to the house at once," he said, starting for the door. "I advise you to wait here till the storm is past. You will be perfectly safe."

She was beckoning him still through half-shut, brilliant eyes and Coit, observing it, laughed.

"Did you think you had me, Angela? *You?* You have offered me more than any woman can afford to give a man. And, frankly, I don't want it. Your day is over. Men weary of flesh alone. Remember that, Angela. You are monotonous—like a tune picked out with one finger on an instrument. Life may add the chords and the notes and the accidentals to make a harmony. I don't know. It depends entirely upon yourself. At present you are a rather disgusting girl playing at being a vampire. It is a perilous game and a losing one, and any decent man will tell you so."

Angela cowered against the wall and Coit left her there to fight his way through the storm-punished woods to the house.

As he came within sight of it he saw a group of servants huddled together on the piazza overlooking the lake and the old man who pottered about the grounds was down at the dock, wet to the skin.

"What is it?" called Coit above the storm.

"She's out there, sir; she was trying to get in when the storm broke. I can't manage a boat with a sea like this running."

"I'll get her, John, never you fear. Give me a hand here."

In a few moments he was shooting through the angry water. "Coming, Diana!" he called and she heard him above the pounding water.

She was still clinging to her overturned boat when he reached her.

"You'll go over yourself, Murray, if you try to get me into your boat, and neither of us can swim in this."

"Hold steady, girl, and obey orders!" he commanded sternly.

An hour later, Diana was lying on a *chaise longue* in front of an open fire for the storm had brought a chill to the air. Coit hovered about protectingly, a vast thankfulness in his heart.

"Where is Angela?" Diana finally inquired.

"I left her at the lookout's cabin, honey."

"You left—Angela?"

She looked into his eyes and found them clean. It was as though some master surgeon had relieved a pressure upon his soul. He not only was healed, but he seemed not to remember what had taken place in the days of his delirium. Between him and Diana that period was never mentioned.

In the days which followed, Angela went about, thoughtful. Coit had reached some stratum of good in her and she seemed to be trying to make a harmony out of her life. Already, with Diana's help, she was planning serious work for the winter when they should be in town.

In September, Doctor Roberts ran up to Whispering Pines. He entirely approved of Diana. His courtly manner toward her and his eyes, softening always as they met hers, proved that.

On his first evening, after Diana and Angela had left them, Coit turned to the man whose colleague he was to be.

"Well?" he said.

"If I were ten years younger, Coit, I'd give you a race," he said with a whimsical smile. "You seem to have passed with honors," he added after a moment of silence.

"Passed?" Coit puzzled.

Doctor Roberts looked reflectively at the end of his cigar. "I know none of the details," he said; "I do not wish to know them; but your face tells me that you have passed the test of temptation which comes once to every man."

Coit's head went up. It was his accolade.



Touchy Corns and New Shoes

The comfort of *old* shoes may now be had with *new* shoes. Blue-jay makes it possible. No need to wince from new shoes nor frown. No need to undergo a period of pain.

Before getting a new pair of shoes be corn-free by using Blue-jay, gentle and certain. Then, should a new corn come later, Blue-jay will bring instant relief.

Most families have a package of Blue-jay Plasters at home, always ready. Relief is always handy, and instant.

Paring never cures. Harsh liquids are harmful. Blue-jay removes the corns permanently, roots and all. The first application removes 91 per cent. More stubborn cases require a second or third treatment.

Wear new shoes—any shoes—with complete comfort. Forget your feet. Blue-jay points the way. Know tonight.

BAUER & BLACK
Chicago and New York
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc.

Blue=jay
Stops Pain—Ends Corns

25c Packages at Druggists
Also Blue-jay Bunion Plasters

Used Pianos All standard makes; Steinway, Chickering, Emerson, Kimball, etc., $55 to $175. Used player-pianos $195 to $325. Easiest payments. No money down. 50 free music lessons. 30 days' free trial.
BIG PIANO BOOK FREE
Beautifully illustrated, full of piano information, showing celebrated Starck pianos and player-pianos. Send today for book and latest bargain list.
P. A. STARCK PIANO CO.
468 Starck Bldg., Chicago
$95



30 DAYS FREE TRIAL and *freight prepaid* on the new 1918 "RANGER" bicycle. Write at once for our *big catalog* and *special offer*.
Improved Models, prices reduced. Extraordinary *new offers*. You cannot afford to buy without getting our *latest propositions*. WRITE TODAY.
Boys, be a "Rider Agent" and make big money taking orders for bicycles and supplies. Get our *liberal terms* on a sample to introduce the new "RANGER."
TIRES, equipment, sundries and everything in the bicycle line half usual prices. A few second-hand bicycles $5 to $8 to clear.
MEAD CYCLE CO., DEPT. L-3, CHICAGO.

Play It a Week
Play on the violin of your choice—and test it for 6 days before you decide to buy. Send it back at our expense or pay for it at the rate of only a few cents a day.
Rare Old Violin Cat. under Free
WURLITZER
We supply the 1st years of conservative making
U. S. Govt.
The products of the leading violin makers of the world are yours to choose from. See special circular.
Write Today for Special Circular. No obligations. Get full particulars of our offer and handsome illustrations of superb instruments. Write now.
The Rudolph Wurlitzer Company, Dept. 2947
S. Wabash Ave., Chicago E. 4th St., Cincinnati, O.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Some Beauty Conveniences

AMONG my girls are many who would like to know of simple toilet conveniences that would make it easy to keep one's self well-groomed. And so, this month, girls, let's talk this over.

First, our brushes and combs. Our hair can't be live and "springy" if, every time we brush it we give back to it from our brushes some of the soil from the time before. Our brushes must be immaculate and they won't be unless we take particular pains to keep them so. Shake well after using, and wipe off with a damp (not wet) cloth, letting the brush stand in the sun afterwards. Twice a week wash the brush thoroughly in soapy water, rubbing between the bristles with



USING A BATH MITTEN WILL WORK SMOOTH SHOULDERS LIKE THESE.

one's fingers, and getting out every particle of dust. Do not have the water too hot, as it yellows the bristles—just lukewarm. Rinse by dipping in a flat dish of water to which has been aded a teaspoonful of boric acid powder.

Your comb must be cleaned after every using. Ingenious contrivances come for this purpose—little round very stiff brushes with a handle like a shaving brush, for one thing; but an even more convenient arrangement is a sort of strop made of innumerable strings woven just at each end into a firm strip but left loose for about eight inches, between the strips, and having a metal hook at each end. One hook is put over a nail or dresser-drawer knob, and the other is held in the hand, while the comb is passed back and forth along the loose strings, which thus cleanse the teeth of the comb of any specks of dust or other soil from the hair. This comb cleaner must be washed thoroughly daily, but with its aid one's comb can be kept in perfect order. You could make a similar contrivance by braiding for an inch at one end a hundred fine strings about ten inches long, then braiding at the other end, and sewing on tape loops at each end.

An eyebrow brush is almost as indispensable as a hairbrush, for dust lodges in the brows, and if we use powder they become regular storage warehouses. Always brush the brow toward the nose first, that the hairs may be dislodged from their normal position, and any dust be shaken loose, then brush away from the nose, carefully shaping the brow and going over and over it until it is smooth and glossy. The eyebrow brush, like the comb, must be washed as soon as used.

Always dry toilet articles in the sun, and stand brushes on their side, so the moisture will not soak down into the back of the brush.

A complexion brush, of course, you must have. Be sure it is of camel's hair or it will be too stiff for your face.

A bath mitten will serve to rub the body into a healthy glow and keep the skin smooth and fine, if used after your daily body bath. You can buy a bath mitten for a very small sum, or you can make one of a piece of an old Turkish towel by laying the hand on the toweling and cutting a mitten without a thumb, about an inch longer all round than the hand. Sew two pieces of this kind together, bind the seam and the wrist edge with tape, and there you have your bath mitten.

Try all these things, girls, and see how convenient they are. By the way dainty washcloths, tied in packages of six, make delightful Christmas presents, and it isn't too soon to begin to think about your friends!

Answers to Questions

Brown Eyes.—The spots on your face need a physician's attention, as they indicate some blood trouble. The use of iodine, as you suggest, will not "color" them and render them invisible. Iodine colors the skin yellow—a brownish yellow. It is a good thing to use on a bruise or cut or other portion of the skin where there is infection, because it kills the germs and so prevents further trouble, but it will not *conceal* any spot. You should not use powder on your face until it is healed. A zinc ointment, which you can get from your druggist, might be rubbed on the spots at night, and in the meantime you should see that your bowels move freely every day, and that you drink quantities of water. You can carry off many impurities by being careful about these two things, and oftentimes clear up a mild skin trouble.

Young Beauty.—A thirty-six-inch bust is not too large for you. I should let it alone. It may be your flesh is a little soft and flabby. Dash cold water on your skin, always (except when you are not feeling well) after bathing, and this will keep the skin firm. Any of the arm exercises I give from month to month in COMFORT are good to keep the bust firm. You say you have fat fingers, hands and arms. Exercise the arms as much as possible, and do not eat quite so many sweet things. Perhaps you are rather fond of cake, pie, candy, and such foods. A good exercise for fat wrists and arms is this:

For Fat Wrists and Arms

Extend the arms on a level with the shoulders, closing the hands to form a fist. Arms should extend sideways instead of in front. Now, clenching each fist as tight as possible, turn the hand in a circle, without letting the arm drop below shoulder height. First, turn hand with clenched fingers up, then turn so they face backward, then so they face frontward, then downward, then turn upward from the downward position. You will find this exercises the muscles of the arm and works off surplus fat.

A good exercise for fat fingers is to extend arm on level with shoulder, spread the hand as wide as possible, and then stretch with the fingers as if trying to reach something just beyond. Close the hand, then stretch, close hand, stretch and continue for fifteen or twenty times. Shaking the hands from the wrist as if they were limp rags is also good for them. But I have an idea you need to cut down sweets, first of all. Tennis would be a good game to help you get rid of flesh on fingers, hands and arms, or any game that exercised the arms violently.

J. P.—I should not worry about those "too red cheeks." If you knew how anxious hundreds of girls are to have red cheeks, you would be congratulating yourself. Don't wear any tight clothes—collars, sleeves, shoes, waistbands. Of course you don't wear corsets at fifteen, and won't for several more years, as it isn't fashionable and certainly isn't healthful. Don't eat too much at a time—eating too much gives one a stuffy feeling and makes one red in the face. I am quite sure you don't eat too much, but I just mention this. About your hair, if your forehead is high I should part the hair in the middle. Combing it straight back will make your forehead higher and probably not be so becoming to you. I think I have suggested ways of wearing the hair at fifteen, lately, but let me repeat that the most fashionable way among wealthy people is for the girl to wear the hair in one long braid with loosened ends. You can part the hair in the middle, or a trifle to one side, then comb each half back and join them in one braid in the back. A good way is to part the hair from ear to ear, as well as from the forehead back. Then take half of the front hair and roll it gently away from the face, pinning it with hairpins or side combs halfway back of the ear. Do the same with the other half, then braid the ends of the two halves of the front hair in with the back hair. Another way to dress your hair is to part from forehead to nape of neck, braid in two braids, and tie the end of one braid to the top of the other with a bow, and the end of the second to the top of the first with another bow, making two looped braids at the back of the neck.

Lawrence.—Never use powder without first rubbing the skin with cold cream, and it will not chap nose or cheeks. Also rub in cold cream well at night. Just smearing the face with cream is not enough; you should gently rub it in, over and over and over, until the skin has absorbed it. When you apply it before powder, wipe off any surplus of cream with a bit of absorbent cotton. For the hands which need whitening, give them a good scrubbing in warm soapy water, then rinse thoroughly. After this, rub in the following lotion:

For White Hands

Rosewater, four ounces; orange-flower water, four ounces; borax, one half dram; spirits of benzoin, one dram; bruised almonds, one ounce. Put the bruised almonds in the orange-flower water and rosewater, let stand twenty-four hours, strain through cheese-cloth, add the borax, shake until thoroughly dissolved, add the benzoin, a little at a time, constantly shaking. This is an excellent whitener for the hands.

Polly.—You say you have been taking "from one quart to a gallon of milk a day," but are not gaining as you should. I expect the reason is just that "from one quart." The way to take milk is to stick to a regular amount daily. If you are not taking solid food, you should take two glasses of milk every hour during the day, "chewing" each mouthful before swallowing. You should drink a glass of hot water on rising, and should eat, fifteen minutes later, half-a-dozen prunes which have been soaked all night in a tumbler of water. Chew the prunes thoroughly and drink the juice. If you will stick to these directions, you will gain steadily. When you have gained a considerable amount, you can take less milk, a glass and a half of milk every hour until about four o'clock, and eat supper, but nothing like cabbage, which you mention! Cabbage is difficult to digest. You could eat some broiled meat (never fried), but of course not pork or veal, as they, too, are hard to digest. Any green vegetable would be good for you, and you could eat a baked apple with or without cream, or any other fruit (but not preserves). You should not eat cake, pie or candy, of course, nor drink coffee or tea. Do your best to follow these directions, and I shall hear good news of you, I know.

Tutsy.—I am sorry your letter was not in time for



THE WELL-GROOMED GIRL READY FOR THE STREET.

the September issue. However, I hope my advice will help you, now that it does reach you. If you have a good complexion naturally, I should not use either cold cream or powder. You say your nose is full of blackheads—that is probably because you rub cold cream in, and do not get it out, so your pores are all clogged up. I suggest that you give your face a good scrubbing at night with warm soapy water, and a camel's-hair complexion brush. You should then rinse and rinse the face. A gentle squeezing of one side of the nose between the two forefingers will probably unload some of the pores; treat the other side of the nose the same way. Your nose will be red, as a result, but as you are going right to bed, that does not matter and the redness will be gone in the morning. Of course you must not be too strenuous in your squeezing, nor do I mean that you are to do this every night. I am suggesting it for one night, to get those pores unloaded. In the morning do not use soap on the face, but tepid water, and finally dash on cold water. This will close the pores and keep out blackheads—which are nothing more nor less than dirt or other foreign matter lodged in the pores of the skin. In your case I have an idea you have loaded them with cold cream and never got them unloaded. A little cold cream is good for most skins, but it must be washed off once a day and the pores emptied. I should leave the whiteheads alone for the time being, just being careful about scrubbing your face at night, using the cold water dash in the morning, and being sure to have plenty of exercise during the day, drink plenty of water, and keep the eliminative functions active. You may find that all these troubles of yours will disappear. As to the hair on your arms, shaving would only make them worse—it is a very bad plan indeed. You can use a depilatory. Using peroxide on them will bleach them and render them unimportant. For the hairs under nose and lower lip, if they are just a downy fuzz, let them alone. If they are more serious, dampen them one day with ammonia, the next day with peroxide, and in time they will become inconspicuous. The ammonia will finally kill the roots. This is a perfectly safe treatment, will not bring back the hair later, and really does the deed if you are patient. It is slow, however. I should say your eyes were hazel, as hazel eyes have a greenish tinge and yet are brown. Don't use alcohol on your hair, it is very bad for it, drying up the oil which keeps it healthy and makes it grow. Give your hair a shampoo once in two weeks or three weeks, with a simple soap jelly (white soap shaved into hot water, dissolved on stove, and let stand until cool), being careful to rinse many times and thoroughly. There is no objection to using lemon juice in the water if you wish to, in rinsing. It helps to keep the hair light. But you are probably going to have darker hair, as many people do, when they get older. It will probably be a very pretty color, and I should not worry about it, nor should I try to do anything to affect its color. Keep it perfectly clean, don't use alcohol or any other drying lotion on it, brush it persistently at night, and you will have pretty, healthy hair. If the cords in your neck enlarge when you are nervous or excited, your circulation is probably not good. Perhaps you wear clothes a little too tight in some place—at neck or wrist, or waist. Even tight shoes will restrict the circulation. Keep the bowels in good condition, choose your foods carefully, rub the skin well after your daily body bath (whether you take it with a sponge or wash-cloth, standing on a towel, or in a bathtub), sleep in a room with the windows wide open, and you will soon find yourself better in this regard. And in the meantime try to be calm and deliberate about everything. If you are tired after singing two or three songs, you probably do not use your throat properly. The "frog in your throat" would result from a cold in the head or a catarrhal condition. Clear the nose thoroughly each morning on rising, and on going to bed. A good exercise for the lungs is as follows:

To Develop the Lungs

Stretch arms out at the sides on a level with the shoulders, keeping the elbows stiff. Throw the arms forward violently, letting the hands meet each other, but being careful not to let arms drop below shoulder height. Now, throw arms back as if trying to make them meet in the middle of the back, keeping them on the same level as before. Of course you can't make them meet, but each time you will get them a little farther back. Repeat this exercise fifteen or twenty times, and continue daily.

Miss Blue Eyes.—Indeed, I am glad to answer your letter. If you are five feet nine inches tall, you should weigh about one hundred and fifty pounds. If you only weigh one hundred and thirty, you are under weight and it won't do you a bit of harm to try to gain. If you have a large frame, you may look as if you weighed more than one hundred and thirty. "Is it proper for you to have more than one sweetheart?" It is proper for you to have as many *friends* as you want, but that means friends, without any sentiment or lovemaking or the slightest familiarity. I hope you know many nice men and that you like them and they like you. But in many small places, it is customary for a girl to go with one young man. This does not necessarily mean that they are sweethearts and should not mean that there is any lovemaking unless they are engaged to be married. No, it isn't proper for a girl of your age, or a girl of any age, to have more than one sweetheart. A sweetheart is supposed to be the man one loves and is going to marry, and you could hardly love more than one man, could you, now? And certainly couldn't marry more than one! Surely you may ask all the questions you want, at any time. I couldn't possibly guess what grade you are going to enter at school in the fall, but am glad to say in answer to your question that there were no grammatical mistakes in your letter. There were one or two misspelled words, however, and you might put a little drill on your spelling. I hope your school work this year will be very successful indeed.

Troubled.—At sixteen, many girls are troubled with pimples periodically, but this condition will soon pass away. Do not put anything on the pimples, but try to drink lots of water to help carry the impurities away from the body in that manner and keep them from coming out in pimples, look after the bowels daily, chew your food well, eat fruits and vegetables, and no fried foods. A red nose can come from a stomach which is out of order, has too heavy food to digest, or food not properly chewed, so be careful. Chew every mouthful of food until it is liquid before swallowing it, and don't eat hot biscuits or griddle cakes or fried potatoes or fried eggs or other food which is hard to digest. A soft boiled egg is easily digestible, so is a baked or boiled potato, and stewed or roast chicken or broiled or roasted beef, while fruits and green vegetables are excellent for you. If your nose is sunburned, apply steaming hot cloths, replacing as fast as one becomes cool. Do this for ten minutes before going to bed. Rub a little cold cream into the skin of the nose on going to bed also. Ever so much good luck to you.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Why We Say "Hello"

Long, long ago wolves were numerous in all parts of the world, especially in England. Wolf hunting was a favorite sport with the gentry and to kill wolves was regarded as the sacred duty of all Englishmen. In fact, an old law reads: "All barons must hunt and chase a wolf four times a year."

French was the language of the court at that time, so the burly old English hunters used the cry of the French wolf hunters, which was "Au loup!" "Au loup!" (To the wolf.)

These words heard at a distance sounded like "A loo," but the English, who always put an H on wherever they possibly can, put it on the words "A loo," and when wolf hunting shouted "Ha loo." This form we use when we call "hello," as no word has been found that carries so far or so well as hello.

For this reason it is the accepted form of the telephone companies the world over.

10¢ Bonnie-B Slip-pon Veil



A modish silk veil made in France—Fifth Avenue's present craze. *Elastic edge.* No pinning—no tying. "Just slip it on." Ideal for motorists or general use. All colors. Order one or more at 10c each (stamps or coin), State colors desired. FREE; Game and Puzzle Booklet free. Money back if not delighted.

Silverberg Import Co. 239 Fourth Ave. New York, N.Y.

Snug Comfort for Tired Feet in Parker's Arctic Socks
Reg. in U. S. Pat. Off.



Warm, restful, healthful, for bed-chamber, bath, sickroom. Easier than stiff-sole slippers. Worn in rubber boots absorb perspiration. Made of knitted fabric lined with soft wool fleece. Washable, unshrinkable. *Parker's name in every pair.* In all sizes at dealers or sent postpaid for 50c a pair.
J. H. PARKER CO., DEPT. 3, 25 JAMES ST., MALDEN, MASS.

"Sammy" Knit-Work Bag
We Furnish The Frames—You Make The Bags And Money



Every lady knits. You sell her the bag and make big profit. Lady Agents, Red Cross Workers, Girls Clubs and Aid Societies all want this live one. Send now for particulars about our 18 fast sellers for agents.
Union Specialty Company,
DEPT. K. RACINE, WIS.

PAYSON'S INDELIBLE INK
It makes a clear mark that will not spread or wash out and will protect cotton, linens and heavier fabrics from confusion or loss. A household necessity for eighty-two years. Ready for use with a common pen. Stationers and Druggists sell it in the old-fashioned red and yellow wrappers, or it will be sent prepaid for 25 cents by Payson's Indelible Ink Co., 28 Henshaw Ave., Northampton, Mass.



HAWAIIAN RING FREE
Stone is mottled in all manner of colors imaginable. Bits of real silver in the stone make a combination of colors beautiful in the extreme. Measures one inch long, ¾ inch wide. We send gold filled ring, warranted 3 years—your size, postpaid, for 15c. to help pay advertising.
Auction Co., Dept. 300 Attleboro, Mass.

CLEARS THE SKIN Cuticura SOAP AND OINTMENT QUICKLY REMOVE PIMPLES, DANDRUFF SAVES THE HAIR
SAMPLES FREE. ADDRESS: CUTICURA, DEPT. W, BOSTON. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Mr. Edison's Wonderful New Phonograph



Only $1.00 and after trial!

YES, the New Edison—Mr. Edison's great new phonograph with the Diamond Stylus reproducer and your choice of all the brand new Diamond Amberol Records on free trial without a penny down. Now, on this offer, you can have the finest, the best that money can buy at a price very much less than that at which imitations of the genuine Edison are offered. Seize this opportunity. Send the coupon now.

Rock-Bottom Offer Direct Let us send the New Edison to your home on free trial. Entertain your family and friends with your favorite records—everything from Grand Opera to the latest city song hits, Comic Vaudeville and roaring Minstrel Shows—then if you choose send the outfit back to us at our expense. But if you wish to keep Mr. Edison's superb new instrument, send us only $1.00 after the free trial. Pay the balance on the easiest kind of monthly payments. Don't miss this wonderfully liberal offer.

Catalog FREE
Get our New Edison catalog. Your name and address on a post card or letter (or just this coupon) is enough. No obligations in asking for the catalog. Find out about this offer—while this offer lasts.

F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3047 Edison Block Chicago, Illinois
Canadian Office: 355 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

To F. K. BABSON, Edison Phonograph Dist.
3047 Edison Block ∴ Chicago, Illinois
Gentlemen:—Please send me your New Edison Catalog and full particulars of your free trial offer on the new model Edison Phonograph.
Name.....
Address.....

Cubby Bear's Friends Say Good-By

By Lena B. Ellingwood

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"WHAT are you thinking about so soberly, Cubby Bear?" asked Mamma Bruin one morning.

Cubby looked up from the porridge he was not eating.

"I am thinking," he said, "of my little friend Kiddie Goat, who stayed with us after his leg was broken until it got well. He was such a DEAR little goat, and I have not seen him for a long, long time! I would like to go to the big pasture today, to visit him and Lillie Lambkin."

"You may go if you like," Mamma Bruin told him. "I think you would be quite safe in the pasture, but do not go near the farmhouse."

So Cubby Bear started off happily to visit Kiddie Goat and Lillie Lambkin. The summer days were past, and it was a beautiful autumn morning. There had been a little frost earlier, but that had melted away in the bright sun. The air was warm and beautiful, and with the hush that comes in autumn, when the falling leaves rustle as they touch the ground, and every dropping nut can be plainly heard.

Pine and spruce and cedar trees, in their lasting greenness, made the bright colors of the maples gayer by contrast. How pretty the autumn leaves were, thought Cubby Bear, with their shining gold and glowing scarlet and crimson. You will never see a lovelier sight than the woods on a sunny day in autumn.

Cubby Bear heard a sweet song, and thought, "That sounds like Robbie Reddie. I will see if I can find him."

He hurried along, and sure enough, there was his sweet-voiced little bird friend, perched on a maple twig, his red waistcoat just the color of the leaves around him.

"Good morning!" called Cubby Bear. "What are you singing about?"

"Listen," answered Robbie Reddie, "and you shall hear:

"When the autumn days grow colder,
And the frost is on the leaves,
When the ripened fruits are gathered,
And the grain is in the sheaves,

"Then we know that soon the winter,
With its storms and ice and snow,
Will be here, and so we robins
To a warmer country go.

"We will spread our wings, and flying
Through the sunny autumn sky,
Soon we'll reach our winter dwellings,
Good by, Cubby Bear, good by."

"Good by," said Cubby Bear. "Good by, Robbie Reddie, and thank you for singing to me. You will come back again when the winter is gone."

As Cubby Bear went on, he heard the tap-tap-tapping of Redtop Woodpecker's sharp bill, clear and loud in the still air.

"He may be going away, too," thought Cubby Bear. "I must try to find him, and say good by." But the tapping soon stopped, and though Cubby Bear spent some time looking about, he did not find his brisk little friend with the red topknot.

Chirpy Chipmunk came running along, his cheeks puffed out with acorns which he was carrying to his home.

"What are you hurrying so for?" asked Cubby. "Come for a walk with me this fine day. I am going to see Kiddie Goat and Lillie Lambkin."

Chirpy took the nuts out of his mouth, so he could speak, and held them in his paws.

"Do not bother me," he said. "I am very busy.

"Don't you know that summer's past?
Summer, with its pleasant heat?
Freezing winter soon will come—
I must gather food to eat.

"In my warm and cozy nest
I must store these nuts away,
I am working hard and fast,
And I have no time for play.

"You should see the things I have—
Hazlenuts and acorns too,
Corn and seeds of many kinds!
They must last the winter through."

Then Chirpy said good by, and popping the acorns inside his cheeks again, hurried away. Chirpy never thought he had enough food stored away, and the autumn was a busy time for him.

"Chickadee! chickadee!" called a little voice, and Cubby Bear looked up to see the little bird who had shown him the way to Betty Badger's house when he went to the west Forest with Dr. Squilly Porcupine's good medicine for the sick little Badgers.

"How do you happen to be so far from home?" asked Cubby in surprise.

"I'm going, I'm going away and away!
When cold weather comes, I no longer can stay.
I'm leaving my nest in the green forest tree
To fly to the south—Chickadee, chickadee!

"I'll fly over mountains, and cities, and streams,
I'll bask in the warmth of the sun's tender beams
In a sweet southern clime, by a murmuring sea!
Farewell, Cubby Bear! Chickadee, chickadee!"

"Good by, little Chickadee Chirrupee," said Cubby Bear. "The forest will be lonely with all the birds away."

Soon after, Cubby Bear reached the big pasture. He spied Kiddie Goat and Lillie Lambkin not far off. They welcomed him gladly, and soon the three were having a merry game of tag.

The cows, browsing about on the scant, late grass, or lying on the ground, calmly chewing their cud, looked at Cubby Bear with mild interest. But the horses, sniffing the air, pricked up their ears and trotted down to the pasture fence nearest the farmhouse.

"Why do they run away?" asked Cubby. "I'm afraid they do not like me."

"Never mind!" said Kiddie Goat. "I like you. I remember how good you were to me when my leg was broken."



"YES," ADMITTED WOLLIE, "I ALWAYS GET FAT AND SLEEPY IN THE FALL."

As they were running about at play, Cubby Bear tripped over something among some tall, dead ferns, and nearly fell.

"Be careful, can't you?" cried a familiar voice, and Cubby Bear was surprised to see Wollie Woodchuck. "I shall have a black-and-blue spot on my head where you gave it such a bump, with your awkwardness!" grumbled Wollie.

"I am sorry," said Cubby. "I did not mean to hurt you."

"I suppose not," answered Wollie, with an astonishing yawn. "I must have been napping. I am sleepy these days."

"How fat you are getting!" said Cubby.

"Yes," admitted Wollie. "I always get fat and sleepy in the fall. I am going home now from the farmer's garden, where I have been eating. When I feel cold weather coming, you see, I eat and eat and eat—all I can—then I curl up in my warm, safe hole and sleep sweetly—oh, such a long, happy sleep! Good by, Cubby Bear, you may not see me again for months."

"I am going home soon," said Cubby Bear. "Wait, and we will walk together."

"I will start now," Wollie decided. "You may overtake me. Perhaps I shall go to sleep on the way," and he started slowly off, stumbling along sleepily.

"Oh, come, let us play!" said lively Lillie Lambkin.

"Too soon will come the dreary time
When freezing winter days
Will keep us close within the barn,
And stop our merry plays.
Then gambol and skip,
With frolicsome trip,
While sunshine and freedom are ours.
We'll merrily play
This bright autumn day,
And gather the beautiful flowers."

"Late autumn flowers were blooming in the pasture, golden-rod and blue wild asters, and Kiddie Goat and Lillie Lambkin helped Cubby Bear pick a large bouquet to carry home to Mamma Bruin.

"I think I must go now," said Cubby. "Next summer I will come to see you again."

They went with him as far as the tamarack tree, where they bade each other good by.

As Cubby walked along, keeping watch for Wollie Woodchuck, his good friend Shinyblack Crow came flying to meet him.

"I am going away, Cubby Bear," said Shinyblack Crow, "and I wanted to say good by to you.

"My coal-black wings are large and strong,
And never tire as I fly along,
Mile after mile through the pure, free air,
On and on, with never a care!

"Caw, little Cubby, caw!
The southern lands the bird-tribes draw,
But back we'll come with spring's first thaw!
Caw, little Cubby, caw!

"I'm going far away from here,
Where never comes the winter drear,
I've sung no sweet-voiced songs for you,
But always gave you friendship true.

"Caw, little Cubby, caw!
Some day in spring, with eager claw,
I'll grasp your friendly little paw,
"Caw, little Cubby, caw!"

"Good by, good Shinyblack Crow. I shall look for you in the spring."

"Mamma Bruin," said Cubby Bear soberly, after he had reached home, "so many of my friends have said good by to me today, and I shall not see them again for months. The winter will be long and lonely."

"Oh, no, Cubby Bear," Mamma Bruin said, as she smiled at him kindly.

"Safe in our warm and cozy home
We'll sleep away the days,
My little Cubby Bear and I,
While boisterous winter stays.

"The flowers, too, will be asleep,
Beneath the winter's snow,
Till southern breezes whisper
'Tis time for them to grow.

"Then all the forest people
With gladness once again
Will greet the springtime's sunny warmth
From burrow, house and den."

The next Cubby Bear story will tell how poor little Cubby Bear lost his Thanksgiving plum pudding. Don't miss it next month in November COMFORT. Renew your subscription now.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

are going to school in Greeley and my oldest sister does the housework.

Well, Uncle Charlie what do you think about the war? Don't you think it wrong to go across the ocean to fight Ido.

Your niece, JOICE MAHER.

Joice, so you want to know whether I think it wrong to go across the ocean and fight "Ido." Before giving an opinion on this vital matter I would first like to know who "Ido" is and what he has done, for to be truthful I never heard of him before. That such a person exists however is very evident or you would not be so perturbed about him and so anxious to know whether we should cross the ocean and grab Mr. Ido by the seat of his pants and dash his brains out in Europe, or calmly wait for his appearance on our shores and fight a battle to the death with him, either in the streets of New York or somewhere along the American coast, or wherever Mr. Ido found it most convenient to land. If Mr. Ido could be arrested on landing and handled by the police then I suggest we wait until the gentleman arrives before dealing drastically with him. If however, Mr. Ido is a leader of millions of efficient fighting men and is a real menace to civilization, then I think we should be an awful bunch of fools if we waited for him to attack us and spread ruin, death and devastation on our shores instead of our attacking him and making him do all the suffering. When fire breaks out we do not sit quietly in our homes until the roof is in flames. We rush to the spot where the fire started and fight it before it can spread. It is quite enough to have it destroy one house without letting it spread all over town, and it is quite enough to have Germany destroy Europe without giving her an opportunity to make a Belgium out of the United States as she is fairly itching to do. I quite understand why you, Joice, think it foolish to go to France. Living in the center of the country, as you do, where an enemy cannot reach you, you are quite willing for Mr. Ido (who I strongly suspect is the Kaiser in disguise) and his hordes of barbarians to tear the country to pieces as far West as Omaha, but if they got to Omaha you would begin to get just a wee bit nervous, now wouldn't you? Then perhaps you would say: "Well, I guess it would have been better after all to have fought Mr. Ido in his own country, and not let him land here and tear the bowels out of our beloved land and menace my home. Please remember young lady, that our Eastern coastline belongs to the United states just as much as Colorado does, and that we Easterners strenuously object, even if you do not, to having Mr. Ido lay waste our cities, slaughter our people, outrage our women, dig up and empty the caskets containing the bodies of our dead and fill them with filth, and treat us as though we were vermin. It is sad to see a young lady whose parents own 1,600 acres of good American soil (a royal domain that even a king might be proud to call his own, and whose brothers and sisters are doing a million times better here than they could in any other country on earth) hesitating in her duty toward her native land. The French sent us Lafayette, and to France we owe our liberty, but, alas, the present selfish, ungrateful generation doesn't even remember who Lafayette was or what he did. The French did not hesitate to cross the ocean to help us fight Mr. Ido King George, and it took many months in those days to make a trip that now takes but a few days' pleasant steaming. France, England and Russia have spilled rivers of blood for us, and we should be dastardly cowards and ingrates if we did not go to the aid of those who have so long and nobly fought our battles. The French however were brave, they had ideals, and the La Follettes, Gronnas, Bill Stones, pacifists, I. W. W.'s, anarchists and socialists weren't around in Lafayette's days to poison their minds and make cowardly curs of them. This war is being run by experts trained in the arts of war, gallant American soldiers and sailors who know their business and not, thank God, by pacifist lunatics, slushy sentimentalists, Kaiser owned socialists, I. W. W.'s and other half baked dreamers, traitors and copperheads, who are doing their darnedest to make this country into a Prussian slave pen. Germany has decreed that we must go to France or go to hell. With ice at its present price, I prefer France.

MONROE, WASHINGTON.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I quite agree with all you have said to Cousin C. in the April issue of COMFORT for although I don't believe in war unless it is absolutely necessary I do not believe that we should permit any nation to treat us as though we were dogs and dirt. Both of my grandfathers were soldiers and I believe that in case of need that I can show myself worthy to be called a soldier's granddaughter.

Last Wednesday afternoon all of the Monroe people that wanted to attend the big patriotic parade at Everett were taken down in automobiles, free of charge.

The Red Cross, soldiers and marines were well represented, and children from nearly all of the schools, and high, from all over the county marched in a mass. The papers said that ten thousand, two hundred and fifty-two people marched and every one carried Old Glory.

I am a senior in high school. I live on a farm about two miles from Monroe, which is a small town. My favorite pastimes are reading and roaming through the woods hunting for new kinds of flowers and mosses and watching Mother Nature's children frisk and play. I dearly love animals, especially dogs and horses.

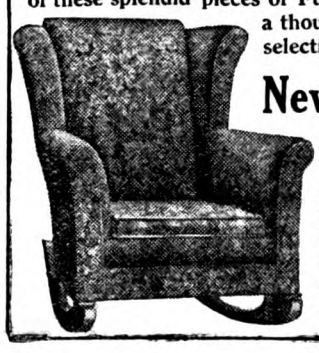
MURIEL MCCORMICK.

Muriel, you say you do not believe in war. No rational, decent, well-balanced, God-loving individual "believes" in war, any more than we believe in smallpox, earthquakes, hydrophobia, leprosy, dirt, filth, flies or typhoid germs. If we could get rid of these things by not believing in them it would be lovely, but you can't keep flies out by not believing in them, you have to use a screen, or poison, or a swatter to fix them. You can't keep smallpox out by not believing in it. You have to fight disease unless you want disease to kill you. Life is a battle from the cradle to the grave. It is a fight against hunger, poverty, sin, selfishness and heaven only knows what else, and the finer the fight we put up the greater and more glorious the victory. Life is just one eternal scrap, and directly you quit fighting the wrong, the evil and the destructive forces in the world, directly you quit standing up for right, righteousness and justice, then you begin to slide downward to destruction. If Germany had not believed in making war her chief national business and glorifying war and conquest, and scorning peace and ease, substituting Nietsche's doctrine of the superman, the man on horseback, the haughty conqueror for the lowly Christ, whose doctrine was love and unselfishness, peace, good will and brotherhood, we should not be fighting Germany today. We must conquer wrong or submit to wrong, and thank God there is enough of the spirit of our forefathers still left in us, in spite of the treachery and treason that exists on all sides, to nerve our arms in the day of battle and make us victorious. There are a lot of hen-brained idiots who will tell you that war accomplishes nothing and settles nothing. When these mush brained lunatics tell you this, reply thus: War made the white man ruler of this, the red man's continent. War replaced British with American rule and drove out the troops of the British German King, George the Third, and gave us Washington, the Father of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)

GIVEN TO YOU WITHOUT EXPENSE

By dealing direct with the great Larkin Factories, either of these splendid pieces of Furniture, or your choice of a thousand and one useful things of your selection, may be yours without expense.





New Catalog FREE

Explains our Premium Plan in full; also tells how you can buy foods, soaps, etc. without Premiums at low factory-to-family prices. Make your own comparisons. Complete satisfaction guaranteed.

Mail Coupon Today to nearest address

Larkin Co. BUFFALO PEORIA CHICAGO

Please send me your Catalog No. 76.

Name.....

Address.....

G. P. 354.....

Home Dressmaking Hints

Forecasts for Fall Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



THE Fall coat will have smart pockets and jaunty revers. Cheviot, serge, double-faced cloakings, jersey cloth, pile fabrics, plush and velvet will be used.

Tucks are again in fashion, especially for dresses of silk, chiffon and other soft fabrics.

Simple one-piece frocks of serge are nice for afternoon and general wear. Some of the latest models on this order are made without belts, and worn like coats or outer garments. These frocks may be draped on one side, while the other side hangs straight from shoulder to hem.

Pattern Descriptions

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated

1298—Boy's Blouse Suit with knee trousers. This style of suit is very popular with boys who have outgrown the Russian blouse styles. The blouse may be made of khaki cloth, drill, linene, galatea, linen, madras, cambric or muslin. The trousers are good for most any suiting.

Cut in four sizes; six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 12-year size.

1307—Ladies' Corset Cover and Petticoat. This style is good for lawn, crossbar, muslin, dimity, crepe, cambric, batiste, or silk. It may be trimmed with lace or embroidery edges, or the free edges may be embroidered in scallops, and the fullness over the fronts drawn up through embroidered eyelets.

Cut in three sizes; small, medium and large. It requires three and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a medium size, without the ruffle which will require three and five eighths yards of embroidery.

1890—A Smart Coat and Cap for the little miss. Cheviot, plush fabrics, velour, broadcloth, velvet, silk, corduroy, tweed and similar cloakings are nice for this model. The fronts are single breasted. The sleeve is a two-piece model finished with a shaped cuff.

Cut in five sizes; four, six, eight, 10 and 12 years. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for an eight-year size and three quarters yard of 24-inch material for the cap.

1955—Ladies' Overall Apron, with sleeve portion in either of two lengths. Percale, seersucker, gingham, chambray, lawn, alpaca or brilliantine could be used for this design.

Cut in four sizes; 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one half yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

1979—Ladies' Shirt-waist. This style has full fronts joined to yoke extensions of the back. This pattern is good for lawn, madras, batiste, serge, poplin, satin, taffeta and flannel.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires two and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2004—Junior Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Serge, gabardine, plaid suiting, or Shepherd check would be nice for this style. Taffeta, corduroy or velvet are also nice for this model.

Cut in three sizes: 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires five and one quarter yards of 36-inch material for a 14-year size.

2015—Girl's One-piece Dress, with sleeve in either of two lengths. The model has smart pocket trimmings.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires four and one quarter yards of 44-inch material for a 10-year size.

2024—Ladies' House Dress with sleeve in wrist or elbow length. This design is good for striped seersucker, for checked gingham, rep, poplin, flannelette, linen, drill and other washable fabrics.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires seven yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2046—An Ideal House or Morning Dress. In dotted percale, checked gingham, striped seersucker, this model will be very pretty. It is also nice for poplin, rep, linen, corduroy, drill, for tub silks, gabardine and crepe.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one half yards of 44-inch material for a 38-inch size.

2078—A Simple Apron Model. Seersucker, gingham, percale, lawn, drill, alpaca, brilliantine or sateen may be used for this style. It is fitted by shoulder and underarm seams and has deep arm openings for comfort and ease.

Cut in four sizes; small, medium, large and extra large. It requires for a medium size four and three quarters yards of 36-inch material.

2163—Ladies' Shirt-waist, with sleeve in either of two lengths. Madras, linen, lawn, batiste, tub silk, crepe, shantung, percale, flannel and crepe de chine are nice for this style.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires three and one quarter yards of 36-inch material.

2168—A Practical Apron Model. Drill, linen, khaki, alpaca, lawn, cambric, gingham, seersucker and chambray are nice for this style. The pocket may be omitted.

Cut in four sizes; small, 32-34; medium, 36-38; large, 40-42, and extra large 44-46 inches bust measure. Size medium requires six and one eighth yards of 36-inch material.

2170—An Ideal House Dress. This model is unique and practical. It is made with reversible closing, and its fullness is held by a belt that fastens at the center back.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires for a 38-inch size, six and seven eighths yards of 36-inch material.

2184—Coat-Waist. 2187—Skirt. A Charming Three-piece Suit. The waist and coat blouse are cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires two and three eighths yards of 36-inch material, for the waist, and three and three eighths yards for the blouse, for a 36-inch size.

The skirt is cut in seven sizes also; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure, and requires three and three eighths yards of 36-inch material for a 24-inch size. *Two* separate patterns, 10c *for each* pattern.

2185—A Good Coat for General Wear. This model is good for pile fabrics, zibeline, corduroy, velour, wool mixture, double-faced cloth, also for silk and velvet.

Cut in five sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires six and one half yards of 54-inch material.

2186—Infant's Set, consisting of a cap, a sack, a night gown and a dress. For the dress of flouncing, it will require one and three quarters yard of 36-inch material with one and one quarter yard of plain material for yoke and sleeves. Of nainsook or lawn 36 inches wide it will require two and one quarter yards. The gown will require two and one half yards of 24- or 27-inch material. The cap, one half yard of 18-inch material. The sack requires seven eighths yard of 27-inch material.

2191—Dress for Elderly Ladies. This style is lovely for satin, silk, crepe, gabardine, serge and broadcloth. The fronts are finished with vest portions. It is gathered over the sides and back. The sleeve is new in its shaping.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires six and one eighth yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

2192—A Jaunty Coat for Girls. This model has inserted pockets in pouch effect. The fronts are lapped at the revers edges, but may be rolled high, as in the small collar view. This style is nice for cheviot, zibeline and other coatings, also for velvet, corduroy and silk.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires for a 14-year size, four and one half yards of 54-inch material.

2198—A Jaunty Dress. This is nice for plaid or checked gingham, with chambray or linene for pockets, collar and cuffs. The belt is slipped through openings in the pocket straps.

Cut in five sizes; six, eight, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 10 will require four and three quarters yards of 36-inch material.

2201—An Attractive One-piece Dress. This is a very popular style, with its long waist and simple gathered skirt portions. The design is nice for silk, cloth or cotton fabrics.

Cut in four sizes; 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. It requires for a 16-year size five and one quarter yards of 44-inch material.

2203—A Serviceable Model. This style makes a splendid work dress. Linen, khaki, gingham, chambray, drill, seersucker and percale may be used for its development.

Cut in seven sizes; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 36 requires six and one quarter yards of 44-inch material, with three quarters yard of 27-inch material for the cap.

2206—A Pretty and Practical Set. This comprises a little yoke dress, a petticoat slip, and comfortable drawers.

Cut in four sizes; one, two, three and four years. The dress requires two and one half yards of 36-inch, the slip requires one and one half yard, and the drawers requires one and one eighth yard of material, for a three-year size.

2215—A New Riding Skirt. This model has trouser portions joined to the skirt portions and will make a very comfortable and practical garment. The skirt measures about two and three quarters yards at the foot. The pattern is good for Jersey cloth, serge, mannish mixtures, linen and broadcloth.

Cut in six sizes; 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires five yards of 44-inch material for a 24-inch size.

9139—Girl's Cape with Hood Collar. This design is suitable for evening or rainy weather. It affords protection and comfort. The collar may readily be converted into a hood.

Cut in six sizes; six, eight, 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires three and one half yards of 36-inch material for the 12-year size. Cravenette, rainproof cloth, broadcloth, silk rubberized material, serge or velvet may be used for this design.

ALL PATTERNS 10c. EACH
Unless Other Price Is Stated.



USE THE COUPON

Special Offers. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will mail you any one Pattern free. Or for a club of two one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will mail you any three patterns free. The cash price of each pattern is 10 cents (three for 25 cents) unless a different price is stated. Be sure to order by number and give size or age wanted.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Please Fill Out This Coupon And Send It With Your Remittance

COMFORT, Pattern Dept., Augusta, Maine. I enclose $_____ cash, (or _____ subscription and $_____) for which please send me Patterns No. _____

Size _____ (or Age) No. _____ Size _____ (or Age) No. _____ Size _____ (or Age)

Name _____ Street and No. _____

R.F.D. No. _____ Box No. _____ Post Office _____ State _____

If you send subscriptions write names on separate sheet and pin this coupon to it.

Pay Only if Satisfied

$100,000 Free Book Gold Medal Styles



Nearly every woman in America knows me. Half a million are my customers. I bring them better styles at a saving. I free them of worry and disappointment. I take my pay as they can afford it.

© 1917, M. L. A.

My Free Book

My latest Book will be in greater demand than ever before. Last season I had to disappoint 100,000 late inquirers.

My Book is bigger than ever. It shows many articles in actual colors. There isn't a single dress need overlooked. It pictures 1001 articles of women's and children's wear.

Suits—Coats—Dresses—Waists
Skirts—Hats—Shoes—Lingerie—Furs
Underwear—Children's Wear, etc.
Also 300 Kinds of Piece Goods

Gold Medal Styles

Few designers produce more than one or two really good models in a season.

So I get my styles by offering prizes to hundreds of famous experts. To my own staff, I offer gold medals.

Then all models are submitted to a board of seventeen fashion authorities. The cream of all selections goes into my Style Book.

Dividing the Cost

When you order, I divide your bill into several payments — coming a month apart. My way has proven so handy that women who never cared to buy on credit before take great delight in a charge account here.

Save One-Fourth

I buy for half a million women at one time. I deal exclusively with mills and makers. I have no salesmen or collectors; no store expense; no end-of-the-season left-overs.

For all these reasons, I urge you to ask for my Book now.

Martha Lane Adams
3430 Mosprat Street, Chicago
(1429)

$3.00 Brings This $3 SUIT

Tailored to Your Measure



on an offer so easy, so liberal, so wonderful, you can hardly believe it. The very latest 1918 style, a perfect fit, magnificent new design, *delivered prepaid. Send no money now, not one cent,* just write us a letter or postal and say, *"Send me your new amazing $3 suit offer"* and get the latest big set of cloth samples to pick from, a great book of all the brand new 1918 fashions shown in gorgeous colors *all FREE,* a tailoring offer so splendid, so marvelous, it's hard to believe; greater and better than any tailoring offer you ever saw. *How to get all your own clothes free,* how to make all your spending money in your extra spare time, how to become more important, influential and prosperous. Don't wait, don't put it off, write us your name and address now, today, this very minute. Address

BANNER TAILORING CO., DEPT. 744, CHICAGO

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

It was all the answer that Edith, in her excitement, could make.

The beautiful woman caught her breath gaspingly, and every particle of color faded from her face.

"Tell me, also," she went on, hurriedly, "did you ever hear your—your mother speak of a friend by the name of Belle Haven?"

Edith's heart leaped into her throat at this question, and she, too, began to tremble, as a suspicion of the truth flashed through her mind.

"No," she said, with quivering lips, "I never heard her mention such a person; but——"

"Yes—'but'——"eagerly repeated her companion.

"But," the fair girl continued, gravely, while she searched with a look of pain the eyes looking so eagerly into hers, "the evening after mamma was buried, I found some letters which had been written to her from Rome, and which were all signed 'Belle'."

"Oh!——"

It was a sharp cry of agony that burst from Isabel Stewart's lips.

"Oh, why did she keep them?" she went on, wildly; "how could she have been so unwise? Why—why did she not destroy them?"

At these words a light so eager, so beautiful, so tender that it seemed to transfigure her, suddenly illumined Edith's face for they confirmed, beyond a doubt, the suspicion and hope that had been creeping into her heart.

"Tell me—are you that 'Belle'?" she whispered.

"Oh, do not ask me!" cried the unhappy woman.

"Ah, I am sure you are!—I am sure that I have found my mother, and—I am almost too happy to live."

"Child! my own darling! Is it possible that you can thus open your heart of hearts to me?" sobbed the astonished woman, as she clasped the slight form to her in a convulsive embrace.

"Oh, yes—yes; I have longed for you, with longing unspeakable, ever since I knew," Edith murmured.

"Longed for me? Ah, I never dared to hope that Heaven could be so kind. I feared, love, that you would despise me, as a weak and willful woman, even after I should tell you all my story, with its extenuating circumstances; but now, while knowing and believing only the worst, you take me into the arms of your love, and own me—your mother!"

She broke down utterly at this point, and both clasped in each other's embrace, sobbed in silent sympathy for a few moments.

"Well, dearest, this will never do," Mrs. Stewart at last exclaimed, as she lifted her face and smiled tenderly upon Edith; "we must at least compose ourselves long enough to make our adieus to our hostess; then I am going to take you home with me, to have all the story of our tangled past unraveled and explained. Come let us sit down for a few moments, until we get rid of the traces of our tears, and you shall tell me how you happened to be in Boston under the name of Edith Allen."

She drew her toward a couch as she spoke, and there Edith related how she had happened to meet the Goddards on the train, between New York and Boston, and was engaged to act as madam's companion, and how also the mistake regarding her name had occurred.

"And were you happy with them, my dear?" inquired Mrs. Stewart, regarding her curiously.

"Indeed I was not," she replied, "I think they were the strangest people I ever met."

Almost as she spoke the door of the reception-room opened, and Gerald Goddard himself appeared upon the threshold.

He was pale to ghastliness, and looked years older than when Edith had seen him in the drawing-room a few minutes previous.

"Pardon me this intrusion, Miss—Edith," he began, shrinkingly, while he searched both faces before him with despairing eyes; "but I am about to leave, and I wished to give you this note before I went. If, after reading it, you should care to communicate with me, you can address me at the Hotel Mammoth."

He laid the missive upon a table near the door, then, with a bow, withdrew, leaving the mother and daughter alone again.

"That was Mr. Goddard," Edith explained to her companion, as she arose to take the letter; but without a suspicion that the two had ever met before, or that the man was her own father—the "monster" who had so wronged her beautiful mother.

Mrs. Stewart made no reply to the remark; and Edith, breaking the seal of the envelope in her hands, drew forth several closely written pages.

"Why!" she exclaimed, in a startled tone, "this is Mrs. Goddard's handwriting!"

She hastily unfolded the sheets and ran her eye rapidly down the first page, when a low cry broke from her lips, and, throwing herself upon her knees before her mother, she buried her face in her lap, murmuring joyfully:

"Saved! saved!"

"Darling, tell me!—what is this that excites you so?" Mrs. Stewart pleaded, as she bent over her and softly kissed her flushed cheek.

Edith put the letter into her hands, saying, eagerly:

"Read it—read it!—it will tell its own story."

Her companion obeyed her, and, as she read, her face grew stern and white—her eyes glittering with a fiery light which told of an outraged spirit aroused to a point where it would have been dangerous for the woman who once had deeply wronged her, had she been living, to have crossed her path again.

"If I had known!—if I had known—" she began, when she reached the end. Then, suddenly checking herself, she added, tenderly, to Edith: "My love, it seems so wonderful—all this that has happened to you and to me! We must take time to talk it all over by ourselves. You can excuse yourself to your friend, can you not, and come with me to the Supremacy? Say that I wish to keep you for the remainder of the day and night, but will return you to her in the morning."

Edith's face beamed with delight at this proposal.

"Yes, indeed," she said, rising to comply at once with the request. "I am sure Nellie will willingly give me up, when I whisper the truth in her ear. My dear—dear mother!" she added, tremulously, as she bent forward and kissed the beautiful face with quivering lips.

"Edith, my child," gravely said Isabel Stewart, as she held the girl a little away from her and searched her face with anxious eyes, "after learning what you did of me, from those horrible letters, is there no shrinking in your heart—is there no feeling of—of shame or of pitiful contempt for me?"

"Not an atom, dear," whispered the trustful maiden, whose keen intuitions had long since fathomed the character of the woman before her; "to me you are as pure and dear as if that man—whoever he may have been—had never cast a shadow upon your life by the shameful deception which he practised upon you."

"My blessed little comforter! you shall be rewarded for your faith in me," returned Mrs. Stewart, her lips wreathed in fondest smiles, her eyes glowing with happiness. "But go excuse yourself to Mrs. Morrell, then we will take leave of our hostess, and go home."

Ten minutes later they were on their way to the Supremacy.

Upon arriving at her hotel Mrs. Stewart led the way directly to her delightful suite of rooms, where, the moment the door was closed, she turned and once more gathered Edith into her arms.

"I must hold you—I must feel you, else I shall not be quite sure that I am not dreaming," she exclaimed. "I find it difficult to realize my great happiness. Can it be possible that I have

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26.)

The Kingdom of Our Birthright

In running this series we are not advocating belief in astrology or faith in the pretended talismanic charm of birth-stones, although these beliefs have persisted from remote antiquity and have not a few devotees even in this present age of reason. Yet as myths and superstitions that have dominated through the ages they possess historic interest and educational value. Miss November will appear with a pleasing message next month.—EDITOR.

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

SCORPIO is the zodiacal sign that rules between October 23 and November 22, and persons born under its influence will be magnetic, ardent and zealous, and very averse to doing manual labor. They are very tenacious in upholding whatever popular sentiment decrees; are proud and conservative, and are circumspect in all their outward behavior. So opposed are they to any departure from accepted rules and customs, that they may sacrifice their own individuality, and therefore should strive not to be so sensitive to public opinion, and remember that wealth and aristocratic appearances are not of half so much value as the hand-grasp of one genuine friend, that self-respect outweighs the applause of the multitude and the flattery of sycophants.



MISS OCTOBER.

These persons excel as managers or superintendents, as they have the power of holding their own popularity, and at the same time are extremely exacting and determined that all measures entrusted to their management shall be executed with order and precision.

Positions of confidence and trust in the departments of the government are frequently held by men born under Scorpio, and they conduct themselves with a quiet dignity and decorum that befit their position and command respect. They should marry women who have gained self poise and will gracefully submit to be ruled by their husbands. They will be more generous with money than praise, yet will be very proud of a wife who has a commanding presence and easily fills a place among rich and influential people.

Women born under this influence have the same deference for popular conventionalities and superior external appearances, and are inclined to be self-indulgent. They like to be leaders and have a great admiration for persons in exalted positions of life. They are apt to marry more for wealth and position than for love. They will rule their home with womanly dignity and be particularly fastidious about their dress and in a business-like way will be devoted wives, ambitious for the success of their husbands and children.

Children born under this sign will have strong likes and dislikes and a dominant will power. Their training should commence when they are babes in arms, with exceeding patience and kindness, qualities which must be instilled into their minds, else their naturally cold and exacting natures will greatly retard their development. They will study hard and uncomplainingly follow set rules. A systematic course of suitable reading should be adopted, and along with this a course in music, if they have a taste for music; but it is useless for those who have no music in their souls to try to cultivate this art. Try not to cross them in choice of wearing apparel; only insisting that it be simple, for they will evince much concern regarding their personal appearance. Praise them, and work through their pride to the development of self-control and the elimination of outbursts of temper. Teach them to do unto others as they would have others do to them.

The Lucky Opal is the October Birth-Stone

For centuries past the opal has been esteemed the talisman of "good luck" and now, in modern times, it is worn as the October birth-stone to symbolize hope that eternal springs in the human heart.

Hope inhabits the poor man's hut, as well as the abode of the rich, and presses forward and befriends when all else fails. True sentiment is one of the great blessings to the human heart, and when illumined by hope, it gives to all humanity a brighter forecast of days to come, that cheers and helps people over the difficult places in their lives.

In the early centuries the opal was called "beryl," and this pretty legend of ancient date proves the opal has been long associated with hopeful expectations:

"When fair October to her brings the beryl,
No longer need she fear misfortune's peril."

For instructions as to how to construct and use Miss October see "Hallowe'en Party" on another page.

Send Only $1

and we will ship this handsome Powerlight Lamp on 30 days' free trial. If you keep it send only $1 a month until the price is paid. If not satisfactory, return to us and we will refund deposit and pay transportation charges both ways.



Can be tipped over or turned upside down—no danger whatever. Burns either kerosene or gasoline—about 80 hours on one gallon. Height 22¼ in.; diameter of base 8½ in. Nickel finish with 12 in. amber dome shade ornamented with heavy metal scroll. Shipped from our Chicago Warehouse.

Order by No. 300MA4. Price $9.95. Terms $1 now. Balance in monthly payments of $1 each.

Easy Payments

Buy anything you want from Hartman's and take nearly a year to pay. And you always have 30 days' free trial. No need to pay all down for your furnishings. Use your credit at Hartman's.

Bargain Catalog Free

454 pages. Thousands of amazing values in Furniture, Carpets, Stoves, Sewing Machines, Dishes, Gasoline Engines, Cream Separators, Farm Necessities, etc. A post card brings it free. Send for it.

Hartman Furniture and Carpet Co.
3664 Wentworth Ave., Dept. 1035 ,Chicago

HOOSIER STOVES & RANGES FREE

To try in your home 30 days free no matter where you live. Show your friends, send it back at our expense if you do not want to keep it. Million members of families enjoying the comforts and pleasures of "Hoosier" Stoves & Ranges, perfect bakers and heaters, beautifully finished, smooth latest design, guaranteed for years.



Write for our big free book showing photographs, describing large assortment of sizes and designs of Steel and Cast Ranges, Cooks, Soft and Hard Coal Heaters, to select from, explaining our free trial. Send postal today.

HOOSIER STOVE CO.
265 State St., Marion, Ind.

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	2
In and Around the Home Conducted by *Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson*	3
Melissa's Home Coming *Joseph F. Novak*	4
Comfort Sisters' Corner	5
Comfort Sisters' Recipes	5
Food Administrator Hoover Appeals to the Women of America to Help Win the War and Save the World from Famine by Strict Economy of Food	6
Hallowe'en Party with Mystic Rites and Weird Charms *Ella Gordon*	7
The Girl He Loved (continued) *Adelaide Stirling*	8
Comfort's League of Cousins *Uncle Charlie*	9
The Masked Bridal (continued) *Mrs. Georgie Sheldon*	10
Once to Every Man (concluded) *Maude Mary Brown*	12
The Pretty Girls' Club *Katherine Booth*	13
Why We Say "Hello"	13
Cubby Bear's Friends Say Good-By	14
Home Dressmaking Hints *Geneva Gladding*	15
The Kingdom of Our Birthright	16
Crumbs of Comfort	16
Poultry Farming for Women *Mrs. Kate V. St. Maur*	17
The Modern Farmer	18
Automobile and Gas Engine Helps	19
Veterinary Information	20
Talks with Girls	21
How to Prepare for the Fur Season	22
Home Lawyer	23
Manners and Looks	25
Information Bureau	25
Family Doctor	26
Five Wheel Chairs in September	26
The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities	27
Comfort's Comicalities	27
Bulbs for Winter Blooming to Cheer and Brighten the Home *Alfred Weston*	28

NOVEMBER COMFORT

will be a fine anniversary number to celebrate the beginning of COMFORT'S thirtieth year. It will contain the second installment of our new serial which reaches the very heart of this beautiful story. Take no chance of missing it.

If the number over your name on the wrapper on this paper is 349 or any less number, your subscription should be renewed at once. The following will be some of the

Special Features for November

"The Thankfulness of Wyoming Sal"

This heart-gripping romance of the back woods in the far West, by Joseph F. Novak, is a sequel to "The Thanklessness of Wyoming Sal" which appeared in our last November number. Sal meets the radiant bride of the man she loved and lost.

Unique Decorations

and novel accessories that add pleasing variety and zest to the Thanksgiving feast. Some new quirks in cooking, too.

"Pop Littleton's Love Letter"

A very pretty Thanksgiving story quite out of the ordinary. The kind we all enjoy and are the better for reading.

"Various Ways of Serving Potatoes"

Of all vegetables the potato is the most commonly used and may be served in the greatest variety of ways.

"Cubby Bear's Thanksgiving Plum Pudding"

A nice Thanksgiving story for the children told in Mrs. Ellingwood's charming style.

Send 30 cents today to renew your subscription two full years. If you want the Comfort Home Album send 10 cents extra, 40 cents in all for your 2-year renewal and the Album. Even if your subscription is paid some months ahead, renew now at special low renewal rate and we will extend your subscription two full years beyond date of expiration. Use the coupon below.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES are: 25 cents a year, 50 cents for three years, 30 cents for a TWO-YEAR renewal, in U. S. and Cuba. (In Canada 50 cents a year or 75 cents for a two-year renewal.)

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON FOR RENEWAL OR EXTENSION ONLY

Publisher of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.
I enclose cents for renewal and extension of my subscription full years from date of expiration. If you want the Album, send 10 cents extra, and be sure to mention it. (Album will not be sent to foreign countries.)

Date .....*Name,* .....

Postoffice ..... *Street and No.* .....

R. F. D. No. .....*Box No.*.....*State* .....

October, 1917.

Crumbs of Comfort

Joy gives wings.
Life is a shuttle.
Hate makes partizans.
Law is a bottomless pit.
Frugality is true wealth.
Flattery is a flowery weed.
The heart is not a logician.
News is the manna of a day.
Glory lights a flaring candle.
Fatigue is the best night cap.
No man is so great as mankind.
A merry heart can laugh at care.
Tranquility is the surest pleasure.
The hand of God has written legibly.
The greatest hearts are the simplest.
The truly generous are the truly wise.
Bow to him who bows not to flatterers.
Late gifts come as fruits out of season.
Men love in haste and detest at leisure.
Life is not to live, but living to be well.
An honest man is like an unmoved rock.
Millions died that Caesar might be great.
A serpent heart can wear a flowering face.
The only medicine of the miserable is hope.
Who pants for glory will never know repose.
The sweetest birds build nearest the ground.
Judge of a jest when you have done laughing.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal.
Half of our ills come from neglect of the body.
Small injuries that are slighted lose their sting.
Idleness travels slowly, but poverty follows fast.
All things are artificial, for Nature is the art of God.
Love will often creep in service where it will not walk.
Money is like manure, of little use unless to be spread.
A master should be sometimes blind, and a servant deaf.
To cultivate kindness is a great part of the business of life.
Gold is the curtain of the fool to hide him from the world.
We walk always in old paths where many feet have trod the dust.
A lie must be thatched with another or it soon rains through.
That state is the most corrupt where laws are most multiplied.
Impartial fate knocks with equal fate at the palace or at the cottage gate.
The greatest glory of a free-born people is to transmit that freedom to their children.
Every human soul has the germ of some flowers within that would open if they could find sunshine and free air.
Nothing more baffles one who is full of trick and duplicity, than straightforward and simple integrity in another man.
Happiness is much more equally divided than is imagined, for one man may possess most of the materials and but little of the thing, while another may have much of the thing and but few of the materials.



BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Selecting Birds for Next Season's Breeding

LAST week I went to a large poultry meeting and demonstration where there were representatives of many large plants in the East. Mr. Roy E. Jones, who is in charge of the extension work being conducted by the Storrs Agricultural College, gave some interesting and valuable demonstrations in selecting birds to be kept for next season's breeding pens, and explained at length how every one could cull out the birds not worth feeding through the winter. I was so favorably impressed by his talk that I am going to repeat it as nearly word for word as possible:

"Breeders should be selected first for vigor, second for high fecundity, and third for longevity. Vigor is of first importance in the breeding stock, hatching eggs, chicks, growing stock, and laying hens; for, without vigor, nothing can be accomplished. High fecundity, or the ability to transmit high egg production should be coupled with vigor. Longevity, or the ability to live and produce a profitable number of eggs for three years or over, eliminates the expensive necessity of renewing the larger part of the flock each year. These qualities may all be produced in the same bird by careful methods of selection and breeding.

Breeders should be selected in the fall while the marks of the year's production are evident and may be used for a guide. This, of course, eliminates the pullet from the breeding pen. Let the first year be for eggs only, then select the best birds, and keep them as long as there is reasonable production and a goodly number of strong, healthy chicks can be produced each year.

One very noticeable characteristic in the high producer is the lack of yellow pigment at the end of the laying year. It takes a lot of color material to make egg yolks, and the pullet that starts the year with bright yellow legs and beak will, if a high producer, finish with practically no yellow color. The vent is most easily affected and loses the yellow color after a very few eggs are produced. The earlobes are next easily affected, and may become quite pale after two or three weeks of heavy production. The earlobe test, of course, applies only to those breeds having white earlobes. The beak is affected next, usually losing its color after about three or four months of heavy production. When a bird stops laying the different parts gradually recover their color in the same order, earlobes first, beak next, and shanks last. Only strong, healthy birds should be considered, as sickness may, in some cases, cause a loss of yellow color.

High producers may be detected by the condition of the plumage at the end of the laying season. Birds do not, as a rule, lay and moult at the same time, although exceptions to this rule may sometimes be found. The birds that stop laying and moult in August or early September should be disposed of, as it appears that birds moulting late usually start laying again just as early in the winter as those that moult early. Trap nest records show that the birds that lay late and moult last are the birds that started laying first the previous fall. The late moulting birds are the highest producers, those moulting in November or later should be the best for breeding stock.

When selecting breeding stock, the pelvic bones may be used as an indication of present production. The pelvic bones are the two little bones either side of the vent between which the eggs must pass. If these bones are what poultry men term one finger apart, we may know the hen is not laying. If these bones are two, three or even four fingers apart, we may know that the hen is laying, provided she is not over fat or abnormal in some way. If these bones are widespread, thin and pliable, it indicates a high producer. If these bones are hard and rigid, even though they may be spread and the bird producing at the time, it indicates a low producer.

High producing hens must have a large capacity in order to allow for well-developed egg-producing organs. They must also have a large capacity for food materials and a strong digestive system. As the pullet matures and comes into laying condition, the breast bone is forced downward and forward to make the necessary room in the body cavity. Other things being equal, the capacity may be rated by the distance from the pelvic bones to the rear end of the breast bone. Relative measurements may be obtained by comparing birds of the same breed, as different sized birds would not be comparable.

High producing individuals invariably show what might be termed as quality, that is, soft, pliable skin over the breast bone and the abdominal cavity, and absence of hard fat. Some over fat birds may have widespread pelvic bones and show large capacity, but they are entirely lacking in quality, and consequently should be eliminated from the high producing class.

The activity of a bird is a very good indication of her production. The high producer must have more to eat of everything that a hen requires for production, consequently she is the first down in the morning and the last to roost at night. She will range farther and is always looking for something to eat. The best layer is the best worker every hour in the day.

From the time the breeding stock is selected in the fall, it should receive the very best of care, ever keeping in mind the fact that strong, fertile, hatchable eggs during the breeding season are essential to success. Health, vigor and vitality are necessary, and the winter should be spent in storing reserve energy which may be thrown into the hatching eggs.

Clean, dry quarters are absolutely necessary for good health. The house should be located where good water and air drainage may be had. Where the soil is suitable, and rats are troublesome, dirt floors are probably best. On damp land, moisture proof cement floors, well covered with soil or sand, are most satisfactory. Small flocks in small houses usually give slightly better results than large flocks.

Fresh air and sunshine are necessary in every poultry house. They are even more important in the breeding-house than in the laying-house. The open front, cloth front, or combination of glass and cloth seem to give the best results. In any case, the location of the openings should be such that the sun may reach every part of the house at some time during the day, and provide an abundance of ventilation without drafts in all kinds of weather. Sunshine is the best disinfectant, and fresh air is the best tonic.

Do not crowd breeding stock; allow four square feet of flour space or over to each bird. Allow the breeding stock to run out of doors every day in the year, but make the house so much more comfortable that they will not care to go out in bad weather. Clean litter in the houses, and a sheltered run outside, will encourage exercise.

Feed of the breeding stock need not be so different from that for the laying stock except that the protein in the mash may be reduced, and a larger proportion of whole grain fed. The ration should be quite bulky and rather low in beef scrap. The method of feeding is quite as important as the kind of food used. Scatter the grain in clean, dry litter, and keep the mash always before the birds. Use every possible means to encourage the birds to work.

Green food in some form is necessary every day in the year. Mangels are perhaps the most convenient and cheapest source of green feed. Hens will consume during the winter about one ton per one hundred birds. Cabbage or sprouted oats are also very satisfactory. The green food problem may be greatly simplified by using clover hay or at least a part clover hay for litter. Where clover is home grown, it is not an expensive form of litter, as the hens recover all the food value in the leaves, and the stalks are even better than straw. A fresh grass and clover sod is, of course, the best source of summer green food.

Sour skim-milk seems to be the most satisfactory single food that we have for poultry of all ages. When fed to breeding stock during the winter, better egg production, higher fertility, higher hatchability, and stronger chicks may be expected. Results will warrant paying at least one cent and sometimes two cents per quart for the breeding stock.

The whole object in caring for the breeding stock during the winter is the production of strong, healthy chicks. Remove from the breeding pen any chicks that show signs of sickness or weakness during the winter. The campaign for the eradication of Bacillary White Diarrhea by means of the agglutination test has proved beyond doubt that all breeding stock should be tested and any reacting individuals removed. This is the only means by which any breeder can be sure that his stock can be free from the disease. Quality in hatching eggs is more important than quantity. Quality in eggs means more and better chicks with much less expense in labor and equipment.

The one desire in incubation is the production of strong, viable chicks, that is, chicks strong enough to stand outdoor life rather than weak chicks that will require constant attention. Failures in incubation are due to poor eggs more often than to poor incubators, although the incubator usually gets the blame.

Even though the breeding birds may have been carefully selected, there will always be some eggs produced that are unfit for incubation. If possible, select only eggs that weigh about twenty-six ounces to the dozen. The extra large eggs are as undesirable as the extra small ones. Select eggs with strong shells, free from ridges or blind checks. So far as possible, select eggs of uniform color and shape.

Hatching eggs should be collected at least twice each day. They may be injured by cold weather in winter or broody hens in summer. They are also apt to get soiled or broken in the nest. An ample supply of good nesting material and some kind of nesting or padding in the basket or pail used for collecting eggs is desirable.

Much better results may be expected if eggs are incubated as soon after they are laid as possible. Eggs saved for hatching may be packed in cases and held at a temperature of about fifty to fifty-five degrees. If eggs are held more than four or five days, it would be well to turn the cases over each day or two. Where eggs are held more than ten days or two weeks, poor hatches and weak chicks are usually the result.

An incubator usually gives best results if operated in a cellar or basement. This is usually due to the fact that a uniform temperature and a moist atmosphere may be more easily maintained. Where an incubator is operated in a very dry atmosphere, it is advisable to add moisture either by using a moisture pan under the egg tray, or by sprinkling the eggs. The room where an incubator is operated should be well ventilated.

During incubation eggs are more easily injured by extreme heat than by extreme cooling. In spite of this fact, it is probable that more hatches are ruined by too low an average temperature than by too high an average temperature. Where the incubator is operated in a cold room it should be, as a rule, run a little high. With any reliable make of incubator, the manufacturer's directions are usually the safest guide for the beginner to follow.

It is quite an exertion for the chicks to pick their way out of the shell, consequently they should remain in the incubator at least thirty-six hours and be given time to rest and recover strength. If Bacillary White Diarrhea which is transmitted to the chick from the mother hen be present in any of the chicks, it will be voided in the droppings from the very first. To prevent the spread of this disease from chick to chick by the picking up of infected droppings, the incubator should be darkened as soon as the first chick is out and be kept darkened until the chicks are removed to the brooder. There is very little danger of disease spreading by this means after the chicks are moved to the brooder and have a chance to take food into the digestive system.

In brooding chicks, the whole object is to give the chicks the best possible start in life. Vigorous, active youngsters will grow and mature under unfavorable conditions, while poorly brooded chicks will not make satisfactory gains under the best conditions.

When chicks are removed from the incubator, it is time well spent to examine each individual and cull out all weaklings and cripples. Inferior chickens can never be disposed of any cheaper than when they are first hatched. Inferior chicks never make satisfactory gains, they are susceptible to disease, and are very often carriers of disease.

Chicks should be carefully moved from the incubator to the brooder and not subjected to any sudden change of temperature. Move the chicks in the afternoon, and allow them to run only a little way from the hover by placing cardboard or boards about a foot from the hover all around. The hover temperature should be about 98 degrees near the floor at the time the chicks are put in. After that, the chicks themselves are the best guide. The temperature should always be such that the chicks will lie around the outside edge of the hover. The general tendency with either lamp or coal burning brooders is to keep the room or compartment outside of the hover too warm. A warm hover and a comparatively cool room will do away with crowding in the corners and keep the chicks more healthy and vigorous. The heat should be reduced as rapidly as the comfort of the chickens will allow.

Sour skim-milk seems to give little chicks a better start in life than any thing else that can be fed. It is worth while to take each chick individually and dip its beak in sour milk so that it will get at least two or three good swallows at the time it is put into the brooder. Sour-milk is best fed in shallow pans with inch-mesh wire across the top. The milk should be kept before the chicks all of the time. Many breeders are having good results feeding milk and no water the first week or ten days, and even longer.

Pullets should be changed to their permanent winter laying houses before egg production starts. If pullets are moved after egg production is well started, a drop in egg yield will result and the fall moult will be encouraged. The fall moult may be caused also by light feeding on the range followed by heavy feeding in the laying houses. A colony system where the chicks are brooded, reared and allowed to stay as layers in the same house, is an ideal condition, there being less opportunity for a setback.

If pullets are allowed to remain in crowded colony houses, allowed to roost in the trees a little too late or allowed to crowd under the open front in their new winter quarters, fall colds are usually the result. Fall colds creep in quietly and are very hard to get rid of. To prevent the spread of colds, use permanganate of potash in the drinking water. Make a stock solution and use enough to color the water a deep cherry color. Copper sulphate may also be used at the rate of four ounces to one gallon of water for a stock solution, and one ounce of the stock solution to a gallon of drinking water. Where pullets are badly affected with colds, withhold the drinking water until about eleven o'clock, then use a solution of the disinfectant, and the pullets will disinfect their whole heads in their efforts to get at the water."



$1 Down 6-Piece Fumed Oak Suite

Our most sensational bargain. Get in now while the chance lasts. 6 pieces—Solid oak, fumed finish. Yours for only $1 down. Send coupon below. Pieces not sold separately

A ROOM FULL OF FURNITURE!

Massive Arm Rocker with thickly padded 19x19 in. seat. Beautifully designed. 36 in. high. Sewing Rocker to match arm rocker. Luxuriously padded. Seat 17 x 17 in. 36 in. high. Stately Arm Chair, very solid. Broad and comfortable arms. Thickly padded 19 x 19 in. seat. 36 in. high. Reception Chair, extra solid. Thickly padded. 17 x 17 in. seat. 36 in. high. Elegant Library Table, solid design. Legs cut from 2 inch stock. Top 22 x 34 in. Roomy magazine shelf. Jardiniere Stand, matches other pieces, 17 1-2 in. high. Top 12 x 12 inches. Chairs upholstered in superb Brown Imitation Spanish Leather. All 6 pieces built of solid oak, finished in richest brown fumed oak. Match this suite with any at $22.50. Shipped K.D. saving on freight. Easily set up. Weight about 150 lbs. Order by No. B4349WA. $1.00 cash, $2.00 monthly. Total price, $18.90.

Send the Coupon along with $1.00 to us today. No C. O. D. Get this remarkable offer while it lasts. Have this suite shipped—take one year to pay. And we will send you at same time our big catalog and special bargain bulletin. Prices never approached before. Don't wait. Send the coupon today—do it right now.

Easy Payments If you want anything in Men's, Women's and Children's wearing apparel, stoves, ranges, or any article of home-furnishing, don't fail to get our Big Free Catalog showing thousands of staggering home furnishing bargains on very easy monthly payments. One price to all. No discount for cash—no extra price for credit. Positively no discount from these advertised prices and no C. O. D.

Straus & Schram, (Inc.) Dept. 1077 W. 35th St. Chicago

Straus & Schram, (Inc.)
Dept. 1077W. 35th Street, Chicago

Enclosed find $1.00. Ship special advertised 6-Piece Fumed Oak Library Suite. I am to have 30 days' free trial. If I keep the suite I will pay you $2.00 monthly. If not satisfied, I am to return the suite within 30 days and you are to refund my money and any freight charges I paid.

☐ 6-Piece Library Set, No. B4349WA. $18.90.

Name .....

Address .....

Post Office ..... State .....

If you only want the Catalog, put X below.

☐ Furniture ☐ Stoves ☐ Paints and Roofing
☐ Jewelry ☐ Men's, Women's and Children's Clothing

Correspondence

S. P.—I think the birds must be infested with some small mite or insect. Better rub the comb and wattles once a day with carbolic vaseline, or a mixture of lard and flour of sulphur.

R. P.—I fear this is a case of cholera. At the first symptoms of such bowel trouble as you describe, immediate measures should be taken to prevent the disease spreading as it is very contagious.

Cholera

In the majority of cases the so-called wholesale destruction of flocks is not cholera at all, but the work of lice. On some farms where the hens hide away at night here and there, for want of some kind of suitable shelter, the trees, woodpile, sheds, and under the barns, will be swarming with lice; and the dead hens will be found every morning, being literally eaten alive by myriads of lice, the cause being attributed to cholera or some disease, because the owner cannot compreaend how lice can be so destructive. On such farms there may be also found an apology for a henhouse, the floor of which will be covered for a foot or more with droppings, being the accumulation of years; but the house will be found useless, as the hens will prefer exposure to all kinds of weather rather than venture in the pest hole filled with lice and called a poultry house. Some farmers wonder how it is that they get no eggs, and they naturally ascribe their failure to there being "no money in chickens," when the fact is that if they were as negligent of their horses, cows, sheep and hogs as they are of their hens, they would go into bankruptcy the first year. Before undertaking to cure cholera, examine for lice, as in many instances the lice are at the root of all difficulties.

Genuine cholera is a disease that exists, however. It is shown by great thirst, greenish, profuse droppings and prostration. It can be distinguished from indigestion or roup, as it kills the bird in from twenty-four to forty-eight hours, or else recovery ensues. There is no lingering illness connected with it. The best remedy ever, add ten drops of the acid to each gill of water, and with the water mix together meal and shorts, slightly parched and browned, and force a tablespoonful of such soft food down their throats twice a day. Give no water to drink at all. If it is given however, add ten drops of the acid to each gill of water. Keep the sick birds in a dry, warm place, and separate from the others.

Every poultry keeper should cultivate the habit of scrutinizing his or her flock at meal time. A suspicious looking bird should be caught and removed to quarantine quarters immediately. The symptoms of cold, influenza, canker, diptheria and roup are in the earlier stages almost identical—watery eyes, sneezing, discharge from the nostrils, or the nostrils being stuffed up (nostrils are the two small holes at the base of the bill.) When the bird is noticed to have any one of these symptoms, open the bill and look down the throat. Should there be no signs of trouble, you may be sure that there is nothing but an ordinary cold to fight, which a few days in hospital will cure.

Give light and easily digested food, such as stale bread soaked in scalded milk and squeezed almost dry, or corn-meal which has been well steamed. Put ten drops of spirits of camphor on a lump of sugar; then dissolve the sugar in a half pint of water and use in the drinking cup. If, however, examination reveals yellow spots on the mouth or in the throat, or a thick, slimy discharge from the eyes and nostrils, it is a serious case of catarrh or roupy cold, which may, if neglected, develop into malignant roup. Throughout the entire list of roupy diseases there is no special odor until malignant roup is positively developed. Then there is a most offensive and unmistakable odor.

Treat all diseases which overstep a common cold as roup and you will err on the side of safety. In the last and most malignant cases of roup, the face and eyes or head are likely to be severely swollen, and if things have progressed to such a condition before the bird has been removed from the flock, it is well to take the precaution of disinfecting the drinking and feeding dishes and generally clean up the poultry house, and add a disinfectant to the drinking water for a few days. Permanganate of potassium is what I generally use, because it is cheap and most effective as a germ killer. Dissolve one teaspoonful in a quart of warm water, and you will have such a strong solution that for all ordinary purposes it can be diluted again at the rate of one teaspoonful to five of water.

F. K.—As the other birds in the same hatch are all well and strong, it seems safe to conclude that it is some individual weakness rather than any disease. Poultry—in fact, all animals—are sometimes born with faulty bodies or constitutions, which produce conditions which are beyond our knowledge or skill. I had a chicken which walked with its legs rather far apart when it was first hatched. It seemed strong and healthy, and we thought it would outgrow the weakness, but when it was about six weeks old it got worse, and commenced to fall about and at last we killed it. An examination showed that the backbone stopped just where the joints of the thigh commenced, and from there down there was nothing but flesh, and of course, as the bird got older, it affected its gait more and more. Of course, it was just a malformation, for which there is no cure.

R. W. M.—Please read answer to R. P.

F. B. Y.—Please read answer to H. M. L.

O. M.—Please read answer to R. P.

J. C. V.—Please read answer to R. P.

H. L.—Please read answer to R. P.

H. M. L.—I have bought the seed from Peter Henderson & Co., and from H. W. Buckbee, Rockfort, Ill., and think that nearly all the large seedsmen carry it. Price is one dollar and twenty-five cents a pound. In California, and warm climates, October is the best month to sow. Send to the Experiment Station at Berkeley for Bulletin 125, and to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletin No. 108.

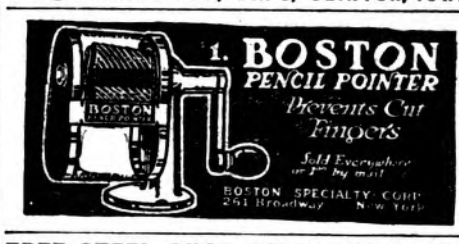
Wonderful Egg Producer

Any poultry raiser can easily double his profits by doubling the egg production of his hens. A scientific tonic has been discovered that revitalizes the flock and makes hens work all the time. The tonic is called "More Eggs." Give your hens a few cents worth of "More Eggs" and you will be amazed and delighted with results. A dollar's worth of "More Eggs" will double this year's production of eggs, so if you wish to try this great profit maker, write E. J. Reefer, poultry expert, 3047 Reefer Bldg., Kansas City, Mo., who will send you a season's supply of "More Eggs" Tonic for $1.00 (prepaid). So confident is Mr. Reefer of the results that a million dollar bank guarantees if you are not absolutely satisfied your dollar will be returned on request and the "More Eggs" costs you nothing. Send a dollar today or ask Mr. Reefer for his Free poultry book that tells the experience of a man who has made a fortune out of poultry.

POULTRY AND PIGEONS FOR PROFIT



Foy's big book tells all about it. Contains many colored plates—an encyclopedia of poultry information, poultry houses, feeding for eggs, etc. *Written by a man who knows.* Sent for 5 cents. Low prices, fowls and eggs.
FRANK FOY, BOX 5, CLINTON, IOWA.



FREE STEEL SHOE BOOK SAVES $20



Tells all about my Celebrated Steel Shoes. One of the greatest inventions in footwear the world has ever known. Over a million people now wearing them. Wear as long as three to six pairs of leather shoes. Easiest, most comfortable shoes you ever had on your feet. No cold, wet feet, therefore Colds, Rheumatism, Grip, Lumbago, Lame Back, and other ailments prevented. No corns, bunions or tender, tired feet. Write today for my free book.
Investigate this wonderful proposition.
Address: RUTHSTEIN, Steel Shoe Man, Dept. 38, RACINE, WIS.

Get This Car



And the AGENCY in Your Territory
Drive a new 1918 Model Birch Super-Four. Prompt shipments. Experience not necessary, we require agents to take special course to handle Birch Agency. Write quick for full information.
35 H.P. 114 in. Wheelbase. 32x3½ tires.
BIRCH MOTOR CARS, Dept. 1020 81 E. Madison St., Chicago

Drilling Wells is a Year Round Business



Drilling Water Wells is a profitable, healthful year-round business. There are wells all around you to be drilled. Don't you want to get into a money-making business for yourself? Write for particulars. Star Drilling Machine Co.
675 Washington St., Akron, Ohio



CUSHION COMFORT with style and quality at a $3.65 tremendous saving. This ladies' shoe is Hand Turned, Cushion Inner Sole, Safety Heel, Queen cloth top, soft kid. Fits like a glove. Postage paid. Send for new catalog. Over 100 Fall and Winter styles for women, children, men. Big bargains. Every shoe guaranteed.
$3.65
Whalen Shoe Co., Dept. 1, Boston, Mass.

HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR ALL

MENS' TOBACCO POUCH $1.00



Closed 3 1-4 x 4 1-4 inches—Genuine Black Calf Leather, rubber lined pocket and tray to keep tobacco moist. Button lock fastener. Send one to France.

Mens' Wallet $1.50



Closed 3x5 inches. Seven-in-one combination. [1] bill-fold; [2] card case; [3] identification card; [4] a calendar for 12 months; [5] pocket for postage stamps; [6] a pocket for railroad tickets; [7] change purse. Beautiful embossing on back cover.

A-Word-to-the-Wise

Every member of the family should have one of these articles. They create a saving habit and make a good impression.
Prices are right. Quality best. On each article, do not be deluded with idea that a cheaper article will give you the wearing service of these goods or as neat appearance, convenient compartments as goods manufactured by The Style Leather Goods Company.
Note—Read carefully descriptions under above illustrations. ORDER EARLY—AVOID THE RUSH.
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE. If after having, received merchandise—they are not found to be as represented, we will cheerfully refund your money.

Childrens' Vanity Case $1.25



Closed 2 1-2 x 3 inches. Neat case. Genuine leather. Contains small change purse, mirror, puff, compartment for Handkerchief, top strap handle, etc.

LADIES' BAG $1.50



Closed 6 1-2 x 8 1-2 inches. Genuine Crepe Leather; Silk lined; Back and Front strap handle; mirror; Compartments for change, bank notes, chamois, handkerchief, etc.

THE STYLE LEATHER GOODS CO. NOT INC. 1145 BLUE ISLAND AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.



This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Some Hints on Fall Practise

WHILE it is ruinous practise to allow the dairy cows or adult cattle to pasture the new grass and clover on the stubble in fall, as they eat the "heart" out of it and may thus practically spoil the hay crop the following season, young pigs, after having rings put in their snouts, may be allowed to graze on such fields if no other green stuff is available. If this is done, however, one must watch that they do not graze too close and they should not be allowed to graze at all if the fall is very dry and the new grass slow in growth. The hog pasturing only is safe if clover is "booming" from an abundance of rain.

Such pasturing by pigs will not be necessary if a "cover" crop was seeded in the corn when "laying it by" or giving it the last cultivation for the season. A good mixture for that purpose, whether it is to be pastured or left for plowing under as "green manure" in spring, is three pecks of rye and two to four pounds each of alsike clover and rape or turnips. If the season is favorable there will be a fine growth of these green stuffs in fall and sheep and cattle also may graze the combination with benefit and profit. Dairy cows, however, should not be allowed to pasture rape as it tends to taint their milk.

In some parts of the country a new plan of tackling marshes has been introduced and the work may well be done in late fall, unless rains have caused much surface water on such low lands. It has been found that where horses would mire down or tire themselves quickly by wading in soft bog tractor wheels compress the soil and travel successfully. The tractor therefore is coming into use for the plowing of marshes too wet for horses to work profitably and when they have plowed once it may be possible to use horses for the next plowing or working of the land. The other new plan is to dig ditches with dynamite. In doing so it has been found necessary to cut through the turf and peat at the sides of the proposed ditch and in the center, then about three pounds of dynamite to the rod will make a clean job of the dirt excavating so that little hand work will be needed.

Many farmers delay getting out manure until winter has set in and this we consider a great mistake. Thin even spreading of manure is of great importance and the harder the manure is frozen the more difficult will it be to spread it properly. Often the winter hauled manure is forked out in big chunks which do not break down until late in summer and thus much of the land does not derive its proper share of benefit from the manuring. By starting the spreading of manure as early as possible after harvest and silo filling the spreader can be used to care for all manure accumulated during summer; then the winter manure may be spread by hand as it is made daily. Where manure is spread by hand harrowing is necessary and too little practised. An English chain harrow is the best possible implement for such work. It adjusts itself to the field surface and breaks up the chunks of manure splendidly; much better in fact than can be done with the tooth harrow or drag. It is better practise to cover as much land as possible thinly with manure than to concentrate all of the manure too thickly upon a small area. Put the manure on the high spots and side hills, and preferably upon grass land unless the stubble is to be plowed forthwith.

Oats generally were very heavy crop the past season and as a result clover and Timothy seeded with that crop largely was smothered out; on the contrary grass seeded with wheat or barley did well. In all districts where the winter is not severe and fall rains have softened the ground reseeding should be done. In the middle west it can be done any time before the end of September, so far as Timothy is concerned and in mild climates alsike clover may be added. On most of the stubbles some clover can be seen and it will help to make a crop of hay the following season, but we believe in sowing at least two quarts of Timothy seed per acre in fall where the catch of grass has been poor and then putting on the clover when the soil is honeycombed in spring after a late snow. A good spring mixture is six pounds of medium red clover and two each of Timothy, alsike clover and alfalfa per acre. If alfalfa is not wanted crimson clover may be used if dairy cows are to consume the hay, or a greater amount of Timothy seeded if horses are to be fed.

When cleaning up the orchard before winter and protecting every young tree with wire screening against rabbits and other vermin it is a fine plan to heavily mulch each tree, young and old, with strawy manure and to remulch in the same way in spring. Many people simply pile the mulch close up against the trunk of the tree, whereas it should extend at least six feet on every side of the trunk and in big trees as far as the branches extend. Even a heavy mulch of weeds is beneficial, but strawy manure is better. Fruit trees, like other farm crops, need plenty of fertility if they are to bear well and the old sod-bound orchard that neither is worked, mulched or manured will not pay expenses. At this time of the year it also is a good time to remove or burn every brush heap in the orchard—and all growing brush that will harbor rabbits, vermin and insects.

Cattle may be made much more comfortable during winter if their backs are washed with strong salt water or a mixture of two teaspoonfuls of coal tar dip to the pint of water at the time they are put into winter quarters and later when one first sees signs of ox warble grubs along the spine and in the skin of the loins. At the same time the stables should be cleansed, disinfected, whitewashed, lighted and well ventilated so that lice will not abound and cause misery and lack of thrift. Before putting the young cattle into the stables for winter they should be carefully examined and if lice are found these should be destroyed by use of a coal tar dip solution made according to directions given by the manufacturer. Hogs should be similarly treated and then kept free of lice and the horse stable should be made comfortable in the same way. Vermin by biting, sucking blood and causing discomfort reduce profits in the feeding, milking or working of farm animals and should be made "conspicuous by their absence" on every well-managed farm.

Indigestion in Calves

From every side comes advice just at present to raise every calf that is worth raising and that advice no doubt is good; but it seems to us as important to advise against the unnecessary losses so common in calf raising. Indigestion, in one form or another, is for example almost general and it takes a severe toll of calf life and calf strength in its ravages. Scouring is perhaps its most common and deadly evidence and much has been written on that subject so that it is fairly well understood and every farmer has his favorite remedy for the complaint. Chronic indigestion, however, is little understood, and while it does not cause so many deaths it does more harm in the long run than diarrhea, as few young, hand-fed calves are free from the trouble and on account of it they fail to develop properly and profitably and consequently may be stunted for life and also fail to produce the amounts of milk that should have been possible to them from their breeding.

In looking for the cause of such prevalent indigestion let it be understood that man feeds calves in an absolutely unnatural manner and indigestion is the penalty. In nature the young calf sucks often taking comparatively small quantities of milk slowly into its fourth or true stomach. That stomach is the only one of the four compartments fully developed for reception and digestion of food by the young calf. It contains the rennet for curdling of milk and such curdling takes place quickly after the milk enters that compartment. When a calf sucks milk saliva which is alkaline freely mixes with the milk and prepares it for curdling. It prevents formation of a very tough, indigestible curd or clot. When a calf drinks a large quantity of milk quickly the milk is not acted upon by saliva, not properly prepared for action by the rennet and so forms a tough curd in the fourth stomach which cannot readily be digested by the calf.

Every young calf should suck its milk either from the teats or from artificial teats of a self-feeder. It is all wrong to let a calf drink a large quantity of milk, new or skim, just twice a day. It gets far too hungry for milk where this is done and so drinks too fast and suffers from indigestion. Better copy nature and feed the calf a little often and in some way that will necessitate sucking or at least slow drinking.

Many a dairyman has wondered why calves suck one another's ears or udders after drinking milk and will be interested to hear that in all probability this is an evidence of instinct which leads the calf to attempt correction of indigestion by inducing a flow of saliva into the stomach by the act of sucking. It is a well-known fact that the salivary glands are very active while sucking or chewing is going on and that they are practically dormant when the animal is not eating and when it is drinking. Every animal therefore should be given a chance to masticate its feed thoroughly so that saliva will have its full and necessary effect and in the same way the calf should suck, or take its milk very slowly to derive the needed benefit from saliva.

Fast drinking of milk by very young calves also may cause sudden death from spasm or convulsions (fits). Indigestion no doubt leads up to such attacks. They do not affect the sucking calf so long as the mother's milk agrees perfectly; but in some instances we have seen them killed quickly when something had rendered the mother's milk practically poisonous. More acute indigestion than we have been writing of may also be induced by allowing the very young calf to eat much coarse, bulky feed which cannot properly be digested in the fourth stomach. In the older animal such roughage is stored in the first stomach (paunch) and thence goes back to the mouth several times for perfect mastication and insalivation.

The lessons to be learned from what has been said here are to feed a young calf milk at least three times a day instead of twice, to make it suck its milk or drink it very slowly and to keep it from eating much roughage before its stomachs have developed sufficiently to care for such feed. It may be added that if possible the calf feeding should be done by a woman or trained feeder. Too often it is done by young children who neither have the experience or good judgment necessary for satisfactory results.

Taints in Milk

In answer to several inquiries relative to taints in milk we shall here set down some of the facts on the subject which should be understood by every dairyman, and at the outset it should be stated that prevention is of most importance in this connection.

It commonly is held by even quite practical owners of cows that bad odors inhaled by the cow always taint her milk. The writer was taught this as a fact but since has learned that it rarely if ever proves true in practise. Once we knew of a case that seemed to prove that inhaled smells do taint milk. At a time when foot and mouth disease was prevalent the walls of a stable in which several hundred cows were kept for the production of milk for city consumption were painted with a composition containing crude carbolic acid which has a strong odor. Next day the consumers complained as a body that the milk was badly tainted, and so it was. We believed at the time that the cows inhaled the carbolic acid tainted air and so tainted their milk. We now know that *the new warm milk absorbed the odor at milking time* when exposed to the tainted air.

The butter fat of milk very readily absorbs smells or scents. Try an experiment by exposing new warm milk to the scent of sweet clover, or even red, white or alsike clover in blossom, and it will be found that the scent is absorbed and will be noticeable in the butter; yet the milk and butter from cows fed on these clovers has no appreciable acquired scent or taste on that account.

Prevent so far as possible exposing milk to any strong odor. Even exposing it to the air of a dirty, badly ventilated stable will be enough to cause a disagreeable odor and taste and cream often is tainted for butter making by setting it in shallow pans in a damp basement where there is a marked "cellar smell" and the additional smell from potatoes and other vegetables.

Cows also taint their milk by eating plants that have a strong, rank taste and smell. Let a cow eat an ancient cabbage and the milk will be badly tainted in consequence and this danger of tainting makes dairymen afraid to feed cabbage, turnips, rutabagas and rape. By feeding just after milking there is less danger from this source. Wild onions in timber pastures in spring also give milk a most disagreeable flavor and we get more inquiries about this form of tainting than any other.

While taking every possible precaution to prevent milk from absorbing abnormal odors it is equally important to rid milk as quickly as possible from animal heat after milking. In big dairies this is accomplished by letting the new milk run in a very thin sheet or stream over the surface of a corrugated metal container of ice cold water. This cooling aerating of the milk quickly gets rid of animal heat and absorption of odors and growth of germs is thus largely prevented.

This plan of aeration even will remove much of the unpleasant taste due to the eating of cabbage or wild onions, but we can add another preventive or remedial measure and that is to give the cows sulphur and baking soda in their feed when tainting has been noticed. Give a teaspoonful of each twice daily at first and if necessary increase the dose to one tablespoonful twice daily. Give this treatment in every case where milk has a disagreeable odor and taste. We have also found powdered wood charcoal, freely fed, fairly effective when indigestion is the cause of "strong" milk.

Drying Potatoes

It is said that the German soldiers now fighting in the trenches are fed on potatoes grown four years ago. To the American farmer this seems impossible, but when he learns that the Germans have a process of drying potatoes, his disbelief vanishes.

Out of dried potatoes there is manufactured potato flakes, "flocken" and potato flour. These products have a considerable sale in this country and since this trade has been interrupted by the war, there is growing up here a new industry, that of drying potatoes. This industry promises much to the potato grower.

WHAT POTATO DRYING WILL DO FOR THE FARMER.—In the first place it will equalize the supply. In years of heavy production the extra supply will be dried and stored for future use. This will reduce the available supply of raw potatoes and better prices will result.

Second: it will enable us to carry over this dried stock in safe storage from year to year. Since the water is all evaporated it will reduce freight charges and the amount of space required for storage.

Third; it will utilize the small and inferior stock and throw on the market for table use a much higher quality of raw potatoes.

Fourth: it will have a steadying effect upon prices and thus enable farmers to be much more certain of the prices they will likely receive at harvest time.

HOW POTATOES ARE DRIED.—They are first put through a cylinder that catches the dirt and stones and pushes the potatoes along to another compartment where they are thoroughly washed. They then pass into a vat where they are cooked and let out between two steam heated rollers where they are dried in thin sheets in much the same manner that paper is made. From these cylinders they are scraped off in thin sheets and conveyed away to be packed in sacks as potato flakes or ground into potato flour.

As yet there is only a limited market for these products in this country but it is probable that such a market will grow as the industry develops.

Farming Without Horses

There is a man in Wisconsin who has never had a horse on his farm. Two years ago he settled on the cut-over land of Marinette county and began clearing his farm with a big tractor. For two years he has plowed and harrowed his land, planted, cultivated and harvested his crop, all without the aid of horse power.

This man's experience is but a forecast of what will inevitably happen, and that without doubt in a very few years. The horse will disappear from the farm when practical power becomes available as a substitute for horse power, just as surely and perhaps just as completely as he has already disappeared from city streets.

Shredded Corn Fodder

Shredded fodder excels corn-stalks as a feeding stuff for several reasons.

In the first place a large amount may be conveniently stored in a much smaller place and it can be blown direct from the shredder to the mow where it is to be stored.

In the next place shredded fodder is much more conveniently handled. It can be easily fed and the refuse used for bedding and finally thrown out with the manure where it is easily spread upon the land.

Shredded fodder has a higher feeding value than corn-stalks because more of it is eaten by stock. Only the coarsest parts are rejected and these make good bedding, as already suggested, and act as absorbents for the liquid manure which may otherwise be lost.

DIFFICULTIES IN SHREDDING.—It is harder work to haul corn to the shredder than it is to haul the stalks after the corn has been husked. However, the labor of husking, being done by machinery at the same time, is thus saved.

The danger of accident from being caught in the machine is greater in shredding corn than in any other farm operation. While it is possible to guard these machines, yet the necessary construction of the shredder is such as to invite accident, hence the greatest of care is necessary at shredding time.

The Questions and Answers constitute one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming.

Questions and Answers

ONION MAGGOT.—Please tell me what to do for young onion plants so the worms will not destroy them. MRS. J. H. K., Menominee, Mich.

A.—The onion maggot is hard to control. Bi-sulphide of carbon poured on the ground in small quantities between the rows is the best remedy. It is too expensive to be profitable on a large scale. Garden crops should be rotated.

SOUTHERN TOMATO BLIGHT.—My early June tomatoes grew fine, blossomed and were full of large green fruit when the plants began to look as though they had been scalded and a white mildew came on them and the green tomatoes began to rot. The entire crop is a failure. Can you tell me what the trouble is and the remedy?

MRS. I. Mc. E., Spring Hill, W. Va.

A.—From your description it appears that your tomatoes are affected with Southern blight for which no remedy is known. Send samples to your Experiment Station at Morgantown, W. Va. for identification. Practise rotation of crops.

WEEVILS.—Please give me the name, and tell how to use the preparation for killing bugs or weevils that hatch in and destroy dry beans. We lose a great many beans in this way.

MRS. C. F. R., Littleton, Ky.

A.—Use carbon bi-sulphide. Place beans in a covered box. Put carbon bi-sulphide in open dishes on top to evaporate. Keep box covered and all fire away. Do not go near for twenty-four hours. Carbon bi-sulphide is both poisonous and explosive. Weevils in dry peas and grain may be treated in the same way.

WIREWORMS.—Worms about the size of wire, black with one white stripe, are eating the stalks of my potatoes, corn, tomatoes and cabbages, beginning just above the ground. After they get to work on a plant it soon wilts and dies. I have a half-acre garden and I hate to lose it. What can I do to get rid of these worms?

MRS. M. P. M., Strawberry Point, Iowa.

A.—For wireworms plow land in the fall and freeze them out. Also practise crop rotation. To destroy use arsenate of lead, one half ounce dissolved in a gallon of water. Make a sweetened corn meal mash wetting with this poison water, and sprinkle over ground near plant, or soak fresh clover in this poison water and place it under boards scattered about the field.

Send Only $1

And we will ship this 6 Piece Bed Outfit, on 30 days free trial. If you keep it, send us only $1.50 a month until the price is paid. If not satisfactory return it and we will refund deposit and pay freight both ways. Order now—direct from this ad. Also get big free catalog. See description below.



Complete Outfit—Full size bed, spring, mattress, two pillows. Bed has heavy 1 1-16 inch continuous posts. Seven 3-8 inch square grooved fillers. Head end is 54 in. and foot end 34 in. from floor. Choice of White or Gold Bronze, Vernis Martin finish. Spring has Ostric top filler on heavy angle iron frame and is supported at ends by resilient steel helical coil springs. Mattress good grade sanitary cotton top well filled with wood fibre. Covered with neat stripe ticking. Weighs, burlapped, about 90 lbs. Pillows filled with specially blended selected hen feathers and measure full 18x26 inches. Covered with durable stripe ticking. Shipped from our Chicago Warehouse.

Order by No. 1533MA10. Price for Complete Outfit $14.75. $1 now. Balance in monthly payments of $1.50 each.

Easy Payments

Buy anything you want from Hartman's and take nearly a year to pay. And you always have 30 days' free trial. No need to pay all down for your furniture. Use your credit at Hartman's.

Bargain Catalog Free

454 pages. Thousands of amazing values in Furniture, Stoves, Ranges, Silverware, Jewelry, Lamps, Baby Carriages, Phonographs, Kitchen Cabinets, Rugs, Curtains, Sewing Machines, Carpets, Linoleums, Wire, Paints, Roofing, Gasoline Engines, Cream Separators, Farm Necessities, etc. All on our 30 days' free trial and easy credit terms. A post card brings it free.

Hartman Furniture and Carpet Co.,
3964 Wentworth Ave., Dept. 1834, Chicago

New Feather Beds Only $8.40

Full weight 35 pounds. 6-pound New Feather Pillows $1.40 per pair. Satisfaction guaranteed. Write for free catalog. SOUTHERN FEATHER & PILLOW CO., Dept. 201, Greensboro, N. C.

9 CORDS IN 10 HOURS



BY ONE MAN. It's KING OF THE WOODS. Saves money and backache. Send for FREE catalog No. B 6 showing low price and latest improvements. First order gets agency.
Folding Sawing Machine Co., 161 West Harrison St., Chicago, Ill.

Only $2 Down
One Year to Pay!



$29 Buys the New Butterfly Jr. No. 2. Light running, easy cleaning, close skimming, durable. Guaranteed a lifetime. Skims 95 quarts per hour. Made also in five larger sizes up to No. 8 shown here.

30 Days' Free Trial Earns its own cost and more by what it saves in cream. Postal brings Free catalog, folder and "direct-from-factory" offer. Buy from the manufacturer and save money.

ALBAUGH-DOVER CO. (22)
2122 Marshall Blvd. CHICAGO

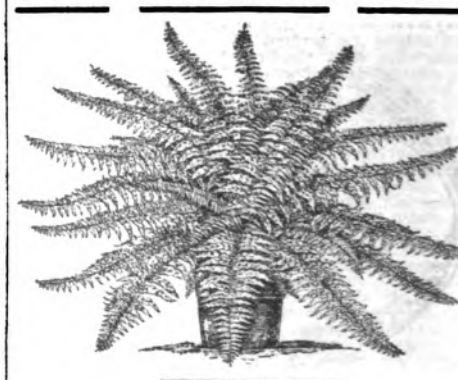
Farmers or Farmers' Sons
Great Money Making Opportunity



Sell Lange's Extracts, Spices, Toilet Articles, Teas, Coffees, Remedies and Veterinary Specialties, direct from wagon to home. Long-established well-known big line, fine profits. Steady work in a business all your own. You furnish horse or team, we supply rig on easy terms. Previous experience unnecessary—we train you in salesmanship. Make big money. Our contract beats all others. Exclusive territory near your home. Write us quick.

THE LANGE CO., Dept. W, DePere, Wis.

Four Beautiful Ferns



PREMIUM NO. 6112

Given For Two Subscriptions

OF all indoor foliage plants, none give more **lasting pleasure and satisfaction** than these popular house ferns. They need but little care and live indefinitely, growing larger and more beautiful year by year. The collection offered you here comprise **four of the largest, handsomest varieties ever grown for house culture.** They are the **Asparagus Plumosus** or "Lace" fern, the **Roosevelt,** the **Boston** or "Fountain" fern and the **Whitmani** or "Ostrich plume" fern. They will thrive in any dwelling room near a window and require almost **no attention** except a little sprinkling of water now and then. These ferns are guaranteed to be **absolutely free from all injurious insects or diseases which destroy foliage plants of this type,** and they will be packed carefully and mailed to you by Parcel Post so that you will be sure to receive them in just as good condition as though they were **fresh from the greenhouse.** We are able to illustrate only one variety, **"The Roosevelt,"** but remember you get **all four ferns free on this offer.**

Club Offer. For **two** one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will **send you by Parcel Post prepaid** the above described collection of **four beautiful ferns** each one of **them a strong, healthy, well rooted plant ready to pot** and guaranteed to grow and develop into a fine specimen beauty. **Premium No. 6112.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Solid Gold Wonderful Values--

These beautiful pieces of genuine jewelry are guaranteed **solid gold.** The ring is set with a beautiful pearl, the Breast Pin is set with a genuine ruby doublet, and the chain pendant is set with a genuine ruby doublet and a real Baroque Pearl drop. The band ring is solid gold. Such remarkable values have seldom if ever been offered—sent postpaid to any address in the U. S. on receipt of the prices named above. Send piece of paper cut to fit your finger for size of ring wanted.

Send for our valuable handsomely illustrated catalog of jewelry and novelties.

LYNN & CO., 48 Bond Street, New York

$1.95 Made to Your Order



Special Offer to prove our fine quality: These fine Pants for Dress or Business, choice of many handsome styles, guaranteed for 18 months solid wear and satisfaction or MONEY BACK, absolute $5.00 value—while they last, one pair to a customer. Express prepaid for only - - - **$1.95** PANTS

No Extra Charges

No charge for Big Extreme Peg Tops or Cuff Bottoms, nothing extra for fancy Belt Loops or Pocket Flaps, no charge for Open Welt Seams or Large Sizes—all novelty features FREE.



This **GOLD FINISHED PIN FREE** TO YOU Classy, lapel pin with your first order, only a few hundred on hand, get yours quick. Send No Money

Cash Profits to you for taking measures of relatives and neighbors. Young George Gekovich made $66.16 in one day. Write for free samples **today.**

Chicago Tailors Association
Dept. C 10, 515 South Franklin Street, Chicago

"DON'T SHOUT"



"I hear you. I can hear now as well as anybody. 'How?' With the **MORLEY PHONE.** I've a pair in my ears now, but they are invisible. I would not know I had them in, myself, only that I hear all right. 'The **Morley Phone** for the **DEAF** is to the ears what glasses are to the eyes. Invisible, comfortable, weightless and harmless. Anyone can adjust it." Over one hundred thousand sold. Write for booklet and testimonials.

THE MORLEY CO., Dept. 766, Perry Bldg., Phila.

FREE **WRIST WATCH** AND RING
10 YEAR GUARANTEE



FREE Stem Wind, Pendant Set, Leather Strap. Order 25 of our easy selling Art and Religious Pictures at 10c each. When sold send us the money and choose your prize from our big list

GAIR MFG. CO., Dept. 501, CHICAGO, ILL.

Learn to Stuff Birds and Animals. A delightful art, easily learned at home. **Big Profits.** Save your trophies. Decorate your home. We teach men, women, boys **by mail.** Write for Free Book today. **N.W. School of Taxidermy,** 3047 Elwood Bldg., **Omaha, Neb.**



TYPEWRITERS LESS THAN 1-2 PRICE



Genuine Re-built $100 Underwood—5-year guarantee. Ten Days' Free Trial. Rental or installments or discount for cash. Write for circular No. 29.

Typewriter Emporium, Chicago, Ill.

GOVERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet B X 1015 tells how. Write today—NOW.
Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Refined and Stylish **Will Fit Any Wrist**



For A Club Of Three

WHERE is the girl who does not want one of these handsome and stylish bracelets? Set with a perfectly colored imitation gem denoting the month of your birth—with two tiny flashing white solitaires nestling in the dainty filigree design of gold—all of your friends will exclaim **"My, what a beautiful bracelet!"** the minute they see it. Filled with enough real gold to give it lasting wearing qualities, yet it feels light as a feather when worn. And you are assured of a perfect fit because it is **self-adjusting.** It will fit **any** size wrist. Here is a list of the twelve different birthstones and the month represented by each:

No. 7413, January, Garnet: **No. 7423,** February, Amethyst: **No. 7433,** March, Bloodstone; **No. 7443,** April, Diamond; **No. 7453,** May, Emerald; **No. 7463,** June, Agate; **No. 7473,** July, Ruby; **No. 7483,** August, Sardonyx; **No. 7493,** September, Sapphire; **No. 7503,** October, Opal; **No. 7513,** November, Topaz; **No. 7523,** December, Turquoise.

You can earn one of these handsome gold-filled birthstone bracelets free by doing us a small favor as explained in the following offer. When you send for it **be sure to mention number of birthstone wanted.**

CLUB OFFER. For three one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one of these bracelets free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to give us the number of stone wanted.**

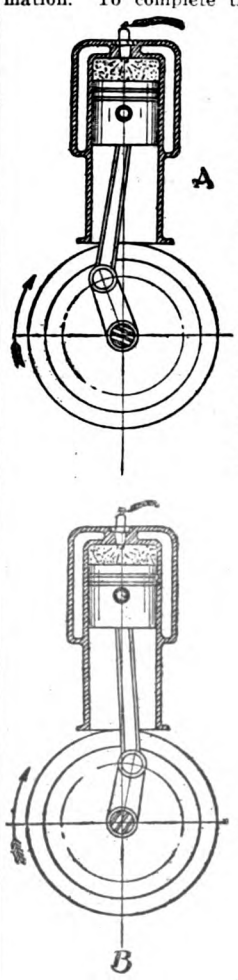
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Automobile and Gas Engine Helps

Questions relating to gasoline engines and automobiles, by our subscribers, addressed to COMFORT Auto Dept., Augusta, Maine, will be answered by our expert, free, in the columns of this department. Full name and address is required, but initials only will be printed.

How to Handle the Spark

FROM observation it will be seen that practically every make of car incorporates some means of advancing the spark. Some engineers use what is termed the automatic advance which is an arrangement whereby the spark automatically advances to compensate for the different speeds of the motor. The common practise, however, is to install a spark lever usually on top of the steering wheel and which can be manipulated as the operator may see best fit. From reading over the instruction book furnished with the car one usually learns that the ignition timing is such that the spark takes place in the cylinder when the piston is at the height of its compression stroke or for the sake of safety, just as the piston has passed top center and has started to go down. If this is the case one is apt to ask himself the question why is a spark advance necessary as the ideal condition is to have the spark occur when the piston is at the height of its compression stroke. The facts of the case are that all electric current whether it be taken from a battery or magneto is primary, that is, it is not of sufficient pressure to jump the gap at the spark plug and therefore must be converted into a current known as secondary. This transformation is usually accomplished by use of a transformer coil. Many cars incorporate a high tension magneto and when such is the case no transformer coil is needed because the instrument itself incorporates both primary and secondary windings and therefore can handle the transformation. To complete this transformation from primary to secondary a certain amount of time is required and this time remains the same whether the engine be running at slow speed or high speed. The time for changing the current over is commonly referred too as the "lag." It is therefore obvious that if the spark will take place in the cylinder at top center when the engine is turned over by hand and there is a definite amount of time required for the transformation, at high engine speeds the spark would take place too late unless there was some arrangement to compensate for the lag. Still another reason for the necessity of advancing the spark is that it requires the same amount of time to fully expand the gasoline-air mixture in the cylinder. Although these so termed lags are but very short yet in view of the fact that the average engine is capable of anywhere from 1000 to 2000 revolutions per minute, at such speeds the lag would be sufficient to cause the spark to take place after the piston had started on its downward stroke, thereby lowering the compression and resulting in wasted fuel, lost power and decreased speed. It is impossible to set any one rule for the manipulation of the spark lever but one by which the operator will not go far wrong is to carry the spark lever as far advanced as possible without causing the motor to knock or labor.



A. Illustrating what takes place within the cylinder when the car is cranked with a slightly advanced spark. Note that the piston has not passed over the center point and were it not due to the power developed by the electric starter the motor would run in a reverse direction. If the motor was cranked with a hand crank a condition such as this is very apt to result in broken limbs.

B. The ideal condition. Complete combustion of the gases is taking place just after the piston has passed the center point and is starting on its downward stroke.

C. Somewhat exaggerated illustration showing what takes place if the throttle lever is advanced and the spark leve fully retarded. Due to the "lag" complete combustion does not occur until the piston has completed much of its down ward stroke. Such a condition results in lost fuel, decreased power and rapid carbonization of the cylinders.

Many drivers place the lever at the furthest advance point possible and then forget that there is any such part connected with the car. This kind of driver is the first to condemn design, construction, etc., when the car slows down on a hill and the engine commences to knock. The facts are that the knock and the sluggish operation are directly due to preignition. In other words full expansion of the gasoline-air mixture is taking place before the piston has passed top center and were it not for the momentum stored by the flywheel there would be a tendency for the engine to operate in a reverse direction. One of the first lessons taught the beginner is to make certain that the spark lever is fully retarded before starting the engine by means of the hand crank. Should the lever be in the advanced position the spark and complete combustion would take place before the piston had passed over top center and the result would be that the motor would be driven in a reverse direction, jerking the crank out of the operator's hand and many times breaking a few of his limbs. The reason for this back fire, as it is commonly termed, is that the operator cannot develop sufficient power to force the piston over the top center mark against the expanding gases.

Due to the fact that the majority of the present day cars are equipped with electric starters operators are inclined to be careless regarding the position of the spark lever when starting. Although the electric starter will no doubt develop sufficient power to carry the piston over the top center mark against the expanding gases yet in 99 cases out of every 100 damage will be done to the starter. The usual result is that the starter is made to hesitate momentarily thus allowing an excessive amount of current to be delivered to the starting motor commutator which naturally results in the burning of the commutator and brushes. Many an operator has seen fit to condemn the starter when it refused to respond when in reality he is to blame because of the manner in which he handled the spark lever. There is but one remedy for a burned starting motor commutator and that is to remove the the armature and place it on centers in a lathe. A small chip must then be taken with a cutting tool so as to bring the surface of the commutator smooth and true. Sand papering is not sufficient as the commutator would be oval shape and rapid brush wear would be experienced.

By referring to the sketches some idea may be gained about what takes place within a cylinder when the spark lever is incorrectly handled.

Gasoline Economy

In these days of high price gasoline one is often asked by his neighbor "What mileage are you getting?" and the usual reply is "How much are you receiving?" Due to the high price of fuel, owners and drivers are paying closer attention than ever before to gasoline consumption. However for the most part owners are becoming dissatisfied, due to the fact that they do not know how to accurately figure mileage. The usual method for the owner is to take the reading of the speedometer at different fillings of the gasoline tank, dividing the number of miles covered by the number of gallons of fuel used. This method is far from being accurate for the reason that much gasoline is consumed for which no mileage is recorded by the speedometer. There is but one accurate way of making an economy test and that is by affixing a special one gallon test tank to some convenient part of the machine connecting the auxiliary tank to the carburetor by a suitable length of rubber tubing. After the motor has become thoroughly warm the car should be driven on a straight away course until all gasoline in the special tank is consumed. It is obvious that the difference between the reading of the speedometer at the beginning and end of test is the actual mileage received to the gallon of gasoline. This is a conclusive test and the only reason that a satisfactory mileage is not received at other times is the way the car is handled. Many operators frequent congested districts and forget that they are called upon to make several stops and starts. This kind of operating eats up much fuel as it is necessary each time to accelerate the motor, run through the different gears, etc. Of course the character of the road, smooth, rough or hilly, makes a difference. Other operators will allow the motor to run idle for long periods at a time, for example, while stopping in front of the house, office, store or holding conversation with a friend. In fully 90 per cent of the cases an owner, if he will give the matter the consideration for which it calls, will realize that he has no complaint to register against gasoline consumption.

Go Easy on the New Car

All engineers and trained mechanics agree that there is nothing so injurious to a new piece of mechanism than to start right out and get the speed out of it. For example after a designer has finished a new boat he gradually "works in" the engines before submitting the job to a trial run. Likewise a locomotive designed to do 60 miles or better per hour is first given long loosening up treatment. Usually the engine is first given much dead head work, that is, drawn by another engine after which it is consigned to slow freight duty and then following the process of evolution, so to speak, is turned over to fast passenger service.

The same principle should hold good concerning the automobile, but this is not usually the case for the reason that the machine falls into the hands of an inexperienced operator who too soon has aspirations to rival Dario Resta, the speed king. It is true that a motor is given a thorough working out at the factory but after this workout it is customary to give all bearings a final adjustment. Therefore in order to work these bearings into a nice fit the car for the first 500 miles, at least, should not be operated at a speed greater than twenty-five miles per hour. Be content to know that the speed is there and that by exercising a little sound judgment for a while you are prolonging the life of the car, insuring a smoother operating motor and reducing repair bills.

How to Wash the Car

It is human nature that motorists should take pardonable pride in the highly polished finish of the new car. However, through ignorance on the part of the owner considerable damage can be done to the finish by improper washing. Usually when it is decided to wash the car there is an accumulation of mud or dust on the body. When such is the condition a stream of water of considerable pressure will have a tendency to drive the fine particles of dirt into the varnish causing the same to chip or at least lose its luster. The proper method of procedure is to soften the mud and dust by applying a very gentle stream of clear cold water. In a very short time the gentle stream will loosen the dirt and it will wash away with the water. Next rub the high finish with a clean sponge using all the while an abundance of water. To restore the luster rub the body dry with a clean chamois skin which has previously been wrung out of water. To obtain the best results make gentle strokes with the chamois and keep the rubbing motion in one direction usually lengthwise of the panel.

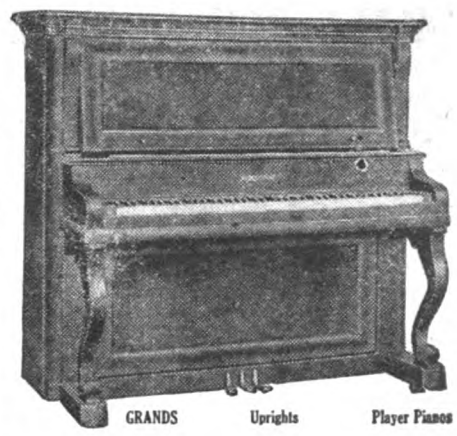
Think of the Pedestrian

A recent decision handed down by the courts is to the effect that operators who drive fast through puddles and mud holes splashing the mire on nearby pedestrians are liable. Any motorist who will give the matter the consideration for which it calls will realize that by applying the "juice" when operating in such places causes the mud and water to scatter for a considerable distance and that an indignant pedestrian may go beyond a mere verbal outburst. Therefore, when operating under such conditions be thoughtful, give the walker his rights and you will save yourself trouble and expense.

Questions Answered

CARBURETOR OVERFLOWS.—The carburetor of my Ford car does not leak when the engine is running, but as soon as the engine is stopped the gasoline leaks out of the carburetor; the leak is slow but continual when engine is not running. G. H., Mound City.

A.—An intelligent answer is impossible for the reason you have failed to state the year in which your car was manufactured or the make of carburetor used. You cannot go wrong however by removing the carburetor from motor and subjecting it to a thorough cleaning. It may be possible that a piece of dirt has become lodged between the inlet needle and its seat or that the needle is pitted or corroded. Make certain that the float is free to act, is not gasoline soaked and that the gasoline level is not set too high. Believe that a letter to the maker of the carburetor will bring complete descriptive literature on the care of the instrument.



$5 Brings This Superb Symphonic Piano

Try it a month in your home. Invite other good musicians of your acquaintance to pass judgment on this instrument. Then if you do not agree that it is by far the best Piano value ever brought to your attention, the trial will be at our expense. Our Factory-to-Family plan saves you much money. It brings you a high quality piano on easy payments which may cover four years.

Ask Today for Your Piano Book

It shows Symphonic Pianos, Symphonic Player Pianos, and GRAND Pianos in actual colors. Tells about our convenient offers. Before you buy any instrument, get this FREE book. Write today and please state instrument interested in.

Larkin Co. **DESK CT-1017, BUFFALO, N. Y.**

Must Have Had Feet Like a Table

A young hunter went up into the hills of West Virginia to "try his luck." There was one "point" in the hills almost perfectly round, and the soil was so loose and dry that it was easily marked by the feet of a passing animal. The hunter saw turkey tracks the moment he had reached the point, and followed them. They circled and re-circled the point, and still no turkey appeared. The tracks were fresh, too.

"There's only one thing about it? That turkey just watches my tracks and keeps following just in back of me," thought the young man. Accordingly he took off his shoes, put them on backward, and so went round the point and got the baffled turkey!—*Youth's Companion.*

SAVE MONEY ON SHOES



National Aluminum Shoes outwear several pairs of all-leather, rubber or wood sole boots or shoes, for work on farm, creamery, railroad, in mine or factory. GUARANTEED--break-proof bottoms. Water-proof--rust-proof. Noiseless, fit fine, easy walking. Keep feet dry, warm, comfortable. Removable cushion felt insoles. Best leather uppers. Removable friction taps take up wear, prevent slipping--easy to replace at small cost. Thousands of satisfied users. Money back if not satisfied after seeing and trying on. Write for free catalog giving prices, styles and how to order.

National Aluminum Shoe Co.
Box 22 Racine, Wis.

NATIONAL ALUMINUM SHOES

WITTE "Kero-Oil" Engines



Immediate Shipment--All Styles-- 2 to 22 H-P.--No Waiting--Big Factory--Big Output--Prices most favorable. Write for my terms and prices--Cash, Payments or No Money Down.--ED. H. WITTE, Pres.

WITTE ENGINE WORKS
3641 Oakland Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
3641 Empire Bldg., Pittsburg, Pa.

I Save You $15 to $200

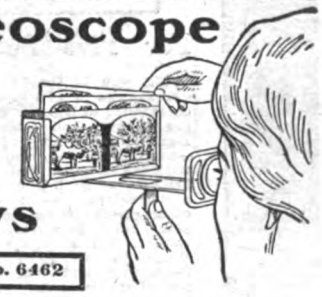
Driver Agents Wanted

Drive and demonstrate the Bush Car. Pay for it out of your commissions on sales. My agents are making money. Shipments are prompt. Bush Cars guaranteed or money back. 1913 models ready. Write at once for my 48-page catalog and all particulars. Address J. H. Bush, Pres. Dept. 1004



115-in Wheelbase
Delco Ignition--Elect. Stg. & Ltg.
BUSH MOTOR COMPANY, Bush Temple, Chicago, Illinois

Stereoscope With 100 Views



Premium No. 6462

For A Club Of Two!

LIONS, Tigers, Bears and all kinds of Wild Animals, Home Scenes, Domestic Pets and Happy Childhood Days. Here is something **as good as a circus** for the children **the year round**—an indestructible, new style **Stereoscope** made of **all metal** with powerful, magnifying **lens,** and with it we give you **free** a big collection of **100 Views of home scenes, domestic pets, farm scenes,** all kinds of **trained and wild animals, hunting scenes,** views from the **Arctic** and **tropical** countries, and **happy childhood scenes**—the biggest and finest assortment of the most **delightful and entertaining** stereoscopic views for children ever gotten out. Boys and girls need not be obliged to hunt for something to occupy their active minds indoors with one of these Scopes at hand because it will give them a never-ending, joyful **entertainment** keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. Aside from the pleasure they will derive from the **fifty** beautiful **scenes of home life,** the **fifty** exciting **animal views** will furnish them with a **regular circus, the lions, tigers, bears, buffalo,** and all kinds of **wild and savage animals** as well as **horses, dogs, cats** and other domestic animals standing out **real and life-like** when looked at through this Scope. Any boy or girl would be delighted to have one of these wonderful Stereoscopes together with the big collection of 100 entertaining and exciting Views that come with it and knowing this we have purchased a large quantity of them direct from the factory and because we bought so maay we got them at a price **low enough** to enable us to **give them away** on the terms of the following

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this Stereoscope with 100 Views free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 6462.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

1917 Fall Suit Free

A WONDERFUL amazing OFFER



If you are a live wide-awake man we want you to get one of our elegant Fall suits, made to YOUR measure, absolutely FREE. All we ask you to do is to wear it, show it to your friends and take a few orders for our high grade, Made-to-Measure Clothes.

$25 EXTRA A WEEK AND YOUR OWN CLOTHES FREE

Does it look good to you *for a little spare time?* Write at once or simply send us your name on a postal and we will send details of this "STARTLING OFFER." We will also send you FREE a large assortment of cloth samples and dozens of fashion plates to choose from

NOTHING LIKE IT EVER OFFERED

by any other Tailoring House. We don't ask you to spend your cash profits for your clothes. Ours is a new and better plan. Write at once, be the first in your town to get this FREE suit.

SPENCER MEAD COMPANY
Dept. 1589 CHICAGO

FREE FORD AUTO TO AGENTS

Here's an opportunity to earn big money—$5 to $12 a day, with easy work, all your time or spare time and obtain a Ford Automobile free besides. A straightout from the shoulder business proposition. No voting or guessing contest. We want wide-awake men and women to introduce into every home our famous ZANOL Pure Food Products, Non-Alcoholic Food Flavors in tubes, Toilet Preparations, Perfumes and Soaps; 250 other light weight household necessities.

MAKE $50 A WEEK EASY.



No experience necessary—we teach you how, give you the right start and help you make a success. Absolutely no limit to your earning power. We can use only a certain number of General Agents so get in touch with us at once. We furnish our representatives with a free automobile. Just send postal for particulars and money making offer.

AMERICAN PRODUCTS CO.
2915 Third St. Cincinnati, O

30 DAYS FREE TRIAL



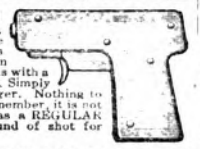
Total cost only **$7.50** by Our 7 MONTHS TIME Purchase Plan

to prove to you that this magnificent Royal has the Sweetest, Purest, Loudest and Clearest tone—**to prove to you** that it is as large and handsome as the trust machines that sell at $25.00—**to prove to you** that it has the strongest motor, the best reproducer and tone arm and the most ingenious devices to start, stop and control the music. Shipped with a supply of 10-inch double disc records of your selection, so you can enjoy the finest entertainments for one whole month. Return the outfit **AT OUR EXPENSE** if for any reason you do not wish to keep it. Drop a postal for our big list of unsolicited testimonials, record book and other literature. They are free.

S. H. DAVIS, 62-M 6101 May St., CHICAGO

AUTOMATIC REPEATING RIFLE

FIRES 20 SHOTS IN ONE LOADING!



This is a regular size automatic revolver. Shoots B B. shots obtainable anywhere, same as other rifles and guns. Repeats 20 times with one loading. Handsomely finished in gun metal. No caps or load necessary, as it works with a spring and shoots with rapidity and accuracy. Simply load with 20 B. B. Shot, then press the trigger. Nothing to explode—absolutely harmless and safe. Remember, it is not a mere toy, but the same size and shape as a REGULAR AUTOMATIC. Sent complete with a round of shot for ONLY 25 cents, postpaid.

JOHNSON SMITH & CO., Dept. 4, 64 W. Lake St. CHICAGO



Initials or date Engraved Free
Friendship or MILITARY RING
your size, for 12c., both for 23c. Warranted Sterling or Rolled GOLD.
Monogram Jewelry Co., 119 Nassau Street, Dept. 105, New York

Electric Flash Light



With Powerful Long-Lived Battery

Premium No. 7335

For Five Subscriptions

ARE you in the habit of stumbling around in the dark with the uncertain aid of lighted matches or dangerous kerosene lamps or lanterns? Don't do it any longer! It's dangerous—as you very well know—and entirely **unnecessary.** Get an **Eveready Daylo** or "flash light" and you have all the advantages of the incandescent **electric light in portable form.** It can easily be carried in the hand or pocket. It is always ready for use—a simple movement of the finger turns the light on and off as desired—and it is **absolutely safe.** No matter what happens it positively cannot set anything on fire.

6½ inches Long, 1½ inches in Diameter

In the night it shows you your way around the house without fuss or bother—it lights up the darkest rooms, stairways, closets, the dark corners in attic or basement. You can use it in the shed, stable, barn, around hay, powder, gasoline—in fact, any and all kinds of inflammable material and explosives **without the slightest danger.**

The **Eveready** is just as useful **outdoors** as it is indoors. Neither wind nor rain can put it out. When riding or walking after nightfall, it throws a shaft of brilliant light far in advance, showing up every object long before you reach it. The loneliest road, the gloomiest depths of the woods, need have no terrors for you if you go prepared with an **Eveready.**

The **Eveready** is 6½ inches long, 1½ inches in diameter equipped with a strong reflecting lens, **Mazda** bulb and the latest improved **Tungsten** battery. This battery with average use will last from two to four months, the bulb from six months to one year. Fresh batteries and bulbs may be obtained from us or any hardware or general store at trifling expense. The light itself—that is, the case and everything **except** the battery and bulb—is good for many years, in fact with proper care should last an ordinary lifetime.

We will give you this **Eveready Daylo** or "flash light" **complete with battery and bulb,** all ready for business upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you an **Eveready Daylo** complete as described above, free by parcel post prepaid (**Premium No. 7335.**) We can also supply you with extra batteries at the rate of one battery for three one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each (**Premium No. 7743**) and extra bulbs at the rate of one bulb for one one-year subscription (not your own) at 25 cents (**Premium No. 8131.**)

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

VETERINARY INFORMATION



Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

No atttention will be given any inquiry which lacks the sender's full name and address, but we will print only initials if so requested.

FOUNDER.—I am milking a cow that seems to be stiff in her joints. Her hoofs grow out too long. Her feet are so tender she can hardly walk. Her hoofs have been trimmed, once by a veterinarian, but have grown out again. What can be done for her? She is a good milker. C. L. B.

A.—Founder (laminitis) has caused the unsound condition of the feet and consequent lameness and the trouble is practically incurable. Keep the hoofs trimmed to as near normal shape as possible and let the cow stand during the daytime on a clay floor kept wet. At night allow her a box stall. Or let the cow run on a low, wet pasture. Treatment other than this will not be likely to help. At time of attack large doses of alum or saltpeter might have proved remedial.

TUMOR.—I have a cow that has a lump on her jaw which seems to be loose in the flesh, but is hard. It came suddenly, and the jaw was badly swollen for twenty-four hours. E. H.

A.—Paint the lump once daily with tincture of iodine and if it does not disappear the only resource will be to have it dissected out by a veterinarian.

SCOURS.—Please publish remedy for scours in calf or pig. F. O.

A.—We cannot give confident advice unless you give full particulars as there are many forms of scours and the causes are many and different. As a rule, however, a preliminary dose of Castor oil in milk proves most beneficial and should be followed by repeated doses of subnitrate of bismuth. The dose is 20 to 60 grains for a calf according to size and 10 to 20 grains for a pig.

LAMENESS.—I have a colt which was one year old last spring. It has the stifle out. It has been that way for six months. What will cure it? MRS. C. B. S.

A.—You do not describe the symptoms but were the stifle "out," or in other words, if the patella (knee cap) of the stifle had slipped out of place, the leg would be thrust stiffly backward and couldn't be advanced. We do not take that to be the condition. If there is enlargement and lameness of the stifle joint rub in 10 per cent iodine vasogen or petrogen twice daily. If, as often is the case, infection of the navel caused the diseased condition of the stifle it will be likely to prove incurable.

LUMP ON NOSE.—My mare five years old, has a hard lump on her nose which appeared within twenty-four hours. A year ago she got her nose hurt with a thorn or barb wire, leaving a thick hide. Six months ago pus appeared for a few days. The lump is the size of half of a hen's egg. It is on the center of her nose and seems to be on the bone. What can I do for it? J. B.

A.—Paint the lump with tincture of iodine and then have it opened for removal of a thorn, other foreign body or diseased bone. It should then heal readily.

SKIN TROUBLE.—I have a mule that has some kind of a skin trouble. The skin rises up in little bunches and the hair comes off, and white hair comes in, in the places where the bunches are. When the mule is working and is warm they seem to itch. He is in fair condition. W. H.

A.—Clip the mule at once and wash itching parts with a 1-100 solution of coal tar dip and repeat the application as often as found necessary. It is quite likely that chicken lice have caused the irritation and this should be made impossible.

DEATH OF HARE.—I have some Belgian hares and one of the mother rabbits died very suddenly leaving six baby rabbits. She didn't seem to be sick, just frothed at the mouth like she was poisoned and fell over dead. The baby rabbits have all died the same way. Can you tell me what the trouble was and is there any remedy for it? A Subscriber.

A.—The doe probably died from septic inflammation (metritis) of the womb and the young from starvation or sucking of poisonous milk. A vaginal injection of a lukewarm two per cent solution of boric acid given after birth of the young possibly might have prevented the attack. In our experience however, Belgian hares are very delicate and many of them afflicted with tuberculosis so that some deaths may be expected under such circumstances.

WARTS.—I have a yearling calf that has seed warts on her legs and between them. Please tell me a way to get rid of them.

A.—Once daily saturate the affected parts with best Castor oil, or fresh goose grease; or even with axle grease, and the warts will soon disappear. They are not due to "bad blood" and are not contagious. The exact cause of warts is unknown.

CHICKEN-EATING SOW.—I have a fine sow that has just begun to catch chickens. Is there a cure? MRS. D. C.

A.—This vice may be prevented by partially blindfolding the sow in the following way: Cover the forehead and eyes with the bent leather piece from the back part of a shoe, above heel, and fasten it to the ears by means of hognose rings so it will stay in place. The sow will be able to see to eat and graze but will be unable to catch chickens.

SCOURS.—I had two yearling calves that died, apparently from the scours. They were sick about three weeks. They were running on a dry pasture, where they had been all their lives. Thinking it might be something they were eating, I turned the other calves into another pasture; one of them is now affected in the same way. I did not give them as much salt as I should have done, because the hogs were in the same pasture. J. D. A.

A.—It is quite possible for calves to poison themselves by taking too much salt after having been deprived of it for some time. Scouring is a chief symptom of such poisoning.

STAGGERS.—Can you tell me what was the trouble with my cow? She had scours then went dry. Her kidneys did not act for a week. Her bowels seemed to be locked. She went wild and would run all over the pasture. She had fits running around in the stable and bawling until she died. (2) My dog takes spells of stretching his fore feet and groaning as though he was in great pain. Sometimes he will not eat. M. J. B.

A.—The cow ate something poisonous or that caused impaction stoppage of the bowels following scours. Some moldy feed might cause it as the symptoms are those of forage poisoning. Rabies from the bite of a mad dog would present somewhat similar symptoms. (2) The dog no doubt is troubled with worms. Starve him for eighteen hours or more and then give him one to two drams of freshly powdered kamala in cream or soup. Give commercial worm medicine if the druggist cannot supply kamala. Repeat the dose in two weeks.

OVERHEATED MARE.—I have a mare about twelve years old, weighing thirteen hundred pounds and in good flesh. She has been overheated at some time and so bad that when it is real hot I can hardly use her at all. She will not sweat and pants. Is there anything I can use, or is there any way of feeding her as I am short of horses? I feed corn and Timothy hay when not in use. Part of the time I use oil meal with the corn when feeding. J. H. C.

A.—A horse so affected never works comfortably in hot weather. Some improvement may follow if you feed oats in place of corn and work the mare only in the cool of the morning and evening. If you must work her in the sun sheet her body and shade her head. Allow a little drinking water often. She may sweat if three times a day for two or three days in succession you give her one half an ounce of aromatic spirits of ammonia and a teaspoonful of powdered ginger root in a pint of warm tea as a drench.

RUPTURE.—I have two mare mule colts that have enlarged navels; the pouch, if round, would be about the size of a small walnut with hull on, or about one and one half to two inches in diameter. This pouch contains a soft substance and is not tender nor sore. MISS S. A. F.

A.—Small umbilical (navel) ruptures are present and gradually will disappear without treatment as the mules develop.

SWOLLEN GLANDS.—I have a young mare which had distemper last spring. It left a lump on each side of her throat. I have tried blistering. Can you give a good distemper cure?

A.—The parotid glands have been left enlarged and may remain so. Clip off the hair and rub in some iodine ointment every other day. There is no cure for distemper (strangles). That disease has to run its course just as is the case with measles in a child, and good nursing and feeding are more important than medicine. The abscess should be poulticed until soft and then opened for liberation of pus after which recovery quickly occurs.

FITS; COLIC.—What ails my dog? Every spring he is all humped up, slobbering a little, and his head keeps jerking upward or backward. He refuses to eat anything. After getting better his hair will come out along his back. (2) What can be done for horses with severe colic? G. M. B.

A.—Worms probably cause the fits. To prevent them at the season of the year when they have been known to occur starve the dog for twenty-four hours and then give him one to two teaspoonfuls of freshly powdered kamala in cream or soup and repeat the dose in ten days. At time of fit give twenty grains of bromide of potash in water and repeat the dose in twenty minutes, if seen to be necessary. (2) There are several kinds of colic. Have on hand for immediate use a "Colic drench" bought from a graduate veterinarian. Laymen cannot now buy the narcotics used for colic. It is safe to give a pint of raw linseed oil containing a tablespoonful of turpentine or two and some essence of ginger.



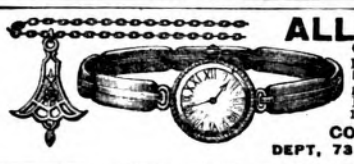
$310 Harley-Davidson Motorcycle

FIRST GRAND PRIZE

In the picture are hidden a number of faces. How many can you find? Some are looking right at you, others show only the side of the face—you'll find them upside down and every way. Mark each face you find with a pencil, clip out picture, send to us with name and address NOW. We will give away a $310 1917 Model Harley-Davidson Motorcycle, as First Grand Prize, and Thousands of Dollars in Cash Rewards, Prizes and Special Premiums. There will be no losers. Solve the puzzle. If you can find as many as FIVE FACES we will send you immediately

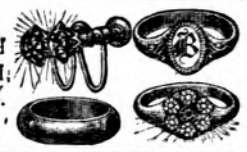
1000 Free Votes toward the $310.00 Motorcycle and other Grand Prizes. We will also give away several 1917 model Coaster Brake $40.00 Bicycles. These will be given free and extra, regardless of who gets the motorcycle. Someone will win motorcycle. WHY NOT YOU?

FARM LIFE, Box 151, SPENCER, IND.



ALL THESE FREE

Gold plated **Lavalliere** and **Neckchain,** pair of Pierceless **Ear Bobs;** Gold plated **Expansion Bracelet** with 1m. **Watch, guaranteed quality** and 3 Gold plated Rings. **All given FREE** for selling only 15 Jewelry Novelties at 10c. each. Write today.



COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO.
DEPT. 73 EAST BOSTON, MASS.

at her as indifferently as if he were not taking in every point in her lovely, mutinous face.

"So would you be. At least, I don't know," with frank rudeness. "Perhaps at your age you would not care."

She bestowed a look on him for the first time, but without a shade of coquetry. The man might have been a tree or a stone for all she cared. It was not the way women usually regarded Lord Levallion, and it interested him. He turned his high-bred, worn face, with the lines of forty-seven years on it, toward her with a keen glance which somehow reminded her of Adrian. The thought brought a fresh lump in her throat.

"I wish I could go home," she said miserably. "I—I've lost something, and I'd like to get home and look for it. If it wouldn't make a hue and cry I'd walk home now."

She had not had one happy minute since discovering her ring was gone. Had turned from the wondering Tommy, digging for his beer in the parsley, and run up-stairs like a frantic, raging child, to the door of Lady Annesley's room. And there something stopped her like a tangible thing. She stood motionless, with clenched hands, felt cold in the warm May air that flooded through an open window. Why had she come running up here like a fool, when she knew she dared not open that shut door in front of her and demand her ring of the woman inside?

"If I said Adrian had given me a ring she'd never let me set eyes on him again!" she thought, with more truth than she knew. "She knows I never had a ring. She'd ask—and what could I say? I might lie, but it's no use to lie to a liar; they know too much. And, perhaps, she hasn't taken it—perhaps I dropped it! I was out in the garden before breakfast. I'll wait! I'll tell Adrian tomorrow. It's no use to give myself away for nothing."

And here was tomorrow—and no Adrian. Man

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

The Girl He Loved

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

her small, averted head. "Then I will smoke. Don't rub your eyes unless you want the whole world to know you've been crying," looking down his nose at the cigarette he was lighting. "And the more you have been crying the less you probably want people to know it."

"No one would have known it if you hadn't been here!" she said angrily. "Now I suppose you'll tell the duchess."

"Why the duchess?" Anything to make her talk. It was a sin to let so lovely a face be cried into hideousness. He hoped devoutly she would not blow her nose! Women usually did when they cried.

"It's her party, so you must know her. And I don't know whether you know any one else or not."

"I have not the honor of knowing you, at all events," he returned coolly. "So that I couldn't tell the duchess if I wanted to—which I don't."

"It doesn't matter who I am." She bit her handkerchief desperately. "I wish I was anybody—I wish I were dead!"

"That is a wish you are certain to get—in time! It's not worth while to cry because you despair of it," blandly.

"I'm not crying." She turned her small, white face to him, and her eyes were dry, if her lip still quivered.

"No, but you are extremely unhappy," looking

PANTS $2.50

MADE TO ORDER

Remarkable low price for fine pair of made-to-order pants, style, quality and fit guaranteed. Think of it. An amazing bargain at this extra low price.

NO EXTRAS TO PAY

for big peg-tops, fancy belt loops, pocket flaps, novelty features. Not a penny of extra charges for anything.



EXPRESS PREPAID

This great offer just to prove that we make finest tailored-to-order clothes at lowest prices obtainable anywhere.

AGENTS WANTED

Make $50 a week or more for easy spare time work. Write now. Get complete outfit free, latest fabrics, fashions, order blanks, stationery & supplies.

THE CAPITOL TAILORS, Dept. 123, CHICAGO

YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FACE

But Your Nose?



Before After

IN THIS DAY AND AGE attention to your appearance is an absolute necessity if you expect to make the most out of life. Not only should you wish to appear as attractive as possible, for your own self-satisfaction, which is alone well worth your efforts, but you will find the world in general judging you greatly, if not wholly, by your "looks," therefore it pays to "look your best" at all times.

Permit no one to see you looking otherwise; it will injure your welfare! Upon the impression you constantly make rests the failure or success of your life. Which is to be your ultimate destiny? My new *Nose-Shaper*, "Trados" (Model 22) corrects now ill-shaped noses without operation, quickly, safely and permanently. Is pleasant and does not interfere with one's daily occupation, being worn at night.

WHAT OTHERS HAVE TO SAY:

Miss C. R.—After using my "Trados 22" for only two weeks sees a wonderful improvement in the shape of her nose.

Mr. R. P. writes—Your Nose Shaper is doing the work and I am certainly pleased with it; will recommend it to my friends.

Dr. F. D. G. writes and says that after he had used it for two weeks he thinks that "Trados 22" is fine and will recommend it to his patrons.

Mr. J. B. is very pleased with the Nose Shaper and his nose looks much better.

Miss K. W. says that she is getting fine results and is very much elated over the Nose Shaper.

Write today for free booklet, which tells you how to correct ill-shaped noses without cost if not satisfactory.

M. TRILETY, Face Specialist 637 Ackerman Bldg., Binghamton, N. Y.

Premium No. 4278

Soft Warm Bed Blankets



Sent Prepaid For A Club Of Eight

THIS IS an offer which no good housewife can afford to overlook. It is your opportunity to secure as many large comfortable bed blankets as you may need **without a cent of expense.** These fine double blankets are six feet in length extremely well made and finely finished. The color is white or gray with border. Please notice that they are large enough for any standard size bed being of sufficient length to come up well on the pillow and wide enough so that they may be snugly tucked in at the sides. This is in reality one of the best bargains in a premium we have ever offered due to the fact that we buy these blankets in large quantities direct from the mill at a specially low price and therefore are enabled to offer them for a very small club of subscriptions. When you think of this big warm blanket on your bed or lying on a closet shelf ready for use when wanted, we believe that you will want to start a club at once for the sake of securing one or more of them free of all cost to you. We will gladly send you one or more of these splendid blankets upon the terms of the following

Club Offer. For a club of only eight one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you one of these fine double bed blankets free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Prem. No. 4278.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS



left 8-year-old Evelyn Olson so crippled she had to crawl on her knees. Five months' treatment at the McLain Sanitarium restored her feet and limbs to the satisfactory condition shown in the lower picture. Her mother has this to say:

"We feel it our duty to recommend your Sanitarium. Evelyn was stricken with Infantile Paralysis in August, 1915. March 1, 1916, we carried her to you. Five months later she could walk without crutches or braces. Words cannot express our thanks.

MR. and MRS. JOHN OLSON,
R. D. No. 7, Grinnell, Ia.



For Crippled Children

The McLain Sanitarium is a thoroughly equipped private Institution devoted exclusively to the treatment of Club Feet, Infantile Paralysis, Spinal Diseases and Deformities. Hip Disease, Wry Neck, etc. especially as found in children and young adults. Our book, "Deformities and Paralysis" also "Book of References," free on request. Write for it today.

The McLain Orthopedic Sanitarium
990 Aubert Avenue St. Louis, Mo.

Send Only $1

and we will ship direct to you this elegant Rocker for 30 days' free trial. Then if you want to keep it send only 75c per month until the price is paid. If not satisfactory return it and we will refund deposit and pay freight both ways.

Solid Golden Oak

Frame is made entirely of kiln dried hard wood. Arms and front posts genuine quarter-sawed oak, other exposed parts being fine selected solid oak—all in handsome golden finish. The seat has four springs supported on tempered steel bands. The filling is wood fibre and cotton felt.



Handsomely upholstered in brown imitation Spanish leather. Height of seat from floor 17 in. Height of back from seat 25 1-2 in. Seat 19x19 in. Width of chair over all 30 3-4 in. Shipping weight about 40 lbs. Shipped from our Chicago warehouse or factory located in Western New York State.

Order by No. 79MA7. Price $5.48. Send $1 now. Balance in monthly payments of Only 75c each.

Send Today

Easy Payments

Buy anything you want from Hartman's and take nearly a year to pay. And you always have 30 days' free trial. No need to pay all down for your furnishings. Use your credit at Hartman's.

Bargain Catalog Free

454 pages. Thousands of amazing values. Wonderful variety to choose from. A post card brings it free. Send for it.

HARTMAN Furn. & Carpet Co.,
3964 Wentworth Avenue
Dept. 1036 Chicago, Illinois

NEW SANITARY

FEATHER BEDS $8.95 NOW ONLY

Full weight 40 pounds. A pair 6-lb. Pillows to match, $1.30. Selected, New, Live, Clean, Sanitary Feathers. Best Featherproof Ticking. Sold on money-back guarantee. **DO NOT BUY** from anyone at any price, until you get the **BOOK OF TRUTH**, our big new catalog mailed **FREE.** Write a postal card **TODAY.** Agents wanted.

American Feather & Pillow Co., Desk 10 Nashville, Tenn.

EARN $1 TO $2 A DAY AT HOME



Help to meet the big demand for Hosiery for us and your Home trade. Industrious persons provided with profitable, all-year-round employment on Auto-Knitters. *Experience and distance immaterial.* Write for particulars, rates of pay etc. Send 2 cents in stamps.

Auto-Knitter Hosiery Co., Inc.
Dept. 95-E; 147 Franklin St., Buffalo, N.Y.



FREE DIAMOND RING OFFER

Just to advertise our famous Hawaiian im. diamonds—the greatest discovery the world has ever known. We will send absolutely free this 14k gold f. ring, set with a 1-2k Hawaiian im. diamond—in beautiful ring box postage paid. If this is satisfactory pay postmaster $1.25 to cover postage, boxing, advertising, handling, etc. If not satisfactory return at our expense and money refunded. Only 10,000 rings given away. Send no money. Answer quick. Send size of finger.

KRAUTH & REED, DEPT. 24.
MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO



Agents $40 a Week

Water-Proof Kitchen Apron

Something new. Agents make quick, sure, easy sales in every home. Every housewife buys. Dainty, durable, economical, acid-proof, grease-proof. Free samples to workers.

THOMAS APRON CO.
7930 Gay Street Dayton, Ohio



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM

A toilet preparation of merit. Helps to eradicate dandruff.
For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair.
50c. and $1.00 at druggists.

$5 TO $10 A DAY easily earned

taking orders for our high grade Soaps and Toilet Preparations. Our goods well known—nationally advertised. Ladies and men make 100% profit. No experience necessary. Write for sample case offer. Crofts & Reed Co., Dept. C197, Chicago, Ill.

BIG FREE

Lever Action Air Rifle Free for selling 20 pkgs. Art and Religious Post Cards at 10c. Fast Sellers.

UNIVERSAL SUPPLY CO., Dept. 102, Lewiston, Maine.

LEPAGE'S GLUE

HANDY BOTTLES

WILL MEND IT 10c



Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one Month.

THE restful autumn days of October are with us again. Mellow sunshine, the fall russet colors of frost touched foliage, the lengthening evenings; all sounds so peaceful and doesn't it feel so when we can forget the awful war? I like to believe that before another year comes around the world will be at peace again and we will no longer have to be worrying about our boys who are so nobly doing their duty. But in the meantime we must be thankful that we have such a beautiful world to live in while we are knitting and otherwise making the winter comforts for our soldier and sailor friends. We must be grateful that we have the health and strength to do our "bit" in overcoming the dark forces that would ruin us if we were not awake. And now I must see what perplexities and questions I can solve from this great pile of letters I have received from you lately.

Loving-the-unknown-cousin, Cleveland, Ohio.—Tell your mother that your doctor kisses you when you are alone. She will know best whether it is right or not. His interest in you may be right but it doesn't sound right and I would definitely say it was *not* right if you didn't have a mother to confide in. Ask her at once. If he thinks it is right why does he omit the kisses when your mother is present?

D. B., Mineral Wells, Texas.—Put in all your spare time reading good books, newspapers and magazines. Be well informed in current events and learn to be a good listener. The intelligent girl never fails to be interesting if she can listen and can talk back interestedly. You apparently have a good foundation for enlarging upon your education. Don't think of yourself, but try to think how you can make others enjoy themselves. Go about all you can.

Blue Eyes and Blonde, Meridan, Texas.—One of you twenty-five and the other thirty years of age, and I certainly would never have suspected that you were graduates of a Normal School. Really you should keep up with your studies or be more careful. Just think of a school teacher telling me that one of the young men had proposed and the other "is being expected two." Dear, dear, you are old enough to know whether you love the men or not. If you do love them, marry them and rear all those children you speak about. If you don't love the men, don't be silly and sentimental, but wait until the right one comes along. Perhaps you won't be so "Oh so lone-ly and for-lorn" as you think.

M. E. T., Russellville, Ark.—Write to the sailor boy again if you want to. You have never met him and neither of you are in love with the other or likely to be. It helps to cheer the sailors and soldiers to receive letters. As a rule they do not take it seriously, so do not let it become too serious with you. The women of the European countries correspond with the fighting men and help to keep them cheery and interested.

Litle Sis, Janesville, Wis.—I can't think of anything more you can do to interest a shy young man. You can only hope that if he loves you, he will gradually outgrow his shyness.

Alpha Gamn., Janesville, Wis.—Perhaps if you gratify your desire to know that young man better, some of the glamour that surrounds him may wear off and you will return to your senses. You are a little sentimental over it, aren't you? I won't say it is "Puppy love" as you suggest, but I fear it is something that is likely to lead to disappointment. The best way to find out would be to become acquainted with the man. However I wouldn't make any sacrifice of opportunities in order to test the matter.

Brown Eyes, Bustwick, Nebr.—Because a man works on a train is nothing against him. Of course you should mind your parents and perhaps you are rather young, but unless they have something more awful to charge him with than being a railroad man, I fail to see that you are doing wrong to let him call.

Troubled Girlie, Trivoli, Ill.—I came very near to throwing your letter into the waste basket because you had not given any address and I had to puzzle out the postmark. You may gain confidence as you grow older. Learn to take part in conversation. But don't talk about yourself. You are already a good listener and if you will read the newspapers and magazines and follow what is going on in the world, you will soon find yourself included in the general conversation.

Mildred, Atlanta, Ga.—You are too young by several years to make the decision. Let him wait until you are older and then if he still loves you you may perhaps know whether or not you love him. As for the other man, it is not vulgar to resist and struggle if he tries to embrace you—you have every right to resist it. Better tell your parents.

J. K. K., Cottonwood, S. Dak.—How can you expect me to answer you if you fail to ask your question clearly? "Do I believe in a girl knowing her future husband, if so tell me how?" A girl surely ought to know her future husband before she marries him, but it is beyond my powers to divine what you want to know.

Flossie, Miami, Texas.—I would rather marry into a family that is respected, but if you are certain your fiance is honorable I would not hold his family against him. Especially as he apparently realizes what a handicap they would be to him and intends to move to some other town.

Inquisitive, Bridgeport, Oregon.—It is not I alone who objects to the practise of young girls allowing boys to promiscuously hug and kiss them. It is not good manners and is discountenanced in good society. It is a gross impropriety that often leads to great temptations and is sure to make a girl the subject of scandalous gossip. Don't you know how the boys boast over such triumphs at the cost of the girl's reputation?

There, that's all I shall have room for this month. There are some who write I would like to meet and have a real heart-to-heart talk with. And I am sorry to say there are a few so badly written that I really can't make anything out of them—and still a few more writers who need a real good scolding. But there, my dears, we all have to be foolish sometimes—I mustn't forget we all have to be young once and unfortunately we outgrow it too soon sometimes. So by, by, for another four weeks, and believe me to be always, Yours sincerely, COUSIN MARION.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

Best Ways of Doing Things Around The Home

Castor oil applied to warts every night will remove them.

Apple butter applied to a burn will stop the smarting in a short time.

To remove shine from serge skirts, sponge with hot vinegar and rub until shine disappears.

When baking potatoes place a basin of hot water in the oven and the steam will keep the skins soft and smooth.

Polish your lamp chimneys with soft newspapers and see how it makes them shine.

Sweet Sixteen, Tenn.

I have discovered that a slice of lemon dropped into the aluminum pot in which potatoes are being boiled with their jackets on, will keep the pot bright and clean. Now that we are all trying to be economical, many women will be glad to know that they can cook potatoes with their skins on, and still not blacken their aluminum cooking utensils.

IDELLA NEWCOMB, Los Angeles, Cal.

SUGAR 5c Lb.

One of our leaders. We save you money on Groceries—catalogue free with trial order. The requests for catalogues are enormous and hundreds of thousands of dollars are lost annually by mail order concerns in sending out catalogues to places where no benefit is ever derived. To avoid all this ***unnecessary*** expense and be in a position to sell our goods at the lowest possible price, we have decided on the following plan: We will only send our Bargain Grocery Catalogue to such people who can prove to us that they are really interested in saving money on groceries. We quote herewith a few of the bargains listed and which are sold in different parts of our catalogue:

FLOUR $10.36 Per Barrel

(One of Our Leaders)

Our Best Flour	$10.36	per barrel
" " "	5.18	per half barrel
" " "	2.59	per 49-lb. sack
" " "	1.30	per 24½-lb. sack

SUGAR $5.00 Per 100 lbs.

(One of Our Leaders)

Our Best Granulated Sugar	$5.00	per 100 lbs.
" " "	2.50	per 50 lbs.
" " "	1.25	per 25 lbs.
" " "	.50	per 10 lbs.

Here is Our Plan

Send us $1.99 for the following Trial Order and we will then know that you mean business and we will include with your order our Bargain Grocery Catalogue in which you will find big grocery bargains.

Trial Order D. W.

	(Estimated) Retail Price	Our Price
5 pounds Our Best Granulated Sugar	50 cents	25 cents
1 large size package Quaker Oats	10 cents	7 cents
1 pound Guaranteed Baking Powder	50 cents	39 cents
1-4 pound Black Pepper (Ground)	25 cents	15 cents
1-4 pound Cinnamon (Ground)	25 cents	15 cents
1-4 pound Ginger (Ground)	25 cents	15 cents
1-4 pound Mustard (Ground)	25 cents	15 cents
2 bars Kirk's White Flake Soap	16 cents	9 cents
2 packages Uneeda Biscuits	16 cents	8 cents
1 bar Fels Naptha Soap	5 cents	3 cents
1 pound Breakfast Cocoa	60 cents	39 cents
3 packages Washing Powder	15 cents	9 cents
1 Catalog Free	Retail Price $3.22	Our Price $1.99

You Save $1.23

Our Guarantee Your money returned in full if you are not more than pleased.

We have imitators. For square deal always send your order to

COLE-CONRAD CO.
Dept. D. W., 2214 Ogden Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Other Big Bargains in our Catalogue

Uneeda Biscuits, 12 packages .....40 cents
Quaker Oats, 6 large packages .....36 cents
AND OTHER BIG BARGAINS

Remember we send no catalogue unless we receive your trial order. We sell the trial order complete only and no part of same. Nor do we sell any article mentioned in this advertisement separately.

Rush your trial order at once, and get our catalogue and commence saving big money on all groceries.

Order Blank

COLE-CONRAD CO.,
Dept. D. W., 2214 Ogden Ave., Chicago.

Gentlemen:—Enclosed please find $1.99 for which send me Bargain Grocery Order No. D. W., and include free your catalog showing your big Grocery Bargains, it being understood and agreed if I am not perfectly satisfied that I can return the goods and you will at once return my money.

Name .....
Address .....
City ..... State .....
Express Office .....

Remedies

HEADACHE.—Wring a towel out of very hot water and apply to back of neck.

POISON OAK.—Pour enough vinegar over black gunpowder to make thick paste. Spread well over affected parts, two or three times daily.

ERYSIPELAS.—Boil white navy beans, mash and add corn meal to make poultice. Apply while hot and change often. GLADYS HADDOCK, Cabool, Mo.

Requests

How to can peaches whole, not cooking, but using alcohol.

How to clean a white felt hat, spotted with dust and rain.

MISS D. LUCRETIA B. SQUIRES, Good Ground, L. I., New York.

Would like to to exchange foreign and U. S. postage stamps with someone.

Miss Anna M. Peterson, Horton, Wyo., would like to have a sprig of myrtle. Will return favor.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two one-year 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Miss Margaret Hile, Muskegon, R. R. 1, Mich. Mrs. Octavia Pitman, North Wilmington, Box 45, Mass.

Lester Davidson, Foosland, R. R. 39, Ill. Miss Mary Cashon, 309 North 3rd St., Paducah, Ky. Miss Edith Smith, 413 N. Monroe St., Carrollton, Mo. Miss Gladys Zang, 710 W. 7th St., Carrollton, Mo. Mrs. W. B. Mount, Bradford, R. R. 1, Tenn. Miss Elsa Spear, Newell, Box 42, W. Va. Miss Talba Daisy Russell, Canton, Texas. J. W. Murphy, Barnhill, Box 99, Ohio.

FREE: *Two Calla Lilies* free for introduction. White and Black. Only one lot for each family. PEDIGREED NURSERY COMPANY, Sullivan, Mo.

PLAYS Large List, Dialogs, Entertainments, Recitations, Drills, Catalogue Free. T. S. DENISON & CO., Dept. 8 Chicago, Ill.

SILK White, Black, Blue, Taffeta, Satins at Mill price direct from loom. Samples. Evans Silk Co., Dept. C. Buffalo, N. Y.

LADIES A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION FREE particulars write P. O. Box 174, Brunswick, Maine.

MONEY Made quickly by smart men. T. ARTOL CO., 115 Nassau St., N.Y.

4-POUND SILK BUNDLES WONDERFUL SILK AND VELVET BARGAINS For Quilts, Fancy Work, Portieres, Etc. Send 10 Cents for big package of large beautiful silk remnants including free quilt designs and agents' catalogue describing our 4-pound silk, velvet, gingham, and other $1. remnant bargain bundles; also instructions how to earn money at home by sewing. UNION S. WORKS, 207 FACTORY ST., BOONVILLE, N. Y.



TYPEWRITERS $10 & Up. All Makes. Save $25 to $50 on rebuilt at the factory by the well-known "Young Process." Sold for low cash—installment or rented. Rental applies on purchase price. Write for full details and guarantee. Free trial. YOUNG TYPEWRITER CO., Dept. 311, Chicago

Send Me Your Hair



I will make your old hair new at little cost, or take your cast-off switches, combings, etc. as part payment on new, high class hair goods, toilet articles, perfumes, ostrich feathers, corsets, etc. **Get something you need for something you are not using.** Write for liberal offer and free Beauty Book. Your combings made into switches, $1.50. Mail your hair today.

ANNA AYERS, Dept. 301. 220 South State St., Chicago. *Wigs $8 And Up*

$1.00 PANTS MADE TO MEASURE

Not $1.00, not even 50c, not one cent cost to you under our easy conditions. No extra charge for fancy, swell styles, no extra charge for extra big, extreme peg-tops, pearl buttons, tunnel or fancy belt loops, no extra charge for anything, **all FREE.** Before you take another order, before you buy a suit or pants, get our samples and new offer. **Agents of other tailoring houses please write,** we have a new deal that will open your eyes. We ask every man to answer this, every boy in long pants, every man, everywhere. No matter where you live or what you do, write us a letter or postal and say *"Send Me Your New Free Offer"* the big, new different tailoring deal. Costs nothing and no extra charges. Write today, this minute. Address



KNICKERBOCKER TAILORING CO.
Dept. 785 Chicago, Ill.

Get Economy Stove Prices

We have satisfied customers in nearly every county in the U. S.

Mail a postal for our new book. Learn what you can save dealing direct with manufacturers. Quick shipment—no waiting—we pay freight.

Kalamazoo Stove Company
Mfrs., Kalamazoo, Mich.

Ask for Catalog No. 501.



A Kalamazoo Direct to You

FREE Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 5 years, for selling 25 art and religious pictures or 25 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice. GATES MFG. CO. Dept. 425 Chicago



An Offer To Women Workers Of The Red Cross

OUR boys—your boys—will soon be at the front "somewhere in France." They will need all the comforts that busy hands at home can provide for them. Among other things there are sweaters and socks, helmets, mufflers and mitts to be knitted. Thousands of mothers, wives and daughters already are industriously plying the needles to good advantage.

You, of course, are doing your bit. Perhaps you would like to do more—and would—if you had the means to do with. Yarn for instance is pretty expensive just now. You may feel unable to buy enough for all the things you want to make.

This being the case why not let COMFORT help you out. We have the yarn—bought at the lowest wholesale price—guaranteed pure, all wool yarn in all the most desirable colors—light and dark grey, khaki, black, blue and white. It comes in large quarter-pound skeins. We will send you free of all cost any desired quantity in any of the above mentioned colors in return for a few subscriptions to COMFORT.

It will be the easiest thing in the world to get the subscriptions, especially when you tell your friends what you are working for. And look at the bargain they are getting in COMFORT for only 25 cents a year—when practically every other magazine in the country has raised its price. They will be glad to subscribe if you will but ask them. We have made our offer just as liberal as we possibly could—so it won't take you long to secure the few subscriptions required. You should start at once, however, because we shall soon be obliged to raise COMFORT'S subscription price, also the cost of yarn is going still higher so the chances are that next month we shall have to ask for larger clubs. **Please be sure to give color wanted when ordering.**

OUR OFFER. For four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you one large skein (one-quarter pound) of guaranteed pure wool yarn free by parcel post prepaid (Premium No. 7504). Or for eleven one-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you three skeins (Premium No. 72011), or for fourteen one-year subscriptions we will send you four skeins (Premium No. 72514). **When ordering please be sure to mention color or colors wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

F. C. Taylor FUR CO. ST. LOUIS

HELPS YOU TRAP FUR ANIMALS

Trappers will make big money this year. Furs are in demand at high prices—Coon, Mink, Opossum, Skunk, Muskrat and other kinds are plentiful. Many animals are good food. U. S. approved recipes free.





Help Book Free

Tells how to trap; traps and baits to use; how to prepare skins so as to get highest prices, and describes latest trapping devices, including the new SMOKE TORPEDO. Shows pictures of all animals in colors, and supply catalog. ALL FREE—WRITE TODAY.

F. C. Taylor Fur Co., 685 Fur Exchange Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

TRAPPERS



Get MORE cash for your furs by shipping to Hill Bros. Fur Co.—"The Fastest Growing Fur House in America".

WE CHARGE NO COMMISSION

Over 300,000 satisfied shippers send us ALL their furs. Try us—let us prove our claims to YOU. Send for FREE fur Price List, Trapper's Guide, Game Laws, Supply Catalog and particulars of our $250.00 Cash Prizes FREE to trappers only. Write TODAY.

HILL BROS. FUR CO. 306 N. MAIN ST. ST. LOUIS, MO.

RAW FURS

Our prices are always the highest the market affords. Liberal grading and prompt remittance guaranteed. Send for *Fur Price List.*

HIDES

Our hide department quotes highest market prices for beef hides, horse hides, calf skins, etc. Send for *Hide Quotations.*

David Blustein & Bro.
166 West 27th St. New York

ESTABLISHED 1723

Revillon Frères

Largest Fur Manufacturers in the World

HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR

RAW FURS

Ship your furs to us. We pay all express and mail charges
Write for our price list

453 West 28th St. New York

TRAPPERS WE BUY FOR CASH



Highest prices paid for all **Furs, Hides and Ginseng.** Best facilities in America. **No Commission.** Send for our prices and **Free** valuable information before shipping elsewhere.

ROGERS FUR COMPANY
Dept. 122 St. Louis, Mo.

Cash for Raw Furs

If you don't send for our price list we are both losers because we pay highest market prices and want your shipments. Send for Price list C.

L. BRIEFNER & SONS, (Est. 1861)
148 West 25th St., New York City.

Free Baits For Trappers

$1.00 Bottle

Write today before our supply is exhausted and we will tell you how to get free the GUARANTEED DECOY.

Bach Fur Co., Dept. 112, Chicago, Ill.

AGENTS $40 A WEEK

R. M. King Made $45 in 6 Days



15 IN ONE

Forged steel. Patented. Low priced. Sells to auto owners, farmers, mechanics in the shops and the home. Not sold in stores. No competition. Sales easy. Big profits. Ten-inch sample to workers. Write at once.

THOMAS TOOL CO., 3130 East St., Dayton, Ohio

Wedding Invitations, Announcements
100 Ptd. 83. Engraved 86. Two sets Envelopes. Samples Free. 100 Visiting Cards and Case .75.
The Adelphia Engraving Co., 1328 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

FREE



Stem wind and set watch, guaranteed 5 years, for selling 25 art and religious pictures or 25 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice.
GEO. GATES CO. Dept. 225 Chicago

How to Prepare for the Fur Season

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

THE fur season, fast approaching, promises to be a good one and prices should be high. While the war, of course, will have its effect, it is expected that the commoner pelts will not suffer to any great extent. The wave of economy will exact its toll on such as black and silver fox, but skunk, civet, mink, muskrat, weasel, opossum and similar are almost a necessity and will be in demand.

Millions will be paid in the next few months for raw furs. A large per cent of this money will go directly into the hands of those who take the smaller animals. These trappers for the most part are farmer boys and those who live in the rural communities.

The first thing the pelt hunter should do is to locate his grounds. This ought to be done early; weeks or months before a set is made. By planning the "line," one can locate the various dens and runways and know approximately how many traps to employ.

Pelt hunters do not realize how great their loss by taking the skins before they are of good quality. Some states have laws prohibiting trapping until after the first of October—and some even later. Generally speaking pelts secured before the first of November any place in the United States are not of good quality.

Just before the first cold weather is probably the best time to study the actions of the fur bearers, for at this time they are especially busy storing up food and preparing their winter quarters.

As to the number of traps to set, one must decide largely for himself. No more sets ought to be made than can be attended to properly. For the beginner who has but a limited time at his disposal each day, probably a dozen or two traps will be enough. Of course if after muskrats a greater number of sets can generally be looked after than if the pelt hunter must cover miles in search of mink, skunk and raccoon. The fact that the "line" is near or far from home must also be taken into consideration, along with the character of the ground; whether hard to travel or easy.

The genuine Newhouse is the best trap manufactured. However, there are some cheaper brands on the market which will answer every purpose for smaller animals. Among these are the Victor, a choice of an army of pelt hunters; the High Grip so built that it catches high on the legs and lessens the chances of the fur bearers to pull out, etc., etc. All of these are of the Newhouse style. Then there are the popular Jump, Leap and Kangaroo traps. These actually leap when sprung, insuring a good hold on the animal. While the styles mentioned will be found sufficient, let me add that such as the Stop Thief, Tree Trap and others also merit attention.

In discussing size in traps, the novice had best use that which the makers recommend for the particular animals. Even professional pelt hunters disagree often as to size. For instance, I prefer the No. 0 for muskrats, as it is strong enough to hold the animals if properly set and does not break the leg bones so easily as the larger sizes. Unless the pelt hunter is experienced, I should not advise him to experiment with the small-sized trap when after muskrats, for it may cost him quite a few skins during the season.

Traps ought never to be set when new. Rust them first. Personally I prefer to wire my bunch together and bury for a week or so in slimy mud which will give them a dead, black color. Some rust their traps slightly, then stain with a "paint" made by boiling walnut husks and water. Test all traps before setting. If they spring too hard, bend the trigger slightly or use a file. If they work too easily, bend the trigger rest sufficiently in the proper direction. Search for defective chains. Should a trap not be in good working order, don't run the chance of losing a skin by employing it.

The amateur, no doubt, will want some information on where to locate the dens of the different fur bearers.

The skunk and civet cat—the latter, generally speaking, is confined principally to the territory west of the Mississippi river—is fond of rough, stony ground, especially if covered with weeds and brush. These animals seem to have no fear of man nor nearness of human habitation. It is not unusual to find them under houses, in barns, under hay and straw piles and similar places. Along old hedges seems a favorite place for the animals also.

The mink generally prefers to have its den along a small stream rather than a large, open one. The reason is that the first named offers it better opportunities for remaining concealed, there usually being plenty of driftwood and weeds, along the bank.

The raccoon is never found very far from woods and water. The opossum prefers the deep, dark forest. It is an old saying that "the thicker the trees the more "'possum."

The weasel (known also as the ermine) is found almost any place where there is food or something to be killed which it is large enough to handle. In sod fields, along dried-up creek bottoms, stone piles, etc., it may be trapped.

The muskrat is always near water. These animals are most numerous in swamps, shallow lakes and streams.

Melissa's Home Coming

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

no real joy or pleasure or happiness if you want to be a good girl. You can go to the movies and to the theaters, and you can go to public dance halls and sit there offering yourself to anybody who wants to dance with you. And even if you do happen to meet seemingly nice people, you've got to be careful that they are all that they seem to be."

Melissa's voice trailed off at the end there. Poor little girl! Her experience was that of thousands of country girls who find but little pleasure in the city if they wish to avoid its pitfalls.

Sylvester listened, and then when he heard that Melissa was free, all the tenderness of his big, kind nature rose within him, and a longing to sweep the staunch little struggler up into his arms and to his bosom there to protect her forever, thrilled him. And again the impulse was too strong to be resisted and he followed it, and his love making him eloquent, he cried:

"Oh, Melissy, Melissy! I love you! I always have. Don't slap me like you did the other time, but let me kiss you and tell me that you love me. I don't want you to be a hired girl somewhere. I want you to be my wife. Will you, Melissy? I'll build you a little home, maybe it won't be much bigger than the four small rooms you spoke about, but it'll be in God's great outside, in among the grass and trees and flowers. Tell me that you've really come home, to stay, to be my Melissy forever and forever."

Melissa did not repulse him. Often in the city when she sat alone in her tiny room, making her supper or breakfast upon a small oil stove, she conjured up the picture of Sylvester's broad bosom and of her mistake in having thrust it from her. So now, when it was offered again, she sighed happily and rested there, and then looking up into his eyes, she smiled, though tears were in her own: "I've come home to stay, Sylvester, and I'd go with you, even if you had offered me a job as a *hired girl!*"

She said no more for Sylvester stopped her with his lips.

The Girl He Loved

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20.)

after man of his regiment she had seen, but she knew none of them. She could not go up to strange men and clamor for news of Adrian Gordon. Her heart felt like a stone when it grew too late to expect the man for whom she had come in that white gown that felt as if it burned her. She had slipped away from the crowd, away from Sylvia, like a child who cannot keep a brave front any longer. Where was Adrain? And how was she to bear the rest of this dreadful party?

"How far is 'home'?" Levallion said suddenly.

"I don't know. Five miles and more. I can't walk in these," with a sudden glance at her white suede shoes. "I'd ruin them—and they're not mine. They and everything else were put on me in hopes that a horrid old man might admire me. Thank goodness, I haven't even seen him! And I wouldn't have spoken to him if I had!"

A sudden light arose on Lord Levallion's horizon. This must be Sylvia's stepdaughter.

"Ah!" he commented grimly. "What old man? Levallion?"

Ravenel nodded.

"She did not say so, of course, but I feel sure of it. Why? Do you know him?"

"As well as most people." But he said it without much spirit. It did not somehow amuse him to be considered "a horrid old man." He got up, rather stiffly.

"If you want to go home," he said, "I will drive you. I am no more interested in this party than you. I will get a pony-cart at the stables and meet you at the turn of the avenue. It will fill up my time till dinner."

"There isn't going to be any dinner," crossly. "There's going to be supper, and the duchess has asked me to stay and dance afterward. If I have to stay here till eleven o'clock I sha'n't be able to stand it."

"Then don't stay. You don't"—the "horrid old man" rankled—"look fit to be seen in any case! If your chaperon is going to stay to supper, I will find her when I come back and tell her I took you home."

"Will you?" Her face grew almost happy. She cared nothing at all for appearances, or that she had not been introduced to this stranger, who stood looking at her with cynical kindness.

"Yes! Come along," he returned abruptly. "You needn't thank me. I'm very much bored, and I'm going for my own amusement."

"But how can you tell my stepmother, Lady Annesley? Do you know her?"

"You can write it," producing a neat gold pencil and note-book and tearing out a leaf.

He watched her while she wrote. Truly Sylvia had done well to dress her all in white! Most women tried to please you without consulting your tastes, but Sylvia had not forgotten that he thought white the only wear for a pretty woman.

"There!" The girl handed him a scribbled note nervously. "You will be sure to give it to Lady Annesley?"

"I promise you," with grave politeness. "Now, if you will be at the turn of the avenue in ten minutes I will have the cart there."

Ravenel nodded. If it were twenty miles she would go home. She could not bear another half-hour at this miserable party.

There was not a soul to be seen as she sprang lightly up into the high, two-wheeled cart, never even asking how her strange friend was able to order out the duchess' own pony. She leaned back wearily as they started, and the man beside her was too wise to try to make her talk.

In silence they drove through the quiet country lanes, the setting sun reddening the bronze of the girl's hair and lending a false color to her listless face. When they reached the open door of Annesley Chase, she was down like a flash before he could get out.

"Thank you—oh, a hundred times!" she cried gratefully. "You will give Lady Annesley her note at once, won't you?"

"At once," lifting his hat. But the girl had run into the house.

Now was her time, while Lady Annesley was out. She tore off the smart white gown she had put on so carefully, and threw it on the floor. Then she got out Adrian Gordon's letter and looked at it feverishly. There it was in black and white: "I can go to the duchess', I was afraid I couldn't manage it."

Well, something must have happened! But at least she was at home again; she could look for her ring. And suppose he had not been able to go today, what did it matter? Tomorrow would

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 25.)

HOW TO TRAP FURS MORE MONEY FOR THE FURS YOU TRAP

FUNSTEN



The largest fur house in the world needs your furs. **We pay cash.** Write for our new price list on Raccoon, Muskrat, Skunk, Opossum, Fox and other Furs. Trappers send us their furs year after year because they get more money and a square deal. Our new book will tell you how to trap—shows the different furs in beautiful, natural colors—gives the game laws, prices on steel traps, smokers, etc. Send for it today—FREE.

FUNSTEN BROS. & CO.
104 Funsten Building St. Louis, Mo.

MAKE EASY MONEY TRAPPING

Herbert Wassenburg made $60.65 in 60 days, trapping in spare time and shipping the furs to Biggs at Kansas City. You can do as well. Advance information on fur market now ready. Write.

TRAPS, GUNS, Ammunition, Animal Baits, everything a trapper needs at rock-bottom prices. Send for Catalog of Trappers' Supplies FREE.

FREE—Send your name for Free Subscription to *The Trappers' Exchange*, greatest trappers' magazine published. Nearly a million subscribers. Read trapping secrets used by thousands of other trappers.



E. W. BIGGS & CO.
502 Biggs Bldg.,
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI



LURIT

It Will Attract All Animals to Your Traps

Send 25c in stamps for a large trial bottle. Guaranteed to increase your catch or money refunded.

FREE a large Skunk hunting picture in 6 colors, "The Unwelcome Surprise" and our latest price lists. We will also send you You get full value for Furs when you ship us. *No charges for Selling as We are Direct Buyers.*

UNITED STATES FUR COMPANY,
Dept. J., 209 N. First St., St. Louis, Mo.

FURS

WE CHARGE NO COMMISSION

Highest prices paid—prompt returns, correct grading—45 years of fair dealing means **more money for you.** Before shipping any one get our **reliable** prices, supply catalog and shipping tags.

SIMON SUMMERFIELD & CO. ST. LOUIS, MO. U. S. A.
Dept. 335 "One Reliable Fur House" Write Today



TRAPPERS! Furs are high; trapping pays. "Trapcraft," Illus., tells how to trap fox, muskrat, skunk, wolf, mink, etc.; water, den, snow, log, blind sets, etc., how to fasten traps, stretch furs, make deadfalls, snares. **Fur News,** big illus. magazine, tells about fur markets, trapping, hunting, woodcraft, fishing, fur farming, roots, herbs: lots of good stories. Send 10c. coin for copy of "Trapcraft" and sample copy of magazine. FUR NEWS, 71 W. 23d St., New York. Room 606.



MOVING PICTURE MACHINE FREE

with reel film, or stem wind, stem set Watch for selling 25 pkgs. Post Cards or 25 Art & Religious Pictures at 10 cents each. Your choice. ORDER TODAY.

HERMAN & CO. 2310 Lincoln Ave. Dept. 500, CHICAGO

FREE



BIG LEVER ACTION AIR RIFLE free for selling 25 Art and Religious Pictures or 25 packages Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. GEO. GATES CO., Dept. 925 CHICAGO



FREE WATCH and RING 10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Lady or Gent Thin Model. Many valuable prizes for selling 25 Art and Religious PICTURES at 10c each. Order pictures at once. We give moving picture machines GAIR MFG. CO., Dept. 401, CHICAGO, ILL.

Royal Easy Chair

Back adjusted by push button. Solidly built to hold heaviest persons. Back always stays where you put it. Can be used either as a reclining or as upright chair.



Note Comfortable Sliding Foot Rest—concealed when not in use. A convenient rack for newspapers, etc., is hidden in foot rest.

Choice of Golden Oak, Fumed Oak or Mahogany Finish, at same price.

Send $1

Only $1.00 for this splendid Royal Easy Chair on 30 days' trial. Return it if not satisfied and we will refund money and pay freight both ways. Otherwise pay on on our easy terms.

Push the button and adjust back to any position. Back and seat are upholstered in imitation Spanish brown leather. 8 springs in back and 6 in seat. Seat is 20½x20½ in. Back (inside) 21½x27 in. Length reclining 44 in. With foot rest extended 66 in. Furnished in Golden Oak, Fumed Oak or Mahogany finish.

Order by No. 84MA5. Price $15.65. $1 now. Bal. in monthly payments of $1.75 each. State finish wanted.

FREE Bargain Catalog

For bargains in furniture, stoves, curtains, sewing machines, silverware, watches—everything for the home—get our 454 page Bargain Catalog. A post card brings it free.

Hartman Furniture & Carpet Co.
3964 Wentworth Ave., Dept. 1040 CHICAGO

LOCKET AND CHAIN

Rolled Gold Plate!

Warranted For 5 Years!



MOST every young lady wants a Locket and Chain. Other styles of neck ornaments may come and go but a gold Locket and Chain is **always** fashionable, can be worn with any dress and at any season of the year. The locket offered here is one of the latest designs. One side of it is beautifully engraved as shown in the illustration while the other side is plain. It measures exactly one inch in diameter and on the inside there is space for **two pictures.** The cable chain is 15 inches long and both Chain and Locket are made of **heavy rolled gold plate** that is absolutely guaranteed to stand an acid test and warranted **for five years.** It is dainty, refined and attractive and we are sure that it will more than please everybody. This locket and chain guaranteed to be exactly as described is yours free upon the terms of the following

PREMIUM NO. 7295

Club Offer. For five one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this guaranteed rolled gold Locket and Chain free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7295.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

5 Months to Pay

Tailor-Made-to-Order

Look into this offer. (All explained in our Style Book.) Try on the suit we make for you and if not an amazing value return at our expense. Otherwise take 5 months to pay.



As Little As $1.00 Down

You can order by sending as little as a dollar down—and that back if you want to return the suit. We guarantee fit, quality and workmanship.

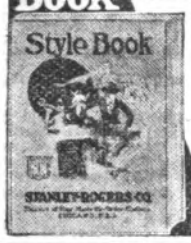
$1000 Reward

Given in gold to anyone who can prove that we do not actually operate our own great tailoring shops and make to order, from customer's measure, every man's garment ordered from us.

Save $15 to $25

See for yourself. Compare our fabrics with any elsewhere and see what our quality buying and direct selling to customers saves you on high class tailor made-to-order garments.

Send For FREE Book



This Big Style Book shows pictures in actual colors of garments made by us. You see exactly how you will look. Choose from the remarkable 70 cloth samples of the very pick and cream from leading mills. All prices and terms given too. Get this book even if you are not ready to order now. Be posted on styles and the prices. The Style Book is FREE. Send post card and get it now.

Stanley-Rogers Co.
Dept. 1037
1015 Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, Ill.

$1 Brings You This Heater

Send us only $1 and we ship this Regent heater on 30 days' free trial. If not the greatest value you have seen, send it back and we will pay the freight both ways. If you keep it, pay on our easy terms.

30 Days' Free Trial



Burns Coal or Wood

The famous "Perfect" Regent. Burns wood or coal. Hot blast construction uses ALL the fuel. Swedge joint prevents bolts burning off. The double feed doors admit large lumps of coal. Two draft dampers. Draw center shaker grate. Mica windows. Nickled trimmings. Heavy cast iron base. Extra strong fire pot. Floor space 21x21 in. Fire pot diameter 15 1-2 in. Shipping weight 157 lbs. Shipped direct from our factory either in central Ohio or Michigan.

Order by No. 378MA13. Price $16.95. Send only $1 now. Balance in monthly payments of $1.75 each.

15½ Inch Fire Pot

FREE Bargain Catalog

Great 454-page book shows thousands of amazing bargains in furniture, stoves, ranges, rugs, carpets, silverware, phonographs, washing machines, engines, separators and other farm necessities. Thirty days' free trial—and easy terms. No C. O. D. No security. Send post card for this big book.

HARTMAN FURN. AND CARPET CO.
3964 Wentworth Ave., Dept. 1039 Chicago

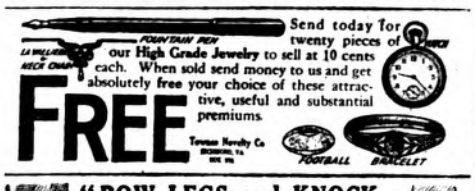


Darken Your Gray Hair

DUBY'S HAIR HERBS

DUBY'S HAIR COLORING HERBS restore gray, streaked or faded hair to its natural color, beauty and softness. Prevents the hair from falling out, promote its growth, prevents dandruff, and gives the hair a soft, glossy and healthy appearance. **It will not stain the scalp,** is not sticky or dirty, and is composed of roots, herbs, barks and flowers. **Package makes one pint.** It will produce the most luxuriant tresses from dry, coarse and wiry hair, and bring back the color it originally was before it turned gray. **Package postpaid for 25 cents.**

OZARK HERB CO. Desk 20 St. Louis, Mo.



Send today for twenty pieces of our **High Grade Jewelry** to sell at 10 cents each. When sold send money to us and get absolutely **free** your choice of these attractive, useful and substantial premiums.

FREE

Towson Novelty Co. BOWDOIN, MD. BOX 115

"BOW LEGS and KNOCK-KNEES" UNSIGHTLY

SEND FOR BOOKLET SHOWING PHOTOS OF MEN WITH AND WITHOUT **THE PERFECT LEG FORMS**

PERFECT SALES CO., 140 N. Mayfield Ave., Dept. 48, Chicago, Ill.



FREE WATCH & RING

This handsome stem wind & stem set Watch, fully Guaranteed, also Ring & Chain for selling only 24 Jewelry articles at 10c each. Write for them.

EAGLE WATCH CO., Dept. 300, East Boston, Mass.

FREE!—GENUINE EASTMAN PREMO FILM PACK CAMERA, Size 2¼x3¼, for 8 - ing 25 Art and Religious pictures, or 25 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice. Sent p 25. **GEO. GATES CO., - Dept. 1525 - CHICAGO**

Comfort's Home Lawyer



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for a one-year subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one full year.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

J. H. M., Texas.—We think that in the absence of fraud, the man from whom you purchased the horse is entitled to pay for same, and can enforce such payment from any property you may own, not exempt by law from levy under execution; we think your giving of a check in payment for the horse would be considered as evidence that your minds had met and that the deal was closed, and that when you stopped payment of the check the holder thereof was entitled to recover the amount from you together with such taxable costs as the law allows in case the matter was prosecuted to a judgment through the courts; we think the deal was consummated when your minds met, and was closed then even though the check was not presented for payment until afterward, and, in the absence of fraud, we do not think you had any legal right to stop payment of the check, even though you afterwards changed your mind and offered to return the horse.

J. D. B., North Carolina.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that in the absence of any provision by will an illegitimate child has no rights of inheritance from the father's estate; nor do the children of the mother by a former marriage have any inheritance rights from the stepfather's estate.

Mrs. E. M., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a husband or wife can renounce the benefits provided for them, in the will of the other, within one year from the probate of the will, and elect to take, if there be children, dower of a one third interest for life in the real estate, and one third of the personal property absolutely, or if no child or descendant, one half of both the real and personal property absolutely; that children can be disinherited by will; that the will should be filed and probated after the death of the testator; that any party in interest has a legal right to contest the will if there are proper grounds for contest.

M. H. P., Mississippi.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that except as to some provisions for a husband or wife, a man can dispose of his property, by will, as he may see fit.

Miss K. M., Virginia.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that in the proper bastardy proceedings the father can be compelled to support his bastard children, but that the wife of the father of an illegitimate child cannot be compelled to support such child by another mother.

I. V. F., Ohio.—Under the laws of your state we think that if the piano you mention belongs to the daughter of the woman who died, the stepfather has no legal right to keep it; we think the daughter should bring an action to compel him to turn the piano over to her, but if the piano belonged to the woman who died, we think her husband, in the absence of a will, would be entitled to administer her estate, and after reducing the assets to cash, and after payment of debts and expenses, the balance would go to the persons entitled depending upon who was left, and the manner in which the property was acquired.

Miss B. C., Fish, Pennsylvania.—We think that property, owned by two persons as joint tenants, would, upon the death of one, all go to the survivor and that he could convey good title of the whole property, without the signature of the persons entitled to receive the estate of the person who died. We do not think the person entitled to a remainder interest in real estate has any legal right to remove buildings from the property or cut the timber during the lifetime of the life tenant without his consent.

S. L. R., Nebraska.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that in the absence of a will; lands descend as follows when husband or wife survive: one fourth part to the husband or wife if the survivor is not the parent of all the children of the deceased and there is one or more children, or the issue of one or more children surviving. One third part to the husband or wife if the survivor is the parent of all the children of the deceased and there be two or more children or one child and the issue of one or more deceased children, surviving, one half to the surviving husband or wife if the survivor is the parent of all the children of the deceased and there be only one child.

Mrs. F. M., Williamsport, Ind.—If, as your letter indicates, there is a contest of your father-in-law's will, we think it will be necessary that the will be established before your husband can qualify as executor and administer the estate and pay himself the moneys you mention.

Mrs. D. C. S., Alliance, Ohio.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that children may be legally disinherited by will.

W. O. M., Lothair, Mont.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the signature of the wife is necessary to the conveyance of good title of the real estate belonging to the husband. Of course, if the marriage was dissolved by divorce, such signature might not be necessary.

Mrs. R. F. R., Wray, Ga.—Under the laws of your state, we do not think that your husband had any legal right to turn over his real estate to you if he did so in order to defeat his creditors, and we think that, if his creditors can show that this was done, any such conveyance would be set aside, and they could collect their claims against him from any property he may own not exempt by law from levy under execution.

Mrs. J. C. S., Milan, Ga.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that in a proper case, a woman would be entitled to damages against the person who alienated her husband's affections. We do not, however, think that the courts would award damages against the mother of the husband for making ill-will remarks against the wife, unless it was a very aggravated case. We think it is a very natural condition for the wife and mother-in-law to have differences and as above stated, we do not think that courts will pay much attention to these differences unless they were serious ones.

S. S. S., Viroqua, Wis.—Upon your statements we are of the opinion, *first*, that if you can prove the statements as you allege them against the young man who purchased the old buggy from you, we think you should proceed against him for procuring this property under false pretences. Second, we think you should post your land against trespassers and if they continue to cut the trees after such posting, we think you should proceed against the parties taking this timber for damages for their acts, or have them arrested for trespassing thereon.

Miss D. E. W., Palo Pinto, Texas.—We do not think there is any law in your state forbidding the marriage of a resident of your state to an alien or resident of another country, nor do we think there is any law requiring residents within your state for any considerable period of time before procuring a marriage license.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.)

our country. War and a few million dollars to boot, gave us the great states of Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and California. War drove black slavery from these shores and gave us Lincoln and a united country. The Crimean War between Russia, France, England and Turkey in the '50's, resulted in the abolition of serfdom in Russia; the war between Russia and Japan, gave Russia the Duma, the first step towards constitutional government; the war between Germany and Russia, made Russia a republic. Whether or not Russia can maintain her freedom depends on more war, and the socialists don't believe in war, at least the red-eyed bug-house extremists don't. War however, has given Russia a wonderful opportunity, and it's her own fault if she does not take advantage of it to the full. It was war too that gave France her chance to get rid of Napoleon and become a republic, and so I could go on indefinitely. It was war, by the way, that welded Briton and Boer together and made South Africa a republic, and it is the lack of fighting ability that makes poor China the easy victim of Japan. War, too, drove Spain from these shores. More about this some other time. Please don't hold any more parades and don't display any American flags as the I. W. W. wobblers, peace-at-any-price lunatics, Kansas-made socialists and anarchists, and the German language newspapers object to our flag, and what these nuts and traitors say, has to go. America and Americans amount to nothing these days and Old Glory is a rag. If you don't believe it ask the Kaiser rooters and I Won't Work's.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C.," a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended one full year beyond date of expiration.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's one-year subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a one-year subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay.

Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

League Shut-in and Mercy Work for October

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Written references from postmaster or physician must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by written references will be destroyed.

Eugenia Barts, Altamahaw, R. R. 2, Box 71A, N. C. Has spinal trouble. Parents aged and poor. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Nancy Wallace, Belpre, Ohio. Seventy-four years of age, crippled with rheumatism. Her husband aged seventy-nine, is an old soldier and bedridden. They are well recommended. Send them a dime shower. Emma Jenkins, Walling, R. R. 1, Tenn. Forty-three years of age. Helpless cripple. Can only get around on her hands and knees. Send her some of the sympathy that buys bread. Miss Lizzie Gormely, Buffalo, Ill. Has lung trouble. Sick and needy. Send her a dime shower. Miss Martha Ausbach, Nescopek, Pa. Invalid for many years. Aged mother her only support. Send her some cheer. Burtney Barefoot, Four Oaks, N. C. Invalid for many years. Needy and worthy. Send him a dime shower. Mrs. Martha Carter, Clinchport, Va. Widow. Sick, poor and needy. Send her some cheer. Edward L. Potts, Owassa, R. R. 1, Ala. Helpless cripple for many years. No means of support. Worthy character. Send him a dime shower. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Adams, 2627 St. Paul St., Bellingham, Wash. Aged, sick, poor and helpless. Send them some sympathy that buys bread. Well recommended. Thomas H. Parrish, Nashville, Box 27, Ga. Twenty-nine years of age. Crippled, father dead. Would appreciate cheery letters and any assistance you care to send him. Sarah Ruth Deal, Stuart, Va. Invalid for many years. Worthy case. Send her some cheer. Mrs. Emma Johnston, Kirk, N. Mex. Would give home to shut-in or needy person.

We have had a very bountiful harvest. Won't some of you who have reaped that golden harvest from the Almighty's bounty, show your appreciation by sending a few greenbacks to these poor, sick and hungry brothers and sisters of yours.

Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

Uncle Charlie's Poems Is the Best Crop to Harvest!

The long evenings are here, the harvest gathered in. You have all you want for the stomach, but the feast is not complete until you feed the mind. Uncle Charlie's Poems, a gorgeous, lilac silk bound, 160-page volume of riotous fun, is the best brain food in the world. You will laugh! scream! yell! as you peruse its delightful pages. Read "How Father Carved The Turk!" and be happy. Among the laughs you will find a few tears, and an absorbingly interesting sketch of Uncle Charlie's life. This superb volume of fun, free for a club of only four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. Finest Christmas gift in the world. Work for it today.

Uncle Charlie's Song Book Contains the Prettiest Harvest Songs Ever Written!

Uncle Charlie's Song Book contains twenty-eight of the dandiest, classiest songs ever written. Every song is a hit, and worth fifty cents apiece. Songs for all occasions, church, parlor, platform and joy rides. Put this splendid volume of song on your piano and it will fill your home with melody the year round. Superb pictures of Uncle Charlie decorate the artistic cover. Five dollars' worth of music for both voice and piano. Free for a club of only two subscriptions to COMFORT at twenty-five cents each. Both books free for a club of six. Work for them today.

Banish Pimples Easily, Quickly

Let Stuart's Calcium Wafers Give You a Complexion to Rival the Kind People Rave Over.

SEND FOR FREE TRIAL PACKAGE.



There is only one way to remove pimples, blackheads, eruptions and eczema with its rash and itch, and that is by Stuart's Calcium Wafers in the blood.

Their wonderful calcium sulfide supplies the blood with one of the most remarkable actions known to science. This is its activity in keeping firm the tiny fibres that compose even such tiny muscles as those which control the slightest change of expression, such as the eyelids, lips, and so on. It is this substance which pervades the entire skin, keeps it healthy and drives away impurities. Get a 50-cent box of Stuart's Calcium Wafers at any drug store and learn the great secret of facial beauty.

A free trial package will be mailed if you will write the F. A. Stuart Co., 407 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich.

AGENTS!

Take orders for World's Greatest Raincoat Values. 65 fabrics. Dozens of styles. Made to measure. Delivered direct to customer. Dandy coat $3.98. Cooper Making Glover $61.50 in 4 days. Many $50 to $75 a week. We deliver and collect. You get your profit in advance. Samples free. Write for our offer.

Samples Given

$300.00 a Month

Comer Mfg. Co. Dept. J. 14, Dayton, O

Beautiful IM. DIAMOND RING Gold Shell. Given free for selling only 5 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Easy to sell. We trust you. Order today

FREE

CIRCLE SALES CO., DEPT. 34, MOLINE, ILL.

This pretty band GIVEN for five names of your neighbors and ten cents to pay postage &c.

WEDDING RING

Gem City Supply Co., QUINCY, ILL.

CARDS Send 2c Stamp for large Sample Album of Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope, Friendship, Joker's, Lover's and all other Kinds of Cards, Post Cards and Premiums. Star Beau Catcher and list 980 Songs given Free. No trash. **OHIO CARD CO., B-14 Columbus, Ohio.**



DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU?

Agents wanted to sell glasses. Send for catalog.

COULTER OPTICAL CO., Dept. B. CHICAGO, ILL.

30 Postals, Christmas, Birthday, etc. (35 Flag Stamps) Silk Flag Free. **Magnus A. Hess Co., 837 Ashland Bou'l. Chicago.** **10c.**

CARDS, Dice, Magic Goods, Novelties, Catalog Free. **D. M. SMYTHE Co., Newark, Mo.**

UNCLE CHARLIE'S LIFE TOLD IN PICTURES

Uncle Charlie's Picture Book Good as a Visit to His Home

Visit Uncle Charlie in his famous chicken coop and see how he lives and works. Big, beautiful, full page, halftone cuts equal to photographs, that show Uncle Charlie and his charming assistants Maria and the Goat in every phase of their busy lives. See Uncle Charlie sitting in a chair for first time in nineteen years, and get a peep at his big son, mother, school and church, and see him as an actor playing many parts. **A beautiful, intensely interesting, artistic book 9 1-4 by 7 1-4 inches, free for two subs. at 25c. each**—fifty cents in all.



Uncle Charlie's Story Book

Full of the most delightful stories ever written. You will laugh one minute and cry the next as you read these entrancing stories of Uncle Charlie's life. Read how Maria and Billy the Goat met Uncle Charlie; read "Lily, Or Help Wanted" the funniest story ever written. 160 pages of mirth and merriment, pathos and tears, illustrated and **beautifully bound in silk cloth, stiff covers, gold topped.** Free for **four subs at 25c. each**—one dollar in all.

Also bound in heavy fancy blue paper covers for only **two subs at 25c.** each—fifty cents in all. Ideal birthday presents. **COMFORT'S** greatest premium bargains. Work for them today. Secure one or both of these superb souvenirs of this remarkable man who devotes his time and talents to the service of humanity.

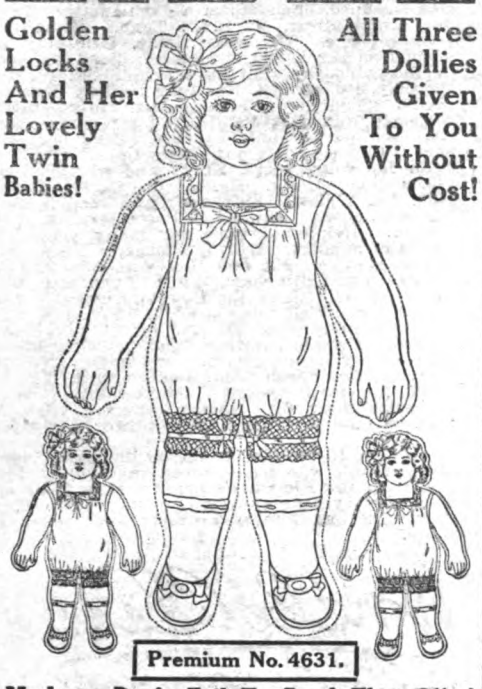
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Note. Full particulars of how to secure Uncle Charlie's splendid **poems** and **song book** will be found at the end of the League of Cousins' Department.

Free To Every Little Girl!

Golden Locks And Her Lovely Twin Babies!

All Three Dollies Given To You Without Cost!



Premium No. 4631.

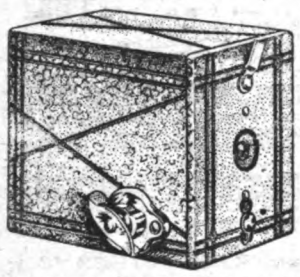
Mothers, Don't Fail To Read This Offer!

COMFORT wants to give **free** to **your** little girl and **every** little girl this handsome **doll Family** stamped in **beautiful colors** on strong cloth with **full directions** so that you can cut them out, stuff and sew them up **in less than ten minutes.** "Golden Locks" is almost as big as **a real baby,** for she stands **one and one half feet high** and her cute little twin babies which you see in the picture stand **over half a foot high. These dolls cannot be broken** no matter how much they are thrown around or dropped on the floor and you can make them **bend their arms and legs, stand up and sit down in a chair and assume all sorts of natural positions.** They have beautiful **golden hair** which hangs in the **dearest curls** you ever saw and fastened with a **bright red ribbon bow** that cannot get lost or become untied, **handsome red cheeks, rosy lips and lovely blue eyes** which smile at you in such a **lifelike way** that you would almost think **they were ready to speak and say "Mama."** As shown in above illustration they are dressed in **dainty lace-trimmed underwear with bright red stockings and black buttoned boots.** The three dolls together—"Golden Locks" and the two sweet Baby Dolls—make the **cutest and prettiest** Doll Family any little girl ever had to play with. They are lots better for the little folks than the more expensive bisque and china dolls **because they will not break or snarl their pretty hair or lose their eyes.** There is no little girl who will not instantly **fall in love** with this beautiful Doll Family and spend many happy hours with it, so we hope that every mother who reads this offer will take advantage of it at once. We will send you **all three dolls free by Parcel Post prepaid** on the terms of the following special offers.

Offer 4631 A. For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **all three dolls** free by parcel post prepaid.

Offer No. 4631 B. For your own subscription or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **all three dolls** free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 4631. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

PREMO CAMERA



Premium No. 7286

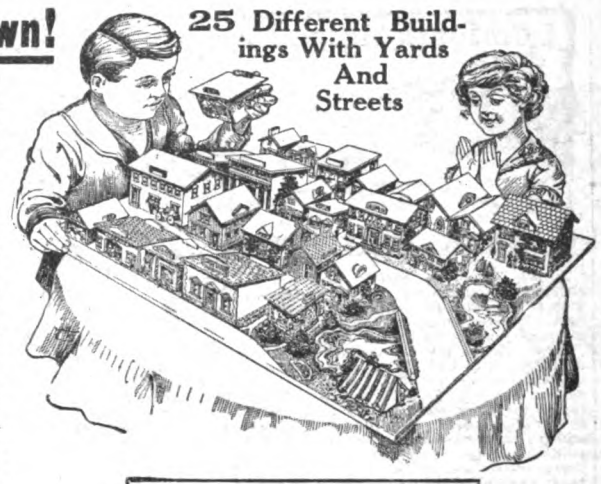
For a Club of Six!

We will also include free of charge **one Six Exposure Roll Film Cartri ge** and a complete **Instruction Book.** This is the well-known **"Premo"** camera, made by the **Eastman Kodak Co.,** therefore you can depend upon it to produce the most pleasing and satisfactory results. It takes a picture 1 1-4 by 1 3-4 inches, is fitted with the best quality **Meniscus lens** and an **automatic shutter** adapted for snap shots and time exposures. The pictures may be taken either the long way or the short way of the camera. It uses the regulation roll film cartridge containing six exposures, and this may be put in the camera and taken out again in **broad daylight,** so that you don't have to go into a dark room every time you want to load the camera. Anybody can make good pictures with this camera. Being small and compact it is just the thing to carry with you to "snap" pictures of your friends, sports, etc., with. And remember, we send you not only the camera itself but also include **One Six Exposure Roll Film Cartridge and Instruction Book,** all packed together in a strong box and sent to you **Free by Parcel Post, prepaid,** on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For a club of six one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post, prepaid, this Premo Camera with one Roll Film Cartridge containing six exposures and complete Instruction Book. **Premium No. 7286.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Whole Toy Town!



25 Different Buildings With Yards And Streets

Premium No. 8522

Boys and Girls—Can You Imagine it? A Complete Village Of Houses, Stores, Shops And All! You Can Build And Re-build It As Often As You Like!

FUN, fun, fun—that's what you'll have when you get this **wonderful new toy town,** with its streets, yards, houses, stores, shops and men, women and children, just like any real town. **Only think!** Twenty-five different buildings—and you can build them, take them down and build them again as often as you please. You can call it "your own town" and talk to the people living in the houses, walking and driving in the streets and working in the shops—the blacksmith at his forge in the blacksmith shop, the children going to school, the customers in the stores and hotel and even the little boys and girls playing "Indian" and "soldier" in the dandy big tent on the bank of the beautiful river that flows under the bridge. Remember—twenty-five buildings make quite a big town—bigger than some **real** towns we know of.

In this wonderful toy town village there are thirteen handsome up-to-date houses, a tent, church, high school savings bank, hotel, clubhouse, barber shop, bakery, blacksmith shop, express office, garage and police station, besides all the streets, yards and flowers, river and bridge. They are made of thick heavy cardboard printed in **natural colors** so that they look like real houses while the streets, yards and flowers are colored **true to life.** Full directions tell you how to put all the different buildings together, how to lay out your town and place the houses on the streets. When the houses are all up your town will measure nearly three square feet in size.

We will give you this wonderful toy town complete as described above on the terms of the following special

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this big toy town village of twenty-five different buildings free by parcel post prepaid. **Premium No. 8522.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Message to Club Raisers From COMFORT'S Publisher

COMFORT

Augusta, Maine

To COMFORT Club Raisers—

I wish I could talk to you all personally about publishing conditions, but I can't, of course, so I am writing you this letter.

I want to urge you to earn your premiums EARLY this season—to start out right NOW and get up your clubs. There are 3 strong reasons for this:

1. I may not for years be able to offer you such GOOD premiums for such few subscriptions as I am right now. I made some fortunate purchases in the Spring and Summer and am going to give you the benefit of them. The next time I buy these premiums I shall have to pay much more for them—and of course must charge more.

2. THE PRICE OF COMFORT MUST SOON GO UP. I promised my readers to keep back this raise just as long as I possibly could, and I have kept this promise. But price conditions are beyond my control. I have held out longer than most any other publisher. I am still holding out—but it is only a matter of a month or two now, before the price of COMFORT MUST be raised to meet the high cost of publishing.

3. Most farm families are extremely prosperous this season and will be glad to spend some of their surplus money for COMFORT. This will make it easier than usual for you to get subscriptions.

While I am yet giving the greatest possible premium value, while the price of COMFORT is still down, and while people are prosperous, is the time to get subscriptions and earn premiums. I know you plan to get some COMFORT premiums this Fall or Winter. I personally urge you to do it now—while COMFORT is still 25c a year.

Will you not look over the handsome premiums I am offering in this issue of COMFORT and start right out today, to earn one or more of them?

Very truly yours,

W. A. Gannett

Publisher of COMFORT

Birthstone Rings

Genuine Gold Filled



APRIL

Guaranteed For 5 Years



AUGUST



JANUARY

Given For A Club Of Two!

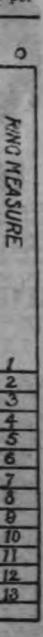
THE most popular lady's rings worn today are these beautiful birthstone rings. Not only is it considered lucky to wear one of them but they are now and always will be exceedingly stylish. We are able to illustrate only three of the rings but there are **twelve** in all—a different stone for each month of the year and of course you should wear the stone that is symbolical of the month you were born. The following is a list of the twelve rings, names of the stones, the month to which one applies and its symbol.

No. 7632. January, The Garnet, Symbol of Power.
No. 7642. February, The Ameythyst, Symbol of Pure Love.
No. 7652. March, The Bloodstone, Symbol of Courage.
No. 7662. April, The Diamond, Symbol of Purity.
No. 7672. May, The Emerald, Symbol of Immortality.
No. 7682. June, The Agate, Symbol of Health and Long Life.
No. 7692. July, The Ruby, Symbol of Charity.
No. 7702. August, The Sardonyx, Symbol of Happiness.
No. 7712. September, The Sapphire, Symbol of Constancy.
No. 7722. October, The Opal, Symbol of Hope.
No. 7732. November, The Topaz, Symbol of Friendship.
No. 7742. December, The Turquoise, Symbol of Prosperity,

Each ring is guaranteed genuine 12-Karat gold filled which looks exactly like solid gold and will wear for years. **In fact we absolutely guarantee each ring for at least five years.** The rings themselves are perfectly plain, the stones are solitaires and perfect imitations of the real gems. The setting of each ring is the ever popular "Tiffany" style. As a Christmas, Birthday or all-the-year-round gift for wife, mother, sweetheart or sister nothing could be more appropriate and acceptable than one of these beautiful guaranteed rings set with the birthstone of the person to whom it is given. And not only the women and girls but men and boys as well are now wearing them.

Please do not class these rings with the cheap "electro-plated" rings that turn brassy after they have been worn a month or two. Remember that every one of them is guaranteed to be 12-Karat gold-filled and positively warranted for five years. If you want a handsome birthstone ring for yourself or some dear friend or relative you will make no mistake in taking advantage of this offer at once. **When ordering be sure to specify the size and number of ring wanted.** You can easily tell just what size ring you wear by following the directions at the right.

RING MEASURE



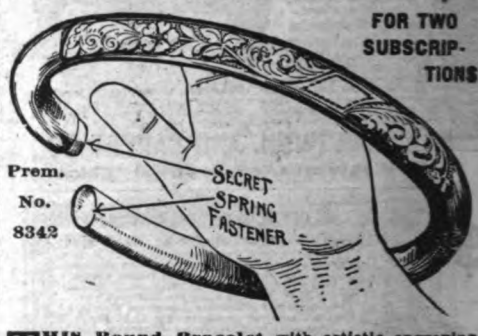
By using the above diagram you can tell exactly what size ring you wear if you will follow these directions: Put a slip piece of paper around the second joint on your ring finger. Cut the paper off so that when drawn tight around your finger the ends exactly meet. Then lay the paper flat on the diagram, one end at the line O and the other end will indicate correct size. By following these instructions your ring will be a perfect fit.

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each, we will send you one of these beautiful gold-filled birthstone rings by parcel post prepaid. **Please be sure to give size and number of ring wanted. Address**

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine

Gold Finish Bracelet

FOR TWO SUBSCRIPTIONS



THIS Round Bracelet with artistic engraving and unique **Spring Fastening** is the most attractive pattern we have seen this season. Not too large but large enough and as it is perfectly round, it fits well and becomes all ages. There is a demand for bracelets of enormous size, but this style is medium large and nearly **three inches in diameter;** we consider it a beautiful pattern. This bracelet is the very latest style so you will want one while fashionable, and as we guarantee fit and wear, you need not hesitate to order.

Club Offer. For two one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you this Bracelet free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 8342.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Tapestry Table Cover



Nearly One Yard Square

Premium No. 7404

Given For A Club of Four

THIS beautiful, fringed Tapestry Table Cover is nearly **one yard square** which is a size large enough for any stand or small table and is very elaborately made up in **handsome colors** on an interwoven background which is of a color that **harmonizes** with the fringe which extends entirely around the cover. Add one or more of these beautiful colored covers to the furnishings of any room and it will **enliven and cheer up the whole atmosphere of your home.** They are just as durable as they are handsome and taken altogether are something any woman should be pleased to own and display. We will send you this Table Cover, exactly as described, if you will accept the following

Club Offer. For four one-year subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send you this Tapestry Table Cover free by Parcel Post prepaid. **Premium No. 7404.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Premium No. 8141



This Great Illustrated Book Shows You War As The Camera Sees It!

Realistic! Thrilling! Inspiring!

Pictures Of The Great War And Our Country's Preparedness! More Than Two Hundred Wonderful Photographic Illustrations Of The Battle-Fields Of Europe And Views Of Our Own Army And Navy Now Taking Part In The Gigantic Struggle!

NOT pictures drawn from the imagination of some artist—but real **photographs,** finished in **natural colors,** showing with appalling vividness scenes of **actual fighting** in the trenches, the monster **siege guns,** giant **Zeppelins,** scouting **biplanes,** dreaded **"tanks"** or armored motor cars, deadly **submarines** and **submarine chasers,** the dead left on the battle-field, the wounded and captured, ruins of bombarded forts and villages—and last but not least **Uncle Sam's own brave soldiers and marines** who are now training to enter the great conflict in the cause of humanity, justice and freedom.

Almost as if it were happening before your very eyes, this wonderful book of **over two hundred war pictures** shows you British, Canadian, French, Belgian and German troops and artillery **in action,** the bombardment and defence of Antwerp, the battle of the Marne, Russian Cossacks on the march, **flights** of the great German dirigibles and French and British air scouts, anti-aircraft guns bringing down hostile aeroplanes, Red Cross nurses caring for the wounded, homeless Belgian refugees, German prisoners burying their own dead in France, execution of **spies,** ruins of once beautiful cathedrals, towns, forts and bridges after bombardment, and many other views equally as interesting and exciting and **all taken with the camera** so that they are absolutely true in every detail. And **best of all** are the pictures of our own brave army and navy boys training on land and aboard ship, at rifle and gun practise, bayonet charges, trench digging, field artillery and coast defense work, dirigible and biplane scouting together with views of some of Uncle Sam's newest and biggest battte-ships, submarines and submarine destroyers.

We will send you this wonderfully interesting war book of over two hundred pictures with the story of each picture told beneath it in a few well-chosen words, if you will accept either one of the following special offers.

Offer No. 8141A For one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you this illustrated war book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 8141.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Offer No. 8141B For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 additional (35 cents in all) we will send you this illustrated war book free by mail postpaid. **Premium No. 8141.**



Made-to-Measure
Express Prepaid $3.25

Pants cut in the latest style. Made-to-your individual measure. Fit, workmanship and wear guaranteed.

No Extra Charge
for peg tops, no matter how extreme you order them.

Agents Wanted A good live hustler in every town to take orders for our **celebrated** made-to-measure clothes. Samples of all latest materials **Free.**

We Pay Big Money
to our agents everywhere. Turn your spare time into cash by taking orders for our stylish clothes. Write today for beautiful **FREE** outfit.

THE PROGRESS TAILORING CO.
Dept. 778 Chicago, Ill.

ODORLESS

INDOOR TOILET
Sanitary and Odorless on ten days
FREE TRIAL



No Money Down — No Deposit

No more outside back yard inconveniences. No chambers to empty. No sewer or cesspool. Chemical process dissolves human waste in water. No trouble. Kills disease germs. Prevents flies, filth and bad odors of outhouse. A real necessity for old, young or invalids. Preserves health.

Costs 1 Cent a Week to Operate per Person.

Place in any room, hall or closet. No trouble to install. Guaranteed sanitary and odorless. Endorsed by thousands of users, doctors, sanitary experts, health boards, etc. **AGENTS WANTED.**

Kaw-near Cabinet Co.,
501 Kaw-near Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.



FREE TO YOU

This is positively the most beautiful wrist watch you have ever seen. It is just the size of a half dollar. The case is made of genuine **Mother of Pearl,** giving off beautiful **variations of color.** Much prettier than gold, as it will never wear out or tarnish. Good Swiss movement; stem wind and stem set. Soft leather adjustable wristband.

SEND NO MONEY I want to give one lady or girl in each locality one of these beautiful watches **FREE** for just a little easy work, which you can do in an hour or two. Write today. Address **V. A. KEMPER, 303 Friend Building, Kansas City, Mo.**

6 ELEGANT LACE CURTAINS FREE TO LADIES

Send no money — simply name and address. Merely give away FREE 12 beautiful Art Pictures with 12 boxes of our famous White Cloverine, which you sell at 25 cents each. Send us the $3.00 collected and we will send you immediately six (three pair) Nottingham Lace Curtains nearly three yards long. Millions are using Cloverine for cuts, burns, etc. You may also select a

BEAUTIFUL DINNER SET

and other premiums from our catalogue given for little work. Our plan is the easiest and absolutely square. Write quick — Pictures and Cloverine sent promptly postpaid. Be first in your town. Big cash commission.

THE WILSON CHEMICAL CO.
Department 705, TYRONE, PA.

$1 Brings This Splendid Dresser

Send only $1 and we will ship this neat Dresser. Try it 30 days. If not satisfied, return it and we will refund the $1 and pay freight both ways. If you keep it pay the balance on our easy credit terms.

Made in Colonial design of seasoned hardwood finished in imitation quarter-sawed oak. Rich golden oak finish. French bevel plate mirror 20x16 inches. Base top is 40x19 inches. Has two overhung drawers and two full length drawers. Shipping weight about 110 lbs. Shipped from factory in central Indiana. Take advantage of this offer and see what an amazing value it is.

Order by No. 185MA11. Price $9.95. Only $1 now. Balance $1 monthly.



FREE Catalog

Shows thousands of bargains in furniture, carpets, stoves, silverware, dishes, and other household goods on 30 days' free trial and easy long time credit terms. Post card brings it.

Hartman Furniture & Carpet Co.
3964 Wentworth Ave., Dept. 1033, Chicago

FRIENDSHIP LINK AND BRACELET RIBBON FREE



STERLING SILVER WARRANTED ROLLED GOLD

We start your friendship BRACELET by giving you one LINK absolutely FREE, engraved with 3 initials; also a beautiful velvet ribbon to wear Links on while your friends, as a token of their sentiment, give you other Links with their initials. (Links now REDUCED to 8c. each.) For FREE LINK send this clipping stating your initials and if Rolled Gold or Silver wanted.

Friendship Jewelry Co., 83 Chambers St., Dept. 109, New York

LOOK YOUR BEST. Make sure of smooth white arms, face and neck in spite of sallowness, blotches, freckles, blackheads etc. If you want to be charming and attractive—Don't pay 50c but send 10c at once for sealed Package, which will transform your appearance instantly. Warranted. **TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927A, Boston, Mass.**





Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Miss Nellie Ellis, 2611 25th Ave., N. Birmingham, Ala.—The question of keeping potatoes from rotting in storage is largely the matter of having a cool, dry cellar; not having them stored in too large bins; being sure they are dry, cool, and free from rot when placed in storage, and having as few as possible bruised and cut potatoes among the quantity stored. Potatoes may be dried, both in the cooked and uncooked condition, and directions regarding the methods to follow may be secured from bulletins issued by the Dep't of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Write and say you wish to secure bulletins upon the subject of the home drying and preserving of vegetables. Other COMFORT readers note this, as these bulletins are worth having, and the methods taught should be followed, now that we are endeavoring by all means to conserve the food supply of the world.

M. G., Morgansville, W. Va.—No nurse will be accepted for any Red Cross work unless a course of training has first been taken, and an examination passed. The required courses are being given in most of the large cities.

E. S. C., Raven, Nebr.—You would require no government license to publish the book you write to us about. Any good printing house could do the work for you. The price would depend on the size of the book and the number of copies you wished printed. Should you wish to have the work copyrighted, you would have to make the regular application and pay the small fee, as per the copyright laws. Write to Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C., for blank applications for copyright and instructions.

E. R. G., Thompsonville, Mich.—We cannot tell you if there is any value to the old bank bill that you have found. Show the bill to your local bank officials, and if they are in doubt, submit a description of it to some of the firms advertising in COMFORT who are experts in this line.

Mrs. C. E. Madden of Meridian, Idaho, wishes to ask COMFORT readers if they can tell her anything about the "Quaker Valley Mfg. Co.," whose address used to be in Chicago, Ill. where they dealt in silverware. Also the name of a firm manufacturing a rug machine that has two pieces of wood and a brass needle. The machine is used by hand in the making of rugs from rags and yarn. Can any of our readers give Mrs. Madden this information? Write to her direct.

C. F. B., Carmi, Ill.—It was difficult for us to judge of the value of your invention from the pencil sketch you enclosed. Write to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C., or take the matter up with a patent attorney. More money is generally spent than made in pushing inventions.

Curious, Gate, Okla.—Confederate money has no value except as relics. The crystals you submitted are apparently some drug or chemical substance, and appear valueless to us.. Show them to your druggist.

Inquirer, Shamokin, Pa.—Having had a little experience or knowledge of sickness would be a primary disqualification in taking up nursing. However, all Red Cross nurses have to undergo a course of training and pass an examination. Some of these courses are being furnished free in the larger cities. The salary of a visiting nurse varies with the size of the town or city in which the work is done. We know of a village of five thousand inhabitants where the nurse receives nine hundred dollars per year.

Mrs. O. L. M., Roanoke, W. Va.—This department knows of no legitimate value to cancelled stamps, of which you state you have a number.

Tu-Lips, Brooksville, Ky.—We cannot tell you how to read invisible writing. We have plenty of visible writing to read that keeps us busy. You might try moistening the paper and then passing a hot iron over it.

Mrs. J. A. M., Statesville, Tenn.—A course of training is necessary before becoming a Red Cross nurse, also an examination in first aid essentials.

M. G., North Yakima, Wash.—The corn remedy you saw advertised in COMFORT is not for sale by this office, but can be procured from druggists. If the stores in your part of the state have not got it in stock, perhaps they will send for it for you.

F. H., St. Joseph, Mo.—If you wish to purchase bees, or desire any information regarding bee-keeping, write to the A. I. Root Co., Medma, Ohio. This concern also publishes a periodical called "Gleanings in Bee Culture."

A. A. B., Foreman, Ark.—White writing ink is not a rare product, and can be procured at any first-class stationery store. Stafford's White Ink is a well-known article of this nature.

A. W., Baltimore, Md.—Although it is not necessary that a librarian be a college graduate, considerable knowledge and education is required for the work—more, we think, than your letter indicates. Large cities, like Boston, Chicago, and New York have what are known as "Library Schools" for the training of librarians. We believe that more than a grammar school education would be a pre-requisite to entrance to any of these schools.

M. E. L., Hesston, Kans.—We do not believe there is any market for chicken gizzards, unless in these war days, and with the shortage of leather, they could be utilized for the making of army shoes. If they have any medicinal value, the best way to use them is when they are made part of the gravy.

I. A., Kingman, Ind.—We do not understand exactly what you mean by "Government Matron." For any Federal or state position where a Civil Service examination must be taken to obtain appointment, you would be very likely to need more than a common school education to pass successfully.

The Girl He Loved

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22.)

be her wedding-day, and after that nothing could come between them any more.

Pale, trembling, her heart heavy as lead, in spite of herself, she stole like a thief to her stepmother's room. The Umbrella was down-stairs, and Ravenel hunted quickly in every drawer and box. It never struck her as being odd that they should be all unlocked, exactly as if the more thoroughly they were searched the better for their owner's plans. And the girl, after thirty minutes, knew she looked in vain. Her ring was not in the room. Somehow and somewhere she must have lost it. She remembered that, like a fool, she had tied the ribbon in a bow. It was utterly inexplicable except for that.

TO BE CONTINUED.



GENUINE ROLL FILM PREMO CAMERA FREE

With Film, or choice of Electric Flashlight or Silverware, or choice from our large list of premiums given for selling 20 pkgs. Post Cards or 20 Religious and Art Pictures at 10c each, your choice. Order today.

HERMAN & CO., 2310 Lincoln Ave., Dept. 100, CHICAGO

—ALL THIS JEWELRY— FREE

This beautiful Gold plated **Pendant** (set with a large imported French Turquoise) and **Neck Chain,** also a lovely large Pink **Cameo Brooch** in Gold plated setting, also a handsomely engraved Gold plated **Bracelet,** also a pair of Cut Jet Pierceless **Ear Rings,** now so popular, and these **4** Gold plated **Rings.** We give **ABSOLUTELY FREE** these **8** guaranteed Gold plated pieces of Jewelry for selling only **15** of our fast-selling Jewelry Novelties at 10c. each. We trust you and take back all not sold. Address **A. S. Dale Mfg. Co., Providence, R. I.**





Sample Watch Free

Genuine full standard size railroad style watch with locomotive on dial and locomotive handsomely engraved on back. Full nickel plated case, extra dust proof, Arabic numerals on dial, heavy R. R. style figures. Genuine American make, stem wind and set, fully **GUARANTEED** for **5 YEARS.** To advertise our business and introduce this wonderful watch and our great catalogue of Elgin, Waltham and Hampden watches we will send this elegant watch to any address by mail postpaid for **ONLY $1.50** and if you sell two of these watches we will give you **ONE SAMPLE WATCH FREE** for your trouble. Send this advertisement with $1.50 and watch will be sent by mail postpaid, or send $3.00 for two and we will send **ONE EXTRA WATCH FREE.** Order today as this offer may not appear again. Address **R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 538 So. Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.**



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Red Rose, Dunn, N. C.—If you have known this boy for only a few weeks, Red Rose, we do not think you can feel certain whether you are the flower he really wants. Surely we cannot tell you. Because he has not "hugged or kissed" you yet is no bad sign, but rather shows that he is the right sort.

Blue Violet, Granden, Mo.—Girls of fifteen and sixteen are much better off if they stick to their books and do not worry their young heads so about boys. Take notice of the many replies in this column that appear in answer to the letters of unhappy women that have married at too young an age and in disregard of their parents' advice. (2) A girl may invite a young man that has brought her home to enter the house, providing it is not too late.

Brown Eyes, Walpole, Ill.—A girl of nineteen and a young man of twenty-one are rather young to marry, but it is sometimes done. It is generally best to wait a year or two, however, and we would advise you to do this. Because you both have "yellow hair" will be no obstacle to your happiness.

"Yours for better," San Saba, Texas.—You are twenty, and you want to know whether a man of forty-seven is too old for you to marry. Always the matter of age is a matter of the individual, and some men at the age of the one you write about are far from being old, or even what we call middle-aged. The surest test is how much you care for him and if you think you could be happy together. If you are "settled" and industrious, and you are both members of the same church, and he "dearly loves" you, we do not think the matter of the difference in your ages should be a serious obstacle to your marriage or future happiness. But make sure he is the man you love and want to go through life with before the knot is tied. You cannot walk back up the church aisle as simply as you go down it.

Blue Eyes, Tulip, Ga.—It is perfectly proper to wear a ring on the little finger. (2) At nineteen, and with your weight and height, we think you may consider yourself at the witching age of womanhood and dress accordingly. However, the customs of your community and the wishes of your parents should always be considered. By a very sensible fashion, skirts are being worn shorter than they have been for years—and by grandmothers, too.

Beatrice, Auburn, Cal.—It is always best that girls and boys of fourteen and fifteen should have one or more older women with them at dances, or other forms of amusement and recreation. It would be permissible for you to carry on a friendly boy and girl correspondence with this fourteen-year-old boy, but don't forget your books, and that you are going to this training school to study. (2) You are far too young to wear your hair in any but the simplest schoolgirl fashion. The years fly by, and you will be "grown up" quite soon enough.

Cutie and Kewpie, Olate, Kan.—Here are six questions all about boys—which are too many to answer, even for two Kansas girls with such cunning names. If you have spoken to a boy once, and then meet again a short time after, you may certainly speak once more—if you have anything to say—or a smile would suffice, and perhaps he would like that better. (2) No; when you are walking with a boy and he meets another boy that he knows and you do not, you should not speak until he has had a chance to present his friend to you. (3) We do not think a girl should start in calling up a boy over the telephone and "ask him to take her to some place." (4) Most certainly you express your thanks for assistance with your "wraps" and for gifts of candy. But we would not thank him for the gum,—and we would not chew it in public places.

Green Eyes, Texas.—If you are "going with a boy that hugs and kisses you, and you are disgusted with him, as you say, we think you are quite right in feeling as you do, and the next thing to do is to tell him just how disgusted you are.

THIS SUIT FREE



To Introduce Our Nobby Clothes in Your Town

It's the very finest suit you ever saw. $50 couldn't buy a better one, but you can get it easy. It's made to your measure from the most beautiful cloth, choice of stripes, checks or plain patterns. Send us your name and address today. Don't fail to get one of these suits. You can earn it while you wear it and make

$50 a Week

by taking orders. Drop us a postal for latest sample outfit, select the style you want and the cloth. Let us prove our amazing offer. Don't delay. We send everything free the same day your request is received. We pay postage on everything. Just send us a postal with your name and address on it.

Paragon Tailoring Co. Dept. 1007, Chicago

NEW WICKLESS LAMP

The Sunshine Safety Lamp Co., 407 Factory Bldg., Kansas City, Mo., is offering to send a new portable lamp which, experts agree, gives the most powerful home light in the world, on **FREE** trial to any user. They want one person in each locality to whom they can refer new customers. Take advantage of this offer. Write them today.



Pink Cameo Ring FREE

Cameos are set in fine **gold filled ring.** Guaranteed for three years. To introduce new Ring Bargains, will send post paid, your size, upon receipt of 12c to pay advertising.

The Auction Co., Dept. 301 Attleboro, Mass.

FREE



POWERFUL AIR GUN

Big lever action rifle free for selling 25 Art and Religious Pictures or 25 pkgs. Post Cards at 10c. Order your choice. **GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 825 CHICAGO**

Play Piano In One Hour For One Cent

Would you give a penny to learn to play the piano or organ in one evening? Impossible? No, not at all. Hundreds of thousands of others who never played before played their first piece in just a few minutes. THEN WHY CAN'T YOU?

John H. Ferguson, Acme, Alta., Canada, says: "I was not a little amazed when I found I could play in a few minutes." C. Pitmann, Memo, Okla., says: "Have two children, one is 12 and the other 10, who in a very few minutes could play it well, and they did not know one note from another in the old music." V. R. Perkins, Romney, Ind., says: "I studied 'Easy Form' music fifteen minutes and then started to play."

Thousands of similar reports are in our files. Doesn't this convince you that you can play by this wonderful new method?

LEARN Piano or Organ the NEW WAY

This wonderful new EASY FORM MUSIC is written without notes. Any child can read it and play it. You do not need to know anything about ordinary note music to be able to play in one hour or less. No teacher. No correspondence lessons by mail. Pay not one cent for five days instruction free. Simply send us a penny postal, stating: "I do not read or play music and am interested in the new EASY FORM WAY to play." Also be sure to tell us the number of white keys on your piano or organ.

If you find you can play AT ONCE and wish to keep the 100 beautiful selections—songs and instrumental pieces—you can pay for them at our Special Reduced Price, only 6½c per copy, in monthly payments so small that you will never miss them. Otherwise, you can return them and owe us absolutely nothing for your instruction for five days. Send a postal today—now—before this remarkable offer is withdrawn. Address Easy Method Music Co., 223 Clarkson Building, Chicago.

Thanksgiving Packet for You

If You Can Solve this Puzzle



Here are seven sheep in a pen. By drawing three straight lines you can put each one in a pen by himself. If you can do this we will send you, as a prize a packet of five beautifully colored Thanksgiving and Holiday Postcards. All you have to do is to enclose a 2 cent stamp to pay postage and cost of mailing.

American Junior Auto Given Away

With the Thanksgiving Packet we will send you a certificate of entry in our grand contest in which an American Junior Auto will be given away. In case of a tie an American Junior will be given to each person so tied.

Be sure to ask about the American Junior contest when you write. Full particulars by return mail.

PEOPLE'S CO., Dept. 22, Des Moines, Iowa



PIANO FREE TO THE PERSON WHO SENDS US

the neatest and most artistically correct reply to the Famous 21 Puzzle, on this paper or a similarly proportioned design on any material, WE WILL GIVE FREE A BEAUTIFUL NEW $275 PIANO IN MAHOGANY OR OAK. Place a number in each of the empty squares, no one figure to be repeated, so that when added any way, up or down, sideways or diagonally, the total will be 21. In case of a tie, Piano will be given each winner. Remember the person who sends us the correct solution presented in the neatest and most artistic manner will be the winner. Decision of three competent judges will be final. You will be notified as to your success and given our FACTORY TO HOME Piano Player and Piano Proposition. Contest closes Oct. 25, 1917. **PHOENIX PIANO AND PHONOGRAPH CO., 316 Park Bldg., Detroit, Mich.**

		11
	7	
3		

Five Wheel Chairs in September

432 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

The five September wheel chairs go to the following shut-ins. The figures after their names indicate the number of subscriptions sent in by them or by their friends in their behalf.

Daniel Lewis Smith, Vanceburg, Ky., 200; Bertha Luella Stewart, Sardis, Ohio, 187; Willie Clinton, Omba, Mo., 134; Mrs. E. V. Stalnaker, Moscow, Kansas, 120; Lorena Campbell, Haskell, Tex., 118.

Daniel L. Smith, age 52, is crippled in his back so that he has almost no use of his legs. Has been a cripple ever since he was thirteen.

Bertha L. Stewart, age 12, is unable to walk as the result of infantile paralysis which attacked her eight years ago. She gets about some by crawling on her hands and knees. The wheel chair will be a great pleasure to her and a help to her mother in taking care of her.

Willie Clinton, age 9, is crippled in his legs by white swelling from which he suffers severely at times. He has six brothers and sisters, two older and four younger than he.

Mrs. Stalnaker, age 74, has been helpless for nearly two years. The wheel chair will be a relief to her and a help to her daughter, with whom she lives, in caring for her.

Lorena Campbell, age 11, has no use of her legs as the result of spinal trouble which developed in infancy. She has never walked.

This is a pitiful list of sufferers who are receiving relief. Many more on our list are equally in need of wheel chairs. Please help to make them happy with a COMFORT wheel chair.

The accompanying picture of Mollie McNeil shows



MOLLIE MCNEIL.

her enjoying her COMFORT wheel chair. Her letter of thanks is printed below.

Give our Wheel-Chair Club a boost. It is doing lots of good.

Sincerely yours,

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 one-year subscriptions to COMFORT, at 25 cents each, sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some needy crippled Shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Any shut-in who has friends to help him get subscriptions can obtain a wheel chair free. Write me for information.

Thinks "COMFORT Wheel Chair" Just the Right Name

DUKE, N. C.

DEAR MR. GANNETT:

My wheel chair came in good condition and I am much pleased with it. I think it real nice. I want to thank you and all my friends who helped me get it. With their help I got the 200 subscriptions in just a short time. I think "COMFORT Wheel Chair" is just the right name for it. I enjoy it very much as I can now go to church and Sunday school and get out in the air. Enclosed you will find my picture. May you live long and send out many chairs to shut-ins to help brighten their lives, and when you have finished your good work here, may you receive the welcome well done. With many thanks, your friend,

MOLLIE MCNEIL.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

D. L. Smith, Ky., for Daniel L. Smith, 100; Miss Susie Ward, Ga., for Mrs. Whittle, 53; Verna McCutchen, Miss., for Mrs. Donie McCutchen, 49; Miss Martha Harrington, Okla., for Romie Joseph Harrington, 42; Mrs. Bertha E. Weaver, Fla., for Willie Clinton and Dolly Lanier, 31; Roy Smith, Okla., for O. L. Smith, 31; Jim Sebern Gardner, Texas, for own wheel chair, 30; Mrs. Walter Glover, N. C., for Mrs. Emily Daugherty, 30; John H. Bartlett, Ga., for Dolly V. Lanier, 28; Polly Spinks, La., for May Belle McGraw, 27; Mrs. Beulah Wilkes, S. C., for Miss Vernell Mathews, 26; Florence Whitman, Ohio, for Walter J. Slaybaugh, 23; Mrs. Mary Conly, Ohio, for Bertha Luella Stewart, 21; Mrs. Cora M. Stewart, Ohio, for Bertha Luella Stewart, 20; Miss Lena Shaw, W. Va., for Bertha Luella Stewart, 20; Mrs. Julia Pellman, Ohio, for Walter J. Slaybaugh, 20; Mrs. W. H. Pellman, Ohio, for Walter J. Slaybaugh, 20; W. H. Braley, Mich., for own wheel chair, 20; Mrs. Maud Yohe, Okla., for Mrs. Mary Bryan, 20; Mrs. Isaac Hinerman, W. Va., for Bertha Luella Stewart, 20; Mrs. Mary E. Parke, Ohio, for Walter J. Slaybaugh, 19; Mrs. Walter Shaw, W. Va., for Bertha Luella Stewart, 15; Mrs. B. E. Slaybaugh, Ohio, for Walter J. Slaybaugh, 15; Mrs. Mollie Hogan, Texas, for Mrs. Maggie Winder, 14; W. T. Coleman, Ga., for Mrs. W. T. McBride, 14; Mrs. Jane Stewart, W. Va., for Bertha Luella Stewart, 14; C. M. Bennett, W. Va., for Bertha Luella Stewart, 12; Florence Loveless, Miss., for Mrs. Donie McCutchen, 12; R. J. Terry, Texas, for Mrs. Jane Terry, 10; Mrs. Mary Karnes, Okla., for Mrs. E. V. Stalnaker, 10; Miss Anna Brown, N. Y., for Willie Price, 10; Mrs. W. T. McBride, Ga., for Mrs. W. T. McBride, 10; Lear Jack, Tenn., for Annie Jack, 9; Eva Kindrick, Texas, for Lorena Campbell, 8; Mary E. Poole, Texas, for Lucile Little, 8; Oma Henderson, La., for May Belle McGraw, 5; Leona Henderson, La., for May Belle McGraw, 5; Ethel Wilkins, Okla., for Dolly Lanier, 5; Mrs. C. C. Sasscer, Md., for Buel Hibbard, 5; Anna Bowman, Tenn., for Sanford Shillings, 5.



The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us.

Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

I. S., Hunter, Texas.—Daily nose-bleeding is almost always due to a weak condition of the vascular system of the nose. You should consult your local doctor and have him cauterize the offending blood-vessel and no doubt you will be cured for all time. Of course the doctor will look into your general physical condition, especially as to the coagulability of your blood.

L. E. D., New Braunfels, Texas.—There is no drug that causes blood poison in individuals or animals, hence there is no antidote. All medical schools have dissecting rooms. You could communicate with them for advice on the subject.

L. A., Pillzer, S. C.—Your main trouble is, as you think, nervousness and too much introspection. You have undoubtedly a nervous indigestion and the consequent formation of gas in the intestines. Your first concern should be to forget yourself, and if this cannot be accomplished in any other way, try a change of scene and surroundings. In the meantime, exercise in the open, eat suitable food, take some mineral oil with your meals, and before retiring add a cold spinal douche to the spine. This can be done by either using the ordinary bath sprayer or filling a sponge with cold water, and by squeezing the water out of the sponge in such a way that it will strike the back of the neck and flow down the spine. You should stand in hot water up to your ankles, while using the spinal douche to avoid shock.

A. M., Ironton, Ohio.—Convulsions coming on at or near the monthly period only, are probably due to some local obstruction to the natural menstruation. You should consult some good surgeon in your state, and if such a condition obtains, have an operation that will relieve any mechanical obstruction that may be present.

B. E. D., Clio, Ark.—Bronchial asthma can be cured by change of climate. As a rule a high, dry climate is to be preferred, and will do most good in the majority of cases. There are, however, idiosyncrasies. Some people will be cured by a change to the seashore, and any change to the mountains will be followed by an attack. The best and only way is for the individual to try out several locations and find the one most suitable to the given case.

E. P., Boon's Path, Va.—Warts may be removed by careful application of nitrate of silver, but are best removed by the electric cautery. Corns can be easily removed in about forty-eight hours by the application of a few drops of a good corn remover preparation. There are several excellent preparations of this kind on the market (see advertisements). This should be applied two or three nights consecutively, and then the corn will be soft enough to be easily removed.

G. H., Carterville, Mo.—You undoubtedly have some trouble with the mastoid portion of the temporal bone. Any discharge from the ear is dangerous and should have immediate attention. Consult some ear specialist. Do not on any account introduce a pin or anything of that kind in the wound. There is no danger of cancer, but there is danger of brain infection.

S. B., Isabella, Mo.—The itching may be due to your age, as you suggest, and probably so. A weak carbolic acid ointment, with attention to your physical condition, would help you. Drink plenty of water and avoid stimulants of any kind. Drink plenty of water always. You should avoid spices and pastry of all kinds. Eat green vegetables and use a mineral oil such as American Oil. Take a tablespoonful with your meals. The carbolic salve can only be obtained through a physician's prescription.

M. K., Bier, Mass.—Excessive accumulation of flesh is very frequently inherited, or at least the tendency to this condition is often hereditary. If your heart is strong enough to stand the strain, a daily or thrice weekly bath of very hot water, in which has been dissolved a pound of Epsom salts is very beneficial, and will often result in a marked loss of weight. This bath, however, should not be taken without the advice of a physician, and only after a thorough physical examination. Besides the bath, a diet of green vegetables, fruits of almost all kinds combined with a meat and egg diet would help you. Take also as much exercise as you can, drink plenty of water to keep your kidneys active and give up the use of sweets, pastry, as well as all starchy foods. Your period irregularity is undoubtedly due to your excessive accumulation of fat and poor circulation.

M. C. B., Lake City, S. C.—Acna Rosacea—which is probably the name of the condition to which you refer—is almost always due to some gastro-intestinal disorder. It may also be due to exposure to cold or heat, uterine disease, general debility, nasal disease and the excessive use of tea, coffee and alcohol. It naturally follows that the cause must be sought out, and the proper remedy be found, if possible. This trouble is chronic and very hard to help or cure. Electricity has been tried with much benefit in selected cases. But in every case the first thing is to determine the cause. If diatetic, the thing to do is to find the best diet in a given case, and follow this diet. In some cases the thyroid extract, in one grain doses, has been beneficial. Local applications of a sulphur lotion, known as lotio alba is in many cases beneficial. These are simply suggestions and may be tried, under the advice and care of some good physician only.

C. B. L., Winston-Salem, N. C.—Pain under the right shoulder blade, is almost always due to some liver trouble. You should ask your family physician for some good liver stimulant, or alterative such as calomel or phosphate of soda. The latter can be taken in teaspoonful doses three times a day, after meals, for some weeks with benefit.

Mrs. E. R., Neligh, Nebr.—Birthmarks can be removed, very thoroughly and without scar, by the use of carbon dioxide snow, so-called. This must be done by one who has had the necessary experience as well as the necessary apparatus for making and applying the same. The sooner the birthmark is removed, the better will be the result as to scar and space to be covered. Birthmarks grow and spread over large surfaces quite rapidly—hence the advice to have your child treated at once.

Mrs. M. C. C., New Market, Va.—Your nervousness, in fact all of your nervous symptoms, may arise from eye-strain. You should, at once, consult a competent oculist. By oculist we mean a doctor, who makes a specialty of diseases of the eye as well as the fitting of glasses. This would of course exclude the ordinary optician. In this way you may be cured. For if the condition is not due to eye-strain, the doctor through a careful examination of the eye can and no doubt will get at the true condition and advise you what to do further.

N. J. A., Big Sandy, Texas.—The question of climate for lung trouble can only be settled by an actual personal experience. One case may be cured by the climate of California and another made worse. In fact the climate of California does not cure in many cases. In general a high, dry climate is the one to be selected. In all cases the question, also, of proper food must be taken into consideration. People with lung trouble in any stage must be well nourished, and a climate selected without regard to state, but the one that will do the most good in the given case. This should be decided by the local doctor.

The Masked Bridal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16.)

my own, again, after so many years! that you were once the tiny baby that I held in my arms in Rome, and loved better than any other earthly object? It is wonderful! wonderful! and strangest of all is the fact that your heart turns so fondly to me! Are you sure, dear, that you can unreservedly accept and love your mother, in spite of those letters, and what they revealed regarding my past life?"

"I am sure that you never committed a willful wrong in your life," Edith gravely replied. "It was a sad mistake to go away from your home and parents, as you did; but there is no intent to sin to be laid to your charge—your soul shines, like a beacon light, through these dear eyes, and I am sure it is as pure and lovely as your face is beautiful."

"May He who always judges with divine mercy bless you for your sweet charity and faith," murmured Isabel Stewart, in tremulous tones, as she passionately kissed the lips which had just voiced such a blessed assurance of trust and love.

"Now come," she went on, a moment later, while, with her own hands, she tenderly removed Edith's hat and wrap, "we will make ourselves comfortable, then I will tell you all the sad story of my misguided youth."

Twining her arms about the girl's waist, she led her to a seat, and sitting beside her, she circumstantially related all that we already know of her history.

But not once did she mention the name of the man who had so deeply wronged her; for she had resolved, if it were possible, to keep from Edith the fact that Gerald Goddard, under whose roof she had lived, was her father.

The young girl, however, was not satisfied, was not content to be thus kept in the dark; and, when her mother's story was ended, she inquired, with gray face and clouded eyes:

"Who was this man?—why have you so persistently refrained from identifying him? What was the name of that coward to whom—with shame I say it—I am indebted for my being?"

"My love, cannot you restrain your curiosity upon that point? Will you not let the dead past bury its dead, without erecting a tablet to its memory?" her companion pleaded, gently. "It can do you no possible good—it might cause you infinite pain to know."

"Is the man living?" Edith sternly demanded.

"Yes."

"Then I must know—you must tell me, so that I may shun him as I would shun a deadly serpent."

"My love, I wish you would not press this point."

Edith turned and gazed searchingly into her eyes.

"Do you still cherish an atom of affection for him?" she inquired.

"No! a thousand times no!" was the emphatic response.

"Then you can have no personal motive or sensitiveness concerning the matter."

"No, my child—my desire is simply to save you pain—to spare you a shock, perchance."

"Do I know him already?—have I ever seen him?"

"Yes, dear."

"Then tell me! tell me!" panted the girl. "Oh! if I have spoken with him, it is a wonder that my tongue was not paralyzed in the act—that my very soul did not shrink and recoil with aversion from him!"

"Edith," she said, with gentle gravity, "the man is—Gerald Goddard!"

"He! that man my father!"

"It is true," was the sad response. "I would have saved you the pain of knowing this if I could."

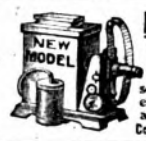
"Oh! and I have lived day after day in his presence; I have talked and jested with him!"

"My child, pray calm yourself," pleaded her mother, regarding her with astonishment, for she never could have believed, but for this manifestation, that the usually gentle girl could have displayed so much spirit under any circumstances. "Come," she added, "sit down."

TO BE CONTINUED.

RECIPE FOR GRAY HAIR.

To half pint of water add 1 oz. Bay Rum, a small box of Barbo Compound, and ¼ oz. of glycerine. Any druggist can put this up or you can mix it at home at very little cost. Full directions for making and use come in each box of Barbo Compound. It will gradually darken streaked, faded gray hair, and make it soft and glossy. It will not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy, and does not rub off.—Adv.



MOVIE MACHINE FREE
HAVE YOUR OWN "MOVIE" Genuine American moving Picture Machine complete with Film given Free for selling only 26 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. You can earn money giving shows at your own home. Write today.
Columbia Nov. Co., Dept. 663, East Boston, Mass.



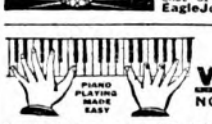
FREE BOYS AIR RIFLE
This fine Rifle free for selling only 15 pieces of our Jewelry at 10c. each. Write for Jewelry today.
COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO., Dept. 74 East Boston, Mass.



FREE! Genuine EASTMAN PREMO FILM PACK CAMERA
Size 2¼ x3¼, for selling 25 Art and Religious pictures or 25 pkgs. post cards at 10c each. Order your choice today. Sent prepaid.
GATES MFG. CO., - Dept. 1425, - CHICAGO



BIRTH STONE RINGS FREE
14K Gold filled, guaranteed to give satisfaction, with stone for any month, to introduce our catalogue. Send 12c to cover cost of advertising and mailing. Send size
EagleJewelry Co., Dept. 60, East Boston, Mass.



NEW VAMPING CARD
NO TEACHER NEEDED SURPRISINGLY SIMPLE SYSTEM
Persons having neglected their Musical Education need not despair, for with the aid of our new VAMPING CARD (placing the card upright over the piano keys), you can at once Vamp away to thousands of Songs, Ballads, Waltzes, Rag Time, etc., etc., equal to a Professional Musician. No knowledge of music is required. After using it a few times, you will be able to dispense with the aid of the Vamping Card entirely. The price this very clever invention is only 15 cts. postpaid.
JOHNSON SMITH & CO., Dept. 4, 54 W. Lake St., CHICAGO.

How You Can Get This Story In Book Form



If you do not care to wait for the monthly installments of this serial as they appear in COMFORT we will be glad to make you a present of the complete story in book form. You will enjoy reading this thrilling story of mingled romance and tragedy for it is one of the very best Mrs. Georgie Sheldon has written. The heroine is a refined and beautiful character that will challenge your wonder and admiration and stir the heart's strongest emotions. The story is full of action which moves rapidly through a succession of startling events to the final chapter. The "Masked Bridal" will run as a serial in COMFORT through the fall, winter and spring months, but you need not wait in order to get the complete story. Send us only one one-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents, or your own subscription, renewal or extension of your present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 5 cents additional (30 cents in all) and we will send you a copy of the book free and postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

THIS FORD FREE



Send Us No Money
JUST YOUR NAME
You don't need money to get an automobile. Let me give you one of my brand new, never used, latest model, five-passenger Ford Touring Cars. I have given away dozens of them. You might as well have one, too. If you have no auto and want one, send me your name right away, and say: "I want to get one of your Ford cars." A post-card will do.
RHOADS AUTO CLUB
316 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

Freckles
Tan or Liver Spots positively removed by using Stillman's Freckle Cream. Prepared for one purpose only—*clearing the skin*. If you have freckles, write us today for our Free Booklet "*Wouldst Thou Be Fair?*" Stillman's Cream is sold by most druggists, 50c a jar, or direct from us, same price, prepaid. Write now. We can help you.
Stillman Cream Co., Dept. 10, Aurora, Ill.

Wanted An Idea! Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas. They may bring you wealth. Write for "Needed Inventions" and list of "Patent Buyers."
RANDOLPH & CO., Patent Attorneys, Dept. 112, WASHINGTON, D. C.



If You Are A Woman Who Loves Crochet And Tatting Here Is A Set Of Books You Will Be Delighted To Own!

ANY ONE of these books alone is a veritable **treasure house** of the newest, most beautiful designs. The seven books combined form a **complete library** in which you will find any pattern in crocheting and tatting you could possibly ask for. You will fairly revel in the many handsome designs shown. There are edgings, beadings, insertions and laces for every conceivable use. The illustrations are **actual photographs** of the finished work and show every thread so plainly that they are almost as good to work from as the directions themselves. The directions are adapted for either beginner or expert. They tell **stitch by stitch** how each pattern is worked, also the quantity and size of material required and the correct sizes of hooks to be used. Following is a description of each book. They are **8 by 10 1-2 inches** in size with the exception of Volume I which is **9 1-4 by 12 inches. Please order by numbers.**

Volume 1 Crocheted yokes for combinations, envelopes, nightgowns, corset covers, etc.—**fifteen** all different, exquisite designs.

Volume 2 Handsome crocheted edgings and insertions suitable for handkerchiefs, underwear, dresses and a multitude of other uses,—**thirty-three** different designs.

Volume 3 **Eighteen** lovely designs in Cluny insertions and laces for centerpieces, library scarfs, boudoir caps, corset cover yokes, piano scarfs, curtains, chemises, envelopes or combination suits.

Volume 4 **Twenty-five** handsome designs in artistic crochet for yokes, boudoir caps, candle shades, baby bonnets, bedspreads, dollies, library scarfs, pillows, centerpieces, portiere, medallions, curtains, etc., etc.

Volume 5 **Twenty-five** designs in novelty crochet, including mile-a-minute and clover leaf crocheted yokes, primrose and sunflower yokes; doilies, centerpieces, boudoir caps, unique edges and insertions for serving trays; novelty aprons and collars.

Volume 6 **Thirty-two designs** in tatting, Maltese and Irish crochet,—a varied and beautiful assortment of tatted handkerchief edges, edgings and insertions, tatted yokes, boudoir caps, towel edges, medallions; yokes, breakfast caps, centerpieces, edgings and lace in Maltese crochet and yokes in Irish crochet.

Volume 7 **Thirty** handsome novelty crocheted designs including rose, sunflower periwinkle, and Venetian yokes; boudoir caps, monkey face library scarf, and lace pillow; large and small baskets, hat pin holder, jewel box, vanity tray, coin purse, utility bag, star fish doily, pineapple centerpiece; edgings and insertions in pillow lace; daisy edging; spider, bell, rick-rack, novelty and coronation braid laces.

WE advise you to order all seven of these splendid books before the assortment is broken. If however you do not care for the whole library at this time we have arranged the following **special offers** which give you the opportunity to secure any **two** or any **four** of the books. **When ordering please be very careful to state the number of each book desired.**

Offer 8011A: For one 1-year subscription (not your own) to COMFORT at 25 cents we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8011B: For your own subscription, or renewal or extension of present subscription for one year at 25 cents and 10 cents additional (35 cents in all), we will send you **any two books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8012: For two 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you **any four books** free by parcel post prepaid. **Be sure to mention numbers of books wanted.**

Offer 8013: For three 1-year subscriptions at 25 cents each we will send you the **complete library** just as described above—**seven different volumes in all,** handsomely bound, printed on high-grade paper and containing nearly **200 beautiful photographic illustrations** of all that is new and pretty in crochet and tatting designs with **complete directions** for working. **When ordering please be sure to mention number of each book wanted.**

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The Emporium of Bargains and Opportunities



Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.

AGENTS WANTED

$1000 Per Man Per County—Strange invention startles world—Agents amazed. Ten inexperienced men divide $40,000. Korstad, a farmer, did $2,200 in 14 days. Schleicher, a minister, $196 first 12 hours. $1,200 cold cash, made, paid, banked by Stoneman in 30 days; $15,000 to date. A hot or cold running water bath equipment for any home at only $6.50. Self-heating. No plumbing or waterworks required. Investigate. Exclusive sale. Credit given. Send no money. Write letter or postal today. Allen Mfg. Co.,421 Allen Bldg.,Toledo,O.

Agents: Big Hit: Our 5-Piece Aluminum Set is all the rage. Cheaper than Enamel Ware. Sells like wildfire. Guaranteed 20 Years. Retail value $5.00. You sell housewives for only $1.96. Biggest seller of the age. 9 sure sales out of every 10 shown. Others cleaning up $19.00 to $20.00 a day. Answer this quick to secure your territory. Div. E. X. 5. American Aluminum Mfg. Co. Lemont, Ill.

Agents to Travel by Automobile to introduce our fast selling, popular priced household necessities. The greatest line on earth. Make $10 a day. Complete outfit and automobile furnished free to workers. Write today for exclusive territory. American Products Co., 5315 3rd St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents—Steady Income Large manufacturer of Handkerchiefs and Dress Goods, etc., wishes representative in each locality. Factory to consumer. Big profits, honest goods. Whole or spare time. Credit given. Address Freeport Mfg. Co.,60 Main St.,Brooklyn, N. Y.

Agents! Quick Sales! Big Profits! Outfit Free! Cash or credit. Sales in every home for our beautiful Dress Goods,Hosiery, Underwear, etc. Write today. National Importing & Mfg. Co., Dept. EB, 425 Broadway, New York.

Pants $1.00, Suits $3.75, Made To measure. For even a better offer than this write and ask for free samples and styles. Knickerbocker TailoringCo.,Dept.698,Chicago

Remnant Store, 1510 G-Vine, Cincinnati, O. Greatest Dry Goods bargains on earth. Agents wanted for New, Profitable Business.

We Start You In Business, furnishing everything; men and women,$30 to $200 weekly operating our "New System Candy Factories". Book free.William Ragsdale,East Orange,N.J.

Big Textile Mills want ambitious men and women everywhere to show latest dress fabrics, neckwear, hosiery, underwear, and sweaters. 400 styles. Easy sales. Values beat stores. Many making over $30 weekly. All or spare time. Complete sample outfit starts you. Steadfast Mills, 34 Remsen St., Cohoes, N. Y.

"Whito," the scientific dirt remover, ends wash-day drudgery. Millions of women want it. Nothing like it. Free samples to start sales. Big profits on repeat orders. S. F. Daily, 519 W. McCarty St., Indianapolis, Ind.

$150.00 Salary For 60 Days Work Paid Woman Or Man in each town to distribute Free circulars and take orders for White Ribbon Concentrated Flavoring. J. S. Ziegler Co., 7D., E. Harrison St., Chicago.

Agents—Pair Silk Hose Free. State size & color. Beautiful line direct from mill. Good profits. Agents wanted. Write today. Triplewear Mills, Dept.G,720 Chestnut St., Phila.,Pa.

Agents:Grab this 25c.household specialty. Excellent seller. One agent sold 160 one day. Working Sample 12c. Particulars Free. G. L. Erwin & Co., 2113 Harrison St., Chicago, Ill.

"Washwhite" makes repeat orders and big profits. Catchy sales plan. Free Samples. Nacma, 21-B, 20 W. Lake, Chicago.

Large Manufacturer wants agents to sell shirts, underwear, hosiery, dresses,waists, skirts,direct to homes. Write for free samples. Madison Mills, 503 Broadway, New York City.

Hosiery and Underwear Manufacturer offers permanent position supplying regular customers at mill prices in home town. $50.00 to $100.00 monthly. All or spare time. Credit. G. Parker Mills, 2733 No. 12th St., Phila., Pa.

Men or Women; introducing Soaps, Perfumes, Extracts, Toilet Preparations; 100% profit. Experience unnecessary. Dep't. 201, Costello Mfg. Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Agents. We need men and women right now to take orders for Worlds Greatest Raincoat values. Dandy coat $3.98. Sixty-five fabrics. Dozens of styles. Made to measure and delivered direct from our big factory to your customer. No delivering. Profit in advance. Easy to sell. Cooper making $300 monthly. Glover $61.50 first four days. Nearly 23 orders in 2 days. Four average orders a day gives you $2,500 a year profit. Full outfit and sample coat given. Write for wonderful offer. Comer Mfg. Co., Dept. J-13, Dayton, Ohio.

Every Home On Farm, In Small Town or Suburb needs and will buy the wonderful Aladdin kerosene (coal-oil) Mantle Lamp. Five times as bright as electric. Tested and recommended by Government and 34 leading Universities. Awarded Gold Medal. One Farmer cleared over $500 in six weeks. Hundreds with rigs or autos earning $100 to $300 per month. No Capital Required: We Furnish Goods On Time. Write quick for distributor's proposition and lamp for free trial. Mantle Lamp Co., 508 Aladdin Bldg. Chicago, Ill.

One Thousand Dollars Reward—If this is not the greatest money-making house-to-house proposition. N. R. G. Laundry Tablets wash clothes in 10 minutes, without rubbing. Contains no Lime, Lye, Parrafin, Wax or other injurious chemical and cannot possibly injure the clothes or hands. Positively the wonder of the age—sells for 15c enough for five family washings. We supply Free Samples and guarantee sale of every package you buy. Just Leave Free Sample with the housewife and, when you call again, she is eagerly awaiting to become your steady customer. Secure territorial rights at once. A 1c postal brings sample and full particulars. Farquhar-Moon Mfg. Co., Desk G 210—140 W. Vanburen St., Chicago.

AGENTS WANTED

Ambitious Men and Women—Over thirty years old—sell Nursery stock, in your home town, either half or full time, good pay, pleasant work. We pay cash each week. Write us. LaPointe Nursery Company, Geneva, New York.

District and local agents with Ford cars wanted to demonstrate to Ford owners wonderful Simplex Ford Starter and Simplex Windshield Ventilating Bracket. Both are big selling accessories for good live men. Write today for proposition and exclusive agency. Simplex Mfg. Company, Dept. 441, Anderson, Indiana.

Agents Profits—Our plan beats anything ever before offered. Goods practically sell themselves. "Horoco,"131 Locust, St.Louis,Mo.

Agents. Want a proposition paying you five to ten dollars daily? Experience unnecessary. Write for plan and local agency. Yanoco Ivory Co., Ave. G, Leominster, Mass.

Agents—Water-proof Kitchen Apron. Every housewife buys dainty, durable, economical, acid-proof, grease proof. Sample free. Thomas Co., 2119 North St., Dayton, O.

Agents show our made to order guaranteed $15.00 suits real $25.00 values. No experience necessary. Wonderful selling plan. You furnish prospects we make sale. Chicago Woolen Mills, Dept. 19, Chicago.

We Start You without a Dollar. Soaps, Extracts, Perfumes—ToiletGoods. Experience unnecessary. CarnationCo.,31 So.Main, St.Louis.

Men and Women Make $35 or more weekly selling Sanitary Brushes for every household use. Big profits, easy work. All or part time.Puritan Co.,Dept.E,1966 B'way,N.Y.

Agents—Make a Dollar an Hour. Sell Mendets, a patent patch for instantly mending leaks in all utensils. Sample package free. Collette Mfg. Co.,Dept.452-B,Amsterdam,N.Y.

Agents, Men or Women, make $40 weekly taking orders for Goodyear Raincoats. Sample Coat Free. Goodyear Mfg. Co., Dept. 127, Kansas City, Mo.

Photo Pillow Tops, Portraits, Frames, Sheet Pictures, Medallions, Patriotic Pictures, Pennants. Rejects credited. Prompt shipments; samples & cat. free to agents. 30 days credit. Jas.C.Bailey Co., Desk A1, Chicago, Ill.

Do You Want To Travel At Our Expense? We want good men and women for traveling general agents. Must have fair education and good references. Will make contract for three months, six months or year at salary $22.50 per week and necessary expenses. Can assign most any territory desired. For full particulars address George G. Clows Company, Philadelphia, Pa., Dept. 4-F.

Aristo Nonrub Washing Tablets. Big Seller. Wonderful product. Nothing equal. Samples free. Schubert, 3204A So. Halsted, Chicago.

Reliable People Wanted to place Eggine in stores and appoint agents. Takes the place of eggs in baking and cooking at less than 9c doz. Package and particulars 10c postpaid. Morrissey Co., 4424 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

You can Sell our raincoats. Anyone will buy. We give you one. Outfit Free. Temple Raincoat Co., Box 2, Templeton,Mass.

Agents Repeater, costs 8c, sells for $1. Booster Club Idea make many sales. Circular free. Dr. Thornber, Ferris, Ill.

No Money Required In Advance. Let me start you in business selling White K Laundry Tablets. Washes clothes in 10 minutes without rubbing. Contains no Wax, Lime, Lye, Potash or Acids. Positively will not injure the clothes. Every home your prospective customer. Free samples supplied which clinches the sale. Write today for sample and my liberal offer. L. A. Knight Co., 119 Market St., St. Louis Mo.

Steam-No-More for eye glasses, wind shields; every auto owner a customer. Live agents 200%. Send 10c for 25c sample. Gray's Sales Agency, Port Huron, Mich.

Agent's—200% profit. Wonderful little article. Sells like wildfire. Can be carried in pocket. Write at once for free sample. H. Matthews, 419 North St., Dayton, Ohio.

New Auto Safety Signal, just patented; enormous demand 100% profits. Particulars: Signal Co., 1920-9th St., Washington, D. C.

New patriotic war atlas free with my "Business Guide," sells everywhere; beginners clear $7 daily; outfit free. Prof. Nichols, Box C., Naperville, Ill.

Write for liberal free sample. Get posted on biggest money-making combinations and specialties. Guaranteed tremendous sellers. Samples furnished free to distribute. Special large profit offers made now. R. D. Newberry, 202 Peoria, Chicago.

Get The Exclusive Agency for this patented article. Saves $100.00 upwards in Every average home. Doubles the life of every rug in the house where vacuum or carpet sweepers or brooms are in use; also doubles the life of vacuum and carpet sweepers. Cuts work down to less than half. Gives clean rugs All the time. Guaranteed five years. $75,000.00 Company. Bank reference in every city. Entire cost less than eight cents a month. Sells for $3.75; costs you $1.75. Sales average ten to twenty a day. Ten days free trial to anyone whose merchant says he is O K. Test it on your own rugs free. Ad. Factory at 105-23nd St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Agents. Sell rich looking 36x68 imported Rugs, $1 each; Carter, Tenn., sold 115 in 4 days, profit $57; you can do same. Write for sample offer selling plan; exclusive territory. Sample rug by parcel post prepaid 98c. E. Condon, Importer, Stonington, Maine.

ARIZONA LANDS

Uncle Sam is watering a farm for you in Salt River Valley,Arizona, where you will live longer and better, and make more money with less work. Read our Roosevelt Dam folder free on request. C. L. Seagraves, Industrial Com'r AT&SF Ry.,1946 Ry.Exchange, Chicago.

MISSOURI FARM LAND

Small Missouri Farm, $10 cash and $5 monthly; no interest or taxes; highly productive land; close to 3 big markets; write for photographs and full information. Munger, D 104, N. Y. Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

PATENT ATTORNEYS

Patents. Write for List of Patent Buyers and Inventions Wanted. $1,000,000 in prizes offered for inventions. Send sketch for free opinion as to patentability. Our four books sent free. Patents advertised free. We assist inventors to sell inventions. Victor J. Evans & Co., 641 Ninth, Washington, D. C.

Invent Something. Your ideas may bring wealth. Free book tells what to invent and how to obtain a patent through our credit system. Talbert & Parker, 4206 Talbert Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Patents Secured Or Fee Returned. Actual search free. Send sketch or model. 1917 edition 90-page patent book free. George P. Kimmel,232 Barrister Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Ideas Wanted—Manufacturers are writing for patents procured through me. Four books with hundreds of inventions wanted sent free. I help you market your invention. Advice Free.R. B. Owen, 18 Owen Bldg.,Wash. D. C.

Patent Your Ideas. Manufacturers are quickly buying patents obtained through us. Write for free book of 307 needed inventions. D. Swift & Co., 321 7th St., Washington, D. C.

PIGS FOR SALE

O. I. C. Hogs, all ages. Large, prolific. Best blood lines, Pr. pigs mated $20. W. D. Ruebush, Macomb, Ill.

HELP—MALE AND FEMALE

Earn $25 Weekly, writing for newspapers, magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 451 St. Louis,Mo.

FEMALE HELP WANTED

Five bright, capable ladies to travel, demonstrate and sell dealers. $25 to $50 per week. Railroad fare paid. Goodrich Drug Company, Dept. 82, Omaha, Neb.

Wanted—Women to be Dress Designers. $100 month. Sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. G 850, Rochester, N. Y.

We Have Customers who will buy from you tea aprons and dust caps in dozen lots. They also want fancy work of all kinds—Embroidery, Crocheting and Tatting. Send 20c for patterns and prices. Returned if dissatisfied. Kenwood Sales Shops, 6238 S. Park Ave., Chicago.

Women To Distribute Toilet Soap To friends and neighbors. $1.20 a dozen for your trouble. Daley Mfg. Co., St. Louis, Mo.

The Atlantic City Woman's Exchange is preparing for the Christmas sale: desires correspondence from women wishing to sell crocheting, hand embroidery, art work. Address Woman's Exchange, 119 So. Tennessee Ave., Atlantic City, N. J.

MALE HELP WANTED

Wanted—Men as Railway Mail Clerks. $75 mo. Sample examination questions free. Franklin Institute, Dept. G 9, Rochester, N. Y.

Firemen, Brakemen, Baggagemen, 8 hours, $140. Colored Porters wanted everywhere. Experience unnecessary. 326 Ry. Bureau, East St. Louis, Ills.

Civil Service Examinations open the way to good Government positions. I can coach you by mail at small cost. Full particulars free to any American citizen of eighteen or over. Write today for Booklet CE1450—Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

Men—Women Wanted. $75 month. Government Jobs. List positions free. Write Franklin Institute, Dep't G 12, Rochester, N. Y.

Government Pays $900 to $1800 yearly. Prepare for coming "exams" under former Civil Service Examiner. New Book Free. Write Patterson Civil Service School, Box J-15, Rochester, N. Y.

STAMMERING

St-stu-t-t-tering and Stammering cured at home. Instructive booklet free. Walter McDonnell, Room 56, 817 Fifteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

SALESMEN WANTED

Traveling Salesmen Wanted—Experience unnecessary. Earn while you learn. Hundreds of good positions open. Write today for large list of openings and testimonials from hundreds of members we have placed in positions paying $100 to $500 a month. Address nearest office. Dept. 105-R—National Salesmen's Training Ass'n., Chicago, New York, San Francisco.

Tobacco Factory wants salesman; good pay, steady work, promotion; experience unnecessary, we give complete instructions. Piedmont Tobacco Co., Box G-19,Danville,Va.

Side Line Men. Do you want a real one that one order a day will pay you $9.00. No samples to carry. Something new. Write today. Canfield Mfg. Co., 208 Sigel St., Chicago, Ill.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE

Virginia N. C., W. Va., & Ohio Farms at $15.00 per acre and up offer big values for the price. Best climate, markets, schools and transportation. Good land and neighbors. Write F. H. LaBaume, Agrl. Agt. N. & W. Ry., 269 Arcade, Roanoke, Va.

Be A Farm Owner. Don't rent. Get 10 acres in Michigan and be independent. $250. $5 down, $4 mo. Booklet free. George W. Swigart, C1246 First National Bank Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

FARM LANDS

Productive Lands. Crop Payment or easy terms—along the Northern Pacific Ry., in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Free literature. Say what state interests you. L. J. Bricker, 14 Northern Pacific Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

FARMS FOR SALE

Arkansas Farms and cut-over timber land for sale. Write for list and pamphlet. Ben H. Crowley, Paragould, Ark.

East Texas Farm: 25 acres improved. Price, $600.00, terms, $10.00 cash and $10.00 per month without interest. J. R. Nichols, Timpson, Texas.

MISCELLANEOUS FARMS FOR SALE

Money-Making Farms, 15 states, $10 an acre up; stock, tools and crops often included to settle quickly. Write for Big Illustrated Catalogue, Strout Farm Agency, Dept. 3037, New York.

FEMALE AGENTS WANTED

Women Make Money introducing Priscilla Fabrics, Dresses, Underwear, in spare time among personal friends. Beautiful samples furnished. Fitzcharles Co., Dept. 183, Trenton,N.J.

ANIMALS

Raise Guinea Pigs. More profitable than poultry. Thousands needed. Experience unnecessary. Send for our free illustrated book explains all. Laboratory Supply Co., Dept. T, 2241 Ridge Ave., Phila, Pa.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Underwoods, Royals, Olivers, Remingtons, $15. to $45., guar. 5 years. Free Trial. Typewriter Co., C. 198 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

Free—3 months to get acquainted; devoted to news and opportunity. The Western Miner, 2530 W. 37th Ave., Denver, Colo.

Make Money In The Candy Business; Get into this big paying fascinating business; retail, wholesale; start at home. It's clean, easy, big profits. Complete equipment Free. Write for book, tells how to start. Otter-Swain Corp., Suite 130, 4750 Broadway, Chicago.

BOOKS

Sweethearts, Mothers, Sisters—Your Soldier boy will appreciate a beautiful diary, made especially for the soldiers. 25c. Brower Diary Co., Cordele, Ga.

"From The Ball Room To Hell" mailed anywhere 25c. L. E. Muncy, 136 E. Pleasant Ave., X, Syracuse, N. Y.

POST CARDS

Send Ten Cents for 20 Assorted High Grade Post Cards; One Flag Rug Free. Nichols Specialty Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

SCHOOLS

Home Study leading to degrees from old residential college. E. W., 6935 Stewart Ave., Chicago.

PHOTO FINISHING

Send Ten Cents and this add as payment for developing and finishing your first roll of films. Hopson, Burlington Jct., Mo.

Best Quality Kodak Developing, Printing this country. Send a roll. Rare bargains, used cameras. Miles C. Greenwood, Melrose, Mass.

Films developed free. High class work. perfect prints at 3 to 7c. We do the best work in the Photo City. Remit with your order and get returns same day. Bryans Drug House, Rochester, N. Y.

Developing, Printing, Enlarging.—Quality and service guaranteed at reasonable rates. Price list by request. Klever Kamera Kraft, 525 West 180th St., New York City.

50c. Enlargement for only 25c; Send us any good clear negative and 25c, and we will make a beautiful 50c. Sepia Enlargement, size 5x7 in. mounted on brown photo board, size 7x10, ready to frame. Only one to a customer at this price. Better send today. Shea & Williams, 2006 E. Third St., Dayton, Ohio.

COINS AND STAMPS BOUGHT

Cash Paid for old money of all kinds; $5.00 for certain eagle cents, $7.00 for certain 1853 Quarters, etc. Send 4c. Get Large Illustrated Coin Circular. May mean your large profit. Send now. Numismatic Bank, Dept. 6, Fort Worth, Texas.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Special Trial Offer. Your next Kodak film developed 5c. Prints 2c each. Moser & Son, 2122 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, O.

Roll Films Developed 5c. Packs 20c. Prints 2c and 3c each. Box 282, Superior Co., St. Louis, Mo.

PHOTOPLAYS, STORIES, ETC.

We Will Accept your Ideas and Scripts in Any form—correct free—and sell on Commission. Big rewards! Make Money. Write us Now! Writer's Service, Box 31. Auburn, N. Y.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Oklahoma Starter Yeast—Dimes worth lasts for months. Saves flour. At grocers or mailed 10c. Starter Yeast Mfg. Co.,Quincy,Ill.

CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

Shorthand in 30 Lessons. Home study. Stenographers in big demand. Positions assured. Write for free booklet C. Am. School of Phonography, Sta. A, Cleveland, O.

TYPEWRITERS

New, Rebuilt And Slightly Used Typewriters $8 up. Portable Machines $10 up. Write for our Catalog No. 70. Beran Typewriter Co., 58 W. Washington St., Chicago.

SHORT STORIES WANTED

Wanted Stories, articles,poems etc. We pay on acceptance. Offers submitted. Send MSS. to Cosmos Magazine, 1394 Washington, D. C.

STORY WRITERS WANTED

Authors:—Stories, poems, photo plays etc. are wanted for publication. Submit Mss. Literary Bureau, C4, Hannibal, Mo.

MOVING PICTURE BUSINESS

$100 to $200 Profit Weekly. Complete Moving Picture Outfit, furnished on easy payment plan. No experience needed. Free book explains everything. Monarch Film Service, Dept. 2-A 225 Union Ave., Memphis, Tenn.

MOTION PICTURE PLAYS

Photoplay Ideas Wanted By 48 Companies. $25-$500 paid. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Producers League, 311, St. Louis.

Write Photoplays! $75 each. Send for free booklet "How to Write Moving Picture Plays." Universal Pub. Co., D190 Fergus Falls, Minn.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Boys, Girls, Big Money, no samples required, be first, write now, commence at once. Carl M. Cook, Limon, Colorado.

Accidents Which Made Fortunes

How to make starch from corn was discovered accidentally by Thomas Kingsford, a mechanic. One day he threw a mess of corn meal mush in the garbage pail. His wife emptied some lye into the same pail and in the morning when he emptied the pail he was astonished to find a small quantity of starch at the bottom.

Thomas Bolsover, a Sheffield mechanic, was mending the handle of a knife made of copper and silver. He saw these metals fuse together and the idea of silver plating was born in his mind. He laid a thin plate of silver on a heavier one of copper and heated them till the edge of the silver began to melt. He took them from the fire, let them cool slightly, then rolled and hammered them to the desired thickness. This was the origin of "Sheffield plate," all of which was made in this way until electroplating was invented.

Cornelius Dubbel left a bottle of aqua regia (a mixture of nitric and muriatic acids) on a shelf. It fell over; the acid ran down over a window and dropped into a bottle containing an extract of cochineal. This turned to a vivid scarlet. Dubbel found that the acid had dissolved some of the tin of the window casing and the combination had produced the new color. A few experiments added the most brilliant color to the list of dyes.

Comfort's Comicalities "Jest for Fun"

A Little Thing

"You shouldn't allow the little things of life to disturb you."

"I don't know about that. A germ is about the littlest thing I know of."—Washington Star.

Good Example

Once a very youthful chicken fancier had in his possession a couple of bantam hens that laid very small eggs. He finally hit upon a plan to remedy this.

When the lad's father went the next morning to the chicken house he was surprised to find an ostrich egg tied to one of the beams and above it a card with this notice:

"Keep your eye on this and do your best."—New York Times.

Didn't Know the Telephone

A large firm in Aberdeen, Scotland, engaged as office boy a very "green" youth. It was part of his duties to attend to the telephone in his master's absence. When first called upon to answer the bell, in reply to the usual English query, "Are you there?" he nodded assent. Again the question came, and still again, and each time the boy gave an answering nod. When the question came for the fourth time, however, the boy, losing his temper, roared through the telephone:

"Man, a' ye blind? I've been noddin' me head off for the last half hour!"

Color, Anyhow

The grocer had just put a new boy to work and among the other instructions was this:

"If you do not happen to have what a customor asks for suggest something else as nearly like it as possible."

Soon a woman came into the store and asked the boy: "Have you any fresh green stuff today?"

"No, ma'am," answered the boy, "but we have some nice bluing."

Oldest Twins in America

A double birthday party for the oldest living twins in the United States was recently given at Sea Cliff, L. I. The twins were Miss Elizabeth Hawxhurst and Mrs. Maria Hawxhurst Banks and they celebrated their eighty-sixth birthday.

BULBS FOR WINTER

BLOOMING TO CHEER AND BRIGHTEN THE HOME



By Alfred Weston

Copyright, 1917, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

NOT even the best of house plants can quite give that cheerful "Spring-will-come" atmosphere to the home in winter that blooming bulb plants will do. They seem to be the connecting link between the last of the frost flowers and chrysanthemums out of doors, and the first crocuses that peep through the late spring snows on your lawn.

Many believe that bulbs are difficult to make bloom indoors. There is no good reason for this belief. The secret of making bulbs bloom in your home throughout the winter months is a simple one—that of knowing how long it takes from the planted bulb to the blossom, and of reckoning accordingly.

There are about seventy fairly well-known bulbs and forty of these will bloom in the house as readily as out of doors if started properly. Not that any woman could care for such a variety, but it offers her an excellent choice. The favorites are the hyacinth, tulip, jonquil, narcissus, Easter and Chinese lily and tuberose. To offer the reader a goodly variety I shall describe these and seven others.

The accompanying table for indoor planting of bulbs is as nearly a perfect guide as it is possible to compile for general use, but no table of this sort can be absolutely accurate. For example, a good tulip bulb may mature and blossom in three weeks in one home and not for five weeks in another, although the same variety of bulb is used. The reason of this is that the temperature in one place may be better suited than in another, more adaptable soil may have been used in the pots, better drainage given, more care taken to start the bulb in the dark and to bring it to the light after it has come up, by mild stages of semi-light before bringing out into the full daylight.

Fortunately there are general rules that cover the handling of nearly all bulbs. Soil and method of treatment are the first two principles to consider. Do *not* use manure. Many excellent and costly bulbs have been destroyed by this treatment. Better no fertilizer at all than



HYACINTHS.

planting with manure unless you are so skilled in its use with bulbs as to make no mistake. A very little, say as much as you could get in a small envelope, of thoroughly rotted manure mixed with the soil before putting in the pot, can be trusted to do no harm providing that it has been fire-dried and pulverized.

But leaf mold, such as you can scrape up in the woods anywhere, is far better as it will give the bulb the proper nourishment and in no way endanger rotting the bulb, such as ordinary manure is likely to do.

Plan for your bulbs now. Dig a goodly quantity of soil from your garden. Take it from an average spot. By that I mean that the soil should not be taken from a damp, moldy corner of the garden, nor from a dry sandy spot in it, but from a good average place. It involves a little labor to screen this soil and make sure that no slugs, cut and wireworms and other insects are in it, but it will insure you against loss of your bulbs when you plant them in the fall and winter months. One little nibble of the bulb by a worm and even if the bulb doesn't die, it will not produce a good bloom.

Put this prepared soil away in a shed or cellar, in readiness for your joyous winter bulb blossoms. Secure a goodly quantity of rich leaf mold from the woods and set that aside. Try this soil by mixing a little of the mold and the soil in your hands, before it dries up. If it is at all clayey or sticky, if it does not crumble apart easily, "shorten" it with sand. Put aside a bucket of clean white sand and then you will be quite well prepared.

When you fill the pots for the bulbs make the soil mixture as described—so that it will break apart in the hands and not be "doughy." If your garden soil is too dry a little more of the leaf mold will hold it together, while the sand will counteract too much stickiness. Sticky soil will sour, and sour soil will destroy the bulb.

Some go about filling the pots in a most methodical manner, first the little stones at the bottom for drainage, then some moss to keep the water from running out too quickly, then sand to keep the roots from rotting and then the soil. For my own part I think this is unnecessary. I have had excellent success with bulbs of almost every variety that will grow indoors and my method has been to omit the moss and clear sand and to use the soil mixed as I have described above, leaf mold, garden soil and sand if it is too sticky.

Bits of broken flower pots or pebbles in the



GLORY OF THE SNOW.

bottom of the pot are necessary for proper drainage. Then the soil. I always save broken flower pots. You will notice that the pieces are curved. They form little arches or bridges. I put a good-sized piece over the hole in the bottom of the pot. This arches over it like a tiny Japanese bridge in a miniature garden and does not stop up the hole, but it allows drainage and prevents clogging and sour soil. A bit of charcoal along with the drainage bits in the bottom insures against sour soil.

Always use shallow pots.

If you will study the depths for planting given in the table and compare them with the bulbs, you will find that most of them match the size of the bulb. Some bulbs, like the yellow narcissus, keep over with a long white shoot on them. Others have practically no shoot at all. Those with shoots should be planted deep enough for only the tip of the shoot to stick out.

Do not claw into the pot to make a hole, and jab the bulb in. With a tiny trowel or an old case knife, make the hole and set the bulb in evenly, on a firm base and absolutely upright. If you plant the bulb at a slant the plant will have crooked stems, the flowers will slant and the natural beauty will be lost.

You have probably seen, in the spring, crocuses, tulips and similar bulb plants, in bloom with half the bulb protruding from the ground, and for this reason you have planted your bulbs with half of them out of the ground. Never do this. Those garden bulbs were well planted and they did not work themselves out until they had powerful roots to hold them in place. Snows and rains worked them out. If just the tip of the top of the bulb shows, about as large as the tip of your little finger, all will be well.

In potting large hyacinth bulbs, use a six-inch pot and put only three in a pot. Too many will stunt them and the blossoms will not be as large and handsome. The way I do is to arrange the drainage material in the bottom of the pots, then mix my soil and fill the pot half full. When ready to plant I set the bulb on this and fill around, loosening a place in the soil with a fork where the root base of the bulb will set. Never fill the pot to the top with



JONQUILS.

soil, leave an inch rim above to hold water so that it will not run off on your table or window-sill and make more work for you.

When you fill the pot with soil, thump the sides gently a dozen times to settle the earth firmly in place but never press or push the soil down solid. Give a copious sprinkling of water when you plant the bulbs and then set them in a dark but well ventilated closet, on the floor, not on a shelf as the air is too hot up high. If you have a good cool cellar absolutely frost proof, place your pots of bulbs down there and keep them in the dark. When ready to force, bring them up into a semi-light, that is, not directly to a window, but in a far dim corner of the room. After a few days they will be ready for the window and the sunlight.

I have some city friends who live in apartments with neither cellars, nor closet room to spare, yet they had good success by tying over the top of the pot loosely, a piece of blue tissue paper, puncturing it to give air. This furnished the semi-light and helped the bulbs to thrive. But better the cellar or dark closet if you have it.

When ready to force them to bloom, bring them into the light. Be sure that your plants do not start in a warm room. A cool temperature is necessary for starting them. Consider how they start out of doors in the cold earth, almost before the snow is off the ground. When well grown, and good sturdy shoots are up, you may force them in the sun in a medium warm room.

Here is a good way to figure on making your bulbs bloom when you wish them. Suppose you have hyacinths, crocuses, jonquils, and Easter lilies and you want all four of them to be in bloom on Christmas Day. After they have been in the dark cellar five to eight weeks, bring them up as follows: Bring your hyacinths out into the sun and warm room on November 25th, bring your Easter lilies out on September first, your crocuses out on December seventh and your jonquils out on December first.

If you have planted properly, you can force them in the time given so that you will have all four in full bloom on Christmas Day.

The best bulbs are on the market from late in August right up to January and frequently well into February. You can get them easily enough, no matter how distant the dealer may be. His catalog will be accurate and they are sent by mail, parcel post, at a very small cost. They are well packed and seldom are injured in transit. Get your bulbs early. It won't hurt them to be in pots in a dark, cool cellar from five to eight weeks. They will sprout fairly early, but will then grow very slowly until brought out and forced as described.

If you have taken up bulbs from your spring garden out of doors, do not attempt to grow them in the house unless they have been thoroughly dried out and rested from ten to twelve weeks. Bulbs are so cheap these days that it doesn't pay to guess at what you'll get from your garden supply. If you are not sure and if they are not smooth, firm bulbs, take no chances. A dollar's worth of bulbs will keep blossoms in your home from Christmas into March when the crocuses begin to peek out to greet the first robins and bluebirds.

Here are a few things to remember about the fourteen bulbs listed in the following table:

Glory-of-the-snow. Never allow bulbs to freeze. Do not attempt to plant them indoors before November.

Spring crocuses. Plant six or ten in a six-inch pan, and force them in a temperature not over sixty degrees above. The "Cloth of Gold" is the best indoor variety of these, although a mixture will do quite well and afford a more "spring-like" appearance.

Amaryllis. This needs cold storage in winter, down between forty and forty-five above. They do best if no attempt is made to force them until well into January.

Dutch hyacinth. This needs a richer soil than most bulbs. It is not best to force until just before Christmas. The later forcing gives better results.

Roman hyacinth. An earlier flower. It needs the same soil and treatment as the Dutch, but can be forced a little earlier.

Easter lily. Pot these bulbs as soon as you receive them. It is difficult to get blossoms early. Try one for Christmas but keep the rest down cellar in pots until late in January before forcing.

Yellow narcissus. Not very hardy. Needs well-drained soil.

Paper white narcissus. The most successful variety. Quite hardy, can be forced to bloom before Christmas. Will grow in pebbles and water as readily as in soil, but will not keep in bloom as long.

Jonquils. Keep the soil well drained but always moist. Frequently have five or six blossoms to a stalk.

Tulips. Get the early variety of bulbs for indoor blooming. Too much heat will stunt their growth. Keep in a frost-proof room, but well away from stove, radiator or source of heat.

Tuberose. Pot from garden well before frost. It is preferable to give them six to eight weeks' rest. Pot in cellar, do not allow to get too dry. One of the few bulb plants likely to be bothered with lice (aphis). Tobacco water will remedy this.

Chinese lilies. Seldom satisfactory grown in soil as it needs muck and constant drainage which cannot be accomplished in the home. Better plant them in pebbles in shallow dish, keeping water only to top of pebbles. Start in dark closet.

English iris. This needs damp soil, so well drained that it will not sour and soil must be rich and well mulched.

Lily-of-the-valley. For indoor use, plant the pips, never the clumps. Store in sand in cellar after taking up from garden. Plant as soon as late summer pips are received. If forcing is started in September, blossoms should appear in February.

Hyacinths grown in hyacinth glasses are a delight. Do not make the common mistake of attempting to grow them in a plain, transparent glass. The daylight hurts the roots. Green, blue, amber or red glass is best. If you have not got it, cover glass with tissue paper. Keep enough water in the glass to touch the bottom of the bulb and no more.

Jonquils, paper white narcissus and crocuses can all be grown in pebbles and water. Hyacinths do better in glasses. Regulation hyacinth glasses can be secured for twenty-five cents each.

A Handy Table for Indoor Bulb Planting

Common and Botanical Name	Depth to plant (inches)	Distance apart to plant (inches)	Time to force (weeks)
Glory-of-the-snow (Chionodoxa Lucilire) Color blue,	2	2	2-3
Spring Crocus, (Crocus Sustanus) Colors: Yellow, purple, white, Lilac.	2-3	3-4	2
Amaryllis (Hippeasstrum Johnsoni) Color red,	2	6	8
Dutch hyacinth (H. Orientalis) All colors,	3-5	5-6	3-4
Roman hyacinth (H. Roma) All colors,	4	6	4
Easter lily (Lilium Longiflorum) Color white,	1	3	12-14
Narcissus (Bulbocodium) Color yellow,	5	3	4
Paper white narcissus (N. Tazetta) Color pure white,	1	3	3-4
Jonquils (Narcissus Jonquila) Color yellow,	5	3	3
Tulips All colors Except blue,	3	5	3-4
Tuberose Pot from garden before frost,	3	6	4-5
Chinese lilies White, yellow. Grow in pebbles and water.			3-5
English Iris (Iris Zepbiaides) Blue and white,	3	5	6
Lily-of-the-valley (Convallaria Majalis) White, rarely purple and pink,	3	3	11



THE BORROWER WILL BE CHARGED AN OVERDUE FEE IF THIS BOOK IS NOT RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED BELOW. NON-RECEIPT OF OVERDUE NOTICES DOES NOT EXEMPT THE BORROWER FROM OVERDUE FEES.

WIDENER
BOOK DUE
DEC 1 1987
CANCELLED
DEC 1 1987

Widener Library
3 2044 092 773 761